



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate

March 21 1974

A handwritten mark, possibly a signature or initials, is located to the right of the date.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you requested, here is our report on S. 110, a bill "To designate certain lands in the Cleveland National Forest, California, as the 'Agua Tibia Wilderness' for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System."

The Department of Agriculture recommends that S. 110 be enacted if amended to conform with the Administration's proposal as contained in S. 601.

S. 110 would designate as wilderness approximately 16,410 acres within the Cleveland National Forest, California. The area would be known as the "Agua Tibia Wilderness" and would be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 890) established the National Wilderness Preservation System. Subsection 3(b) of the Wilderness Act directed the Secretary of Agriculture to review the areas then classified as National Forest Primitive Areas, within ten years, as to their suitability or non-suitability for preservation as wilderness. The Act provided that the Secretary is to report his findings to the President, and the President is to submit his recommendations to the Congress.

The Agua Tibia Wilderness proposal included in S. 601 resulted from a review of the Agua Tibia Primitive Area in accordance with the review procedure set forth by the Wilderness Act. The Secretary of Agriculture submitted a report of his finding on the area to the President. The President submitted his recommendation to the Congress on February 8, 1972, on the Agua Tibia Wilderness proposal. That proposal recommended that approximately 11,900 acres of Federal land in the Agua Tibia Primitive Area be designated as wilderness.

S. 110 includes the entire area recommended by the President and includes approximately 4,500 additional acres. These additional lands were specifically reviewed during the primitive area study and are described in the Secretary's report which accompanied the President's recommendation to Congress. The areas are referred to in the report and comprise the major portion of exclusions 1 and 3. The portion of exclusion 1 contains approximately 3,900 acres. It

Honorable Henry M. Jackson

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contains two roads which are in place, and portions of these roads will continue to be needed to carry out essential fire protection and related administrative activities. The portion of exclusion 3 contains approximately 600 acres. It is divided into two parts by an existing road. The Forest Service plans to close this road; however, its presence in the area has had a substantial impact on the land. These evidences of man's activity and the continuing need for the roads in exclusion 1 led to our determination not to recommend the inclusion of these lands in the wilderness. We strongly recommend that our 11,900 acre proposal be adopted.

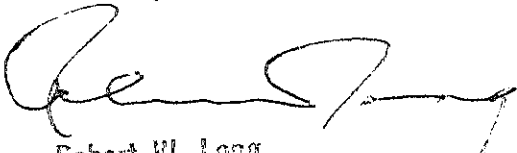
S. 110 does not contain a provision to abolish the Agua Tibia Primitive Area classification. We recommend that this provision be included in legislation designating the wilderness.

An environmental statement for the Agua Tibia Wilderness Proposal has been prepared pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (83 Stat. 852).

The lands proposed for designation as the Agua Tibia Wilderness are presently being administered as part of the Cleveland National Forest. No new budget authority or additional appropriations would be required as a result of enactment of the proposed legislation.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report and that enactment of legislation to designate the Agua Tibia Wilderness as recommended herein would be consistent with the Administration's objectives.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Long
Assistant Secretary for Conservation,
Research and Education

January 28, 1974

To: Bill Shafer, House Interior Committee

From: Mike Griswold, Assistant Director of Recreation, Forest Service

Subject: Agua Tibia Wilderness proposal

You asked several questions, and requested an informal memo. This memo is as unformal and informal as it can be, 'cause I am typing it myself and there are no other copies.

1. Has the Forest Service acquired the private lands located in the two areas labeled Exclusions No. 1 and 3?

These parcels have not been acquired by the Forest Service.

2. Is the Forest Service philosophically opposed to including Exclusions No. 1 and 3, with the roads to be used only for management?

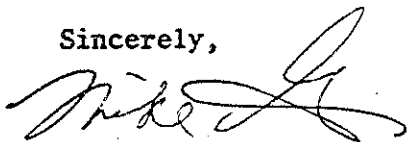
We believe it would be counter to the basic tenets of the Wilderness Act to include within a Wilderness roads which the administering agency intends to maintain as permanent roads (and even as temporary roads, what ever they are). The Forest Service would oppose inclusion of the roaded areas.

3. Did the Forest Service remove considerable acreage from the preliminary proposal after the public hearings and before sending the final proposal via President to Congress?

No. In fact, the reverse is true. The preliminary proposal taken to public hearing contained 7,774 acres, whereas the final sent to Congress includes 11,920 acres. The addition came from including the lobe to the northeast--from the narrowest portion of the Wilderness northeastward. The only deletion was that portion of Exclusion 3 which lies between the western boundary and the road, where the preliminary proposal included about 200 acres more than is now proposed.

Hope these answers suffice.

