

CONSERVATION . . .

Timber Resources On Our National Forests Play Big Part In US Economy

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The timber resource of the Klamath Ranger District is, of course, very important to the people and economy of the Klamath Basin. The resource is managed according to the concept of sustained yield and multiple use. Sustained yield means that cut does not exceed growth and mortality, thus perpetuating the timber crop. Multiple use is the management of each resource in such a way that the other resources may also be used to the extent that they are compatible on each area.

In managing the timber resource on a sustained yield basis, the allowable cut figure is used to denote the amount of timber that may be cut each year forever. This figure is adjusted periodically to reflect more complete utilization, new growth figures and so forth. The Klamath Ranger District has just completed a complete re-inventory of the timber resource. When these figures are compiled, there will be a new allowable cut figure calculated. The present allowable cut is set at 14 million board feet with an adjustment for 1959 of 10 million board feet making a total of 24 million board feet the allowable cut for 1959.

In harvesting the timber, the overmature timber is the first to be cut. Most of this timber lies in undeveloped areas. To reach these areas, roads must be built. The location and construction of these roads are large and important jobs. The roads must be located in such a way as to reach the timber to be harvested and also to serve future needs. The future needs including reaching timber further back, conducting salvage of dead material, use of the road for access to recreation areas, and others. Thus the location must be carefully thought out. Also, in locating and constructing roads, the soil and water resource must be protected. Then the roads are designed and built to achieve the least possible soil disturbances, to assume adequate drainage and provisions are made to protect the cut and fill slopes from erosion. Also roads crossing streams present problems in protecting other resources. Culverts and bridges are used to provide for maximum stream flow. Culverts are installed in such a way as to assume fish passage upstream.

The logging operations present other problems. In laying out cutting areas, again the other resources are considered. The areas are laid out to provide for the minimum of soil movement which protects both the soils resource and water quality. Logging disturbance is of course necessary. However, on steep ground the use of tractors is usually prohibited and instead cable yarding methods are used. Cutting areas are seeded to grass and replanted to trees as soon as possible to prevent soil movement and to re-stock the area.

Clear cutting is the type of cutting used in stands of even-aged, overmature and mature timber. In the type of timber, it is possible to put a line around a cutting unit and cut all the timber within the area. The size and shape of these units depend on the topography, whether it will be tractor or cable yarded and consideration of the other uses. Lease areas between units are left to provide for future cuts and to avoid cutting over a large piece of ground at one time. These lease units are left usually until the cut units have a well-established crop of new timber on them. These lease units will be left uncultivated for a period and usually there is some mortality. Where it is economical and feasible, the dead and down timber is removed from the area periodically.

Another type of cutting is partial cutting. This is usually practiced in uneven-aged stands. This type of cutting is more common in the ponderosa pine type. The trees cut are those that are putting on practically no growth and are diseased or damaged in some way.

Another type of cutting is the salvage cut. This is a cut of the dead and down material only. It is

practiced in either even-aged or uneven-aged stands. Its purpose is to salvage the dead and down material while it can still make good lumber. The salvage program is taking on greater proportions now because we have more access roads and are able to economically reach the timber.

The practice of slash burning on cutover areas is an activity which has two basic objectives. One is to reduce the fire hazard and the other is to prevent the outbreak of bark beetle attacks. The cost of this work is figured as part of the logging costs on each area and is deposited in a special fund by the timber purchasers. The work is then done by the Forest Service.

Another part of timber management is the Soil Area Betterment program. This includes two phases. One is timber stand improvement which includes pruning, thinning and release in areas of young growth timber. The other is reforestation, which is the planting of cut-over areas with seedlings. The cost of this work is figured as a separate part of stumpage price and is deposited in a special fund by the timber purchaser. This is called KV work after Senator Knudsen and Senator Vandenberg, who authorized the work. The stumpage price, which is the price paid for the timber cut, is figured briefly as follows: The lumber selling price for each species is determined for average prices in the area. From this is deducted the cost of logging, milling, erosion control, slash disposal and other necessary work. The resulting figure is the stumpage and KV price. The cost of the KV work is then deducted and the resulting figure is the stumpage price. This stumpage price, plus special deposits, represents the minimum bid price for the timber. The bidders then submit their bids and the timber is sold to the highest bidder. Thus the bid stumpage price, multiplied by the volume cut, represents the revenue for each timber sale. Twenty five per cent of this revenue is returned to the counties in which the timber was cut for use for roads and schools. This money, plus what is spent for roads and fire protection, which the county or states would otherwise spend, exceeds the taxes the land would bring in if it were subjected to ordinary assessment and levy. Thus the Klamath Ranger District makes an important contribution to the economy of the Basin.

