Forests, People and Oregon

A History of Forestry in Oregon

Various locations of State Forestry Headquarters

Oregon Capitol - Burned 4-25-35
State Forestry 1911 - 1935

Chambers Building
State Forestry 1935 - 1938

Salem Headquarters
Operations Building
(Opened 2002)

Salem Headquarters
State Forester's Building
1938 - Present

Salem Headquarters
Administration Building
(Opened 2003)
Cover: Displays the various buildings in Salem where state forestry has been headquartered over the past 93 years. The three buildings on the Salem Campus include the major office buildings completed since the turn of the century. Cover artwork was provided by ODF artist Hugh Hayes who retired in 1976 and continues to provide artwork, sketches, and cartoons for department use.

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History of Forestry in Oregon, Fourth Edition
Ray W. Miller
1700s

George Davidson's sketch of "Columbia in a Squall"

Captain Robert Gray's ship, Columbia Rediviva, was the first to enter the Columbia's mouth.

Courtesy of Oregon Historical Society

1700s
A period of exploration and fur trade by ships from England, Russia, Spain, and the United States.

1705
Millicoma Fire - 100,000 acres.

1978
The first use of the word Oregon in print was by Jonathan Carver, an American explorer, who had been with Major Robert Rogers at Mackanac. Carver wrote a book about his travels west of the Mississippi River including "The River Oregon" (1).

1788
Robert Gray sent men ashore somewhere in the present Tillamook County. This was the first known landing of white men on any part of the Oregon Coast (2).
At first, settlers to Oregon considered the trees a nuisance that got in the way of their farming. Gradually, a forest industry developed in the state in the 1800s. Oxen were used to haul logs during this time. This photo was taken about 1900 on lands now in the Santiam State Forest, east of Salem.
The 1800s

A period of exploration and development.

1804

The Lewis and Clark expedition traveled to the Oregon Country and built Fort Clatsop on Young's Bay, south of the mouth of the Columbia. They started the return journey in 1806 (3).

1827

The forest industry of the Oregon Country was started along the Columbia River. The first sawmill west of the Mississippi River was constructed by the Hudson Bay Company under the direction of Dr. John McLoughlin. It was located along Camas Creek on the north side of the Columbia River. The mill was powered by water and the saw was the "Muley" type where a stiff vertical saw blade was guided by clamps at either end instead of being mounted in a frame. The crew of 28 men came from the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) and the mill machinery came from England. The mill output was 2,000 to 2,400 board feet per day.

1841

Beginning in the 1840s, immigration to Oregon was encouraged by missionaries such as Jason Lee. The trek started in the spring at Independence, Missouri, where the pioneers purchased their supplies and filled their water barrels. Most of the wagons were 10 feet long with 2-foot sides. They had 2,000 miles to go and it would take six months (3).

1843

The start of the "Great Migration" was in 1843 as about 900 persons arrived in the Willamette Valley over the Oregon Trail (2) (6).

1845

Fire became the principal tool used by the early settlers in clearing land for agriculture. When set during critical times of the year, fires frequently escaped from the valley floor to destroy adjoining forests.

1846

The Territorial Government for Oregon was established by Congress for all lands from the 42nd to the 49th parallels and from the Continental Divide to the Pacific Ocean.

1849

Joseph Lane was appointed as Governor of the Oregon Territory and arrived in Oregon City on March 3, 1849. With his arrival, the Oregon Territory finally had a government.

The Siletz Fire burned 500,000 acres or more between the Siuslaw and Siletz rivers.

The fire started a few miles north of what is now Corvallis. It killed at least 25 billion board feet of timber, almost a three-year supply at the 1976 cutting rate.
The use of manufactured forest products started slowly, but as the valley areas of what would eventually be Oregon were settled, prosperous farmers broke away from the old log cabins and began to build new homes of sawed lumber.

Twenty-nine sawmills in the Oregon Territory, located mostly along the lower Willamette and Columbia Rivers, produced 17,794,000 board feet of lumber and employed 177 men.

1850  
The first steam-powered circular saw mill began operation at Portland.

First census showed the Oregon territory population at 13,294.

A stagecoach express between Portland and Sacramento took seven days to make the journey in summer—twelve in the winter.

1853  
Washington Territory was created from part of the Oregon Territory (3).

Second Nestucca Fire burned 320,000 acres.

1855  
Oregon population now 43,294.

1859  
The State of Oregon was admitted to the Union on February 14, becoming the 33rd state. The State was granted 4,309,435 acres for schools and other purposes. Federal land grants commonly conveyed to states two sections in every township upon attaining statehood.

The Oregon Admission Act provided that Sections 16 and 36 of every township of public land be granted to the State for use of schools. "In lieu" lands were granted for Sections 16 and 36 that had been sold or disposed of previous to the Act. Lands could be sold by the State and most choice timberlands were sold within the next fifty years to finance schools (2).

1860  
Oregon population: 52,465 (2).

1861-1865  
The Civil War between the States (2).

1863  
The Idaho Territory was created, making three states out of the original Oregon Country (3).

1864  
The threat of fire to the settlers and their possessions was the reason for enactment of the first forestry law in Oregon. This law made setting of fires maliciously or allowing them to escape to another's land, punishable by imprisonment or fine. The law had little effect in lessening the number of fires in the forest because it was designed to meet the situation in the settled communities.
The idea still existed that forests were inexhaustible. There was no interest in them because no substantial industry depended upon them, and they had no apparent value.

1866

The beginning of papermaking in Oregon took place at Willamette Falls in Oregon City. The mill used rags and straw to produce less than one ton of paper daily.

1868

The Coos Bay Fire burned an estimated 300,000 acres of timberland, including the area which is now the Elliott State Forest (*Fire in America*, Stephen J. Pyne, p. 338).

Second Yaquina Fire burned 300,000 acres.

1870

Congress approved the granting of land to encourage the building of railroads between Portland and California. The Oregon and California Railroad Company was the successful bidder. The O & C Railroad failed to complete the line beyond Ashland, and the Southern Pacific Railroad Company took over.

*The beginning of railroad logging in timber harvesting operations permitted hauling the logs longer distances.*

![Early Heisler locomotive with a train load of logs.](image)

About 75 million board feet of lumber was being produced annually within Oregon. This increased to about 750 million by the end of the century when the timber industry really got underway.

Oregon population: 90,923.
The first Oregon pulp mill using wood was built on Youngs River near Astoria. A wood pulp mill also began operation on the Clackamas River at Clackamas.

1876
Congress authorized employment of a Forestry Agent by the Federal Department of Agriculture and Franklin Hough became the 1st forester (9).

1880
Until about this date, the axe was the primary tool used for felling trees. When the trees were down, men used long saws with handles at both ends to cut them into logs. Loggers finally discovered that these saws could be modified and used to sever the standing tree from its stump more efficiently than using an axe.

Horses supplemented oxen in skidding throughout the “80’s” (2).

1882
The first steam donkey engine was patented in California by John Dolbeer (Dolbeer & Carson Lumber Co., April 1882) (2).

1883
The first transcontinental railroad connecting Portland with the east at Ogden, Utah (Northern Pacific) was completed (2).

Up until this time, the harvest of timber in Oregon was adjacent to large bodies of water which made the movement of logs easy and cheap. These operations made use of oxen, and later horses, to transport logs to the river. The logs were then made into rafts and delivered to the mill by water.

1884
For many years animals were used almost exclusively for skidding or moving logs within the woods, but in 1884 some steam power started being used for this purpose. (The “Dolbeer’s Patent Steam Logging Machine” was used.)

1887
The Southern Pacific Railroad Company purchased the O & C Railroad holdings and completed the line to the California border connecting with the Southern Pacific line coming north (see 1870 and 1908).

1890
Oregon population: 317,704 (2).

1891
By 1891, the Department of Agriculture Forestry Agent had set up a small Bureau of Forestry with purely educational duties (9).

Congress authorized the President to withdraw public lands from the public domain as forest reserves by Executive Order (9).
1892 President Harrison signed the first order in 1892 which created the Yellowstone National Park Timberland. Later, in Oregon, the Timberland Reserve was expanded to include the Bull Run Timberland Reserve with the purpose of protecting the water supply for the City of Portland (9).

1893 Huge steam-driven tractors with 8-foot driving wheels were used in the work of skidding logs in the pine forests of eastern Oregon and began to replace oxen in road construction and yarding logs (11)(2).

The Cascade Range Forest Reserve (later designated as a National Forest) was created by Presidential proclamation.

1897 An Act for the Administration of the Forest Reserves was passed by Congress as the basis for operating the National Forests (9).
At the turn of the century, timber began to assume an important role in the economy of the state. Here, Swedish immigrants, Gabriel Gabrielson (left) and John Gabrielson (right), fell timber in Western Oregon about 1910. Kerosene in the bottle was sprinkled on the cross-cut saw to lubricate the saw.

1900	For more than 60 years prior to this time, only about 12 billion board feet of timber was run through Oregon's sawmills.

Oregon population: 413,536 (2).

1902	Columbia Fire burned 170,000 acres.

1904	The Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Road Company hired Marion Jake Nye as fire warden to look after company interests in Linn County.
The Booth-Kelly Lumber Company initiated what was probably Oregon’s first cooperative forest patrol, in eastern Lane County, to fight forest fires.

One of the first makes of track-type tractors was built in 1904 with a 40-hp steam engine. It pulled 35 percent more than the previous round-wheeled 60-hp tractor. 1905 witnessed the substitution of a gasoline engine for the cumbersome steam power (11).

1905

The Portland Manufacturing Company of Portland, Oregon, established the first plywood plant in the United States. Veneers with their grains at right angles are bonded with glues of tremendous strength (2).

The history of wood products evolved around man’s ability to shape material obtained from trees. Cedar was the first wood of importance in the Pacific Northwest. Indians along the waterways made their canoes from cedar logs, and split logs to provide planks for their long houses. The first white men in the area used logs for their buildings then advanced to sawn lumber.

The Oregon State Legislature passed a law requiring burning permits during severe fire weather and authorizing county courts to appoint fire wardens. These laws became the forerunners of Oregon’s Forestry Code, but they lacked teeth and organization. Fire Wardens were reluctant to enforce new laws because there was little popular awareness of the fire threat. People didn’t understand the potential for catastrophe that hung over Oregon during the dry season. Various timber companies were starting to form individual fire patrols.

The US Forest Service was established in 1905 from a Bureau of Forestry created in 1901. Both originated from the US Division of Forestry, created in 1880 (10).

1906

Fire protection work started on National Forest lands.

The US Forest Service established their first lookout on Coffin Mountain, ten miles southeast of Detroit (Forest Log Mar. 1942, p.4).

The Coeur d’ Alene “Protective Association” was the first association organized by private landowners to protect their forest holdings from fire. It was soon followed by three more Idaho Associations. Oregon landowners began to develop similar associations 3 years later.

1907

First non-federal Oregon lookout on record was established by M. J. Nye on High Deck, 14 miles east of Sweet Home (Forest Log, Mar. 1942, p. 4).

Timber interests supported an initial attempt to bring a state forestry organization to Oregon. The State Legislature created a Board of Forestry to investigate forest conditions, designate a fire season and outlaw
incendiary fires. The funds appropriated were only sufficient for postage, printing and stenographic services. A faculty member at the Oregon Agricultural College had charge of the work. Field efforts were carried out by unpaid volunteers.

1908

The US Forest Service appointed its first Regional Forester for Washington, Oregon, and Alaska (2).

1908

Congress passed a law repossessing 2.8 million acres of O & C (Oregon and California Railroad) lands in 18 Oregon counties for ignoring conditions of the old grant that required the grantee railroad to sell the land in parcels of 160 acres for $2.50/acre. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company received a few million dollars in compensation. (See 1887)

1909

One thousand citizens enrolled voluntarily as forest fire wardens.

Klamath-Lake Counties Forest Fire Association became the first fire association in Oregon.

The Pacific Northwest Forest Protection and Conservation Association, later to become the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, was formed by foresters and lumbermen of the Western States.

An Oregon Conservation Commission is created by the Legislature to study the resource situation in the state.

Oregon's new forest statutes were still ineffective since there was no law enforcement body or public education effort being made. Fortunately, badly needed support came from President Theodore Roosevelt's Conservation Conference of Governors, an educational body concerned with all resources. The Western Forestry and Conservation Association encouraged owners of large tracts of forest land to develop fire organizations and formed the Oregon Forest Fire Association to secure enactment of new and far stronger forestry laws for Oregon.
The state legislature enacted law providing for a new Board of Forestry, a State Forester, and a Deputy State Forester. Francis A. Elliott was appointed Oregon's first state forester.
1910 The Coos County Fire Patrol Association was organized. The Klamath-Lake and Coos were the first Fire Protection Associations in the State. Forest protection was gaining momentum (2).

Big wheels, also called slip tongue or stinger tongue, came into general use in the pine forests of Eastern Oregon in 1910, as the most common method of yarding logs to railroad spurs. They were pulled by four horses.

Forest fires swept the states of Oregon, Idaho and Washington. Over 1,785 million feet of timber was destroyed and 192 million feet damaged in Oregon. The loss was estimated at $2 million. Six lives were lost in Oregon and many more in Idaho (2).

