

A Proposal.

Mission Mountains Wilderness

Flathead National Forest · Montana

... beyond civilization

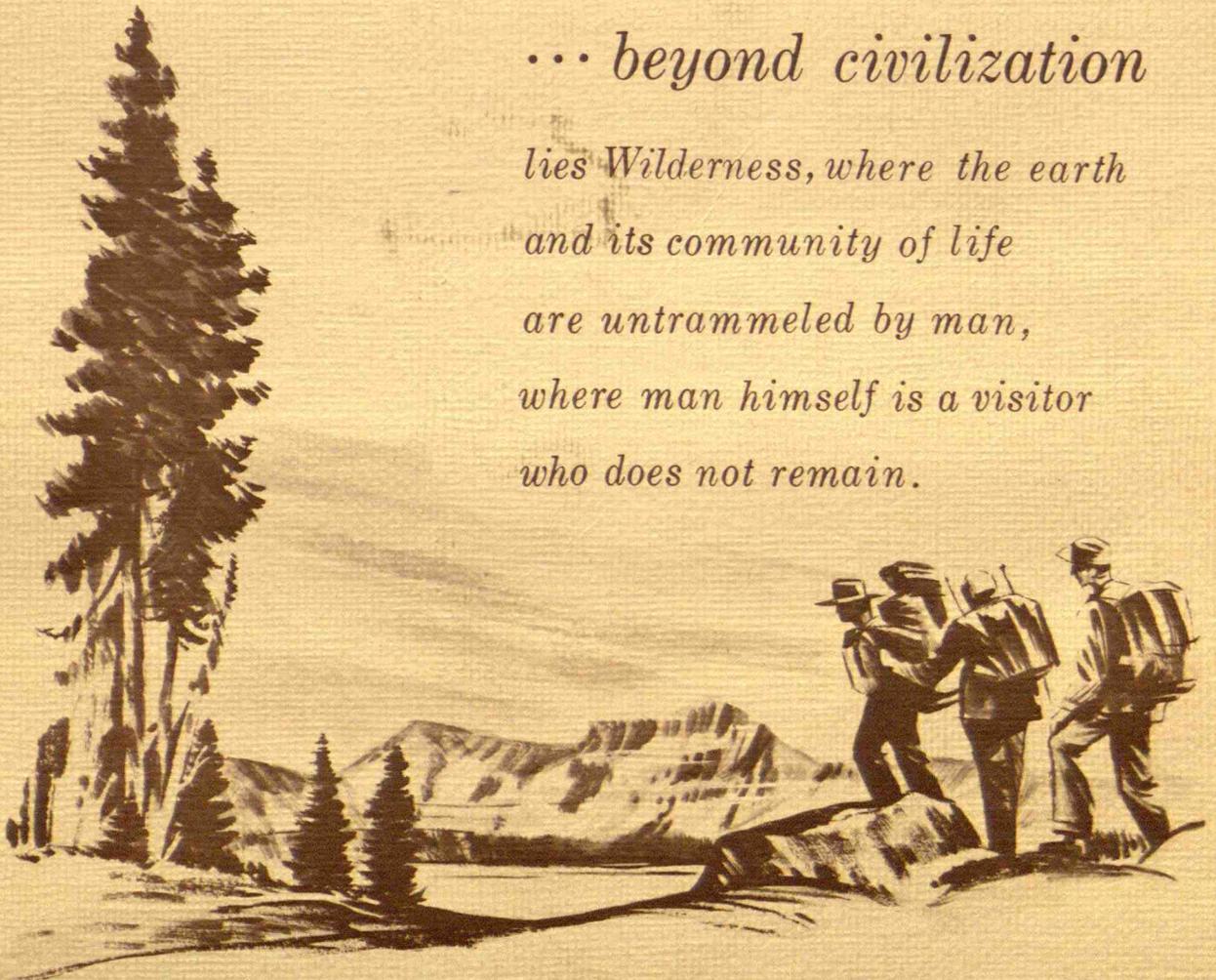
lies Wilderness, where the earth

and its community of life

are untrammelled by man,

where man himself is a visitor

who does not remain.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE



Photography

Four Seasons Pictures - site indicated in photographic notes as to

point camera is pointed & compass direction to point from camera location so that pictures of same view can be taken in different seasons.

A PROPOSAL
MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS
FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST
MONTANA

Recommended by:

(Chief, Forest Service)

May 17, 1971
(Date)

Report Approved:

(Secretary of Agriculture)

May 25, 1971
(Date)

Report on the Proposed
MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS

Flathead National Forest

Montana

Recommendation:

This report recommends that 71,927 acres of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area and 1,280 contiguous acres, for a total of 73,207 acres, in the Flathead National Forest, State of Montana, be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System by Act of Congress.

It will be called the Mission Mountains Wilderness, Flathead National Forest. Administration will be in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577, dated September 3, 1964, and the Regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations 251.70-251.84.

It is further recommended that Primitive Area status be lifted from 2,018 acres found to be unsuitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Northern Region

Missoula, Montana

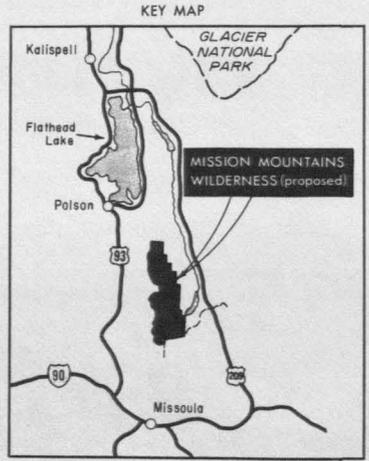
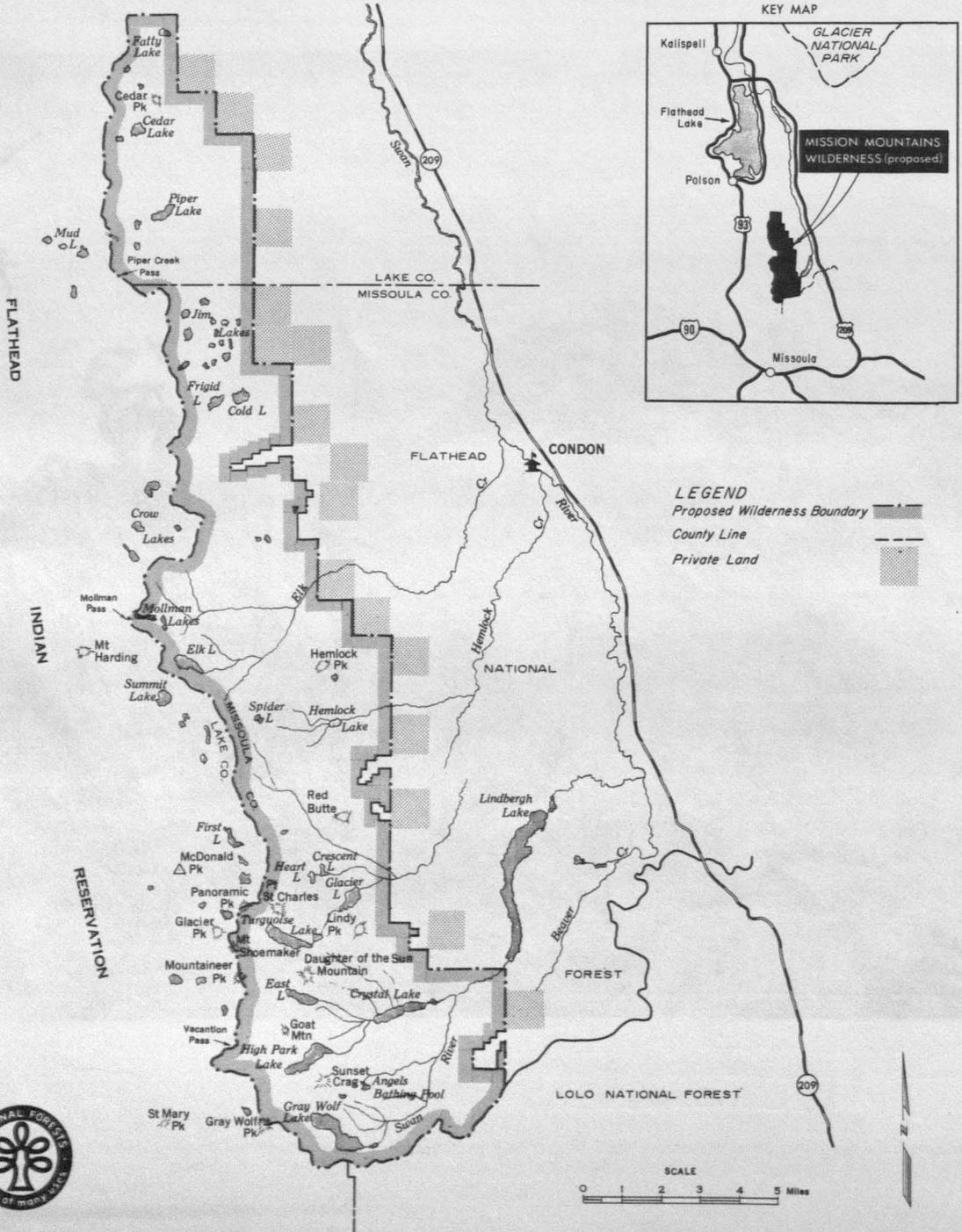
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North Face of Gray Wolf Peak, Mission Mountains

MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS (PROPOSED)



LEGEND
 Proposed Wilderness Boundary [shaded area]
 County Line [dashed line]
 Private Land [stippled area]



SUMMARY

LOCATION

The proposed Mission Mountains Wilderness is a part of the Flathead National Forest. It is located in the Mission Mountain Range in portions of Lake and Missoula Counties in northwestern Montana. It is 65 miles south of Kalispell and 85 miles north of Missoula, Montana.

Access to the area is gained by secondary roads leading from Montana Highway No. 209 and from U. S. 93; trails from the latter pass through the Flathead Indian Reservation which borders the entire western boundary of the proposed Wilderness.

PRINCIPAL FEATURES AND ATTRACTIONS

The Mission Range is an outstandingly scenic part of undeveloped America.

Glaciated crests, snow-capped peaks, permanent glaciers and snow fields, alpine lakes, clear streams, and waterfalls are typical. Topography is severe. Vertical cliffs, knife-edged ridges, cirques, and talus slopes characterize the Missions.

The varied wildlife is one of the area's main attractions. The Missions contain grizzly bear, mountain goat, elk, mule deer, white-tail deer, black bear and moose. Wolverine, mountain lion, lynx, and pine marten inhabit the area and, though seldom seen, their tracks in the snow add interest to winter trips.

The wilderness resource of the area is truly outstanding. The forest-covered lower hills, the subalpine cirques and lakes, and the

craggy mountain peaks offer abundant opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, for solitude and challenge. It generally meets all the criteria set forth in the Wilderness Act. Man's hand has been very light on the area, except at a few of the lakes near the eastern boundary. Except for recreation there has been no resource use development or management. The area offers great opportunities for scientific and educational study now and in the future. It is well known for its scenic quality.

The area has a primitive environment of natural rugged beauty and remoteness in which visitors can experience solitude, self-reliance, and serenity. Man can completely isolate himself from civilization in this area.

Numerous lakes, some of which provide good fishing for cutthroat, brook, or golden trout add to the area's recreation attractiveness.

PROXIMITY TO POPULATION AND OTHER CLASSIFIED AREAS

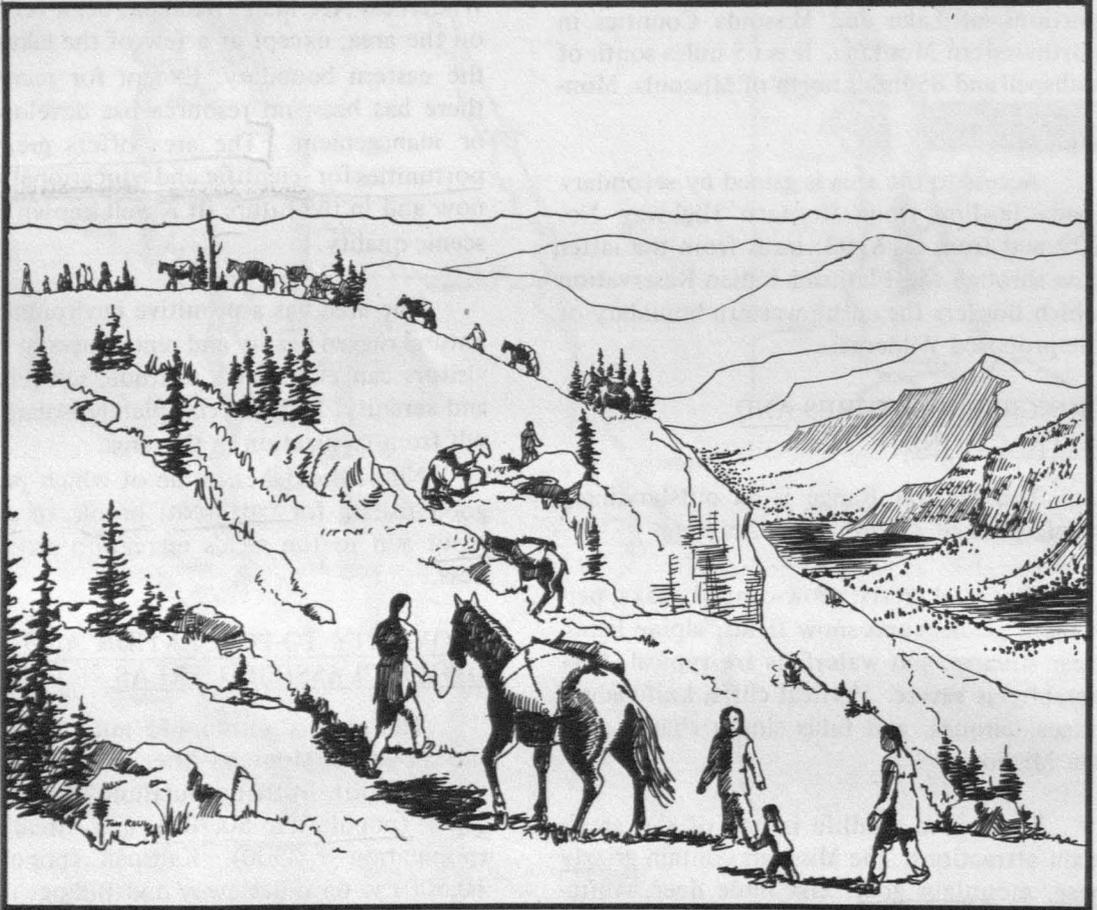
The area is within 175 miles of four of the six largest Montana cities; Helena (population 22,700), Butte (population 23,400), Missoula (population 50,700), and Great Falls (population 68,500). Kalispell (population 10,500) is 65 miles away and Billings (population 61,600) is 380 miles. Spokane, Washington (population 183,000) is 290 miles away.

The 950,000-acre Bob Marshall Wilderness is 15 miles east of the Missions. Glacier National Park (1,000,000 acres) is 100 miles north.

ACREAGE SUMMARY

Mission Mountains Primitive Area	73,945
Additions	+ 1,280
Exclusions	- 2,018
Mission Mountains Wilderness	73,207

≈ 118 sq. miles



THE AREA

HISTORICAL

The historical name "Mission Mountains" is traced directly to the Catholic priests whose missionary endeavors with the Salish-Flathead tribes contributed to the culture of the valley west of these mountains during the 19th century.

During the late 1800's and early 1900's, the Salish Indians traveled over the Mission

Divide from their reservation into what is now the Mission Mountains Primitive Area, to hunt big game and fish the mountain lakes. The Indians developed most of the network of trails which exists today. They took game and fish which were dried, smoked, and packed out to their reservations. Arrowheads, beads, and other artifacts are occasionally found along the shores of lakes and old campsites.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Mission Mountains are within the Flathead National Forest in northwest Montana. The proposed Wilderness extends along the east slope of the Mission Range in Lake and Missoula counties, 65 miles southeast of Kalispell, and 85 miles northeast of Missoula. The territory is 2-7 miles wide and 30 miles long, in a north-south direction. Two paved highways, Montana Highway 209 and U. S. Highway 93, are located east and west of the area in the Swan and Mission Valleys. All-purpose forest, farm, recreation, and logging roads extend from these highways toward the boundaries.

Appendix A contains a detailed description of the boundary of the proposed Wilderness. The area is depicted on a map in this report and on file in the offices of the Forest Supervisor, Flathead National Forest, Kalispell, Montana, and the Regional Forester, Missoula, Montana.

The proposed Wilderness contains 73,207 acres, which includes 2,865 acres of private land. Recommended for inclusion in this proposal are 71,927 acres of the existing Mission Mountains Primitive Area and 1,280 acres adjacent to the Primitive Area. Two thousand eighteen acres of the Primitive Area are recommended for exclusion.

The Mission Mountains Primitive Area was established October 31, 1931, by Chief Forester R. Y. Stuart, under authority of Regulation L-20. The area contained about 67,000 acres which included about 18,500 acres of Northern Pacific Railway Company lands. In 1939, 8,500 acres were added to the northern part of the Primitive Area of which about 3,500 acres belonged to the Northern Pacific Company. In 1952, 19,124 acres in the Primitive Area were acquired by the Government from the Northern Pacific Company through an exchange for lands elsewhere. The remaining 2,865 acres of private land in the Primitive Area are being acquired by the Government through another land exchange with Burlington Northern Inc.

