

# Forest Service Reviews Highlights of 1956

## \$1,576,906 Expended For Improvements in Rogue River Forest

The forest service, during 1956, spent \$1,576,906 on improvements in Rogue River National forest, according to the financial report for the year.

The investment included construction of roads and trails, replacement and construction of bridges, roads built by allowance in timber sale appraisals, sale area betterments which included reforestation and other improvements.

Operating expenses for the year totaled \$996,727, for a total expense of \$2,573,533, the report showed. Income from sales, special collections from timber sales, congressional appropriation, and roads built by allowance in timber sale appraisals totaled \$4,024,989, leaving a net income of \$1,451,356.

A little less than 100 million board feet of timber sold brought the largest income, \$1,873,944, the report showed. Other sales income was from grazing fees, \$6,536, and special use fees, \$13,601. Special collections from timber sales, which includes sale area betterment, erosion control, slash disposal and protection, and work performed for users, totaled \$115,027. The congressional appropriation was \$765,921.

Highlights of activities by the forest service in Rogue River National forest include:

### TIMBER

Timber harvest totaled slightly less than 100 million board feet in 1956. The annual allowable cut under sustained yield has been set for several years at 103 million feet. Earlier this season the allowable cut was raised to 117 million feet. The increase is based on a number of developments.

Cruise and scale volumes made available from widely spread timber sales in recent years were used to adjust older inventory estimates. Weight was given tree species not considered merchantable previously. Better logging equipment and methods were a factor together with more efficient utilization both in the woods and at industrial plants.

A detailed timber inventory survey will be started in 1957. Aerial photography was completed last year. The pictures will be used to delineate timber types for survey crews to use in the field next summer in locating and measuring around plots for volume and growth data.

Total cut on the forest was less than anticipated earlier in the year. Sufficient timber was sold to reach the newly set allowable cut of 117 million.

However, a large volume of salvage timber necessarily was put on the market by the Klamath national forest as a result of forest fires in Siskiyou county in 1955. It is estimated at least 50 million feet of fire damaged timber came into the Medford, Ashland and Klamath Falls areas from that source during the summer. Also, a general softening in the market has been experienced by the lumber industry for several months. These two factors had noticeable effect on local timber harvesting activity.

About one-fourth of the 1956 cut was salvage harvest of wind-thrown, diseased and insect-infested timber. A total of 65 sales were made under competitive bid. Forty-two sales were in amounts less than \$2,000 each.

### REFORESTATION

More than 693,000 trees were planted on 1,210 acres of cut-over lands in 1956. During the last five years a total of 4,290 acres have been planted or seeded using 2,400,000 seedling trees and 200 pounds of tree seed.

Planting by artificial methods is confined to areas in which adequate natural restocking is not expected.

### WATER

Last year the forest service reported special attention and study was to be afforded the Ashland watershed. This 11,000 acre tract is the source of domestic water supply to the city of Ashland. Production of a sustained flow of pure, unpolluted water for domestic consumption is by far the most important use of this tract of forest land.

A detailed land use plan for the watershed is being prepared this year. The primary objective will be continued production of domestic water with intensified protection against all losses. The plan will include limited use of timber and other resources in a manner strictly compatible with full protection of soil and water.

Salvage logging is now completed on the city of Medford watershed, comprising some 3,000 acres. Over a period of several years a planned salvage of scattered over-mature timber on the watershed has returned more than \$100,000 to the city.

A stand improvement program with emphasis on tree planting has been underway annually since 1952 when the forest service entered into agreement with the city to manage the Medford watershed lands at cost. Tree planting has been aimed at restocking old burns and other areas that failed in past years to restock naturally.

The projects have shown good survival in the main and some



**SEEDLING DAMAGED**—This little seedling, planted on the site of a timber sale, has been stripped of its bark by a porcupine, and will die. These rodents, and other animals and some insects, constitute a major hazard in reforestation programs.

of the earlier plantings of 1952 are now several feet high.

### Water Resources

Water production and the water resource in general are of singular importance on the national forest. Much of the headwaters of both the Rogue and Applegate rivers lie within its boundaries. It is vitally important that all forest resource uses be planned and developed in a manner to assure sustained, controlled flow of unpolluted water from its mountain source.

Work is progressing cooperatively with the reclamation bureau on the Talent project. Timber is being cleared and sold from the tunnel and reservoir sites currently. Next summer the forest service will advertise to sell the right of way timber along the collection canals, prior to canal construction.

### FIRE CONTROL

The 1956 fire season was less severe than 1955, but more severe than average. Fall rains were delayed, resulting in critical fire weather throughout September.

Lightning set an unusually large number of fires for a total of 81. Fifty of these were set by a series of lightning storms in mid-August. Full cooperation of forest industry and local citizens helped materially in realizing prompt control. Total number of fires from all causes was 93, with a burned area of only 14 acres.