1911 State legislators enacted a law creating a new seven-member Board of Forestry, a State Forester, and a deputy for the appointment of fire wardens. Francis A. Elliott was appointed as the first State Forester. The biennial appropriation was set at $60,000. The primary function of the Forestry Office was the protection of the timber values on private forestland in the State of Oregon (see also 1905 and 1907).

The total number of fires reported this year on public and private land in the state was 842 (433 occurred within National Forests). Nearly 122,000 acres burned with approximately 85 million board feet of timber lost (compared to 1,977 million board feet destroyed and damaged in 1910) (First Annual Report of the State Forester, 1911).

The State Forester estimated that fires in Oregon prior to 1911 had burned over 4 million acres and destroyed 160 billion board feet of lumber. That was nearly as much lumber as was produced in Oregon from 1900 through 1948, and would have been a 20-year supply at the 1976 rate of cut.

The Weeks Law, enacted by the 61st Congress, carried a $200,000 appropriation to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with the State in protecting the forested watersheds of navigable rivers.

The Jackson County Fire Patrol Association was organized (2).

1912 Five fire patrol associations were organized in Linn, Douglas, Western Lane, Clackamas-Marion, and Columbia counties.

Cooperative Patrol Associations - there are four entities actively engaged in forest protection work in Oregon: The State, the US Forest Service, the timber owners and the counties.
This year cooperative patrols existed in eight counties and cooperative patrols on a smaller scale existed in other counties including Clatsop, Eastern Lane, Polk, and Crook.

The field men getting their instructions, authority and salary through this patrol office were of two grades: County Supervising Wardens and Federal patrolmen. A County Supervising Warden was appointed in each county having timber in sufficient quantity to make the services of such an official necessary (Report of State Forester, 1912, p. 23-41).

1913

The Compulsory Forest Fire Patrol Law enacted by the Legislature required all forest landowners to pay their share of fire protection cost.

Eight more fire patrol associations (Lincoln, Baker, Clatsop, Josephine, Polk, John Day, Deschutes, and Union-Wallowa) were created under impetus of the new Fire Patrol Law.

The motor truck first came into use for logging on a limited and experimental basis. (11)

1914

"The cost of timber production is greater by far than the present price of the products produced by the forest," according to a statement by C. A. Schenck, the forefather of American forestry, in 1914. The value of timber at the time was almost entirely in the cost of harvesting and milling. Only the old-growth trees of a few prime species in Oregon were utilized; the others were considered weed-species. There was very little economic incentive, therefore, to expend energy or money in protecting timber from fire and insects. And yet major elements of the industry initiated and supported legislation in Oregon to protect this resource from fire.
High-lead methods of logging were developed, making it unnecessary to build skid roads from the stump to the landing where the logs were loaded onto railroad cars or trucks. A greater volume of logs could be harvested at less cost.

Two more Fire Patrol Associations were organized (Central Oregon and Tillamook (1919)) (2).

Logging operations were starting to use trucks to haul logs on the public roadways. State laws were passed to limit the weight of vehicles based on the size of tires. The industry started to convert to dual axle trucks and trailers to permit them to haul heavier loads.

*Loading a log with a hayrack boom. NOTE: The tongs are too small to grab the log so straps were used.*
The Highland Butte Lookout, located in Clackamas County, was 140 feet in height. The tree was bored with hardwood pegs for climbing in 1916 by Clackamas-Marion County Fire Patrol Association. It was replaced with a steel tower in 1927.

1918

More than 1 billion board feet of timber destroyed by fire in Oregon.

Fire weather forecasting was introduced by the US Weather Bureau.

A new model of the 1905 gasoline chain saw was used to fell 80,000 board feet of timber in a 10-hour period.

1919

The possibility of using the wireless telephone (radio) to supplement the wire telephone for fire reporting was tested by US Forest Service in Oregon (1919 State Forest Report).

Forest Patrol by airplane was introduced into the State for detection of forest fires. During the summer, five US Army planes reported 156 fires. The total area patrolled was approximately 15 million acres of timber and brush lands lying west of the Cascade Range (2).

Salem Air Base.

The Legislature authorized the exchange of 70,000 acres of scattered state-owned forestlands in Southwest Oregon for a single tract of equal acreage owned by the federal government (Resulted in establishment of the Millicoma Tract) (See 1929) (2).
In 1912 State Forester F.A. Elliott and then State Governor Oswald West conceived the idea of establishing the first state forest. By exchanging isolated tracts of school lands within the National Forests throughout Oregon, one solid 70,000 acre block of National Forest land called the Millicoma tract was formed. By 1929 all the transactions were completed and in 1930, it became the Elliott State Forest. Since then, an additional 15,000 acres of school lands and Board of Forestry lands have been added.

Aerial View of Elliott State Forest.
During the 1920s, one key part of the forestry laws addressed the spread of a fire from one person's property to another's property. Persons who had their property burned by a fire spreading from their neighbors had to prove negligence by someone. In other words, they had to prove someone had started the fire, or had failed to take action to prevent its spread. This law would be tested in the 1930s (17).

The West Coast Lumbermen's Association, under Colonel William Greeley, was spending all its funds to instruct lumber dealers, architects, engineers and contractors in the use of Douglas-fir and western hemlock. Not until World War II were the die-hard New Englanders won over to Douglas-fir instead of the long-leaf yellow pine they had been familiar with.

Commercial acceptance of new tree species into the wood products market was a slow process requiring considerable advertising efforts. Now nearly all grades and species of trees were being converted into products of every shape and form. The shaping of wood into more and more useful products has been a moving force behind development of a better use of this resource. Better forestland management practices came from increased public demand for wood products and increased timber values.

The motorized truck began to influence the methods of logging by avoiding costly railroad construction as logging operations followed the timber further back into the mountains (2).

Airplane patrol continued using US Army bi-planes and Signal Corps. observers. A total of 719 forest fires is reported (2).

Oregon population: 783,389 (2).

Close upon the heels of the first forest fire laws, destructive forest insects were recognized as important enough to warrant legislation. Limited control operations were started by private industry a number of years before, until sufficient backing could be aroused to support the passage of the law.

The Office of Forest Pathology was established by the US Forest Service in Portland (2).

The Oregon State Board of Forestry adopted a forest policy for the state calling for increased protection, a forest nursery, insect control and formation of State Forests.

A pine beetle control law was enacted that permitted enforcement of control work when approved by 60 percent of the owners involved. About
1,175,000 acres were declared a "Zone of Infestation" under the law. (Eastern Oregon) (2).

The State Legislature passed the Insect Pest Control Law and an Insect and Disease Management Program in Oregon was established (Forest Log, Apr 1986, p. 3).

The Legislature strengthened forest fire laws by requiring fire suppression equipment in logging operations and sawmills. This included water pumps, firefighting tools and tank cars. Prevention laws also called for snag felling, watchman service and safeguarding sawmill refuse fires. Considerable effort by the forest industry went into bringing about these self-imposed regulations. Though preferring to operate without the encumbrance of regulatory legislation, they recognized that fire protection laws were essential to their future operations. They were well aware of the distinct possibility that Gifford Pinchot, Forest Service Chief, might succeed in his arguments for federal controls over private timber operations if the states did not take action.

Inspection of forest operations in Oregon started with four law enforcement officers assigned to implement forest laws.

Fire protection extended to all private timberlands throughout Oregon – about 12 million acres.

A Congressional committee was appointed to investigate various forestry problems throughout the United States to work out a federal law authorizing cooperation in the various states. Results of this study brought about the Clarke-McNary Act.

The Clarke-McNary Law enacted by the 68th Congress on June 7, 1924 replaced the Weeks Law acknowledging the federal government’s responsibility for a share of the problems of unproductive cutover lands, protection and taxation. The act provided for assistance to the state in forest fire control and tree seedling production. Oregon received $30,380 for fire prevention (1925 State Forester's Report).

Oregon received $21,823.74 under the Weeks Law.

The first fire weather forecast was distributed to protective associations from the US Weather Bureau's Portland office. Prior to this, they had been sent from their San Francisco office (1924 State Forester's Report).

The State Legislature strengthened the state forest code by creating a “closed season” where permits were needed for debris burning, setting guidelines for the burning of slash, placing cutover lands under the laws.
requiring protection from fire, and by shifting deer season to a less critical time of the fire season.

The Forest Patrol Act was modified to include protection of any forest land and, requiring cutover lands - the greatest fire menace - to bear their share of fire patrol cost (Report of State Forester, 1925).

Oregon received $22,764.19 under the Clarke-McNary Law.

Oregon's first Land Acquisition Act was passed. This act provided for the acceptance by the State of Oregon of forest land by gift or donation; however, no lands were acquired under this act (2).

Airplane patrol for Western States received a $50,000 appropriation from the 68th Congress for extension of patrol to California, Washington, Idaho and Montana (Report of State Forester, 1925).

The first state forest nursery was established eight miles north of Corvallis under terms of the Clarke-McNary Act of 1924. At first, the trees were used primarily by farmers for windbreaks and woodlot planting.
Artificial reforestation in Oregon began on a limited scale as far back as 1901 with river bank plantings of black cottonwood by the Willamette Pulp and Paper Company as a future source of pulpwood. Over the next 40 years only about 49,000 acres of forest tree plantations (Douglas-fir) were successfully established. Otherwise, natural reforestation was relied on to produce new forests.

1926

Oregon’s commercial saw-timber volume was estimated at nearly 400 billion board feet. Harvest until this year was about 53 billion board feet during the past 75 years.

To minimize fire risk, many loggers closed down operations when humidity fell below 30 percent.

1927

Plans were developed to increase state nursery production to 1 million seedlings annually (2).

1928

Forest protection organizations in Oregon established the pattern for fire protection systems adopted in other states.

Cutover forestlands in Oregon totaled nearly 2.6 million acres. This was increasing at the rate of 130,000 acres per year.

The acreage in itself was not thought of as necessarily undesirable or alarming except that the majority of this cutover land was becoming tax delinquent. Land-owners felt they could not economically grow timber to maturity under existing tax laws. They refused to pay the tax, and the land was taken by the counties.

Taxation of cutover forest lands and immature second-growth timber had long been a source of much contention. The landowners would have preferred to have the levy when the crops were removed—the taxing district preferred monies each year.

The Corvallis Nursery distributed 88,688 tree seedlings to 435 farmers in the State.

1929

A progressive “Forest Fee and Yield Tax Law” was enacted by the Legislature. It provided for payment of an annual tax of 5 cents per acre on cutover land and a 12½ percent yield tax on crops when they were harvested, however the initial impact of the law was diluted because it came too late.

Sharp lumber market crisis and Great Depression.
The State received title to about 70,000 acres of forestland in Coos and Curry counties in an exchange with the US Forest Service for scattered school lands. The exchanged land was called the Millicoma Tract.

Forestland management was added to Department activities with acquisition of the Millicoma Tract (Forest Log, January 1986, p.4/5. Also, see Notes for 1955 and 1957).

The Forest Insect Laboratory, now the Division of Forest Insect Research in the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, was established at Portland, Oregon (2).

A nationwide forest survey began with the Douglas-fir region in Oregon and Washington. Oregon has 395.8 billion board feet of saw-timber (2).
August 14, 1933 was the first of major fires during this decade in the Tillamook area (1933, 1939, 1945, and 1951) collectively called the "Tillamook Burn."
1930 Logging trucks got more efficient as equipment for hauling logs directly to mills and railroad sidings.

1931 The first practical diesel tractor was developed for use in the woods.

Francis A. Elliott, State Forester since the Board of Forestry was created in 1911, died on June 11th. Lynn F. Cronemiller, Deputy, was appointed to succeed him (Forest Log, Sept 1930, p. 1).

The first state forest of Oregon, the Millicoma Tract, was renamed Elliott State Forest in recognition of the work of Elliott in promoting forestry in the State during the early years of the Department (Forest Log, Sept. 1930, p. 1).

1932 By 1932, there were definite indications that the timber-based economy of Oregon was not too sound. Forty-eight percent of the logging camps were down and lumber production had dropped from 5.3 billion board feet in 1929 to 1.7 billion board feet in 1932. More than 2 million acres of forestland were tax delinquent and much of this land had gone or was on
its way to county ownership through tax foreclosure and removed from tax roles.

These foreclosed forestlands were quite a liability. Counties were forced into the forestry business and had no means to finance the activity. In addition to providing funds for county taxing units, the counties had to collect the State property tax for all property. The State demanded its share even if the property owners did not pay their tax for the year. This obligation was in addition to paying the state levy of tax foreclosed lands.

The wage for common labor while fighting fires was fixed by various forest protection agencies of the State at 30 cents per hour. Thirty-five cents per meal was added where the men were boarding themselves.

