

DECEMBER 13, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 267 -- Flat Tops Wilderness, Colorado -- which designates the Flat Tops Wilderness in Colorado comprising an area of approximately 235, 230 acres. This bill will establish the Flat Tops Wilderness comprising an area of about 235,230 acres within the White River and Routt National Forests which are located approximately 170 miles west of Denver, Colorado. The core of the proposed wilderness is an abrupt, irregular border of lava rock which forms a broad plateau, known as the "Flat Tops." Erosion has created river canyons and lake beds on the plateau itself, and sheer volcanic escarpments sharply delineate its perimeter -- wildlife, timber and grasslands predominate throughout the area. The bill will require that the Flat Tops Wilderness be administered under the provisions of the Wilderness Act which means its primitive, natural state would be retained.

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