Suppression action was aided greatly by use of smokejumpers, parachuting of supplies to the ground crews, helicopter and aerial patrol.

### RECREATION

Use of the forest by recreationists continues to increase. On peak weekends last season available facilities at forest camps and picnic areas were inadequate to handle the demand. An estimated 7,000 persons visited Lake of the Woods on the July Fourth holiday.

Additional funds were made available by Congress this year and the allocation is being used to replace worn out and unserviceable campground improvements in the most heavily used areas. In addition, survey and plans will be made to determine additional facilities needed to accommodate the steadily increasing recreation use.

### GRAZING, WILDLIFE

Grazing on mountain ranges by domestic livestock and wildlife is one of the oldest uses of Rogue River forest resources.

Range forage is an important resource. Utilization of the forage on a sustained basis in support of a portion of the livestock



**RECREATION FACILITIES NEEDED**—The forest service has received increased appropriations for recreational purposes this year, and is stretching them to go as far as they can. The public camp space shown above, on the east shore of Lake of the Woods, is an example of how they have deteriorated in the years since they were first constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The fireplace has fallen, or been torn, down to a point where it is barely usable. The table is one

which has been restored at one time or another. One of the biggest problems is the fact that the forest camps are totally inadequate to accommodate the numbers of visitors who seek to use them. Last July 4 an estimated 8,000 people visited Lake of the Woods, and every camp site was filled and people were turned away. The same is true, to a lesser extent, of virtually every forest service camp site in the Rogue River National forest.

industry dependent on the forest for summer range is the objective of management.

During 1956, summer range was furnished to 7,378 cattle and 4,100 sheep, representing 100 separate livestock operators.

A field survey of summer ranges was started last season and will continue through 1957. The purpose of the survey will be to provide current data on location, extent, condition and trend of forage areas. The data will be used in long term management plans for the resource.

Close cooperation is enjoyed with the state game commission. The forest service manages wildlife habitat within the national forests, while the state game commission manages the wildlife resource itself.

Lake of the Woods was poisoned for trash fish by the commission in 1955 and restocked with trout in 1956. Both operations are reported successful, furnishing an important addition to lake sport fishing in the area.

### MINING CLAIMS

Public Law 167 passed by 84th Congress provides for reservation to the government of rights to timber and other surface resources on unpatented mining claims located after the law was passed.

Provision also is made for determination of surface rights on unpatented claims located before the law was passed by a process of field examination, notification, publication and public hearing.

Examination for determination of surface rights was started last fall on a 6,000 acre tract in the upper Applegate. Additional surface right determinations are planned.

### ENGINEERING

A network of roads, trails and telephone lines must be maintained annually to protect and use the national forest. Maintenance this year covered 520 miles of road, 555 miles of trail and 265 miles of telephone line.

Progress is being made to complete a transportation system adequate to serve protection and use of the several resources. Location survey was done on 82 miles of road and construction completed on 57 miles of new permanent routes.

Federal access road funds provided for installation of a major bridge and connecting link across upper Rogue river. The route taps a large body of mature timber in the northeast corner of Jackson county.

Through cooperative agreement with a private timber owner 11.5 miles of permanent road was completed along the hitherto inaccessible Elliott creek in upper Applegate.

### O & C EXCHANGE

Last year the forest service reported the passage of the Congressional O & C Exchange act directing the forest service and the bureau of land management to exchange intermingled O & C and national forest lands. The purpose was to simplify and improve administration for both agencies through elimination of intermingled jurisdiction.

The exchange was completed at the target date last June. Approximately 67,000 acres of O & C land was transferred to the forest service and like amount of national forest land was exchanged to the bureau of land management.

New administrative boundaries have been established and there is every indication the adjustment is an important, progressive step forward.



**REFORESTATION UNDER WAY**—This cut-over area, in the Dead Indian area, is an example of a carefully conducted timber sale, although to the layman it may look like a "mess" for the time being. All downed and useless wood (called "slash" by foresters) has been heaped and burned to get rid of it as a fire hazard. Remaining logs are left to furnish humus for the soil. Throughout the area new trees have been hand-planted, and if all goes well in another five years there will be a healthy stand of small trees flourishing here. In another 80 to 100 years the area will be ready for another timber harvest. Two of the seedling trees planted are shown in the picture.

## Canis Minor Contains Only Two Stars Easy to Observe

By FAY BENTLEY

When Orion, the Mighty Hunter, was given a place in the sky, Jupiter also found room in the heavens for his two favorite hounds, Canis Major the Big Dog, and Canis Minor the Little Dog, thus making it possible for this courageous, though mythological, young man to pursue his favorite sport throughout eternity.

