

THE WILD CASCADES



"THERE IS NO QUESTION AS TO THE PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF THE AREA FOR NATIONAL PARK STATUS. THIS IS NOT AT ISSUE. THE ELDERADO PEAKS AREA, THE PICKET RANGE, MOUNT SHUKSAN, THE UPPER PART OF LAKE CHELAN, THE STEHEKIN RIVER, AND THUNDER AND GRANITE CREEK VALLEYS ARE UNDISPUTED AS TO THEIR UNIQUENESS AND SCENIC GRANDEUR."

REACTIONS TO STUDY REPORT

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Two and one-half years after the appointment of the North Cascades Study Team, to determine the future management of the Federal lands of Washington's North Cascades, The North Cascades Study Report was published, in October 1965. On this page we have summarized the North Cascades Conservation Council's reactions. In the rest of the issue we have selected text, tables, pictures and maps, which we have redrawn, from the Study Report, for your study. If you find our extraction insufficient, copies of the entire report may now be purchased from the Government Printing Office, Washington D. C., for \$3. 50.

A NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK must be established to preserve the most outstanding alpland scenery in the United States. While the Council's 1963 proposal for a Park would be the most effective way to do this, the Study Team's Park Proposal has a reasonable chance for success. In light of this realistic consideration, the Council is willing to support this compromising alternate, proposed by Mr. Crafts, providing that the existing de-facto wilderness, north and south of the North Cross-State Highway route, be designated as the "wilderness-core" of the North Cascades National Park. The Study Team's proposal for helicopter access into this wilderness-core must not be made a provision for the establishment of this park. Mass visitation must be limited to the vicinity of the North Cross-State Highway, Ross and Diablo reservoirs, and the Heather Meadows region of the Mt. Baker Recreation Area, if the latter is included within the park as proposed by the Council.

THE OKANOGAN WILDERNESS, proposed by the Study Team, must be extended to the eastern boundary of the present North Cascades Primitive Area, thus including the entire Horseshoe Basin region.

THE GLACIER PEAK WILDERNESS AREA enlargement, proposed by the Study Team, must be extended further westward in the Suiattle and White Chuck valleys as far as the Park Service recommended in its proposed Glacier Peak National Park. This would protect the entire drainages of Downey and Sulphur Creeks which would not happen under the Study Team's proposal.

A CASCADES-CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA west, south and east of the Glacier Peak Wilderness must be established to protect scenery for which the Study Team recommended no protective category whatsoever. This would give scenery and recreation management a priority higher than logging rather than the reverse, which is the case under present Forest Service Multiple Use management recommended by the Study Team.

ALPINE LAKES and ENCHANTMENT WILDERNESSES must not be separated by the Jack Creek corridor. The Council's original Alpine Lakes Wilderness Proposal of a single continuous area, essentially supported by the National Park Service, must be established.

A COUGAR LAKES WILDERNESS must be established to include the MT. AIX WILDERNESS recommended by the Study Team and the area westward to Mt. Rainier National Park which was excluded from wilderness by the Study Team.

P. D. G.

COVER: Eldorado Peaks area in the proposed North Cascades National Park (NPS-4214-504).
Quotation from North Cascades Study Report.

NORTH CASCADES STUDY REPORT

OCTOBER 1965

DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND INTERIOR

The following recommendations are grouped into seven categories: (1) Wilderness Areas, (2) North Cascades National Park, (3) Mount Rainier National Park, (4) Other Recreation Areas, (5) Scenic Roads and Trails, (6) Timber Management, (7) Other.

The following recommendations reflect the views of the chairman of the study team. Views of the other members of the team differ in some major respects and in numerous minor respects. To the extent the other team members desired to express their differing views, they appear later in the report in the individual statements prepared by the other team members. To properly evaluate the recommendations or alternative possibilities, there should be careful study of these individual views.

There are 21 recommendations. Five deal with Wilderness areas; one with a North Cascades National Park; two with Mount Rainier National Park; four with other recreation areas; two with scenic roads and trails; one with timber management; and six on other aspects of the area, including fish and wildlife, and water and power developments.

Of the 21 recommendations, 10 will require action by the Congress, and 11 may be implemented by administrative decision. Those recommendations requiring congressional action are Nos. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, XIII, XVI, XVIII.

Figure 33 shows recommended new and revised management areas in relation to existing designations. This is a key map and summarizes visually a number of the major recommendations, including those relating to Alpine Lakes, Enchantment, Glacier Peak and Okanogan Wilderness areas, the North Cascades and Mount Rainier National Parks, Mount Baker Recreation Area, and the Skagit Wild River.

Figure 34 shows the proposed system of scenic roads recommended by the study team. It also shows the Cascade Crest Trail.

WILDERNESS AREAS

Recommendation I. An Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area should be established.

On the crest of the Cascade Mountains, between Snoqualmie and Stevens Pass, is an extremely beautiful area of high mountain lakes and peaks believed to be unmatched elsewhere in the country. Much of this area has been in limited area status under Forest Service management.

The team concurs with the Forest Service proposal to create a Wilderness area of some 150,000 acres. The area clearly meets the standards for classification as Wilderness. Some additional miles of low standard trails should be developed for camping, hiking, riding, hunting, and similar wilderness pursuits.

Recommendation II. An Enchantment Wilderness Area should be established.

This is an area of about 30,000 acres in the Mount Stuart Range lying east of the recommended Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. It is an area of outstanding scenic qualities, of sharp contrasts in elevation and topography, of challenging mountain climbing, and without roads.

The National Park Service recommended that the Alpine Lakes and Enchantment areas be combined into one, but the Forest Service recommended that the two areas be kept separate in order to permit better access and the development of a connecting road between Leavenworth and Cle Elum Lake via Icicle Creek, Jack Creek and the pass northwest of Ingalls Peak to Fortune Creek and down the Cle Elum River. The study team agreed with the Forest Service and recommends two separate Wilderness areas.

Recommendation III. A Mount Aix Wilderness Area should be established.

About 10 miles east of Mount Rainier is an isolated group of rough ridges and clustered mountain peaks with sharp elevational contrasts, rugged beauty, and spectacular scenery. The main peaks are: Mount Aix, Bismark Peak, Rattlesnake Peaks, Timberwolf Mountain, and Ironstone Mountain. This area is located southeast of Bumping Lake.

The study team concurs in the Forest Service proposal to establish in this area a Wilderness unit of about 45,000 acres. The approximate boundaries are shown in figure 33.

Recommendation IV. The present boundaries of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area should be extended in three respects: (1) the northeast perimeter should be extended to the Stehekin River, (2) the Suiattle River corridor should be adjusted, and (3) the White Chuck River corridor should be adjusted.

The team agrees that it would be desirable to extend the boundary of the northeast perimeter of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area to the shore of Lake Chelan in the vicinity of Riddle Creek, thence along the general vicinity of the west shore of Lake Chelan and the west side of the Stehekin River to the vicinity of Cascade Pass, thence south along the Cascade Summit to the present boundary at Trapper Mountain.

It is also recommended that the Suiattle and White Chuck River corridors into the Wilderness area be reduced by adjusting the present boundary of the Wilderness as shown in figure 33. The revised boundary in the Suiattle corridor would run from the Suiattle River at the mouth of Milk Creek north a short distance, then generally parallel to the river to a point on Sulphur Creek about a half mile upstream from the Suiattle River, then north to Downey Mountain and then west to the present boundary at Green Mountain.

In the White Chuck River Valley, the change would move the Wilderness area boundary west about

2 miles to an irregular north-south line roughly coinciding with the mouth of Pumice Creek.

The three extensions in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area boundary would roughly add about 39,000 acres to the present Wilderness area.

Recommendation V. *An Okanogan Wilderness Area should be established.*

This area would consist of about 495,000 acres and follow approximately the boundaries of that portion of the North Cascade Primitive Area which lies east of Ross Lake. About a township on the extreme east end of the Primitive area would be eliminated.

NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK

Recommendation VI. *There should be established a North Cascades National Park extending from a few miles below the head of Lake Chelan, northwestward including the Eldorado Peaks area, Thunder Creek and Granite Creek drainages, Ross and Diablo Lakes, the Picket Range, and generally that part of the North Cascade Primitive Area lying west of Ross Lake, and Mount Shuksan. A condition of the recommendation is that adequate access be developed by road, trail, water, and air, including aerial tram and helicopter. A second condition is that the enabling legislation retain the status quo with respect to distribution of National Forest receipts between affected counties.*

This recommendation is not unanimous among the team. Representatives of the Department of Agriculture do not favor establishment of another National Park in the area. Representatives of the Department of the Interior favor a new National Park, but propose different boundaries and would include Mount Baker. The varying views of the team members are subsequently expressed.

The recommendation to establish a North Cascades National Park is conditioned upon development of adequate facilities and means of entry so that the large numbers of park visitors can have access to the spectacular and majestic mountain scenery, snow fields, glaciers, and other attractions of the North Cascades. Means of access must not be limited by the National Park Service to the traditional roads and trails. This area calls for more imaginative and creative treatment, utilizing helicopters, trams, perhaps funiculars and narrow-gage railroad. The recommendation is also conditioned upon noninterference with the needs of Seattle City Light on Ross and Diablo Lakes.

Enabling legislation should include provisions to maintain the status quo of the present proportionate distribution of National Forest receipts among affected counties.

The question of a National Park in the North Cascades has recurred for many years and is undoubtedly the most controversial of the issues involved. A park, or not a park, is the crux of the questions which have faced the study team.

Description of Area

There is no question as to the physical qualifications of the area for National Park status. This is not at

issue. The Eldorado Peaks area, the Picket Range, Mount Shuksan, the upper part of Lake Chelan, the Stehekin River, and Thunder and Granite Creek valleys are undisputed as to their uniqueness and scenic grandeur.

The recommended area is not the same as any previous National Park proposal. Yet, it is recommended by both the Forest Service and the National Park Service as primarily of value for recreation.

The recommended North Cascades National Park would encompass about 698,000 acres, of which 15,000 acres would be water surface, primarily Ross and Diablo Lakes and a portion of Lake Chelan. Of the total area, 658,000 acres, 94 percent, is already dedicated primarily to recreation: 314,000 acres are in the North Cascade Primitive Area, 329,000 acres in the Eldorado Peaks High Country, and 15,000 acres in Mount Baker Recreation Area (fig. 36).

The proposed National Park would be created from portions of the Mount Baker and Wenatchee National Forests. Eighty-two percent is presently part of the Mount Baker National Forest, and 18 percent is part of the Wenatchee National Forest. Sixty percent of the land is in Whatcom County, 22 percent in Skagit County, and 18 percent in Chelan County (fig. 36).

The specific area proposed is shown in figure 35. It is described in more detail as follows, but it should be made clear that the indicated boundaries and description are reasonable approximations and are not necessarily firm as to detail.

Start at the mouth of Riddle Creek on Lake Chelan. Thence northwestward along the west shore of Lake Chelan and following the Stehekin River drainage up to High Bridge Guard Station, thence on up the Stehekin River to Cascade Pass along the line of the proposed revised Glacier Peak Wilderness Area boundary, southward along the new Wilderness area boundary from Cascade Pass to Spider Mountain.

Thence, northwest along the Wilderness area boundary approximately to the South Fork of the Cascade River, northward about 2½ miles, then west 3 miles across the North Fork of the Cascade River, northward 3 miles along a line 1 mile west of Hidden Lake and Hidden Lake Peaks, continuing north across the head of Sibley Creek, thence west 4 miles down and across Marble Creek, north 2 miles and just west of Monogram Lake, thence following Teebone Ridge to Big Devil Peak, east 4 miles and thence north 6 miles to junction with the Skagit River east of the Gorge Dam, continuing north 1 mile.

Thence west to Mount Ross, continuing southwest to Trappers Peak, just south of Thornton Lakes to Damnation Peak, thence west to the headwaters of Bacon Creek, south along Falls Creek to Diobsud Buttes, thence northwest along Diobsud Creek to just east of Mount Watson, thence north about 9 miles to a point about 1½ miles northeast of Shuksan Lake, thence west to Shuksan Creek, thence north 5 miles across the west slope of Mount Shuksan.

Thence east 5 miles to the west boundary of the North Cascade Primitive Area; thence north $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the Canadian boundary, thence east to about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Ross Lake, thence south approximately 1 mile; thence easterly and southerly about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Hozomeen Creek and Hozomeen Lake; then east about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Lightning Creek; thence southerly and westerly about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east and south of Lightning Creek to a point about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Ross Lake.

Thence south along a line approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Ross Lake to Ruby Creek, east along the present boundary of the North Cascade Primitive Area to the junction of Mill Creek and Ruby Creek, thence south along the Majestic Mountain dividing Mill Creek and Boulder Creek to junction just west of Azurite Pass with the Okanogan and Skagit County line, thence southward following this line to its junction with the Chelan County line.

Thence generally southward following the Okanogan-Chelan County line, crossing Twisp Pass, McAlester Mountain, Reynolds Peak, Camels Hump, War Creek Pass to Splawn Mountain, then generally westward along the ridge between Fourmile Creek and Fish Creek, crossing Twin Peaks and westward to Lake Chelan and crossing the Lake to the point of beginning at Riddle Creek.

If suitable administrative facilities for the northwest portion of the National Park cannot be found within the proposed park boundary, a small additional area should be made available in the Nooksack Valley west of the proposed park boundary.

Over 99 percent of the land area is federally owned. There are small acreages of private lands at the lower end of the Stehekin River Valley. These should be acquired by the National Park Service. There are some privately owned lands, largely patented mining claims, at the head of Thunder Creek just north of Boston Glacier and other small areas in the vicinity of Cascade Pass.

Diablo and Ross Dams would be within the recommended park. The Gorge Dam and powerhouse are outside the area. Any bill to create a National Park should permit the continued operations of the Seattle City Light on the main stem of the Skagit River within the park boundaries, including Ross and Diablo Lakes.

Resources

In considering the National Park proposal, it is essential to understand what resources would be included within the park.

The proposed park area of 698,000 acres has been classified by both the Forest Service and the National Park Service according to the recreation management classes recommended by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (fig. 37). Although the agencies differ somewhat in their application of these criteria, there is general agreement upon classification of 25-30 percent of the proposed park as unique natural areas, 30-45 percent as Primitive areas, and 30-40 percent as natural environment areas.

The classifications by the two agencies are shown graphically in figures 38 and 39.

A further classification of the resources has been made according to the Forest Service high mountain



Pasayten Valley in the proposed Okanogan Wilderness (NPS-686).

policy statement. This shows that in addition to the 314,000 acres now in the North Cascade Primitive Area, some 327,000 acres are classified either in the landscape management areas under all four associations, or in the residual portion of the Alpine association. This leaves only 42,000 acres not subject to the special type of management applied by the Forest Service to Alpine and to landscape management areas. The classification of the proposed park according to the resource management associations of the Forest Service appears in figure 40.

The significance of this is that 92 percent of the proposed park area is already classified by the Forest Service as having primary recreation, soil and watershed values (fig. 37).

Of the 683,000 acres of land in the proposed park, only 3 percent, or 19,000 acres, is commercial timberland now available that would be reserved. Some 6,000 additional acres of commercial forest land is included in that portion of the North Cascade Primitive Area which would be made part of the park. This is already reserved (figs. 37 and 41).

The available commercial forest land consists of narrow stringers located primarily in three localities: along Granite Creek, Thunder Creek, and the Stehekin River. The reserved commercial forest land is in small parcels bordering Ross Lake and near the Canadian line along the Chilliwack River.