Following a mild summer fire season, in mid-September northwest Oregon fire patrol associations encouraged landowners to burn old logging slash. Unfortunately, east winds appeared and temperatures soared. A September 10 arson fire exploded on September 27 and eventually burned 10,000 acres from the outskirts of Vernonia to 8 miles west. Also on the 27th the 90-acre Tideport fire, from an escaped slash fire, merged with the K-P Timber Company escaped slash fire, burning over 3,000 acres. An Oregon-American slash fire crossed control lines and burned 5,000 acres. The worst fire of 1932 was the Cochran Fire, an escaped slash burn in the rugged Salmonberry River canyon that eventually burned 40,000 acres and several towns, farms, and logging camps. Only the fall rains stopped these fires (17).

An increasing agitation for government regulation of private industry marked this era in Oregon forestry. It was held that private forest landowners had a public responsibility to keep their lands productive. Leading lumbermen and forest landowners in the state recognized this principle. They knew, moreover, that their economic future depended upon growing timber on these lands.

At a meeting in Washington, D. C., private, state and federal representatives drew up the "Rules of Forest Practice." These rules were a part of Article X of the National Industrial Recovery Act and had the effect of federal law. Later, the act was declared unconstitutional, but the majority of Oregon loggers and landowners continued the practices on a voluntary basis.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Act was passed by Congress. This federal program put many young men to work who otherwise would have been unemployed. Twelve CCC camps in Oregon put men to work reforesting Oregon's cutover lands, building roads, building telephone lines, managing lands, and fighting fires.
Figures from the office of the Emergency Conservation Work (ECW) in Washington, D.C., indicated that with an enrollment from Oregon of 4,292 men in the civilian forest camps, 3,650 families were receiving allotments and the total number of dependents aided was 13,333.

On the average, the monthly contribution from men in the camps to the home folks was around $25 and rarely less than $22. This left $5 to $8 for the personal use of the worker. In nearly all cases the men in the camps were taken from the ranks of families carried on state or local relief rolls.

The State Land Acquisition Law was revised, allowing counties to deed tax foreclosed lands without title requirements after holding foreclosed lands for only one year (Forest Log, March 1933, p. 6).

The summer of 1933 was extra dry. Logging operators were starting early in the mornings and shutting down voluntarily when they felt that the humidity was too low. There was no law requiring them to shut down at a specific humidity.

August 14 was particularly dry. A northeast wind was blowing, sucking additional moisture out of the already dry forest. Foresters urged the closing of logging operations under these extreme weather conditions but there was no law requiring such action in those days. At one o'clock in the afternoon, the Tillamook Fire broke out in the Gales Creek Canyon in northwest Oregon. Elmer Lyda's Logging Company was blamed for many years for singly starting the Tillamook Fire but at least one other fire was reported burning to the west - its origin remains a mystery (Forest Log, Sept. 1933, p.1).

Crews from all over the area were placed on the Tillamook fire lines. The fire consumed 40,000 acres of prime forestland during the first ten days. Within 20 hours on the 11th day, the area burned increased to more than 220,000 acres (Forest Log, Sept. 1933, p. 1). Final acreage figure was 261,222 acres.

The Wolf Creek Fire, believed to be caused by an arsonist, started on August 24 in slash on East Side Logging Co. lands southwest of Vernonia. This fire was completely separate from the Tillamook Burn to the south and eventually burned 47,000 acres and destroyed Camp McGregor (logging camp), many railroad trestles and logging equipment (17).
1933 Tillamook Fire.

As a result of the catastrophic fire that started when a logger continued to operate under conditions of low humidity, the Governor called a special session of the Legislature to deal with the problem. The result of the session was passage of the Operator Permit Law. The law provided that each woods operator using power-driven equipment in western Oregon must obtain a permit from the State Forester. This new law required several precautionary measures designed to reduce accidental fires. One of the requirements was to cease operation during periods of low humidity. The Camp Fire Permit Law was passed at the same session of the Legislature (Forest Log, Dec. 1933, p. 1).

1934

Humidity Regulations were invoked under the Permit Law. Logging operations were restricted to early morning hours during low humidity (Forest Log, Dec. 1933, p. 1).

In nine western Oregon counties, more than 2.5 million acres of forestland, mostly forest in character, were tax delinquent and another 300,000 acres had been forfeited to county ownership for unpaid taxes. Revenues for schools, road maintenance, and debt retirement were drying up.

1935

Two plywood plants were established south of the Columbia River.

Larger tractors were being manufactured and placed into use in the forests for road building, yarding logs and firefighting. Nearly all tractors were equipped with diesel engines.

The State Capitol, including the forestry office, was destroyed by fire in April. Many forestry records inside the building were burned. Between
1935 and 1938, while the State Street Headquarters was being constructed, the department offices were in the Chambers Building.

The Legislature broadened the Forest Code by extending the official fire season, by changing the Board of Forestry membership from 7 to 8 members, and by enacting snag felling requirements that extended beyond logging landings.

Snag Felling law passed (*Forest Log, March 1935, p. 3*).

It was estimated that pine beetles killed 3.8 million board feet of timber during the period from 1931-1935. By comparison, 3.4 billion feet of timber was harvested and 39 million board feet of timber was killed by fire during the same period.

Diesel trucks were well adapted to log hauling by this time (2).

John W. Ferguson replaced Lynn F. Cronemiller as the third State Forester (*Forest Log, Dec. 1935, p. 1*).

1936

The Oregon Planning Board estimated Oregon's standing timber at 397 billion board feet. They endorsed expansion of state forests, modification of property tax on timberlands, insect and disease control and improved forest protection.

Enrollees from twelve CCC camps under jurisdiction of the State Forester were employed in firefighting, insect control and road construction (*Forest Log, April 1936, p. 5*).

Bandon fire burned 143,300 acres.
Josephine and Jackson Counties reorganized into the Southwest Oregon Forest Protection Association headquartered in Medford. Both counties were formerly under state patrol and known as the Southern Oregon Unit (Forest Log, May, 1936, p. 2).

The Hamlet Experimental Forest was deeded to the State by Clatsop County. The parcel consisted of 640 acres and was the first land to be deeded to the state by a county. The trees were to be planted on at least 80 acres each year and were to be of mixed species, conifers and hardwoods (Forest Log, March 1937).

The Northrup Creek Experimental Cattle Grazing area was established in Clatsop County to determine practicability of establishing a grass cover on cutover forestlands. By 1944 the cattle were replaced by sheep (Forest Log, June 1944, p. 6).

The State Forester recommended acquisition of state forests as a necessary part of a balanced forestry program. The Legislature gave broader authority to handle tax delinquent lands (Forest Log, Sept. 1938, p. 1).


Congress passed the Oregon and California Revested Lands Administration Act for managing more than 2 million acres of federal lands (Forest Log, July 1937, p. 1).
The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) under the Department of Interior manages 2.38 million acres in Oregon that includes the 74,000 acres of Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) lands.

The O & C Sustained Yield Act was passed by Congress, permitting the O & C Administration to enter into cooperative sustained yield agreements with private timber owners. O & C and CBWR lands were in a checkerboard pattern intermingled with other public and private lands with a total area of 2.56 million acres in 18 Oregon counties, 80 percent of which is managed by BLM (Forest Log, July 1937, p. 1 and June 1948, p. 2).

1938

Oregon took the lead among all states in lumber production with output of more than 4.7 billion board feet (Forest Log, March 1948, p. 2).

The central fire fighting supply depot was established at the State Forestry Headquarters in Salem (Forest Log, Dec. 1938, p. 4).

The first forest fire protection standards survey was completed (2).

The new capitol building was completed at Salem (2).

The new State Forestry department headquarters building was occupied during the last few days of November and open for business in December.

State Forester’s Building

1939

Radio was first used in state fire control with the development of a shortwave battery operated radio. A Radio Equipment Laboratory was established by the State Forestry department and 75 sets were placed in use by forest protection districts. During the next twenty years the state Radio Laboratory designed, built, modified and contracted the building of more than 20 different models of radio sets.

During the Great Depression many acres of private forestland ownership were lost through property tax foreclosures. Depression day lumber markets were tight and demanding. High ball logging on a highgrade system was the practice in an effort to produce a higher volume of wood at a lower cost. Many landowners were not able to harvest their timber holdings because of a lack of access roads, logging costs and lack of a
lumber market. Some of this forestland was turned over to the state because the counties could not afford to protect the lands from fire.

The Acquisition Act providing for a voluntary transfer of forestlands from counties to the state, facilitated shifting 65,000 acres to state forests.

The 1939 Tillamook Fire burned nearly 209,690 acres including 28,000 acres of prime green timber. Dead trees standing within the previous fire area acted as torches to spread the fire and make control actions extremely difficult. Large acreages of naturally reforested land within the old burn were reburned destroying the younger trees. The fire also destroyed or damaged 834 million board feet of timber.

On August 1, the Cow Creek Fire (also known as the Elsie Fire) started on Oregon-American Corp. lands that were 18 miles northwest of the second Tillamook Burn Fire. This fire never joined the second Tillamook Fire; however, it burned over 40,000 acres. Much of it had been in the 1933 Wolf Creek Fire (17).
During World War II, a shortage of manpower caused a postponement of many forest land management activities. In 1941, Oregon once again led in forest conservation when it passed the Oregon Conservation Act requiring reforestation after logging. Serious intensive management of forestlands, however, could not begin until the war ended.

A charred steam donkey and other logging equipment sit among burned snags left by the 1945 Wilson River and Salmonberry fire, which burned a combined total of 182,370 acres in what is now mostly in the Tillamook State Forest.
The cost of planting one-year-old tree seedlings was approximately twice the going price on a per acre basis for a well-stocked stand of 50-year-old Douglas-fir on the open market.

The Clackamas County Farm Forestry Project was established under the direction of the Soil Conservation Service, by the Norris-Doxey Act of 1937. The project was designed to aid farmers in making forestry part of their farm programs (Forest Log, Jun 1940, p. 6).

Acting State Forester Carl L. Davis was appointed the fourth State Forester on January 1, 1940, replacing J. W. Ferguson until Governor Charles Sprague could make a permanent appointment (2).

Nelson S. Rogers was appointed fifth State Forester on April 12 (2) (14).

1941

The Oregon Forest Conservation Act was passed by the Legislature. It promoted regeneration of the forests following harvest through natural seed sources and artificial reforestation. Persistent pressure at the federal level for public control was eventually ended by passage of the Oregon Forest Conservation Act. This new departure in forest legislation recognized the rights of the public in private property, based upon the contribution that forests make toward the well-being of the citizens. Continuous growth of timber on these lands was made a public policy of the State of Oregon (Forest Log, Jan. 1941, p. 2).

The Keep Oregon Green Association (KOG), a non-profit organization, was established and dedicated to public education in the protection of Oregon forests and timberlands. Public education in fire prevention was a part of the picture from the beginning. The forestry laws themselves were first to promote public education, along with various organizations and "Showboat" performances to audiences back in 1926. (Forest Log, May 1941, p. 1).

Passage of a capital-gains tax on a federal level was credited with creating an economic climate in which private forest owners could manage timber on a sustained yield basis.

A revised State Forest Acquisition Act was approved by the Legislature. This was the first workable State Forest Acquisition Act and it provided $250,000 through sale of bonds for purchase of suitable forestlands. Income from state forests was to be divided upon a basis of 25 percent for state administration and 75 percent for the county in which the land was located. Lands could also be acquired through gift or exchange. Some 520,000 acres were acquired in the next six years.
The Oregon State Forest Products Research Laboratory was established as part of the OSU School of Forestry for the purpose of developing uses for wood left after logging and milling.

The U.S. declared war on Japan and Germany.

Because of the war, foreign and domestic demands for wood products heaped an industrial load on the Western logger and lumberman greater than anything they had ever seen. Stumpage prices doubled and redoubled under competitive conditions, and it became a seller’s market. Even snags, windfalls and defective trees became desirable commodities. Logging cleared the ground of these unproductive materials, permitting the soil to concentrate its tremendous growing power on the new tree crop.

Value of timber in the Pacific Northwest for the first time reached a point that approached the expected cost of growing a crop of trees.

The war emergency stimulated the forest industries not only through lumber demands, but also through the need for new wood products as substitutes. Practically all metals were being required for war purposes necessitating many substitutes in the domestic area. The use of metals for construction work was being restricted and timber came into its own.

Burning restrictions were put in effect in dim-out zones to limit lights that could cause sky glare, revealing our ships on the ocean and making them easy targets for enemy boats.

Aircraft observers on lookouts in remote areas of western Oregon and Washington continued to serve on a voluntary basis year around until funds were made available by Army officials.

An all-out effort to unify forest protection between various agencies was underway in order to meet the requirements of the war emergency.

Oregon received the rather questionable honor of being the first area in the continental United States that was visited by a Japanese plane. A small seaplane, evidently operated from a submarine, flew over Curry County mountains early in September and dropped an incendiary bomb about three miles east of the Mount Emily Lookout, with the objective of setting a forest fire. However, it was poor day for fires (see 2001, "Oregon Heritage Tree" for rest of story).

