

Park Calls for More Wilderness

BOISE (UPI) — Attorney General W. Anthony Park called today for inclusion of the Big Creek and Monumental Creek areas in the Forest Service's proposed wilderness system.

Joining Gov. Cecil D. Andrus and Sen. Frank Church, Park said he felt the Idaho Primitive Area and the Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area are unique, "irreplaceable assets" both for Idaho and the nation.

He said they should be preserved through inclusion in the National Wildlife Preservation system.

He said he disagrees with the Forest Service proposal to exclude Big Creek and Monumental Creek.

"We think these areas should be included in the wilderness system too," Park said.

"These exclusions comprise over 60,000 acres of important drainage to the Middle fork and are significant Salmon and Steelhead spawning

areas," he said.

While Park said he felt the wilderness system should be larger than that proposed by the Forest Service, he conceded practical politics may reduce it beyond what he would like. But he said it should not be any smaller than that proposed by the Forest Service.

"I would be strongly opposed to anything less than the Forest Service recommendations," Park told a news conference.

"I think it would be a tragic mistake for the people of Idaho and the people of the country if this fragile and fantastically beautiful area were further ravaged by man," he said.

Park said he was taking his stand on the issue both as a concerned private citizen and as an attorney general charged with protection of the environment. He said he was not certain whether all fellow members of the land board would agree with his position but said it might be well if the land board, too, took up the fight.



THE LENGTHS some fellows will go to for a resident of the San Francisco Zoo. (Photo by Orville Andrews)

Family Honor

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A heavy fog hung over Arlington National Cemetery early Thanksgiving morning when Sen. Edward M. Kennedy arrived at the grave of his brother, President John F. Kennedy, 10 years after his assassination.

It was nearly an hour before the gates were to be opened to the public. With the senators were his sister, Pat Lawford; several Kennedy children; and Ethel, the widow of another slain brother, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

While the women and children knelt, Kennedy stood behind them with head bowed. The family laid flowers at the "eternal flame" which still flickers over the grave, then walked down the short path and knelt again at a simple white cross marking the grave of Robert Kennedy.

Small bouquets of purplish blue forget-me-nots, sent by the President's widow, Jacqueline Onassis, had already been laid at each grave. Mrs. Onassis, who remarried six years after her husband's death, spent the day in New York City with her children, Caroline and John Jr.

Sorrowful, C Into Dallas'

DALLAS (UPI) — The huge sign atop the Texas School Book Depository electronically ticked off the seconds until 12:30 p.m.

The sorrowful and the curious pushed into Dealey Plaza Thursday quietly inspecting the sloping street where John F. Kennedy drew an assassin's bullet ten years ago.

"It was just about now, wasn't it," said Robert Walter Gomes, sitting on the grass along the

The city's candlelight through do day night.

The War Lee Harvey Kennedy, several pet own theor

Penn Jon paper pub

Obituaries

Mrs. Marie D. Roe

Marie D. Roe, 83, of 1616 N. 5th St., died Thursday in Kootenai Memorial Hospital after an extended illness.

She was born Jan. 22, 1890 in Spokane. She lived most of her life in this area.

Her husband, Frank L. Roe preceded her in death on Dec. 27, 1947.

She is survived by two sons, James of Townsend, Mont., and Joe E. of Bozeman, Mont.; a stepson, Frank G. Roe of Post Falls; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Monday in English Funeral Chapel in Coeur d'Alene with Elder James Scully officiating. Burial will be in Forest Cemetery.

American Killed in Argentine Ambush

BUENOS AIRES (UPI) — 56, general manager of the Ford subsidiary Transax, near his home in the industrial city of Cordoba.

Officials also conceded having no idea of the motive for the killing. Police said it appeared on the surface to be an outright murder, but it was still possible Swint might have been killed during an attempted kidnaping.

A third bodyguard was seriously wounded in the attack, police said. Earlier reports said all three had been killed along

Police Probe Letter

ROME (UPI) — Police disclosed plans today to call in scientists to help identify the background of photographs purportedly showing the mutilated grandson of American billionaire J. Paul Getty.

The photos, which showed a young man with a missing right ear, were in a packet sent to a Rome newspaper Thursday with a note threatening to cut him up "piece by piece" unless a \$3.4 million dollar ransom was paid.

Another newspaper received a human ear in the mail earlier this month with a note in the handwriting of missing J. Paul Getty III. Police experts said it was impossible to identify the ear positively, but it might be the young man's.

The 17-year-old youth's mother, Mrs. Gail Harris, pleaded with the kidnapers by radio Thursday to contact her, but she did not specifically mention ransom.

"Give me Paul alive and we will never try to learn who you are," she said. "I beseech you

