

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Department of Agriculture—Forest Service  
Washington, D. C.

# Memorandum

TO : George Tourtillott, Division of  
Legislative Reporting & Liaison

File No. 2320

FROM : Gordon Hammon, Division of  
Recreation and Land Uses

Date: November 2, 1964

SUBJECT: Bear Natural Areas (Implementing the  
Wilderness Act)

Your reference:

The Task Force has raised the question of the interpretation of the term "Mechanical transport" as used in Sec. 4(a) of the Act.

The following definition represents one school of thought of the Task Force:

"A contrivance for moving personnel or material over land or water; without power or propulsion other than from a living source. Includes horse drawn wagons, bicycles, non-motorized duffel carriers, pedal propelled water machines and rowboats."

The other school of thought is that the term is nearly interchangeable with "motorized equipment" but somewhat broader:

"Mechanical transport as used in this title includes any contrivance which travels over ground or water on wheels, tracks, skids, or by floatation and is propelled by a non-living power source contained or carried on or within the device."

Your interpretation will be appreciated. The major difference in these two definitions is that the first would not allow the use of such vehicles as bicycles, horse drawn wagons, non-motorized duffel carriers, pedal propelled water machines and rowboats. The second definition would allow these items to be used in wilderness.

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2364.5 attached  
for review

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