

# Bumpy ride through forest reveals logging activities

One thing about it, logging roads are not for the mild at heart, nor for that matter, are most of the roads made for anything less than a 4-wheel drive vehicle made to go where no man has gone before.

All bumps aside, getting out into the forested areas of the reservation can be a very revitalizing thing. Getting back to nature, so to speak, does one good after being cooped up in an office for most of their adult life. One definitely appreciates a logger's way of life. Up before the crack of dawn and on the run for the entire workday. Loggers must be pretty wicked, if the saying "no rest for the wicked" is true.

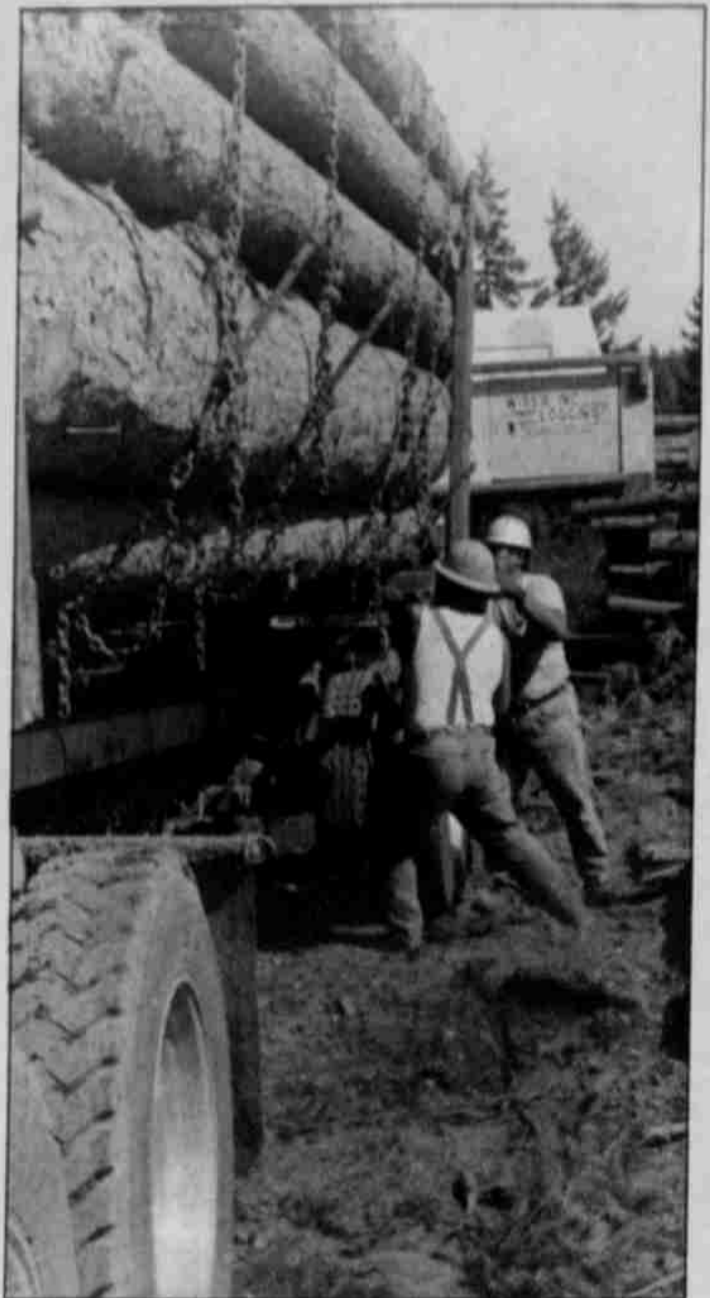
Recent weather conditions have necessitated a change in

the existing class III fire precaution level. Beefed up a notch to level IV, the new classification has caused a complete shut-down of industrial forest activities unless waivers were obtained by woodworkers. Special fire precautions, such as additional water sources and extended fire watches, have been mandated.

Even though being out in the woods recharges the system, the predictable air conditioned comfort of an office is truly appreciated. The steady, familiar hum of the heat pump, to most, is more pleasing to the ear than the sound of a chainsaw. And the road to the Spilyay office is usually much smoother than the road to a logger's office.



The Twin Camas area looks as though a bomb went off. But, on careful examination, many young, healthy seedlings can be found.



Wissie Smith's shovel operator Snuff Smith helps driver Mark Stevens tighten binders.



Mostly smaller logs were harvested in Wissie Smith's unit. The unit is being prepared for replanting.



Careful manipulation of logs is required to ensure an even load and safety once the truck is on the road.



A Smith-Greene shovel loads a truck with cull logs headed for a chipper in The Dalles.



A loaded truck, carrying a total weight of 80,700 pounds, makes its way out of the woods toward WSFPI.

Spilyay text and photos by Behrend

Vehicle courtesy of Forestry