

News Release

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JAMES A. MCCLURE

United States Senate, R-Idaho

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FROM THE OFFICES OF:
U. S. Sen. Frank Church
U. S. Sen. James A. McClure

Idaho Senators Reintroduce Hells Canyon Measure
for IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Thursday, 23 January 1975 NOON

WASHINGTON D. C. -- Idaho's U. S. Senators Frank Church and James A. McClure have today reintroduced legislation identical to their Hells Canyon proposal which cleared the Senate last year. The legislation is also jointly co-sponsored by the Oregon Senate delegation.

The two Idaho Senators, in a joint statement, predicted the Senate "would give the legislation the same favorable response it received during the last session."

Church said that he considered legislation to protect Hells Canyon a priority for the 94th Congress. "This is good legislation, which not only preserves Hells Canyon, but protects Idaho water users upstream. It's time for Congress to complete its action on the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area."

McClure said "the need for the sensible and balanced approach in this legislation today is just as strong, just as apparent, and just as worthwhile as it has been in the past. This bill was borne through a long and carefully conducted process that has literally spanned two decades -- a process of hearings, study and compromise that has been repeated many times." McClure called the proposal "an idea whose time is long overdue."

The bill specifically includes provisions to:

- * Protect the Middle Snake from any development by designating a 101-mile stretch of the river as part of the nation's Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- * Deauthorize construction of Asotin Dam.
- * Place a ten-mile section of the Rapid River, beginning at its headwaters, under Wild and Scenic Rivers protection.
- * Provide for protection of present and future upstream water rights.

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