After nine years of outstanding forest improvement work, the Civilian Conservation Corps was discontinued. By refusing to ratify Senate action appropriating $78 million for the Civilian Conservation Corps, the House sounded the death knell of the CCCs.
The principal work accomplishments of the corps in the state and association units during its nine years of existence were:

- Truck trails constructed (miles) .................................. 941
- Horse trails constructed (miles) ................................. 2,639
- Telephone lines constructed (miles) ............................ 1,669
- Fire breaks constructed (miles) ................................. 368
- Cabins constructed (number) .................................... 84
- Lookout towers and cabins constructed (number) ...... 40
- Fire fighting (man days) ........................................... 288,626

The CCC camps had started closing around the nation in 1941, as it became difficult to find enrollees to bring the national corps up to their full strength of 300,000 enrollees. Many of the young men were enlisting in the Army and Navy. The war and war industries were siphoning off the manpower needed for logging and forest management. Loggers headed for the shipyards, seeking higher wages and less strenuous work.

All of the Oregon CCC camps were closed and the structures turned over to the U.S. Army (*Forest Log, Aug. 1942, p. 6*).

The federal government transferred many CCC camps and side camps, including the compound on the south side of Mill Creek in Salem, to the State Forestry department. Many of the buildings were used by ODF for offices and guard stations.

Reforestation programs suffered from lack of labor. As was common in that era, women began taking over some of the jobs previously reserved for men. A crew of 6 women was employed by State Forestry to plant trees on what is now the Clatsop State Forest (*Forest Log, Dec. 1942, p. 6*).

The State Forest acreage totaled about 189,000 acres (2).

**1943**

A Forest Land Management Research Program was implemented in the Tillamook Burn to research ways to rehabilitate, reforest and aerially seed the burned area.

A new Log Branding Law eliminating confusion through duplication of log brands became effective at the state level. Under the new law all logs that are intended for commercial booming, reprocessing or manufacturing purposes in any of the waters of western Oregon must bear a distinctive brand recorded with the Public Utilities Commission (*Forest Log, April 1943, p. 5*).
The Board of Forestry established its own Service Forestry Program in cooperation with the US Forest Service, called the Willamette Valley Project, and hired two foresters to administer it (Forest Log Jun 1986, p. 10).

1944

Harvest of timber in Oregon had been going on for 100 years. Some 146 billion board feet was logged during this period. The merchantable tree inventory was listed at about 388 billion board feet (Scribner).

The two-man chain saw, both gas and electric-operated, was the most recent equipment innovation in the woods. The Mercury-Diston chain saw weighed approximately 100 pounds.

The State Forestry Radio Laboratory constructed 170 radio sets which were placed in use throughout the forest protection districts in the state (2).

Oregon's State Forest lands total 405,000 acres (2).

Hard hats replaced shapeless, water-repellent khaki hats or red felt hats (2).

A cartoon character named "Smokey Bear" was created to help prevent man-caused forest fires. Artist Albert Staehle created the new forest fire prevention symbol when he drew a picture of a bear pouring a bucket of water on a campfire.

1945

The third Tillamook Fire occurred in 1945 burning over 180,000 acres of forestland. In addition to land burned in the 1933 and 1939 fires, this fire burned an area of 12,571 acres of green timber and 36,211 acres of land that had been logged (14).
This third Tillamook Fire was actually a combination of the Wilson River Fire and Salmonberry Fire. The Salmonberry Fire started July 19 of "suspicious" origin. Although never proved, but considered as a plausible cause, State Forester Nelson Rogers and Oregon-American Lumber’s manager believed that the Salmonberry Fire started from a Japanese balloon incendiary device (17).

Dead trees still standing from the 1933 and 1939 fires acted as torches throwing glowing embers. Control of fire among snags has long been recognized as virtually impossible.

The experimental direct seeding of Douglas-fir by fixed wing aircraft was initiated by the State Forestry Department near Cochran in the Tillamook Burn (Forest Log, Nov. 1945, p. 7 and March 1946, p. 5).

Army helicopters were tested in California for possible use in forest protection. The tests were a cooperative effort involving the US Forest Service and the State of California.

1946

An Emergency Fire Suppression Fund of $125,000 was established by the Board of Forestry. Maximum ceiling of this fund was set at $500,000.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was created and given responsibility for managing O & C lands (Oregon and California Railroad Company) (2).

A salvage harvest of dead or downed timber began on the 70,000 acre Elliott State Forest with receipts of $14,117 in the 1944-46 biennium (2).

1947

Expanding markets for wood products since World War II brought about the progressive harvest of more and more snag areas making possible the protection of reforestation efforts. A Severance Tax Law on timber harvest of 5 cents per thousand board feet harvested was enacted by the Legislature. Proceeds were to be used for forest research to improve land management practices (Forest Log, Sept. 1947, p. 1).

Even before control of the 1945 Tillamook fire, Gov. Earl Snell, stirred by strong public sentiment, appointed a committee to explore methods, policies, laws and actions affecting the state's forestry program. From this committee came recommendations dealing with finance, research and organization.

The area of state forests increased to 511,000 acres (2).

Emergency fire equipment supplies for 2,500 men were established at Salem (2).
1948

Oregon voters agreed to finance rehabilitation of the Tillamook Burn and other denuded state-owned lands scattered throughout Oregon. The constitutional amendment provided 12 million dollars for a rehabilitation program on state forest lands.

Governor McKay addressing group at Owl Camp in the Tillamook Burn during the kick-off program which inaugurated the state's $10.5 million forest land rehabilitation project.

Truck storage garage in Salem (Fords, GMCs, and Diamond-T vehicles).
Forest land research efforts developed aerial seeding and rodent control measures for reforestation efforts.

Aerial seeding research had started four years earlier. Indications were that this form of forest regeneration could be carried out with reasonable success under proper conditions of aspect and ground cover.

1949

Initial work of reforesting the Tillamook Burn started with the hand planting of almost two million trees and the seeding by helicopter of some 9,700 acres. Tree nursery production was expanded to produce 3 million seedlings annually.

Logging operators spent over $2.16 million this year in complying with forest fire laws. Fire protection and snag felling were among the major projects requiring this expenditure.

Nelson S. Rogers, State Forester, died and was succeeded by Deputy State Forester George Spaur as sixth State Forester (2).
Walter “Frank” Sargent, manager for the rehabilitation project (left), Douglas Burbridge, tree planting foreman, Glenn French, the forester in charge of tree planting, and Alex Walters, tree planting foreman, examine seedlings for planting in November 1951.
1950  

The Forest Products Laboratory reported 33 projects to improve utilization of wood wastes.

A live “Smokey Bear” found after a forest fire in New Mexico was flown to the Washington, D.C. zoo to become a living symbol of fire prevention.

The area of state-owned forestlands totals 687,218 acres (2).

Loggers harvested 7.9 billion board feet of logs from Oregon forests during the year (2).

1951  

Particle board was manufactured for the first time in Oregon.

A fourth Tillamook fire covered 32,700 acres combining fires in the North Fork Trask and the Elkhorn areas. It was all within an area burned by the previous fires. Prompt action by fire crews and accessibility allowed by roads built into the area allowed the fires to be controlled before they “blew up” like the other Tillamook fires (Tillamook Burn to Tillamook State Forest, Oregon Department of Forestry, p. 17, Rev. 6/97) (14).

North Fork Trask Fire.

A temporary forest work camp for inmates from the State Correction System was established as a joint project of the Oregon State Penitentiary and the Oregon State Forestry department. The buildings were constructed by inmate labor, under the supervision of Forestry personnel.

Original setup in 1951 of South Fork Camp as a temporary inmate camp.
The buildings were in 10 ft X 20 ft sections and mounted on skids so they could be moved when the work in the vicinity of the camp was completed (Forest Log, July 1951, p. 6, Oct. 1951, p. 5 and Dec. 1951, p. 7). Over time more buildings were added and the campsite became permanent.

Experimentation in thinning 40- to 65-year-old Douglas-fir was started by the State Forestry department. The objectives were to measure the economic feasibility of producing lumber from thinnings and to measure the effects of various types of thinnings on the remaining trees.

With the increasing demand for wood products resulting in high tree values, a new era was beginning. Harvest of second growth timber was in progress. On the farm, the woodland was becoming one of the real income sources. As timber prices skyrocketed, the cash return from timber was often more than that from regular farm crops.

The value of Oregon's annual timber harvest and wood products manufacturing and processing was estimated at more than $1 billion.

The log production in Oregon for 1952 reached 9.8 billion board feet, the largest output on record (Forest Log, Nov. 1953, p. 11).

The Severance Tax Law of 1947 (a tax on timber harvest for research purposes) was revised to include an additional 4 cents per thousand board feet for the establishment of a Westside Emergency Fire Cost Fund to help pay for major forest fires.

Heavy damage by insects displaced fire as the prime enemy of the forest. The spruce budworm, once threatening to defoliate 12 billion board feet of timber, was controlled through aerial DDT sprays. After five years of insecticide treatment, the attack was stalled with only remnants of the huge invasion still to be treated.

The fifth year of spruce budworm treatment included spraying of 276,000 acres by the State Forestry department and approximately 225,000 acres by the US Forest Service (Forest Log, June 1953, p. 1).

The State Forestry Department entered into a cooperative agreement to provide fire protection on BLM managed forestlands in western Oregon. Much of this land was from the O&C Railroad lands and existed in a checkerboard pattern with private land, making coordinated fire protection an absolute necessity.

Work on the Tillamook Burn under the Rehabilitation Program administered by the State Forestry department saw 29,645 acres of
denuded forest land seeded by helicopter during the first three years. Also some 8.3 million forest tree seedlings were planted on 9,577 acres of land, and a protective network of 54 miles of snag free corridors was prepared (15).

Production of tree seedlings from the Oregon forest nursery was stepped up to 7 million trees annually in order to meet planting demands (2).

To prevent fires, restrictions were tightened on the use of power-driven equipment in the woods. The Forest Closure Act was strengthened. Permits were required for construction of sawmills near forest areas. The law was revised to prohibit smoking while traveling through logging operations during fire season. The legislation also prohibits the use of fuse and caps in blasting and no spar trees could be topped with explosives. The date of the closed fire season was advanced to April 1 (Forest Log, May 1953, p. 1).

A statewide spruce budworm control project initiated several years earlier resulted in a total of 3.2 million acres of Oregon’s infested forest lands treated at a total cost of $3.4 million by the end of the 1954 state fiscal year, or a little more than $1.00 per acre (2).

By the end of December, a total of 15.3 million seedlings had been planted in the Tillamook Burn since the program began in 1949. During the same period, 413,911 snags had been felled and some 200 miles of road constructed (15).
Oregon led the nation for the second straight year in reforestation of denuded state forest lands with a total of 11,900 acres either aerial seeded or hand planted, according to a US Forest Service annual planting report. The largest reforestation effort took place on the Tillamook Burn (Forest Log April 1954, p. 3).

Research continued on the utilization of thinning a young stand of Douglas-fir. Studies were being made on the habits of small tree seed eating rodents as a means of determining adequate control methods on small areas as a step in successful direct seeding. A provenance study was initiated to find out the effects on Douglas-fir seedling growth when moved out of the elevational and latitudinal range of its origin (2).

During the year, the State Forestry department sprayed 67,000 acres of spruce budworm infested forests in northeastern Oregon, resulting in 99 percent mortality to the insect. Other areas in numerous parts of eastern Oregon needed spraying, mostly national forest lands, which would be treated in the coming year (Forest Log, Dec. 1954, p. 4).

1955

The increase in demand for timber that started in 1939 and ’40 caused stumpage prices to double and then redouble. The stumpage values of the 1940s increased to a high of $40 per 1,000 board feet in a 15 year period. The 1940 log harvest of about 5 billion board feet jumped to 9.7 billion in 1955.

Since the early days of the 1924 Clarke-McNary Act, the Congressional appropriation jumped from about $30,000 to $10 million. Oregon’s allotment began at $3,300 annually and had grown to $590,000.

The concept of perpetual forestry had become popular during the last 10 to 15 years. The forest industry was considering the long-term yields from their property and putting efforts into pruning, thinning, salvaging of diseased and downed timber, and control of rodents to aid natural reforestation. Planting and seeding immediately after harvesting were becoming more common. Managing forest lands after logging was becoming profitable.

A stocking survey in 1955 on some 30,000 acres of the Tillamook Burn planted to Douglas-fir revealed that on one-third of the area 80 percent of the trees were damaged by deer; one-third was 40 percent damaged while the final third received only slight damage. An either-sex deer hunt on some 21,000 acres of this area reduced new damage to 21 percent of the seedlings in the most susceptible areas (2).

Dwight Phipps was appointed the seventh State Forester (Phipps also served in 1950 to 1952 while State Forester George Spaur was in the US Army) (2).
Two new department divisions were approved by the Board of Forestry effective July 1. Under the plan, one division was designated as the State Forests Division, responsible for all activities concerned with state owned forest lands. The other division created was the Services Division, responsible for farm forestry, forest nursery, insect and disease control, reforestation and land classification and public relations (Forest Log July 1955, p. 1).

1956

Administration of the Oregon Conservation Act over the previous 15 years resulted in nearly total reforestation. Less than eight-tenths of one percent of all logged lands were in violation of the Reforestation Law.

1957

State land management became a major program of the Forestry department.