Sincerely,



Mike Griswold

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
3211 Fifth Avenue
San Diego, California 92103

REPLY TO: 2320 Wildernesses and Primitive Areas

July 19, 1974

SUBJECT: Agua Tibia Wilderness Proposed

TO: U. S. Forest Service
Attention: Tom Roederer
Division of Recreation
South Building
Washington, D.C. 20250



As requested by Mark Reimers I am enclosing maps showing the 4 alternate proposals discussed on the phone on this date with Roy Saarni. These are in order of priority. A copy of the original proposed map (page 11 of the 1971 Agua Tibia proposal) is also enclosed. This, of course, remains our priority preference.

The Crosley Homestead acreage shown just east of the Agua Tibia is a part of an 820 acre continuous parcel of private land that extends another 1-1/2 miles further north than shown in the page 11 proposal map. Our alternate No. 1 would provide for a continuing 1/4 mile or more buffer from this potential density development. No. 1 also provides a 660 feet buffer west of the Foster 45 acre parcel.

Our objection to the inclusion of any part of Exclusion 1 into the proposed Wilderness continues to be based on the presence of 3 segments of road totaling about 13 miles in length. These are well defined and regularly maintained emergency fire access roads that have been in existence for about 40 years. Public access is not allowed or proposed in the future.

Please call if we can assist you with any other details in this matter.

DONALD H. SMITH
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures

Exclusions:

480 ac. Gross
405 ac. U.S.
75 ac. Pri.

Balance in Exclu. #1:
4131 Ac.

Boundary A.T.

7/19/74

Alternative No. 2

Exclusions:

400 Ac. Gross
325 Ac. U.S.
75 Ac. Pri.

Balance in Exclu. 1:

4211 ac.