IMPORTANT SCENIC AND LAND FEATURES

Glaciation has produced spectacular features such as high craggy peaks, vertical cliffs, knife-edged ridges, and many amphitheater-like basins. Four permanent glaciers remain today. Many alpine mountain lakes are surrounded by open slopes with a profusion of summer season wild flowers. Along the Mission Divide, wind-deformed, grotesque-shaped trees are a prominent feature. Clear, pure water cascades over bedrock streambeds to the Swan Valley.

Topography, particularly in the southern portion is severe. Elevations vary from 4,500 to 9,369 feet above sea level. Some of the outstanding mountains include Gray Wolf Peak, Sunset Crags, Goat Mountain, Mountaineer Peak, Panoramic Peak, and Daughter-of-the-Sun Mountain. This array of sharp peaks and severely broken country offers the backpacker a hiking and mountain climbing challenge. Panoramic views of the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Glacier National Park, and surrounding valleys are an added attraction.

There are about 150 lakes varying from small potholes to the 325-acre Gray Wolf Lake. Outstanding scenic lakes include High Park, Lost, Turquoise, Elk, Cold, Frigid, Jim Lakes, Crystal, Glacier, Hemlock, Cedar, Piper, Crescent, Island, and Heart.

CLIMATE

Summers are short, with a usual growing season of 60 days or less. Frost occurs every month of the year. Temperatures rarely rise above 85 degrees. Annual precipitation averages 50-60 inches, mostly in the form of snow.

FOREST AND OTHER VEGETATIVE COVER

Vegetative cover varies with elevation. On the lower slopes are Western larch, Douglas-fir, and spruce forests. Higher up in the Mission Range, meadows, parks, lakes, beargrass, and flower-covered slopes; scattered alpine larch, whitebark pine, and alpine fir characterize the scene. Above timberline, which is about 8,000 feet, only sedges, lichens, moss, and small forbs adapt to the severe sites.

What are names of glaciers?

RESOURCES

WILDERNESS

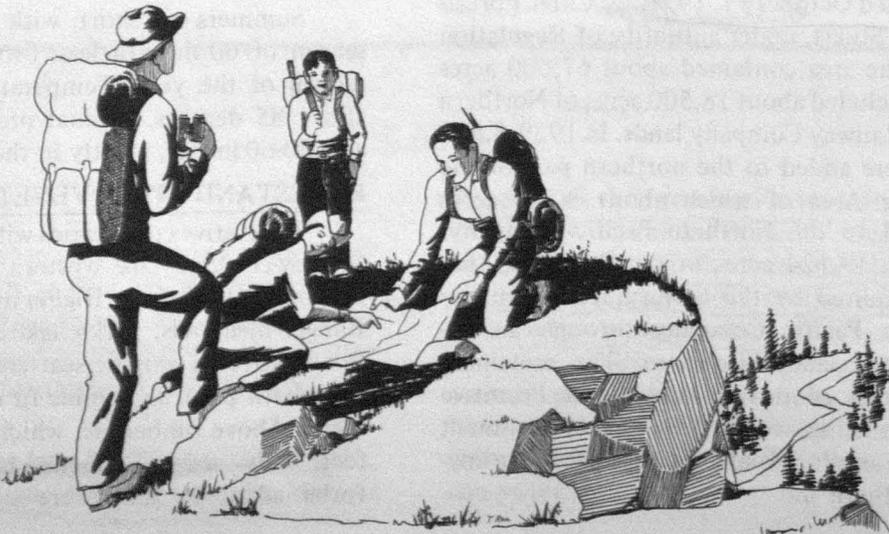
The components of the wilderness resource as given in the Wilderness Act are found in this Mission Mountains Area proposal to an outstanding degree.

1. The earth and its community of life is untrammelled by man; i.e., nature has a free role, to an outstanding degree.
2. Man is truly a visitor who does not remain. There are no residences or even temporary administrative centers in the area. Most camping experiences are of short duration.
3. The area within the boundary fully meets the criteria of being undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, except as influenced by activities along the eastern boundary.
4. It is without permanent improvements (except trails), or human habitation.
5. It has been protected and managed for many years to recognize its wilderness values.
6. It generally appears to have been af-

ected primarily by the forces of nature and the imprint of man's work is substantially unnoticeable.

7. Opportunities for solitude are outstanding, not so much by space or distance as by the challenge of the terrain and vegetation. There are many mountaintops where one would be unlikely to encounter another person. The same is true of much of the forested area.
8. Primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities are outstanding, including mountaineering, ski-touring or snowshoeing, photography, fishing, hunting, backpacking, exploring, hiking, camping, and viewing scenery and wildlife.
9. The area contains both ecological and geological features of scientific, educational, and scenic value. Vegetative types offer educational and scientific study opportunities. Evidence of glacial activity is one of the interesting geological values.

Designation of the area as Wilderness will perpetuate this resource.





Hikers on the trail to Gray Wolf Lake. Gray Wolf Peak is in the upper right of the picture.

RECREATION

Visits to the proposed Wilderness are estimated to be between 4,000 and 6,000 annually for a total of about 6,000 visitor days. Backpacking and fishing are dominant recreation activities and are increasing. Most visits are by small groups or individuals; however, organized group trips are also increasing. Commercial outfitter and guide service is available from the Swan and Mission Valleys.

Several lakes, including Crystal, Glacier, Cold, and Fatty Lakes, are easy 1- to 2-hour walks from road ends. The easily accessible areas are outstanding recreational attractions and tend to concentrate people in small areas causing some damage to the lakeshore.

Recreation activities to suit a variety of tastes are possible in this area. There are rugged peaks to climb; varied fish and wildlife to see, photograph, or hunt; magnificent

scenery to see, sketch, or photograph; lakes to play and swim in, to fish, or just to gaze at. Hiking on trails or cross-country in the sub-alpine and alpine areas is rewarding partly because of the scenic views and wildlife viewing opportunities. Ski touring in spring and early summer is now enjoyed by some and is a growing recreation activity. The Mission Mountains are ideal for such trips.

The opportunity is there to add warblers, pippets, pileated woodpeckers, and many other birds to one's list. The same is true of those interested in plant identification.

Four potential winter sports sites, three partially within the proposed Wilderness, have been inventoried. (See map, Appendix D.) These areas constitute the only available potential major ski area sites in the upper Swan Valley. Terrain analysis indicates that the Skylark area does not have the desirable distribution of terrain needed for a ski area; however, it does offer good terrain for ski

touring. This site and the Beaver Creek site, located outside the proposed Wilderness, will not be discussed in detail in this report. The Windfall and Red Butte sites are discussed later in the report under CONCLUSIONS.

WILDLIFE

The Mission Mountains, particularly the southern portion, is habitat for grizzly bear. The proposal recognizes the need to maintain this habitat. Management of people and access trails will be important as it is doubtful if the area by itself provides a sanctuary sufficient to maintain the grizzly bear. Other large game animals include Rocky Mountain goat, elk, mule deer, white-tail deer, black bear, and occasional moose. Upland game birds include ptarmigan, Franklin, ruffed, and blue grouse.

There is no winter range in the area for deer and elk. There is little opportunity or need for big game habitat improvement work in the Missions. The Rocky Mountain goat is the only big game animal that feeds in the area year long. Other big game animals winter either in the Swan Valley or Mission Valley from December through June.

Animals of special visitor interest that live in the area include mountain lion, bobcat, lynx, coyote, beaver, badger, fox, weasel, marten, mink, whistling marmots, and Wolverines.

Other native small mammals include Columbian ground squirrels, pine squirrels, pocket gophers, porcupines, and snowshoe rabbits.

Conspicuous birds, characteristic of the Mission Mountains, are golden eagles, black ravens, Clark's nutcracker, owls, hawks, hummingbirds, and pileated woodpecker. The varied thrush can often be heard in the spruce forest but seldom seen.

Lakes and streams in the Mission Mountains contain cutthroat, Dolly Varden, whitefish, rainbow, brook, and golden trout.

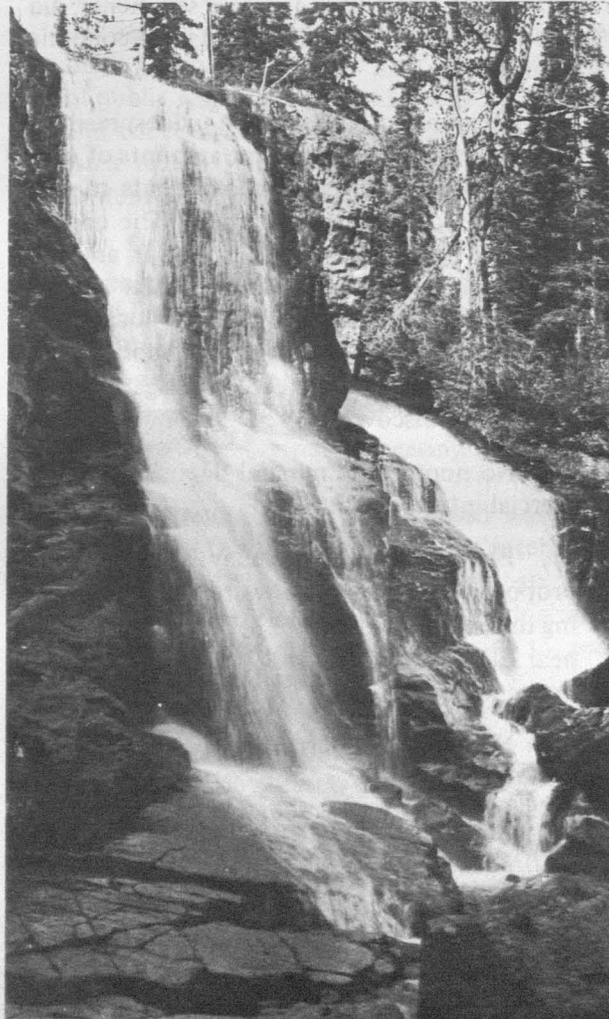
WATER

Water produced in this area flows into the Swan River. The area is an important water producer for dependent downstream users. Water yield is estimated at 275,000 acre-feet annually. There are 2,327 surface acres of water in the lakes of the area.

The quality of water in the Missions is exceptional. Even during spring runoff the streams are remarkably clear. The Mission Range is a heavy water producing area but has very limited opportunity for water resource development projects. There is little opportunity for water yield improvement because of the possibility of upsetting delicate ecological balance that exists throughout most of the area.



Rocky Mountain Goat



Pleasant waterfalls, like this one on Glacier Creek, are numerous.

There are no water storage structures, power withdrawals, or irrigation distribution systems. However, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Indian Tribes, in August 1956, working through the U. S. Indian Irrigation Service, claimed water rights on four lakes (Gray Wolf, High Park, Lost, and Turquoise).

The plan was to divert water from these lakes to their reservation by means of tunnels. To date, no such claim has been supported and nothing has been done on the proposed project. Present and future feasibility and economy indicates that it is more practical to pump water from the Flathead River. Wilderness designation will preclude future water resource developments except as provided in the Wilderness Act.

FORAGE

Grazing by cattle and sheep is not permitted; there is little or no suitable range, and there is no demand for such grazing.

Limited forage is available at some alpine meadows for recreation stock use. The stock has damaged trees, botanical communities, and soil at some of the popular, easily accessible recreation areas. Dual use by wildlife and recreation stock could become critical on vegetative habitat in certain areas. There is a need to change recreation stock management in order to eliminate present and future damage.

FOREST COVER

About 10,700 acres of the proposed Wilderness (14 percent of the area) supports stands of trees which are economically operable at this time. Estimated volume of saw-timber on these lands is 101,136,000 board feet. In addition, they contain a volume of 6,173,000 cubic feet of material suitable for poles, pulp, and other wood products.

Forty-three percent of the above volume of wood is Englemann spruce; 18 percent is

subalpine fir, grand fir, Western red cedar, hemlock; 16 percent Douglas-fir; 12 percent lodgepole and whitebark pine; 8 percent Western larch; and 3 percent ponderosa pine, white pine, and hard woods. The lands where these wood products occur lie along the edge of the proposed eastern boundary and extend up the creek bottoms.

Nearly all of the tree stands suitable for wood products are mature or overmature, and all are near even-aged. These stands are prone to infestation and infection by insects and diseases. Insect epidemics can be expected in the area, and could occur at any time.

Alpine larch, a small tree relative to the Western larch, is found in the area. Its range is in the subalpine zone of the Rocky Mountains from the Salmon River north to the Banff-Alberta region. It is a tree of interest to those visitors who know trees and their natural sites. The tree is short and limby in contrast to the tall straight bole of the Western larch which is often found without branches for the lower 20-30 feet.

Wilderness classification would mean the 10,700 acres supporting commercial sawtimber would not be available for harvest. Under management this acreage could produce a sustained yield of 3 million board feet each year in perpetuity.

GEOLOGY - MINERALS

A mineral survey of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area was made by the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines during the summer of 1967, and an

aeromagnetic survey of the area was made by the Geological Survey during the fall of the same year. Their report is contained in Geological Survey Bulletin 1261-D entitled, "Mineral Resources of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area, Missoula and Lake Counties, Montana."

Geological examination along several hundred miles of foot traverses, plus spectrographic and chemical analysis of about 500 samples of bedrock and stream sediments, did not reveal any mineral deposits of economic significance.

Examination revealed a widespread irregular distribution of minor amounts of copper and lead as primary components of certain kinds of sedimentary rocks. The copper and lead minerals are insufficient in amount to form large low-grade ore deposits and insufficiently concentrated to form local high-grade ore deposits. No mineral deposits were known in the area before investigation and none were discovered.

No nonmetallic mineral deposits of commercial interest were found.

Four mining claims may lie within the proposed Wilderness, but were not found during the investigation. One shallow prospect pit, near Elk Lake, was found but no mineral deposits were evident.

No valuable occurrences of building stone were found.

It is concluded from the mineral examination and report that a very low mineral potential exists in this area. Any future mining activity would undoubtedly create conflicts.

PUBLIC INTEREST

In December 1967, the Forest Service announced the beginning of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area study. Interested individuals, groups, and organizations were invited to participate and offer suggestions and recommendations.

Citizen organizations took an active interest in the study of this proposed Wilderness. A booklet, "Possible Management Alternatives - Mission Mountains Primitive Area," was prepared by the Forest Service and widely distributed. It described various land management alternatives for the area. The evaluation of public response indicated a very high regard and concern for the addition of this Primitive Area to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

In July 1970, the Forest Service initially proposed a Wilderness including 71,927 acres of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area, plus 1,280 acres of adjacent National Forest lands (see map, Appendix A). The proposal also recommended exclusion of 2,018 acres of the Primitive Area. A public hearing on the proposal was held September 9, 1970, in Kalispell, Montana. The hearing record was held open until October 9, 1970, for receipt of additional written testimony. Thirty-six oral presentations were made at the hearing, and over 500 letters were received prior to and following the hearing.

A large majority of the oral and written comments favored the Forest Service proposal. There were recommendations submitted favoring addition of several areas to the proposed Wilderness and opposing the proposed exclusions. No one suggested retention of the original Primitive Area and only four respondents looked unfavorably upon a Wilderness.

The map in Appendix A shows the area proposed by the Forest Service. The original 73,207-acre Wilderness proposal included the Primitive Area except for Exclusions 1 through

6 (2,018 acres) and Additions A and B (1,280 acres).

Areas C (640 acres), D (640 acres), and E (370 acres) as proposed by some individuals and organizations are also shown on the map, Appendix A. Areas C and D were proposed because they meet the minimum criteria for Wilderness, would enhance the wilderness experience for those people approaching Piper and Jim Lakes, and offer permanent protection of a significant wilderness experience. Reasons given for including Area E into the Wilderness were to protect the scenic vista area as seen from a popular trail to the Turquoise and Island Lakes area. Fear was expressed that if the area was not included in the Wilderness, it would be logged and the wilderness value of its vistas would be destroyed.

Opposition to the proposed Exclusions 1 through 6, shown on the map, Appendix A, was based on the following statements:

- The Primitive Area should be examined as a whole and not piecemeal.
- It would be administratively impossible to manage the proposed exclusions.
- The proposed exclusions cut into the area like "daggers in the heart."
- The proposed use of Secretary of Agriculture's Regulation U-6 to manage the proposed exclusions was insufficient; the areas need legislative protection.
- The Wilderness Act does not preclude their inclusion as other Wildernesses contain slightly modified areas.
- The Forest Service was accused of being "too pure."

**Response of Departments,
Agencies, and Organizations**

The following either supported the original Forest Service proposal or had no objections to including this area in the Wilderness System:

Office of Secretary, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

National Air Pollution Control Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Environmental Control Administration, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation.

Federal Power Commission.

Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

Glacier National Park, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

Department of Fish and Game, State of Montana.

The Department of Planning and Economic Development, State of Montana, supports Wilderness management except for potential winter sports sites unless there are other available winter sports sites in the vicinity or these sites would unfavorably affect the Mission Mountains Wilderness. The Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, also shared these views.

The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology spokesman stated a preference for management for maximum public access and optimum resource management.

Several other Federal agencies were non-committal on the proposal.

Citizen organizations which concurred with the proposal submitted by the Forest Service were:

Western Wood Products Association.

Montana Wildlife Federation.

Wilderness Society.

Montana Wilderness Association.

Western Montana Fish and Game Association.

Rocky Mountaineers of Western Montana.

Episcopal Diocese of Montana.

American Mining Congress.

Wildlife Management Institute.

Lower Flathead Valley Schoolmasters Association.

Skyline Sportsman Association.

Pioneer Local No. 2 - 443, Oil Chemical, and Atomic Workers International Union.

Montana State AFL-CIO.

The Anaconda Company.

District One, Montana Wildlife Federation.

Montana Tech. Mountaineering Club.

St. Ignatius Chamber of Commerce.

Flathead Wildlife, Inc.

Four hundred ninety-eight individual respondents supported the proposal. Twelve organizations from outside the State of Montana also supported the proposal.

