

Everyone cares about wildlife

Homes are often hard to find, especially for forest creatures, many of which use old snags for housing.

Many birds, insects and mammals use dead and decaying trees as a place to make nests, seek and store food and make winter homes.

Snag management for the sake of building up populations of wildlife is becoming a subject of concern among foresters. Combining conservation and commercial logging in a cooperative program for wildlife preservation takes the effort of all involved.

It has been discovered that there exists a direct relationship between the number of snags and the number of snag-dependent wildlife in the forest. Without snags, some species of wildlife cannot be supported.

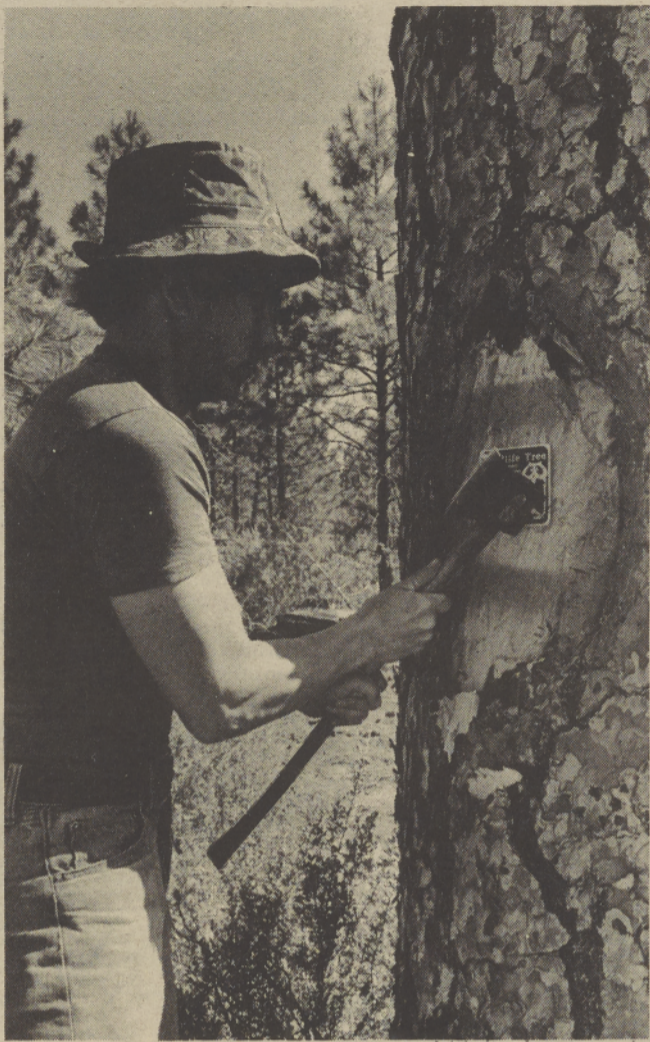
A snag is a standing dead tree from which the leaves and most of the limbs have fallen. At various stages of decay the snag provides homes for different forest creatures.

Different species of birds, for example, seek out particular sizes of snags at certain points of decay to dig out cavities for homes. Woodpeckers are the primary excavators. Other birds follow using the already hollowed, abandoned woodpeckers home for their own nesting site or winter home. Still other species use the snag for perching or feeding.

At the same time, insects burrow in the snag beneath the bark and small mammals make homes inside the snag.

Snag-dependent birds are also insect feeders. Many diseases of trees caused by insects are kept at an endemic level because these snag-dwelling birds feed on them and keep the population in control.

The most desirable snag species for snag-dependent animals are Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir and Western Larch, many of which make up the forests of the Warm Springs reservation.



Forester Mark Hammond attached wildlife plaque to a snag in an effort to preserve homes for forest wildlife.

Forest practices in Warm Springs forests incorporate management of the snags for wildlife protection. Through the use of wildlife tags, trees are being preserved to increase wildlife in the forests. This practice is based on the premise that snags are an important and necessary functional component of a healthy, stable forest environment.

Not all snags are being tagged. It is recommended that one snag per acre be left. The ones that are being tagged are

the large ones which will satisfy the needs of many species of birds, insects and mammals.

Snags which have a high resin content are not left standing as they present a safety and fire hazard.

Loggers and woodcutters are asked to leave these marked trees in the effort to increase wildlife populations for the future and to preserve the integrity of the forest ecosystem and because everyone cares about wildlife.

Snags to be removed for road safety

A recent fatal accident involving two vehicles and a blown-down tree on the reservation prompted the tribal timber committee to issue a special permit to the Oregon State Highway Department which allows the road crew to remove "high hazard trees" near Highway 26. The trees will be removed primarily between mileposts 75 and 83.

Following the accident and further investigation, the forestry department recognized the fact that there are several high snags along side Highway 26. According to assistant forest manager Bob Bolton, the expense of removal under a special permit to tribal members or through a timber sale is impractical because of

costs, traffic control and other safety factors. Bolton said it's not practical to remove all hazard trees, the risks will be lowered by removing most of the most hazardous trees.

