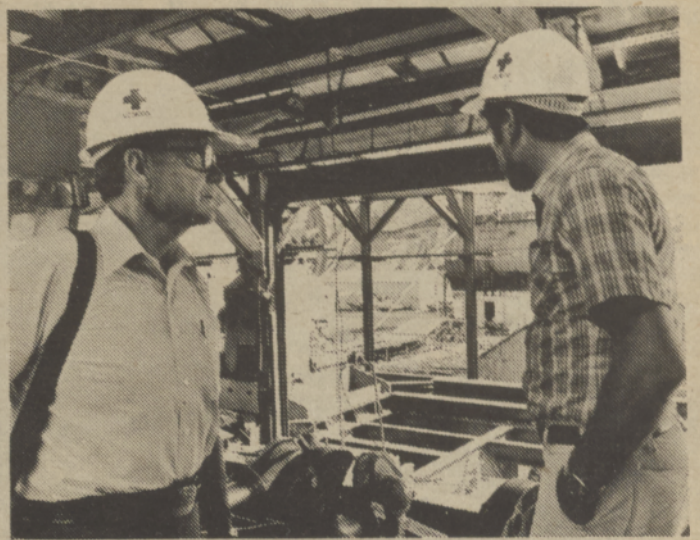


# Two-week shutdown brings big changes in mill



W.S.F.P.I. managers Ralph DeMoisy and Bob Macy oversee construction at the sawmill, the site of massive renovations. While the log-turner is removed (below) the sawmill walls are extended to accommodate the new carriage and headrig assembly, (left). Spilyay Tymoo Photos by Stowell

by Cynthia Stowell

The mill went into its annual shutdown as a caterpillar and will emerge a butterfly. When workers return after Labor Day, Warm Springs Forest Products Industries will have new wings to test.

The metamorphosis is less than pretty. The whole side of the sawmill is torn away, its insides spilling out into heaps of trash. The only bright spots in a scene of chaos are the colorful pieces of new equipment scattered about the premises, poised for installation.

Double shifts of construction crews with their cranes, loaders and welding torches have made a beehive of the mill, as they strive to meet their September 4 deadline. By that time the better part of W.S.F.P.I.'s \$5.5 million renovation due for completion by the end of 1979, will have been accomplished.

The sawmill is undergoing the most dramatic change. Even from the highway, passersby can see its altered face, but a closer view reveals the mammoth proportions of the project. The entire feeding, sawing and sorting assembly has been removed and girders are framing an expanded closed area. A new carriage and head rig is taking shape inside, while outside the old elevated

edge sorter on which men used to scamper at the ends of ropes is being replaced by a hand-pull green chain.

W.S.F.P.I. manager Ralph DeMoisy predicts that the sawmill will be ready for "bugging out" by the end of the shutdown. Also on schedule is the new plywood plant which is being wired and readied for shakedown. It will begin operation with one of the two presses from the Madras plant and while the automatic lay-up line is fine-tuned, a process which could take from one to six months, the second press will be dismantled and brought down to the new site.

In the veneer plant, a new automatic stacker on the green chain quietly sits, ready to go, and a new peeler promises to produce 5 1/8" cores for 2 x 4's.

The stud mill has been refined with the addition of new edging and sawing assemblies to ensure better recovery from the logs. A new piece of equipment, the remanufacturing edger, is due to be installed late next month, adding to the mill's product diversity by producing 1 x 4's and 2 x 3's.

A new planer will go in beside the old planer, and the two together will enable the mill to plane all its lumber in one shift instead of two.

Improvements in the log center, log sorter, loading

dock, warehouse, and boiler will be made later in the year. For now, the major effort is focused on completing and shaking down the profit-making components of the mill, said DeMoisy.

While new life is being breathed into the manufacturing plants, a graveyard of construction timber, scrap metal and motors is growing. Some timber will be salvaged and the rest made available for fire wood to those with permits, said DeMoisy. Most of the metal will be hauled away by scrap dealers, but the motors will be saved for parts and back-up.