Those organizations favoring Wilderness but either proposing additional areas and/or disapproving the proposed exclusions were:

Department of Housing and Urban De-

velopment (oppose exclusions only).
Missoula and Flathead Chapters, Montana Wilderness Association (propose additions only).

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (propose additions and oppose exclusions).

Pacific Northwest Chapter, Sierra Club (propose additions and oppose exclusions).

Montana Group, Sierra Club (propose additions and oppose exclusions).

Polson Outdoors, Inc. (propose additions and oppose exclusions).

Western Regional Office, The Nature Conservancy (propose additions and oppose exclusions).

Park County Rod and Gun Club (oppose exclusions only).

Hill County Wildlife Association (oppose exclusions only).

Some 91 individuals expressed themselves in the above manner.

The Montana Farm Bureau Federation favors multiple use with a dim view of Wilderness, but voiced no specific objection to this particular proposal.

The Flathead Chapter, Society of American Foresters, preferred management for maximum public access and optimum resource management.

One individual proposed no Wilderness.

Copies of the hearing record and an analysis of public response are on file in the Office of the Chief, Forest Service, Washington, D.C., and the Office of the Regional Forester, Federal Building, Missoula, Montana. All exhibits presented at the hearing and all letters received as a result of the public notice are also on file in the Office of the Regional Forester.



Cold Lakes and Jim Lakes Basin, Mission Mountains

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

STRUCTURES AND ACTIVITIES

There are 65 miles of trails with directional signs for visitor use and National Forest administration. Much of the area will remain trailless. In other areas, management envisions limited trail construction and route marking to disperse visitors.

Three rustic toilets at Crystal, Cold, and Glacier Lakes, are to be removed as soon as possible. Education of the public of proper Wilderness sanitation through use of brochures, pamphlets, and personal contact will be necessary. Ten miles of abandoned telephone line in the area will be rolled up and packed out.

Several helispots have been built. These will be allowed to revert back to a natural aspect and no additional spots will be built unless there is an emergency.

The Soil Conservation Service maintains a snow survey course in Fatty Creek and Hell-roaring Pass. Measurements are by appropriate primitive means. We are not aware of any additional snow measurement needs in this area. If the need arises they could also be read by primitive means.

Only one commercial outfitter operates in the area and is permitted temporary facilities at the camp.

Present and future use of easily accessible lakes will need to be modified to maintain the wilderness resource. This can be done through providing appropriate access to other attractive areas; relocation of certain road-end facilities; moving use to other camp areas away from immediate lakeshores and restoration of disturbed sites; and after other measures have been applied, the limitation or rationing of use. Rotation of campsites may also be employed to protect the wilderness resource.

Wilderness management will affect structures and activities as indicated above.

FIRE

Fire occurrence has been low, averaging less than two fires annually during the last 10 years.

The past and future role of fire in the area will be studied to determine the natural part fire has played in development of the area's unique plant and animal community. Fire control objectives and procedures will be developed to preserve and protect the area's wilderness resource insofar as possible, considering the possible effects of fires that occur within the area and adjacent lands.

FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES

The forested areas of the Missions are subject to the common forest insects and diseases of western Montana. As an example, the spruce budworm, a defoliator, attacks foliage of Douglas-fir, the true firs, and, to a lesser extent, spruce. Dwarf mistletoe is common in the lodgepole pine trees and there is mistletoe on other tree species as well.

The area would seem susceptible to future epidemics of the spruce bark beetle similar to the one that occurred in the early 1950's. The reason for this is that there remains within the area many old spruce trees which have little resistance to beetle attacks. Every effort will be made to keep timber stands outside and near the area in a vigorous condition, resistant to bark beetle attacks.

No particular tree diseases are apparently of special significance in the area at this time.

As with fire, a study is needed to determine the degree to which forest insects and diseases can be allowed to play their "natural" role within the area.

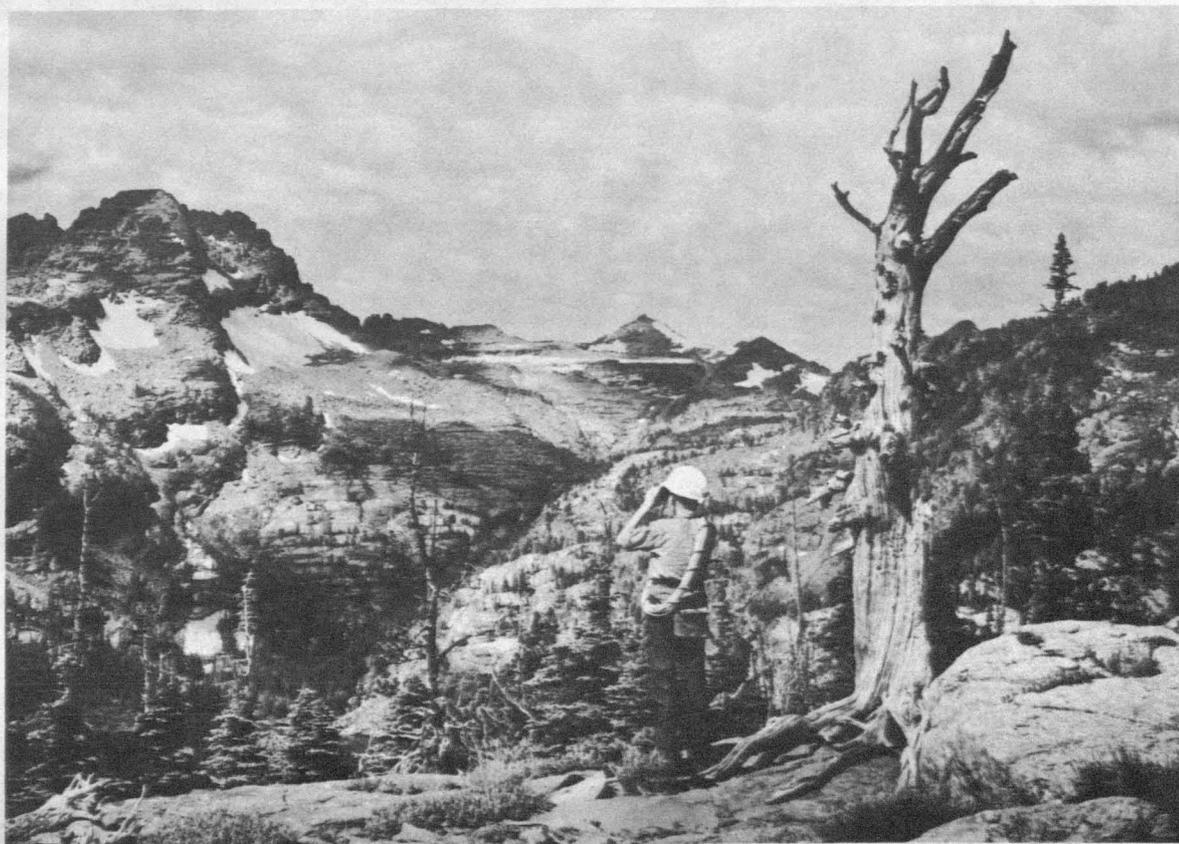
LAND ADJUSTMENT AND NON-FEDERAL LANDS

The private land within the proposed boundary is in the process of being conveyed to the United States in a land exchange with Burlington Northern Inc. Legal review to the title to these lands has not been completed but is expected in the near future. These six parcels of land contain no improvements.

The land adjacent to the western and southern boundary of the proposed Wilderness is private land within the Flathead Indian Reservation and is not available for inclusion in the proposed Wilderness. These contiguous

lands are of wilderness quality. The Tribal Council is interested in managing these lands in a manner similar to Wilderness but under the policies the Council deems befitting and not necessarily within the confines of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Lands adjacent to the eastern boundary are composed of alternate sections in private ownership. Timber management activities, road construction, structures, or other nonconforming activities, existing and/or planned, on these private lands make them unsuitable for Wilderness considerations.



Youth Looking for Goats on Gray Wolf Peak



Last Chance Lake, Mission Mountains

CONCLUSIONS

AREAS SUITABLE FOR WILDERNESS

Within this proposed Wilderness, 73,900 acres have been administered and used in recognition of its wilderness character. Studies by the Forest Service, Geological Survey, and Bureau of Mines, comments submitted by other agencies, plus the vast majority of comments made at the public hearing on September 9, 1970, and received for the record prior to and after the hearing show sufficient reason

to manage most of the Primitive Area as Wilderness and include it in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

As a result of analyzing and studying the information presented during and after the hearing, the Forest Service has concluded that Additions A and B, shown on the map, Appendix A, should be included in the Wilderness proposal.

ADDITION A, CEDAR CREEK, 640 ACRES

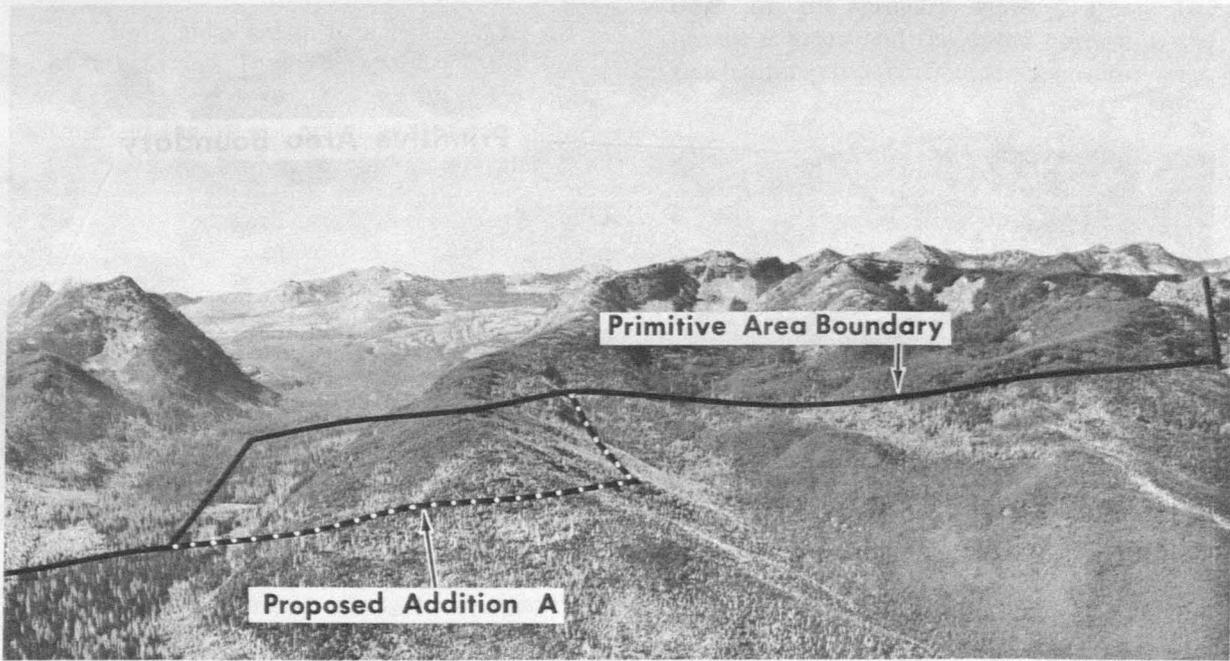
The south half of this area is extremely steep with numerous rock outcrops and cliffs. Cedar Creek flows at the bottom of the cliffs through a small fishable lake and series of ponds and meadows.

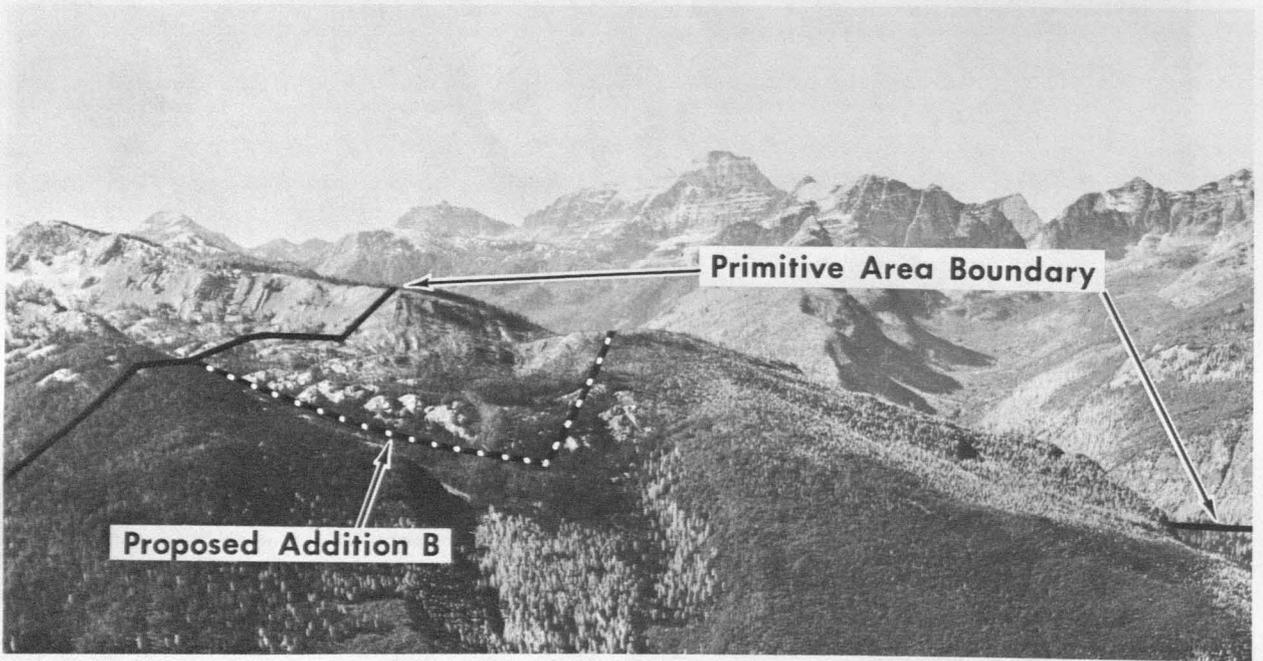
The area is undeveloped except for a primitive trail near the lake. It meets the definition of Wilderness in the Act, has much the same characteristics as other lands within

the area at this elevation, and gives depth to the Wilderness. It contains the opportunity for an enjoyable Wilderness visit; a destination in and of itself.

About 84 percent of the area has been classed as noncommercial and nonforested land. The remainder is spruce and larch timber stands.

There are no grazing permits within this proposed addition.





ADDITION B, ELK CREEK, 640 ACRES

The west half of the area is extremely steep with scattered rock outcrops and cliffs. A small lake is located near the center of the area. This parcel is completely undeveloped and fully meets the definition of Wilderness.

Parcel B is similar to adjacent lands within the proposed Wilderness at the same eleva-

tion and gives additional depth to the area, an advantage from both a wilderness resource and use viewpoint.

There are no grazing permits within this proposed addition.

About 88 percent of the land has been classed as noncommercial and nonforested land. The remainder is spruce timber stands.

AREAS NOT SUITABLE FOR WILDERNESS

The Forest Service has carefully analyzed and studied the information presented during and after the hearing which pertains to proposals to include three additional areas and the six exclusions proposed by the Forest Service into a Wilderness. These areas are discussed herein.

AREAC, PIPER CREEK, 640 ACRES – AREAD, JIM CREEK, 640 ACRES

These two areas are discussed together since they are similar. They are geographically close. The reasons presented at the hearing for their inclusion were similar.

Both areas are surrounded on three sides by private land. The Forest Service has no control over administration of this contiguous land and the uses or practices that may occur; i.e., roading, timber harvesting, or other developments. Wilderness boundaries should be located to avoid conflict with important existing or potential public uses outside the boundary which might result in the demands for invasion of the Wilderness with nonconforming structures or activities.

If the adjacent private lands on three sides are developed, the two National Forest sections would be vulnerable to trespass, visual and noise pollution, or excessive access which would degrade a Wilderness experience.

Specific resource management prescriptions will be established in the Ranger District Multiple Use Plan to recognize the adjacent proposed Wilderness. Activities or uses in the areas in question will not detract from the quality of the adjacent proposed Wilderness and can be complementary to the areas as viewed by the visitors ingressing or egressing through these sections. Although these sections do meet the minimum criteria for Wilderness as set forth in the Wilderness Act, their inclusion in the Wilderness is not recommended for the reasons stated.

AREA E, GLACIER CREEK, 370 ACRES

This is a portion of Section 29 south of Glacier Creek contiguous to the proposed Wilderness. The area in question is a portion of a primary viewing area from above Glacier Lake within the proposed Wilderness. The extensive timbered mountainside in this primary viewing area also extends into Section 21 (private land) and Section 28 (Government owned). It is bordered on the north by a road and some timber harvesting on the north side of Glacier Creek (not within the primary viewing area) and on the south by roads and timber harvesting areas (behind the ridge of the primary viewing area). The terrain is steep and the upper portion of the area has numerous cliffs and rock outcroppings.

The Forest Service recognizes this primary viewing area from within the proposed Wilderness. A great many visitors to this proposed Wilderness traverse the trail from Glacier Lake to other higher lakes. The viewing down on Glacier Lake and to the Glacier Creek drainage and Swan Valley outside the area is extraordinary.

Management of this area is perhaps the most critical of all lands adjacent to the proposed boundary. Once again, special management prescriptions in the Ranger District Multiple Use Plan will be established to protect the viewing area in Government ownership. It is not known at this time if Section 21 can be acquired through land exchange with the Burlington Northern.

Inclusion of this area would create an irregular peninsula of Wilderness. It would offer possible conflicts with existing and potential public uses outside the boundaries and subject it to invasion or trespass from existing roads. Therefore, the inclusion of this area is not recommended.



