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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FOREST SERVICE, MISSOULA, MONTANA

TO : The Files

DATE: November 25, 1958

FROM : Edward C. Slusher, Forester

ES

SUBJECT: U-CLASSIFICATION, Wilderness Areas, Selway-Bitterroot

7B-72

This is a review of the files from the first consideration of establishment of the Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area until the present (November 25, 1958).

Attachment (Notes)

Edward Slusher

Good historical record - ES

Source:

MOOSE CREEK R.D.
HISTORICAL FILES
FENN 7/97

Notes from Study of Files

May 16, 1935 - Memorandum to Chief Silcox from Robert Marshall listed areas in which he felt the value for wilderness far outweighed the advantages of roads and truck trails then proposed. Selway on this list - termed greatest of all.

March 24, 1936 - Assistant Regional Forester R. F. Koch's recommendations for primitive area boundaries.

April 10, 1936 - Supervisor Brandborg's recommendations for the primitive area.

May 21, 1936 - Letter to R-1 from Chief referring to conference with Marshall in November 1935 in which agreement was reached as to Selway Primitive Area. Asked for report on area at earliest convenience and suggested that no road or truck trail construction be done in the area in the meantime.

June 12, 1936 - Letter from Regional Forester Kelley to Chief forwarding report on Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area.

July 3, 1936 - Acting Chief Earle H. Clapp approved establishment of Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area.

January 29, 1937 - Letter to Chief from Regional Forester Kelley. Central Idaho sportsmen petitioned Kelley for a road from Selway Falls to the confluence of the Selway River and Moose Creek. States that the petitioners say that overpopulation of elk and pressure on winter range inconsistent with the objective of proper resource management.

February 23, 1937 - Letter to Chief from Regional Forester Kelley - states that overpopulation of elk and need for access roads needs more study. He did not want to see a road up the Selway River. Alternatives suggested were road from Paradise down to Bear Creek or road from Lost Horse down Bear Creek. This latter could be objected to because of deeper snow on higher pass.

April 23, 1937 - Letter to Forest Supervisor Brandborg (Btr.) from Regional Forester Kelley disapproving two proposed lookout road spurs.

May 11, 1937 - Memo to Range Management from Lands states policy on range use as follows, "No additional range stock to be permitted and future opportunities shall be seized as presented to reduce present range use for sheep and cattle." A Mr. Spencer's grazing application disapproved in line with this policy.

May 20, 1937 - Letter to Forest Supervisor Phillips from Regional Forester Kelley. Emphasizes that "spirit" of primitive area dedication should be observed and roads should not press boundaries. Contrary to Wolff's interpretation which said that if primitive area was to be roadless, then by implication roads could be built anywhere outside them.

August 26, 1937 - News release announcing opening of Selway Game Preserve to hunting by 1500 hunters to be drawn on August 30. Announcement stated that 3 airfields at Moose Creek, Shearer and Fish Lake are available for use of sportsmen.

November 28, 1938 - Memorandum to Supervisors Phillips (Nezperce) and Brandborg (Bitterroot). Also to Messrs. Jefferson and Koch, calling for conference to discuss boundaries of Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area. Jefferson wrote memo saying that supervisors had had little say in creation of the area.

February 20, 1939 - Letter to Chief from Regional Forester Kelley stating that error was made in showing Colt Creek Road #359 as completed, that there was .8 mi. more to be built as planned. Asked for authority to complete.

March 2, 1939 - Letter to Regional Forester Kelley from Acting Chief Granger. Approved Colt Creek Road #359 for completion but requested that road be stopped short of White Sand Creek, also stated that boundaries of primitive area would have to be redrawn in line with new policy established at last winter's recreation conference. Also stated that Meyer Wolff and Bob Marshall discussed desirability of making another wilderness out of the country south of the Nezperce road and naming it "Breaks of the Salmon Wilderness". Stated that boundary adjustment could just as well be postponed until new manual with new wilderness area standards was approved.

November 22, 1939 - Letter to Chief from Regional Forester Kelley suggesting that the Selway-Bitterroot be named after Bob Marshall.

January 12, 1940 - Letter to Regional Forester from Supervisor Jefferson of Clearwater bringing out need for reclassifying primitive areas as U-1 or U-2 and fact that some logical points of criticism had been directed at Selway area. Brought to Jefferson's attention by Director of Game, State of Idaho, that "present inaccessibility" of this quite large area is a serious obstacle to him in the proper management of wildlife there.

February 1, 1940 - Letter to Supervisor Jefferson of Clearwater National Forest from Meyer Wolff agreeing that boundary changes are needed because of the new regulation U-1 or U-2.

