

Range Management Progress Continues At Rapid Pace During 1964

Friday, February 26, 1965

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HERALD AND NEWS, Klamath Falls, Ore.

By JO DEELY
LAKVIEW-In a review of activities on the Fremont National Forest with Supervisor Carl Simpson it was noted that there were 187 million board feet of timber sold in 92 s. les during 1964. Of this there were 187 million board feet cut. There were 22 commercial sales of Christmas trees with 1,682 trees involved, plus 378 individual trees permitted. Range management progress on the Fremont continued at a rapid pace during the year. Emphasis was given to close control of grazing animals of 8,761 sheep were permitted to graze for three months. National forest summer range is especially important in Southern Oregon because it gives the rancher some place to feed and keep his livestock while he is growing a crop of hay on his home meadows. Thirty eight miles of new fences were constructed on the forest, and other range improvements were installation of 10 ponds and reservoirs; one well was drilled to give stock water on an otherwise dry range area, and many springs were developed or improved. Wildlife abundance in the forest if the habitat is managed properly. The most important big game animal which is provided for on the Fremont Forest is the mule deer. An estimated 110,000 mule deer live in the forest for an average of seven months each year. For a few it is their winter range, for others, their summer home where they raise their young and are found during the hunting season. Domestic stock grazing must be carefully planned and continually adjusted in the attempt to supply sufficient forage appropriate for deer.

The multiple - use plans for management of forest ranges provide for development, protection and use of wildlife habitat along with the other resources and products of the forest. These are sensitive balances which can be maintained only by the careful attention of the managers of these public lands.

Total recreation visits to the Fremont during the year was 188,200, an increase of 45 percent over 1963. The increase was mainly due to heavier than usual fishing at the developed reservoirs, and there were excellent skiing conditions at Warner Canyon ski area. The largest numbers of recreational visitors continue to be hunters and fishermen, followed by campers and picnickers.

High waters in December on the Chewaucan River and south fork of Sprague River did considerable damage to Marsters Spring and Sprague River recreation areas. Other recreation areas suffered damage but to what extent will not be known until late spring.

During the season there was

a total of 79 fires, burning 18 acres of national forest and 529 acres of other protected lands. Fire retardant was dropped on seven of these fires from airplanes to aid in their control. Increasing use of the national forest results in an increase in man-caused fires as evidenced by 32 of the 79 fires being attributed to people; 47 were started by lightning.

During the year there were 1,048 acres planted or replanted to yellow pine trees. Thinning under the timber stand improvement project included 2,658 acres. This work was curtailed greatly because of the mistletoe problem. There were 52 acres pruned for mistletoe sanitation.

Forest personnel killed 1,269 porcupines on the Fremont and there was an additional kill of 1,190 by bounty hunters in the Klamath County portion. A few more have been killed by government trappers, automobiles, etc., with the result that the Spring and Sprague River recreation areas. Other recreation areas suffered damage but to what extent will not be known until late spring.

There is a downward trend in the infestation of western pine beetles due to good silvicultural practices.

In the tree-grafting orchard there have been two successful grafts and Simpson stated that, at last, they have hopes of being on the right track in this field.

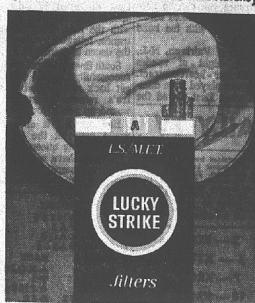
There have been 89.4 miles of roads designed on the forest and 80 miles surveyed. The timber purchaser miles constructed total 81. There was contracted construction of two bridges, and one lookout (at Spode Mountain) with six miles of road. Six hundred section corners were found and 150 monumented. A new office was built at Bly, plus two new residences at Paisley and three at Silver Lake.

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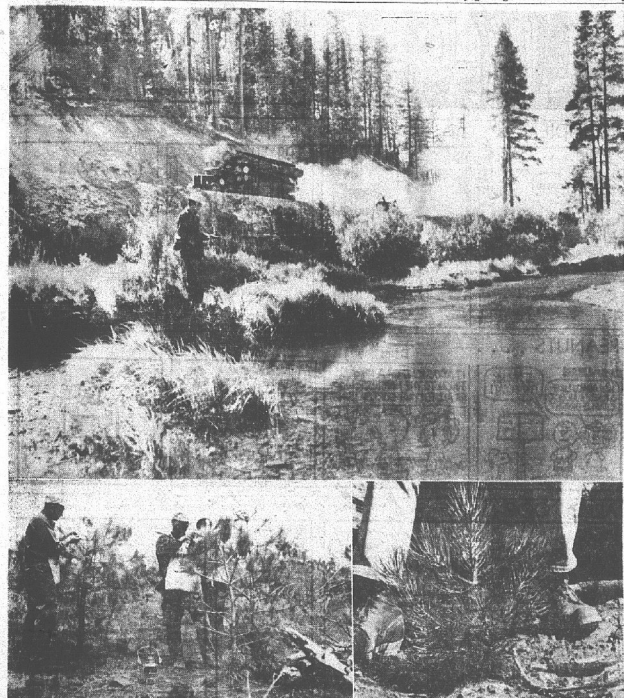
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INDUSTRY, RECREATION - Industry and recreation are a part of the multiple use program of the forestlands as indicated by the top photograph taken in the Dairy Creek area of the Fremont National Forest. Photo at bottom shows a part of the grafting program in the forest area. The project, now three years old, includes grafting a superior strain onto ponderosa pine stock to produce better trees. Photo at right shows the growth of a ponderosa pine seedling inside a deer proof fence on the Honey Creek burn area two years ago.

Lava Beds Bids Asked

Bids for the construction of three 3-bedroom residences and a four-unit apartment building have been issued by the National Park Service. The work is to be carried out at Lava Beds National Monument near Tulelake, Calif. Opening date for the bids is March 23, with the time set at 2:30 p. m.

Plans and specifications are available to prospective bidders upon request at the park office. Copies will also be mailed to interested parties upon written request directed to the Superintendent, Lava Beds National Monument, Box 807, Tulelake, California, 96134.

This work is part of the continuing "Mission 66" program of development of Lava Beds National Monument according to Superintendent William J. Kennedy. Presently under way now is the rebuilding of the North Boundary Road. Other projects will be carried out this coming summer. The presently proposed construction consists of three single residences, each with 3-bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, utility room and attached garage, and one 4-unit single bedroom apartment building with storage space and laundry room, together with sewer, water, and electric power lines, all at the Indian Wells Headquarters Area of the park. The type of construction consists of concrete foundations and floor slabs, apartment and residence garages, wood framed floor in residences, wood siding and shingles on wood framing, aluminum windows, wood doors, gypsum board walls and ceilings, resilient flooring with alternatives for wood flooring in the residences and laminated plastic bathtub recesses with option for ceramic tile.

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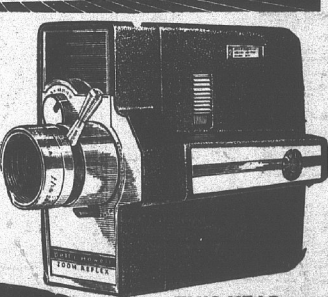
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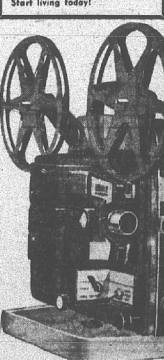
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