The harvesting of the timber crop is an operation that brings considerable comment from the general public and various single-use groups. With more and more pressure for the use of the various national forest resources, the multiple use concept becomes more important. This very careful analysis and planning is done to determine what is the primary use for each area. If the primary use for an area is determined to be recreation, then timber harvesting will be modified so that it is compatible with this use. On the other hand, if timber is the primary resource on an area then recreation use will be limited but not eliminated. Attention will be given to desirable recreation areas within a timber sale area. Examples would be leaving stream-side and roadside uncultivated. It should also be remembered that timber harvesting provides access to areas that were inaccessible before and will enable more use of the other resources.

Esthetically speaking, timber harvesting is probably not too desirable. However, it must be remembered that when the harvesting is done on an area, the debris is burned and the area planted, the esthetic values return as the scars heal and the new crop grows.

Thus the use of the timber resource is just another, though a very important use, in the multiple-use concept of National Forest Management. The use of every resource and its extent of compatibility with each other's use is constantly kept in mind, not only in timber management but in other resource management.

Yule Tree Thief Gets \$100 Fine

Donald Duane Franks, 24, of Klamath Falls, was fined \$100 by Federal Judge Gus J. Solomon in Portland for stealing Christmas trees. Franks pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing 431 Christmas trees from federal timber land in Jackson County last November 23. Judge Solomon also put him on probation for two years on condition that he would pay for the trees and whatever penalties will be assessed in addition to the fine. The court action took place last Wednesday.

Pressmen's Chief Dies In South

Word was received here by telegram this morning of the death on Sunday of Thomas E. Dunwoody, president for many years of International Printing Pressmen's Union at the Pressmen's Home in Tennessee. Semi-private funeral services are being held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday from the Pressmen's Memorial Chapel followed by interment in the Pressmen's Home Cemetery.

MEETING

Midland Grange Home Economics Club will meet on Tuesday, May 5, starting at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Marie Andrieu, lower Klamath Lake Road. All ladies are welcome. Please call TU 2-0904 for transportation.



AN EXAMPLE OF PARTIAL cutting is shown in this picture of a typical stand of Ponderosa pine. The remaining trees are young and healthy and the area is opened up so that

reproduction can be established. This area is on Bear Creek on the Rogue National Forest.

A TYPICAL CULVERT installation along a logging road is this one on the Rogue National Forest. It will be noted that the culvert is so placed as to allow passages for fish.

Three KF Civic Leaders Attend Fire Power Show

Three Klamath Falls civic leaders, George Callison, news director, KFJ Radio Station; Walt Mc-

Intyre, Worldwide Travel Service; and Elbert Stiles, Beehive Truck and Car Rental Company, departed from Kingsley Field Saturday for Hamilton AFB, California, on the first leg of a 3,000 mile flight to attend a fire power demonstration at Eglin AFB, Florida.

Invited as guests of the United States Air Force by Col. Jack W. Williams, Kingsley Field base commander, the group will witness the latest developments and advancements of the Air Force's massive Air Proving Grounds in Florida. They will also be shown the latest technological advancements of the Air Force in air power; aircraft design and construction; missiles; and rocket demonstrations.

Highlighting the Eglin AFB program will be: bombing and strafing demonstrations; air-to-air and ground-to-air rocket and missile displays; and a parade of the Air Force's newest fighter and bomber aircraft.

These fire power demonstrations held at the million acre site of the Air Proving Ground Command are used to acquaint civic leaders throughout the United States with the capability of the U.S. Air Force to discharge its responsibilities in the defense of the nation.

Callison, McIntyre, and Stiles are scheduled to return to Kingsley Field Friday, May 8, after making stopovers in New Orleans, Louisiana, and El Paso, Texas.

SMOG THREATENS L.A.

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Los Angeles residents, sweltering in a spring heat wave, braced themselves today for a predicted first stage alert of eye-stinging smog. Ninety-degree heat invaded the basin area Wednesday with a heavy pall of smog while temperatures in Southern California desert areas soared above the 100 mark.

The planet Venus, Earth's closest neighbor, perpetually veils its face beneath a sea of clouds.

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89¢ ea.

49¢ lb.

45¢ lb.

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Del Rich

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Qt. 39¢

3-lb. Tin 69¢

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1/2 Gal.

35¢

Good Luck Margarine

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22-oz. Tin 73¢

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No. 1 Tins 2 for 35¢

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12-oz. tins 49¢

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