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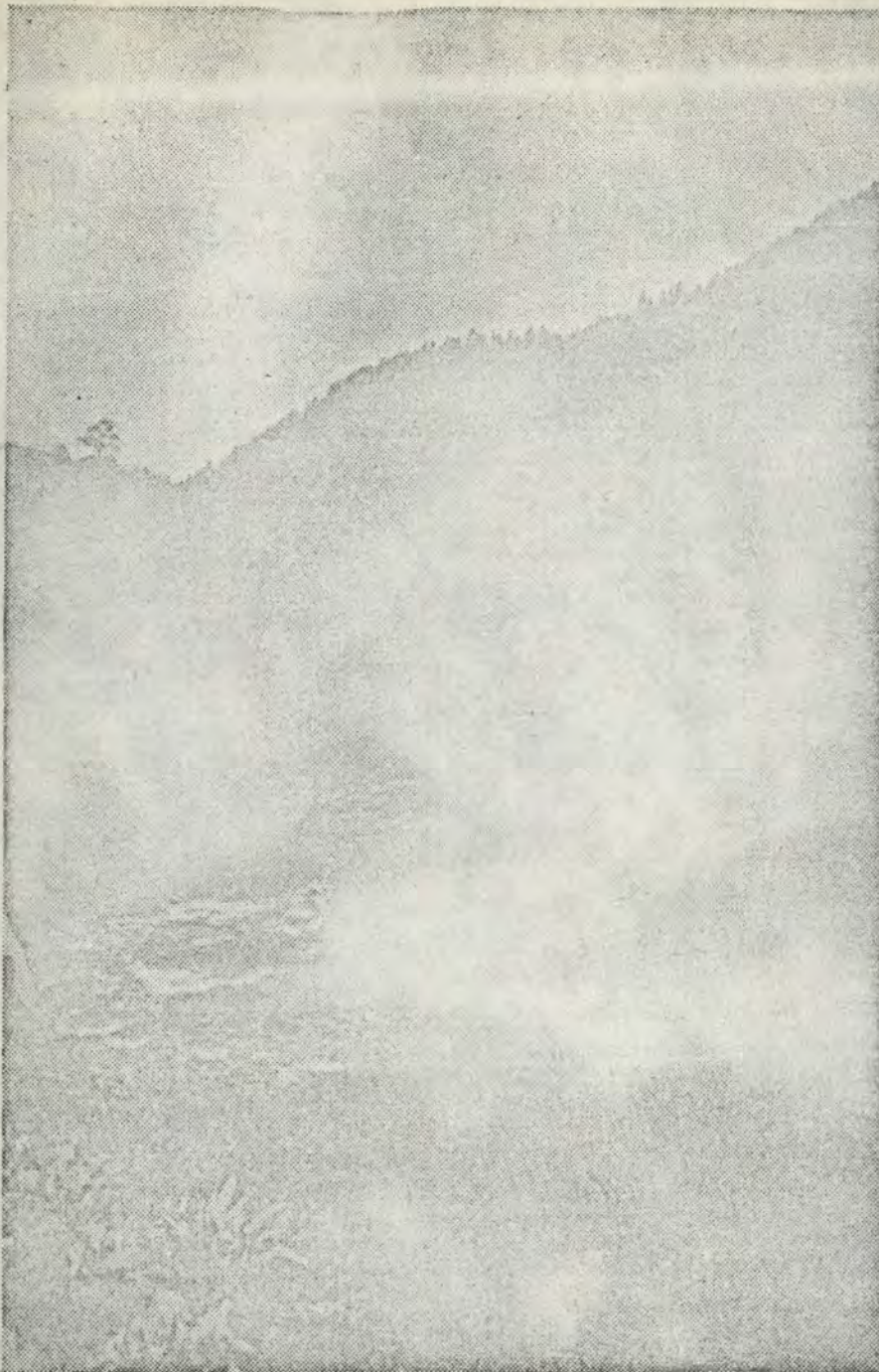
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PART OF A STREAM in a narrow valley was obliterated by tailings from this old open pit mining operation at Stibnite, just outside the primitive area. The salmon and steelhead

fishery in the South Fork of the East Fork of the Salmon declined. The threat of pollution from large open pit operations in steep terrain, and narrow valleys, with unstable soils, is a concern of opponents of proposed exclusions.



WATER QUALITY AND FISHERIES in Big Creek are a major concern of opponents of proposed exclusions from the Idaho Primitive Area in the Forest Service's wilderness proposal. It is the Middle Fork's largest tributary, a major spawning stream for salmon and steelhead, and a cutthroat, rainbow, dolly varden and whitefish stream as well. Two large exclusions would increase the prospects of severe damage to this stream and its fisheries.

ores than on the Big Creek and Monumental Creek drainages (Monumental is a sizable stream, largest tributary of Big Creek).

AN EXISTING MINING operation on Crooked Creek, a small tributary of Big Creek, has brought complaints of pollution of the stream, and damage to the stream channel. (These are rearing waters for salmon, steelhead and cutthroat, and spawning waters for steelhead and cutthroat). This is an old

mine which in all its history has yielded \$250,000 in gross values. The Forest Service may pay more than that for a single purchase of private land along Big Creek to assure public access and use.

A single mining operation on another Middle Fork tributary, Panther Creek, depleted the salmon and steelhead fishery.

Lee Stokes of the Department of Environmental and Community Services

said the agency looked into the Crooked Creek operation this summer, after receiving a report from the Forest Service of excess turbidity in the stream.

"THE WAY THE TAILING ponds are constructed they are likely to blow out in the spring," he said. "We intend to write and indicate possible violations. If they plan to operate again, they will have to get plans approved for their tailing ponds."

He said it had been suggested that the operation might be moved down on Big Creek itself. There too the canyon is narrow and steep.

The problems and potential problems with a small mining operation illustrate the danger posed to Big Creek by a combination of roads and logging on 60,000 acres of exclusions, plus possibly more than one mining operation for low-grade ores.

One mining operation could destroy the entire Big Creek fishery. So could a combination of roads, logging and mining.

THE THREAT TO THIS stream in a fragile drainage is also an illustration of what could happen to other major Middle Fork tributaries which the Forest Service proposal would exclude from wilderness protection.

More than 25 per cent of the Middle Fork drainage is outside the existing primitive areas. This is the primary reason that both the governor and conservation organizations find the Forest Service's proposed wilderness unsatisfactory.

Much of that left outside faces compromise by roads and logging. It would be open to mineral claims indefinitely. The Forest Service proposal would protect only about half of the remaining wild country in the central Idaho area.

While a 1.8 or a 2.3 million acre wilderness seems large, and would be large, the equivalent of the merchantable timber in the primitive areas could be grown on only 130,000 acres in western Oregon in 60 years. The timber in the primitive areas has a 120-acre cycle.

A lot of this is steep, difficult terrain, as well as being susceptible to erosion. It is an exceptional wilderness, but would make a mediocre tree farm. The difficult terrain and difficult access is one reason so much of it outside the primitive areas remains undisturbed.

Senator Soaper

Holiday visits to grandmother's house are fine, as long as grandfather has a few minutes' warning so he can go out and buy the fried chicken.

Scientific tests show that there is no reason why women shouldn't go to outer space, which is what a lot of men have always said, until mother-in-law jokes went out of style.

ROBISON
Editorial Page
more than three million
country in central Idaho.
next week's hearings
Primitive Areas and the
how much less there
are.

What remains will
depend on whether the
wide variety of fisheries
are maintained, or is severely di-
sturbed.
The goals of wilderness
protection of an en-
tire river system, the
Columbia-Salmon. It is de-
scribed as the largest major river sys-
tem in the continental U.S. that re-
mains undisturbed.