If the average stand per acre of currently available commercial forest land is estimated at about 19,000 board feet per acre, this means that about 355 million board feet would be included in the park that would otherwise be available. This is less than half of 1 percent of the total sawtimber volume available in the Study Area.¹

Two-thirds of the recommended park, 475,000 acres, is noncommercial forest land and about 28 percent is nonforest, meaning grasslands, Alpine meadows, bare rock and snow and ice fields (figs. 37 and 41). The large acreage of noncommercial forest is so classed due to steep slopes, fragile soils, poor quality, or inaccessibility.

A very few—less than 10—small timber sales have been made in the Stehekin River drainage by the Forest Service, but these have either been completed or are inactive at the present. No additional sales are planned. No timber sales are planned in Thunder Creek, Granite Creek or Panther Creek through fiscal year 1967. There are no other timber sale plans in the area.

All of the available commercial timberland in the proposed park falls within the landscape management classification of the Forest Service and in the Eldorado Peaks High Country area wherein, according to the Forest Service, only such timber removal would be performed "as public interest and the resource importance of the area clearly justifies by selective cutting methods except as other systems of cutting may be required for mining, for road construction, for salvaging diseased, insect-infested, or dying timber, or for other authorized activities, such as water impoundments and rights-of-way."

The proposed National Park would include seven grazing allotments and parts of two others. However, all of these allotments are closed except part of the Stehekin River Cattle Allotment. About 14,000 acres of this one allotment are in the proposed park. The closed or vacant allotments total about 45,000 acres (fig. 42).

With respect to potential reservoir sites, the most significant one in the proposed park is the Thunder Creek dam and power site. This dam, if constructed by Seattle City Light, would inundate about 1,500 acres, most of which is commercial timberland. The Copper Creek proposal of the same company is well outside the proposed park and above the recommended Wild River segment of the Skagit. A proposal to raise the height of Ross Dam by 125 feet would inundate a substantial additional acreage but would not significantly affect in an adverse manner the National Park proposal if drawdowns are minimized or controlled. Existing and potential reservoir development projects within the park are shown in figure 43.

There is no real way to assess the mineral potential in the proposed National Park. It is known that there are a large number of mining claims, both within the North Cascade Primitive Area portion and the southeastern portion in the Cascade Pass-Stehekin River-Ruby Creek area. Many of the claims are very old and have never been active.

Fishing would not be affected because fishing, habitat development, and stocking are allowed in a National Park.

The proposed park includes substantial areas of deer and elk winter range along the shores of Ross and Diablo Lakes and up Thunder Creek. There is also a substantial acreage of deer and elk winter range in the area between Mount Redoubt and Whatcom Peak in the North Cascade Primitive Area.

The area proposed for a park is mountain goat range. There is no question but that hunting of deer, elk, and mountain goats would be adversely affected. Figure 44, based on the study team's fish and wildlife resources report indicates, however, that there are no major hunting areas within the proposed park.

Of the 285,000 Washington State big game hunters, about 25 percent, or 70,000–75,000, hunt in the total Study Area. Eighty percent of these are deer hunters. Perhaps 500 to 600 are goat hunters.

There is no known way of estimating what proportion of the hunters who use the Study Area would cease to hunt because of establishment of the park. The probable effect would be to increase the hunting load in the remainder of the Study Area, rather than to reduce the number of hunters. Since the number of big game is greater than the supply of summer feed, the effect might be to accelerate the over-utilization of summer feed by big game in the proposed National Park and thus create feed supply problems similar to those which have occurred in some other National Parks.

The relationship of some significant features of the proposed National Park to the total Study Area

is shown statistically and by chart in figure 45.

The park would include about 11 percent of the Study Area, but less than 1 percent of the available forest land and less than 1 percent of the available sawtimber. It would include about one-fourth of the areas presently dedicated to recreation and very significant proportions of the unique natural and primitive areas found in the Study Area.

Agency Plans for the Area

Neither the Forest Service nor the National Park Service has specific plans applying precisely to the area recommended for inclusion in a National Park because the proposal is not one that has been previously advanced. However, both agencies do have plans that apply to some extent.

Forest Service

About 314,000 acres of the recommended park are

in what is presently the North Cascade Primitive Area. Under Forest Service plans, this portion would continue to be administered by the Forest Service as Wilderness area in accordance with provisions of the Wilderness Act. A detailed discussion of this area concerning its natural resource features, its timber and cover types, its recreation use, grazing, mineral and wildlife resources, and proposed boundary adjustments appears in a "Report on Proposed North Cascades Wilderness Area of February 6, 1962," prepared for administrative use only by the Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service.

About 329,000 acres is included in what the Forest Service would define as the Eldorado Peaks High Country. This area plus roads, trail, and development facilities is shown in figure 30. Forest Service plans for the administration of the area are described in some detail in Appendix B, including statistics on highways, trails, recreation, fish and wildlife, timber, forage and water power.



Delta Lake (foreground), Otter, Angeline and Heart Lakes (from left to right in middle background) and Chetwoot Lake (background) in the proposed Alpine Lakes Wilderness (NPS-4214-668A).

National Park Service

The National Park Service recommends a Mount Baker National Park which is quite different from the recommendation contained herein for a North Cascades National Park. Preliminary plans for visitor access include roads, helicopter areas, trams, boats, trails, visitor centers, lodges, and major campgrounds. These plans are shown diagrammatically in figure 46.

One of the conditions prerequisite to recommending a North Cascades National Park is that adequate access and use facilities be developed by the National Park Service in the area. This is intended to include that portion of the proposed park which is now within the North Cascade Primitive Area. Figure 46 does not adequately reflect this concept. The National Park Service development plans for the park should contemplate better access into the northern part of the park.

Major Considerations in Recommending a National Park

A great many factors were considered in arriving at the conclusion to recommend a National Park. Among these were the physical characteristics of the area, the need for making the area available to significant numbers of people, the minimal adverse impact on resources such as timber, the economic benefits that would accrue from the establishment of a Park, the value of a National Park name, and the relationship of the park proposal to the other recommendations.

The sum total of the recommendations needs to be evaluated as a package rather than simply as a question of having a National Park or not. The recommendations are interrelated and interdependent.

Insofar as physical features are concerned, the question of whether the North Cascades area meets National Park criteria is not debatable. The area obviously includes the unique physical, natural or geological features necessary to qualify for National Park status. More than this, the proposed park would become one of the outstanding units of the whole National Park System because of its superlative mountain features.

One of the key considerations was that the recommendation for a park be conditioned upon its being developed for mass recreation use and that adequate access be provided by road, trail, water and air. The North Cross-State Highway under construction will provide main access from both east and west. Lake Chelan will provide a unique avenue of access. Ross and Diablo Lakes will provide unique access to certain portions of the Park. Side roads are contemplated where feasible. A scenic road is recommended down the east side of Ross Lake to provide major highway access from Canada.

One of the most significant justifications for a National Park is that under Forest Service management about one-half of the area would be in Wilderness status where now only about 1,000-2,000 people visit per year. Under the National Park proposal, this area would be made available to large numbers of people who either do not wish, are unable, do not have the time, or cannot afford wilderness-type travel.

The volume of wilderness area use in the Study Area indicates that despite the very large area devoted to Wilderness, relatively few people make use of these areas.

It is also important to bear in mind that additional Wilderness areas are proposed, such as the Alpine Lakes, Enchantment, Mount Aix, and some expansion of the Glacier Peak Wilderness. It is felt that there will be sufficient area dedicated to Wilderness in the North Cascades and that it is more important to dedicate the superlative and unique character of this area for National Park use and development, rather than to place more lands into the Wilderness category.

The establishment of a park would have little or no adverse effect on the utilization of timber, grazing of domestic livestock, or fishing. There is very little commercial timber in the area and it is not being operated at present.

There is no significant mineral development in the proposed park area.

With respect to water and power, it is recommended that the park be established in such a way that it will not interfere with the development of the water and power potential of the affected portion of the main stem of the Skagit River.

The question of a Thunder Creek dam and reservoir should be determined by the Congress either at the time the park is created or at a later time when and if the project becomes imminent.

The creation of a National Park by act of Congress not only would give the area statutory protection for park purposes but also could, if the Congress so wished, provide status quo with respect to distribution of National Forest receipts among counties, assure that modern means of aerial access would be utilized by the Park Service to get people into the area for day or weekend trips, and protect foreseeable needs for water and power development.

The Forest Service could continue its administration of the area as it has in the past and in accord with its plans for the future. However, under Forest Service administration, there would not be the statutory assurance that there would be under creation of a park by the Congress.

Likewise, under Forest Service administration, much of the area is planned for continued Wilderness area use and would be inaccessible to most people.

Both the Forest Service and the National Park Service are competent, highly respected, and dedicated agencies. Despite the great advances made by the Forest Service in recent years in recreation matters, the National Park Service properly is recognized as the agency which should administer and develop the extraordinary, unique and outstanding National Park-type areas of the Nation.

With the establishment of the proposed National Park, the area would be transferred to the administration of the National Park Service. This loss of jurisdiction by the Forest Service should not be a controlling factor in Forest Service evaluation of the recommendation. However, the study team recognizes that jurisdictional questions may be a controlling factor in influencing agency position. Despite possible juris-

dictional feelings because both agencies are aggressive and jealous of the areas under their control the fact remains that there would still be a Mount Baker National Forest of 1,255,000 acres even with the creation of a National Park. Likewise, there would still be a Wenatchee National Forest of 1,607,000 acres.

In summation, it would appear that the major factors favoring establishment of a North Cascades National Park are the statutory assurance of protection and continuity of the Park if created by Congress, the obvious natural characteristics of the area for a National Park, the economic benefits that could be expected from increased tourism to the area, the opening of much of the area to mass recreation use rather than continued dedication of nearly half of it for Wilderness area use, the economic advantages that would accrue to the area through its having the benefit of National Park stature, and the fact that all of this can be done without adversely affecting tax rolls, utilization of timber, or other natural resources of the area.

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

Recommendation VII. *The southern boundary of Mount Rainier National Park should be extended to include about 11 sections of National Forest land in the vicinity of Tatoosh Ridge.*

This proposed extension has been agreed to by both the Forest Service and the National Park Service. It is described as follows:

Starting at the junction of the Tatoosh Mountain Range and the National Park boundary in the north-west quarter of Section 4, T. 14 N., R. 9 E., and continue in a southeasterly direction following the crest of the Tatoosh Range to the north quarter corner of Section 22, T. 14 N., R. 9 E., from which point continue east along the section line on the north side of Sections 22, 23, and 24 to the northeast corner of Section 24, T. 14 N., R. 9 E.; from that point continue $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north along the section line to the west quarter corner of Section 18, T. 14 N., R. 10 E., from which point continue due east across Ohanapecosh River to State Highway No. 14, in the eastern portion of Section 19, T. 14 N., R. 10 E.; from which point continue in a northerly direction along the western edge of the right-of-way for State Highway No. 14, to the existing National Park boundary in the eastern portion of Section 8, T. 14 N., R. 10 E.

The Study Team concurs in this recommendation of the two agencies.

Recommendation VIII. *There should be effective coordination and management between Mount Rainier National Park and surrounding National Forest lands executed through inter-bureau arrangements or cooperative agreements.*

A start has been made in this direction. The superintendent of the Mount Rainier National Park and the concerned National Forest supervisors have collaborated in initiating coordinated planning to care effectively for the large number of expected visitors to the National Park. National Forest lands and facilities bordering the park will need to be used in a manner that is coordinated with park administration. The study team commends the "Coordinated

Planning Report for Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie and Gifford Pinchot National Forests, January, 1965" that the two agencies have initiated and recommends that this be continued and made an effective management instrument by both agencies. Master planning for the National Park should be carried forward aggressively.

The two agencies have a common management problem in their need to not destroy the fragile wilderness conditions of certain areas under their administration while at the same time making these areas available for the use and enjoyment of people. These problems involve the natural fragility of Wilderness areas, problems of sanitation, abuse of terrain, and utilization of pack stock. The two agencies should coordinate their expertise in the management of Wilderness areas.

OTHER RECREATION AREAS

Recommendation IX. *Mount Baker and most of the surrounding Recreation Area should continue to be administered by the Forest Service and managed in accord with its plans for the area as described in Appendix B.*

An all-year highway leads to Heather Meadows by way of the Nooksack River from Bellingham. Trails lead from the end of the road to Mount Baker on the west and Mount Shuksan on the east. A recreation way is proposed from Heather Meadows across Austin Pass and south to connect with the present road at Baker Lake. This will provide an outstanding scenic loop year long. Heather Meadows is developed for summer and winter use and receives about 100,000 visitors for winter sports alone each year. Two new chair lifts for the ski slopes are contemplated. A new lodge is in the planning stage. Mount Baker and the Heather Meadows area should not be included in a National Park.

Recommendation X. *The Cougar Lake and Monte Cristo Peak Limited Areas should be declassified as such and administered by the Forest Service in accord with its normal multiple-use management policies.*

The Cougar Lake Limited Area is close to the eastern boundary of Mount Rainier National Park. It is a prospective location for campgrounds and other developed recreation facilities and could take some of the pressure off Mount Rainier National Park. The area should be managed primarily for recreation use in coordination with the needs of Mount Rainier National Park. It is not recommended that it be classified under the Wilderness Act.

A substantial acreage and volume of commercially valuable National Forest timber will be transferred from the reserved to the available category by declassifying the Cougar Lake area.

Recommendation XI. *The Eldorado Peaks High Country should continue to be developed by the Forest Service for recreation pending establishment of the North Cascades National Park.*

The recommended park would include a substantial portion of the Eldorado Peaks High Country. The recreation potential, opportunities, and needs in



High plateau in proposed Enchantment Wilderness (NPS-4214-524).

the area are such that it would be unwise for the Forest Service to cease development of the area as contemplated pending Congressional decision on establishment of the recommended park.

Recommendation XII. *The Forest Service and the National Park Service, in anticipation of increased recreational load in the Study Area for camping, picnicking, driving for pleasure, winter sports and other normal outdoor recreation pursuits, should aggressively pursue their respective plans to provide needed facilities to accommodate the prospective demand as foreseen for the next 20 years.*

SCENIC ROADS AND TRAILS

Recommendation XIII. *Because of the relative inaccessibility of the Study Area, the great popularity of driving for pleasure as a recreation pursuit, and the importance of making much more of the North Cascades available to large numbers of people, high priority should be given to the construction of an adequate system of scenic roads.*

The study team was supplied with the independent recommendations of the Forest Service, National Park Service, and the State of Washington. The latter was in connection with a report on a national system of scenic roads or parkways being prepared for the Recreation Advisory Council under the leadership of the Department of Commerce.

The National Park Service recommendations included those of the Forest Service, plus numerous others. The State of Washington overlapped many

of the Federal proposals and also included some that were not made by either Federal agency.

There is considerable mileage of low-class roads in the area, much of which has been constructed either by the Forest Service or by timber contractors for log hauling purposes. These roads need improvements in the way of surfacing and/or turnouts to make them suitable for scenic use. The total mileage of forest highways and forest development roads is 5,500.

Figure 34 shows a proposed scenic road network largely as contemplated by the National Park Service. It distinguishes between (1) existing roads, (2) roads where improvements are recommended to make them meet scenic road standards, (3) roads under construction, and (4) potential new roads. The map also shows roads recommended by the Forest Service and additional roads proposed by the State of Washington, and a recommended road down Ross Lake from Canada.