The state's forested school lands were placed under the administration of the State Forestry department. Some 32,850 acres of Common School Lands were turned over at this time by the State Land Board. This brought the State Land Board lands managed by the department to 102,850 acres (2).

A Log Patrol Act was adopted in Oregon. It applied to waters of the Columbia and its tributaries where it was possible to store logs. Provision was made for licensing towing and booming companies by the State Forester. Licensing of the Log Patrol became effective October 1, 1957 (Forest Log, March 1957, p. 4 and June 1957, p. 6).

The major conservation effort since the turn of the century was to protect the forests from fire. Modern firefighting tools and techniques successfully held the average yearly burned acreage during the previous 25 years to less than one-tenth of one percent of Oregon's forest land.

A new 66-acre nursery was developed near Elkton through the cooperation of the Douglas County Court and the federal government under the Soil Bank Act (Forest Log, May 1957, p. 4).
In September the Forest Land Research Section transferred to the new Oregon Forest Research Center at Corvallis (Quarterly Newsletter #14).

A depressed lumber market in 1957 was believed to be due to the tight money market, and resulting in a major falling off in home construction. The money market dried up as far as housing was concerned.

Some 12,000 logging operations in Oregon added to the accumulation of 1.5 million acres of unreleased slash. This tremendous fire hazard had an even greater potential with public access into these areas. Population had increased. Roads and automobiles made the forest more accessible. These uses doubled and tripled in the last few years. Loggers harvested an additional 750,000 acres of forestland annually (2).

The first two narrow-band radio systems were installed in the Northwest Oregon District and the Eastern Lane Forest Protection Association areas (2).

Work was completed on the first forestry inventory of lands under the management of the State Forestry department. This inventory included some 750,000 acres (2).

1958

A cooperative study was undertaken by the Forestry department and Game Commission to determine the factors influencing production of black-tailed deer and Douglas-fir trees in the Tillamook Burn. The study necessitated the construction of a 330-acre fenced enclosure along Cedar Creek for regulation of animals and plants.

It took 53 years to deposit the first billion dollars of receipts from the nation's national forests. The next billion was expected in less than 10 years.

1959

Foresters estimated that animals cost forest landowners in the Pacific Northwest some $12 million to $15 million annually by damaging large-scale reforestation projects (Forest Log, Jan. 1959, p. 2).

A pelletized fertilizer of urea-formaldehyde was the most effective agent in stimulating maximum survival and growth in forest tree plantings. This fertilizer was bland—will not burn—was slowly soluble, and highly concentrated with available nutrients. The pellets were placed in the hole with the seedling roots (Forest Log, Mar. 1959, p. 5).
A milestone in the Tillamook Burn rehabilitation was reached with the felling of the millionth snag. State Forestry started the snag felling project in 1949 as a fire protection measure. There were 150 miles of snag-free corridors within the burn representing about 20 percent of the total 253,000 acres in the burn owned by the state (Forest Log Apr. 1959, p. 4).

Robert P. Armstrong felling 1,000,001st snag in the Cook Creek Area of the Tillamook Burn.

The spruce budworm, one of the most serious forest pests in Oregon, necessitated control measures on 4.7 million acres during the past 10 years.

The white-footed deer mouse destroyed more coniferous tree seed than any other small mammal in western Oregon. It is possible for two of these mice, each eating 300 Douglas-fir seeds per night, to consume an acre of seed in about 35 nights. One-half pound of seed per acre was usually sown in artificial seeding projects.

A major step in reforestation occurred when aerial seeding was perfected. The seed was treated with enough Endrin to make the rodents sick and then had a green dye to camouflage the seed from the birds. This combination was applied by helicopters.

The latest in planting techniques was the containerized seedling. This permits a shorter time in the nursery, greater ease of planting and a longer planting season.

Superior survival of 2-1 Douglas-fir stock (2 years in the nursery and 1 year in the transplant bed) was reported on new timber stands on steep, south-slope sites that have been clear-cut in the Douglas-fir region (2).
The Tillamook State Forest rehabilitation effort represented the first use of helicopters to spread seed from the air.

Helicopter seeding Blue Bus Road (1951 photo).
The department of Forestry started a project to determine the effectiveness of brush control from an aerial application of 2,4,5-T. Brush control was becoming an increasingly important consideration in the State's rehabilitation of the Tillamook Burn.

The timber industry continued to be the key factor in the state's economic picture as Oregon took on more and more of the secondary processing of its wood harvest. A major deterrent to maintaining current harvest levels would be the taking of excessive amounts of forest land out of production by diversion to other uses.

Another of Oregon's logging railroads went out of service. The road running from the Georgia-Pacific plant at Toledo, 30 miles to Camp Gorge on the Siletz River, carried its last trainload of logs just prior to New Years. In the future all logs would be hauled by truck, marking the end of a railroad show that found its inception during World War I (Forest Log Jan. 1960, p. 1).

The State of Oregon provided a 70-foot Douglas-fir tree for the "Christmas Pageant of Peace" on the White House lawn at the nation's capitol one year after Oregon's 100th birthday (Forest Log, Oct. 1960, p. 5).

An act of the 1961 State Legislature provided the department with the Official name, "State Forestry Department." During 1911 - 1961 the organization worked for the State Forester and the Board of Forestry and during the 1907-11 period the organization, mostly volunteers, worked for the 8-man State Board of Forestry (Forest Log, May 1961, p. 8). Note that the references to the State Forestry organization prior to 1961 is "State Forestry" or "Forestry department" and after 1961 State Forestry Department.

The beginnings of a Douglas-fir seed orchard were developed as a pilot project on the Lewis Hill forest properties in southern Oregon under the management of the Timber Services Company. A seed orchard was grafted with stock selected from forest trees of seed bearing age that demonstrated "superior" growth (Forest Log, Jan. 1961, p. 4).

An eastern Oregon severance tax replaced the ad valorem system of taxation. Timber could be taxed as it was harvested. The optional means of taxation was the Forest Fee and Yield Tax.

Forest landowners in western Oregon with fewer than 1,000 acres could now choose to place it under the Western Oregon Small Tract Optional Tax.
More than one-fifth of the nation's current sawtimber supply was in Oregon forests. This state supplied about one-fourth the softwood lumber, half of the plywood and more than one-fourth the hardboard produced in the United States. Construction, the major end-use of wood, was projected to nearly double by 1985 from its 1961 level. Wood was expected to maintain its relative position in the industrial construction industry. Nearly four-fifths of the annual consumption of lumber and plywood went into this area of activity.

Seedling surveys during 1961 of the Tillamook Burn Rehabilitation Program indicated damage of about 25 percent of the trees for an average decline of 11 percent since 1960 and a whopping 31 percent since 1953. During the intervening years the State Game Commission (later called the Department of Fish and Wildlife) cooperated with either-sex deer hunts during 1955 and 1956, special unit hunts in 1958, 1959, and 1960. Deer, elk and rodents are responsible for the problem in the proportion of 15 percent deer damage, 5 percent elk, and 5 percent rodent damage.

Winds of hurricane force ripped through Oregon on Columbus Day, October 12, 1962, and downed some 9.7 billion board feet of timber. Lesser windstorms in 1949 and 1952 unleashed a beetle attack of huge proportions. The 1952 storm blew down some 5 to 6 billion board feet of timber. The 1962 storm had a reported gust of 116 miles per hour at the Burnside Bridge in Portland, with a 120-mile per hour gust at Newport.

Discovered in 1962, the world’s oldest living Douglas-fir (976 years old) and the tallest Sitka Spruce (216 feet) lived less than three miles apart on the bottom land of the Necanicum River in Clatsop County. The spruce is 300 years younger. The “Clatsop Fir” blew over in a November windstorm the same year it was approved as the champion coast Douglas-fir (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1992, p. 8).

An aerial assault was launched by the State Forestry Department against the Hemlock Looper insect entrenched in valuable Clatsop County forest lands. Some 45 million board feet of choice timber had already been killed (2).

The West Oregon District was formed in Lincoln, Polk and Benton Counties. This action was precipitated by the major forest landowners within the Polk-Benton State District and Lincoln County Fire Patrol Association in recognition of the economic desirability of consolidating these organizations (970,000 acres) (2).

Through an agreement with the Bureau of Land Management, the Forestry Department assumed protection responsibility on some 146,000
acres of forest land in the Galice vicinity (SWO). The BLM acquired the tract as a result of a 1956 exchange with the US Forest Service (2).

An electrically powered mobile radio repeater was constructed by the Department to promote better communications on large fires (Forest Log, Sept. 1962, pp. 1 & 7).

The age-old method of forest fire detection by lookouts was given an appraisal by the Department of Forestry. Observation by aircraft was determined to have a greater potential for effective fire detection and control (Forest Log, Dec. 1964, p. 1-2).

Trees and other forest vegetation produced goods worth more than $1.45 billion a year. A tenth of Oregon's labor force was employed by the industry, which paid them $571 million, representing 20 percent of the state's payroll.

The Corvallis Nursery, which had produced forest tree seedlings since its development in 1925, was converted to a Forest Genetics Laboratory under a long-term agreement with the Oregon State University's School of Forestry Forest Research Laboratory.

Passage of the National Wilderness Act created 9 million acres in wilderness areas (2).

The inmate contribution to rehabilitation of the Tillamook Burn during the period 1951 through June 30, 1964 was 27 million trees planted; 497,000 snags felled; processing of 11,106 pounds of tree seed; and 89 fires fought within the District and State. Nearly 9 million trees were transplanted, 976 culverts constructed, 316 miles of road brushed and 93 water tanks constructed (1985 Forest Log Article) (2).

Oregon forestry officials said that a new three-way forest protection agreement signed by Federal, State and Private Forest Protection Agencies was the first of its kind and might set a precedent for other states to follow. The agreement provided for adjusting boundaries of Fire Protection Districts to take advantage of topography and to eliminate duplication on intermingled lands.

A teletype system was developed to supplement the long-established use of radio communications between the Salem office of the State Forestry Department and District Headquarters (2).

A practice of over 50 years in Oregon's forest protection was set aside for eastern Oregon by the 53rd Legislative Assembly. Forest landowners in this state had been basically responsible for all fire protection costs on
their lands since 1913, when the Compulsory Forest Fire Patrol Law was enacted. This new law placed a maximum cost per acre as a landowner's obligation with the balance of regular, budgeted fire patrol costs assumed by the General Fund (Eastside only) (2).

Ed Schroeder was appointed the eighth State Forester.

The Elkton Forest Tree Nursery managed by the State Forestry Department is named for recently retired State Forester Dwight L. Phipps. This 106-acre nursery adjacent to the Umpqua River, south of Elkton, was established in 1957 on 66 acres with the cooperation of the Douglas County Court and through a working agreement with the US Department of Agriculture under the Soil Bank Act. (The nursery consisted of 106 acres of state-owned lands and 155 acres of leased land by 1972) (2).

1966

One of the most disastrous fires since 1910 erupted August 20, in the Western Lane Forest Protective Association District, on a day when weathermen rated fire danger “extreme” in most of western Oregon. It was named the Oxbow Fire. Before it was controlled on the following Saturday [controlled in 7 days], it had covered 43,000 acres and one life was lost. It required the strongest and most strongly unified fire control effort assembled to date against a fire in Oregon. The fire was ranked as the 5th largest since 1910, exceeded only by the 1936 Bandon Fire (144,360 acres), and the 3 Tillamook fires in 1933 (261,222 acres), 1939 (209,690 acres), and 1945 (182,370 acres) (There have been several larger fires since the Oxbow, in 1987, 2002, and 2003).

Thinning of trees too small to sell (precommercial thinning) had become an important practice in promoting earlier maturity of the forest. Both chemicals and small power saws were used to reduce the great number of trees in an over-crowded forest.

The first extensive aerial tree seeding program in the nation (initiated by the State Forestry Department in 1945) was brought to a close with a total reforestation of more than 124,000 acres. This method was successfully used during the last 16 years to reforest a major portion of the Tillamook Burn under state management (12).

Upwards of 3 million acres of forest and range lands in eastern Oregon were brought under cooperative aerial detection agreements between the Oregon State Forestry Department, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. The flying was contracted to private operators (2).

1967

Special consideration was given the American Bald Eagle to conserve its nesting trees in Clatsop County from being cut along with the regular
timber harvest. Birdwatchers called attention to the threat of critically reduced numbers of the eagles *(Forest Log, May 1967, p. 1 & 4)*.

The Department began a tree improvement program in cooperation with Crown Zellerbach, International Paper and Longview Fibre to develop a better tree stock suitable for reforesting timberland in northwestern Oregon. About 900 parent trees were selected and tested for fast growth. Superior parent trees were crossed to produce tree families to provide seed for what would become the St. Paul Seed Orchard, north of Salem *(Forest Log, June 1967 p. 1 & 4 and Dec. 1967, p. 2)*.

The newest tactical weapon in the forester's protection arsenal was the helicopter. Direct control action on forest fires was the latest use of this versatile piece of equipment. The retardant-carrying helicopter provided a new potential for improving the speed and effectiveness of control action on smaller fires. Prompt initial action is the key to control in the fast-burning fuels of southern Oregon *(Forest Log, Aug. 1967, p. 4)*.