INCLUDES not just
wilderness (already classified as
such) but also 250 miles of major
tributaries and the lands they drain.
This is the area where the salmon
run, where the cutthroat
trout of the Middle Fork origi-
nally lived.

One goal is the protection
of 190 species are
endangered or in jeopardy that may not be
found elsewhere in the conti-
nent. These include large, little disturb-
ed animals like the big-
horned sheep, mountain goat and the
cutthroat trout, threatened by encroach-
ment from roads and machines.

The cascade plan wrongly
classified as "promise" would leave a
large area along the
Middle Fork. But
areas where the fish
are subject to erosion and
logging.

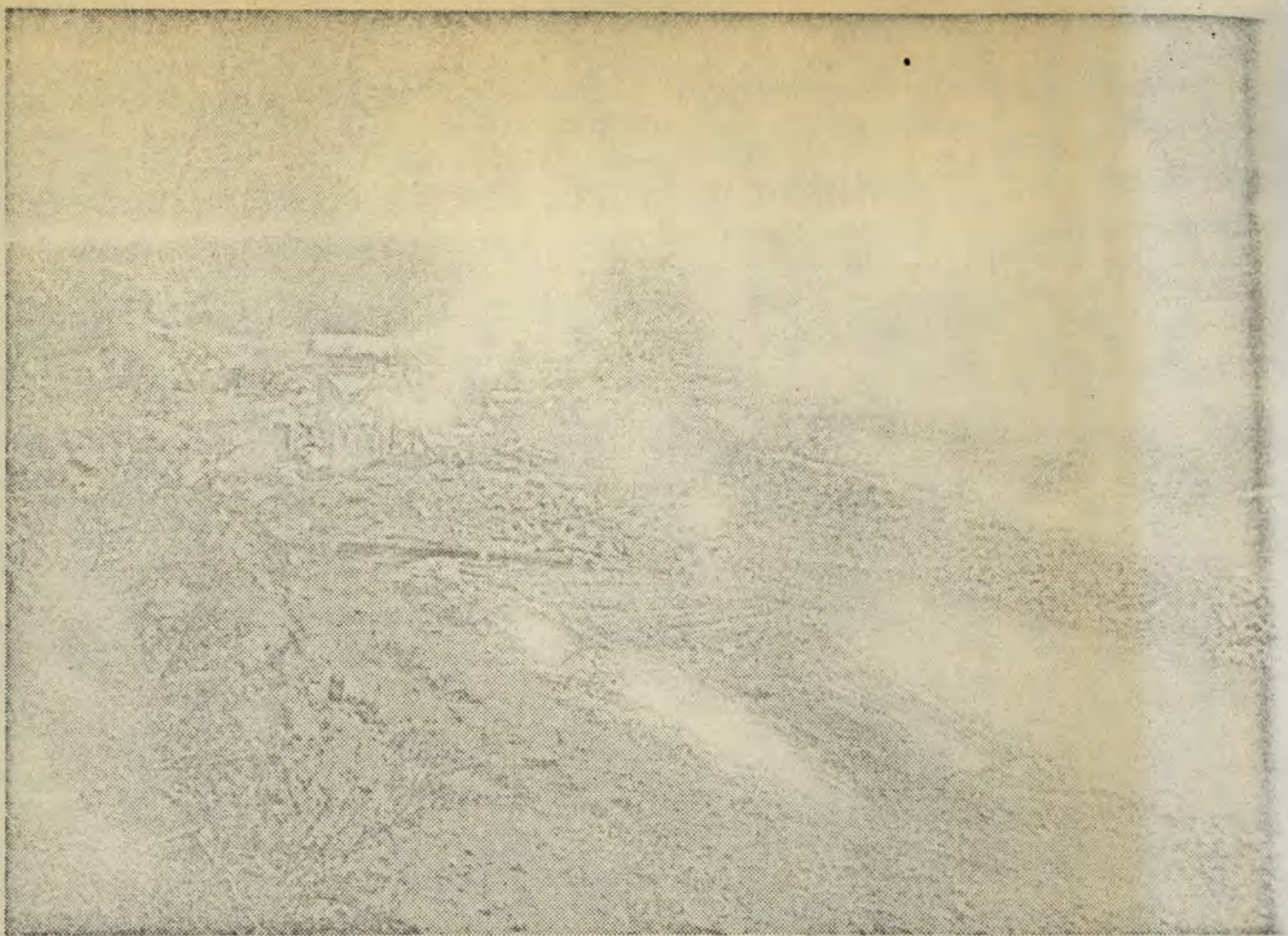
WILDERNESS forces, led
by mining interests want
to eliminate the 1.4
million acres of existing wilderness in
Idaho. On the second is-
sue of classifying the
area as part of the Wild-
erness system (and thus
subject to dams), they want
it reclassified. The Salm-
on and steelhead
run on the Columbia

Most of the primi-
tively proposed by the Forest
Service, 60,000 acres of the
primitive areas, a major
tributary, plus 186,000 acres
(The Forest Service
status for the Salm-

The Service rejects those ex-
cesses as a dangerous
proposals. The significant Big Creek
is the largest trib-
utary of the Salmon
River, a national stream that
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alteration of its waters salmon
run. It has an ex-
cellent trout fishery, as
well as cutthroat, rainbow and