The Forest Service gives the highest priority to routes through Curry Gap, Cady Pass, Harts Pass, and Austin Pass.

The Curry Gap road would extend from the Stevens Pass highway up the Beckler River, over Curry Gap and down the Sauk River to Darrington. It would rise through timber, sub-Alpine and Alpine-type terrain and provide magnificent vistas of mountain scenery.

The Cady Pass route would start at Curry Gap Recreation Way, climb to the Cascade Summit at Cady Pass, and down the Little Wenatchee River to U.S. Highway 2 near Lake Wenatchee.

The Harts Pass route would leave the North Cross-State Highway near Ross Lake, climb through timber and Alpine terrain to the Harts Pass crest, and then go down the east slope to the Methow River near Washington State Highway No. 20, formerly No. 16.

The Austin Pass route would tunnel from Heather Meadows under Austin Pass and down Baker River to tie with the present road system at Baker Lake.

The team gave special attention to the advisability of a north-south highway along the crest of the North Cascades. It was persuaded that such a road would be undesirable because of the land scarring, erosion, severe weather conditions and terrific costs. It was concluded also that a cut-off route from the Cascade River up to the crest of the Hidden Lake Peaks along Boston Peak, and connecting with the North Cross-State Highway at the upper end of Granite Creek would likewise be unfeasible.

Consideration should be given to the desirability and practicality of road access from Canada down the east side of Ross Lake, connecting the North Cross-State Highway to Highway No. 3 in British Columbia. Highway 3 in turn joins Highway No. 1 at Hope on the Fraser River. There is already a private logging road in British Columbia down the Skagit River to the north end of Ross Lake. Such a route connection would provide easy access to the North Cascades National Park from Vancouver and also from Banff and Jasper National Parks in British Columbia.

In summation, there appear to be reasonable possibilities of a scenic road network of about 920 miles in the Study Area of which, over two-thirds are existing roads and the remainder need either improvements or construction (fig. 47). The development of an adequate scenic road network is one of the highest priority proposals of the study team.

There are two waterway access routes to the North Cascades that are unique and deserving of special mention. One is by boat or float plane from Chelan on the east side, up the length of 55-mile long Lake Chelan into the heart of the area. The other is from existing Highway 20, formerly No. 17 to Diablo Lake and north through Diablo and Ross Lakes about 25 miles to the Canadian line.

Recommendation XIV. An adequate recreation trail system is needed in the North Cascades. The Cascade Crest Trail in particular should be adequately developed, maintained and equipped with signs.

Within the Study Area, there are 5,500 miles of trails in the Forest Service Transportation System, 40 percent of which is currently considered inadequate. In addition, there are more than 300 miles of trails in Mount Rainier National Park.

A great many miles of Forest Service trails were constructed initially for fire protection and suppression, or other administrative purposes. Most of these trails, however, have recreational value. The Forest Service goal is to make needed improvements for recreational purposes on 2,275 miles of trails and to construct 430 additional miles.

Within the Study Area, there are 341 miles of the Cascades Crest Trail. The Forest Service and National Park Service propose different locations for the Cascade Crest Trail from Harts Pass to the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The Park Service proposal is shown in figure 34. The Forest Service proposal is shown in figure 30.

Trails are closed to motorized traffic in National Parks, Wilderness, and Primitive areas. Outside these areas, the use of motorscooters on trails is a matter of administrative discretion and the study team believes properly so.



Upper end of Lake Chelan in proposed North Cascades National Park (NPS-5307-4).

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Recommendation XV. *With respect to timber management, the Forest Service should: (a) systematically apply the policy directives and guidelines described in "Management Objectives and Policies for the High Mountain Areas of National Forests of the Pacific Northwest Region"; (b) keep clear-cut blocks as small as practicable; (c) in or near areas proposed for special attention to recreation, use clear-cutting only where other silvicultural systems clearly are not feasible; (d) assure prompt regeneration by planting if adequate natural regeneration does not occur promptly; (e) artificially revegetate road banks and other areas where there are similar disturbances in order to minimize impacts on landscape and soil erosion following timber harvesting operations; (f) provide adequate scenic strips and roadside improvements consistent with landscape management principles; (g) in areas recommended for Wilderness classification or National Park status, timber harvesting should not be permitted for a period of 5 years to provide time for congressional consideration and action on the recommendations, except necessary tree cutting operations of the Seattle City Light and Power Co. should be permitted, as should essential insect or disease protection cuttings; (h) continue to carry on research on both the silviculture and economics of Douglas-fir, including the practicality of methods of harvesting and regeneration other than clear-cutting; and (i) in the design and construction of timber management roads, give appropriate consideration to the needs of other multiple resources of the National Forests.*

The recommendations speak largely for themselves. In some instances they are an endorsement of existing Forest Service policy. The study team was favorably impressed with and endorses the Forest Service high mountain policy. That agency has been criticized both for not moving aggressively enough in applying the policy, and for moving too fast. The team felt that the policy should be firmly applied.

There is considerable nonstocked or partially-stocked acreage of cut-over timberlands and it was felt that steps should be taken to assure regeneration promptly following cutting.

Block cutting in the principal forest association has tended in the past to be unduly large. Smaller blocks would lessen the adverse effects of this type of silviculture.

Effective research has been carried on by the Forest Service for many years in both Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types. The application of the high mountain policy and the equality of resources as provided in the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act both indicate the need for continued economic and silvicultural research in these forest types.

The team did not feel that the Forest Service was primarily oriented toward timber harvesting nor that the management and utilization of other multiple resources of the National Forests were secondary considerations. This may have been true in the past, but there has been a major reorientation, adjustment, and modernization of Forest Service thinking and policy within the past decade, particularly since enactment

of the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act. The large acreages of land dedicated by the Forest Service to Wilderness, limited, or primitive status is one indication of its awareness of the recreation and aesthetic values of the North Cascades.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation XVI. *Certain portions of the Skagit River and its tributaries within the Study Area should be given Wild River status in accord with the provisions of S. 1446, 89th Congress. Pending such status, the National Forest lands adjacent to designated portions should be managed in accord with the Wild River concept.*

This would include the Skagit River upstream from the Mount Baker National Forest boundary to its junction with Copper Creek; the Cascade River upstream from the National Forest boundary to its junction with its north and south forks and up the South Fork to the boundary of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area; the Suiattle River upstream from the National Forest boundary to the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area boundary at Milk Creek; the Sauk River upstream from the National Forest boundary to its junction with Elliott Creek, and the North Fork of the Sauk River from its junction with the South Fork of the Sauk to the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area boundary.

These river stretches total about 60 miles and are only a small portion of the total length of the Skagit River recommended for examination for Wild River status outside the Study Area. In general, the river shore and not more than a quarter of a mile back from the shore on each side should be managed by the Forest Service as a Wild River.

Recommendation XVII. *The Secretary of Agriculture should support the intervention of the Secretary of the Interior of July 22, 1965, with respect to Federal Power Commission project No. 2151 relating to the Wenatchee River. The Secretary of the Interior should seek the views of the Secretary of Agriculture and should carefully assess the recreation impacts, both favorable and unfavorable, before acting on the proposed replacement dam on Bumping River below the existing Bumping Lake Reservoir.*

The Federal Power Commission project application offers a plan for improvement and utilization of water, power, and development of the Wenatchee River. The proposed development by Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County should consider the fish, wildlife, and recreational resources as well as utilization of water and power. The study team feels that the plan of development of the Wenatchee River and its tributaries proposed by the applicant should be adapted to a comprehensive plan of development of the Wenatchee River and its upstream tributaries within the Study Area as a headwaters subbasin of the Columbia River basin.

The proposed Bumping Lake project is an enlargement and replacement of the existing Bumping Lake Reservoir on Bumping River. The new structure would be a few miles downstream from the existing reservoir and would have a storage capacity of

458,000 acre-feet, compared to the present capacity of 33,000. Surface acreage would increase from 1,400 to 4,100. The recreation effect of such construction would be to push high density recreation lands around the reservoir into an area that is now classed as natural environment lands. This might not be consequential, but should have careful consideration before the Departments of Agriculture and Interior take a position on this matter.

Recommendation XVIII. *The enactment of legislation to create a North Cascades National Park should include provisions that would protect the present installations and plans of the Seattle City Light on the main stem of the Skagit River.*

Recommendation XIX. *The Forest Service should continue to work with cities having closed municipal*

watersheds in order to develop satisfactory plans and procedures by which these watershed areas can be made available to help meet the expanding future recreational needs of the Study Area.

Recommendation XX. *The State of Washington and concerned Federal agencies should take all reasonable measures to protect and manage the fisheries resource, to improve habitat, and to increase levels of fishing use.*

Recommendation XXI. *The State of Washington and concerned Federal agencies should intensify wildlife, wildlife habitat, and range management with a view to increasing available forage supplies and bringing the numbers of big game and livestock into balance with the grazing capacity that can be sustained.*

Figure 22 Outdoor recreation resources of the North Cascades Study Area as separately classified by the National Park Service and the Forest Service according to management classes recommended by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission.

ORRRC management classes	Area classified by National Park Service		Area classified by Forest Service	
	Thousand acres	Percent	Thousand acres	Percent
Class I High-density recreation areas	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Class II General outdoor recreation areas	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Class III Natural environment areas	2,140	30.3	5,216	73.8
Class IV Unique natural areas	606	8.6	367	5.2
Class V Primitive areas	1,637	23.1	1,176	16.6
Class VI Historic and cultural sites	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Unclassified	2,617	37.0	241(2)	3.4
Total gross area of the Study Area	7,071	100.0	7,071	100.0

(1) Presumably, Classes I, II, and VI combined would amount to 71,000 acres, or one percent of the gross acreage of the Study Area.

(2) Mount Rainier National Park not classified.



Figure 48 Net difference within the North Cascades Study Area between existing and proposed areas managed wholly or primarily for recreation, by total area, sawtimber volume and area of available commercial forest land, by kind of area.

	Total area		
	Existing	Proposed	Net change (1)
	Thousand acres	Thousand acres	Thousand acres
Mt. Rainier National Park	241.6	248.7	+ 7.1
North Cascades National Park	.....	698.0	+698.0
North Cascade Primitive Area (5)	801.0	.....	-801.0
Okanogan Wilderness Area	.....	494.6	+494.6
Glacier Peak Wilderness Area	458.1	497.4	+ 39.3
Eldorado Peaks High Country	537.6	.....	-537.6
Alpine Lakes Limited Area (5)	256.0	.....	-256.0
Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area	.....	150.0	+150.0
Cougar Lake Limited Area (5)	90.0	.....	- 90.0
Monte Cristo Peak Limited Area	11.5	.....	- 11.5
Enchantment Wilderness Area	.....	30.0	+ 30.0
Mt. Aix Wilderness Area	.....	45.0	+ 45.0
Skagit Wild River	.....	19.2	+ 19.2
Mt. Baker Recreation Area	74.9	59.9	- 15.0
Mather Memorial Parkway	24.3	24.3	0
All dedicated areas	2,495.0	2,267.1	-227.9

(1) If the proposed area is larger than the existing one, the change is preceded by a plus symbol, if smaller, a minus symbol is used. (2) Except as noted in footnote (4), the acreage in this column is now closed to commercial timber cutting, but if the proposed areas were established this acreage would become available for commercial timber cutting. (3) Based on an

estimated average stand per acre for a general broad area. (4) This is the volume of sawtimber on the area described in footnote (2). (5) Name to be eliminated and the area to be included in other proposals. (6) Commercial timber area and sawtimber volume now available for commercial timber cutting which will remain available: Eldorado Peaks High Country,

Available commercial forest land

Estimated sawtimber volume on available commercial forest land (3)

Proposed			Proposed			
Existing	Net additional area to be withdrawn	Net area to be made available (2)	Existing	Net volume on area to be withdrawn	Net volume on area to be made available (4)	
Thousand acres	Thousand acres	Thousand acres	Million bd. ft.	Million bd. ft.	Million bd. ft.	
0	5.1	0	0	189	0	Mt. Rainier National Park
.....	19.0	0	.....	355	0	North Cascades National Park
0	.....	12.0	0	.....	96	North Cascade Primitive Area (5)
.....	19.0	0	.....	152	0	Okanogan Wilderness Area
0	6.9	0	0	207	0	Glacier Peak Wilderness Area
62.7	.....	(6)	1,172	.....	(6)	Eldorado Peaks High Country
0	.....	54.3	0	.....	1,357	Alpine Lakes Limited Area (5)
.....	3.1	0	.....	77	0	Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area
0	.....	68.5	0	.....	1,575	Cougar Lake Limited Area (5)
0	.....	0	0	.....	0	Monte Cristo Peak Limited Area
.....	0	0	.....	0	0	Enchantment Wilderness Area
.....	25.6	0	.....	578	0	Mt. Aix Wilderness Area
.....	0	0	.....	0	0	Skagit Wild River
2.9	0	(6)	54	0	(6)	Mt. Baker Recreation Area
18.3	0	(6)	421	0	(6)	Mather Memorial Parkway
83.9	78.7	134.8	1,647	1,558	3,028	All dedicated areas

41,000 acres with 767 million bd. ft.; Mt. Baker Recreation Area, 2,900 acres with 54 million bd. ft.; and Mather Memorial Parkway, 18,300 acres with 421 million bd. ft.; totalling 62,200 acres with 1,242 million bd. ft.

F-48

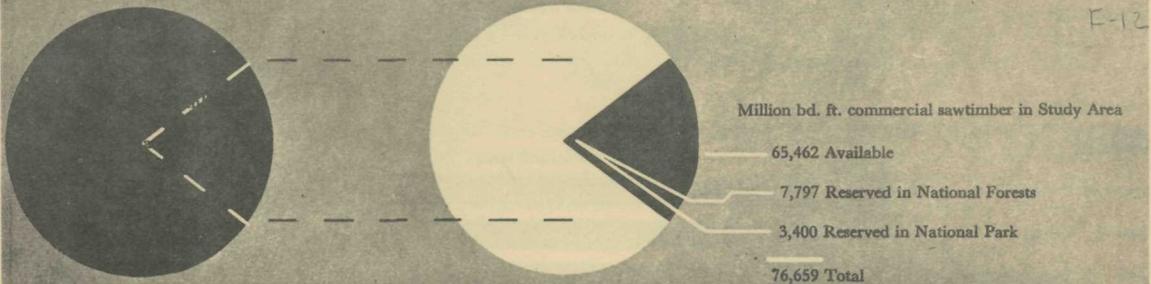
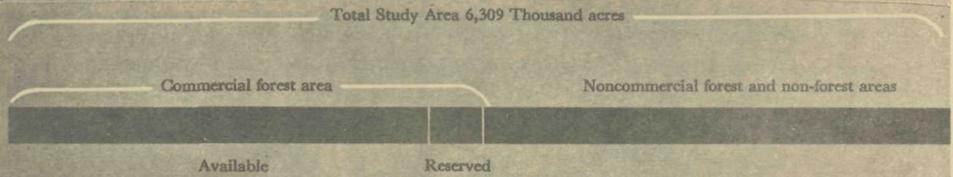
Figure 12 Forest land area and other land area in Federal ownership in the North Cascades Study Area, by commercial forest land area and sawtimber volume, and other land area, by area open or closed to commercial timber cutting.