Workers whose jobs will no longer be necessary with the installation of automated processes, need not fear the same fate as the worn equipment, said DeMoisy, although there may be some recycling. More than 50 jobs will be phased out, but anyone who wants to continue working will work, assured the manager. A freeze on hiring will be in effect until the end of the year, and jobs vacated will not be filled, bringing about an eventual reduction without a lay-off. Some workers might find themselves reassigned to maintenance and clean-up in the aftermath of the massive construction as the mill gears up for a new and efficient future.



## Livestock

hearing will take place as scheduled and at that time the court will determine if the amount deposited will be forfeited to the tribes as damages or violation of the ordinance.

If the court finds that the livestock were found in violation of the ordinance, the court will assess a fine against the owner not exceeding the \$25 plus \$2 per animal per day and may in addition require the owner to pay restitution to any person whose property has been damaged as a result of the livestock roaming at large.

In addition, the court will set a date and time, which will not be less than seven days following the date of the hearing, after which the seized animals will be consigned in the name of the Confederated Tribes to a recognized livestock auction sale at public auction. The owner at this time can still claim his animals by paying fines and costs and pay restitution ordered by the court.

Continued from page 1

Any livestock not claimed prior to consignment will be sold at a public auction with the proceeds being applied to first, the payment of fines and costs assessed by the court; second in payment of any restitution as stated by the court; and the balance, if any, will be paid to the owner or deposited in the owner's IIM account.

### Residents take action

Many feel that the amended ordinance is a positive step in the right direction. Nancy and Louie Pitt, who have lived in West Hills for six years and have been harassed by the horses, circulated a petition urging action from the council. Over 200 Warm Springs residents signed the petition which the Council received on the day they approved the amended ordinance.

While knocking on doors with petition in hand, the Pitts heard many similar complaints. People spoke of the destruction, disruption of sleep and even fear of a young one's life. Most said it was

"about time" that something was done and were eager to sign. As stated in the cover letter that accompanied the petition "we are tired of the horses ruining our homes, yards, gardens, our very lives. Are we the people more important than horses?"

While scrutinizing the ordinance and petition, council members were impressed with the Pitts' efforts, recognizing that all reservation residents are concerned.

Some residents in West Hills have tried putting rinds, peelings and other vegetables that horses like in bags so that they won't get into the garbage cans. It hasn't worked. Others have tried shooting B.B.s and firecrackers. Even children at the Day Care are involved, playing little cowboys and hollering and running after the animals. Nothing has been effective.

Interim Presbyterian pastor Bob Griffen has found it necessary to discontinue use of the church's extensive

underground sprinkler system because the horses have broken 50% of the sprinkler heads, at the estimated cost of \$500. Recently, Griffen penned up six horses that were grazing around the church. Two of the horses were branded and the others were recognized on sight by Natural Resources personnel.

### Cause and solution

Poor fencing bordering the closed areas, is felt by some council members, to be the cause of roaming animals. Council members have seen the condition of the fences and feel it is quite obvious that people, not animals, are to blame for fences being down. "We need a fence that's people proof, not animal proof," stated council member Zane Jackson. Delbert Frank, first vice chairman, said that "we should penalize a person, if found, who cuts the fence or leaves a gate open."

Because previous livestock ordinances have not been effectively enforced, Council members are stressing strict

enforcement. "This ordinance will be great, if it's enforced," stated Jackson.

Superintendent Jim Cornett says he sees horses on the campus everyday, but "no one does anything about it. The law enforcement officers shouldn't wait for someone else to take the first step," he says, urging internal cooperation. "Maybe we should give the Police authority to issue the complaints then ask the Natural Resources department to help round the livestock up," he suggested.

Some property owners have shot at livestock, sometimes aiming to kill. Residents should not have to take the law into their own hands, said one Law and Order committee member, saying that Warm Springs is a peaceful community. Pitt also fears violence. "I fear what may happen to the dumb animals, the residents and even the attitude of the residents if the horse issue isn't resolved soon. The natives are getting restless."