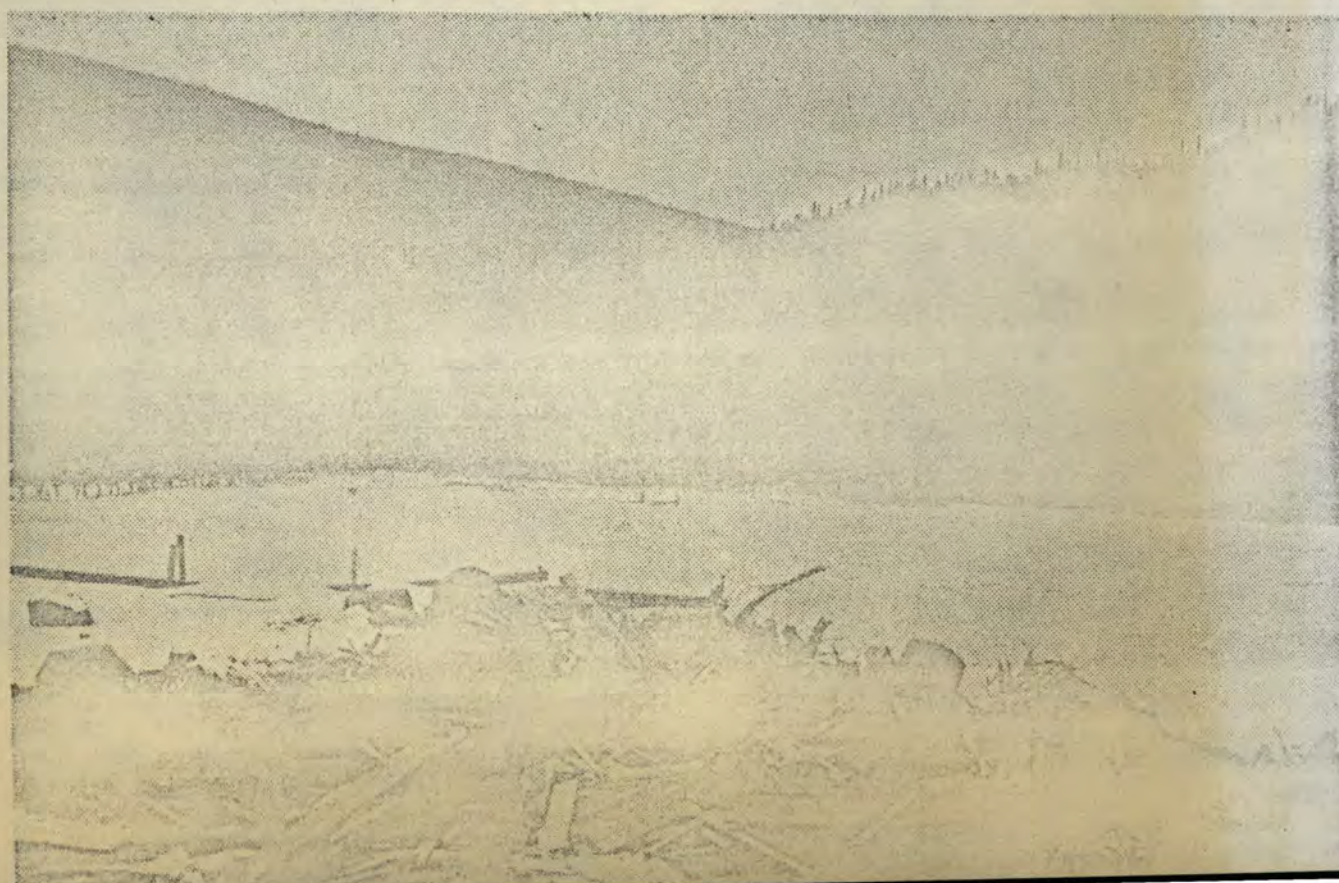
The Service wants 400,000 acres
of primitive areas (rather
than the Service's 186,000) to
be included in the tributaries of the

NO RETURN Wil-
derness and several other con-
servators advocate a larger wil-



A SMALL MINING OPERATION brought this alteration of a stream this summer within the Idaho Primitive Area. This is the old Snowshoe Mine on Crooked Creek, a small tributary on the upper end of Big Creek. This operation illustrates the difficulty posed by mining in these steep, narrow canyons. It also illustrated the potential problems of large open-pit mining operations described as a possibility within the primitive area. The mineral yield from mines in the Big Creek area is

only \$500,000 in more than a century and mineral values are termed "modest." The Forest Service proposal would exclude 29,000 acres in this area from the protection of wilderness classification. Another 32,000 acres would be excluded on the Monumental Creek drainage. (Part of Monumental Creek, 250 yards, was altered this past summer by another mining venture.) Monumental Creek is the major tributary of Big Creek.



2 to 1 Margin

Most Favor Wilds At Boise Hearing

By MINDY CAMERON
Statesman Staff Writer

After eleven and a half hours of testimony Monday,

Tenure Review Backed

MOSCOW - The University of Idaho faculty Tuesday approved a statement on tenure and competency review that should bring the university's policies into line with board of regents' policies.

University President Ernest W. Hartung will present the statement to the regents at their Dec. 5-7 meeting at Pocatello.

The statement provides for a tenure evaluation committee composed of one or more tenured faculty members, one or more non-tenured faculty members, one or more persons from outside the department. In reviews of resident instructional faculty, one or more students would be added. Each department will be responsible for establishing procedures to meet the requirement.

The report also calls for a five-year competency review for tenured faculty members, in compliance with regents' policies. Committees appointed for this purpose shall have the same composition as the tenure evaluation committee.

According to a faculty spokesman, the statement does meet the basic requirements of the board of regents but also contains a number of innovations to be discussed in December.

Onweiler Says Tax Bill May Curb Speculators

Rep. Bill Onweiler, R-Boise, said Tuesday owners of vacant land will form most of the opposition to his plan to do away with property tax on improvements to

wilderness advocates from Boise and surrounding communities outnumbered opponents by more than two to one.

The Forest Service hearing on classification of Idaho's primitive areas and the Salmon River finally ended at 11:30 p.m. Monday. Seventy per cent of the 130 citizens who spoke out on the issue favored wilderness classification.

Most of that sizeable majority endorsed the River of No Return Wilderness Council proposal for 2.3 million acres of wilderness rather than Gov. Cecil D. Andrus' proposal for 1.8 million acres or the Forest Service recommendation for 1.5 million acres.

Ernest Day, a spokesman for the Wilderness Council, said the near three-to-one support for wilderness in general and over 50 per cent endorsement of the council proposal was "a resounding reaffirmation for the status quo of the primitive areas."

"It is a real indication of how the people in this area have their values ordered when so many of them speak out for the plan with the most protection for Salmon River headwater," Day said.

Ted Trueblood, Nampa, noted that he delivered 631 letters of support for the Wilderness Council proposal, not 63 as reported in Tuesday's Idaho Statesman. The letters were from every state in the country.

Another all-day hearing is scheduled today in Lewiston and a third Friday and Saturday in Pocatello.

The hearing record is open for written comment until Jan. 7. Letters may be addressed to Regional Forester, Federal Building, Ogden, Utah, 84401.