	Commercial forest area				Noncommercial forest and non-forest areas		All areas	
	Area Thousand acres	Percent	Sawtimber volume Million bd. ft.	Percent	Thousand acres	Percent	Thousand acres	Percent
Area open to commercial timber cutting: (1) National Forests	2,858 (2)	89	65,462	85	1,585	51	4,443	70
Area closed to commercial timber cutting: (3) National Forests	250	8	7,797	10	1,375	45	1,625	26
Mount Rainier National Park	106	3	3,400	5	135	4	241	4
Total	356	11	11,197	15	1,510	49	1,866	30
All Federal land areas	3,214	100	76,659	100	3,095	100	6,309	100

(1) Referred to in the text as available commercial forest area.

(2) Of this area, approximately 272,000 acres or about 10 percent has been cutover during the 10-year period 1954 through 1963.

(3) Referred to in the text as reserved commercial forest area.



Upper Baker River in proposed North Cascades National Park (NPS-1036).



Lease Creek headwaters with Osceola Peak, Mt. Carru and Mt. Lago in the background in proposed Okanogan Wilderness (FS-483874).

Figure 37 Area of proposed North Cascades National Park, by ORRRC outdoor recreation resource management classes, Forest Service Landscape

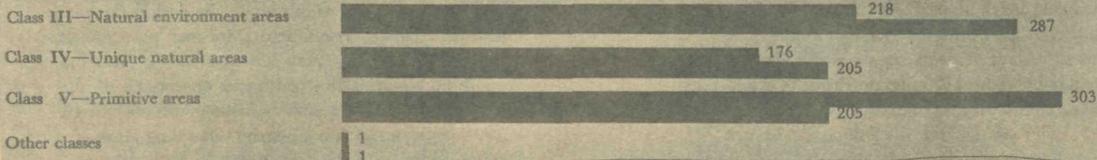
ORRRC outdoor recreation resource class	Area classified by			
	National Park Service		Forest Service	
	Thousand acres	Percent	Thousand acres	Percent
Class III—Natural environment areas	218	31	287	42
Class IV—Unique natural areas	176	25	205	29
Class V—Primitive areas	303	44	205	29
Other classes	1	(1)	1	(1)
Total	698	100	698	100

(1) Less than 0.05 percent.

Area classified by:

National Park Service
 Forest Service

Thousand acres



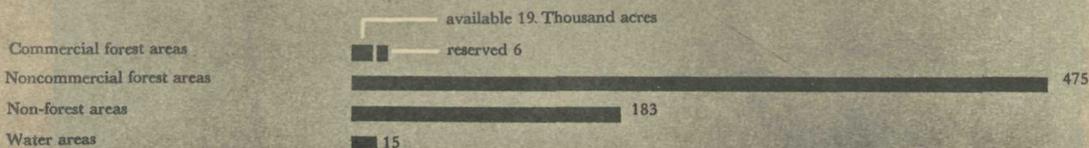
Management classes, and forest and non-forest areas.

Forest Service Primitive, Landscape Management, and other areas

	Thousand acres	Percent
North Cascade Primitive Area	314	45
Landscape Management Areas and Alpine Resource Association	327	47
Other land areas	42	6
Water area	15	2
Total	698	100

Forest and non-forest areas

	Thousand acres	Percent
Commercial forest land areas:		
Area open to commercial timber cutting	19	3
Area closed to commercial timber cutting	6	1
All commercial forest land areas	25	4
Noncommercial forest land areas	475	68
Non-forest land areas	183	26
Water area	15	2
All areas	698	100





UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

September 27, 1965

Mr. Edward C. Crafts
Chairman, North Cascades Study Team
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I find myself in disagreement with some of the recommendations made in the North Cascades Study Team Report, and I should like to have my views included in the Report at the proper point.

My disagreement relates to Recommendations III, IV, VI, and XIII, which recommend, respectively, the establishment of a Mt. Aix Wilderness Area, extension of the boundaries of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, establishment of a North Cascades National Park, and construction of a road south from the Canadian boundary along the east side of Lake Ross.

The Mt. Aix Wilderness Area

The Forest Service proposes to eliminate the existing Cougar Lakes Limited Area, to return the bulk of it to multiple use management, and to recommend to Congress the establishment of a wilderness area of about 45,000 acres surrounding Mt. Aix and to be named the Mt. Aix Wilderness Area. Report of the Study Team in Recommendation III concurs in the Forest Service proposal.

I have not had an opportunity to see the Cougar Lakes area, but I have read descriptions of it that indicate that it has superlative scenic qualities. The Park Service classified a considerable part of the area west of Bumping Lake as Class IV or a unique natural area. A guide testified in the public hearings in Seattle in October 1963 that in his opinion the Cougar Lakes Country was one of the most beautiful regions in the North Cascades. And several outdoor clubs have drawn attention to the importance of preserving the area as wilderness.

All this suggests strongly to me that it is unwise for the Study Team Report to concur in the Forest Service proposal to return all but the Mt. Aix area of the present Cougar Lakes Limited Area to multiple use management, which can and probably will include the construction of roads and logging in a good deal of the area west of Bumping Lake.

The Forest Service describes the proposed Mt. Aix Wilderness Area as "an isolated group of rough ridges and clustered mountain peaks . . . with grand scenery on a small scale. . . . The area is isolated and relatively arid. Access is comparatively difficult. Only a person with a real desire for solitude will be attracted to go into this area."

The Forest Service omits any description of the area in the more immediate vicinity of Cougar Lakes; but my understanding of this area is that it is quite different in character—less rugged, easier to get into, more beautiful, and generally much more attractive than the Mt. Aix area. It also appears to contain commercial timber.

In the last three sentences of its description of the proposed Mt. Aix Wilderness Area, the Forest Service seems to me to be saying, in effect, that it is alright to put Mt. Aix and its immediately surrounding area in wilderness status since it is the kind of country that only some eccentric in superb physical condition would go into. It is good for nothing else, the Forest Service seems to say, so let's put it in wilderness.

Perhaps I am unfair to the Forest Service, but I do think it important that our wilderness system include some areas of superlative beauty that are relatively easy of access and relatively easy to travel and live in. I suspect, although I cannot be sure as a result of my own observation, that the area around Cougar Lakes is of this kind; and I believe that the Forest Service should re-examine its decision to return the area to multiple use and should recommend the bulk of it, particularly that generally west of Bumping Lake, for wilderness status. I believe that this could be done and still leave a strip along the eastern boundary of Mt. Rainier National Park that the Park Service, in cooperation with the Forest Service, could use to give the Park some needed elbow-room.

Extensions of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area

I am in agreement with the recommendation of the Report that the boundaries of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area be extended and that the Suiattle and White Chuck corridors be reduced. My disagreement comes with respect to the amount of reduction that is recommended for these west-side corridors.

I believe that there is no disagreement by anyone that the magnificent old-growth douglas firs in these corridors provide the most impressive kind of entrance to the Wilderness Area that is conceivable.

I commend the Forest Service for volunteering to recommend extension of the Wilderness Area to include more of these beautiful trees, but I believe that an even greater extension is in the public interest. In my view, the corridors should be eliminated completely.

I am aware that there has already been some clear-cutting in these corridors. I am also aware that the timber involved is very valuable and that elimination of the corridors would have some adverse economic effects. The clear-cutting that has already occurred cannot be helped and must be accepted until regeneration can occur; but the fact that some clear-cutting has already taken place is no argument in favor of additional clear-cutting. The adverse economic impact of eliminating the corridors will not be great and will be short-lived; and I believe that the benefits to the entire country of preserving these magnificent stands for the longest possible time will far outweigh the economic costs of refraining from logging them.

The North Cascades National Park

I want to express one disagreement with the boundaries proposed for the North Cascades National Park under Recommendation VI, to express my understanding of the kind of access that is proposed for the Park, and to raise a question with respect to the road that is proposed for consideration under Recommendation XIII to run from the Canadian boundary down the east side of Ross Lake to connect with the North Cross-State Highway.

The North Cascades National Park Boundaries. In my view, the boundaries of the proposed park should be extended on the northwest along the lines suggested by the Park Service in its proposal for a Mt. Baker National Park. Such an extension would include the Mt. Baker area within the proposed park.

There is no doubt, I suppose, in anyone's mind that Mt. Baker and the area surrounding it are of national park caliber. Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan make a unit that should be included within the proposed park along with the Primitive Area west of Lake Ross and the Eldorado Peaks area.

In addition, in my opinion, the Mt. Baker area would benefit from Park Service administration. The Park Service can operate winter sports facilities as well as anyone else; and if I understand present Park Service policy correctly, it would try to get the bulk of visitor accommodation facilities set up outside the Park and would do something to remedy the present rather dilapidated state of the Heather Meadows area.

In short, I can see no reason for leaving the Mt. Baker area out of the proposed North Cascades National Park, and I can see two compelling reasons for including it.

Means of Access to the Proposed Park. Perhaps the report makes clear enough what is intended, but I want to record my understanding that the mass access features that are recommended will provide access to the high wilderness country only by helicopter and such devices as aerial tramways. I have seen trams and funiculars in Europe, and I am impressed with the skill and ingenuity that Europeans have shown in transporting large numbers of people to spectacular vantage points where they can be controlled and where none but a few mountaineers do anything as far as the mountains go but look at them. These devices are a way of making it possible for large numbers of people to see the wilderness without destroying it, and, although I would agree that the trams will not add to the beauty of the mountains, they will be relatively inconspicuous, as will the facilities at the overlooks at the ends of the trams and helicopter routes. The importance of providing a sort of vicarious wilderness experience for large numbers of people outweighs any disadvantages that are involved.

The Ross Lake Road. I have serious doubts about the advisability of a road along the east side of Ross Lake from the Canadian boundary to the North Cross-State Highway. One of the advantages of Ross Lake is that it, like Lake Chelan, offers an unusual, beautiful, and convenient means of access to the park. A road along the eastern side would, in a sense, be a duplication of the access facilities, made possible by the lake, and any access to the proposed wilderness area to the east that a road would provide is also provided by the lake. Inevitably a road will involve a long stretch of unsightly scars that will be visible from the lake and from the park on the other side. Finally, such a road will be costly; and if it is judged to be important for Canadians to bring their cars directly from Canada to the North Cross-State Highway, this could be arranged far more cheaply by the provision of ferry service on the lake.

The Glacier Peak Wilderness Area

In conclusion, I want to make a comment about the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. It is my view that this should remain in wilderness status under Forest Service administration and should not be converted into a national park because the fragile character of the area does not lend itself to the mass use which is an important justification for a park.

I also want to observe that the protection of the Glacier Peak Wilderness and the other wilderness areas recommended in the Report, with the possible exception of the less fragile area west of Lake Ross, will probably require before very long a degree of administration that wilderness areas have not received until now. Not only must measures be taken to disperse use and to provide for minimum sanitation, but my guess is that wilderness users, if they are not to destroy the wilderness they love, will have to accept some kind of rationing of wilderness area use. Rationing is now used to control the hunting of mountain goats, and relatively untrampled wilderness is coming to be almost as scarce a commodity as mountain goats. This scarcity will be increasingly conspicuous in the North Cascades because of their proximity to large population centers and main travel routes. If the time comes, as I believe it will, when the Forest Service is compelled to ration access to the North Cascades wilderness in order to preserve the qualities that make these areas attractive, I hope that the wilderness users will cooperate.

Sincerely yours,

Owen S. Stratton

OWEN S. STRATTON



Glacier Peak across the White Chuck Valley with Lake Byrne in the foreground (NPS-5307-88).



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 19, 1965

Dr. Edward C. Crafts
Chairman, North Cascades Study Team
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Crafts:

I have now had an opportunity to review and discuss with you the draft of report on the North Cascades Study transmitted to the team members with your memorandum of August 30.

This has been a very difficult and complex study. It has been, also, a most challenging and stimulating study. You and your staff are to be commended for the masterful manner in which you have prepared this proposed final report. Moreover, I congratulate you, personally, on the skill with which you have served as chairman of this study team.

The Resources Study Reports indicate considerable agreement between the representatives of this Service and the Forest Service in the identification of the recreational values of lands under Classes 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation land classification system. The major land classification difference between our two Agencies relates to Class 3 (natural environment) lands. This difference arises, principally, out of the interpretation by the Forest Service of lands classified for its recreational program under its Multiple Use Act. The agreement of our Services, with respect to lands identified in Classes 4, 5, and 6, is especially significant since these are the classes of lands requiring a high degree of preservation in order to conserve their scenic, scientific and historic values.

A review of the land classification map indicates that, in general, Mount Rainier National Park and an area immediately adjacent to it on the south; Alpine Lakes—Mount Stuart area; Glacier Peak; Okonagon Highlands; and the Mount Baker—Mount Shuksan—Picket Range—Eldorado Peaks Areas are identified as Class 4, 5 and 6 lands.

It is the purpose of the National Park System through its National Parks to preserve and interpret for the benefit and enjoyment of our citizens those areas of superlative scenic grandeur and scientific significance representative of the natural heritage of our Nation.

In the light of this long-recognized purpose of the National Park System and the unquestioned significance of the lands for National Park status, this Service recommended two National Parks—one in the Glacier Peak area; and another in the Mount Baker—Mount Shuksan—Picket Range area.

Your recommendation is that, with certain boundary adjustments, the Glacier Peak area continue as a part of the Wilderness Preservation System under Forest Service management. I believe still that this area qualifies as a National Park. However, since continued classification and proper management as wilderness will preserve the values here, since the area in many respects is quite similar to Mount Rainier, and in a final effort to compose the many points at issue, I reluctantly recede from my original recommendation and support your recommendation.

With respect to our Mount Baker—Mount Shuksan—Picket Range Park proposal, you recommend a National Park which eliminates Mount Baker and essentially all of the Nooksack Valley, and which adds the Eldorado Peaks area to the south. The area you have proposed for addition is dominated by Eldorado, Forbidden and Boston Peaks, all above 8,800 feet in elevation. It is the most massive collection of giant peaks and living glaciers in the entire North Cascades—in fact, in the entire continental United States. As such, it is unquestionably of National Park caliber. It likewise provides a needful area for the development of park visitor use facilities. I agree with you, moreover, that this area is more appropriate for inclusion in a National Park than it is for inclusion in a National Recreation Area, as originally recommended by this Service. My belief in this regard is strengthened by the fact that the remainder of the area recommended by us as a National Recreation Area is not now proposed by you for National Recreation Area status. Accordingly, I recede from my previous recommendations for this area and concur in your recommended addition of the Eldorado Peaks area to our National Park proposal.

I must, however, object strongly to your deletion of the Nooksack Valley. Especially, do I object strenuously to your deletion of Mount Baker.

The Nooksack Valley area is badly needed for development of administrative and park visitor use facilities on the western edge of the proposed National Park.

My objection to the deletion of Mount Baker is more fundamental. Mount Baker affords a splendid area for development of visitor use facilities. More importantly, Mount Baker, with Mount Shuksan and the Picket Range, is the only sector of the Cascade Range where features illustrating all chapters in the geological story of the Cascade Range from pre-Tertiary times to the present can be presented. Mount Baker and its immediate vicinity are indispensable to the completion of this geological record. To tear it out of our recommendation, as you propose, is to rupture the basis on which the interpretive story of this unique area may be told to its fullest scientific value and in its most dramatic manner.

Your failure to include Mount Baker as we have recommended is even more startling and confusing when one realizes that, as long ago as 1926, the Secretary of Agriculture recognized the national significance and park-like character of Mount Baker by designating it the Mount Baker Park division of the Mount Baker National Forest. Thus, for almost 40 years, by Secretarial Order, the Forest Service has given Mount Baker a special and unique management in recognition of its superlative scenic and scientific values.