February 13, 1940 - Letter to Regional Forester from Supervisor Brandborg of Bitterroot pointing out need for boundary changes.

February 20, 1940 - Letter to Forest Supervisor Brandborg from Meyer Wolff saying that because of "sentiments and movements in regard....to game management construction of roads, etc.,... it has been decided that it would be unwise at the present time to indicate action" looking to the amendment of the wilderness area boundaries or redesignation under the new regulations. Letter stated that the only area proposed for redesignation in the near future was the Cabinet Mountains.

March 20, 1940 - Letter to Regional Forester from Chief stating that at Washington office staff meeting Selway primitive area picked to be named Bob Marshall. However, before final action question of cutting out roads and getting it qualified for acceptance under U-1 had to be settled. Asked for early reply.

March 28, 1940 - Regional Forester's answer to Chief's letter above saying that approximately 1,525,000 acres would qualify, that public opposition was almost dead, that area would not change in status under the new regulation. Pointed out undesirability of airplane landings but said that they were allowable under U-1.

April 5, 1940 - Memo to files from Meyer Wolff. Said that for a while they had postponed reclassifying area as U-1 based on local objections to keeping roads out. This was a result of a report made by I. V. Anderson of expressions among the wildlife people in Idaho. Anderson states now that this opposition has subsided and the opposite position now taken.

May 4, 1940 - Letter to Regional Forester from Chief stating that it had been decided to rename the qualifying portion of the Selway-Bitterroot primitive area the Bob Marshall Area. Also stated that area could be classed as U-1 without advertising. Asked for new report and map of area.

June 27, 1940 - Letter to Chief from Regional Forester Kelley - recommended that Sun River-South Fork area be named after Bob Marshall and giving reasons. Characterized the Selway-Bitterroot as follows "...has^a a whole insufficient distinctiveness except for monotony of color, character of topography, burned-over land, hot canyons, poor soil and lack of grass and lakes." "The claim for recreational distinction lies almost wholly in size related to lack of roads." "It should be borne in mind too that the landing of private airplanes is not prohibited within this area. This practice was always objected to by Bob Marshall yet such permission could not be revoked and should not be."

No further correspondence concerning the Selway-Bitterroot reclassification or name. Next correspondence concerning airplane landing fields. Then application for reservoir in Fred Burr Creek. This in 1946 after war.

March 22, 1946 - Memo to Regional Forester from Supervisor Myrick of Lolo giving recommended boundaries for Lolo portion of Selway-Bitterroot wilderness.

June 18, 1946 - Meyer Wolff's notes on reconsideration of Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area. Points out two very significant points:

- (1) That personal opinions about the philosophy of dedicating such areas as wilderness are to play no part in one's action.
- (2) That areas do not have to be of any special recreation attraction.

Also covers other significant aspects of reclassification.

May 15, 1946 - Memo to Regional Forester from Bitterroot - want to open up some of primitive area to logging of dead material. Lindh says no need - plenty of timber outside - wait until study is made.

August 12, 1946 - Memo to Regional Forester from Supervisor Brandborg recommending boundary adjustments for Selway-Bitterroot and Pintlar areas.

March 4, 1947 - Memo to Bitterroot from Harmon stating that he would get in touch with the forest in April on reclassification of the primitive area.

May 15, 1947 - Memo to Bitterroot from Harmon setting up trip into Magruder. Also said he hoped to bring Sieker to the forest in July to consider Selway-Bitterroot among other things.

September 8, 1947 - In memo to supervisor of Bitterroot Assistant Regional Forester Harmon concludes that motorboats on lakes in the Selway-Bitterroot are prohibited.

May 6, 1948 - Editor of Western News in caption above pictures of lake says this lake is "one of the many reasons why" this should be a national park.

June 1, 1948 - Memo to Range Management from R. U. Harmon stating that until study is made of needs for grass for hunting camps, that no permits be granted for packstock (I assume this is other than back country hunting camps.).

January 28, 1949 - Memo to Regional Forester from Nezperce Forest Supervisor Cochrell. Recommended following:

- (1) Elimination of thin strip along Salmon River from the mouth of Jersey Creek to mouth of Mallard Creek. This to eliminate Mallard Creek road.
- (2) Running Creek and Fog Mountain roads eliminated.
- (3) Suggested corridor 1/2 mi. each side of "Montana" road #468 as solution to this problem.
- (4) Stated that Fog Mountain road needed to be extended 2 miles to Moose Meadows. Present road ended on steep hillside and almost no chance of even turning a vehicle around.
- (5) Change from Lochsa R. to Glover Saddle - obvious need so boundary could be located on ground.