He said increasing the property tax on under-used land tends to reduce the asking price of land and make it available for development. He also said increasing the

Today's TV Schedule

Programs are in color unless indicated black and white (B/W)
(R) Repeat
* Indicates change from TV Weekly listing
✓ Paid advertisement

EVENING

- 5:00 (2) CBS News - Walter Cronkite
- (4) Misterogers' Neighborhood - children
- (7) NBC News - John Chancellor
- 5:30 (2) Eyewitness News - Bill Gratton
- (4) Electric Company - children
- (7) News - Dan Smede
- 5:50 (2) Sports - Paul J. Schneider
- (7) Sports - Klaus Wagner
- 5:55 (2) Weather - Larry Chase
- (7) Weather - Susan Eby
- 6:00 (2) Truth or Consequences - game show
- (4) Sesame Street - children - Sam the Robot is having mechanical problems with his machine and he is forced to call on Luis and David for help
- (7) To Tell the Truth - game show
- 6:30 (2) People's Press Conference - informative - Joe Greenley of the Idaho Fish and Game Department will answer viewers' questions
- (7) Ozzie's Girls - comedy
- 7:00 (2) The Waltons - drama
- (4) Showcase - focuses on the art and humanities of Boise Valley
- (7) Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day - animated special (R)

SEARS PRESENTS
WALT DISNEY'S
WINNIE THE POOH
& THE BLUSTERY DAY

- 7:30 (4) French Chef *
- (7) Hallmark Hall of Fame - drama special - "Lisa, Bright and Dark" (Pre-empt "Mystery Movie") (1 hr. 30 mins.)

Hallmark Hall of Fame
LISA BRIGHT & DARK
John Forsythe
Anne Baxter

- 8:00 (2) Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour - variety - guests to be announced
- (4) Bill Moyers' Journal *
- 9:00 (2) Kojak - drama - Kojak fears that the bizarre strangulation of a young woman may mean the reemergence of a psychopathic killer who took the lives of seven women two years ago
- (4) Conflicts *
- (7) Billy Graham Upper Midwest Crusade - religious (pre-empt "Love Story")
- 10:00 (2) News - Bill Gratton
- (7) News - Glenn Lambert
- 10:20 (2) Sports - Klaus Wagner
- 10:25 (2) Sports - Paul J. Schneider
- (7) Weather - Susan Eby
- 10:30 (2) Weather - Larry Chase
- (7) Tonight Show - with Johnny Carson - Marilyn Horne, opera singer, is guest (1 hr. 30 mins.)
- 10:35 (2) Movie - "No Time for Sergeants" (1958) - Andy Griffith, James Milholland and Don Knotts. Comedy of a naive backwoodsman drafted into the Air Force (2 hrs.) (R)
- 12:00 (7) Tomorrow - talk show

U.S. Increases Imports In Sugar Beet Deficit

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Agriculture Department Tuesday reported a deficit in domestic beet sugar stocks and opened the U.S. sugar market to 100,000 more tons.

The move is designed to keep prices - for both raw sugar and processed sugar sold in supermarkets - near their current levels. It was the third time in three months the sugar supply has been expanded.

The price for raw sugar has increased to 11.1 cents a pound, a spokesman said. He said the department is backing down from a Nov. 14 statement that the 1973 domestic sugar supply would not be expanded "for the time being."

Of the 100,000 tons, 82,667 tons are being imported from foreign countries - except Cuba and Southern Rhodesia - on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of whether they have a regular quota.

tons, raw value. In September and October, the department also increased quotas - that is, allowed growers to market - by 100,000 tons each time.

Carlsen Backs Nixon's Plan For Energy

"President Nixon's desire to make our nation self-sufficient as far as energy needs are concerned is in complete harmony with long established policies of Idaho Power Co.," Albert Carlsen, president of the utility, said Tuesday.

Carlsen said Idaho Power has always tried to build its generating capability ahead of need, and at the same time exchange surplus power with neighboring utilities, he said.

Carlsen again assured that

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UI Aims at Reclamation

MOSCOW, Idaho (UPI)— Researchers from the University of Idaho are employing a new grass planting technique in their efforts to develop and test revegetation methods aimed at reclaiming 7,000 acres affected by mine wastes and smelter fumes in the Coeur d'Alene mining district of Northern Idaho.

The latest effort is called "plugging" and involves the planting of small sods of grass and soil which have been transplanted from nursery stock to experimental plots throughout the area.

Dr. Richard White, assistant professor of range management at the Idaho College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, said the experiment has been at least partially successful.

He said many of the plugs were at a critical growth stage when they were transplanted from the nurseries and then died from harsh environmental elements.

"By planting plugs that have been raised past the critical seedling stage in nurseries, the stronger, more vigorous grass can become established," White said.

He said a thick, soil-holding cover of grass is desirable to minimize erosion and provide a foundation for shrubs and trees on the steep slopes of the rich mining district.

White said the plugs are planted about two feet apart similar to grass plugs which are sold commercially for golf courses and home yards.

He said the grass continues to grow, expanding out each year.

White said, "Grass plugs planted last spring have spread to six times their original size, despite a dry summer."

He said the technique will be used on additional sites in the mining district next spring.

Liz Taylor Under Knife

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Elizabeth Taylor, who once estimated that she had undergone about 30 operations, was prepared for another one today.

Doctors at UCLA Medical Center planned to operate on the 41-year-old movie star to discover the cause of abdominal pains. They expected to find that one of her many previous bouts of surgery was responsible.

"Elizabeth has had a hysterectomy, an appendectomy and two Caesarian sections in the past," a representative said. "The doctors think adhesions from any one of them may be the cause of her pain."

Miss Taylor entered the hospital Tuesday for tests preliminary to today's surgery. A spokesman said she was in good spirits and expects to spend about a week in the hospital.

Miss Taylor is currently in the process of divorcing Richard Burton, her fifth husband. She has been seen often in Europe and California with Los Angeles

"National Velvet" when she was a child. Years later, three discs were removed and her lower spinal column was fused.

An emergency tracheotomy—cutting open the windpipe to permit breathing through the neck—was performed in 1961. A doctor said at the time she was 15 minutes from death. She suffered a near fatal food poisoning in Rome, and has undergone surgery and treatment for a myriad other ills and accidents.