As I have repeatedly pointed out in our committee discussions, the question of including Mount Baker in a National Park does not involve the issue—as sometimes suggested—of whether this Service or the Forest Service can do the better management job there. In fact, as we have discussed, this argument demeans the respective missions assigned by the Congress to our organizations and the talented and devoted employees of our respective Services. My principal objection to your deletion of Mount Baker is that, recognizing the park values of Mount Baker, it violates the Congressional missions assigned our respective Services to continue the management of this park area in the Forest Service.

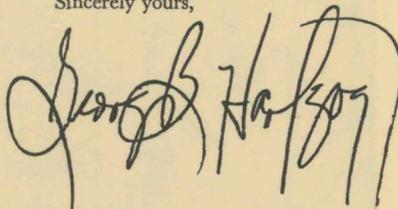
A principal purpose of our study is to clarify the management responsibilities of the Federal Agencies in the North Cascades. Thus, to continue the management of the Mount Baker Park division as a part of the Mount Baker National Forest, as suggested in your recommendation, is as incongruous as would be a recommendation that the timber resources of one of the National Forests be assigned to this Service for commercial, sustained yield management.

Throughout the report, you have emphasized the need for visitor access in the proposed National Park. Of course, I concur that National Parks should be available for reasonable public access. I do not believe, however, that they should be so thoroughly emasculated with roads and trails that their basic values are impaired. I am particularly pleased to see that you have recognized the need for careful planning of roads and trails and that such roads and trails should be supplemented by other means of access, such as helicopters and mechanical devices as discussed in the report. The rugged country of the North Cascades lends itself especially to the use of these less destructive means of access, and I agree that in this proposed National Park we should utilize these innovations in park transportation. Moreover, the suggested development plan discussed during the May meeting of the study team indicated that several heliports with accompanying high chalet overnight accommodations in the Picket Range area were desirable for visitor access and accommodation. I believe that such developments are appropriate in this proposed National Park and concur in your view that they should be provided.

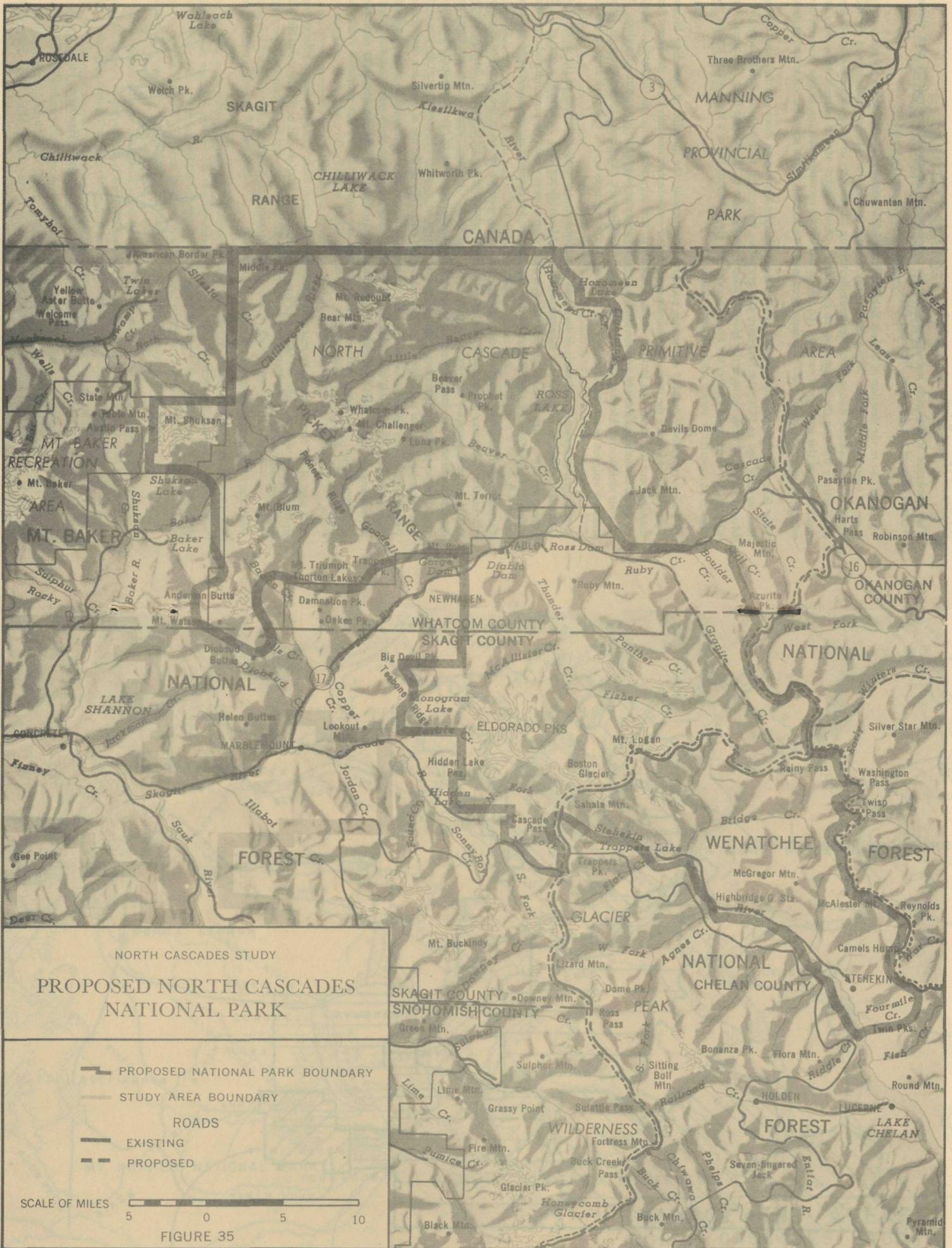
As a part of the overall access system of the proposed National Park, I concur also in your recommendation for a road in the vicinity of Ross Lake. This is a prime public use area that should be made available with a park-like road for visitor use and enjoyment.

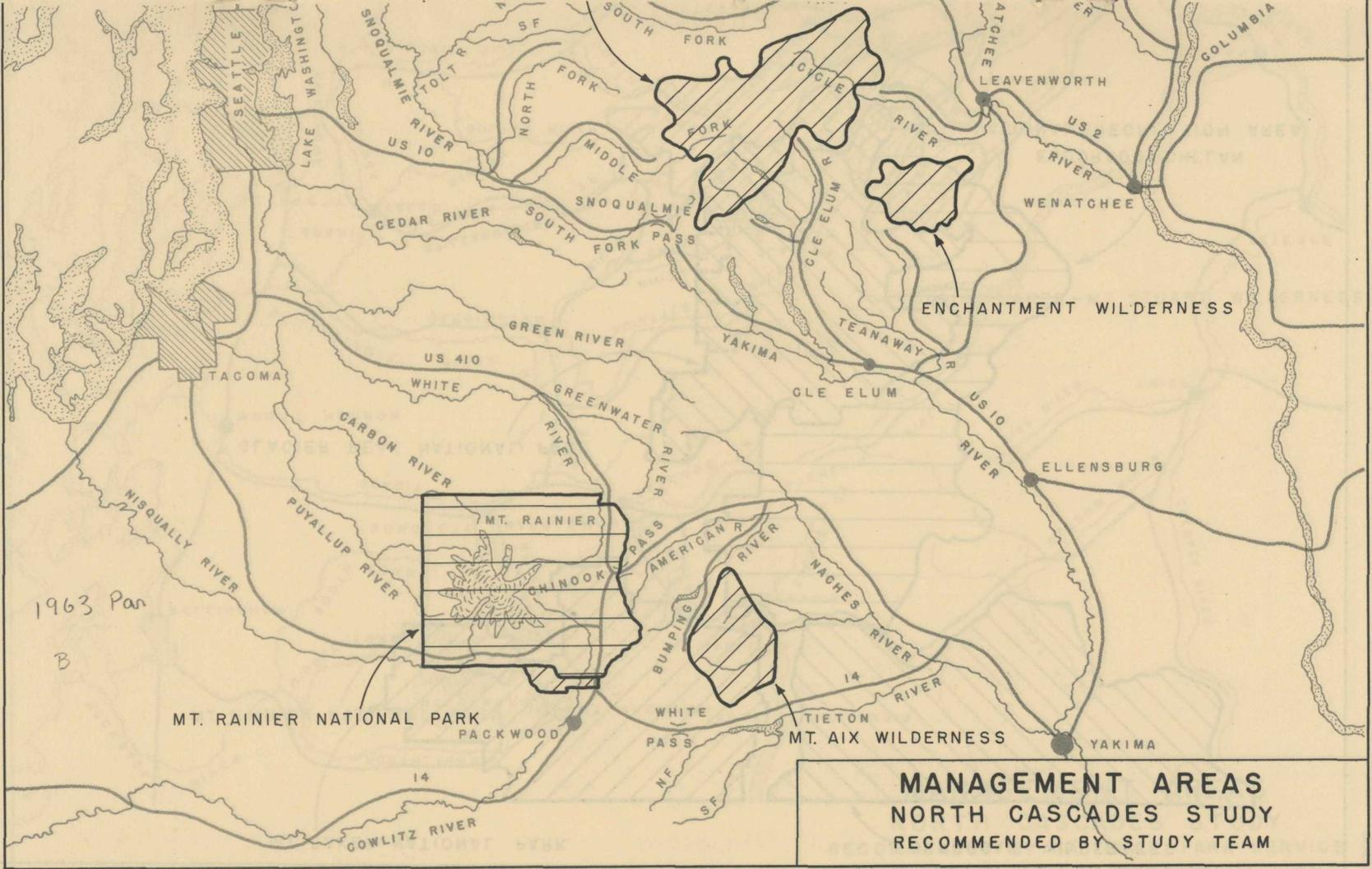
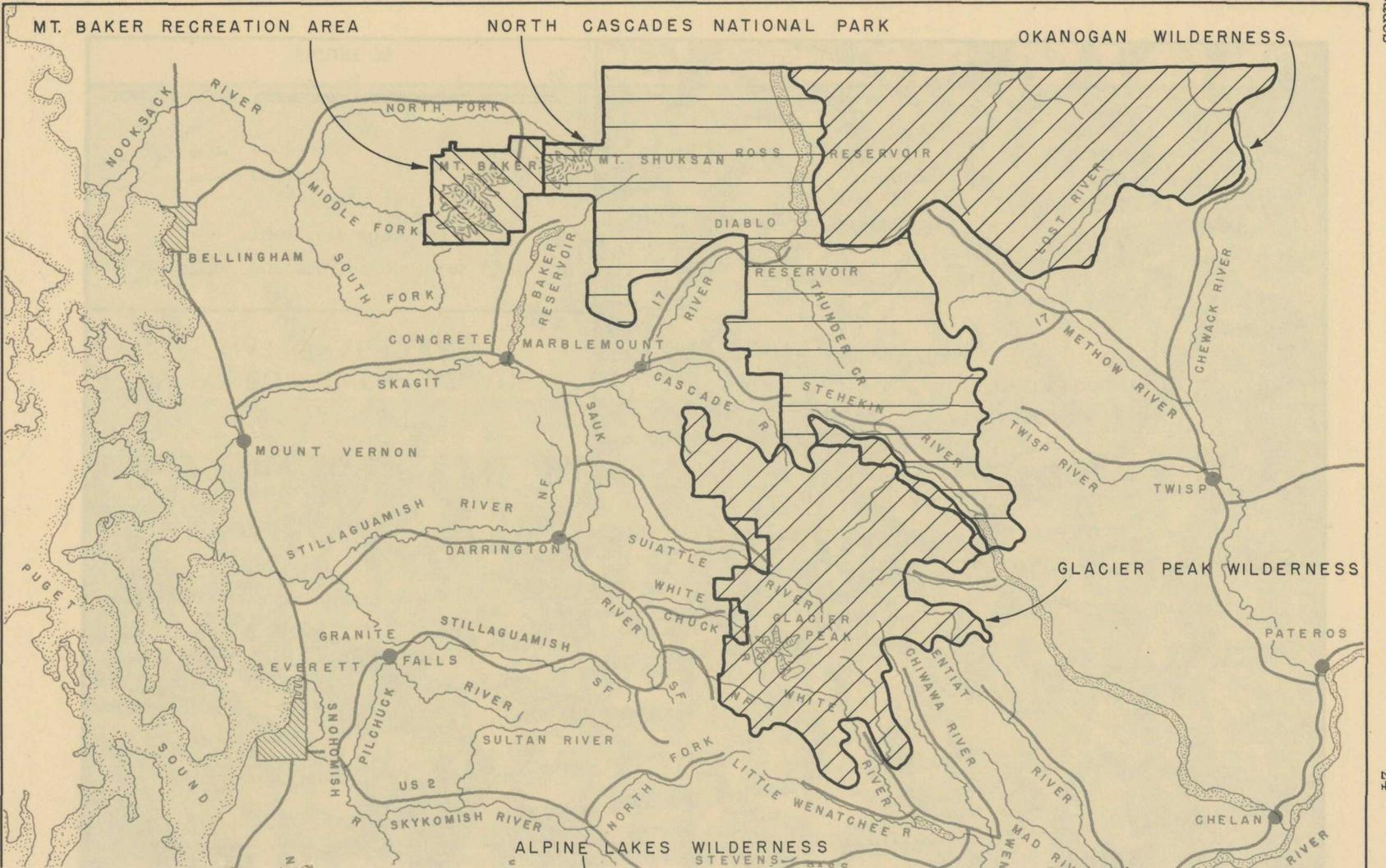
With the foregoing comments, I concur in the report.