View of Exclusion No. 5. Cutover areas within Primitive area boundary are proposed for exclusion.

EXCLUSIONS 1 THROUGH 6, 2,018 ACRES

These areas will be discussed collectively because of their similarity. They are listed here for convenience:

- Exclusion 1 – Cold Creek, 598 acres.
- Exclusion 2 – South Fork Cold Creek, 408 acres.
- Exclusion 3 – Red Butte Creek, 132 acres.
- Exclusion 4 – Kraft Creek, 52 acres.
- Exclusion 5 – Skylark Lake Area, 458 acres.
- Exclusion 6 – Beaver Creek, 370 acres.

In the early 1950's a spruce bark beetle epidemic built up in and adjacent to the Mission Mountains Primitive Area. This happened because a large volume of Englemann spruce timber was blown down in 1949 providing ideal breeding conditions for the bark beetle. Both Northern Pacific Company and National Forest lands were involved, and both organizations made salvage sales outside the Primitive Area. The Chief of the Forest Service granted authority for control operations in the Primitive Area to prevent further spread.

The Northern Pacific salvaged timber on their lands within the Primitive Area.

The control effort in 1954 and 1955, aimed at removing the infected trees, resulted in most of the six tracts being clearcut. Upon completion of logging, roads were closed at the Primitive Area boundary and motorized travel prohibited.

With the passage of 15 years, the normal processes which take place in most timber harvest areas have occurred. Considerable vegetation has come in. New tree seedlings are becoming established. Stumps and cull material are somewhat hidden, and the scene is not raw or unpleasing.

In spite of these changes, it can hardly be said that the evidence of man's activity is substantially unnoticeable. Further, the earth and its community of life is not untrammled by man; the areas do not appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature; and the primeval character is lacking. They do not meet the definition of Wilderness as set forth in the Wilderness Act.

The Forest Service recognizes the need for coordination with Wilderness objectives in managing these exclusions. Future management will be directed to minimize any adverse effects on the proposed Wilderness. A special management prescription has been written, with advice and counsel of local wilderness interests, and added to the Condon Ranger District's Multiple Use Plan. This prescription recognizes the scenic, wildlife, and recreational values of the areas and is a commitment to the public that these special values will be managed so as to complement the proposed Wilderness and not detract from it. It will not be changed unless there is evidence the American public wants it changed. Secretary of Agriculture's Regulation U-6 (36 Code of Federal Regulations 251.25) will provide authority for those measures necessary for the protection of the special values and resources.

The special management prescriptions written for these proposed Exclusions are included in Appendix C.

These six areas are not suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

OTHER AREAS RECEIVING CONSIDERATION

One of the outdoor recreational activities that will be foregone with the proposed Wilderness is downhill skiing at a developed site. Two areas — Windfall and Red Butte — have received careful consideration as a result of analyzing the hearing record and the availability of additional data after study of the potential values of these areas as winter sports sites.

These two areas of 818 acres along the eastern boundary of the proposed Wilderness meet the criteria for potential development of winter sports complexes sometime in the fu-

ture. The sites could not be adequately developed without the upper areas that are within the proposed Wilderness. Only one other potential site — Beaver Creek — is known to exist in the upper Swan Valley.

The Windfall area contains a gross area of 2,050 acres of skiable terrain classed as 76 percent novice and intermediate, and 24 percent advanced and expert. There is 2,500 feet of vertical rise. Base facilities would be located on National Forest lands. The area would involve 840 acres of private land. The upper portion of the area, 290 acres, would be within the proposed Wilderness.

The Red Butte area involves 2,417 acres of which 1,024 acres are in private ownership. Skiable terrain is classed as 90 percent novice and intermediate, and 10 percent as advanced and expert. There is 2,350 feet of vertical rise in this area. Base facilities would be best located on private land, although National Forest land is available. Five hundred and twenty-eight acres of the upper portion of this area would be within the proposed Wilderness.

A summary of the areas studied is found in Appendix D.

The geographic location, accessibility, terrain conditions, terminal sites and base areas, climate and snow conditions, and other factors critical to a winter sports complex appear favorable for the potential Windfall and Red Butte areas. Studies indicate little, if any, visual or audible impacts upon other parts of the proposed Wilderness. While the use impacts of the potential areas could be both beneficial and detrimental, studies to date do not indicate any degree of harmful environmental invasion or incompatibility with the adjacent portions of the proposed Wilderness.

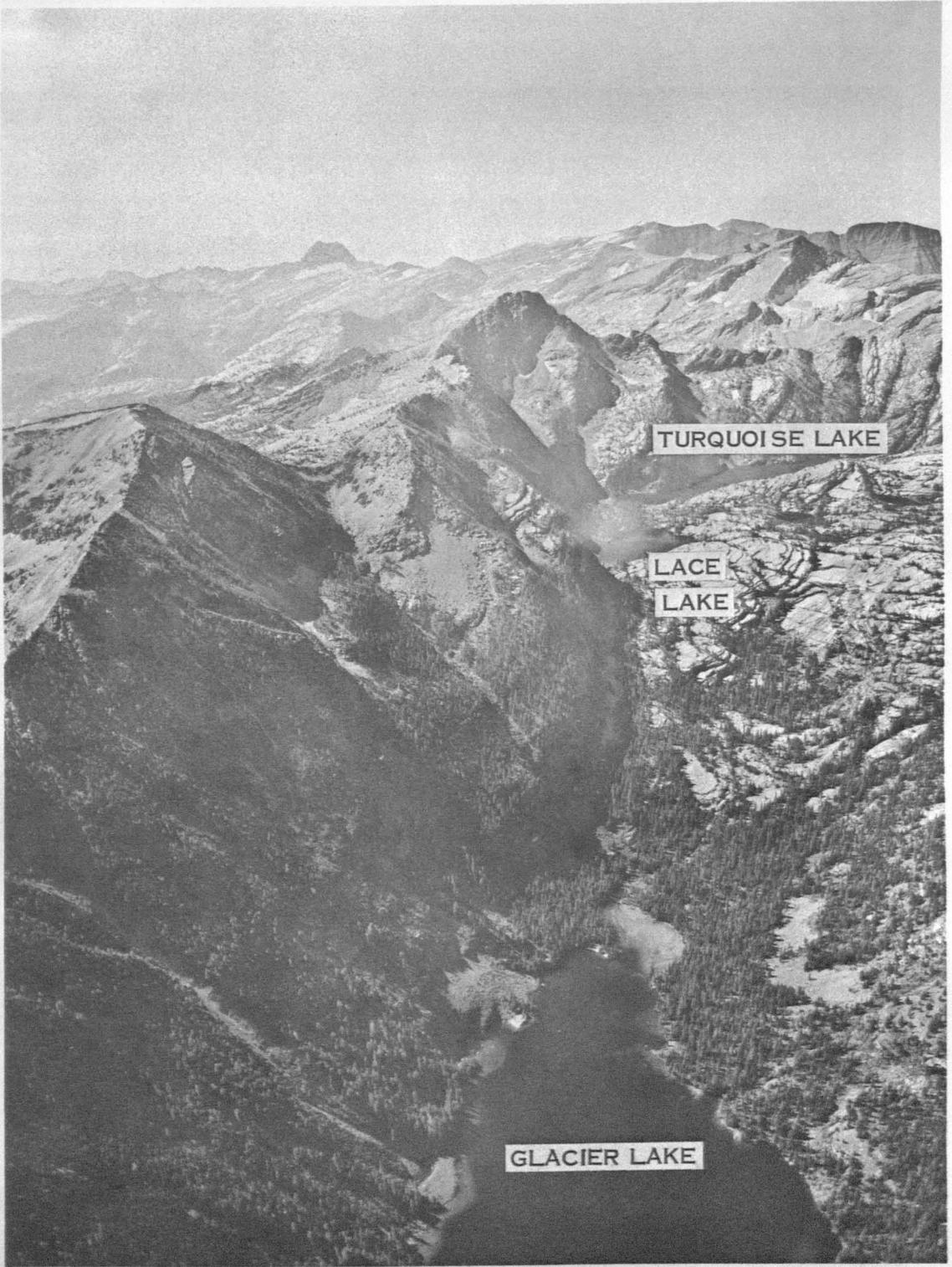
It may be that in a few years private in-

terests will secure available private land to develop a yearlong recreational complex. If so, interest is sure to be shown for developing a ski area as part of this complex. The Windfall and Red Butte areas could provide for a future winter sports activity to complement the outstanding yearlong recreation potential of the Swan Valley.

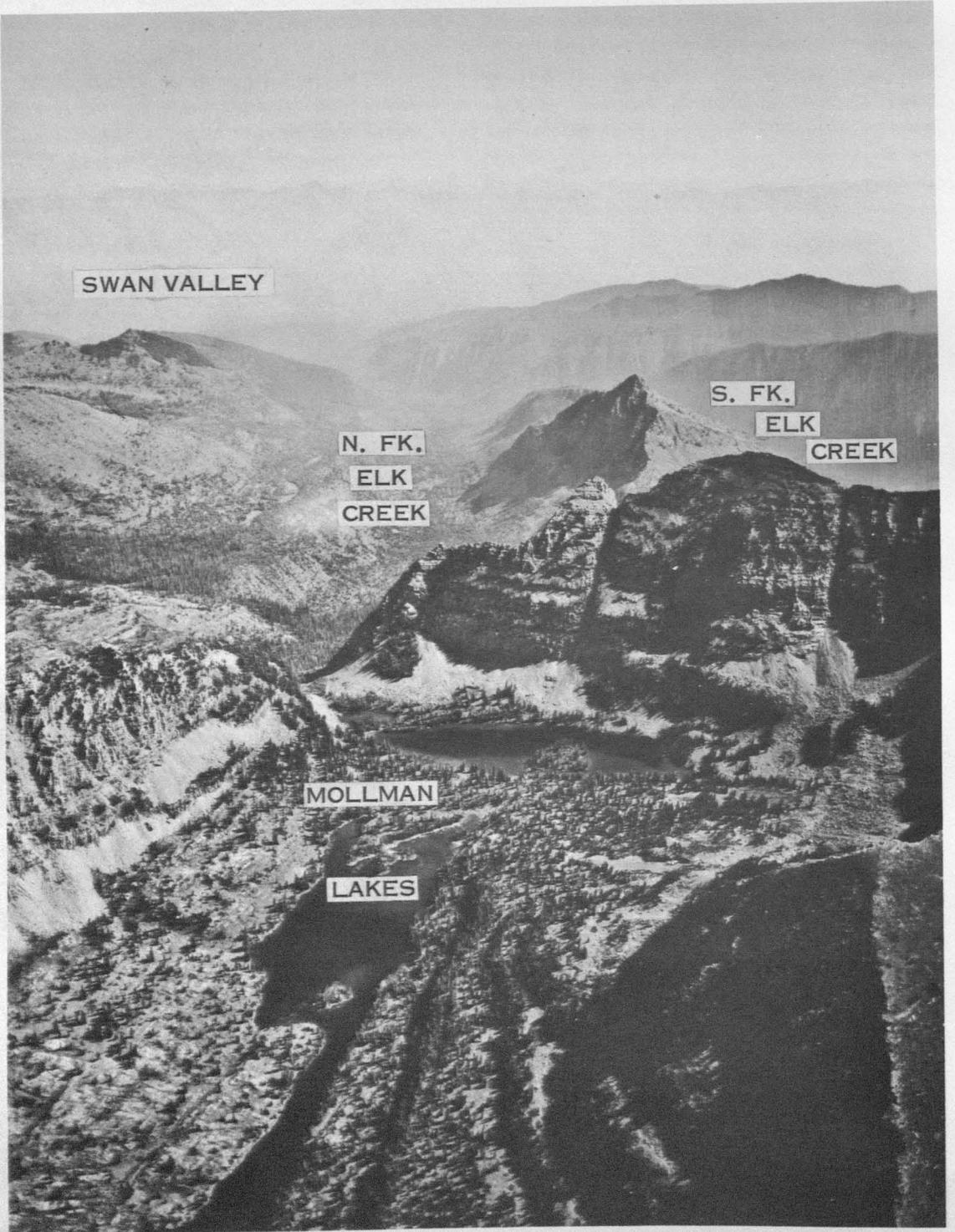
In spite of the recognized potential of

these areas for winter sports development, public support for exclusion of the two areas is lacking. As previously noted, only two agencies and one individual have indicated support for such a move. Therefore, the Forest Service recommends that the values of any potential winter sports complex should be foregone and proposes no exclusions for these sites.





Glacier, Lace, and Turquoise Lakes, Mission Mountains



APPENDIX

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
AND MAP

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Mission Mountains Wilderness

The Mission Mountains Wilderness is on the Flathead National Forest in Lake and Missoula Counties, State of Montana. The following description includes all the interior lands within the proposed Mission Mountains Wilderness as shown on the enclosed map entitled "Mission Mountains Wilderness, Flathead National Forest, Northern Region, March, 1971." All locations indicated are Montana Principal Meridian.

T. 18 N., R. 17 W.,

Sec. 3, S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Sec. 5, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$;

Secs. 6, 7, 8, and 9;

Sec. 10, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 15, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Secs. 16 to 21, inclusive;

Sec. 22, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and that part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying in the Beaver Creek drainage northwest of the Beaver Creek-West Fork Clearwater River hydrographic divide;

Sec. 27, that part lying in the Beaver Creek drainage north of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide and northwest of the Beaver Creek-West Fork Clearwater River hydrographic divide;

Sec. 28, that part lying north of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide;

Sec. 29, that part lying northwest of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;

Sec. 30;

Secs. 31 and 32, that part of each section lying north of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed.

T. 19 N., R. 17 W.,

Sec. 6;

Sec. 7, lot 1, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$, and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of lot 2, W $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of lot 3, lot 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 18, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Secs. 19 and 30;

Sec. 31, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Sec. 32, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 20 N., R. 17 W.,
Secs. 30 and 31.

T. 18 N., R. 18 W.,
Secs. 1 and 2, unsurveyed;
Secs. 3 and 10, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
Secs. 11, 12, 13, and 14, unsurveyed;
Secs. 15, 16, 21, and 22, that part of each section lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
Secs. 23, 24, and 25, unsurveyed;
Secs. 26, 27, 35, and 36, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed.

T. 19 N., R. 18 W.,
Secs. 1, 2, and 3, unsurveyed;
Secs. 4, 9, and 10, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
Secs. 11 and 12, unsurveyed;
Sec. 13;
Sec. 14, unsurveyed;
Secs. 15 and 22, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
Sec. 23, unsurveyed;
Secs. 24, 25, and 26;
Secs. 27, 33, and 34, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
Secs. 35 and 36.

T. 20 N., R. 18 W.,
Sec. 2, W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of lot 2, lots 3 and 4, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
Sec. 3;

- Sec. 4, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and that part of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Secs. 5 and 8, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Sec. 9, unsurveyed;
- Sec. 10;
- Sec. 11, W $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
- Secs. 14, 15, and 16;
- Secs. 17, 18, and 19, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Sec. 20, unsurveyed;
- Secs. 21 to 28, inclusive;
- Secs. 29, 30, 32, and 33, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Secs. 34, 35, and 36.
- T. 21 N., R. 18 W.,
- Secs. 3 and 4;
- Sec. 5, unsurveyed;
- Secs. 6, 7, and 8, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Secs. 9, 10, 15, and 16;
- Secs. 17, 20, and 21, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, partly unsurveyed;
- Secs. 22 and 23;
- Sec. 26, N $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
- Sec. 27, partly unsurveyed;
- Secs. 28, 29, and 32, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;
- Sec. 33, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, that part of the W $\frac{1}{2}$ lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, unsurveyed;
- Sec. 34, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, partly unsurveyed;
- Sec. 35, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

T. 22 N., R. 18 W.,

Sec. 5;

Secs. 6 and 7, that part of each section lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed;

Secs. 8, 16, and 17;

Sec. 18, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, partly unsurveyed;

Sec. 19, partly unsurveyed;

Secs. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, and 29;

Secs. 30 and 31, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, partly unsurveyed;

Secs. 32, 33, and 34.

T. 20 N., R. 19 W.,

Sec. 24, that part of the section lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed.

T. 22 N., R. 19 W.,

Secs. 12, 13, 24, 25, and 36, that part lying east of the Mission Mountains hydrographic divide, unsurveyed.

Total Area: 73,207 acres.

MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS (PROPOSED) FLATHEAD NATIONAL FOREST

Region One - March 1971

LEGEND

- PROPOSED WILDERNESS BOUNDARY
- NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY
- COUNTY LINE
- PRIMITIVE AREA BOUNDARY
- ALIENATED LANDS
- RECOMMENDED ADDITIONS
- RECOMMENDED EXCLUSIONS
- AREAS PROPOSED BY OTHERS

PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS

ADDITIONS	ACRES
AREA A - CEDAR CREEK	640
AREA B - ELK CREEK	640
TOTAL	1,280

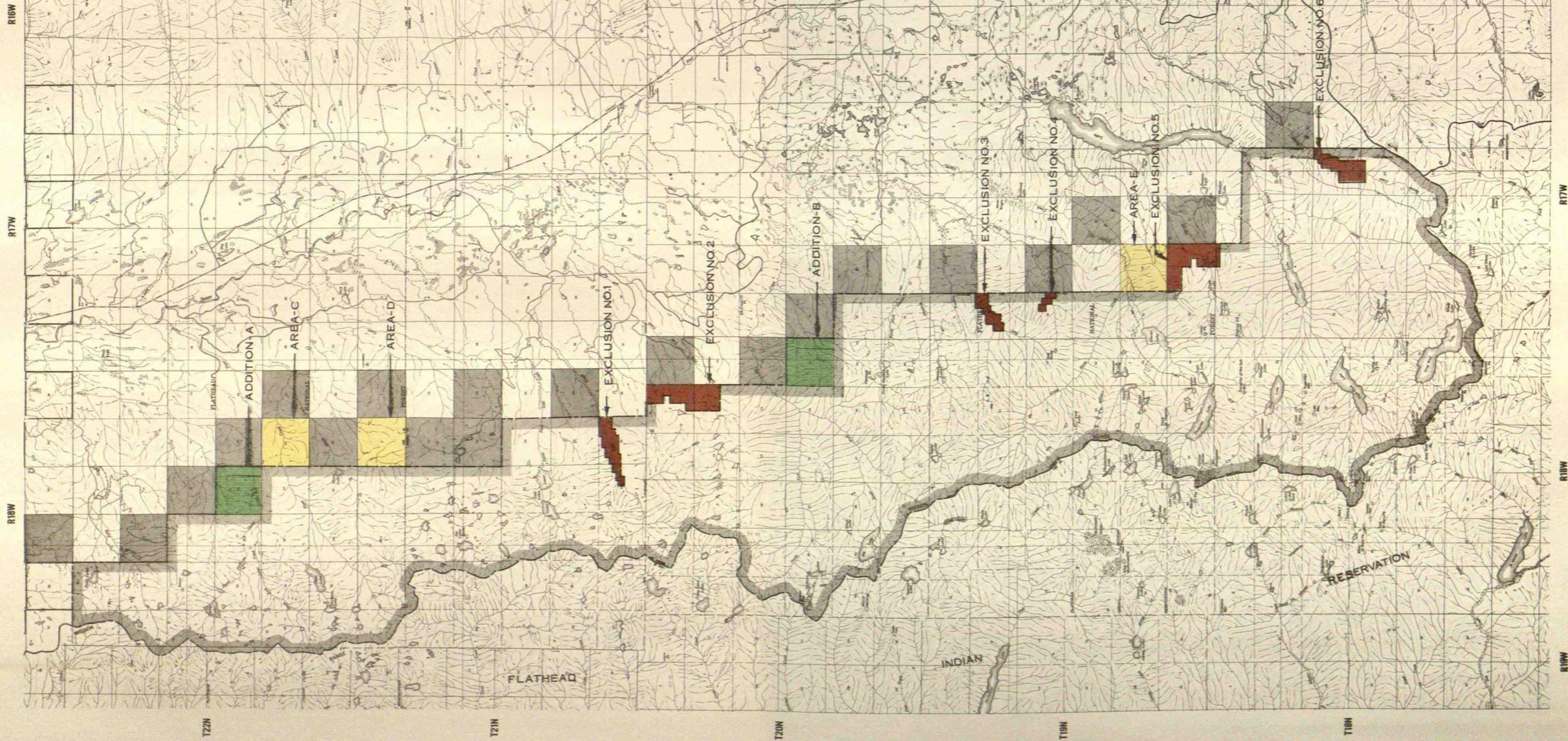
EXCLUSIONS

AREA 1 - COLD CREEK	598
AREA 2 - SOUTH FORK COLD CREEK	408
AREA 3 - KRAFT CREEK	152
AREA 4 - SKYLARK LAKE AREA	488
AREA 5 - BEAVER CREEK	370
TOTAL	2,016

MISSION MOUNTAINS PRIMITIVE AREA

ADDITIONS	73,845
EXCLUSIONS	+1,280
MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS	-2,016
MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS	73,207

ADDITIONS AND EXCLUSIONS CORRESPOND TO LETTERS AND NUMBERS SHOWN ON THE MAP.



VIEWS OF OTHER AGENCIES AND
OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT

ARNOLD OLSEN
1ST DISTRICT, MONTANA

ROOM 1436 LONGWORTH BUILDING
PHONE: 225-3211

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 6, 1970

Mr. Neal Rahm
Regional Forester
United States Forest Service
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Neal:

Thank you for the letter and copy of the Mission Mountains Wilderness Proposal. I am very pleased at the prospect of a wilderness designation for this area and you can count on me for any assistance I might provide.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Sincerely,

ARNOLD OLSEN

AO/pe

COMMITTEES:
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE
PUBLIC WORKS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
POSTAL RATES AND
PARCEL POST, CHAIRMAN
COMPENSATION
FLOOD CONTROL
ROADS
WATERSHED
SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM



State of Montana
Office of The Governor
Helena 59601

FORREST H. ANDERSON
GOVERNOR

January 12, 1970

Mr. William A. Worf
Chief of Recreation & Lands
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Worf:

After consideration of the alternatives listed in the Mission Mountains brochure, I have decided to go on record as favoring the recommendation I received from the Council on Natural Resources and Development, which reads, in part:

. . . the Council went on record as favoring alternative "A" (Wilderness Area) on the classification of the Mission Mountains primitive area, with the possibility of minor adjustments in boundary, and with a reservation that means are provided for eliminating the danger of disease and fire which might threaten timber outside the area.

Since designation of the area as Wilderness would, I believe, serve the best interests of the State of Montana, I urge that this recommendation receive the utmost consideration.

Sincerely,

FORREST H. ANDERSON
Governor



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

Mr. M. M. Nelson
Deputy Chief, Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Your letter of August 14, 1970, informed the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare of a public hearing to be held on September 9, 1970, in Kalispell, Montana, and requested our comments on any environmental impacts that might be involved with the proposed establishment of the Mission Mountains Wilderness Area. This proposed Wilderness Area comprises about 73,861 acres within and contiguous to the Mission Mountains Primitive Area in the counties of Lake and Missoula in the State of Montana.

The environmental agencies of this Department have reviewed the written proposal dated June 1970 to establish the Mission Mountains Wilderness. Reviewers' comments indicate only beneficial environmental impacts when the proposed action is taken. Accordingly, this Department has no objections to the proposal.

We wish to express our appreciation for the opportunity to review this anticipated action of your Agency. If we can be of further assistance on matters relating to the environment, please feel free to request such help.

Sincerely yours,

Roger O. Egeberg, M.D.
Assistant Secretary
for Health and Scientific Affairs



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

~~NATIONAL AIR POLLUTION~~
CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

Mr. J. W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
U. S. Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Thank you for your letter of August 14, 1970, regarding the hearing on the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal and offering the opportunity of making a presentation.

One of our functions is to assist in the determination of environmental impact insofar as air quality is concerned. The material you supplied indicates that the area in question is being set aside in a manner which would prohibit development of commercial and industrial sources of pollution although detail of this matter was not provided. The action you propose appears to be in accord and supportive of one of the provisions of the Clean Air Act, Section 101(b)(1) of which reads: "to protect and enhance the quality of the Nation's air resources so as to promote the public health and welfare and the productive capacity of its population." The proposed action would appear to have a beneficial effect in protecting the environment and the preservation of adequate air quality.

If on further review of the matter a presentation at the public hearing is desirable, I shall follow the procedure outlined in your letter of August 14.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Middleton
Commissioner



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
Cincinnati Laboratories
5555 Ridge Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45213

September 2, 1970

Regional Forester
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to Mr. J. W. Deinema's letter of August 14, 1970, to Dr. Raymond Moore concerning the Mission Mountains Wilderness Area proposal, Flathead National Forest, Montana.

In reviewing this proposal, we note that no provision is being made for the installation of sanitary facilities to serve the area. Consideration should be given to providing sanitary facilities and refuse containers at major access points. If it is found that certain locations within the area receive steady use, then basic sanitary facilities should be provided.

All sanitary facilities should be constructed in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Public Health Service Publication No. 1195, "Environmental Health Practices in Recreational Areas." We will be glad to provide technical assistance and consultation with your Department on the planning and development of these facilities, if requested.

We appreciate the opportunity to present the views of our Department concerning this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph P. Schock
Director, Division of Environmental
Improvement, BCEM, ECA



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

Mr. J.W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Thank you for your letter of August 14, 1970, informing the Department of Commerce of proposed actions related to the Wilderness Act (76 Stat. 890) in connection with a review of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area.

By copy of this letter, the Regional Forester is being advised that the Department of Commerce is aware of the public hearing scheduled at Kalispell, Montana, in connection with this action. Further, Commerce has no comments to make at this time. However, should subsequent comments appear desirable, they will be furnished direct to him in writing prior to October 9, 1970, the closing date of the official record for this hearing.

Sincerely,

MYRON TRIBUS
Myron Tribus

cc: Regional Forester
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
ROCKVILLE, MD. 20852

OCT 2 1970

IN REPLY REFER TO: C1211

Mr. J. W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Thank you for your letter of August 14, 1970, informing us of the public review of the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal, Flathead National Forest, Montana. We have examined the information furnished and have no comments at this time.

Sincerely,

~~Don A. Jones~~
Rear Admiral, USESSA
Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

INSTALLATIONS AND LOGISTICS

LR

Regional Forester
U. S. Forest Service
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Sir:

By letter of August 14, 1970 to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. M. M. Nelson, Deputy Chief of the Forest Service, submitted notice of a public hearing on a proposal that 73,861 acres of land in Lake and Missoula counties in the state of Montana be designated for the establishment of the Mission Mountain Wilderness.

The Department of Defense has no objection to this proposal and representation at the September 9, 1970 hearings in Kalispell, Montana is not contemplated at this time.

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Sheridan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Housing)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590



Regional Forester
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Sir:

Recently, we received a letter from Mr. J. W. Deinema, Acting Deputy Chief of USDA's Forest Service, inviting the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to comment on the establishment of the Mission Mountains Wilderness area in the Flathead National Forest, Montana.

The FAA has no objection to the establishment of this wilderness area. There are no airports in the proposed area which might have an effect on it, nor are there any plans of which we are aware, to build any airports there.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,

CHESTER G. BOWERS
DIRECTOR, AIRPORTS SERVICE, AS-1



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. M. M. Nelson
Deputy Chief
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This is in reply to your letter of August 14, 1970 to Secretary Romney enclosing a proposal for establishment of the Mission Mountains Wilderness in Montana.

Our initial reaction would be to concur in the proposal except for exclusions 1 and 6 on page 15.

We would urge reconsideration of exclusions 1 and 6 which tend to interrupt the Wilderness by a different type of development. These minor acreages appear to provide potential difficulty in the administration of the Wilderness, and to disrupt the nature and character of the area which establishment of the Wilderness is meant to preserve.

However, the proposal which you circulated does not constitute an environmental statement mandated in section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act, and we, therefore, are unable to provide comments pursuant to that Section and the related Guidelines furnished by the Council on Environmental Quality or to make any final judgment on the proposal. It is our opinion that a draft statement should be prepared to meet the provisions of the section and sent out for review. For HUD review, the environmental statement should be sent to the Regional Administrator, Department of HUD, Samsonite Building, 1050 South Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80209.

Sincerely yours,

Charles J. Orlebeke

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

WASHINGTON 20426

Mr. M. M. Nelson
Deputy Chief
Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Reference: 2320

Dear Mr. Nelson:

This is in response to your letter of August 14, 1970, furnishing information concerning the proposal to establish the Mission Mountain Wilderness in the Flathead National Forest, Montana.

The Federal Power Commission will not be represented at the hearing to be held in Kalispell, Montana. Such comments as the Commission may wish to make relative to this wilderness proposal will be furnished to your Department by October 9, 1970.

Very truly yours,

GORDON M. GRANT

Secretary

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Honorable Clifford M. Hardin
Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Reference: 2320

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to the letter of August 14, 1970, from Mr. M. M. Nelson, Deputy Director of the Forest Service, inviting comments by the Commission relative to the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal, Montana.

As proposed, 73,861 acres within and contiguous to the existing Mission Mountains Primitive Area would be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System. These lands are in the Flathead National Forest and are drained by headwater streams of the Flathead River in the Columbia River Basin.

The Commission staff has reviewed this wilderness proposal to determine its effect on possible hydroelectric power development. This review discloses that there are no existing hydroelectric projects within the proposed wilderness area and that no license applications are pending before the Commission for hydroelectric power development within the area. No lands have been withdrawn within this area for power purposes. Also, the Commission's current inventory of hydroelectric power resources includes no potential conventional projects in the proposed wilderness.

The staff's review of the topographic maps of the region shows that there are a number of small lakes at various elevations throughout the proposed wilderness. Some of these lakes, together with the large elevation differentials of the adjacent mountainous terrain, apparently would be suitable for pumped storage hydroelectric developments. However, such

1920

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1970

50th ANNIVERSARY

Honorable Clifford M. Hardin

developments would not be particularly advantageous because of the remoteness of the area from major electric power load centers. There are no known studies, under way or planned, of possible pumped storage hydroelectric power developments in the proposed wilderness area.

Based upon its consideration of your Department's proposal and the review thereof by the Commission's staff, the Commission concludes that the establishment of the proposed Mission Mountains Wilderness would not adversely affect development of any known potential hydroelectric power projects.

Sincerely,

John N. Nassikas
Chairman



WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL
SUITE 900
1025 VERMONT AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

Members

Secretary of the Interior
Chairman
Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of the Army
Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare
Secretary of Transportation
Chairman, Federal Power
Commission

July 31, 1970

Associate Members

Secretary of Commerce
Secretary of Housing
and Urban Development

Observers

Attorney General
Director, Bureau of the
Budget

Mr. Neal M. Rahm
Regional Forester
Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Region 1
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

The information which you furnished with your letter of July 7, 1970, concerning the Mission Mountains Primitive Area, has been furnished to the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission for their information and appropriate action.

Sincerely yours,

Mark V. Hughes, Jr.
Regional Leader
Western States



WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

SUITE 900

1025 VERMONT AVENUE NW.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

Members

*Secretary of the Interior
Chairman*
Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of the Army
*Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare*
Secretary of Transportation
*Chairman, Federal Power
Commission*

Associate Members

Secretary of Commerce
*Secretary of Housing
and Urban Development*

Observers

Attorney General
*Director, Bureau of the
Budget*

Mr. J. W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 3007, South Building
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Reference is made to your letter of August 14, 1970, concerning the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal, Flathead National Forest, Montana. We had been notified previously by the Regional Forester concerning the proposal and the public hearing. I have referred the information to Mr. Donel J. Lane, Chairman, Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission. The Commission was established under Public Law 89-80 to serve as the principle agency for the coordination of Federal, State, interstate, local, and nongovernmental plans for the development of water and related land resources in the Pacific Northwest.

Sincerely yours,

W. Don Maughan
Director

PACIFIC NORTHWEST RIVER BASINS COMMISSION

1 Columbia River

Vancouver, Washington 98660

Telephone
(206) 694-2581
(503) 285-0467

P. O. Box 908

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

September 4, 1970

Mr. J. W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Room 3007, South Building
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Water Resources Council Director W. Don Maughan has called my attention to the Mission Mountain Wilderness proposal hearings of September 9, 1970. It will not be possible for me to attend nor be represented.

Since the Forest Service is regularly represented within our Commission planning process, we will look to that representative to alert the Commission if there are pertinent matters generated from these hearings.

Sincerely yours,

Ray E. Holmes
Director of Planning

/for/Donel J. Lane
Chairman

CC: Mr. Neal Rahm
Mr. W. Don Maughan
Mr. A. J. Webber
Mr. Warren Post

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Montana 59715

September 4, 1970

INTERA- Forest Service - Mission Mountains
Wilderness Proposed

Neal M. Rahm, Regional Forester
Region One, Forest Service
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Reference is to the August 14, 1970 letter to Mr. Shannon giving notice of a public hearing to be held at Kalispell, Montana on September 18, 1970 concerning a proposal to include the Mission Mountains Primitive Area in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

We have two existing snow courses within the primitive area that are being serviced by primitive means. Their inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System would not present any particular problem. However, it is our understanding that there is a good potential ski area within the proposed wilderness boundary. It is also our understanding that there are very few good potential ski areas in Montana.

With increasing emphasis on recreation and the demand for good ski areas for development, we would expect the Forest Service to consider withdrawal of suitable areas from the wilderness boundary.

A. B. Linford /
State Conservationist

cc: R. T. Dundas, Director, State Information System



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Cliff:

Thank you for your letter of August 12 inviting the Department of the Interior to present its views on the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal reviewed in Kalispell, Montana, on September 9.

The Department, through the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and its Pacific Northwest Regional Director, has provided information pertinent to this proposal to your Regional Forester. Consequently, we did not present a statement for the scheduled hearing. Nevertheless, we do appreciate the opportunity to participate.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Orme Lewis, Jr.

For Asst. Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Edward P. Cliff
Chief, Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

U42

Mr. Edward P. Cliff
Chief, Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Cliff:

Thank you for inviting the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation to present its views on your Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal to be reviewed in Kalispell, Montana, on September 9.

Mr. Fred Overly, Director of our Pacific Northwest Region, has provided information related to this proposal to the Forest Service. We have nothing else of consequence to add at this time. However, we sincerely appreciate being given this opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) G. Douglas Hofe, Jr.

G. Douglas Hofe, Jr.
Director



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

August 26, 1970

Mr. J. W. Deinema
Acting Deputy Chief
Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Deinema:

Thank you very much for your letter of August 14 transmitting a copy of the hearing announcement and the brochure on the Mission Mountains Wilderness, Montana.

The Bureau of Mines and the Geological Survey have submitted a mineral resource report on this area which has been published as Geological Survey Bulletin 1261-D. We have no further comments to make on this area other than those already contained in this report, and consequently there is no need for the Bureau to testify at the September 3, 1970, hearing.

9

Earl T. Hayes
Acting Director



United States Department of the Interior

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Mr. Edward P. Cliff
Chief, Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C. 20250

Dear Mr. Cliff:

This is in response to your letter of August 14 concerning the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal, Flathead National Forest, Montana.