Regional Health Convo Thursday

The Regional Governor's Health Conference will be in the First Federal Savings and Loan Building community room at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

On the agenda is a discussion of implementation and development of Idaho plans for an emergency health services delivery system.

Legislators, city and county officials, physicians, hospital officials and others in the field of

CHRISTMAS BASKET FUND
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COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83814

Donation of is enclosed to help provide Christmas dinners to needy persons in the area.

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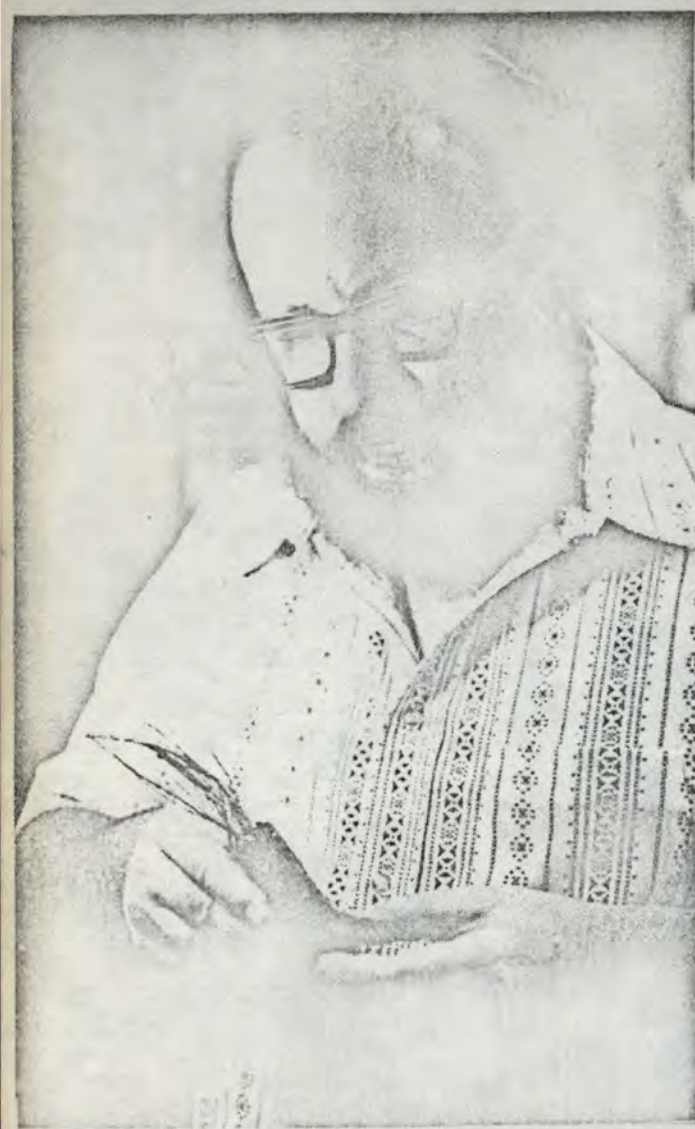
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PLUG-IN GRASS — Dr. Richard White, professor of range management in the University of Idaho College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, explains a new grass planting technique being used on mine wastes in the Coeur d'Alene Mining District. The "plug" of grass and soil White holds in his hands is one of thousands that have been raised in university green houses. Having grown past the critical seedling stage, the hardy "plugs" are then transplanted on slopes in the district where they continue to grow, spreading out each year much like rows on a crocheted rug.

Hijackers

Wilderness Hearing Draws Mixed Crowd

BOISE (UPI) — A Salmon woman, representing the residents of Five Mile Bar, has told a U.S. Forest Service hearing on the classification of Idaho Primitive Area such classification would cause economic hardships for the surrounding areas.

Rosalie Large said a proposal for classification sponsored by the Forest Service would be an encroachment on the rights of landowners in the area and would cause economic hardship on others.

At the same time, Jack Walker, Big Creek, a resident of the area for 25 years, questioned a U.S. Bureau of Mines Report

that said mineral potential in the area is limited. He said the bureau report failed to mention five out of six of the mineral producing operations in the area.

Walker also believes, classification is unnecessary and suggested letting "these things sort them out for themselves."

The U.S. Forest Service opened its week-long series of hearings on a proposal to give wilderness classification and protection to 1,531,000 acres of Idaho land. Most of it is already in primitive areas set up in the 1930s in central Idaho along the Salmon River.

The Forest Service proposes to remove some acreage, and other, and classify 237 miles of the Salmon as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Witnesses testifying at the session were about evenly divided on the proposals.

By mid-afternoon just 52 of the scheduled 139 witnesses had been heard. The session continued Monday night.

Several persons who live in or near the affected area said they were against the proposals.

Gov. Cecil D. Andrus endorsed the Forest Service plan but said another 300,000 acres should be added to protect

smaller streams which flow into the Salmon.

"This hearing process may be the most important public forum in a decade in terms of impact on Idaho's future," he said. "We can have the best of both worlds if we use our heads."

But representatives of mining interest said to lock up Idaho's vast mineral potential would be a disaster, both to the state and the rest of the nation which needs the minerals.

To forever preserve such a large area without development of its minerals would be morally and economically wrong, said Joe P. Jemmett, head of the ex-

ploration division of the J. R. Simplot Co. Jemmett said he was representing only that division of the firm and other mining companies in the state including the Bunker Hill Co.

Andrus made an ardent plea for preservation.

"Wilderness is Idaho the way it was; or more clearly, a small portion of Idaho that should remain the way it was for future generations."

The governor described wilderness as "a positive step toward keeping the state of Idaho from every resembling the shambles of congestion and misery of southern California and the East Coast."

A. J. Teske, Boise, executive secretary of the Idaho Mining Association, said the industry is convinced that the Idaho primitive area "has extremely great potential for future mineral production, including some common minerals which are vital to the economy of the nation and already in tight supply from domestic sources."

"For that reason, we recommend and urge that the forest service proposal for wilderness classification be rejected and that the area be managed under the multiple-use concept to permit development and use all of its valuable resources, including minerals," Teske said.

Penneys Christmas sales.
They're so good, we bet
you can't shop at just one.

Sleepwear sale.

Save on pantihose.

uniformly, nationwide.
That's understandable. But

serious for bickering over 50 versus 60 mile per hour speed limits.