1968

The State Forestry Department completed its first aerial fertilization project this year on 500 acres of forest land in Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Eight areas of trees were fertilized. Trees varied in age, type of stand, site and soil *(Forest Log, Apr. 1968, p. 1-2)*.

"Air pollution from any source has become intolerable to the general public over the past five years. In Oregon, field burning consolidated public opinion into action against any visual air pollution. Burning logging slash on the mountaintop is just as objectionable to some as debris burning that creates smoke in the Willamette Valley. Little consideration has been given in the past to wind flow and conditions to keep smoke out of populated areas" *(Forest Log, June 1968, p. 3)*.

Aerial fertilization.
All slash burning in Oregon in the fall of 1969 was governed by weather forecasts. When forecasts indicated winds would carry smoke away from population centers and other smoke-sensitive areas, slash burning went on without limit as in previous years (Forest Log, Oct. 1969, p. 1 & 6).

Major forestland management organizations entered into a cooperative control plan to minimize smoke accumulation from slash burning in highly populated areas. The control plan regulated burning according to prevailing and predicted weather conditions. The plan was implemented by the State Forester in cooperation with all timber management agencies, the private forest industry, and the Department of Environmental Quality (Forest Log, Oct. 1969, p. 1 & 6).

Between 1844 and 1970, 353 billion board feet of timber was harvested in Oregon.
Here is a scene of the Tillamook Forest, 21 years after the rehabilitation program started. The arrow in mid-photo points to the spot where the Tillamook Burn Rehabilitation Program was launched on July 18, 1949. Now known as Rogers Camp, in honor of the late N.S. Rogers, former State Forester, it was here that the late Douglas McKay, then Oregon Governor, made the keynote address.

The program, financed by bonds and authorized by a state constitutional amendment, was in the home stretch in the 1970s.
On the social scene, Women’s Liberation was going into full swing. Feeling some trepidation, Geri Flaxel went into the Department of Forestry’s Coos Bay office and asked if there was any kind of outdoor work available—work previously reserved for men. She was told a woman could be hired for tree planting work—if she found an entire crew of women. Flaxel and three friends formed the nucleus of a crew that quickly grew to 11 women ranging from an 18-year-old to a grandmother. They were the Department’s first all-female crew since Hamlet (see 1942 note). (Later, the Department dropped its all-female crew requirement, and women were integrated with men into crews) (Forest Log, Sept. 1970, p. 1 & 5).

Nitrogen additions to a 35-year-old Douglas-fir stand in the Pacific Northwest increased the height increment by 62 percent and the diameter-at-breast height increment by 79 to 160 percent. Net production after four years tended to be greatest with the addition of 200 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

A new process called ortho-photo mapping using aerial photographs was explored by the State Forestry Department. The maps resemble the older planimetric maps except the aerial picture is printed as a background (Forest Log, Mar. 1973, p. 5).

More and more, the general public was influencing public and private land management policies.

A long-range radar facility atop Mt. Ashland in southern Oregon was used to help meteorologists keep closer tabs on rain and thunderstorm cells in Oregon (Forest Log, Aug. 1971, p. 1).

Helicopter logging provided a fascinating look at a new and specialized harvest technique. A US Forest Service thinning sale in Hood River County using a Sikorski S-61 lifted logs weighing as much as 7,000 pounds, or about 1,150 board feet an hour for an 8-hour day (Forest Log, Oct. 1971, p. 1 & 5).

The Oregon Forest Practices Act was passed to place responsibility for protecting Oregon’s forest environment on the forest landowner and the logging operators. The law replaced the Conservation Act of 1941 which dealt only with reforestation. The new Forest Practices Act covered reforestation, as well as road construction and maintenance, harvesting, application of chemicals, and disposal of slash. An increasing amount of consideration was given to protection and enhancement of all forest-related resources. The new act was promoted by the forest industry and the public. It spoke to productivity and quality of soil, air, water and timber.
1972

America's homebuilders, scrambling to match the pent-up demand for low, middle and higher income housing, needed increasing volumes of lumber. Reduced timber sales by the US Forest Service and environmental lawsuits further reduced timber production on national forests.

An outbreak of Douglas-fir tussock moth in Oregon's Union and Wallowa counties and in southeastern Washington caused considerable damage with some 100,000 acres of forestland being affected. The moth population, on the slight increase in both 1970 and 1971, "skyrocketed" in 1972, building up into an epidemic population (Forest Log, Aug. 1972, p. 1; Oct. 1972, p. 7 and Dec. 1972, p. 3-4).

Rules for implementing the Oregon Forest Practices Act were developed by regional committees. The state was divided into three regions (northeast, southern, and eastern). The rules were designed to set minimum standards and went into effect on July 1 (Forest Log, Dec. 1972, p. 1-2).

1973

A new computer-based Geographic Information System called Map Model was implemented to process forest inventory data to help managers make consistent decisions about management options. A computer program (OSCUR) was designed to process state forestland data and categorize a number of forest operations. OSCUR stands for Ownership, Site, Cover, Use and Rating. OSCUR maps for all of the Department's management areas (780,000 acres) were completed and in the managers' hands by 1974 (Forest Log May 1974, p. 3).

This year, forestlands managed by the State Forestry Department grossed more than $16.5 million in revenue from the harvest of timber. This brings to $96.2 million the economic return from these lands since harvest began sporadically in the 1940s. Distribution of income from these state forest lands was: $6.1 million to the counties, more than $6 million to the Common School Fund, and more than $3 million for land management activities. Another $1.4 million was reserved for fire protection and land cost retirement.

The former Tillamook Burn was officially renamed the Tillamook State Forest. Governor Tom McCall, along with State Forester J. E. Schroeder and Board of Forestry Chairman Henry Baldridge, officially renamed the burn, also dedicating the Clatsop State Forest during ceremonies at Rogers' Camp. Viewed from the site were trees 50 feet in height and nearing a quarter century in age.

"A carpet of green gold now covers the 255,000 acres of the former burn."
"Some $12 million placed into the rehabilitation effort will return an estimated
$350 million in revenue from proper management of its initial crop" (Forest Log, Aug. 1973, p. 1-2).

The average selling price of timber, per thousand board feet, nearly doubled, going from $64.02 per thousand in 1972 to $121.34 per thousand in 1973.

The State Forestry Department launched into the containerized seedling business in 1973. Seedlings were raised in stryo-block “plug” containers underneath a 46 to 96 foot poly-house. It was possible to grow in one year a seedling as large as could be grown in two years under open nursery conditions. Another advantage was the increased percentage of survival during outplanting (2).

Endangered Species Act passed by Congress requiring protection of listed threatened and endangered fish and wildlife species (Forest Log, Dec. 1989, p.3)

1974

A new Forest Land Liability Law became effective Jan. 1, 1974. This law relieved forest operators and landowners of liability for fires within a harvest area that were started from causes other than their own activities after their working day (Forest Log, Jan. 1974, p. 3-4).

Wood for more than 11,000 new houses could be grown each year on non-industrial private forestlands in Oregon under improved management.

Some 36,111 small woodland owners held some 3.5 million acres of forest land, nearly 20 percent of the commercial forest land in the state and 50 percent of the privately owned forest land.

The Santiam State Forest was established at 48,000 acres.

The Santiam State Forest was dedicated with 48,000 acres of state land (1972-74 Biennial Report of State Forester, p. 13).
Nearly 370 million forest tree seedlings were grown and distributed by nurseries managed by the Oregon State Department of Forestry since reforestation became economically feasible in 1940.

The Oregon State Board of Forestry assumed a new role in the affairs of forestland resources concerned with Oregon’s timber supply. The Board of Forestry initiated a forest resource study to examine statewide resource problems. The study would make recommendations for future forest policy on all forestlands and propose actions to increase the available wood supply. This action followed timber harvest projections that predicted a serious timber shortage before the year 2000. Public concerns about these same problems were heard by the Board at public meetings in late 1973.

A reorganization of the Department resulted in establishment of a new unit called Plans and Programming which is to assist the State Forester in preparation of long range plans and Department programs (Forest Log, May 1974, p. 6).

“I'm not a forest-person or a forestette or anything like that – I'm just a forester who happens to be a lady,” was said by Sue Richard, the Department of Forestry's first female forester. Sue was stationed in Reedsport to manage part of the Elliott State Forest (Forest Log, June 1974, p. 3).

The Oregon National Guard, cooperating with the State Forestry Department and other forest protection agencies, developed the use of infrared photography for forestry purposes. This heat-sensing film was able to pick up the heat of a forest fire, outlining its burning perimeter and showing the hot spots. The planes flew at night and from the exposed film, department draftsmen prepared maps showing the boundaries of major fires. Multiple copies of the maps were made available by early morning for control actions (Forest Log, Aug. 1975, p. 4-5).

More than 98 percent of logging and forest operations have been in compliance with the Oregon Forest Practices Act since its enactment in 1971.

Among the latest fire protection developments was the “closest man” approach to firefighting. This plan called for elimination of traditional protection boundaries between firefighting agencies for initial attack of fires. The closest agency fights the fire.

Following successful control of the tussock moth outbreak in 1974, a new insect problem arose in the same general area. The mountain pine beetle spread over 1.3 million acres in northeastern Oregon. Control was not
possible with aerial spraying. The immediate problem was salvage of insect-killed timber. Lack of markets for this type of material in northeast Oregon added to the problem. Increased fire danger would continue for years in the dead timber.

A new computerized system for managing the planning of slash burning became operational during the 1974 burning season. All planned slash burn units from state and federally protected areas were entered into the computer. Weather forecasters and foresters reviewed planned burns on the day they were to be burned to provide a better evaluation of statewide conditions. The purpose of the plan was to allow burning while preventing smoke pollution in populated areas (Forest Log, Sept. 1975, p. 5 and Mar. 1976, p. 3).

1976

A new Smokey Bear made his home in Washington, DC, after the former Smokey died of old age. Smokey was partially self-supporting. He brought in $200,000 in 1974, about half his fire prevention campaign costs. The funds were from royalties Smokey received for lending his name to a variety of products. The new Smokey continued to greet some 3 million visitors to the National Zoo each year.

The report “1976--Timber for Oregon’s Tomorrow” was prepared by the Forest Resource Lab at Oregon State University at the request of the Board of Forestry. The team of Norman Johnson and Lynn Scheuman under the leadership of John Beuter spent two years gathering the data. The report included a timber harvest projection that stated that the current annual harvest of 9 billion board feet would decline in volume during the next quarter century. Existing policies in forestland management would precipitate this drop in log harvest. The largest declines would occur in the Willamette Valley, Eugene and Roseburg areas. The report identified two opportunities to increase harvest during the next 30 years: (1) increase harvest of old-growth forests on federal lands; and (2) increase management and harvest of the small, non-industrial private forests (Forest Log, Feb. 1976, p. 3-4) (16).

The nation’s Bicentennial was celebrated in Oregon by the planting of seven “moon trees.” These trees had germinated from seed carried to the moon and back by the Apollo 14 astronauts in 1971. Trees were planted at six public areas in western Oregon including the State Capitol in Salem (Forest Log, May 1976, p. 4-5).

Four million tons of logging debris was burned under Oregon’s smoke management plan in 1976.

In a very successful year, 113,000 acres of slash were removed from forestlands by fire. This made room for the beginnings of new forests and
was a precaution against summer wildfires. Burning periods, when conditions were right, were harder to come by because of tighter smoke management regulations. There were 3,327 burning operations in which only one-half of one percent caused considerable smoke problems to populated areas. This was the second year the system had been in operation.

The Forestry Department developed a Value at Risk Classification ("VARC") to help plan a more effective fire organization to recognize the many values exposed to a fire. Each area under protection of the department was assigned a value according to the amount of timber, forage, soil, etc. on the land. Recreation and wildlife habitat were also considered when setting an area’s “values.” Once the value of an area was established, the department could plan fire prevention and pre-suppression activities consistent with the values to be protected (Forest Log, Feb. 1977, p. 6).

The Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO), initiated in 1974 with a resource study, was adopted by the Board of Forestry at a special meeting. Its stated goal was to “achieve a stable long-range output level of timber production with favorable impacts on society, the economy and the environment.” The program identified several proposed objectives: (1) keeping forestland in forests, (2) control and protection of growing timber, (3) increasing intensity of forest management, and (4) gaining more technology and information. Without changes in management and policy, Oregon would face a timber supply shortage between 1977 and the year 2000, the report warned (Forest Log, May 1977, p. 2-4).

Board policy in the FPFO identified that increasing recreational and urban demands combined to create a shrinking commercial forestland base. Productive forestland has been lost to roads, powerlines, reservoirs, scenery, subdivisions, wilderness designations and general recreational uses (Forest Log, May 1977, p. 5).