Canis Minor, sometimes called the Lesser Dog, contains only two stars that are easy to see. They are yellow-white Procyon (PRO-see-on) of first magnitude, known as The Little Dog Star, with a dimmer star a short distance above it.

### Faint Companion

However, the telescope reveals a faint companion of Procyon invisible to the naked eye, which is claimed to be the densest and heaviest of any star known so far. At the surface of the earth one cubic inch of material from this celestial body that constantly encircles The Little Dog Star would weigh 200 tons or 400,000 pounds.

Procyon is approaching the earth at the rate of about 150 miles per minute. Because the distance between the earth and this star is approximately 11 light years, or 66 trillion miles, the possibility of a collision is extremely remote.

### Eastern Sky

To locate Canis Minor look to the eastern sky about 8 p.m. During the first part of January

it will be well above the horizon and slightly south of due east at that hour, but as winter progresses will gradually move farther to the south and climb higher in the sky.

Canis Major or the Big Dog is lower in the sky and to the right or south of Canis Minor. Sirius, brightest star in the entire celestial sphere forms the head of Canis Major and provides an easy recognition point for this star group.

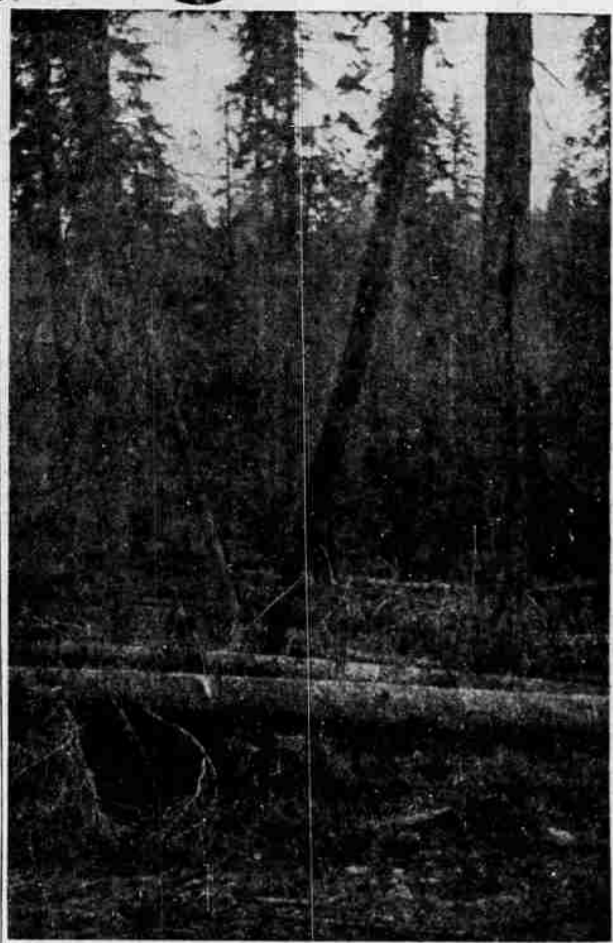
These two dogs seem to have an unlimited amount of "stick-to-it-iveness" and patience. Since the beginning of history they have been in constant pursuit of a rabbit or hare and nightly continue their celestial hunt although they are no nearer the object of the chase now than when they started.

### Lepus the Hare

Lepus the Hare, a group of rather dim stars which resembles a bow of ribbon more than a rabbit, lies just below Orion. Its location makes finding it a simple matter if the night is clear.

Orion and his two dogs nightly journey across the heavens; The Hunter with upraised club faces Taurus the Bull while his hounds constantly follow Lepus the Hare.

A beautiful sky figure known as the Winter Triangle is composed of red Betelgeuse in Orion, Procyon in Canis Minor, and Sirius in Canis Major. These three giant stars form the points



**BLOWDOWN SALVAGE PROBLEM**—The view above shows timber in the Dead Indian area which blew down during last winter's storms. It presents a problem in forest management to the forest service, for such timber is subject to infestation by disease and insects, which can spread to healthy standing timber. When dry, it also is a major fire hazard. Much of the timber sales in recent years have been for the "salvage" of such trees, perfectly good now, but useless if left on the ground for any period of time.

## Number of Visitors At Crater Lake Show Increase During '56

A total of 358,840 people, traveling in 101,861 cars, visited Crater Lake National park during 1956, an increase in travel of 4.65 per cent over 1955, according to Tom Williams, park superintendent.

The total is 2.89 per cent less than the number traveling in the park in the peak year of 1954. Williams pointed out, however, that travel records for 1955 and 1956 may not be comparable to those of preceding years since there has been no check on traffic using Highway 62 through the park between the south and west entrances since the fall of 1954.

Figures for the past two years represent only those people who actually went to Crater Lake itself from the Annie Spring junction or from the north entrance Williams noted.