September 20, 1951 - Memo to supervisor of Bitterroot from Harmon.

Authorization to issue permit for road construction of Bass Creek dam. Road will be kept usable but closed to general public.

January 13, 1954 - Memo to R-1 from Sieker - stated that before Chief could take a stand on Penny Cliffs dam that they would need report from R-1.

January 19, 1954 - Report to Chief by Harmon on influence of Penny Cliffs dam on primitive area. Felt that value of dam to economy was greater than value of this piece of wilderness and elk winter range. Felt that backwater area should be withdrawn from wilderness area, however.

February 2, 1954 - Memo to R-1 from Washington office concerning Penny Cliffs dam. Sieker states: "I think it is safe to assume that this office will approve your recommendations when the time comes to take action." Also states that Washington office feels that Forest Service should not make issue of wilderness invasion that would happen with construction of Penny Cliffs dam. Sieker felt Murie should be told of our proposals.

February 18, 1954 - Memo to Harmon from Regional Forester Hanson called for reclassification of the Selway primitive area to a wilderness area as quickly as possible. Stated that following maps and overlays should be prepared:

Map - good base

Map - improvements,

Overlays - timber, fire, burned over, high elevation recreation areas

February 1, 1954 - Letter to Zahniser, then Executive Secretary, Wilderness Society. Invitation to Wilderness Society to come to Missoula during the coming summer to review reclassification study as far as it had been carried and "discuss some of the overall problems of the primitive areas in this Region."

February 23, 1954 - Letter from Howard Zahniser to Regional Forester Hanson stating that the Society will consider making arrangements for the meeting proposed by Forest Service. Said they were presently greatly interested in threat to wilderness posed by the dams proposed by the Corps of Engineers.

March 3, 1954 - Letter to Zahniser from Harmon. Said that unless Forest Service received funds to make a study of the effects of proposed Penny Cliffs Dam, they would be in no position to judge whether the dam was "injurious, neutral or beneficial". Some preliminary studies probable for this spring (1954). Again voiced hope of an on-the-ground meeting with Wilderness Society.

March 9, 1954 - Memo to regional office from Bitterroot listing private lands, campgrounds and statement on mining activity in their part of primitive area. Referred to map showing roads, trails and cabins.

March 9, 1954 - Memo to regional office from Lolo forwarding map showing improvements and mineral situation. Statement, "The mineral possibilities at Elk Summit are problematical. Mineral examiners say that the transportation item just about excludes low grade mineral as a profitable venture."

March 24, 1954 - Memo to regional office from Clearwater forwarding improvements overlay for their portion of Selway primitive area. Hartig's memo attached says, "There are no improved campgrounds on the area nor are there any known mineralized zones."

March 26, 1954 - Letter to Zahniser from Harmon pointing out inaccuracies in Murie's letter to "Fellow Conservationists" of March 5, 1954. Inaccuracies:

- (1) Statement concerning Bruce Eddy backing water into the primitive area - it is the Penny Cliffs dam.
- (2) Statement that Selway-Bitterroot is a wilderness area - it is a primitive area classified under Reg. L-20.
- (3) Statement that both dams would drastically reduce the large elk herd in north Idaho.

April 28, 1954 - Memo to Lolo from Lindh. Presents idea that because of limited number of customers for barkbeetle-infested spruce outside wilderness area and the probability of considerable controversy in opening up "so called wilderness area" to logging of infested spruce, that priority be given to control program outside primitive area.

April 9, 1954 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce forwarding map and stating: "We do not know of any heavy mineralized area within the primitive area boundaries. Dixie and Elk City were heavily mined and there has been considerable placer mining from Mallard Creek west on the main Salmon River. There are undoubtedly some mining claims that we do not know about in the primitive area. There are no actively worked claims except those shown (on map forwarded with memo)."

September 30, 1954 - Memo to regional office from Supervisor Brandborg stating that discussion with wilderness enthusiasts in local groups showed sufficient flexibility to indicate desirability of meeting with the Wilderness Society to study Forest Service proposals regarding boundary changes. Said he did not propose opening subject until Wilderness Society position was known.

October 5, 1954 - Letter to Zahniser from Harmon. Another invitation for a get-together to review proposals for Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area.

October 26, 1954 - Letter from Zahniser to Harmon brings up matter of visiting Selway-Bitterroot so that Society was in better position to discuss proposals.

November 2, 1954 - Letter to Zahniser from Harmon proposing get-together in Missoula in March.

November 10, 1954 - Zahniser's answer to Harmon saying that he would try to stop in Missoula on his way to Wilderness Conference in California.