Although we have no immediate jurisdiction adjacent to or within the area of your proposal, we appreciate the opportunity to review and provide comments on it.

The proposed Mission Mountains Wilderness Area encompasses some outstanding examples of primitive America and its preservation for the use of future generations is a worthwhile goal. Regarding the environmental impact of your proposal as related to Section 102(c) of the NEPA of 1969, we can see no adverse impact arising as the result of your proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant Director

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Flathead Irrigation Project
St. Ignatius, Montana
59865

August 31, 1970

Neal M. Rahm, Regional Forester
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service, Region 1
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

May we make some historical comments concerning the Turquoise Basin area of the Mission Mountain Wilderness. This irrigation project has considered diverting the waters of the Turquoise Basin Area to the west side of the Mission Range for use in irrigating the lands of the Flathead Indian Reservation. Initial surveys and studies were started in 1931 and 1932. They culminated in a complete report of March 1945. As part of this development this project posted notice of use on the waters of the area from 1941 until 1953.

There were two basic plans with variations between them as follows:

Plan 1 - Collect the waters of Turquoise, Lost, High Park and Gray Wolf Lakes by connecting all to Lost Lake with tunnels. A tunnel would then carry the water to Elizabeth Lake above Mission Reservoir on the west side of the Missions.

Plan 2 - Collect the above four lakes plus Crystal Lake to Lindbergh Lake, then tunnel to Post Creek above McDonald Reservoir.

Variations of the above would add Glacier Creek and its drainage as well as putting Lindbergh Lake to Mission Reservoir or put Lost Lake to McDonald Reservoir.

Our cost studies indicated that the construction costs would be too high to make the project economically feasible and since construction costs have continued to climb, the development for irrigation water is entirely out of the question at this time. Accordingly, we will not oppose the proposed Mission Mountain Wilderness Area but felt perhaps that you would be interested in some of the historical background development data.

Sincerely yours,

George L. Moon
Project Engineer



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Regional Office, Region 6
P. O. Box 2553
Billings, Montana 59103

IN REPLY REFER TO: 750

Mr. Neal M. Rahm
Regional Forester
Forest Service, Region 1
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

Thank you for your letter of July 7, 1970, bringing to our attention the hearings on September 9, 1970, for the Mission Mountains Wilderness proposal. The wilderness proposal does not fall in the administrative area of Region 6 of the Bureau of Reclamation, but we appreciate being kept advised of actions affecting the State of Montana.

We expect that Regional Director Nelson, Boise, Idaho, will have some comment on behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation.

Sincerely yours,

ACTING Regional Director

cc:
Regional Director, Region 1, Boise, Idaho



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Glacier National Park
West Glacier, Montana 59936
September 8, 1970

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58

Mr. Neal M. Rahm, Regional Forester
Forest Service, Region I
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

In regard to your proposal for the reclassification of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area as the Mission Mountains Wilderness, I have reviewed your recommendations with my staff for specific exclusions and additions to the proposed wilderness.

Your recommended boundary adjustments appear to be justified and we appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Briggie
Superintendent

September 16, 1970

MAIL:
CAPITOL STATION
HELENA 59601

OFFICES:
1716 NINTH AVENUE
406 449-2400

Mr. Neal M. Rahm, Regional Forester
Region One, Forest Service
Federal Building
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

It is this department's understanding that one area included within the proposed Mission Mountain Wilderness Area is among the prime sites available in Montana for potential ski development. This site, according to present information, known as Red Butte, has unique physical characteristics that might provide for a ski area of national prominence. Although present demand for skiing areas may not exceed available facilities, the need to develop good potential sites is likely to increase greatly in future years. The rising popularity of skiing as a sport and increased interest in Montana as a recreation region are quite apparent.

Because a good ski area requires special physiographic features, there is a very limited number of potentially good sites in Montana. Good planning should provide options for future choice. Should the demand for skiing in Montana and the Swan Valley area become great enough to support a major development, consideration should be given to the possibility of using the Red Butte site.

Since lands classified as part of a wilderness area are to be perpetually maintained in their primitive condition, the opportunity to use the Red Butte site for a winter recreation development would be lost if it were included as part of the Mission Mountain Wilderness Area. The fact that this area is along the boundary of the proposed wilderness area and because a ski facility has a minimum of mechanization and motorized equipment it would seem that a ski development at this site would not significantly affect the adjoining wilderness area. This would be particularly true in the winter skiing months when adjacent wilderness areas would have little or no use.

Given these two important premises, 1) that the Red Butte area may be singularly suited to serve another recreation need--a high quality skiing facility and 2) that developing a ski facility can be done with minimal effect upon the proposed wilderness area, the Department of Planning and Economic Development supports the classification of the Mission Mountain Wilderness Area with the Red Butte area excluded.

We further suggest that the Red Butte area and the Swan Valley region be examined more closely with respect to winter recreation potentials.

COMMISSIONERS

FORREST H. ANDERSON
GOVERNOR

PERRY F. ROYS
CHAIRMAN AND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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HELENA

DALE C. HAWKINS
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W. L. BILL HOLTER
GREAT FALLS

JOHN RUFFATTO
MISSOULA

TED SORENSON
DUTTON

Mr. Neal M. Rahm
September 16, 1970
Page Two

Should further study or investigation find that other sites, as good or better exist elsewhere in the region, or that development of the Red Butte area as a ski facility would unfavorably affect the Mission Mountain Wilderness Area, we would favor the inclusion of this area in the wilderness area at that time.

Sincerely,

Perry F. Roys, Executive Director

PFR:mc

cc: Governor Forrest H. Anderson
: Mr. Douglas G. Smith, Chairman, Governor's Council of Natural Resources and Development

STATE OF MONTANA



DEPARTMENT OF

FISH AND GAME

August 31, 1970
Helena, Montana

Mr. Neal M. Rahm, Regional Forester
U. S. Forest Service
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Mr. Rahm:

We appreciate very much this opportunity to present a statement for the Montana Fish and Game Department regarding the reclassification of the Mission Mountains Primitive Area to Wilderness.

We support the Forest Service proposal for reclassification.

It would seem to us that the general aspect of this area meets the definition of wilderness as expressed in the Wilderness Preservation Act. We feel, however, that the several exclusions along the eastern boundary which you recommend are justified. Our observation of these areas from which timber was removed as a forest insect control measure some fifteen years ago still shows quite clearly the evidence of this activity. To include these areas in which timber operations have occurred would seem to us to set a precedent that might well have dangerous implications to other wilderness programs across the nation. Your plan to manage these areas in harmony with the surrounding wilderness would be particularly important.

We appreciate the additions which you have made to the potential wilderness acreage by land exchanges, both within and along the boundary of the Primitive Area.

We are convinced that the retention of the pristine character of this superb area of mountain peaks, glaciers, canyons, streams and lakes with associated fishery, wildlife and forest cover represents a major step in maintaining the high quality of the state's environment, and is of national significance as well.

Mr. Neal M. Rahm
August 31, 1970
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In the investigation of this outstanding area we have been most appreciative of the ready cooperation of other state agencies, the U. S. Forest Service, as well as interested and knowledgeable groups and individuals.

The Montana Fish and Game Commission has endorsed the plan for classifying the Mission Mountains Primitive Area to Wilderness.

Sincerely,

Frank H. Dunkle
State Fish and Game Director

FHD:ja

cc: Edward P. Cliff, Chief
Forest Service

Joseph M. Pomajevich, Supervisor
Flathead National Forest

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR
PROPOSED EXCLUSIONS 1-6

MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

for

PROPOSED EXCLUSIONS - MISSION MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

Condon RD, Flathead NF

August 1970

Foreword:

The proposed exclusions in the proposal for the Mission Mountains Wilderness are herein identified as Management Units Nos. _____, General Forest Zone in the Condon Ranger District Multiple Use Plan.

Management of these units will be such that it will not create adverse effects on the proposed adjacent Wilderness. The following management prescription recognizes the scenic, wildlife, and recreational values of the areas, and is a commitment to the public that these special values will be managed so as to complement the proposed Wilderness and not detract from it.

J. M. POMAJEVICH
Forest Supervisor

I. Management Situation

The areas identified as Exclusions 1-6 in the booklet, "A Proposal - Mission Mountains Wilderness," June 1970, do not meet the definition of Wilderness as set forth in the Wilderness Act of 1964. These areas were logged in the mid-1950's to control the spruce bark beetle epidemic resulting from an extensive blowdown of timber. Access points have been posted as closed to motor vehicle travel and barriers have been installed on most of the old roads. Some winter trespass by snowmobile has occurred but, in general, the public has honored the Primitive Area boundary.

There are no domestic livestock permits and recreational stock use is minimal. There is no winter wildlife range except for mountain goats. Water quality is excellent. There are several sites where some soil erosion is occurring on old roads and skid trails. There is a population of cutthroat trout in Cold and Beaver Creeks. Little merchantable timber remains and in general a good stand of new trees has been established. Ground cover is generally abundant. Fire occurrence has been low and no serious hazards exist. There are no land occupancies, no permanent improvements, or structures.

Reports indicate a very low mineral potential. All lands are in Federal ownership.

II. Management Decisions

- A. These decisions are not to be changed unless there is evidence the public desires a change. Changes will be made only after public involvement with a minimum of 90 days to hear from all public interests.
- B. Secretary of Agriculture Regulation U-6 ³⁶ (C.F.R. 251.25) will provide authority for those measures necessary for the protection of the special resource.
- C. The following management decisions are made:
 1. Motorized vehicle and mechanized equipment use by the public will be prohibited. The Forest Supervisor may authorize use of motorized vehicles and mechanized equipment necessary for the protection and management of these units and to provide for the health and safety of visitors. Any such authorized use will be planned to cause the least possible disturbance to users of the area.
 2. Public road access will not be permitted. All access points into these units will be barriered and signed.
 3. Domestic livestock grazing permits will not be issued.

4. Fish plantings will be confined to native species.
5. Man caused soil erosion will be controlled using primitive means whenever feasible.
6. Wildfire will be managed in accordance with appropriate fire plans for adjacent Wilderness areas. Bulldozers or other heavy motorized equipment will only be used when wildfire threatens to spread to the adjoining Wilderness or high quality timber stands outside the units.
7. Power transmission lines and water storage or water transmission facilities will not be permitted.
8. Cabins, chalets, lodges, or other similar structures will not be permitted.
9. Signing will be minimal and confined to:
 - a. Trail directional, Wilderness boundary, regulatory, and interpretive signs, if needed;
 - b. Yellow or brown color, except Wilderness signs will be gray or unpainted.
10. Commercial timber harvesting or permits for removal of wood products for personal use outside the areas will not be permitted.
11. Vegetative cover will not be manipulated to increase water yield.

12. Recreational facilities will be developed only for the protection of the basic soil, water, and vegetative resources and limited to simple developments.
13. Necessary insect and disease control measures shall minimize any adverse effects upon scenic, wildlife, and recreational values of these units and/or adjacent Wilderness values.
14. Any trails will be located and designed so as to meet the recreation needs of the units while at the same time not creating adverse impacts on the areas themselves or upon the adjacent Wilderness.

SUMMARY OF INVENTORIED POTENTIAL
WINTER SPORTS SITES

WILDERNESS ACT

(P.L. 88-577)



Public Law 88-577
88th Congress, S. 4
September 3, 1964

An Act

To establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Wilderness Act.

SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the "Wilderness Act".

WILDERNESS SYSTEM ESTABLISHED STATEMENT OF POLICY

SEC. 2. (a) In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness. For this purpose there is hereby established a National Wilderness Preservation System to be composed of federally owned areas designated by Congress as "wilderness areas", and these shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness; and no Federal lands shall be designated as "wilderness areas" except as provided for in this Act or by a subsequent Act.

(b) The inclusion of an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System notwithstanding, the area shall continue to be managed by the Department and agency having jurisdiction thereover immediately before its inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress. No appropriation shall be available for the payment of expenses or salaries for the administration of the National Wilderness Preservation System as a separate unit nor shall any appropriations be available for additional personnel stated as being required solely for the purpose of managing or administering areas solely because they are included within the National Wilderness Preservation System. 78 STAT. 890.
78 STAT. 891.

DEFINITION OF WILDERNESS

(c) A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geo-

logical, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM—EXTENT OF SYSTEM

SEC. 3. (a) All areas within the national forests classified at least 30 days before the effective date of this Act by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service as "wilderness", "wild", or "canoe" are hereby designated as wilderness areas. The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) Within one year after the effective date of this Act, file a map and legal description of each wilderness area with the Interior and Insular Affairs Committees of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives, and such descriptions shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal descriptions and maps may be made.

(2) Maintain, available to the public, records pertaining to said wilderness areas, including maps and legal descriptions, copies of regulations governing them, copies of public notices of, and reports submitted to Congress regarding pending additions, eliminations, or modifications. Maps, legal descriptions, and regulations pertaining to wilderness areas within their respective jurisdictions also shall be available to the public in the offices of regional foresters, national forest supervisors, and forest rangers.

Classification,

Presidential recommendation to Congress.

Congressional approval.

78 STAT. 891
78 STAT. 892.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture shall, within ten years after the enactment of this Act, review, as to its suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness, each area in the national forests classified on the effective date of this Act by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service as "primitive" and report his findings to the President. The President shall advise the United States Senate and House of Representatives of his recommendations with respect to the designation as "wilderness" or other reclassification of each area on which review has been completed, together with maps and a definition of boundaries. Such advice shall be given with respect to not less than one-third of all the areas now classified as "primitive" within three years after the enactment of this Act, not less than two-thirds within seven years after the enactment of this Act, and the remaining areas within ten years after the enactment of this Act. Each recommendation of the President for designation as "wilderness" shall become effective only if so provided by an Act of Congress. Areas classified as "primitive" on the effective date of this Act shall continue to be administered under the rules and regulations affecting such areas on the effective date of this Act until Congress has determined otherwise. Any such area may be increased in size by the President at the time he submits his recommendations to the Congress by not more than five thousand acres with no more than one thousand two hundred and eighty acres of such increase in any one compact unit; if it is proposed to increase the size of any such area by more than five thousand acres or by more than one thousand two hundred and eighty acres in any one compact unit the increase in size shall not become effective until acted upon by Congress. Nothing herein contained shall limit the President in proposing, as part of his recommendations to Congress, the alteration of existing boundaries of primitive areas or recommending the addition of any contiguous area of national forest lands predominantly of wilderness value. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may complete his review and delete such area as may be necessary, but not to exceed seven thousand acres, from the southern tip of the Gore Range-Eagles Nest Primitive Area,

Colorado, if the Secretary determines that such action is in the public interest.

(c) Within ten years after the effective date of this Act the Secretary of the Interior shall review every roadless area of five thousand contiguous acres or more in the national parks, monuments and other units of the national park system and every such area of, and every roadless island within, the national wildlife refuges and game ranges, under his jurisdiction on the effective date of this Act and shall report to the President his recommendation as to the suitability or nonsuitability of each such area or island for preservation as wilderness. The President shall advise the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of his recommendation with respect to the designation as wilderness of each such area or island on which review has been completed, together with a map thereof and a definition of its boundaries. Such advice shall be given with respect to not less than one-third of the areas and islands to be reviewed under this subsection within three years after enactment of this Act, not less than two-thirds within seven years of enactment of this Act, and the remainder within ten years of enactment of this Act. A recommendation of the President for designation as wilderness shall become effective only if so provided by an Act of Congress. Nothing contained herein shall, by implication or otherwise, be construed to lessen the present statutory authority of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the maintenance of roadless areas within units of the national park system.

(d) (1) The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall, prior to submitting any recommendations to the President with respect to the suitability of any area for preservation as wilderness—

(A) give such public notice of the proposed action as they deem appropriate, including publication in the Federal Register and in a newspaper having general circulation in the area or areas in the vicinity of the affected land;

(B) hold a public hearing or hearings at a location or locations convenient to the area affected. The hearings shall be announced through such means as the respective Secretaries involved deem appropriate, including notices in the Federal Register and in newspapers of general circulation in the area: *Provided*, That if the lands involved are located in more than one State, at least one hearing shall be held in each State in which a portion of the land lies;

(C) at least thirty days before the date of a hearing advise the Governor of each State and the governing board of each county, or in Alaska the borough, in which the lands are located, and Federal departments and agencies concerned, and invite such officials and Federal agencies to submit their views on the proposed action at the hearing or by no later than thirty days following the date of the hearing.

(2) Any views submitted to the appropriate Secretary under the provisions of (1) of this subsection with respect to any area shall be included with any recommendations to the President and to Congress with respect to such area.

(e) Any modification or adjustment of boundaries of any wilderness area shall be recommended by the appropriate Secretary after public notice of such proposal and public hearing or hearings as provided in subsection (d) of this section. The proposed modification or adjustment shall then be recommended with map and description thereof to the President. The President shall advise the United States Senate and the House of Representatives of his recommendations with respect to such modification or adjustment and such recom-

Report to President.

Presidential recommendation to Congress.

Congressional approval.

Suitability.

Publication in Federal Register.

Hearings.

Publication in Federal Register.

78 STAT. 892.

78 STAT. 893.

Proposed modification.

mendations shall become effective only in the same manner as provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

USE OF WILDERNESS AREAS

SEC. 4. (a) The purposes of this Act are hereby declared to be within and supplemental to the purposes for which national forests and units of the national park and national wildlife refuge systems are established and administered and—

16 USC 475.
16 USC 528-531.

(1) Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to be in interference with the purpose for which national forests are established as set forth in the Act of June 4, 1897 (30 Stat. 11), and the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of June 12, 1960 (74 Stat. 215).

