

# BLM Access Road Construction Highlights Quarter's Activities



**ALL-AMERICAN YOUTH**—Allen Anderson, 18, second from left, from Chapin, Ill., has been named "All-American" youth at a recent meeting of the National Youth Power Congress. He is shown at Chicago as he helped launch the national youth fitness program. From left, Jesse Owens, former Olympic track champion; Anderson, Lynn Thieman, 14, Western Springs, Ill., a regional winner, and Kenneth "Tug" Wilson, representative of President Kennedy's Committee on Youth Fitness. (UPI Telephoto)

## Council Approves Part of Vacation Of Subdivision

Following a public hearing, the Medford city council last week approved part of a requested vacation of several lots in the Rogue Valley Heights subdivision. The council also elected to call for public hearings on two other matters.

A request had been received by the city to vacate approximately six acres of land in the subdivision, but, at the urging of Councilman Donald Hanson, the council agreed to vacate only half that.

Hanson said he favored this approach since a new subdivision plat has been filed for only three acres of the property. He said the other three acres could be vacated when plans have been submitted to resubdivide the rest of the area.

Public hearings were called on a request for a change of zone from single-family to commercial at the corner of Siskiyou Blvd. and Highland Dr. The request came from a store owner who wants all of his store property to be in the same zone. Another hearing was called on a request to change the zone of property located on the southeast corner of 10th St. and Siskiyou Blvd. from single to multiple-family.

The council approved a number of plans and specifications, including those for relocation of the Mayette St. sanitary sewer; the extension of the Earhart St. storm sewer; for paving Stevens St. from Biddle Rd. to the east line of the Eagles property; for the north Hawthorne place paving and sewer; for Crestview paving plans; and for the widening of Fourth St.

The Rogue Valley Country club was granted a variance to continue to operate as a country club, and a office equipment home occupation was approved for a residence at 2318 Capital Ave.

## Credit Representative Speaks for Local Group

A short talk on the values of sound credit granting and a brief history of the founding of Dunn and Bradstreet were given by J. Harry White, Portland, a representative of the national credit firm, at a meeting of the Jackson County Retail Credit Association at North's Chuck Wagon restaurant recently.

Regular monthly meetings will be held at North's Chuck Wagon in the future, it was decided.

Access road construction highlighted the third-quarter of bureau of land management activities in the Medford district, according to Ross A. Youngblood, district manager.

Heading the list of access road activities were awarding of bids on two projects totaling \$297,179.50. The R & M Construction company of Central Point bid in the west branch of Elk Creek road with a construction length of 5.3 miles, which will open up approximately 375 million board feet of timber, of which about 75 per cent is BLM.

The Southern Oregon Crushing company of Medford received the bid for crushing and surfacing of material for the first 10 miles of the Galice access road in central-western Josephine county.

**Important Access Road**

Another important access road project which received attention during this period was the Keno access road in northwest Klamath county and the eastern portion of Jackson county. The clearing for this road got under way early, and grading had just started at the close of this reporting period.

Experimental forest tree planting co-starred with access road construction during the reporting period.

The experimental tree-planting plots are located in the Ward road area of Klamath county, and consist of enclosures to restrict deer from eating the seedlings and, likewise, the individual tree enclosures to keep rabbits from nipping terminal buds of the young planted seedlings.

The experiment is directed to determine whether rabbits or deer, or some other animal, is the biggest destroyer of planted tree seedlings.

**Reforestation Projects**

The BLM is progressing satisfactorily in most of its reforestation projects. Reforestation on cut-over lands is being accomplished by the use of a force-account crew under the supervision of bureau foresters, and by contract crews furnished by the successful bidders on advertised projects put out by the BLM.

Spring planting on BLM land really got under way during this period, and at the end of the reporting period, was at its peak. Snow hampered the planting crews to some extent, particularly in the higher elevations; however, in these instances the crews were moved to lower elevations, and planting continued at a rapid pace.

It is expected that the total reforestation program for the year will approximate close to 3,000 acres, with the biggest portion of this acreage being planted during the third-quarter spring season.

**Sale of Timber**

Sale of timber played a significant part in BLM activities during the period. A first for the Medford BLM district was a Small Business administration earmarked timber sale. No competition was received from the tract; the only bid submitted was by C. R. Hassell of Ashland.

During the last three months the Medford BLM district sold 47,194,000 board feet of timber for \$1,177,090.95. This was appraised at \$972,403.85; thus the average bid price for all the volume sold totaled \$24.94 per thousand board feet.

Twelve of these tracts were located in Jackson county and four in Josephine county.

The highest bid received for Douglas fir in this three-month period was \$45.25, and the highest bid for ponderosa pine was \$25.50.

**Sales Were Good**

Sales were good during this three-month period and bidding fairly strong except for the March sale; cutting, however, of the timber lagged considerably over previous years.

Sale of timber during the three-month period for all BLM lands in the Medford district totaled \$504,053.15. Of this total, \$7,400.10 was collected from public domain timber lands.

**Collections Up**

Collections from timber trespasses totaled \$14,523.04. Trespass cases continued to demand a considerable amount of time. Ten cases were discovered, and nine cases were closed. Of the 10 new cases, it is estimated that 154,000 board feet were cut, valued at \$3,586 on a single-stumpage basis. Collections on timber trespass cutting is at double or triple the fair market appraisal. Circumstances

of the cutting determine the penalty.

Collections for grazing leases were up fairly well. Cattle are ready to go onto the spring range, and fees were collected from stockmen who plan to use the range this season. The collections totaled \$6,642.63.

The acquisition of easements also played an important role. Twenty-three easements were acquired for subsequent use of the BLM in building roads and development of its timbered tracts. Eleven quite claim deeds were acquired over mining claims where subsequent BLM timber access roads will be constructed.

One reciprocal detailed right-of-way agreement was approved during the period which covered a sizeable area of land of private and government timber which will be developed for logging purposes where rights to construct and use roads by either party are permitted on an equal basis.

Four short-term non-reciprocal agreements were approved; these types of permits are used by individual loggers to remove private timber via BLM roads. Normally a small fee is assessed to assist in the amortization of the roads constructed by the BLM.

In the period an essential training program was conducted with the assistance of the Kogap Lumber company. This training was in the cruiser-appraiser field. All the BLM appraisers in western Oregon and some from eastern Oregon discussed and learned new timber appraisal techniques.

Occupancy trespasss, which are actually the building of homes without legal authority upon public lands, continue to plague and aggravate BLM foresters. Several notices of

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