March 15, 1955 - Letter from Zahniser to Harmon stating time of arrival and plans for inspection trip discussion. To be in Missoula March 21. Meeting was held with regional office and forest representatives. Plan for horseback and auto trip through primitive area prior to Wilderness Society Meeting at Moose, Wyoming, summer of 1955.

June 2, 1955 - Memo to four forests involved in plans for Society's proposed trip.

June 1955 - "Appraisal of the Fire Problem for the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness" prepared by R. L. Hand.

August 11, 1955 - Letter to Region Four from Harmon. Stated that at our request representatives of the Wilderness Society are cooperating with us in a study of Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area. Said that we did not expect to discuss area south of Darby-Magruder-Elk City road, especially that part draining into Salmon River which should be closely associated with any study made by R-4.

August 17, 1955 - Memo to R-1 from R-4 regretting that they could not send a representative on proposed trip.

October 5, 1955 - Memo to R-4 from R-1. Account of joint Wilderness Society-Forest Service field trip - 4 days auto, 4 days horseback. Results:

- (1) Emphasis placed on need to reclassify the area to wilderness status. Need for existing road and probably others to administer and protect area brought out.
- (2) Emphasis on need to place boundaries on ridgetops.
- (3) Fire and insect problems in overmature timber at north end of area and threat to adjacent timber outside pointed out.
- (4) Private land conflicts.
- (5) Society feels urgent need for reclassifying, recognizes need to exclude roaded area and wants to keep wilderness as large as possible. Agreed that we would not consider the area south of the Magruder road in reclassification at this time. Advised Society Council that the area south of the road to the Salmon River would be held tentatively in primitive classification pending a study of the Idaho Primitive Area and that a joint study of the two areas should be made. They were advised that mining claims on Salmon appeared valid and we could not object to road to fluorspar claims that would go from Salmon Mountain to Harrington Ridge and the mines on the river. No fixed boundaries were discussed with the group but reasons for adjustments were discussed. Hope to establish boundary for consideration this winter.

October 5, 1955 - Memo to Chief from R-1 states, "We expect to keep pressing for a final decision on this matter and as soon as we have come to an agreement locally on a tentative boundary we will submit our plans to your office for consideration."

October 10, 1955 - Memo to R-1 from R-4 stating that R-4 did not expect to reclassify Idaho Primitive Area in the next 2 or 3 years.

October 19, 1955 - Memo from regional office to four forests concerned saying that as Idaho did not plan to study their area adjacent that we would not study any of area south of Magruder road.

January 6, 1956 - Letter to KXLL from Harmon in which he refers to joint interview of he and Zahniser in August 1955. Interview concerned Society and Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area.

January 17, 1956 - Letter to Asst. Sec. Peterson from C. W. Baldwin of Stevensville has statement, "Local forestry personnel seem very intent on getting all possible acreage into wilderness in spite of effect on local irrigation, lumber and grazing." (Local people assuming that irrigation dams would be prohibited in U-1 areas.)

February 3, 1956 - Letter to C. W. Baldwin of Stevensville, Montana, from Sieker stating that local people will be given ample opportunity to voice their opinions before any action taken to establish U-1 area.

December 1, 1955 to January 5, 1956 - Series of clippings from Northwest Tribune which shed some light on feelings and considerations in including or excluding the Montana part of the Bitterroot Mountains.

December 29, 1955 - Letter to Mansfield from Wilbur I. Robinson of Victor, Montana, opposing inclusion of Bitterroot in wilderness area. Robinson representing Big Creek Lakes Reservoir Association. Considerable correspondence explaining away his fears.

April 17, 1956 - Memo from F. K. Stewart to Supervisors of Clearwater and Nezperce Forests forwarding 1/2" map with tentative proposed new boundary set along recognizable features and generally in accordance with discussions with Wilderness Society people last summer. Directed forests to study boundary and send comments as to its suitability.

April 23, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce (Cockrell) concurring in proposed boundaries.

April 26, 1956 - Memo to four forests concerned from Harmon forwarding proposed management policies for Selway-Bitterroot wilderness. Brings up the question of the most suitable name, the Bitterroot-Selway, the Selway-Bitterroot, or just the Selway? Asked for comments and proposed a preliminary draft for Chief and after his concurrence, acquaint the local people with the proposal.

April 20, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Clearwater agreeing to general boundary proposals but suggesting some minor changes.

April 27, 1956 - Memo to Clearwater from Harmon stating that Clearwater boundary suggestions had been considered but all things considered decision had been made to leave boundaries as in proposal.