### North Entrance

On the total visitors last year, 132,886, or 36.8 per cent, entered through the north entrance, which was open from June 17 to Oct. 6, a total of 113 days. The remainder entered the park through the south and west entrances, and were logged at the Annie Spring checking station.

Bus service through the park, which was established last year, accounted for an increase of 42 per cent over the previous year of visitors arriving by bus. However, visitors entering the park by bus made up less than 1 per cent of the total last year.

Visitors came from every state, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii and several foreign countries. About 40 per cent of the cars were from Oregon, and more than half of the remaining 60

### Livestock Feeding Class Holds First Meeting

Central Point — The first livestock feeding course for adult farmers was held at the Crater High school agriculture department Wednesday evening, Jan. 9.

Next class meeting will be Wednesday evening, Jan. 16. Farmers interested in learning basic fundamentals of livestock feeding may still enroll in the course at that time, it was announced.

### Plane Searched for Bomb Friday Night

Stockton, Calif. — (U.P.) — A United Airlines plane carrying 26 passengers was stopped shortly before takeoff Friday night after a telephone threat that there was a bomb aboard. Authorities labeled the incident a hoax after a four-hour search proved fruitless.

of an almost equilateral triangle in the southeastern sky and may be seen about 8 p.m. on any clear night during the winter.

## Prism Cruising Is Discussed at SAF Meeting Friday

Prism Cruising has eliminated the necessity of importance in several factors of timber cruising, Gwen Sherrar, of the Mason, Bruce and Girard company, Portland, said Friday night.

Sherrar discussed prism cruising at a meeting of the Siskiyou chapter of the Society of American Foresters at the Jackson hotel.

By use of prism cruising, he said, timber cruisers feel they can obtain a more accurate and quicker job of determining the amount of timber in a given plot.

Under the old type cruising method, the cruiser had to determine the plot size, record the diameter of the trees with the best height, the number of logs in the tree, the breakage, and the form class of the timber, Sherrar said.

### Factors Mentioned

One factor of prism cruising, he said, is the correct use of the prism to record the number of trees, and the number of logs in each tree recorded. The diameter has become unimportant, although it still is recorded by the prism method, he said, and it no longer is necessary to consider form class of the tree.

Through prism cruising, more of the larger trees are recorded than smaller sizes, he said. The prism method also can be used on windfall trees to determine if they are within the plot.

The prism cruising method has been developed by the Portland timber consultant firm since about 1953, and in the fall of 1955 the firm went completely to using the method. Sherrar said. The method was originally developed in Germany in 1948.

Hossein Khorrovi, chief of management and wood utilization of the Iran forestry department, discussed his mission in the United States. He has been in the Rogue valley area for about 10 days studying methods of logging, and lumber manufacture. On his return to Iran, he will manage one of the largest lumber mills in Iran.

## Minor Accidents Reported to Police

Three minor accidents were reported to city police Thursday.

Cars driven by Jean Frances Quackenbush, 2647 Table Rock rd., and Grady Allen Conner, 724 Victory st., Medford, were involved in an accident on North Central ave. at East Jackson st. Conner was arrested by city police and confined to city jail on charges of driving while under the influence of intoxicating beverages.

Two vehicles operated by Diane Gay Disberry, 728 West Eleventh st., and Harold Dittmar Hornsteth, 801 Marshall ave., collided at noon Thursday on Main st. between Central ave. and Bartlett ave. No citations were issued.

City police reported that a car driven by Oliver Ora Morton, 10 West Jackson st., Medford, hit a parking meter on Main st. between Front and Central ave. Morton was not cited by police.

## Williams Reelected President of League

C. C. Williams, Ashland, was reelected president of the Jackson County Milk Producers league at a meeting last week.

Some 80 persons attended the meeting, held at the Roxy Ann Grange hall.

Will R. Hubbard, Eagle Point, was named vice president, and Carl Hover, Central Point, secretary. New members of the board of directors elected were W. C. Higinbotham, Central Point, Harry Dunn, Central Point, and Albert Straus, Sams Valley. Retiring board members are J. C. Kesler and Mrs. Lewis Clark, both of Medford, and Frank Straus, Gold Hill.

Harold Hodgkins, St. Paul, Minn., spoke on technical matters pertaining to the bulk handling of milk and milk products.

### Medford Man Elected To Real Estate Post

McMinnville — (U.P.) — C. L. Knight of McMinnville Friday night was named new president of the Oregon State Association of Real Estate Boards at a meeting held here.

Other officers are M. J. Cosovich of Astoria, Frank J. Kinney of Eugene and Everett Bartholomew of Medford, vice presidents; George N. Meyer of Portland, treasurer; and Taylor Treese of Portland, secretary.