

The Wilderness Society
1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

October 1, 1975

Dear Member:

The timber industry is having a field day at our expense. I think you know why -- their goal is stepped-up exploitation of our national forests, including the last unprotected virgin wilderness.

The big timber companies are trying hard to distort this issue so that we conservationists look like the culprits who are trying to stymie progress.

A nation-wide advertising campaign claims that new wilderness areas would deprive the country of needed timber supplies. NOT TRUE -- the Forest Service says wilderness areas can be tripled at the same time timber production is increased by over 50% on more productive lands.

In reality, the timber industry has overcut its own land. Now they are going after the national forests including many of 1,200 roadless areas, some 44,000,000 acres of unprotected wilderness.

You and I know the importance of protecting wilderness and wildlife from the devastating effects of clearcutting which virtually eliminates all trees and vegetation.

What most conservationists don't realize is that because of the pressure from the big corporations, the Forest Service has let industry "cut out and get out", clearcutting in large potential wilderness areas which have been denied even a wilderness study.

You and I cannot stand by and do nothing. We must act now to strike a blow for the long-term protection of our forests.

Here are three things you can do to help:

1. Send a postcard or letter to the Forest Service expressing your views on the opening to logging of the national forest roadless areas (conservationists are urging protection of at least 41 million acres of wilderness in these wild lands). Address to: Chief, Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250
2. Put the enclosed "I SUPPORT WILDERNESS" bumper strip on your car or the door of your home to show where you stand. Help counter the anti-wilderness campaign.
3. Send a check to support the mobilization and training of citizen conservationists to save national forest wilderness and to oppose destructive timber practices.

Right now, the future of the national forests has been opened up for public debate. Final decisions on how they should be managed in the long term public