April 30, 1956 - Memo to Clearwater, Lolo and Nezperce from F. K. Stewart forwarding maps showing acreage of townships lying wholly or partially in present primitive area. Present national forest areas are compiled from these maps and they should be used in recompiling the area of the proposed new wilderness.

May 2, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce (Cockrell). No comments on proposed management policy. States that "Selway Wilderness Area" would be a suitable name.

May 2, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Clearwater (Space) in answer to RO memo of 4/26/56. States preference for name "Selway Wilderness Area". Recommendations on proposed management policies: "If it were not for the landing fields on privately owned land within the area, I would recommend that air travel be limited to Forest Service administration and fire control." Says that to close Forest Service fields to public use at this time would give resort operators monopoly. Memo also advances idea that although not clearly stated management policy intended that no new areas be open for grazing of stock other than for recreational purposes.

May 8, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Lolo (Barry) in answer to regional office memo of April 26, 1956. Suggests that grazing policy be spelled out more clearly, especially regarding how long present permits for sheep and cattle should be permitted. Suggests that roads up Bitterroot canyons be allowed only for dam construction and made impassable after completion, maintenance to be by methods limited to trail transportation. Suggested name of "Chief Joseph Wilderness". Bud Moore had attached comment saying "Let's stick to the name 'Selway-Bitterroot'" and stating that policy seemed weak on the Bitterroot reservoirs. He visualized possibility of road up each canyon in ten years and pushing of the boundary back to the Montana-Idaho line.

May 25, 1956 - Memo to regional office from Bitterroot giving acreage breakdown and recommending that name remain Selway-Bitterroot.

May 10, 1956 - Memo from Lindh to Harmon relating meeting of Lindh and Regional Forester Hanson with Western Pine Assn. Group interested and feel we have sound approach. Asked that Harmon get in touch with George Neff, chairman of meeting. They thought they wanted up to date detailed story of the work so far. This would include type maps, fire records, transportation plan, etc.

August 2, 1956 - Western News (Hamilton, Montana) editorial recommends that Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area be made a national park. States that recreation assets are only real chance of improvement of the Bitterroot Valley economy. Takes notice of possibility of benefits from mineral development.

June 21, 1956 - Letter from Zahniser to Harmon giving Wilderness Society recommendations for reclassifying Selway-Bitterroot Primitive Area. Several major differences between their recommendations and Forest Service proposals, particularly Lochsa face and area south of Magruder road.

July 6, 1956 - Memo to R-1 from Sieker suggests that R-1 review their proposals in the light of Zahniser's letter and see if it is possible to arrive at a proposal which will more nearly fit the idea of the Wilderness Society and also be acceptable to R-1 and local groups.

August 23, 1956 - Memo to Chief from Regional Forester Hanson mentions their discussion of boundary adjustments in Missoula a couple weeks before.

September 10, 1956 - Memo from Harmon to four forests involved forwarding copies of Wilderness Society's meeting minutes and stating that areas supposedly agreed upon for elimination last summer were included in boundaries proposed in the report. Asked for comments and suggestions after review of Wilderness Society report.

August 21, 1956 - Letter to Regional Forester Hanson from Morton R. Brigham, Secretary of District 2 Wildlife Federation, stating that District 2 passed a resolution in its June 1956 meeting to recommend including Meadow Creek in the proposed wilderness area.

August 23, 1956 - Letter to Morton R. Brigham from Regional Forester Hanson stating that our study was not completed but that we did not envision inclusion of Meadow Creek in the Wilderness and that we had transportation plans for this area. Asked for copy of resolution (which was later sent).

November 7, 1956 - Letter to Harmon from Zahniser recommending that transmission lines follow new Lewis & Clark Highway.

November 9, 1956 - Reply to Zahniser by Harmon stating that we would not want a transmission line up the Lochsa nor any line between there and the Magruder road. Felt that perhaps no line across the Bitterroot range would be necessary.

November 5, 1956 - Letter to Harmon from Sec. Brigham of Dist. 2, Wildlife Federation, questioning reasons for improving an airport at Moose Creek "already regarded as an intrusion" in the wilderness area. Also questioned how heavy equipment was to be brought into area.

November 15, 1956 - Letter to Brigham from Harmon. Emphasized that field was needed for planes in protection and administration of the forest and that field was unsafe and needed extension and more favorable approaches. Question of how to get heavy equipment in is being carefully analyzed.

November 7, 1956 - Letter to Zahniser from Harmon (apparently Zahniser had questioned airport expansion at Moose Creek). Said that to minimize need of roads and additional housing, airplanes must be used to protect wilderness and that field must be made safe and able to accommodate DC-3's.