A Western Oregon Severance Tax was enacted by the 1977 Legislature effective January 1, 1978. This law repealed the Ad Valorem system of taxing timber and phased out the 1929 Oregon Forest Fee and Yield Tax Law. It also established a new system for placing values on forestland. Timber owners had objected to an annual tax on a crop that was harvested only once in many years. They claimed the proper method was to collect the tax when there was an income. This philosophy had some merit but was impractical, according to county government officials, since a deferred tax would not provide funding for public services requiring annual financing (Forest Log, Oct. 1977, p. 8).
Lookouts were becoming less used in all but the most remote sections of the state. In 1958, the department had 163 lookouts—46 in eastern Oregon and 117 in western Oregon. By the 1977 fire season, however, the number of lookouts dropped to 69 with only 59 budgeted for operation; 25 of which were located in eastern Oregon; and 34 in western Oregon (Forest Log, Dec. 1977, p. 3).

Three new wilderness areas were created in Oregon in 1977 by the Endangered Wilderness Act. These three areas withdrew 206,573 acres of commercial forestland from timber production and created a potential annual loss of 78.3 million board feet of timber (Forest Log, Feb. 1978, p. 7) (2).

A supplemental report to the FPFO "Underproductive Forest Lands in the Oregon Coast Range," notes that some of the most productive timberland in Oregon lies in the Coast Range, yet 15 percent or more of this land was producing little or no commercial timber. It was determined that conversion of this land to grow conifers would require a large initial capital outlay, but it would be a good long-term investment. The report states that "the substantial initial costs generally would be more than offset by financial and social returns" (Forest Log, Feb 1978, p. 2-3).

More and more people were building homes in forested areas, and this was worrying firefighters. Many of the homes were firetraps, built on winding, unmarked roads and made of flammable materials. Five fire fighting agencies in Oregon and Washington worked together to produce the booklet "Fire Safety Considerations for Developments in Forested Areas" for forest homeowners and developers to help them make their property more safe from forest fires.

Non-industrial forest landowners collectively owned 2.2 million acres in western Oregon and 1.3 million acres in eastern Oregon. This was 14 percent of the total commercial forestland in the state (Forest Log, Feb. 1978, p. 3).

The importance of non-industrial forests in Oregon’s future timber supply was presented in a supplemental report to the Forestry Program for Oregon entitled “Non-industrial Private Forest Management: An Action Recommendation.” The report detailed changes needed in the economic structure to promote management of the lands for timber production according to an assessment by the state forester (Forest Log, Feb. 1978, p. 3).

Use of herbicides 2,4,5-T and Silvex was opposed by environmental groups. Hearings were conducted by the State Board of Forestry to allow the public to comment on changes in Oregon Forest Practice Rules proposed by the Oregon Environmental Council, a coalition of
environmental groups, to tighten use of the herbicides. During a two-day public hearing in August lasting 16 hours, the 2,4,5-T and Silvex controversy was given an open airing. More than 200 persons attended the public hearing, and about 124 testified. The Board of Forestry voted to place additional controls on the use of 2,4,5-T and Silvex. Before the new rules would have effect on the next spray season in 1979, both chemicals had their registration suspended for use on forestlands until further notice by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. They were never reregistered (Forest Log, Jun. 1978, p. 4-6, Sept. p. 3 & Oct., p. 4-5).

About 3.1 million acres in Oregon was being considered by the US Forest Service for possible wilderness designation under the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) study. Oregon had 1.2 million acres of wilderness, more than 7.5 percent of Oregon's National Forest Land (2).

Oregon's Forest Practice Rules were the first in the nation to be approved by the US Environmental Protection Agency as meeting federal standards in controlling non-point sources of water pollution from forest management activities. The rules also met federal requirements for dredge and fill operations.

A new program to involve the public in forestry decision-making was approved by the Board of Forestry. This made it a policy of the Department of Forestry to solicit, obtain and use input from citizen participation efforts in developing, implementing and managing Department programs (Forest Log, Jan. 1979, p. 4-6).

A new $1.2 million tree processing facility at the D. L. Phipps State Forest Nursery in Elkton opened just in time to handle the processing of some 28.5 million seedlings to reforest lands in Oregon (Forest Log, Apr. 1979, p. 4).

The Woodland Management Act passed by the 1979 Legislature was designed to provide assistance to small woodland owners to help them manage their lands to produce the timber Oregon needs. The act allowed landowners a 10 percent tax credit for converting under-productive forestlands into productive timberlands. The tax incentive to convert land was new in Oregon. Another provision in the new act was for the development of a seed bank.

Timber harvested from state-managed forestland returned $11.8 million to the Common School fund and $12.9 million to county governments.

The Board of Forestry adopted a recreation policy for state forests to encourage increased public use of these forests. A new timber sale policy
was also adopted improving management of these lands and providing for increased revenues for the public (Forest Log, July 1978, p. 7).

State lands in Klamath County were named the Sun Pass State Forest. The forest contained 20,031 acres (Forest Log, Jan. 1979, p. 2 and Oct. 1979, p. 3-4).

In its 67th year, the Linn County Fire Patrol Association voted to place responsibility for protecting its 571,770 acres of forestland under the State Department of Forestry, effective July 1, 1979. The association’s Board of Directors planned to maintain an active role in county forest land protection (Forest Log, Aug. 1979, p. 7).

Three forest protective associations remain fully operative in providing protection service for their districts at Coos, Douglas, and Walker Range (northern Klamath County).

Senate Bill 448 was passed by the 1979 Oregon Legislature at the urging of the Oregon Nature Conservancy to create an “Oregon Natural Heritage Program.” The program was to develop a system of “Natural Heritage Conservation Areas” which would represent the full range of Oregon’s natural area resources. A list of over 8 million acres of natural areas was put together by the Oregon Nature Conservancy (2).

The US Forest Service and Carter Administration recommended 427,000 acres be set aside as wilderness in Oregon and another 384,000 were to be studied further for wilderness characteristics. Another 2.2 million acres were declared not suitable for wilderness, and were to be released from study for other uses (2).

More than 1.25 million acres of private forestland in Oregon were diverted to non-timber uses between 1952 and 1977, almost all of this during the previous seven years. This was a loss of five percent of Oregon’s timberland. Most of the loss is in rural areas and on non-industrial private woodlands (Forest Log, Apr. 1982, p. 4).

A conservative estimate indicated that 1.5 million acres of timberland will be lost in Oregon and Washington from now to the year 2020 for energy development reasons. This includes geothermal fields, electrical transmission line corridors, and other needs (2).

Oregon’s 76 plywood plants operating at the end of this year made up about 40 percent of the mills in the United States. They produced about 40 percent of the nation’s plywood (2).
Since 1973, the Department of Forestry has operated a forest tree seed orchard to produce genetically improved and well-adapted tree seed for reforesting state lands and lands of nine industrial co-operators.
1980


The State's orchard north of St. Paul was named the J. E. Schroeder Forest Tree Seed Orchard by the Oregon State Board of Forestry in honor of Schroeder (Forest Log, Jan. 1980, p. 4-6).

The first genetically improved tree seed from the J. E. Schroeder Forest Tree Seed Orchard was produced in the fall of 1980. The seed was expected to produce Douglas-fir that will grow 10 to 20 percent faster than ordinary trees (Forest Log, Jan. 1980, p. 4 and Nov. 1980, p. 6).

Three Oregon communities were among 138 in the nation honored this year for TREE CITY USA recognition by the National Arbor Day Foundation: Salem, Portland, and Eugene received the awards (Forest Log, Apr. 1980, p. 6) (2).

The Department is responsible for insect and disease management on 11 million acres of forestland. Over 2 billion board feet of timber is lost each year in Oregon's forests to insects, disease and natural mortality. Some 75 percent of that mortality occurs in western Oregon. Of this 1.5 billion board foot loss, almost two-thirds occur in national forests. They contain over-mature timber that is weak and highly susceptible to these forces. Improvements have been made since the 1950s when the yearly loss from tree mortality in Oregon was about 3 billion board feet (2).

On May 18, Mount St. Helens erupted 50 miles northeast of Portland in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in the State of Washington. The blast devastated more than 150 square miles of vegetation to its north and northeast. There were 34 known fatalities and 28 people missing and presumed dead (2).

The Forest Log enjoyed its 50th year of publication. Beginning in May 1930 as a newspaper type publication primarily for employees, the Log became a magazine designed for any Oregonian interested in forestry. Past issues reveal much of the history of forestry in Oregon. Forest Log issues for April through July 1981 contained excerpts from old Logs for predominant periods in State history:

- The Depression – Forest Log, April 1981, p. 2-3
- The War Years – Forest Log, May 1981, p. 6-7
- The 70s and 80s – Forest Log, July 1981, p. 5-6 (Forest Log issues April, May, June, July 1981).
Having determined that reforestation violators could not be successfully mitigated with enforcement against the operators, the Board of Forestry changed Forest Practice rules to make landowners responsible (Forest Log, Nov. 1980, p. 3).

A 1976 report by Dr. John Beuter of Oregon State University, done at the request of the Board of Forestry, showed that western Oregon would face a 22 percent decline in timber harvests by the year 2000 if existing forest management practices continued (Forest Log, Aug. 1981, p. 3-6).

Inflation and high interest rates stymied home construction, pricing most people out of buying new homes. This had a devastating impact on Oregon’s timber-based economy. Many mill owners called it the worst lumber market since the depression of the 1930s. Loggers were saddled with contracts to log high-priced timber that they could not sell at a profit in the market. Competition from the Canadians was fierce, as the Canadians were selling their timber in the United States at prices far below that which could be offered on Pacific Northwest timber. Coping with this situation became a priority for the 1980s.

The average stumpage price for timber sold from state-owned lands dropped from $245 per thousand board feet to $210 in 1981. Of 200 state sales offered in 1980, 11 had no bidders so the sales were offered at a lower price.


Oregon’s timber-based economy, staggered by record high interest rates and the nation’s third lowest number of housing starts in 20 years, limped through recession-ridden 1981. Interest rates, which peaked at more than 21 percent by mid-year, pushed the cost of borrowed capital beyond the reach of most home-builders and buyers. In turn, timber and wood products industries, glutted with high-priced inventories, saw markets dwindle. By year’s end, the fiscal watchwords were caution and retrenchment – in household budgets, in business and industry, and at every level of government (2).

The Oregon State Legislature passed a law requiring a permit or a bill of sale for firewood as well as for posts, piles, shake boards and shake or shingle bolts. Persons harvesting or transporting this material were required to have the permit in their possession (Forest Log, Nov. 1981, p. 8).
In 1981, the Department mobilized fire teams to six separate incidents. The total number of fires during the fire season was 76 percent of the past 10-year average while the acreage burned was 204 percent of the average. Major efforts were launched to control a rash of arson fires in the southwest (Forest Log, March 1982, p. 5).

The State Forester approved rules in April allowing price rollbacks and contract extensions for state timber sale contract holders in which holders of state timber sales could be given up to one more year in which to fulfill the contract (87 expired in 1982 and 62 in 1983) (Forest Log, May 1982, p. 7).

The Board of Forestry adopted an update of its 1977 “Forestry Program for Oregon.” The update, “An Action Program for the 80s,” noted that there had been strides in improving land use planning since 1977. Timber taxes had been revised favorably to encourage small woodland owners to convert underproductive land into productive timberland. However, a problem still existed, the report said, because forestlands were being converted into non-forest uses creating a loss of commercial forestland. Goals set in the updated report included stabilizing the commercial forest land base, establishing practical guidelines for saving old-growth timber for dependent wildlife, and completing studies to determine which lands should be wilderness and which should be designated for multiple use management. Additional improvements in the tax structure would encourage more timber growth, the report said (Forest Log, May 1982, p. 3-4).

When the timber market was good, timber buyers paid ever increasing prices for stumpage, sometimes more than twice what the timber was worth. The timber buyers were speculating that by the time they logged the timber, three years later, they would be able to sell it at a profit. The market collapsed, however, leaving them holding high-priced timber they could not sell. In 1982, the Oregon Legislature allowed the State Forester to lower the price of timber under contract to be more in line with the market. This was done to prevent widescale bankruptcies among timber companies. On the average, most timber prices were reduced to about half of the bid price (Forest Log, Nov. 1981, p. 4 and June 1982, p. 6).

Lowering the price of the timber had a ripple effect on the county governments that depended on timber sale revenues to finance their operations. Clatsop County, for example, had been receiving about $8 million a year from timber sale revenues. With the devaluation of the stumpage, the county’s revenues were reduced to about half of that.

Counties receive about two-thirds of the proceeds from the sale of timber on State Board of Forestry lands. The other third of the money is retained...
by the Department of Forestry to finance land management activities (Forest Log, June 1982, p. 6).

The reduced revenues from timber sales also reduced the Department's budget. By September 1982, the Department had laid off eight full-time employees and left another 90 positions unfilled.

The State Forester’s Office was entered into the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the National Park Service. The office is the first state-owned structure in Salem to be placed on the National Register. The State Forester’s Office was built by the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1938-1939 after the old State Capitol, which housed the State Forester’s office, burned down in 1935 (Forest Log, June 1982, p. 7).

Forester Bob Bourhill, a non-smoker, published an updated edition of his fire investigation book "Cigarette Butt Identification Guide" that details how investigators can utilize eight characteristics which identify cigarette butts. Being able to detect the brand can help authorities apprehend the criminal and the book proved to be popular for decades to come. First published by the Department in 1975, this is the fourth cigarette guide edition to be distributed. Bob’s second book, titled "A Guide to Natural Cover Wildfire Fire Detection Indicators" is to assist the person who investigates the causes of forest fires (Forest Log, June/July 1982, p. 3).