The Ice Rink Lesson

A new policy for use of the Western Idaho Fairgrounds is a welcome change. Fair Board President Bill Tate says emphasis will be on year-around recreational activities.

When County Commissioner Eugene Crawford vetoed plans for an ice skating rink at the fairgrounds recently, it brought a tremendous outpouring of public indignation.

The people want ice skating at the fairgrounds. They will undoubtedly favor other suggested uses also proposed by the fair

board - baseball diamonds, football fields, outdoor tennis, indoor tennis and basketball.

Ada County taxpayers contribute nearly \$200,000 a year in property taxes for the fairgrounds. Use of the facilities has been limited, except for the fair and horse racing.

It's tragic that the ice skating which could have been available this winter was lost. Apparently, however, the lesson of the public reaction that resulted was not lost on the fair board.

For the Wilderness

Who wants the wilderness lands in and around the Idaho primitive areas preserved as wilderness areas? The people of Idaho do, if Tuesday's Forest Service hearing in Boise is an accurate indication.

About 70 per cent of the 130 who testified favored wilderness, and more than 90 per cent of the wilderness advocates favored the River of No Return Wilderness Council proposal for a 2.3 million acre wilderness.

Older people, young people, middle aged people, all spoke for the wilderness. Some of the testimony was eloquent. Most spoke with strong feeling.

"An area with roads is common, a remote wilderness is unique," said young Kenneth Peter of Caldwell.

"A two million acre wilderness seems not at all romantic in a land that puts one million acres under asphalt per year," said Steve Amstrup of Council.

"The men of the American Legion have fought to preserve these wild lands and wild rivers," said Gary Bermeosolo of Boise, speaking for American Legion Post 136.

Craig Morris of Boise recalled childhood treks with his family

into the Idaho Primitive Area. He recalled camping this year at a California resort with "one camper next to another camper, next to another camper." It was fun, he said, but with 98 per cent of the land dedicated to that "I don't think it's worth opening up these areas."

Opposition to wilderness came largely from logging and mining interests, the Farm Bureau, cattlemen and sheepmen's associations, motorcycle organizations, and people along the Salmon River opposed to Wild and Scenic River classification for the Salmon.

If the river is classified they fear the restrictions on use of their land that would come with "scenic easements" purchased by the Forest Service. This system reimburses people for not subdividing river-front land.

People could be treated unfairly, if they aren't compensated sufficiently. (Local zoning restricts land use in a similar way, without reimbursement.)

People who did not get to the hearing can still submit statements by mail for the record up to January 7 by writing the Regional Forester, Federal Building, Ogden, Utah, 84401.

the two world wars and the Depression.

THE CHANGE then was fundamental, even though we may not have realized it while it was happening. Prosperity, as it turned out, was "just around the corner" in the 1930s, but prosperity of a vastly different kind and in altogether different circumstances. The bluebirds, or some of their fine-feathered friends, did come over the white cliffs of dover tomorrow when the world was free, but what a different tomorrow it was!

You get something of the same sense of impending fundamental change now when you watch the commercials still running on television for big luxury automobiles.

You get much the same feeling too when you gape at the new World Trade Center in New York, a twin-tower behemoth 110 stories high, which daily consumes about the same amount of energy as a city of 100,000 people. Or when you order a steak. Or firewood. Or ponder moving to the suburbs. Or plan a vacation that will require a lot of driving. How many vacations these days do not? Most of the old self-contained resorts disappeared with the coming of the superhighways.

That is an example of the sort of loss

Curtis Road

By LEON FAIRBANKS
(Chairman, Ada County Highway District)

When the Federal Highway Administration recently turned down the Environmental Statement for the construction of the Curtis Road Extension, it threw all of the plans and studies for another north-south crossing of the Boise River linking the West Boise Bench to the North Boise area, back where they were more than two years ago.

It also left the Ada County Highway District with the responsibility of making a decision on whether to continue efforts to provide the public with a very much needed crossing or to drop the project entirely.

WITH THE THOUGHT that a recapitulation of the facts involved in the last 10 to 12 years of planning and study would be of assistance to the public in an understanding of the complicated situation, this article was prepared strictly to be informative and not in any way to influence opinion one way or the other.

Back in the 1940's, various citizens' groups started to circulate petitions urging the Ada County Commissioners to construct a new road and bridge across the Boise River between the old Strawberry Glen bridge and the Fairview span.

Letters to the Editor

Preservationists Asked to Eye Needs

Editor, The Statesman:

A four-line poem written about a bull fight in Spain begins: "Exports ranked

pits will become more numerous and larger, wherever they can be found, for civilized man

Drop in Gem State Crime Attributed to Tony Park

Editorial, The Statesman:

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Hundreds Jam Forum to Debate Future of Idaho Wilderness

By MINDY CAMERON
Statesman Staff Writer

Hundreds of people turned out in Boise Monday for what Gov. Cecil Andrus dubbed "the public forum of the decade" in Idaho - a hearing on the future of the primitive areas and the Salmon River.

By later afternoon testimony was running about even pro and con wilderness classification of the Idaho and Salmon River Breaks Primitive areas and wild and scenic river status for the Salmon.

More than 150 people asked to testify, sending the hearing late into the evening.

As expected four basic proposals for the primitive areas were presented along with scattered calls for a moratorium on government action in the region.

Andrus was lead-off witness at the hearing conducted by Forest Service officials from Ogden. "Wilderness is a compromise between those who would develop every acre and those who would develop none," he said, outlining his proposal for 1.8 million acres of wilderness and fullest possible protection for the main stem of the Salmon River.

The governor's proposal goes a step beyond the Forest Service which has recommended 1.5 million acres of wilderness, omitting two areas - Monumental and Big Creek. Andrus is "firmly opposed" to those exclusions.

The other major pro-wilderness proposal is that of the River of No Return Wilderness Council presented Monday by council director Ernest Day, Boise. The council favors wilderness classification for all of the primitive areas plus contiguous lands for a total wilderness complex of 2.3 million acres.

Day said the Wilderness Council has four basic concerns:

- Protection of the Middle Fork wa-

sal "unconstitutional" and its study "unparalleled ignorance."