December 17, 1956 - Memo to Chief from R-1 commenting on topics in Zahniser's report of Wilderness Society recommendations.

January 18, 1957 - Letter to Harmon from Brigham stating that as the Forest Service was enlarging Moose Creek airport did they consider abandoning any other airports. Asked about Fish Lake airport future.

January 29, 1957 - Letter to Brigham from Harmon stating that we have no plans to abandon either Fish Lake or Shearer airports as they are both needed in protection of the wilderness.

April 8, 1957 - Memo to R-1 from Sieker outlining procedure for completion of re-classifying job as follows:

- (1) Critically review problem in light of facts uncovered and opinions expressed.
- (2) Formulate definite preliminary proposal for revision of boundaries and state clearly proposed management policy. Give it wide distribution. State definitely what is to be eliminated and what kept primitive pending further study.
- (3) After receiving comments formulate final recommendation to Chief.

Above is essentially procedure being used for Glacier Peak which is in Step 2 discussion phase.

April 25, 1957 - Memo from Harmon to forests involved arranging meeting to confer on strategy for presenting tentatively approved wilderness boundary.

June 7, 1957 - Article from Missoulian quotes Romney as saying "man must eat", calls recreation use a "triple decked sandwich" and again proposed that the Selway-Bitterroot become a national park.

May 31, 1957 - Memo to forests concerned sending preliminary draft of prospectus for their review and discussion with key individuals. After comments received, plan to distribute hundreds of copies of revised prospectus.

July 18, 1957 - Clipping from Lewiston Tribune reporting Supervisor Space's presentation of above proposal to north central Idaho sportsmen (no report of any discussion or opposition).

May 20, 1957 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce (Blackerby) says that in meeting of Idaho Cattlemen's Association he had opportunity to discuss primitive areas along Salmon with Regional Forester Iverson and Payette Supervisor DeFlas and Staffman Hockaday and that R-4 has given some thought to the matter. Recommended that R-1 arrange for joint consideration with R-4.

June 6, 1957 - Memo to R-4 from R-1 suggesting preliminary meeting to discuss approach to joint study on wilderness problem in Salmon River.

June 28, 1957 - Memo from R-4 to R-1 asking for additional copies of draft report and stating that promise card would be set up for consideration of problem in October.

October 8, 1957 - Memo to R-1 from R-4 suggesting discussion of wilderness problems at Inter-regional mining meeting to be held in Salmon November 26.

October 15, 1957 - Memo to R-4 from R-1 concurring in above meeting.

December 6, 1957 - Memo to regional office from Bitterroot Acting Supervisor Wetterstrom transmitting recommendations of the Wilderness Area Committee of the Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association which follow rather closely the recommendations of the Wilderness Society.

January 6, 1958 - Memo to Fire Control from Barry asking for a statement from them on the effect on fire control of the alternatives of excluding or including the Lochsa River face and also the effect on fire control of a road connecting the road at Paradise with the road in Running Creek.

January 22, 1958 - Memo to Lands from Fire Control (Stewart) agreeing with excluding Lochsa face but stating that its advantage to fire control was not primary or basic and they were unable to offer sound arguments from that standpoint. It also stated that Fire Control agreed with the exclusion of the area bounded by the Selway River, Magruder Road and Running Creek.

February 3, 1958 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce (Blackerby) listing organizations to whom proposal had been presented:

- Aug. 5 - Organization Council of Grangeville.
- Oct. 11 - Society of American Foresters (Inland Empire Section)
- Dec. 14 - Idaho Outfitters and Guides
- Dec. 18 - Elk City Community
- Jan. 14 - Kooskia Lions Club
- Feb. 4 - Kiwanis Club of Grangeville

Reported no adverse comments except from Mrs. Maxwell, a teacher at Elk City, who favored inclusion of Meadow Creek. Blackerby recommended classification of Area E as U-3. (Later memo changes this decision.)

March 5, 1958 - Memo to Barry from I&E (Arnold Hanson) stating that they have gone as far with the brochure as advisable until review and approval of the report to the Chief which should have copies of proposed brochure attached.

April 4, 1958 - Letter to Callison Marks, Chief Editorial Writer for Spokesman Review from Barry States:

- (1) No final or firm recommendation for boundary adjustment - a complex problem requiring careful analysis.
- (2) Two years already spent in field examination, surveys and advice from interested parties.
- (3) We will not have a formal proposal for the people until our report is approved by the Chief.
- (4) Brochure to be prepared after approval of report.
- (5) Will keep you advised as soon as we are in position to make firm recommendations.