17

7-19-74

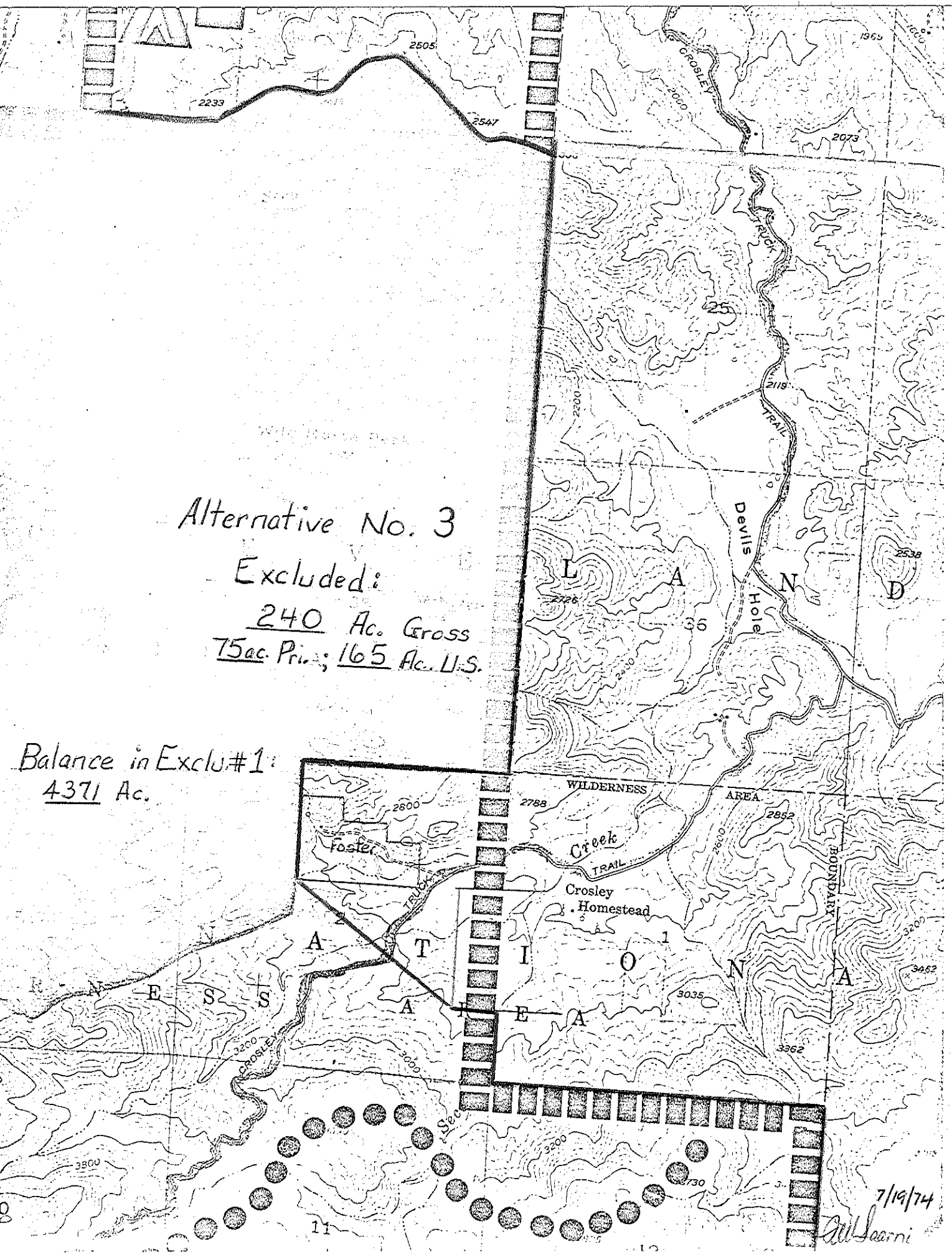
Bill Lamm

Alternative No. 3

Excluded:

240 Ac. Gross
75 ac. Priv.; 165 Ac. U.S.

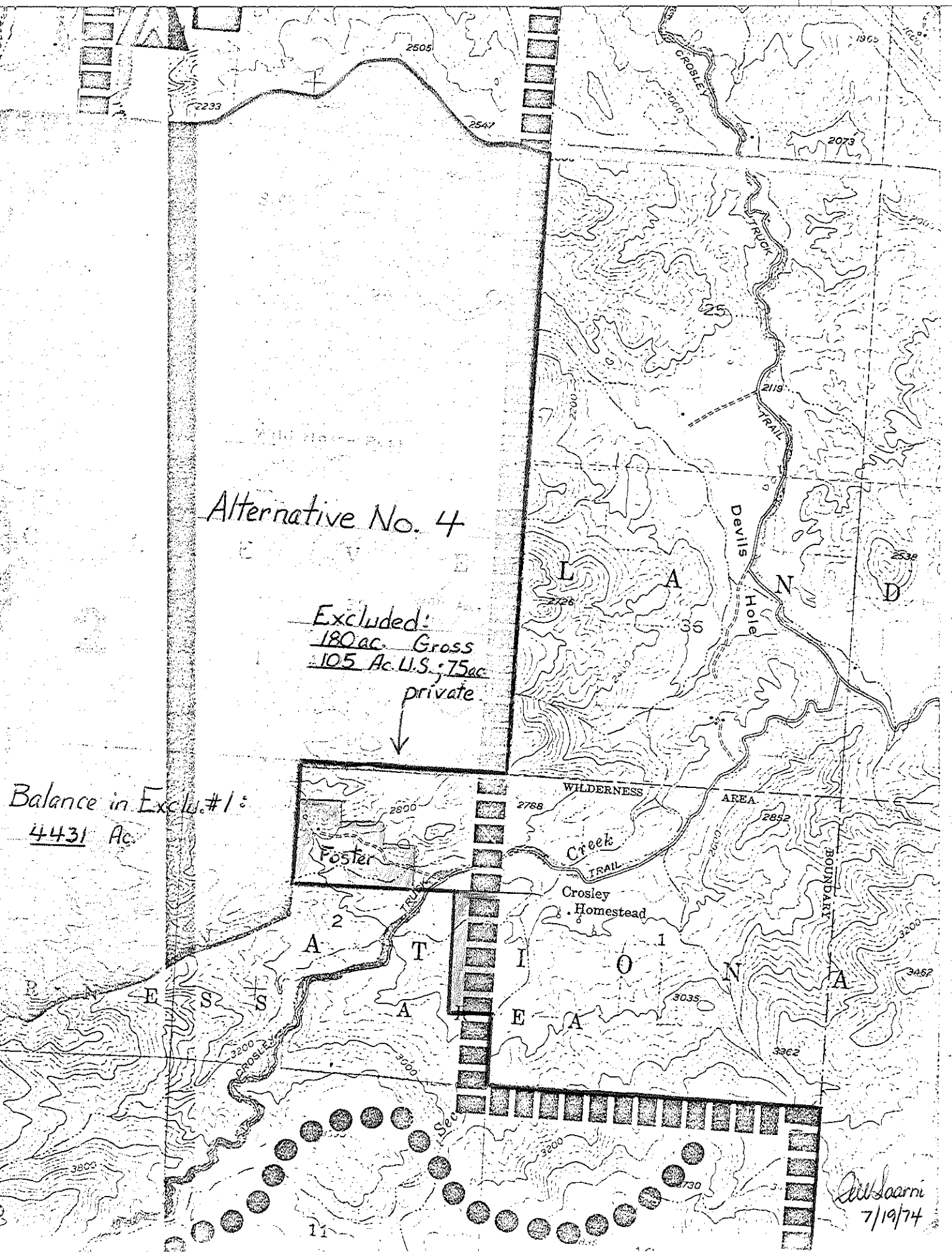
Balance in Exclu.#1:
4371 Ac.



