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Bayer  
Shaw  
Mooker  
Solomon  
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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OFFICE COPY

The President,

The White House.

Through: Bureau of the Budget  
The Attorney General  
Division of the  
Federal Register.

My dear Mr. President:

I submit for your consideration a form of proclamation to establish the Snake River Canyon National Monument, Idaho and Oregon, under the provisions of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225).

The proposed national monument, as shown on the attached map, lies at the northeast corner of Oregon and the central-western border of Idaho, within the Hespersee, Weiser, and Wallowa National Forests. The central feature of the area is the gorge of the Snake River, the most rugged section of which is embraced in the proposed national monument.

The Grand Canyon of the Snake River is remarkable because of its depth and somber grandeur. Among the great canyons of the West, none is so deep, none has such strong relief and such prevailing abrupt slopes, and few can compare in diversity of scenic and physiographic types. The canyon is a narrow, V-shaped gorge, a classic example of erosion by a swift stream in homogeneous bedrock. Glaciers have modified the heads of some of the tributary valleys and have accentuated the ruggedness of the high divides and peaks.

The somber tone of the landscape is due to the dark color of the bedrock which consists of volcanic rock from two of the greatest lava fields in the country. One was formed in Permian time, but the lava and ash of which it was composed has been altered to dense, dark greenstone and its stratification obliterated. The other, called the Columbia River lava, was formed in Tertiary time and its tilted beds not only show the number of flows which invaded the country, but also indicate the magnitude of the diastrophic forces that made possible the formation of the mountains.

The Grand Canyon of the Snake River is of special interest because it has persisted through two major mountain-making movements. In Cretaceous time a mountain range rose slowly across the course of

the Snake River. This arching of the rocks was again rejuvenated in Tertiary time, with the added obstruction of innumerable flows of lava, none of which diverted the Snake River from its course. Like a great saw it has cut its canyon across the rising ranges and through the great accumulations of lava which flowed across its course. The geologic features of this canyon differ from those in any national park.

Grazing is the principal commercial use now made of the area. Under Forest Service administration grazing has been greatly reduced within the proposed monument area as a means of range conservation. Grazing within the proposed monument can be handled under grazing permits issued by this Department until satisfactory adjustment can be made without undue hardship to livestock owners. Prospecting over a period of two generations has not produced any commercially important mines in the area.

If the suggested area is established as a national monument, annual operating costs are estimated at \$7,500. There would be opportunity to make substantial returns to the Federal Treasury from fees and charges.

The entire area consisting of approximately 77,500 acres is in public ownership, except 852 acres of private land. The proclamation is drafted subject to all valid existing rights, and its issuance is respectfully recommended.

Sincerely yours,

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Secretary of the Interior.

Enclosure 1709504

cc: 2 Park Service  
General Land Office (by NPS)  
Geological Survey (by Nps)  
ERLPSC-Room 5214-thru Mrs. Ford (by NPS)

EXCLUDING CERTAIN LANDS FROM THE HEZPERCEE, WEISER AND  
WALLOWA NATIONAL FORESTS AND ESTABLISHING THE  
SNAKE RIVER CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT  
IDAHO - OREGON

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it appears that certain lands within the  
Hezpercee, Weiser and Wallowa National Forests in the  
States of Idaho and Oregon have situate thereon a portion  
of the Grand Canyon of the Snake River, the deepest gorge  
in the United States which illustrates the forces of  
erosive action, and other features of scientific interest;  
and

WHEREAS it appears that it would be in the public  
interest to reserve such lands as a national monument to  
be known as the Snake River Canyon National Monument:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President  
of the United States of America, under and by virtue of  
the authority vested in me by section 1 of the act of  
June 4, 1897, 30 Stat. 11, 34, 35 (U. S. C. title 16, sec.  
473), and section 2 of the act of June 9, 1906, c. 3060,  
34 Stat. 225 (U. S. C. title 16, sec. 431), do proclaim  
that all of the following described lands in Idaho and  
Oregon are hereby excluded from the said Hezpercee, Weiser  
and Wallowa National Forests and, subject to valid existing  
rights, are reserved and set apart as the Snake River  
Canyon National Monument:

BOISE MERIDIAN - IDAHO

T. 23 N., R. 1 W., Those parts of Sags. 5, 6 and  
7 north and west of the divide  
between Salmon and Snake Rivers;

WEISER  
WE

- T. 22 N., R. 3 W., That part west of the divide between Salmon and Snake Rivers;
- T. 23 N., R. 3 W., That part west of the divide between Salmon and Snake Rivers (unsurveyed);
- Tps. 22 and 23 N., R. 3 W., All;

WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN - OREGON

- T. 4 S., R. 46 E., Those parts of Secs. 1, 12 and 13 east of the divide between Innaha and Snake Rivers and that part of Sec. 14 east of that divide and north of the Whitman National Forest;
  - T. 2 S., R. 49 E., Those parts of Secs. 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 south of Saddle Creek, those parts of Secs. 20, 29 and 32 east of the divide between Innaha and Snake Rivers, and Secs. 21 to 28 and 33 to 36, inclusive (unsurveyed);
  - T. 3 S., R. 49 E., That part east of the divide between Innaha and Snake Rivers (unsurveyed);
  - T. 4 S., R. 49 E., That part east of the divide between Innaha and Snake Rivers and north of 32 Point Creek and the Whitman National Forest (unsurveyed);
  - T. 2 S., R. 30 E., That part south of Saddle Creek (unsurveyed);
- aggregating approximately 77,500 acres.

Warning is hereby expressly given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any of the lands thereof.

The Director of the National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall have the supervision, management, and control of the monument as provided in the act of Congress entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," approved August 25, 1916, 39 Stat. 535 (U. S. C. title 16, secs. 1 and 2), and acts supplementary thereto and amendatory thereof, Provided, That this reservation shall not revoke previous withdrawals made for power site classifications under the Act of March 3, 1879 (20 Stat. 394).