May 27, 1958 - Letter to Barry from North Idaho Forestry Association (George Beardmore) asking Barry to talk on wilderness situation on June 10.

May 28, 1958 - Barry's acceptance of invitation to speak on wilderness.

May 19, 1958 - Letter to Regional Forester Tebbe from Congresswoman Gracie Pfof asking about setting wilderness area boundary back to the tops of the ridges south of Lochsa River.

May 28, 1958 - Letter to Congresswoman Pfof from regional office explaining reasons for locating boundaries back from Lochsa and our sense of responsibility for the recreation resource. Promised to keep her informed of our progress in this reclassification.

June 14, 1958 - Copy of letter to Gracie Pfof which was sent to regional office by her. Letter expresses fear of what south side of river would look like if logging roads were built to and through it. His position would be that foot-bridges to campsites on the south side of the river would be adequate development. Last paragraph reads, "I am sure that you are acquainted with what some of our forest roads look like after logging operations and I think it would be a crime and a shame to let this happen for no more timber than would be available along this small strip of the Lewis & Clark Highway."

June 20, 1958 - Letter to regional office from Gracie Pfof forwarding above letter from what she termed "one of the best informed citizens of North Idaho". She had sent him Regional Forester Tebbe's letter of May 28.

July 1, 1958 - Letter to Gracie Pfof from regional office stating that recreation will be given top priority in land use planning for the Lochsa canyon.
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March 10, 1958 - Memo to division chiefs and forests concerned forwarding proposed reports to the Chief and asking for comments. (Report worked up by 5 man committee.)

October 14, 1958 - Letter to regional office from Nezperce (Blackerby).
Additional recommendations for "Suggested Guides, etc."

- (1) "Watershed Management" - Action will be taken as needed to maintain suitable vegetative cover and to minimize soil erosion and movement.
- (2) Limitations on the use of mechanical equipment impractical but use should be planned when wilderness users are not in the area. (When could this be, is there a period between summer use and hunting season?)
- (3) "Heliports may be constructed as needed for fire control purposes."
- (4) Suggested that shelters not be restricted to Adirondack.

"Further consideration also prompts us to recommend at "Area E - Upper Selway" be managed under our regular multiple use concepts rather than Reg. U-3."

October 14, 1958 - Letter from Miss Ruth Lampert of Hobnailers Inc. of Spokane. States that at meeting of Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs on Labor Day the delegates recommended that the Federation initiate a study of the Forest Service proposed changes. Asked for a copy of Forest Service plan.

October 17, 1957 - Letter to Miss Lampert from regional office acknowledging letter and promising reply as soon as man most familiar with adjustment returned from field.

January 28, 1958 - Letter to Miss Lampert from regional office (Barry) tells of Wilderness Society trip and resultant tentative proposed boundary. This proposal now being considered by interested groups. Said that brochure answering most questions would be prepared and hoped that it would be out by spring. Emphasized Forest Service multiple use responsibilities.

March 10, 1958 - Letter to regional office from Ruth Lampert. Asked if meetings to advise interested groups of the proposed boundary changes would be held in "Coeur d'Alene or other locations accessible to groups in Washington as well as Idaho and Montana". Asked for maps and materials for presentation at the Northwest Wilderness Conference in Seattle March 22 and 23. This conference sponsored by Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.

March 11, 1958 - Letter to Miss Lampert from Barry. Advised as follows:

- (1) He planned talk on wilderness area to Inland Empire Forest Advisory Council in Spokane March 28, too late to help Miss Lampert.
- (2) That until we had more firm proposals inadvisable to discuss many alternatives being considered.
- (3) See supervisors of Clearwater and Nezperce about study being made.
- (4) Inform your members of study being made and that informational brochure will follow end of study.

October 19, 1958 - Letter to regional office from Miss Lampert. Asked for six copies of promised brochure. Also asked for information on Selway-Bitterroot; when set aside, its size then, changes made since and proposed changes.

October 28, 1958 - Letter to Miss Ruth Lampert from Barry. Said that we need further on-the-ground study, that man had been brought in to expedite classification. Promised to advise her as soon as we had a concrete proposal to present for public discussion.

(The following are comments from forests and divisions on the Committee Report. They are not in chronological order.)

March 21, 1958 - To R&L from I&E. Points raised:

- (1) Word "scooters" inserted on page 2 of "Suggested Guidelines...."
- (2) Need to spell out definitely whether ranger can supply work crews by air.

March 19, 1958 - To R&L from Helena (Moir). "We are in agreement with suggested guidelines developed for wilderness area administration."