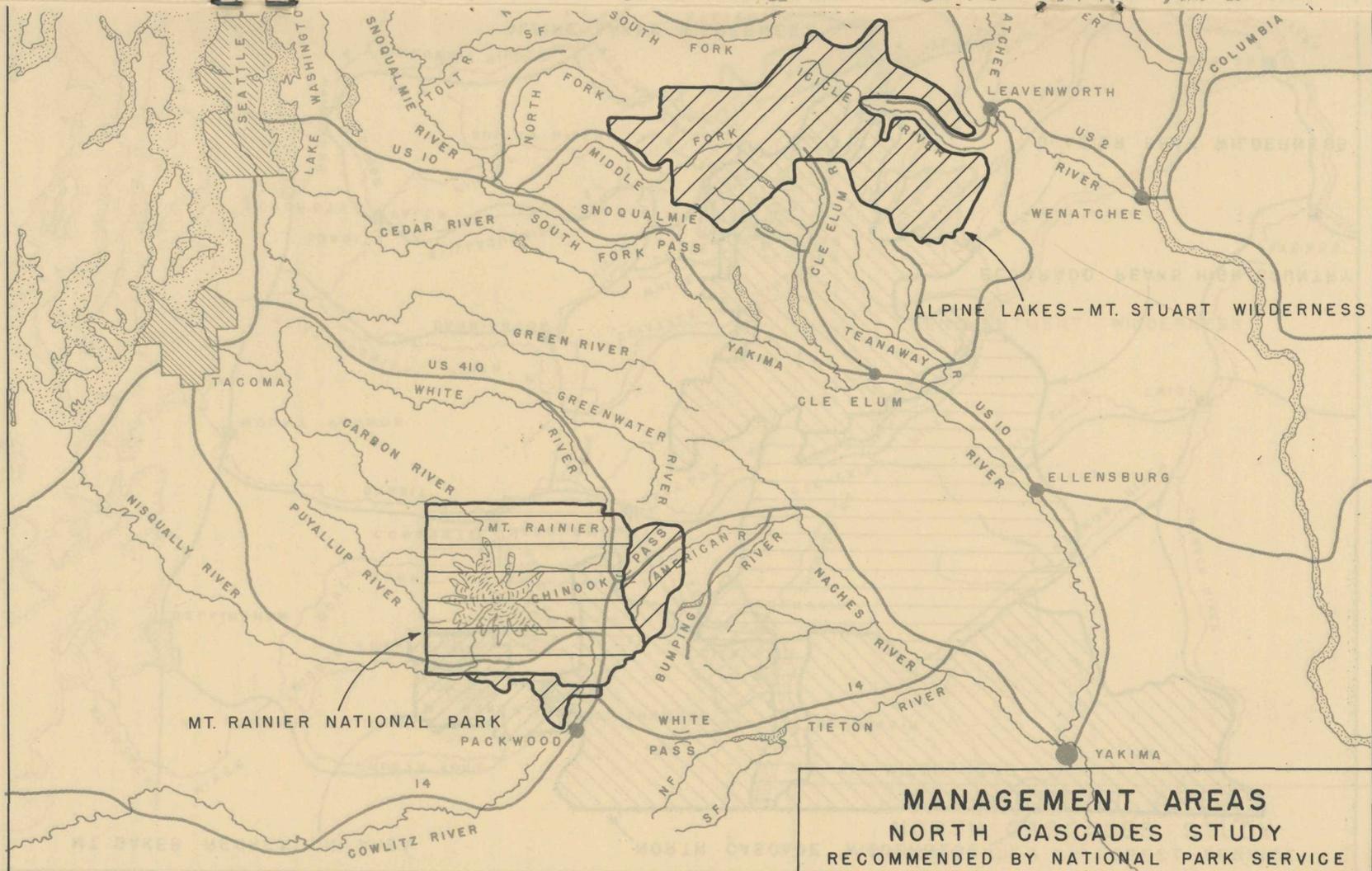
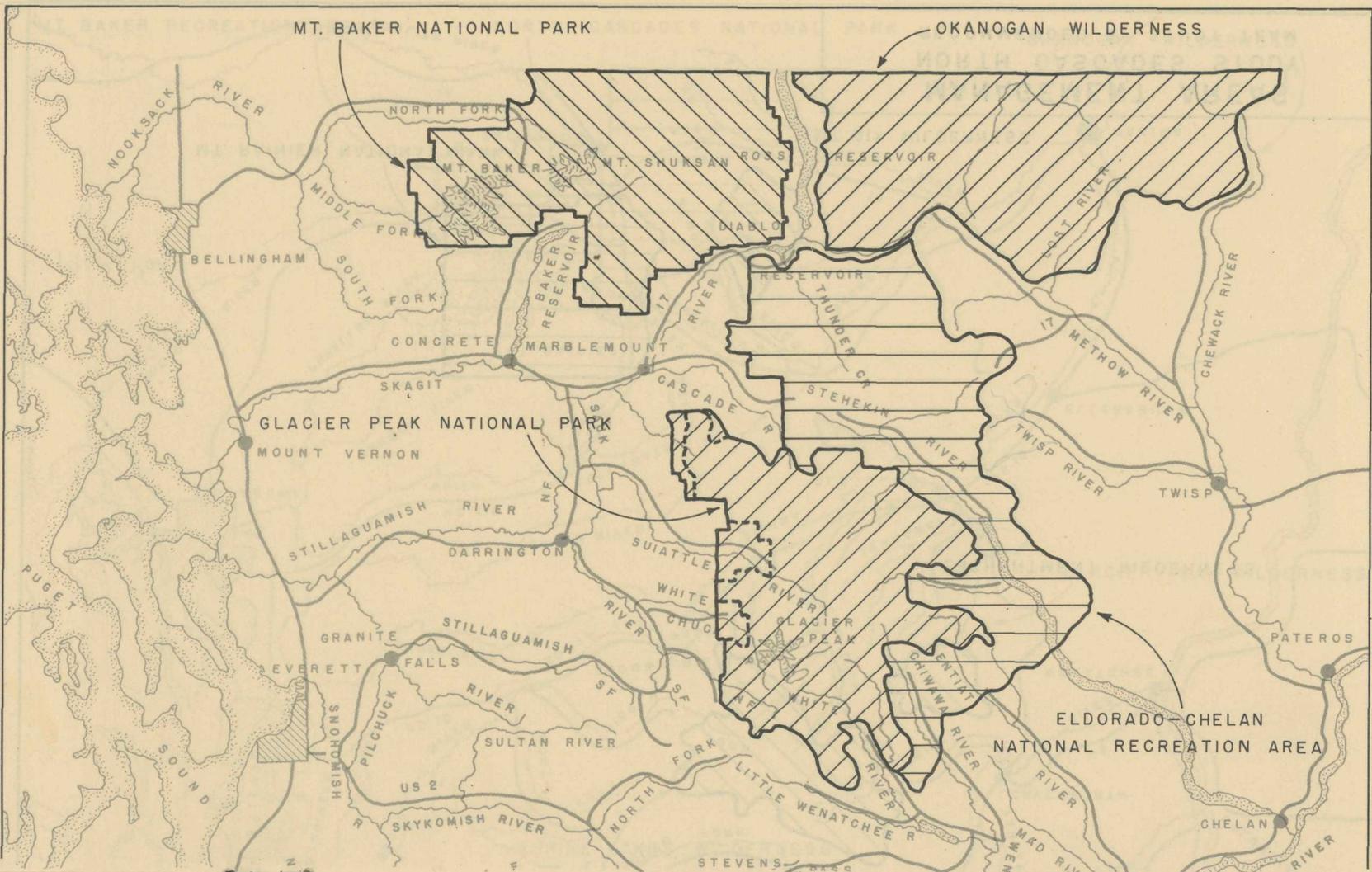
Sincerely yours,



GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.
Director.







MANAGEMENT AREAS
NORTH CASCADES STUDY
 RECOMMENDED BY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Pertaining to
THE CRAFTS' REPORT OF AUGUST 27, 1965,
to the
SECRETARIES OF AGRICULTURE AND OF THE INTERIOR

George A. Selke
October 12, 1965

Because of commitments made regarding important obligations which preempted most of September, I asked permission for additional time to review what you and your staff prepared during the summer months. I reiterate my contention that what has been under consideration for thirty months should be considered carefully when the time ultimately comes to review essential issues and to make important recommendations. I accept responsibility for the tardiness of this statement because of my obligations during the past few weeks of September, but for none of the many other delays prior to that month over the preceding 2 years.

As I review the Crafts' Report of August 27, 1965, there are many commendable statements that I should like to make about the chairman and other members of the Study Team, the chief of staff and his associates, the representatives of various Federal and State agencies, and the many fine men and women it was our pleasure to meet in connection with our assignments. Their courtesies and helpfulness are most sincerely acknowledged. I should be derelict had I failed to include this statement.

I attach recommended improvements in the part of the Crafts' Report dealing with Mineral Resources, pages 92-102. There are a few minor changes which make that statement more accurate and more understandable. Several copies are attached.

In considering the future administration and use of the extensive region under review by the North Cascades Study Team, it is well to keep in mind that it comprises an area of 7,071,000 acres, of which 7,038,200 acres are land, and 32,800 acres are water surface. The land is divided as follows:

Federal	6,309,400 acres
State	37,000 acres
County	200 acres
Municipal	51,600 acres
Private	639,700 acres
 Total	 7,038,200 acres

Since the establishment of the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Park Service, all of the Federal land has been managed by these two agencies: 6,067,800 acres by the Forest Service as National Forests, and 241,600 acres—all in Mount Rainier National Park—by the Park Service.

The Forest Service has a somewhat different pattern of administration because its overall programs are much more a full-year operation, dealing directly with more of the natural resources such as water, timber, wildlife, and forage. It also has had many years of contact with various forms of outdoor recreation, hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and the like.

On the other hand, the operations at Mount Rainier National Park tend to be centered upon the summer seasons when open roads provide accessibility to the wonderful high mountain with its mammoth summit which attracts so many people annually.

It is my contention that the administration of the Forest Service and the Park Service in the North Cascades has been sound and efficient; in fact, outstandingly so—in terms of the means that have been made available to carry out the programs. Moreover, the programs are improving constantly. This applies as much to the National Forests as it does to the National Parks.

Because my knowledge of the North Cascades, with its forests and mountains, its streams and lakes, began a half century ago and because I see better and greater use of its natural resources and more positive assurance of the renewal and retention of its marvellous resources today than ever before, I am reluctant to recommend changes in its administration. I realize that the use of the land and water may receive different and varying phases of emphasis. Methods and processes may change as research and experience reveal more efficient and effective ways of doing things. The emphasis should be upon the kind of management that makes best use of the renewable resources, protects those which must never be lost, and appropriately controls and directs the people who use them. It has taken a long time to sense that the greatest danger to our natural resources are the people who use them—whether it is the farmer who “wears out” the

fields, the community that fails to control its waters from flood or pollution, the camper who forgets to put out his fire, or the entourage into the mountains whose trail is obvious for the next century.

It appears to me that the report deals inadequately with the economical implications of the entire area. I feel that with the exception of hydro-power, the study fails to stress adequately the importance of water, its control and its use. Perhaps this is intentional because water, including flood control, irrigation, and hydro-power, is not correlated intimately with the recommendations except as water deals with recreation.

I am inclined to sense a bias for proposals of what could be done by Park Service and a prejudice toward what has been done in the past by Forest Service. The area has been preserved, largely because it was designated as National Forest land and was administered by the Forest Service for over sixty years. The present condition of the Forest Service lands in comparison with most lands outside of the National Forests speaks for itself.

While my college training provided but a minor in economics, my many years in responsible administrative positions has kept me keenly alert to economical implications. I confess to a keen disappointment in the comparative economic evaluations of alternative proposals of land use in the study area. I confess that it may be difficult to estimate the worth of wilderness with hydro-power in terms of dollars. I assume that with your excellent training and responsible experience in the field of economics you share in a sense my feeling regarding the inadequacy of the material presented in this field.

I also believe that too high an estimate has been made of the value that accrues when land is shifted from one agency to another to be used for fairly similar purposes. I agree with John Fedkov, Chief, Branch of Production Economics, U.S. Forest Service, in his review of the manuscript "VI Economic Analysis of Proposals":

"It is my personal impression that the author of this manuscript has need of competent supervision in application of the method of analysis and in making judgments about values, relationships and data qualities involved in the appraisal. It is also my impression that the author has had a tendency to favor the National Park proposal in manner of presentation, through lack of adequate or correct qualifications, in judgments about content of analysis and omissions or oversights. This may have been inadvertent but the pattern is there."

"The analysis as presented in the report is inadequate for a COMPETENT judgment about the economic merits of the alternatives proposed."

The Report seems to assume that the Park Service somehow attracts people for outdoor recreational purposes more readily and successfully to its operations than does the Forest Service. The facts do not show this.

The record shows that recreation use (visits) trend is increasing at a faster rate on the National Forests than on National Parks.

	Visits (1000's)		
	1950	1955	1960
NPS	33, 253	50, 009	77, 229
USFS	27, 368	45, 713	92, 592

While at the same time the acreage administered by the two agencies was:

	Acreage (1000's)		
	1950	1955	1960
NPS	23, 882	23, 899	25, 705
USFS	181, 205	188, 120	185, 772

(The above figures are from the ORRRC Report "Outdoor Recreation For America" page 50.)

This certainly does not support the statement that there would be greater economic benefits from the establishment of a National Park.

Marion Clawson in "Statistics on Outdoor Recreation" April 1958 states that, using 1920 as a base, National Park use has increased at an average rate of about 8½ percent per year. For the National Forests the increase was 7¼ percent prior to the war and slightly more than 10 percent per year since the war. He also states, "Rate of growth in recreation use for National Parks shows no clear signs of slowing down; for National Forests it seems to show some acceleration."

The Crafts' Report deals harshly at times with forest management, and also occasionally so with timber industry practices. Knowing the long service and the important and excellent contributions that the author of the statement made in an honorable career as a prominent and responsible forester, it is indeed a surprise to find unwarranted criticisms of the policies that he long administered. I think he is unfair to himself.

There have been unnecessarily slovenly and unacceptable operations. That logging and roadbuilding methods and procedures have been improved and should continue to be improved, we all agree. The intimation that clear-cutting, especially in connection with the regeneration of Douglas-fir, has had no research attention is incorrect. It has long been studied by the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Our mutual friend, former Director Thornton Munger, has told me of the researches in this field that were sponsored beginning early in his administration of the Station. Of course, the research must continue.

On page 28 of the Crafts' Report is an unfair and ominous heading: "The North Cascades—Resource Policy at the Crossroads." Certainly, the work of the Study Team is important but it is far-fetched to assume that we are on the "verge of a great crisis." It sounds too melodramatic to suit me. A number of alternate decisions could be made without creating a calamity.

One of the resources that is not stressed sufficiently is that of wildlife. In the present surge of outdoor activity fishing and hunting—the latter much more so than fishing—is apparently being crowded to the side. With the several hundred thousand men and youth right now hunting in Washington—and this is similarly true in many other States—one cannot help but be conscious of hunting as not only an ancient outdoor sport but still very much a popular activity. A good statement about wildlife was submitted to the Study Team but it apparently has received relatively little attention. It is my opinion that we have overlooked the possibilities of both hunting and fishing, but especially hunting, in planning for the future. These are two of the finest of our traditional sports that appeal especially to youth approaching manhood. It is my strong opinion that hunting and fishing should receive more attention as we consider our outdoor recreation responsibilities. These fine diversions have honorable traditions of their own and each has enriching concomitants that are wholesome for our youths. We simply must see that they are continued as an important part of posterity's heritage. The establishment of a million-acre park will not help.

According to the plans of the Craft's Report, the section of the North Cascades Primitive Area which lies west of Ross Lake is to be included in a proposed North Cascades National Park. This is indeed a surprise. It is general knowledge the Forest Service is now preparing information supporting a recommendation to be made to Congress in the relatively near future that all of the North Cascades Primitive Area, with the possible exception of adjustments along the shores of Ross Lake, be designated as permanent wilderness. I heartily endorse such action and strongly oppose the proposition advanced in the Crafts' Report.

I object most vigorously to the recommendation that the Pickett Range be made available for easy access to the multitudes by trams or other mechanical means. Most of the region lying west of Ross Lake, in the general proximity of Mount Challenger, possesses the greatest potential in the Northwest for the people who wish to find true wilderness experience. This is because of the rigorous climate and the rugged topography. The district is intimately known only to the relatively few hardy explorers and mountaineers who are willing to penetrate such a formidable terrain. The names given to the peaks reflect the reaction of the intrepid souls who first viewed the region. Names that range from Mt. Redoubt and Mt. Challenger to Terror, Fury, Triumph and Despair give some indication of the challenges caused by the towering peaks and pinnacles overhead, and the narrow, rocky gorges and jungle-dense creek bottoms between and below.

The maintenance of the single trail through Watcom Pass has been a costly item, difficult to maintain. To attempt to develop more than a simple system of foot trails would be extremely expensive. Heavy growth in the creek bottoms, solid rock and avalanche chutes above, and the vagaries of much rough weather, make construction of safe trails for any except truly competent mountaineers exceedingly difficult. It should be preserved for those who have the spirit and perseverance to develop the physical condition and also the skills and disciplines required of those who become expert mountain climbers.

