

(Public Hearing, Lewiston, Idaho, October 2, 1997)

6 BY TWILA HORNBECK:

7 I'm Twila Hornbeck, I'm a State Rep for District 8. I
8 live in Grangeville. I am -- I have five generations of my
9 family that was born in Idaho County and live in Idaho
10 County. The sixth generation was born there and they now
11 live in Ada County. But we do have a long history of being
12 Idaho residents. We live where these bears will be.

13 I have come to these grizzly hearings for so long that I
14 forgot how long I have been here. I asked them, Why do you
15 want to put in the grizzly, and they said, Because they are
16 not there. Well, they promised that if they ever knew there
17 was a grizzly, they would not reintroduce grizzlies. Now we
18 have been told that there probably is grizzlies back there,
19 but just not enough to re-establish the amount of grizzlies
20 that they want.

21 They come forward with a number that they want to
22 establish a heard, but how do we know we can believe them
23 now. You come and you listen to the people of Idaho, the
24 people who live with these bears, and you will find they are
25 all opposed to the reintroduction of the grizzly bear. Their

108

1 livelihoods will suffer. The towns that they support will
2 die and you will have the tourists coming through to see the
3 grizzly bear because they can't get out anywhere.

4 I would only -- I can only warn that the reintroduction
5 is the tip of the iceberg. These people, the young people
6 that are advocating this kind of a thing do not care about
7 our way of life. They do not care about our capitalist
8 system, they are trying to tear it down. They are doing away
9 with our livelihoods. I think that if we give in to this at
10 this point, we have to do like Mr. Wasem said, and we are
11 going to have to move out of the west and go back to the
12 Mideast and give the west back to the Indians and the grizzly
13 bears.

14 As far as I'm concerned, I would like no bears, but I
15 know that you have made up your mind and there will be
16 grizzly bears reintroduced. And if I had my druthers on the
17 hand that's left, I'd have to go with plan No. 1 because that
18 will at least give the local people some kind of control over
19 what happens with the grizzly bears, but we all know that's a
20 farce because they don't have autonomy. They will not be
21 able to do like they want to do when they manage the bears,
22 so I just have to opt for no grizzly bears. Thank you very
23 much.

109