April 30, 1958 - To R&L from Engineering (Jones)

- (1) Strongly urge that we avoid any restrictions on use of mechanical equipment.
- (2) If possible guidelines could remain silent on equipment and decisions made as need arose.
- (3) There are at times justifiable reasons for using heavy construction equipment, e.g., Moose Creek landing field.
- (4) Maintain more trails for dollar with equipment.
- (5) Future may find need for construction of low standard roads or ways for the use of tractors and perhaps other heavy machinery for fire control. This considered by fire control officers in the past.

March 13, 1958 - To R&L from Supervisor Fallman, Lewis & Clark.

Object to prohibition of motor-propelled duffle carriers. Says that equipment will be permitted for bridge construction, also portable sawmills will be allowed to facilitate large construction and maintenance projects. "Why single out motorized trail equipment? Let's be practical and economy minded."

May 8, 1958 - To Ed Barry from Ralph Fields.

"If the attached guides for wilderness area administration are accepted as written, the U. S. Forest Service will have taken another step toward liquidation of such broad wilderness areas as now exist in the Bob Marshall and Selway expanses." States that true "wildernesser" wants to get away from civilizations smells and sounds and that we are proposing a lot of such activity. Predicts cutting of timber in area. Says, "Our 4 million acres of dedicated area is too big and broad and probably ought to be shaved down to smaller areas we can manage by using horse and mule methods and hand labor."

March 18, 1958 - To R&L from Lindh. Comments:

- (1) "Not mentioned in the analysis is the commercial forest area of over one million acres supporting a merchantable stand of $7\frac{1}{2}$ billion board feet of timber." Points out need of analyzing timber use in the report and embarrassment that could result from its omission.
- (2) Facts on primitive area timber resources
 - (a) 7% of total non-reserved national forest commercial forest land in Region 1.
 - (b) 10% of total national forest non-reserved merchantable volume in Region 1.
 - (c) 25% of national forest commercial forest area in north Idaho.
 - (d) 20% of total live sawtimber in north Idaho.
50% of national forest ponderosa pine sawtimber in north Idaho.

- (e) Contains more sawtimber than St. Joe, as much as Coeur d'Alene. More than any Montana forests except Kootenai and Lolo.
- (f) Growth potential could be as much as 250 MM board feet annually. This is equal to 50% of the present national forest cut in northern Idaho.
- (3) Analysis should be made of wilderness vs. multiple use for entire area.
- (4) Suggested changes in "Suggested Guides for Wilderness Area Administration":
 - (a) Under Timber Management, page 4, change to "No commercial timber harvest will be permitted unless it is necessary as an insect and disease control measure of major importance to surrounding areas. Such cutting will not be permitted, except where individual analysis, subject to review and approval of the Chief, clearly shows that serious threats are concerned.
 - (b) Recommend that section of page 7 "Exceptions" be deleted because the only certain thing is that there will be exceptions.

March 25, 1958 - Memo to regional office from Supervisor Blackerby of Nezperce with resolution of Grangeville Wildlife Association attached. Resolution in favor of keeping Meadow Creek area multiple use. Presented to District 2, Idaho Wildlife Federation meeting in Lewiston on March 23. Group withheld action until their next meeting.

March 21, 1958 - Memo to regional office from Nezperce (Blackerby). Agreed that Committee did a good job on the boundary adjustment. Comments on boundary adjustments affecting Nezperce portion:

- (1) Area D, Lochsa face - exclusion appears necessary to meet recreation demands after completion of Lewis & Clark Highway.
- (2) Area E - felt justified to manage under U-3 (later changed this). Felt it might be difficult to identify the boundary in the northeast portion where it followed unsurveyed section lines and crossed drainages for about seven miles. Would it be more practical to have boundary parallel road and Selway River at specified distance, say two miles?
- (3) Fog Mountain - appears logical to eliminate and not following ridges justified to keep crags in.
- (4) Buck Lake Creek - approve adjustment. Comments on "Suggested Guides....":
 - (a) Add helicopters as authorized administrative equipment.
 - (b) Feels that all types of powered trail maintenance and construction equipment should be allowed. Has proposed clause covering this.
 - (c) Proposes new wording for grazing policy.

March 21, 1958 - Memo to regional office from Bitterroot (Trosper) "It is believed that the proposed boundary around the west end of Como Lake was placed too far back for justifying reasons stated. "We have, therefore, moved it back approximately a mile east." This thought to provide adequate room for recreational development. Writeup for Como area suitable except paragraph dealing with commercial timber should be deleted. (Map is attached showing desired boundary change.)