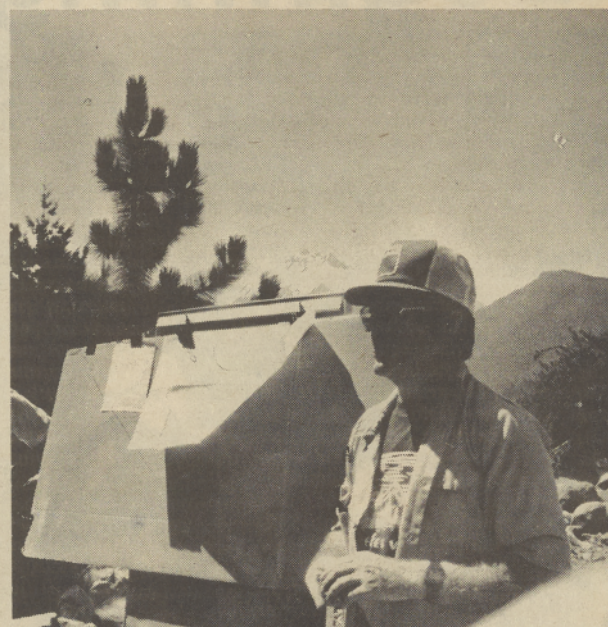


Sixty join in tribal timber tour



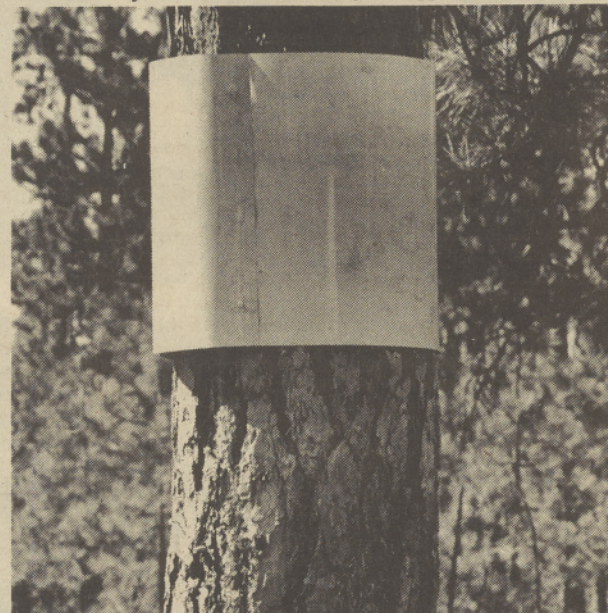
James Akerson, Forestry Supervisor, with his back to the camera gives a run down on the Wilford Canyon logging unit as the group gathered in the shade as the temperature was pretty high that day.



Bill Donaghu, Forestry Development Specialist, explains the conditions of the White Water Canyon logging unit.



Members of the Grand Ronde Tribal Council were here to make the timber tour with the tribal members from left to right Russell Leno, Dean Mercier, Merl Leno and Mark Mercier.



All through the woods superior trees have been selected for pine cones for seedlings for future planting. All the "Super" trees have a bright oranges stripe painted on the trunk of the tree and a plastic band is also tacked on.

Representatives from the Tribal Council, the Timber Committee, the Natural Resources Department, personnel from the Forestry and many interested tribal members totaling well over 60 people were on hand for a two day timber tour held August 8-9, 1984.

The tour covered future timber sales on the reservation which include the Wilford Canyon Logging Unit, Twin Butte Unit, White Water, Boulder Canyon, Twin Flower Unit, Beaver Canyon, the Jo Jo Logging Unit, Kuckup Logging Unit, View Point Sale, Abbow Way Sale, and the Bits and Pieces Logging Unit.

There are three controversial areas that were discussed with the group and they are White Water Canyon, Shitike Creek and the Beaver Canyon logging units. White Water was discussed in length, the conditions, the method to be used for logging the area and the future management. Data gathered by the foresters evaluating each area were presented to the group on the conditions of each unit, the method of logging best suited and the future management for each area were discussed on the site.

The main concerns in these three areas seem to focus on the

protection of wildlife, damage to fish runs in the streams and for religious practices by tribal members. If these timber sales are approved by the membership in anyone of these areas every precaution would be taken to preserve as much as possible the natural standing of the area. But no matter how hard anyone tries things will never be the same. Cable Logging is a method that is most studied for these areas in question.

In other areas the necessity of logging to maintain a steady rapid growth of timber is almost a must. Clear cutting to control the mistle toe and replanting, select logging taking the mature trees. Throughout the timbered areas superior trees were selected which will be left for pine cones for reproduction in future years. These superior trees can be identified by the bright red/orange stripe painted around the trunk of the tree with a plastic band also attached to keep the squirrels off.

The tour gives interested individuals first hand information before public meetings are held regarding the future timber sales. There will be a General Council meeting very soon for public input of these timber sales.



One of the better times of the tour was when the group all lined up for some of that good chow that was provided by the timber committee.

Spilyay Tymoo photos by Miller