Because of this and for the very obvious purpose of retaining some undeveloped and pristine areas, the Pickett Range and environs should be preserved in its wilderness state. It is an area that has and will successfully continue to resist man's encroachment. Nothing should be done to encourage its development for more conventional and convenient types of recreational uses. Such action would constitute a desecration of what should remain posterity's continuing heritage. It should be kept in a permanent wilderness.

Why not an additional, extensive new National Park in the North Cascades?

Consideration should be given to the very short season when visitors in large numbers would tend to visit the area. The North Cascades has an extremely abbreviated summer. Early in autumn we usually have cloudy, foggy weather, with extended periods of precipitation. The higher altitudes have heavy falls of snow and at the levels where scenery becomes outstanding, the temperature tends to drop to low levels. Vigorous people enjoy the active sports and the rigorous weather but those who prefer the California, Florida, or even southern Appalachian climates like the sunshine and mildness.

For the better part of a decade the State parks of Minnesota were under my administration. The overhead to maintain these attractive areas for a twelve-week season made a lasting impression on me. To provide accommodations for the

thousands from the humid cornbelt who rushed to the cool Minnesota lakes for the brief "tourist season" was quite a different administrative problem from that in the southern states where facilities had full-year patronage. It is financially unprofitable to have extensive accommodations that draw revenues for but a few months of the year.

Certainly, the Mount Baker and Mt. Shuksan area has National Park quality. But would it serve the State and Nation better as a National Park than it does now as a full-year outdoor recreation area? There are a dozen peaks in the North Cascades that have outstanding quality and undoubtedly would be National Parks if in Iowa or Kansas. The North Cascades has the most outstanding mountain park in North America—namely, Mount Rainier National Park. It has never realized its potential from the viewpoint of education, research, scenery, and recreation. The massive summit, the glaciers, the variation in vegetation at different altitudes, the opportunities for art, these should not only be fully developed in a master plan but also fully in its program.

The administrators of this splendid park have wished for decades for opportunities for appropriate development.

The Olympic National Park does *not* lie in the Study Area. However, it should be pointed out that this magnificent area might be affected by the establishment of a third large National Park in Washington. With the large population of the State east of Puget Sound, would this mean that the Olympic National Park, even now much underfinanced for desirable development, would become third on the list for support?

My contention is that the extreme northern part of the North Cascades, even Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan, have too short a season and too much inclement weather during three-fourths of the year to become a heavily patronized National Park. To become an outstanding recreation area, which it is now and was set aside to be 50 years ago, with year-round active outdoor recreation is still a wiser proposal. With its "deep-snow" possibilities, its long skiing season, its appeals for activities which appeal to many different and some unusual interests, it is just now entering a new period of development and appeal that assures good patronage for different seasons of the year.

I favor rather the establishment of National recreation areas which have Congressional approval and whose status can only be changed by similar Congressional action, to the establishment of additional National Parks in such areas. This would not disturb special activities like hunting, but would guarantee reasonable stability of purposeful use. It would obviate the necessity of bringing in a new Federal agency with additional personality, new building programs, new rules, regulations, and restrictions, and accomplish unhampered opportunities for outdoor recreation as new needs and objectives develop over the decades.

In a memorandum (Management of the National Park System) issued in July 1964, Mr. S. L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, made an excellent statement. He indicated that the National Park responsibilities and activities could be listed under three headings, namely: natural areas, historical areas, and recreational areas.

To the memorandum, Secretary Udall appended an interesting "Summary of Legislative Landmarks Affecting the National Park System." In succinct fashion it presents Congressional action which assigned special and general responsibilities to the Secretary and to the Department of the Interior. It is indeed well that a definite agency is made responsible for National monuments, memorials, parkways, seashores, and the like. I am glad, too, that through the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation the Secretary of the Interior has the responsibility to promote the coordination and development of effective programs relating to outdoor recreation. The Act of May 28, 1963, states:

"That the Congress finds and declares it to be desirable that all American people of present and future generations be assured adequate outdoor recreation resources, and that it is desirable for all levels of government and private interests to take prompt and coordinated action to the extent practicable without diminishing or affecting their respective powers and functions to conserve, develop, and utilize such resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people."

The statement quoted does not mention the National Park Service. It definitely leaves responsibility for the administration of outdoor recreation wide open, even at the Federal level.

For example, within the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service is not the only agency that deals with the administration of outdoor recreation. Neither is Interior the only Department that does so. This is common to a number of Departments and agencies; in fact, to nearly every agency that has official charge of Federal lands. This is as it should be. Of course, Congress can determine which agency should assume responsibility for such programs on particular Federal tracts. That, too, is as it should be.

I am strongly inclined to agree with a statement recently made by Mr. Joseph Penfold:

"We must be prepared to think and act objectively in *National* terms, even if that does mean the agony of seeing some local project dear to our hearts slip away from us—and as we all know, choice areas are slipping away." * * *

“Certainly we should concentrate our attention and action for authorization of new projects on those most immediately threatened with destruction. * * * We shall need to consider carefully whether it makes sense to try to push authorization for proposed park areas already in Federal ownership ahead of the proposed areas which are threatened with immediate engulfment by industrial or other development.”

There is judgment and wisdom in Mr. Penfold's remarks. For one agency to covet the land of another when both plan to use it for outdoor recreation, even to take some out of wilderness or primitive status, in obtaining it, is indeed the height of folly. Instead, let the agencies help each other in obtaining those priceless areas that can be and will soon be forever lost. There are populous sections of the country where action is required immediately. By concentrating on the issues there we need all the strength and support we can muster.

I indicate herewith my reactions, whether approval or opposition, to the twenty recommendations that begin on page 131. For the sake of general convenience, I follow the numerical order used rather than my opinion of the order of importance.

Recommendation I. An Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area should be established.

I approve this recommendation which is an endorsement of a Forest Service proposal.

Recommendation II. An Enchantment Wilderness Area should be established.

I approve the recommendation which endorses the Forest Service proposal.

Recommendation III. A Mt. Aix Wilderness Area should be established.

I approve the recommendation which approves the Forest Service proposal.

Recommendation IV. The present boundaries of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area should be extended.

I might wish the extensions to be increased somewhat along certain valleys, slopes and divides. More intimate, personal acquaintance with the proposed boundaries on my part is necessary to indicate any exact extensions. However, I agree with the recommendation.

Recommendation V. An Okanogan Wilderness Area should be established.

I strongly oppose the proposal to change the boundary of the North Cascades Primitive Area. The part that lies west of Ross Lake should not be placed into a proposed National Park. I have covered this matter fairly definitely in another part of my comments. I am against any decrease of wilderness area.



Fishing on Ross Lake in proposed North Cascades National Park (NPS-247).

Recommendation VI. There should be established a North Cascades National Park.

I am opposed to the establishment of a new, extensive National Park in the State of Washington, especially in the area designated in the Crafts' Report. I am particularly opposed to the inclusion of the Pickett Range, and also against the inclusion of some of the river valleys and mountain ranges. The major purpose of the park is to provide outdoor recreation facilities. This can be done more appropriately by the establishment of a National Forest recreation area. It would then not outlaw hunting and still insure permanence of status. There are many reasons why a single agency should be responsible for general land management in this rather than have two agencies from two different Departments do so.

Recommendation VII. The Southern boundary of Mt. Rainier National Park should be extended.

I heartily endorse this recommendation.

I recommend in addition that a park of the Mt. Rainier superlative resources should receive support comparable to its potential. I urge that a master plan indicating its possibilities be made available for public distribution. The management of this wonderful part of the North Cascades is limited by inadequate financial support. This should be corrected.

Recommendation VIII. Coordination between Forest Service and Park Service at Mt. Rainier Area.

I approve this recommendation most heartily and commend the Bureaus that have so successfully developed inter-Bureau arrangements and cooperative agreements.

Recommendation IX. The Mt. Baker Recreation Area should be administered by the Forest Service.

I approve this recommendation.

Recommendation X. The Cougar Lake and the Monte Cristo Peak Limited Areas should be declassified as such and administered by the Forest Service in accord with its normal multiple-use management policies.

I concur with this recommendation but wish to emphasize that the Cougar Lake Area has qualities of primitive nature that should be respected as having permanent value. These features merit special management consideration so that the unusual characteristics are retained.

Recommendation XI. The Eldorado Peaks High Country should continue to be developed by the Forest Service for recreation pending establishment of the North Cascades National Park.

I would approve the recommendation provided the statement be amended by placing a period after "recreation" and the remainder of the sentence deleted. The quotation from the discussion or explanation, "It is believed that the Forest Service development plans are not considered inconsistent with the type of development that will be carried forward in a National Park" is eloquent evidence that a park is not needed to carry on an outstanding outdoor recreation program. This is now in process of development at Mount Baker.

Recommendation XII. The Forest Service and the National Park Service * * * should * * * pursue their respective plans * * * over the next 20 years.

I approve this somewhat superfluous recommendation.

Recommendation XIII. Scenic Roads.

The recommendation covers too much territory for general approval. The North Cross-State Road certainly must be a transportation route through northern Washington, a highway connection between eastern and western Washington. It will, of course, be used also by tourists and sightseers. The Austin Pass route will provide quite limited purposes, in comparison.

I strenuously object to a scenic parkway along either side of Ross Lake. If British Columbia builds a road to its end of Ross Lake, autos should be ferried the length of the Lake to the North Cross-State Road. Roads are anathema to wilderness. I shudder to think of the cuts and fills—the eyesore they would create and the erosion they would start—were the road constructed. It is far better to keep Ross Lake itself as the only north-south travel route. I use these illustrations to indicate why I oppose an overall approval. Each road should be considered separately.

Recommendation XIV. There should be developed and maintained an adequate recreation trail system in the North Cascades.

The limiting adjective "adequate" induces me to endorse this recommendation although I do so with fear and trepidation. Trails, like roads, can be overbuilt but usually with less danger to an area. Experts, of course, must determine the kind of trail needed and its location.

Recommendation XV. Timber Management.

Instead of acting on this recommendation, I make the obvious recommendation that it be reconsidered and rewritten. It reads too much like a sackcloth-and-ashes admonition.

Recommendation XVI. Certain portions of the Skagit River and its tributaries should be given wild river status.

I endorse this recommendation although I should like to know the exact portions of the river and its tributaries which are to be so considered.

Recommendation XVII. The Federal Power Commission should subscribe to the intervention of the Secretary of the Interior of July 21, 1965, with respect to Federal Power Commission Project No. 2151.

Mr. J. Herbert Stone, Regional Forester, Region Six, has reported that Project No. 2151 is not compatible with the purposes for which the Wenatchee National Forest was created or acquired and is being managed. The matter has been referred to the Chief of the Forest Service for transmittal to the Secretary of Agriculture who will then, through regular procedures and channels, present it to the Federal Power Commission.

I recommend that the Secretaries of Agriculture and of the Interior oppose Project No. 2151.

I recommend that the Bumping Lake Reservoir Project be considered by both the Departments of Agriculture and of the Interior for appropriate action.

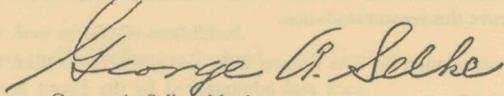
Recommendation XVIII. Protection of rights of Seattle City Light and Power.

This would of necessity be provided for should the proposed North Cascades National Park be authorized.

Recommendation XIX, and XX. Wildlife and fish protection and management.

I approve the intent of these two recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,



George A. Selke, *Member,*
North Cascades Study Team.



Skagit River proposed for Wild River preservation (FS-64-451).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

2150

October 27, 1965

Dr. Edward C. Crafts
Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
Room 5356 Department of the Interior Building

Dear Dr. Crafts:

Herewith my comments on the Report of the North Cascades Study Team and the major items concerning which the Report makes recommendations.

This Study turned out to be primarily centered on outdoor recreation. I suppose this was inevitable. Most of the recommendations deal with recreation aspects of this area. And later on the Study will be thought of as mostly concerned with reaching conclusions about use of outdoor recreation resources of this part of Washington State. We, in the Forest Service, have lived in this area for a long time. We have struggled through its various phases. And we lived through a long period of time when few people were very interested in this area, when funds for adequate fire protection were limited, and when just the imagination and great heart of a large number of very dedicated public servants succeeded in giving this area enough protection from fire and from other hazards to protect it and to hand it down to the present generation as the highly attractive area which it now is.

The present surge of interest in recreation use of the North Cascades Study Area should not be a reason for anyone to overlook the importance of the other resources. The harvest of timber is important in this area, even though some folks who live outside of it would like to imagine that timber harvesting is not a particularly necessary activity here. There are people with jobs, and families, and homes who are dependent upon the continuing flow of raw material from National Forest timber being harvested in the Study Area. And this is an important segment of the local and State economy.

Whether there are 5,000 people, or 20,000 people, whose livelihood is directly dependent on resources from this area, his job is important to each one of those individuals. And each job is important to the man's family, and to his community. We live in a society and a political climate which recognizes the worth of each individual, and of his opportunity to support his family through gainful employment. In our political climate, we do not tell the people of a community, such as Darrington and others, that a third of the people now working there will have to go find jobs some place else because the resources on which their jobs depend are needed immediately for some other purpose.

People who observe from the sidelines, and those who come to the Study Area as seasonal guests during the pleasant months in the valleys and the high mountains, are not able to look at this part of the country as do the people who live there. Those who live there see timber-harvest roads, and the appearance of a clearcut area during the short interval before natural regeneration comes in, not as bleak blotches on the landscape. They see them in the same way that a farmer cultivating rich farmland sees plowing and cultivating—as part of a process of harvest, cultivation and renewal.

And this is the way we, in the Forest Service, see the resources of the Study Area.

So it goes for hunting. We see game management, the manipulation of game populations, and hunting under a State-controlled system as a very necessary part of managing the total environment of this area. We see water developments, like that of the City Light Department of the City of Seattle, as a necessary part of the total complex of this area. Water production needs to be supported by things such as snow fences at appropriate places in the mountains to influence the pattern of snow accumulations.

And so, too, we see range use by domestic livestock in the relatively small portions of this area which can properly be so used. In total, this use is not important in the economy of the State of Washington. But for the individuals whose stock run in this Study Area, the grazing permits are important. An abrupt upset is a serious upset to the families and the livelihood of the individuals involved.

In short, we see this North Cascades Study Area as an important part of the State of Washington having significant resources. Its use is of great importance locally. Its management on the basis of making good use of all the resources

continues to be as important now as it has been during the 60 years that the Forest Service has intimately known this entire area.

Now, about recreation. The Report properly points out the recreation importance of this general area. By its actions, the Forest Service has long recognized the importance of the recreation resource here. Attention in the Report has been mostly focused on the management of the high elevation heartland. But the whole area is important for outdoor recreation and is extensively used for this purpose. It is, perhaps, a little unfortunate that so much attention has fallen in recent years on what areas should be wilderness, or national park, for these areas receive very light use compared with the Study Area as a whole. In 1964, less than six-tenths of one percent of National Forest recreation visits were in the present primitive and wilderness areas.

Nevertheless, there has been much attention to urgings that more area be classed as wilderness. The people who began to agitate for a national park in the late '50's did so before the Wilderness Act was passed. There now is a Congressional statement of direction about how wilderness areas are to be managed. Congress has also stated the steps and the timing by which areas now classed as primitive areas are to be acted on for reclassification as wilderness areas. For areas that are now, or which are to be in the National Wilderness Preservation System, there no longer is an argument that the management of these areas may be changed by "the whim" of an appointed officer of the Government. The Congress has said how they are to be managed, and Congress has said what procedure must be followed to bring about a change in this management.

