

# Pine beetle and unit planning *Forester assigned*

Allan Nistad, general manager of Kinzua Corporation in Heppner, in a speech to the Heppner Chamber of Commerce Monday, spelled out pine beetle battle plans taking shape in Eastern Oregon.

Nistad said that Kinzua has assigned Richard Graham, Kinzua forester, to assist in drawing up a specific management plan for the Heppner Planning Unit. Graham has been relieved of commercial work at Kinzua to assist all public interests in developing a multiple use plan for water, forage, fish, wildlife, and recreation.

In effect, Graham is being loaned to the public by Kinzua to work out a program involving cattlemen, environ-

"The Forest Service now expects an emergency appropriation of \$3 million to initiate salvage sales and U.S. Gypsum at Pilot Rock and Boise-Cascade at LaGrande have agreed to purchase these salvage sales as they are put on the market.

"In our area, we propose to maintain an aerial survey of the forests and have assurance from the Forest Service that they will cooperate in scheduling lump sum sales of dead timber and will mark infected green trees for removal as they are discovered.

"Our timber stands are comprised of 65 per cent ponderosa pine, 30 per cent Douglas fir and white fir and 5

Grant County Resource Committee project that culminated in a validation project of \$1.5 million annually for the next five years with an addi-



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tional appropriation for economic studies.

"All the practices we have developed will be initiated on private and federal lands and the costs and economic and social returns to the community will be measured for future use by the National Forests.

"Timber production, disease and insect control, forage production, water volumes, erosion, wildlife, water qual-

ity, thinning, eradication of infected stands, planting back to improved species with grass are areas under exploration.

"The best treatments for bug damaged areas and related resource considerations such as fire control, cover

area, effects on fish and wildlife will all be measured. The study places equal emphasis on Water-Forage-Timber-Fish & Wildlife-Recreation. This is multiple use at its finest and we look forward to showing you the results as they occur."

## "An extreme fire hazard has been created."

mental groups, and all others concerned with forest use within the unit.

John Shaw, another Kinzua forester, has taken on Kinzua commercial work in Graham's place. Nistad stressed that Graham will not work on the project as a Kinzua proposal. Nistad indicated he would work with Graham to draw up the specific management plan, after Graham talks to all groups seeking input to the plan.

Editor's Note: Following is the text of the Nistad speech to the Heppner Chamber of Commerce Monday, Mar. 14.

"We appreciate the opportunity to discuss current forest management problems with the Chamber. The interest of the community in the economic well being of its major industry is deeply appreciated.

"The pine beetle infestation has spread over 1.3 million acres into a wide area of Eastern Oregon, killing most lodgepole pine and many ponderosa pines including 78,863 acres of private land and 917,000 acres of forest land in Northeastern Oregon with another 343,800 acres of private land infested in scattered areas throughout Eastern Oregon. An extreme fire hazard has been created.

"Aerial sprays are not effective against the beetle. The outbreak can be lessened only by cleaning up the debris to remove breeding ground and by growing healthier and less susceptible pine stands in the future.

"State Forestry crews are helping private landowners rehabilitate their stands and salvage the timber. Salvage efforts have been hindered by a lack of markets for timber that deteriorates very quickly after being infested."

per cent lodgepole pine. We intend to keep the outbreak under control—other than the lodgepole pine stands where all trees over 4" in diameter will be destroyed.

"Our attention will be focused on intensive management plans in the future and we have participated in a

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