

## Worksheet D Teacher's Key

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Supplementary Worksheet for House Hearings on Big Thicket National Preserve (1972)

This film from 1972 captures coverage of hearings in the United States House of Representatives regarding the creation of the Big Thicket National Preserve. In the footage, broadcast on Beaumont's KFDM-TV, representatives discuss the need for and proposed implementation of conservation efforts.

This worksheet is designed to help you gather information from the film about the benefits and disadvantages of the timber industry. Answer the questions completely and determine which position the filmmakers and the film's participants would take.

What does the congressman say are the concerns of those in the hearing about the Big Thicket?

The potential size of the park and the desire to preserve the ecology of the region while creating recreation areas for tourists.

The individual testifying in the hearing has noticed something in the Big Thicket that is cause for concern. What is concerning him? Why would this be a problem?

He is worried about how quickly areas of the Big Thicket are being destroyed. This is a concern because reforestation takes a long time and rapid destruction may harm the ecosystem.

During the congressional hearing, the individual testifying also argues against a "string of pearls" theory for the park plans. This is where the park is broken up into a long string of small preserved areas. Why do you think the man does not agree with this plan?

[Student's opinion – The individual testifying states that they need large, contiguous areas. Students can present why they think having a contiguous area would help the wildlife, the ecology, or the ability to preserve the area.]

The representative from the timber industry is arguing for the "string of pearls" park. Why does he say this is the plan that Congress should approve? Why is it a better plan, according to him?

This plan has been approved by the National Park Service. The land that has been defined in this plan are particular, unique ecological units.

What does the timber industry representative say they do about forest conservation? Why would forest conservation be important to the timber industry?

They work to maintain diversity, and they are growing more trees they are cutting. This is important to raise trees and provide for the need for lumber.

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## Vocabulary:

Ecology –

relationship between the organisms living in a system

Biodiversity –

variety of plants and animals living in an ecosystem