Here is a sampling of other comments:

- Joe Greenley, director of the Idaho Fish and Game Department, called for full classification of both the primitive areas and the river, plus key contiguous areas.

- Ted Hoff, president of Hoff Lumber Co., recommended a moratorium on the commitment of the Salmon River and the primitive areas to wilderness classifications. The land would be protected from resource development during the moratorium. Hoff questioned "how much wilderness can we have without serious consequences to the Idaho economy and physical well-being?"

- Walt Blackadar, Salmon, urged

preservation of the river and primitive areas. "Our generation has eroded and roaded every major drainage," he charged. Roads will not be needed as much in future logging practices but "are as hard to erase as Grand Coulee Dam."

- Vern Ravenscroft, chairman of the Public Land Resource Council and a GOP state legislator, said "extremes are unacceptable." He recommended wilderness for the river canyons and multiple use on other lands, especially the heavily timbered Chamberlain Basin.

- Ted and Ellen Trueblood, Nampa, presented 63 letters from across the nation endorsing wilderness classification. The couple honeymooned in the Idaho Primitive Area in 1939 and favor its continued protection.

- Al Teske, executive secretary of

the Idaho Mining Association, cited "myths" of the wilderness advocates and said wilderness use for recreation is not increasing and the majority of Idahoans do not want more wilderness. He said current warnings of mineral shortages parallel energy shortage cries of several years ago. "If today's warnings are not heeded, the outlook for future mineral supplies is bleak indeed and serious shortages are inevitable," Teske declared.

- Bruce Bowler, Boise, said he advocates "one small savings account for mankind" in the form of a wilderness and wild river. "A monumental miscarriage of the public trust would result" if such classification is not realized, he said. For industrial interests to "seek out the last vestige (of primitive area) for use is unfair to future generations."



Battle Lines Drawn Over Idaho Wilds

By MINDY CAMERON
Statesman Staff Writer

"... 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." — 1964 Wilderness Act

A large piece of Idaho's rugged interior land fits that description, the U.S. Forest Service has determined after making technical field studies and listening to public opinion.

The Forest Service has proposed permanent wilderness classification of 1.5 million acres in Central Idaho and thus set the stage for another major environmental controversy as Idaho heads for election 1974.

Wilderness classification would continue the current status of the lands which have been Primitive Areas since the 1930s and essentially free from man's intrusions.

In making its proposal the Forest Service called the region — now known as the Salmon River Breaks and Idaho Primitive Areas — "rugged, scenic and mountainous ... with towering peaks and deep canyons ... a wilderness resource of high quality ... offering opportunity for solitude."

What are the resources of the area that led the Forest Service to come to its wilderness proposal? As outlined and described in the Forest Service proposal summary they are:

— **Wilderness:** The land encompassed by the boundaries of the proposed wilderness is heterogenous in nature, and presents a primitive environment of natural, rugged beauty and remoteness: which visitors can experience solitude, self-reliance and serenity.

— **Recreation:** Recreation use within the proposed wilderness areas has climbed steadily over the past few years and is expected to increase. Float boating on the Middle Fork of the Salmon is the largest single activity. Hunting, fishing and camping are other major recreation activities. The recreation resource is not unlimited and

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restrictions on certain kinds of uses will be needed.

— **Wildlife:** The proposed wilderness contains 190 wildlife species and encompasses two of the most important big game winter areas of the state. Most of Idaho's big horn sheep and many mountain goats winter in the wild canyons. Currently, the major wildlife habitat problem is the over-used condition of the Middle Fork winter range.

— **Fisheries:** Anadromous (migratory) and resident fisheries are within the proposed wilderness. The migrating steelhead trout and chinook salmon have been declining due to degradation both downriver and upriver.

— **Water:** The watersheds of the proposed wilderness produce about 1.4 million acre-feet of water each year. Onsite it is used for recreation and downstream it is used for irrigation, power production, and municipal and industrial purposes.

— **Grazing:** Domestic livestock grazed the area earlier this century but currently only pack and saddle stock are authorized to graze in the region. Forage resource in some areas still is in poor condition because of the sheep and cattle grazing there many years ago. Some unauthorized grazing is occurring about the private ranches in the area and in some more heavily used areas pack and saddle stock are overusing the pasture.

— **Timber:** Timber covers much of the region with Douglas fir as the dominant type. Total sawtimber volume within the proposed wilderness is about 10 billion board feet, but only 6.7 billion is considered available for harvest due to unstable soils, steep slopes and other constraints. An annual harvest of 64 million board feet might be possible under current harvest practices if the region is not classified as wilderness.

— **Mineral:** The Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area (that portion of the proposed Idaho Wilderness north of the Salmon River) has no known important mineral resources and the likelihood of significant new discoveries is extremely low. The larger primitive

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area to the south of the Salmon River has small-to-modest mineral resource in the Pistol Creek, Thunder Mountain and Ramey Ridge areas. Scattered gold deposits in the Thunder Mountain area could lead to large-scale open pit mining. Because of the mineral deposits and roads and past mining activity Thunder Mountain and Pistol Creek, although currently in the Primitive Area, are proposed to be excluded from future wilderness designation.

— **Archeology:** More than 400 archeological sites have been located but the archeological history of the areas remains virtually unknown.

What will happen in the vast primitive region if the Forest Service wilderness proposal is adopted by Congress? Essentially, the interior wildlands of Idaho would remain as they have under primitive area classification for 40 years and as they were for all the years prior to getting a government label.

Trees would not be cut. Roads would not be built. Prospecting for minerals could continue through 1983 and mining on patented claims could continue after that. The Forest Service proposes to allow the continued use of power boats on the region's rivers and outfitter camps in the forests.

The Forest Service suggests phasing out all aircraft in the area except those needed for protection and management.

A clue to what lies ahead in the battle over permanent wilderness designation of the primitive areas is in the Forest Service proposal summary. Reporting on public reaction to the issue, the Forest Service says: "Areas of disagreement centered around the allocation of land for future use. There was strong polarization ... between supporters of wilderness on one side and resource development on the other. Very little support was shown for middle ground alternatives."

So the lines are drawn: Wilderness classification for protection of a unique area for future generations or greater resource development to provide direct benefits to today's generation and boost today's economy.

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"... ecologically the primitive area timberlands are wastelands, the result of nonmanagement

