

# Farm Review AND Forecast

## Diluting Property Rights

Editorial

Land use planning has become a mania. A leader in the field of natural resources warns that land use planning must recognize that private land ownership is the cornerstone upon which this country has been built. Pressures against private ownership of land, he adds, include ever-mounting taxes, the uses permitted under local zoning, compensation for loss of value if taken for public purposes and regulations relating to the environment.

The belief has been encouraged that private landowners are exploiters and wasters of land. Such a belief is utterly false. The best evidence of its falseness is the thousands of miles of farm and ranch lands—and timber lands—stretching from coast to coast. They furnish mute testimony to the truth of the observation of the natural resource leader that, "American farmers and ranchers have given this country the greatest record of conservation in recorded history." It has been achieved within the framework of private landownership. It should be remembered that while planning has its place, so does the right of property ownership.

## Heppner Ranger District Has Varied Job Assignments

Timber Management personnel on Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest are doing a number of tasks this winter, including preparation of environmental analysis reports, layout, marking, and appraising timber sales, log scaling, and layout and preparation of precommercial thinning contracts.

Preparation of environmental analysis reports on six proposed timber sales is the responsibility of Chuck Rouse, Forester in charge of silviculture on the District. The purpose of these reports is to determine the effect of the proposed sales on the environment and to present a course of action that will minimize any adverse impacts. One alternative course of action that is fully considered is not to sell the timber if the impact on other resources is felt to be too severe.

Norman Clow of Heppner has been in charge of the timber sale marking and has been assisted by Don Kenison also of Heppner, and Mattlon Hicks of Lone Rock. Most of their work has been concentrated on the Two Spring and Bull Timber Sales.

Two timber sale appraisals are being prepared on sales scheduled to be sold during the next few months, and Warren Plocharsky, Supervisory Forester in charge of timber sale preparation, is currently spending much of his time on this project.

Log scaling is a year round job on the District and currently personnel under the direction of Mattlon Hicks are scaling

Forest Service logs hauled off the Silver Creek Sale on Ukiak District, and logs from numerous sales off Heppner District. Logs are scaled at both the Kinzua Mill in Heppner and at Kinzua, and at the present time Jack Graham of Heppner is now working at Kinzua and taking care of the scaling responsibilities there.

Don Kenison, who is responsible for the District precommercial thinning program, has been preparing contracts for thinning young stands of trees as a means to increase the growth rate, and to later dispose of the thinning slash through use of a Tomahawk Brush Roller attached to a crawler type tractor.

### Jobs Open

The Cooperative Rural Manpower Project, with the help of the secretaries in the Extension offices in Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler Counties, has the following job openings:

**MORROW COUNTY:** Housecleaning, yard work, summer farm work, babysitting, general farm work.

**GILLIAM COUNTY:** Three farm jobs, plowing. **SHERMAN COUNTY:** Plowing jobs, housekeeper. **WHEELER COUNTY:** Plowing job, saw filler, heavy duty truck mechanic, mill wright.

People with the following experience are looking for work: **Heppner Area:** Motel maid, office workers, sales clerks, bar tender, farm mechanic; **Fossil Area:** Housekeeper; **Condon Area:** Office worker; **Moro Area:** Secretary, year around farm worker.

For further information, contact your local Extension Service, Employment Service, and the people of this area.

Middle age is the difficult time between adolescence and retirement when you have to take care of yourself.

## 1972 Livestock Losses Bring Complaints

Three hundred eighty-nine complaints concerning livestock losses were received by the Livestock Division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture in 1972, but by the end of the year 171 of these complaints had been cleared, leaving 218 pending.

The year-end statistics compiled by the Livestock Division showed the complaints covered 2,377 head of livestock, with 1,390 of the livestock cattle. Other livestock involved in these complaints included: 873 sheep; 85 horses; 24 swine and five other animals not enumerated.

Those cases still pending involved 1,723 head of livestock, with the greatest totals being 861 head of cattle and 820 head of sheep. Sixty of these animals were killed and left laying.

Investigations of the complaints resulted in 110 of them being recorded as documented thefts and these involved 407 animals. Sixty-two of the animals, 61 of which were cattle and one sheep, were listed as having been butchered and taken for meat.

As a result of the complaints

received by the department a total of 54 arrests have been made by department livestock police officers, state police, county sheriffs and local police officers. Forty-six of the arrests involved cattle, three involved horses and five sheep.

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