United States Department of Agriculture forest service

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FEB 12 1976



Honorable James A. McClure United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McClure:

The study that Congress has required for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is still in the process of being organized. The National Recreation Area is in two States and three Forest Service Regions. We will be getting together with the Intermountain and Pacific Northwest Regions next month to develop a study plan.

The Act establishing the Hells Canyon NRA requires submission of comprehensive recreation management plan within 5 years. Selection of a headquarters for the NRA would be premature prior to completion of this plan, although an interim headquarters may be selected during the study. The participation of the Salmon River Chamber and other interested publics will be solicited for the planning process. Economics and the support of local communities will be important considerations as they are in all Forest Service land use planning.

We appreciate your continuing interest and receiving the views of the Salmon River Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

STEVE YURIGH

Regional Forester