Alternative No. 4

Excluded:
180 ac. Gross
105 Ac. U.S.; 75 ac.
private

Balance in Exclu. #1:
4431 Ac.



R.I.W.

R.I.E.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

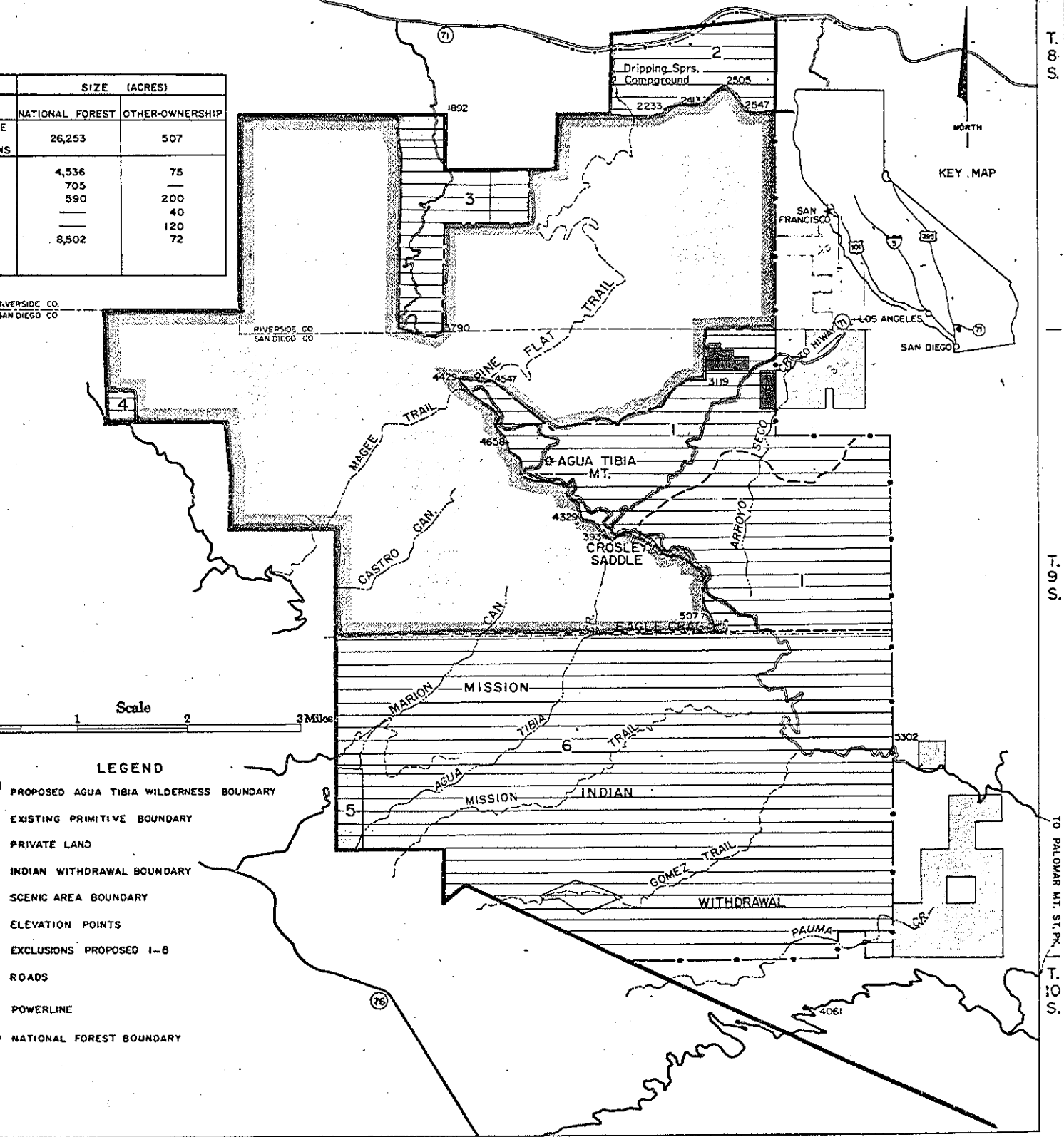
CALIFORNIA REGION

CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST AGUA TIBIA WILDERNESS

PROPOSED
AUGUST 1971

SIZE (ACRES)	
NATIONAL FOREST	OTHER-OWNERSHIP
26,253	507
4,536	75
705	—
590	200
—	40
—	120
8,502	72

RIVERSIDE CO.
SAN DIEGO CO.



T. 8 S.

T. 9 S.

T. 10 S.

R.I.W.

R.I.E.