Bolton said that approximately 15 cord of mixed species of wood will be removed. The wood will be distributed equally between tribal members and the Bear Springs ranger station. Tribal members must obtain a permit from the forestry department before they can pick up any wood. The cut trees will be at the rock pit near milepost 78.

Bolton stated that the permit issued to the highway department may be renewed next year depending on the effectiveness of this year's program.

Fire danger increases

The Northwest has more than ample moisture to produce an exceptional grass crop. This will provide an abundance of fire fuels as curing progresses. A late fire season is expected over most of the west, especially in the higher elevations, where snow packs are generally above normal and extensive drying would be necessary before any problem fires could occur. Problem fires could occur, through green-up, because of abundant carry-over fuels.

This year's fire season is expected to be severe with the

number of normal year fire occurrences increasing by 30 percent. Average normal year fire occurrence on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation averaged 50 fires annually.

As fire conditions become more severe, Fire Management Section urges residents to smoke only in their vehicles while in the forest. Don't leave campfires unattended and clean around your homes to protect from fire hazards. If you must burn, contact local services for burning permits and assistance.

Public land agencies fire awareness time

Public land managing agencies in Oregon and Washington have again joined in an annual "Fire Awareness Time" campaign to prevent destructive forest and range wildfires.

Warm summer weather will soon attract Pacific Northwest residents and visitors to forests, rangelands, rural areas and back yards, prompting the federal and state agencies which protect those lands from fire to call attention to the dangers. The campaign opens on July 2.

The agencies work with local fire prevention cooperatives to alert the public to the increased dangers.

In a joint statement, the agency chiefs said, "The public's help is essential to prevent damaging forest and range fires. We urge all residents and visitors to be alert to increased fire dangers in the summer and fall months ahead.

With everyone's help we can avoid the scourge of wildfire this year on our region's range and forest land.

Participating in the campaign, along with 14 local fire prevention cooperatives, are the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Oregon Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. National Park Service.

Fire Awareness Time will extend past Labor Day, if necessary, until outdoor fire danger is reduced by fall rains.

The public's help is essential to prevent damaging forest and range fires. So we urge all residents and visitors of our region to be alert to increased fire dangers in the summer and fall months ahead. With everyone's help, we can avoid the scourge of wild fire this year on our region's range and forest lands.

Clements speaks to Governors

Warren "Rudy" Clements, addressed the Governors' who were in attendance at the 1983, Western Governors' conference which was held in Kalispel, Montana, June 26-29.

Clements, who is the chairman of the Commission on Indian Services of the State of Oregon, but delivered his message on behalf of the Tribal Council, through an invitation from Governor Victor Atiyeh.

Clements remarks reflected on the working relationship between the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the State of Oregon and also the role Governor Atiyeh has had with Indian affairs during his term in political office, such as his support on important legislation that includes the protection of Indian burial sites, return of jurisdiction to Oregon tribes and the restoration of the Siletz Tribe and also a strong supporter on Indian Education.

In his message he focused on, "The unique working relationship the Confederated Tribes have with the State," which was to illustrate how other states and tribes might arrive at suitable solutions and establish methods to resolve their differences by working on a government to government basis.

Clements said, "That mutual understanding and respect provides an atmosphere in which we may cooperate and coexist to our mutual benefit, as do neighboring states. This recognition is part of the long-standing relationship between the Tribes and the state government in Oregon. We respect each others' governments and recognize that we have mutual interest in the peace and security of our territory and the health, safety and economic well-being of our citizens.

There were 12 governors in attendance at this year's

conference and all supported Governor and Mrs. Ted Schwinden and the State of Montana, hosts for this year's conference.

In support of Clements, Zane Jackson, Chairman of the Tribal Council, Delbert Frank, Sr., Vice Chairman, Nelson Wallulatum and Dennis Karnopp were in attendance at the conference.

Elections held last Tuesday

Elections for two operating tax levies and one school board member were held June 28. Both levies passed and the board member seeking re-election won the race for the board seat.

Jefferson County was seeking approval of an approximate \$1 million levy outside the tax base for operation for 1983/84. That

levy passed with 1,222 'yes' votes and 871 'no' votes.

Jefferson County School District 509-J was seeking approval of a \$3.2 million levy outside the tax base for operations for 1983/84. That levy passed with 699 'yes' votes and 561 'no' votes.

Current school board Don Aitkens was victorious in the race for that board seat.

Aitkens received 627 votes. Also vying for that position were Wanda Buslach-269 votes, Jody Calica-215 votes, Dale Sarkkinen-99 votes and Uren Leonard-54 votes.

Leonard had officially withdrawn his name from the ballot. Currently, Lloyd Smith, Sr. is the only representative from Warm Springs on the board.