16 USC 577-577b.

16 USC 577c-577h.
16 USC 577d-1,
577g-1, 577h.

(2) Nothing in this Act shall modify the restrictions and provisions of the Shipstead-Nolan Act (Public Law 539, Seventy-first Congress, July 10, 1930; 46 Stat. 1020), the Thye-Blatnik Act (Public Law 733, Eightieth Congress, June 22, 1948; 62 Stat. 568), and the Humphrey-Thye-Blatnik-Andresen Act (Public Law 607, Eighty-fourth Congress, June 22, 1956; 70 Stat. 326), as applying to the Superior National Forest or the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture.

39 Stat. 535.
16 USC 1 et seq.

41 Stat. 1063.
49 Stat. 838.

(3) Nothing in this Act shall modify the statutory authority under which units of the national park system are created. Further, the designation of any area of any park, monument, or other unit of the national park system as a wilderness area pursuant to this Act shall in no manner lower the standards evolved for the use and preservation of such park, monument, or other unit of the national park system in accordance with the Act of August 25, 1916, the statutory authority under which the area was created, or any other Act of Congress which might pertain to or affect such area, including, but not limited to, the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225; 16 U.S.C. 432 et seq.); section 3(2) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796(2)); and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

78 STAT. 893.
78 STAT. 894.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this Act, each agency administering any area designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving the wilderness character of the area and shall so administer such area for such other purposes for which it may have been established as also to preserve its wilderness character. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, wilderness areas shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.

PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN USES

(c) Except as specifically provided for in this Act, and subject to existing private rights, there shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within any wilderness area designated by this Act and, except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act (including measures required in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons within the area), there shall be no temporary road, no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, no landing of aircraft, no other form of mechanical transport, and no structure or installation within any such area.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

(d) The following special provisions are hereby made:

(1) Within wilderness areas designated by this Act the use of aircraft or motorboats, where these uses have already become established, may be permitted to continue subject to such restrictions as the Secretary of Agriculture deems desirable. In addition, such measures may be taken as may be necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases, subject to such conditions as the Secretary deems desirable.

(2) Nothing in this Act shall prevent within national forest wilderness areas any activity, including prospecting, for the purpose of gathering information about mineral or other resources, if such activity is carried on in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment. Furthermore, in accordance with such program as the Secretary of the Interior shall develop and conduct in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, such areas shall be surveyed on a planned, recurring basis consistent with the concept of wilderness preservation by the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines to determine the mineral values, if any, that may be present; and the results of such surveys shall be made available to the public and submitted to the President and Congress.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, until midnight December 31, 1983, the United States mining laws and all laws pertaining to mineral leasing shall, to the same extent as applicable prior to the effective date of this Act, extend to those national forest lands designated by this Act as "wilderness areas"; subject, however, to such reasonable regulations governing ingress and egress as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture consistent with the use of the land for mineral location and development and exploration, drilling, and production, and use of land for transmission lines, waterlines, telephone lines, or facilities necessary in exploring, drilling, producing, mining, and processing operations, including where essential the use of mechanized ground or air equipment and restoration as near as practicable of the surface of the land disturbed in performing prospecting, location, and, in oil and gas leasing, discovery work, exploration, drilling, and production, as soon as they have served their purpose. Mining locations lying within the boundaries of said wilderness areas shall be held and used solely for mining or processing operations and uses reasonably incident thereto; and hereafter, subject to valid existing rights, all patents issued under the mining laws of the United States affecting national forest lands designated by this Act as wilderness areas shall convey title to the mineral deposits within the claim, together with the right to cut and use so much of the mature timber therefrom as may be needed in the extraction, removal, and beneficiation of the mineral deposits, if needed timber is not otherwise reasonably available, and if the timber is cut under sound principles of forest management as defined by the national forest rules and regulations, but each such patent shall reserve to the United States all title in or to the surface of the lands and products thereof, and no use of the surface of the claim or the resources therefrom not reasonably required for carrying on mining or prospecting shall be allowed except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act: *Provided*, That, unless hereafter specifically authorized, no patent within wilderness areas designated by this Act shall issue after December 31, 1983, except for the valid claims existing on or before December 31, 1983. Mining claims located after the effective date of this Act within the boundaries of wilderness areas designated by this Act shall create no rights in excess of those rights which may be patented under the

Mineral leases,
claims, etc.

78 STAT. 894.
78 STAT. 895.

provisions of this subsection. Mineral leases, permits, and licenses covering lands within national forest wilderness areas designated by this Act shall contain such reasonable stipulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture for the protection of the wilderness character of the land consistent with the use of the land for the purposes for which they are leased, permitted, or licensed. Subject to valid rights then existing, effective January 1, 1984, the minerals in lands designated by this Act as wilderness areas are withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing and all amendments thereto.

Water resources.

(4) Within wilderness areas in the national forests designated by this Act, (1) the President may, within a specific area and in accordance with such regulations as he may deem desirable, authorize prospecting for water resources, the establishment and maintenance of reservoirs, water-conservation works, power projects, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest, including the road construction and maintenance essential to development and use thereof, upon his determination that such use or uses in the specific area will better serve the interests of the United States and the people thereof than will its denial; and (2) the grazing of livestock, where established prior to the effective date of this Act, shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture.

(5) Other provisions of this Act to the contrary notwithstanding, the management of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, formerly designated as the Superior, Little Indian Sioux, and Caribou Roadless Areas, in the Superior National Forest, Minnesota, shall be in accordance with regulations established by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the general purpose of maintaining, without unnecessary restrictions on other uses, including that of timber, the primitive character of the area, particularly in the vicinity of lakes, streams, and portages: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall preclude the continuance within the area of any already established use of motorboats.

(6) Commercial services may be performed within the wilderness areas designated by this Act to the extent necessary for activities which are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the areas.

(7) Nothing in this Act shall constitute an express or implied claim or denial on the part of the Federal Government as to exemption from State water laws.

78 STAT. 895.

78 STAT. 896.

(8) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the several States with respect to wildlife and fish in the national forests.

STATE AND PRIVATE LANDS WITHIN WILDERNESS AREAS

SEC. 5. (a) In any case where State-owned or privately owned land is completely surrounded by national forest lands within areas designated by this Act as wilderness, such State or private owner shall be given such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate access to such State-owned or privately owned land by such State or private owner and their successors in interest, or the State-owned land or privately owned land shall be exchanged for federally owned land in the same State of approximately equal value under authorities available to the Secretary of Agriculture: *Provided, however*, That the United States shall not transfer to a State or private owner any mineral interests unless the State or private owner relinquishes or

Transfers, restriction.

causes to be relinquished to the United States the mineral interest in the surrounded land.

(b) In any case where valid mining claims or other valid occupancies are wholly within a designated national forest wilderness area, the Secretary of Agriculture shall, by reasonable regulations consistent with the preservation of the area as wilderness, permit ingress and egress to such surrounded areas by means which have been or are being customarily enjoyed with respect to other such areas similarly situated.

(c) Subject to the appropriation of funds by Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to acquire privately owned land within the perimeter of any area designated by this Act as wilderness if (1) the owner concurs in such acquisition or (2) the acquisition is specifically authorized by Congress.

Acquisition.

GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Sec. 6. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture may accept gifts or bequests of land within wilderness areas designated by this Act for preservation as wilderness. The Secretary of Agriculture may also accept gifts or bequests of land adjacent to wilderness areas designated by this Act for preservation as wilderness if he has given sixty days advance notice thereof to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Land accepted by the Secretary of Agriculture under this section shall become part of the wilderness area involved. Regulations with regard to any such land may be in accordance with such agreements, consistent with the policy of this Act, as are made at the time of such gift, or such conditions, consistent with such policy, as may be included in, and accepted with, such bequest.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept private contributions and gifts to be used to further the purposes of this Act.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Sec. 7. At the opening of each session of Congress, the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior shall jointly report to the President for transmission to Congress on the status of the wilderness system, including a list and descriptions of the areas in the system, regulations in effect, and other pertinent information, together with any recommendations they may care to make.

Approved September 3, 1964.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 1538 accompanying H. R. 9070 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs) and No. 1829 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 109 (Comm. on Interior & Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 109 (1963): Apr. 4, 8, considered in Senate.

Apr. 9, considered and passed Senate.

Vol. 110 (1964): July 28, considered in House.

July 30, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H. R. 9070.

Aug. 20, House and Senate agreed to conference report.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE'S REGULATIONS

TITLE 36 - PARKS, FORESTS, AND MEMORIALS

Chapter II - Forest Service, Department of Agriculture Part 251 - Land Uses

Administration and Use of National Forest Wilderness and National Forest Primitive Areas

In Part 251 of Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 251.20, 251.21, and 251.21a are hereby revoked; and Sections 251.70 to 251.84 and Section 251.86 are added, under the heading "Administration and Use of National Forest Wilderness and National Forest Primitive Areas," as follows:

Section 251.70 - Definition

National Forest Wilderness shall consist of those units of the National Wilderness Preservation System which at least 30 days before the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964, were designated as Wilderness and Wild under Secretary of Agriculture's Regulations U-1 and U-2 (36 C.F.R. 251.20, 251.21), the Boundary Waters Canoe Area as designated under Regulation U-3 (36 C.F.R. 251.22), and such other areas of the National Forests as may later be added to the System by act of Congress. Sections 251.70 to 251.84 apply to all National Forest units now or hereafter in the National Wilderness Preservation System, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Superior National Forest, except as that area is subject to Section 251.85.

Section 251.71 - Objectives

Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, National Forest Wilderness shall be so administered as to meet the public purposes of recreational, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical uses; and it shall also be administered for such other purposes for which it may have been established in such a manner as to preserve and protect its wilderness character. In carrying out such purposes, National Forest Wilderness resources shall be managed to promote, perpetuate, and, where necessary, restore the wilderness character of the land and its specific values of solitude, physical and mental challenge, scientific study, inspiration, and primitive recreation.

To that end:

- a. Natural ecological succession will be allowed to operate freely to the extent feasible.
- b. Wilderness will be made available for human use to the optimum extent consistent with the maintenance of primitive conditions.

- c. In resolving conflicts in resource use, wilderness values will be dominant to the extent not limited by the Wilderness Act, subsequent establishing legislation, or these regulations.

Section 251.72 - Control of Uses

To the extent not limited by the Wilderness Act, subsequent legislation establishing a particular unit, or these regulations, the Chief, Forest Service, may prescribe measures necessary to control fire, insects, and disease and measures which may be used in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons or damage to property and may require permits for, or otherwise limit or regulate, any use of National Forest land, including, but not limited to, camping, campfires, and grazing of recreation livestock.

Section 251.73 - Maintenance of Records

The Chief, Forest Service, in accordance with Section 3(a)(2) of the Wilderness Act, shall establish uniform procedures and standards for the maintenance and availability to the public of records pertaining to National Forest Wilderness, including maps and legal descriptions; copies of regulations governing Wilderness; and copies of public notices and reports submitted to Congress regarding pending additions, eliminations, or modifications. Copies of such information pertaining to National Forest Wilderness within their respective jurisdictions shall be available to the public in the appropriate offices of the Regional Foresters, Forest Supervisors, and Forest Rangers.

Section 251.74 - Establishment, Modification, or Elimination

National Forest Wilderness will be established, modified, or eliminated in accordance with the provisions of Sections 3(b), (d), and (e) of the Wilderness Act. The Chief, Forest Service, shall arrange for issuing public notices, appointing hearing officers, holding public hearings, and notifying the Governors of the States concerned and the governing board of each county in which the lands involved are located.

- a. At least 30 days' public notice shall be given of the proposed action and intent to hold a public hearing. Public notice shall include publication in the Federal Register and in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the land involved.
- b. Public hearings shall be held at locations convenient to the area affected. If the land involved is in more than one State, at least one hearing shall be held in each State in which a portion of the land lies.
- c. A record of the public hearing and the views submitted subsequent to public notice and prior to the close of the public hearing shall be included with any recommendations to the President and to the Congress with respect to any such action.
- d. At least 30 days before the date of the public hearing, suitable advice shall be furnished to the Governor of each State and the

governing board of each county or, in Alaska, the borough in which the lands are located, and Federal Departments and agencies concerned; and such officers or Federal agencies shall be invited to submit their views on the proposed action at the hearing or in writing by not later than 30 days following the date of the hearing. Any views submitted in response to such advice with respect to any proposed Wilderness action shall be included with any recommendations to the President and to the Congress with respect to any such action.

Section 251.75 - Commercial Enterprises, Roads, Motor Vehicles, Motorized Equipment, Motorboats, Aircraft, Aircraft Landing Facilities, Airdrops, Structures, and Cutting of Trees

Except as provided in the Wilderness Act, subsequent legislation establishing a particular Wilderness unit, or Sections 251.27, 251.28, 251.30, 251.75 (c) and (d), 251.76, 251.77, and 251.81 through 251.85, inclusive, of these regulations, and subject to existing rights, there shall be in National Forest Wilderness no commercial enterprises; no temporary or permanent roads, no aircraft landing strips, no heliports or helispots; no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, or other forms of mechanical transport; no landing of aircraft; no dropping of materials, supplies, or persons from aircraft; no structures or installations; and no cutting of trees for non-wilderness purposes.

- a. "Mechanical transport," as herein used, shall include any contrivance which travels over ground, snow, or water on wheels, tracks, skids, or by flotation and is propelled by a nonliving power source contained or carried on or within the device.
- b. "Motorized equipment," as herein used, shall include any machine activated by a nonliving power source, except that small battery-powered, hand-carried devices such as flashlights, shavers, and Geiger counters are not classed as motorized equipment.
- c. The Chief, Forest Service, may authorize occupancy and use of National Forest land by officers, employees, agencies, or agents of the Federal, State, and county governments to carry out the purposes of the Wilderness Act and will prescribe conditions under which motorized equipment, mechanical transport, aircraft, aircraft landing strips, heliports, helispots, installations, or structures may be used, transported, or installed by the Forest Service and its agents and by other Federal, State, or county agencies or their agents, to meet the minimum requirements for authorized activities to protect and administer the Wilderness and its resources. The Chief may also prescribe the conditions under which such equipment, transport, aircraft, installations, or structures may be used in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons, damage to property, or other purposes.
- d. The Chief, Forest Service, may permit, subject to such restrictions as he deems desirable, the landing of aircraft and the use of motorboats at places within any Wilderness where these uses were established prior to the date the Wilderness was

- c. In resolving conflicts in resource use, wilderness values will be dominant to the extent not limited by the Wilderness Act, subsequent establishing legislation, or these regulations.

Section 251.72 - Control of Uses

To the extent not limited by the Wilderness Act, subsequent legislation establishing a particular unit, or these regulations, the Chief, Forest Service, may prescribe measures necessary to control fire, insects, and disease and measures which may be used in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons or damage to property and may require permits for, or otherwise limit or regulate, any use of National Forest land, including, but not limited to, camping, campfires, and grazing of recreation livestock.

Section 251.73 - Maintenance of Records

The Chief, Forest Service, in accordance with Section 3(a)(2) of the Wilderness Act, shall establish uniform procedures and standards for the maintenance and availability to the public of records pertaining to National Forest Wilderness, including maps and legal descriptions; copies of regulations governing Wilderness; and copies of public notices and reports submitted to Congress regarding pending additions, eliminations, or modifications. Copies of such information pertaining to National Forest Wilderness within their respective jurisdictions shall be available to the public in the appropriate offices of the Regional Foresters, Forest Supervisors, and Forest Rangers.

Section 251.74 - Establishment, Modification, or Elimination

National Forest Wilderness will be established, modified, or eliminated in accordance with the provisions of Sections 3(b), (d), and (e) of the Wilderness Act. The Chief, Forest Service, shall arrange for issuing public notices, appointing hearing officers, holding public hearings, and notifying the Governors of the States concerned and the governing board of each county in which the lands involved are located.

- a. At least 30 days' public notice shall be given of the proposed action and intent to hold a public hearing. Public notice shall include publication in the Federal Register and in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the land involved.
- b. Public hearings shall be held at locations convenient to the area affected. If the land involved is in more than one State, at least one hearing shall be held in each State in which a portion of the land lies.
- c. A record of the public hearing and the views submitted subsequent to public notice and prior to the close of the public hearing shall be included with any recommendations to the President and to the Congress with respect to any such action.
- d. At least 30 days before the date of the public hearing, suitable advice shall be furnished to the Governor of each State and the

governing board of each county or, in Alaska, the borough in which the lands are located, and Federal Departments and agencies concerned; and such officers or Federal agencies shall be invited to submit their views on the proposed action at the hearing or in writing by not later than 30 days following the date of the hearing. Any views submitted in response to such advice with respect to any proposed Wilderness action shall be included with any recommendations to the President and to the Congress with respect to any such action.

Section 251.75 - Commercial Enterprises, Roads, Motor Vehicles, Motorized Equipment, Motorboats, Aircraft, Aircraft Landing Facilities, Airdrops, Structures, and Cutting of Trees

Except as provided in the Wilderness Act, subsequent legislation establishing a particular Wilderness unit, or Sections 251.27, 251.28, 251.30, 251.75 (c) and (d), 251.76, 251.77, and 251.81 through 251.85, inclusive, of these regulations, and subject to existing rights, there shall be in National Forest Wilderness no commercial enterprises; no temporary or permanent roads, no aircraft landing strips, no heliports or helispots; no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, motorboats, or other forms of mechanical transport; no landing of aircraft; no dropping of materials, supplies, or persons from aircraft; no structures or installations; and no cutting of trees for non-wilderness purposes.

