

certain area does not mean that it will always be so. Every year on this floor we have some indication that this Legislature wants to exercise additional control over certain areas without recognizing that in the years to come there are going to be additional areas of responsibility if we maintain that control. Someone has to supervise it, someone has to police it, someone has to maintain it, someone has to clean it up and we never really take care of that. I was amazed at the people who spoke in glowing terms of the beauty of the Niobrara and how it should be preserved for human beings forever and ever and ever. Well, I remember the Niobrara, particularly those portions of it which they now canoe, before the population knew it was there. I can tell you very frankly it was in better condition then than it is now, and if you don't think so, even today fly up and down the Niobrara and take a look at it. I think you will find that it is not as good as it was back in the prepublic interest days. So if we are going to follow the route suggested by Senator Beutler, and I'm not saying he is altogether wrong, then remember this, that with that route goes the responsibility for the maintenance and the upkeep of that territory and someone is going to have to do it. Are we going to mandate by state law certain actions that must be again carried out by local government without a compensating kind of contribution financially? I think Senator Lamb has really made an effort here to compromise and I would hope that we would adopt his amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Smith. Senator Smith, your light is next. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Mr. Chairman, I have a question for Senator Lamb.

SENATOR WARNER: Do you yield?

SENATOR LAMB: Yes.

SENATOR HILLMAN: I have some concerns about some of the wordage on instream flow. Could you tell me how your legislation would impact any instream flows?

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Hillman, that is not addressed in this bill. It...perhaps you're looking at Senator Beutler's amendment. I think that's where...this bill does not address that question. It's addressed to other places in the statutes,