Winema National Forest Created; President's Proclamation Establishes Boundaries

A Proclamation establishing boundaries of the nation's newest National Forest—the Winema in Southern Oregon—was signed July 26, 1961, by President John F. Kennedy.

The boundaries established, effective July 1, are in line with proposals made by the Pacific Northwest Region of the U. S. J. Herbert Stone, Regional Forest Service, according to Forester.

The new forest includes former Klamath Indian Reservation land and portions of three adjoining National Forests. Stone said total acreage of the Winema National Forest, named for a Modoc War heroine, is approximately 915,000 acres. About 525,000 acres of Klamath Indian land became National Forest land in April. All but about 100,000 acres now form the nucleus of the new National Forest. Remained of land being attached to the Fremont National Forest for more efficient administration. Approximately 265,000 acres of the Rogue River National Forest, 155,000 acres of the Fremont National Forest, and 70,000 acres of the Deschutes National Forest were transferred to the new Forest by the President's Proclamation.

Alex E. Smith, Supervisor of the Winema National Forest, said there are three ranger districts included in the new administrative structure. The district offices are at Chiloquin, Chemult and Klamath Falls. Rangers are Homer G. Faublouer, Douglas B. Shav and Earl M. Karlings. Supervisor headquarters also are at Klamath Falls.

Smith has been in Klamath Falls since early this year directing the many phases of planning and work necessary to smooth transfer of the lands. It was necessary to proceed with plans for management of range, water, timber, recreation and wildlife resources of the Indian lands and to lay the groundwork for the permanent establishment of a new National Forest, Stone pointed out.

The Indian Reservation lands which form the nucleus of the new Winema Forest have been under management by the Forest Service since April 15, 1961. This is the day on which Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman accepted the lands from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and they were added to the National Forest System.

In this period intensive planning has gone forward. A range analysis survey has been initiated to evaluate the recreation opportunities on the former Indian lands. Three timber sales for a total of twenty-four million board feet have been made during the period since April 15, and a full strength fire suppression organization has been developed and trained to protect the former reservation area from fire.

In discussing the recent Presidential Proclamation, Supervisor Smith pointed out that creation of the new Forest, and especially the transfer of lands from the Reservation to the National Forest System, has several far reaching effects. The former Indian lands are now to be managed in a coordinated manner for all of the resources they contain, including the soil, water, wildlife, timber, grazing and public recreation values. These areas which became National Forest are now open to the public for travel, to hunting and fishing in season and to other recreation use, as are all other National Forest lands. The principles of multiple use and sustained yield will be applied to these lands and are the objective of the Forest Service Management Program.

Office Reports Work Outlook Brighter

The following is a report of today's employment picture in the Klamath area as provided by the Oregon State Employment Service.

Employment and payrolls increased rapidly during last April and have continued a steady climb during May and June. Conditions are much the same as one year ago except with more workers in the labor market we have higher unemployment. The number of jobs available shows slight change. The loss of jobs in private industry has been compensated by increased government employment.

There are still many construction workers unemployed but work opportunities are expected to increase later this season. Logging and lumbering employment increased during April but is showing a slight slump at the present time. Many sawmill and logging workers are being sent to mills of Northern California. This is not unusual since that area basically draws on our labor force.

With over one thousand workers registered for work at the Executive Committee Meets With Gormley; Adopts Resolution Amending Attorney Contract

A resolution providing for the amending of the contract between the Klamath tribe and the tribal claims attorneys was adopted by the Tribal Executive Committee in a special meeting of the committee on August 2, 1961. The following agreement was introduced by Don Gormely, the Wilkenson Law Firm, and signed by representatives Jesse Kirk, Sr. and Jonathan Davis and approved by the committee by a vote of five for, none against, and one abstention.

WITNESSETH:

The contract between The Tribe and The Attorneys, as amended, approved by the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative on June 19, 1961, is further amended as follows:

(1) The authorized representatives acting for The Tribe are acting pursuant to and under the authority conferred by a resolution of the Klamath Executive Committee adopted on the 2nd day of August, 1961, a copy of which resolution is annexed hereunto, marked Exhibit A, and made a part hereof.

(2) Extensions of this agreement for additional two-year periods may be granted by the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative at the request of The Attorneys if the claims involved have not been prosecuted to conclusion by March 24, 1967.

(3) The Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative shall be authorized to approve any compromise, settlement, or other adjustment of any claim submitted by The Attorneys. The Secretary is authorized to consult with the tribal Executive Committee for this purpose.

(4) The Secretary is authorized to approve proposals by The Attorneys to dismiss or abandon prosecution of claims where, in the exercise of the best judgment of The Attorneys, such claims have no merit or insufficient merit to justify continuing the litigation. The Secretary is authorized, in his discretion, to consult with the Executive Committee prior to any such determination.

(5) The Attorneys are authorized to compensate the members of the Executive Committee at the rate of $20.00 per day and mileage at the rate then in effect for federal employees where private automobile is used, whenever the Executive Committee is convened at the request of either the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative or The Attorneys for any purpose enumerated in Paragraphs (3) and (4) hereof or paragraph 2(c) of the such payments to be reimbursed to The Attorneys from tribal funds in the same manner as other necessary or proper expenses.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto signed our names this 2nd day of August, 1961.

Jesse L. Kirk, Sr., Ethnian Davis

The Committee passed a resolution designed to continue the existence of the Committee.

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 2)