- a. "Mechanical transport," as herein used, shall include any contrivance which travels over ground, snow, or water on wheels, tracks, skids, or by flotation and is propelled by a nonliving power source contained or carried on or within the device.
- b. "Motorized equipment," as herein used, shall include any machine activated by a nonliving power source, except that small battery-powered, hand-carried devices such as flashlights, shavers, and Geiger counters are not classed as motorized equipment.
- c. The Chief, Forest Service, may authorize occupancy and use of National Forest land by officers, employees, agencies, or agents of the Federal, State, and county governments to carry out the purposes of the Wilderness Act and will prescribe conditions under which motorized equipment, mechanical transport, aircraft, aircraft landing strips, heliports, helispots, installations, or structures may be used, transported, or installed by the Forest Service and its agents and by other Federal, State, or county agencies or their agents, to meet the minimum requirements for authorized activities to protect and administer the Wilderness and its resources. The Chief may also prescribe the conditions under which such equipment, transport, aircraft, installations, or structures may be used in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons, damage to property, or other purposes.
- d. The Chief, Forest Service, may permit, subject to such restrictions as he deems desirable, the landing of aircraft and the use of motorboats at places within any Wilderness where these uses were established prior to the date the Wilderness was

designated by Congress as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The Chief may also permit the maintenance of aircraft landing strips, heliports, or helispots which existed when the Wilderness was designated by Congress as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Section 251.76 - Grazing of Livestock

The grazing of livestock, where such use was established before the date of legislation which includes an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System, shall be permitted to continue under the general regulations covering grazing of livestock on the National Forests and in accordance with special provisions covering grazing use in units of National Forest Wilderness which the Chief of the Forest Service may prescribe for general application in such units or may arrange to have prescribed for individual units.

The Chief, Forest Service, may permit, subject to such conditions as he deems necessary, the maintenance, reconstruction, or relocation of those livestock management improvements and structures which existed within a Wilderness when it was incorporated into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Additional improvements or structures may be built when necessary to protect wilderness values.

Section 251.77 - Permanent Structures and Commercial Services

Motels, summer homes, stores, resorts, organization camps, hunting and fishing lodges, electronic installations, and similar structures and uses are prohibited in National Forest Wilderness. The Chief, Forest Service, may permit temporary structures and commercial services within National Forest Wilderness to the extent necessary for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes, which may include, but are not limited to, the public services generally offered by packers, outfitters, and guides.

Section 251.78 - Poisons and Herbicides

Poisons and herbicides will not be used to control wildlife, fish, insects, or plants within any Wilderness except by or under the direct supervision of the Forest Service or other agency designated by the Chief, Forest Service; however, the personal use of household-type insecticides by visitors to provide for health and sanitation is specifically excepted from this prohibition.

Section 251.79 - Jurisdiction over Wildlife and Fish

Nothing in these regulations shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibility of the several States with respect to wildlife and fish in the National Forests.

Section 251.80 - Water Rights

Nothing in these regulations constitutes an expressed or implied claim or denial on the part of the Department of Agriculture as to exemption from State water laws.

Section 251.81 - Access to Surrounded State and Private Lands

States or persons, and their successors in interest, who own land completely surrounded by National Forest Wilderness shall be given such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate access to that land. "Adequate access" is defined as the combination of routes and modes of travel which will, as determined by the Forest Service, cause the least lasting impact on the primitive character of the land and at the same time will serve the reasonable purposes for which the State and private land is held or used. Access by routes or modes of travel not available to the general public under these regulations shall be given by written authorization issued by the Forest Service. The authorization will prescribe the means and the routes of travel to and from the privately owned or State-owned land which constitute adequate access and the conditions reasonably necessary to preserve the National Forest Wilderness.

Section 251.82 - Access to Valid Mining Claims or Valid Occupancies

Persons with valid mining claims or other valid occupancies wholly within National Forest Wilderness shall be permitted access to such surrounded claims or occupancies by means consistent with the preservation of National Forest Wilderness which have been or are being customarily used with respect to other such claims or occupancies surrounded by National Forest Wilderness. The Forest Service will, when appropriate, issue permits which shall prescribe the routes of travel to and from the surrounded claims or occupancies, the mode of travel, and other conditions reasonably necessary to preserve the National Forest Wilderness.

Section 251.83 - Mining, Mineral Leases, and Mineral Permits

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these regulations, the United States mining laws and all laws pertaining to mineral leasing shall extend to each National Forest Wilderness for the period specified in the Wilderness Act or subsequent establishing legislation to the same extent they were applicable prior to the date the Wilderness was designated by Congress as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

- a. Whoever hereafter locates a mining claim in National Forest Wilderness shall within 30 days thereafter file a written notice of his Post Office address and the location of that mining claim in the office of the Forest Supervisor or District Ranger having jurisdiction over the National Forest land on which the claim is located.
- b. Holders of unpatented mining claims validly established on any National Forest Wilderness prior to inclusion of such unit in the National Wilderness Preservation System shall be accorded the rights provided by the United States mining laws as then applicable to the National Forest land involved. Persons locating mining claims in any unit of National Forest Wilderness on or after the date on which the said unit was included in the National Wilderness Preservation System shall be accorded the rights provided by the United States mining laws as applicable to the National Forest land involved and subject to provisions specified in the establishing legislation. All claimants shall comply with reasonable conditions prescribed by the Chief, Forest

Service, for the protection of National Forest resources in accordance with the general purposes of maintaining the National Wilderness Preservation System unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness and so as to provide for the preservation of its wilderness character; and a performance bond may be required.

- (1) Prior to commencing operation or development of any mining claim, or to cutting timber thereon, mining claimants shall file written notice in the office of the Forest Supervisor or District Ranger having jurisdiction over the land involved. Unless within 20 days after such notice is given the Forest Service requires the claimant to furnish operating plans or to accept a permit governing such operations, he may commence operation, development, or timber cutting.
- (2) No claimant shall construct roads across National Forest Wilderness unless authorized by the Forest Service. Application to construct a road to a mining claim shall be filed with the Forest Service and shall be accompanied by a plat showing the location of the proposed road and by a description of the type and standard of the road. The Chief, Forest Service, shall, when appropriate, authorize construction of the road as proposed or shall require such changes in location and type and standard of construction as are necessary to safeguard the National Forest resources, including wilderness values, consistent with the use of the land for mineral location, exploration, development, drilling, and production and for transmission lines, waterlines, telephone lines, and processing operations, including, where essential, the use of mechanical transport, aircraft or motorized equipment.
- (3) Claimants shall cut timber on mining claims within National Forest Wilderness only for the actual development of the claim or uses reasonably incident thereto. Any severance or removal of timber, other than severance or removal to provide clearance, shall be in accordance with sound principles of forest management and in such a manner as to minimize the adverse effect on the wilderness character of the land.
- (4) All claimants shall, in developing and operating their mining claims, take those reasonable measures, including settling ponds, necessary for the disposal of tailings, dumpage, and other deleterious materials or substances to prevent obstruction, pollution, excessive siltation, or deterioration of the land, streams, ponds, lakes, or springs, as may be directed by the Forest Service.
- (5) On mining claims validly established prior to inclusion of the land within the National Wilderness Preservation System, claimants shall, as directed by the Forest Service and if application for patent is not pending, take all reasonable measures to remove any improvements no longer needed for mining purposes and which were installed after the land

was designated by Congress as Wilderness and, by appropriate treatment, restore, as nearly as practicable, the original contour of the surface of the land which was disturbed subsequent to the date this regulation is adopted and which is no longer needed in performing location, exploration, drilling, and production and promote its revegetation by natural means. On such part of the claim where restoration to approximately the original contour is not feasible, restoration for such part shall provide a combination of bank slopes and contour gradient conducive to soil stabilization and revegetation by natural means.

- (6) On claims validly established after the date the land was included within the National Wilderness Preservation System, claimants shall, as directed by the Forest Service, take all reasonable measures to remove improvements no longer needed for mining purposes and, by appropriate treatment, restore, as near as practicable, the original contour of the surface of the land which was disturbed and which is no longer needed in performing location and exploration, drilling and production, and to revegetate and to otherwise prevent or control accelerated soil erosion.
- c. The title to timber on patented claims validly established after the land was included within the National Wilderness Preservation System remains in the United States, subject to a right to cut and use timber for mining purposes. So much of the mature timber may be cut and used as is needed in the extraction, removal, and beneficiation of the mineral deposits, if needed timber is not otherwise reasonably available. The cutting shall comply with the requirements for sound principles of forest management as defined by the National Forest rules and regulations and set forth in stipulations issued by the Chief, Forest Service, which as a minimum incorporate the following basic principles of forest management:
 - (1) harvesting operations shall be so conducted as to minimize soil movement and damage from water runoff; and
 - (2) slash shall be disposed of and other precautions shall be taken to minimize damage from forest insects, disease, and fire.
 - d. Mineral leases, permits, and licenses covering lands within National Forest Wilderness will contain reasonable stipulations for the protection of the wilderness character of the land consistent with the use of the land for purposes for which they are leased, permitted, or licensed. The Chief, Forest Service, shall specify the conditions to be included in such stipulations.
 - e. Permits shall not be issued for the removal of mineral materials commonly known as "common varieties" under the Materials Act of July 31, 1947, as amended and supplemented (30 U.S.C. 601-604).

Section 251.84 - Prospecting for Minerals and Other Resources

The Chief, Forest Service, shall allow any activity, including prospecting, for the purpose of gathering information about minerals or other resources in National Forest Wilderness except that any such activity for gathering information shall be carried on in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment, and except, further, that:

- a. No person shall have any right or interest in or to any mineral deposits which may be discovered through prospecting or other information-gathering activity after the legal date on which the United States mining laws and laws pertaining to mineral leasing cease to apply to the specific Wilderness, nor shall any person after such date have any preference in applying for a mineral lease, license, or permit.
- b. No overland motor vehicle or other form of mechanical overland transport may be used in connection with prospecting for minerals or any activity for the purpose of gathering information about minerals or other resources except as authorized by the Chief, Forest Service.
- c. Any person desiring to use motorized equipment, to land aircraft, or to make substantial excavations for mineral prospecting or for other purposes shall apply in writing to the office of the Forest Supervisor or District Ranger having jurisdiction over the land involved. Excavations shall be considered "substantial" which singularly or collectively exceed 200 cubic feet within any area which can be bounded by a rectangle containing 20 surface acres. Such use or excavation may be authorized by a permit issued by the Forest Service. Such permits may provide for the protection of National Forest resources, including wilderness values, protection of the public, and restoration of disturbed areas, including the posting of performance bonds.
- d. Prospecting for water resources and the establishment of new reservoirs, water-conservation works, power projects, transmission lines, and other facilities needed in the public interest and the subsequent maintenance of such facilities, all pursuant to Section 4(d)(4)(1) of the Wilderness Act, will be permitted when and as authorized by the President.

Section 251.86 - National Forest Primitive Areas

Within those areas of National Forests classified as "Primitive" on the effective date of the Wilderness Act, September 3, 1964, there shall be no roads or other provision for motorized transportation, no commercial timber cutting, and no occupancy under special-use permit for hotels, stores, resorts, summer homes, organization camps, hunting and fishing lodges, or similar uses: Provided, That existing roads over National Forest lands reserved from the public domain and roads necessary for the exercise of a statutory right of ingress and egress may be allowed under appropriate conditions determined by the Chief, Forest Service.

Grazing of domestic livestock, development of water storage projects which do not involve road construction, and improvements necessary for the protection of the National Forests may be permitted, subject to such restrictions as the Chief, Forest Service, deems desirable. Within Primitive Areas, when the use is for other than administrative needs of the Forest Service, use by other Federal agencies when authorized by the Chief, and in emergencies, the landing of aircraft and the use of motorboats are prohibited on National Forest land or water unless such use by aircraft or motorboats has already become well established, the use of motor vehicles is prohibited, and the use of other motorized equipment is prohibited except as authorized by the Chief. These restrictions are not intended as limitations on statutory rights of ingress and egress or of prospecting, locating, and developing mineral resources.

(78 Stat.890, 16 U.S.C. 1131-1136; 30 Stat. 35, as amended 16 U.S.C. 551; 74 Stat. 215, 16 U.S.C. 528-531)

Done at Washington, D. C., this 31st day of May, 1966

/s/ Orville L. Freeman
Secretary of Agriculture

No servant brought them meals: They got their meat out of the river, or went without. No traffic cop whistled them off the hidden rock in the next rapids. No friendly roof kept them dry when they mis-guessed whether or not to pitch the tent. No guide showed them which camping spots offered a nightlong breeze, and which a nightlong misery of mosquitoes; which firewood made clean coals, and which only smoke. The elemental simplicities of wilderness travel were thrills not only because of their novelty, but because they represented complete freedom to make mistakes. The wilderness gave them their first taste of those rewards and penalties for wise and foolish acts which every woodsman faces daily, but against which civilization has built a thousand buffers. These boys were "on their own" in this particular sense. — Aldo Leopold

NORTHERN REGION

Missoula, Montana



NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESSES AND PRIMITIVE AREAS

MARCH 1971

WILDERNESSES
(UNITS OF THE NATIONAL
WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM)



PRIMITIVE AREAS



NATIONAL FORESTS AND
PURCHASE UNITS



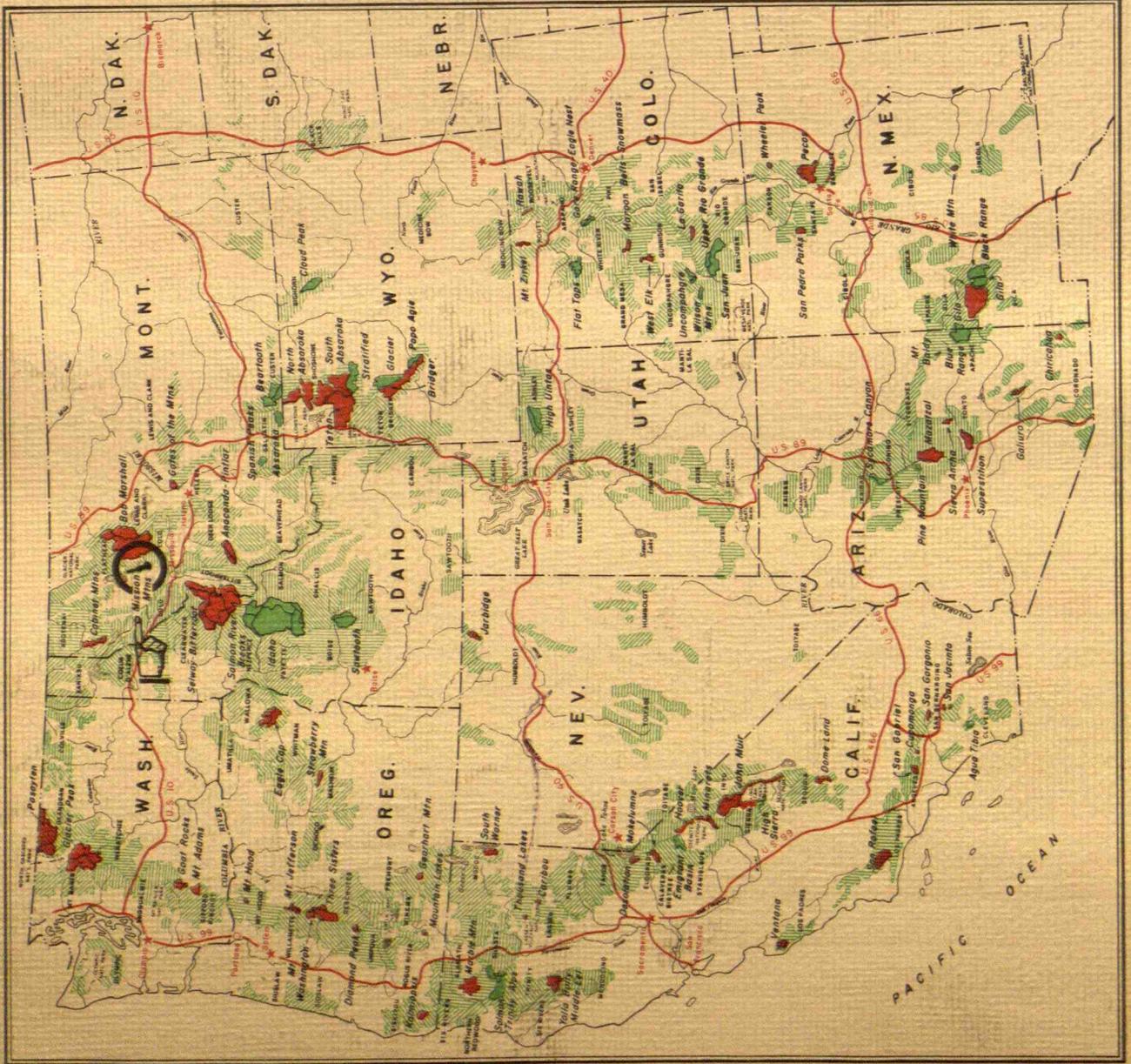
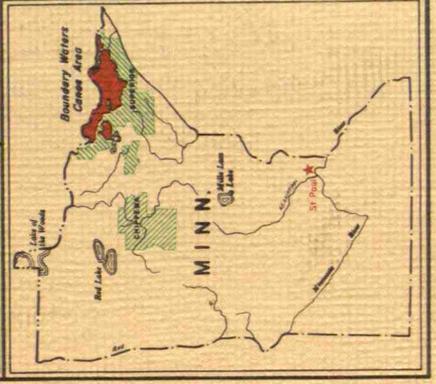
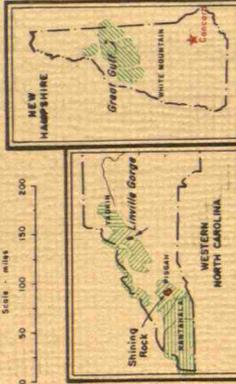
STATE CAPITALS



REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS



SCALE - MILES
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PACIFIC OCEAN