

10 MILE STRIP, BOREA W. TO BAKERSFIELD  
A NATIONAL PARK.

DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED  
JUL 22 1939  
TO PUBLIC WORKS  
DIV. OF MAIL & FILES

DR. H. ICKES, D/I WASHINGTON

DEAR SIR:

FROM TOBO HOT SPRINGS CALIF. WE  
SEND GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY,  
BY RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT OUR GOVERN-  
MENT DEVELOP A TEN MILE STRIP OF LAND,  
USING KERN RIVER AS THE CENTER LINE, WITH  
EASTERN TERMINAL KNOWN AS EDISON POWER  
HOUSE NO. 2.

30000 PEOPLE COME HERE ANNUALLY  
TRY TO FIND THERE IS NOT ENOUGH WATER  
FROM ONE LITTLE SET OF SPRINGS TO SUPPLY  
AN EVER INCREASING HORDE OF PEOPLE FROM  
EVERY STATE IN THE UNION, WHILE DOWN THE  
RIVER FROM THIS POINT, SEVERAL HUNDRED  
SPRINGS MAY BE DEVELOPED, WITH MOST OF  
THEM ON GOVERNMENT PROPERTY OR HEAD  
AS MINING CLAIMS.

THE WRITER HAS TEN FINE MINERAL  
SPRINGS, FLOWING INTO THE KERN RIVER  
WHICH SHOULD COME UNDER A CCC WORK PRO-  
JECT OR NATIONAL PARK DEVELOPMENT, 1 1/2  
MILES W. OF THIS POINT. THERE ARE 100 OTHERS  
IN CLOSE PROXIMITY. WE PLEAD FOR IMMEDIATE  
ACTION BY OUR GOVERNMENT IN RELIEVING A  
CROWDED, DEPLORABLE CONDITION.

223822 JUL 22 39

*[Handwritten Signature]*

*Hompson*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

*0-32  
California*

ADDRESS ONLY  
THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

July 31, 1939.

Mr. Robert Spehr,

Hobo Hot Springs, California.

Dear Mr. Spehr:

By reference from Secretary Ickes, we have received your recent letter and petition to establish the ten mile strip along the Kern River as a national park.

We appreciate your thoughtfulness in advising the Federal Government about this area. However, it is the policy of the National Park Service to acquire and administer only areas of outstanding national significance for their scenic, scientific, historic, or recreational value. It is doubtful whether the area you described would qualify for inclusion in the national park system.

Perhaps this area would be suitable for State or local park or recreational purposes, and with this in mind, it is suggested that, if you have not already done so, you communicate with the California State Park authorities.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) Fred T. Johnston

Fred T. Johnston,  
Acting Supervisor of Recre-  
tion and Land Planning.

- cc: Mr. Sid Kennedy, with cc. of correspondence
- cc: Region IV, with cc. of incoming letter
- cc: BRLPSC - Room 5214

WEL-fmd