So right in the heart of the Study Area there now are more than 1,300,000 acres of National Forest land for which the management direction has been set by Congress under the Wilderness Act.

As you know, the Forest Service has recommended to the Study Team that another 267,000 acres or so in new areas or in proposed additions to present areas be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System. And you also know that the Secretary of Agriculture decided in 1960 to manage for the recognition of its recreation potential an area of over half a million acres lying between the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area and the North Cascades Primitive Area. I mention this Eldorado Peaks high country in a little more detail later.

The sum total of these various recommendations, all of which were in being or had been openly discussed prior to the appointment of the North Cascades Study Team, means that the Forest Service has recognized to the extent of more than 2 million acres the importance of outdoor recreation in this part of the Cascade Mountains in the State of Washington. We have, by these various proposals and existing arrangements, dedicated in excess of 2 million acres in the heartland of the North Cascades of the State of Washington to outdoor recreation use, either in wilderness form or in a form suitable for mass recreation use.



Railroad Creek excluded in National Park Service proposed Recreation Area (NPS-4214-312).

To merely shift some of this area from Forest Service administration to National Park Service administration does not add any area for the public to use for outdoor recreation. Nor does it significantly change the nature of the country. As long as the North Cascades area of the State of Washington is protected from fire and insects and disease, the general nature of the country will remain just what it is—an attractive, highly scenic, desirable outdoor piece of country. But to shift some of it from Forest Service administration to National Park Service administration does add cost. There would necessarily be duplication in organization, duplication in administrative facilities, and, consequently, duplication in annual costs of administration and servicing.

About the Eldorado Peaks high country. We have laid out a proposal for the way this area should be managed. It is discussed in considerable detail on pages 28 to 37 of the Appendix of the Study Report. We have proposed that this area be developed for outdoor recreation use by the winter sports enthusiasts and the summer recreation seekers to whom this country will appeal. We have proposed a combination of winter sports facilities, of campgrounds, of organization camps and concession-operated resorts, and a moderate program of roadbuilding to make the country more accessible for recreation. This is all as described in the Appendix of the Study Team Report.

As I told the Team in the Meeting in June of 1963, the Forest Service would be willing to have this area designated in some special way, such as by its being made a National Recreation Area by Act of Congress. We did not formally so recommend to the Team because we were advised by Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Staff that under the guidelines adopted by the Recreation Advisory Council this area would be considered as capable of having a recreation program without designation as a National Recreation Area. Therefore, the BOR Staff thought that it would not be eligible to be a National Recreation Area. We, in the Forest Service, think it would be suitable to be a National Recreation Area, and would have no objection to its being so-classed.

It is alleged that people of the Nation do not know about the North Cascades Area. This is true compared with Yellowstone and Yosemite and Mt. Rainier. We think this is not due to lack of publicity by the Forest Service, but to lack of good road access. We have been working with the State of Washington, in the use of State highway funds and Federal highway funds, to get a good highway constructed which opens up this part of the North Cascades for the general traveling public. And once this cross-state highway is opened up, this part of the State of Washington will become well known whether there is a National Park or a National Recreation Area or no such special designation. It has been the lack of road access which has kept people out of this country and kept them from knowing about it, not the lack of designation as a national park.

It is difficult for me to see the justification for proposals to make a national park out of Mt. Baker. Mt. Baker does not compare with Mt. Rainier in geologic and scenic attractiveness as a mountain mass. Mt. Baker is now a well-known, popular winter sports area. It has an International reputation. The present pattern of management has been highly satisfactory to the residents of the State of Washington. Again, it seems to me, that simply to transfer the administration of this area from one agency to another in order to accord to it the name "national park" would not add anything to the recreation resource base available to the American people. It would add cost of duplicating administration; and it would remove this attractive area from availability for hunting. Unless there is a change in policy by the Park Service about winter sports development, it would also cloud the continued use of this established winter sports area for this purpose.

Here are my comments on the recommendations. As you know, the Forest Service is in agreement that an Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area should be established. We are in agreement that an Enchantment Wilderness Area should be established. We are in agreement that a Mt. Aix Wilderness Area should be established. We are in agreement that the present boundaries of the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area should be somewhat extended in three respects; i.e., along the northeast perimeter, a small addition in the Suiattle River corridor, and a small addition in the White Chuck River corridor. These proposed new areas, and proposed additions to existing areas, would add about 255,000 acres to the areas classified as wilderness.

Regarding the North Cascades Primitive Area, I want to set forth our position so that it will be clear. We think the North Cascades Primitive Area should be reclassified to a wilderness area under the provisions of the Wilderness Act. We think that in the reclassification, the boundaries should be slightly changed so that the total area would be enlarged from 801,000 acres to about 813,000 acres. In this boundary change, a somewhat wider corridor adjacent to Ross Lake would result, so there would be some land on both sides of the lakeshore which would not be included in the wilderness area. We feel very strongly that the portion of the North Cascades Primitive Area west of Ross Lake, and which in the Study Team discussions was referred to as the Pickett Range area, should remain a wilderness area. We think this piece of country cannot be developed for heavy recreation use, or even for accelerated recreation use, except with a loss of wilderness values which should not be lost. I want it to be perfectly clear. We feel very strongly this area, which has been in primitive area status for about 30 years, should continue to be wilderness.

We do not agree that there should be a national park.

We agree with the recommendation to make a change on the southern boundary of Mt. Rainier National Park. And we also agree that much can be gained by both the National Park Service and the Forest Service through effective coordination and management of activities along the boundary between Mt. Rainier National Park and the surrounding National Forest lands.

We agree with the recommendation that the Mt. Baker Recreation Area should continue to be administered for recreation purposes. And we agree with the recommendation that the Cougar Lake and the Monte Cristo Peak Limited Areas, which involve a classification action made within Region 6 of the Forest Service but never reviewed, accepted, nor formally acted on by the Chief of the Forest Service should be discontinued and the area now delineated by these lines on maps should be administered as other National Forest land.

We agree that the recreation load will increase in the Study Area, and that all agencies, including the Forest Service should have, and aggressively pursue plans to provide additional recreational facilities. We also agree there should come into existence a system of scenic roads, and a good system of trails. Some work still remains to be done in working out the details of what the routes would be, and what the priorities should be.

We agree that management of timber in portions of the Study Area needs to be done in such a way that recognition is given to the needs of areas that are important for recreation. The Forest Service is now using a zoning-type approach. We designate landscape management areas, which are similar to roadside zones, to denote areas where the maintenance of scenic attractiveness in the vicinity of developed campgrounds and in the vicinity of roads and waterfronts is an objective of management just as important as is the production of timber. This concept is applied in a selective manner, depending upon the timber type involved, the elevation, the steepness of slope, and other matters of local condition. We have been using this approach for four operating seasons now. We feel that the application of this approach provides an important answer to many of the things in our timber cutting which have, in the past, been rather severely criticized. We agree that the prompt securing of regeneration is important. And we agree that it is important to artificially revegetate roadbanks and other bare areas resulting from logging which, if not revegetated, produce unsightliness and may also be a cause for soil washing.

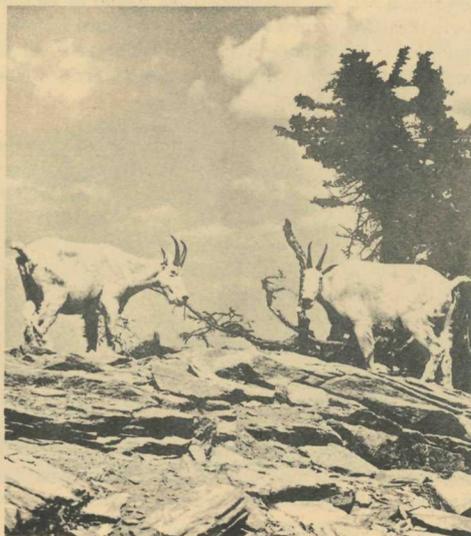
We are in agreement that the Skagit River should receive wild river status and that the recreation impacts of the proposed water power project on the Wenatchee River should be carefully assessed and fully presented when the decisions are being made on this project. We agree that it is desirable to improve fish habitat and wildlife habitat, and, to the extent possible, to increase levels of fish production and to obtain balance between range capacity and numbers of big game and livestock.

As you are aware, this letter is written before the final draft of the Report is completed. I have commented on the recommendations we have discussed. I think the comments are clear, even though they may not appear in the same order as do the recommendations in the final Report. Subject to these comments, I concur in the recommendations section of the Report.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Greeley

A. W. GREELEY,
Member, North Cascades Study Team,
Deputy Chief, Forest Service, USDA.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

2150

December 3, 1965

Dr. Edward C. Crafts, Director
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
Room 4115
U.S. Department of the Interior

Dear Dr. Crafts:

The two sets of comments which we submitted as individual members of the North Cascades Study Team range over the full set of recommendations contained in the draft report transmitted with your memorandum of August 30. They cover points on which there is agreement among Team members as well as points on which there is disagreement. And they attempted to express shades of meaning in some of the comments.

In order to summarize the two longer statements, and to make the position of the Department of Agriculture representatives on the Study Team perfectly clear, the representatives from the Department of Agriculture want this further statement included in the report.

Our summarized recommendations, and the supporting reasons are:

- I. We recommend the establishment of a North Cascades National Recreation Area to include the area between Glacier Peak Wilderness Area and the present North Cascades Primitive Area, including Ross Lake.
- II. We recommend keeping the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area in its present status, with some boundary extensions.
- III. We recommend reclassifying the North Cascades Primitive Area to a Wilderness Area with some boundary changes, and giving appropriate separate names to the portions west and east of Ross Lake. The west portion should be called the Pickett Range Wilderness Area, and the east portion the Pasayten Wilderness Area.
- IV. We recommend keeping the Mt. Baker-Mt. Shuksan area as it now is, a part of the Mt. Baker National Forest where recreation values are specially emphasized.

These four recommendations cover the major points about classifying areas of land concerning which there is disagreement between members of the Study Team.

We also recommend:

- V. Establish new wilderness areas as follows:
 - a. Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area;
 - b. Enchantment Wilderness Area;
 - c. Mt. Aix Wilderness Area;and that the regional designation of certain "Limited Areas" be discontinued.
- VI. An extension on the southern boundary of Mt. Rainier National Park.
- VII. Construction of the following scenic roads:
 - a. Curry Gap
 - b. Cady Pass
 - c. Harts Pass
 - d. Austin Pass
- VIII. The designation of certain parts of the Skagit River and tributaries as Wild River sections.

Comments on other recommendations, which deal with management practices, road use and standards, the need for trails, and the need for additional recreation plans and facilities are not repeated here since they do not bear on the commitment of land for different uses.

The central issue of the study and the report is on the question, should there be a National Park in the North Cascades in addition to Mt. Rainier. We believe strongly that it is neither necessary nor desirable to have an additional National Park. We think national emphasis can be given to the recreation and scenic values of this area without establishing a duplicating organization and unit of administration.

To do this, we recommend a North Cascades National Recreation Area covering the portion of the Study Area that lies between the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area and the to-be-reclassified North Cascades Primitive Area, including a strip of land on both sides of Ross Lake. This is an area of about 537,000 acres. It is the area which an earlier statement refers to as the Eldorado Peaks High Country.

A North Cascades National Recreation Area, including Ross Lake and all of the main mountain area south to the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area would:

1. Earmark the resources of this area as nationally important for recreation, without setting up what otherwise is necessarily a duplicating organization to administer the area.
2. Permit making the additional water impoundments which the City of Seattle needs and plans, without the necessity of an exception to longstanding National Park Service policy.
3. Permit hunting as a recognized and desirable use. This recreation area and the adjacent wilderness areas make a very unusual, rugged-terrain hunting area for deer, black bear, mountain goats, and to a lesser extent for birds. The State of Washington has been emphasizing this traditional, American, outdoor sport by featuring an early hunting season in this part of the Cascade Mountains. This kind of hunting has a place as part of the heritage to be handed on to future generations.
4. Permit the Cross-State Highway which is now being built through the North Cascades to function as a through artery of commercial transport. It is needed as an artery of transport. If this were a National Recreation Area, a through State highway could exist without raising questions as to whether commercial use constitutes an additional exception to longstanding National Park Service policy.
5. Permit carrying out a recreation development plan that includes several tramways and several substantial winter sports areas, for which comparable facilities do not exist now within National Parks, and which present Park policy does not encourage.
6. Permit the recreational pastime of "gathering," which includes berrypicking, rockhounding, gathering weathered and washed wood and use of other minor components of the forest environment that is not now permissible within National Parks.
7. Permit the commercial use of products that become available in the normal course of managing the area for its recognized values of recreation, scenic beauty, wildlife habitat, forage use, water development and production, and forest insect or disease protection.
8. Provide a "national" name and "national" identification for this area.
9. Permit the present formula for sharing National Forest receipts with the counties to operate without changes that would be adverse to some counties and favorable to others.



Special provision should be made for mining. We believe it would be proper to incorporate in the authorizing legislation a provision similar to that in the Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area legislation, to withdraw public lands from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws but to permit removal of nonleasable minerals in the manner prescribed for leasable minerals. We also believe that all mineral activities should be subject to a cut-off date similar in effect to that contained in the Wilderness Act, which is December 31, 1983.

The Forest Service has plans for recreation development of the area which can be adapted intact to a National Recreation Area.

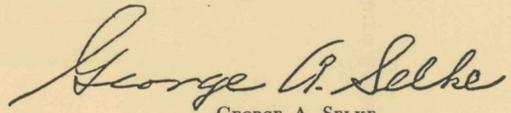
Designating this area as the North Cascades National Recreation Area will give this recreation resource congressional recognition and a national name without setting up a duplicating organization and necessarily duplicating costs. Management as a National Recreation Area makes possible some attention to resources, use for the virile sport of hunting, use for water developments, and for incidental harvesting and "gathering." And as a National Recreation Area there could be full development for winter sports and organization camps, which are not encouraged under existing Park policy.

Forest Service plans for the Study Area call for designating over 1,500,000 acres outside of this recreation area for special attention to recreation values, mostly as wilderness areas. Wilderness classification means some restrictions on use. We believe it is appropriate, proper, and necessary that this area of over 500,000 acres be managed under a philosophy that permits some flexibility in kind and amount of resource use as well as giving permanent recognition to recreation values.

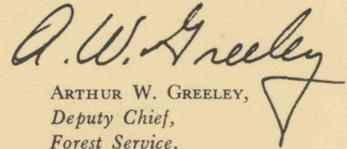
A Pickett Range Wilderness Area will retain in wilderness status this remote and inaccessible area which is wilderness in character if any spot in the United States is. We think it cannot be developed for accelerated recreational use without a loss of wilderness values that should not be sacrificed. We believe the Nation would experience a tangible loss if this area were to be changed to some use other than wilderness.

Establishment of a Pasayten Wilderness Area, consisting of the present North Cascades Primitive Area east of Ross Lake, with some modification of boundaries, is consistent with its long-continued classification as a primitive area. On this point, we understand, there is not disagreement among the Team members.

Respectfully submitted,



GEORGE A. SELKE,
Consultant to the Secretary
of Agriculture.



ARTHUR W. GREELEY,
Deputy Chief,
Forest Service,
U.S. Department of Agriculture.



Southern Pickets in proposed North Cascades National Park (NPS-5307-172).

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