A record of seven sales defaulted in 1981 and it is estimated another one-fourth to one-third would default this year without the new rules.

Some 86 of 88 eligible State Forestry Department timber sales were modified. All received price adjustments reflecting current market prices;
1983

A bill passed by the 1983 Oregon State Legislature changed Arbor Day to Arbor Week in Oregon, scheduled for the first full week each April. Starting next year, Oregon will celebrate Arbor Week as a time to plant trees and learn more about our environment. Arbor Day was first introduced in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton, a Nebraska newspaper editor and a tree enthusiast, who wanted to do something to improve the treeless plains of that state. (Note: Arbor Day was officially proclaimed by the Nebraska Governor to be observed on April 10, 1874; and made a national holiday in 1885) (Forest Log, Apr. 1982, p. 6; Apr. 1983, p. 7; and July 1983, p. 6).

“Tillamook Burn Country”, a 305-page photographic and historic account of the Tillamook story written by Ellis Lucia was published. The book presents the Tillamook story from the first fire in 1933 to the first commercial thinning in 1983. This book was part of a 50th Anniversary public information program about the 1933 Tillamook Burn and its rehabilitation into a new forest.

South Fork of Wilson River from the Jordan Cr. Divide, Tillamook State Forest.

1984

A new Board of Forestry, consisting of nine voting members and three advisory members, was appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate. Carl H. Stoltenberg stepped down as Chairman of the Board at the close of 1983, ending the longest service as Chairman since the Board was established, serving 10 years (Forest Log, Jan. 1984, p. 4-5).

The newly established Dennis O. Mawhirter Arboretum was dedicated at the D.L. Phipps State Forest Nursery in Elkton. Mawhirter designed the arboretum to acquaint visitors with native Oregon forest tree species (Forest Log, Feb. 1984, p. 6).
The Department adopted a new communications system – the TWX Model 28 Teletype Communications System was replaced with a modern technically advanced system consisting of video terminals linked to a central computer located at the Department of Transportation office in Salem. District and Unit Offices around the State use the system for payroll, word processing, and other records as well as inter-office communications (Forest Log, Apr. 1984, p. 6).

Camp Nehalem Reunion: Veterans of the 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps Company 2908 return each year to Camp Nehalem to share their memories of their CCC years. This year several members met before the campout to make improvements at the camp. The camp is located northeast of Tillamook along the Nehalem River. The CCC men worked on conservation and construction projects (Forest Log, June 1984, p. 3).

Smokey Bear celebrates his 40th birthday. His long career as the fire prevention bear is credited with preventing wildfire on millions of acres of forest and grasslands nationwide (Forest Log, June 1984, p. 4).

Oregon now faces a new insect threat in the Gypsy Moth. The moth was found in Oregon in the summer of 1979 and traps in 1983 detected the moth in the Lowell Area east of Eugene. Increased trapping this summer lead to the detection of a major infestation. The Gypsy Moth was introduced to this country in 1869 when it escaped from a laboratory in Massachusetts after specimens had been brought from Europe (Forest Log, Oct. 1984, p. 4-5).
Agencies swapped new fire technology at the Oregon State Department of Forestry Ninth Biennial Equipment Development Conference in Salem (November 27-28, 1984). Over 150 fire control agency and industry personnel from the Pacific Northwest and Canada gathered to swap information on latest developments and technology in fire and forestry. The modern day fire business is a far cry from the days of the ax and shovel with high-tech infrared scanners, portable flame throwers, and maneuverable land-roving vehicles (*Forest Log, Jan. 1985, p. 3*).

The South Fork Camp in the Northwest Area, with a population of about 100 prison inmates, planted over 1 million seedlings on 3,400 acres of state forest; worked on 2,800 acres of slash burn; and completed over 13,500 man-days of forestry project work for the 1984-1985 fiscal year. Set up originally in 1951 as a temporary camp for inmates to help reforest the Tillamook Burn, the 34-year-old camp program provides a variety of work opportunities for inmates (*Forest Log, Feb. 1985, p. 4-5*).

A two-volume book *"Chronicle of the Tillamook County Forest Trust Lands"*, written by Paul Levesque and published by the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners, gives background information on the role of Tillamook and other western Oregon counties in establishing Oregon’s state forests. It includes photographs, history of the area, highlights of local forest industries and forest fire protection and other information on state forests (*Forest Log, May 1985, p. 6*).

Oregon’s first state forest, the Elliott, is celebrating its 30th year of timber management this year. In July of 1955, the three-year task of inventorying the 90,000 acre state forest began. Also that year, the first timber sale was set up – 13 acres of 200-year-old Douglas-fir adjacent to a county road near Lakeside. Now 40 million board feet of timber (about 1,300 acres) are removed from that forest each year (*Forest Log, June 1985, p. 8*).

During the closing hours of the 1985 Oregon State Legislature, additions to Forestry’s Resource Planning Section were funded as part of the Governor’s economic development proposal. Additional staff on the forest planning team will work with US Forest Service and Bureau Of Land Management planning systems in Oregon and provide greater participation in the federal planning process (*Forest Log, July 1985, p. 6*).

State forests of Northwest Oregon are popular areas for forest recreation for residents of the metropolitan Portland area. Located between the city and the Oregon Coast, over 500,000 acres of the forests in this area are administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry (*Forest Log, Aug. 1985, p. 4*).
The Department of Forestry uses boats as part of its preplanned dispatch for fighting wildfires. Two boats comprise the Department’s fleet: one in Northwestern Oregon at Columbia City, and the other in Southwestern Oregon near Medford. The Columbia City boat is used to respond to fire reports for a number of large, wooded islands in the Columbia. Five landowners have signed fire protection agreements covering 12,500 acres on seven islands. The Medford boat is used to provide access to an unroaded shoreline at Lost Creek Lake (Forest Log, Oct. 1985, p. 4).

Ray Kresek recently released a book entitled “Fire Lookouts of Oregon and Washington” featuring all of Oregon and Washington’s 1,451 lookout sites. Among the stories are those related to long months of solitude, wildlife encounters, historic forest fires, and the terror of being struck by lightning on top of tall shaky towers. At the high point of the lookout era Oregon had 849 lookout structures (Forest Log, Nov. 1985, p. 2).

This year marks more than 35 years that Department of Forestry entomologists have been involved with Forest Service insect specialists in an interagency aerial insect survey covering up to 29 million acres of Oregon’s forest. The aerial survey is an economical means of detecting and evaluating outbreaks of certain insect pests. The Department purchased its first airplane – a Cessna 170 – for the 1951 survey, as well as for other purposes such as aerial photography, forest inspections, insect control projects, and transportation (Forest Log, Dec. 1985, p. 4-5).

The Department of Forestry 75th Anniversary: January marks the beginning of the 75th Anniversary for the Oregon Department of Forestry created in 1911 by the Oregon State Legislature. The new department was primarily responsible for fire protection, but it soon expanded its responsibilities. By the 1920s, the Department was involved in forest insect control, treating extensive acres in South-Central Oregon for pine beetle control. In 1925, a forest nursery was established near Corvallis to grow seedlings for reforestation later replaced by the present nursery near Elkton. Forestland management was added to Department activities in 1929. Oregon continued its leadership in forestry with the passage of the Oregon Forest Conservation Act in 1941. This act was replaced by the Oregon Forest Practices Act in 1971. Forest assistance programs to private landowners were first begun in 1940, leading to what was called the Service Forestry Program (Forest Log, Jan. 1986, p. 2-3).

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a new Federal Voluntary Cropland Retirement Program (1986) designed to reduce erosion. It is accomplished by removing highly erodible cropland from annual crop production and replacing it with a permanent cover of trees, grass, or wildlife plantings. Technical assistance for the tree portion of the program
was provided by the Department’s Service Forestry Program (later renamed the Private and Community Forests Program) (Forest Log, May 1986, p. 8).

The Board of Forestry on June 16 appointed James E. Brown as Oregon’s tenth State Forester (Forest Log, July 18, 1986, p. 14).

During September the Board of Forestry held a series of seven public “Townhall” meetings to receive public input for revising the Board of Forestry’s Forestry Program for Oregon. Tillamook was the site of one meeting (Forest Log, Aug./Sept. 1986, p. 2).

One of the State’s worst fire situations occurred in Oregon during the summer of 1986, exactly 20 years after the 1966 Oxbow Fire, testing the Department’s 75 years of firefighting experience. It began with a lightning storm through northeast Oregon which started dozens of fires on private, Bureau of Land Management lands, and national forest lands in Wallowa, Union and Umatilla counties. Eight fires covering over 1,500 acres developed south of Baker City. A week after the first storm, a second storm passed causing hundreds more fires, most north and east of Enterprise. Because of the magnitude of the fire situation, the agencies came together in a “unified command” at the Salem HQ to handle the more than 300 fires. The team overviewed the fires and resources available and set priorities for dissemination of the resources to the fires. Within five days more than 300 fires had grown to nearly 70,000 acres, with several fires over 1,000 acres. Over 8,000 firefighters from all over the US joined to fight the northeast Oregon fires (Forest Log, Sept. 1986, p. 4-5).

The 75th Anniversary open house, postponed last August because of the severe fire situation in northeast Oregon, was held in Salem. The open house featured displays and photographs from three-quarters of a century of firefighting and other functions of the Department as well as modern fire protection equipment. Governor Victor Atiyeh opened the ceremony commending the Department for its outstanding record of achievement during its 75 years (Forest Log, Dec. 1986, p. 7).

The compilation of information provided at the Oregon State Board of Forestry public “Townhall” meetings, interviews and public opinion poll conducted during the fall of 1986 was presented to the Board in draft form. Originally drafted in 1977, the Forestry Program is a statement of the Board’s long-range policy about forestry in Oregon. Updated once in 1982, it is now being revised to respond to current issues of forests and forest management in Oregon and to restate the overall management directions for the State’s forestland (Forest Log, Dec. 1986, p. 6).
The revised Smoke Management Plan, which is administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry to minimize smoke impacts from burning was approved by the Environmental Quality Commission December 12, 1986. The revised plan addresses public health, visibility, and emission reduction as well as protecting populated areas from smoke intrusion (Forest Log, Jan. 1987, p. 2).

1987

A Forest Log article reports a summary of two major public opinion efforts conducted by the Oregon State Board of Forestry. Oregonians want a balance between economic benefits and other forest benefits even though a majority believes that economic uses are most important to Oregon. A balance between economic benefits and other forest benefits such as scenery, recreation, wildlife habitat, and watershed protection was expressed as a goal in both the public opinion interviews and the townhall meetings. Among specific issues discussed were harvesting old-growth timber (Forest Log, Feb. 1987, p. 3).

Since 1973, the Department has operated the J.E. Schroeder Forest Tree Seed Orchard located 15 miles northwest of Salem. Its purpose is to produce genetically improved and well-adapted forest tree seed for reforestation of state lands and lands of nine industrial operators. Seed production in 1986 nearly doubled from the previous year with 700 pounds of Douglas-fir seed. This is enough seed to produce over 10 million seedlings and reforest over 25,000 acres (Forest Log, Mar. 1987, p. 7).

The Department of Forestry manages about 780,000 acres of state forestlands in Oregon. State forests make up about three percent of Oregon’s commercial forestland. The Department also manages 131,000 acres of Common School forestlands under the control of the State Land Board. Timber sale volume sold on state lands was 216 million board feet and 19 precommercial thinnings totaling 9,644 acres were initiated (Forest Log, Mar. 1987, p. 9).

The D.L. Phipps State Forest Nursery near Elkton celebrated its 30th Anniversary with an open house. The present nursery was established in 1957 through the cooperation of the Douglas County Court and provisions of the Soil Bank Act of 1956. The Nursery began as a 66-acre facility which replaced the Corvallis Nursery that closed in 1958. By 1962, reforestation had become “big business” in Oregon and by 1972 the Elkton Nursery had expanded to 196 acres. By 1986, it was named the D.L. Phipps State Forest Nursery and consisted of 106 acres of state-owned land and 155 acres of leased land which produced 14 million seedlings per year (Forest Log, May 1987, p. 7).
Foam, a white, soapy substance hosed or dropped on forest fuels to suppress fire is a fast moving technology in the field of fire control. Foam and dispensing equipment were first developed and used in the early 1980s by the State of Texas Forest Service. Used as a fire suppressant, foam has been shown to insulate fuels from heat (Forest Log, July 1987, p. 3).

One of the most significant pieces of forestry legislation was passed by the 1987 Legislature when HB 3396 was signed into law. It covered a number of topics including forest practices and land use and replaced the 12-member Board of Forestry with a seven-member Board. Most importantly, it resolved a long time concern on the relationship of the Forest Practices Law and Oregon’s Land Use Laws (Forest Log, Aug./Sept. 1987, p. 3).

On July 15, western Oregon experienced the largest forest fire since the 1966 Oxbow Ridge Fire when the 9,600 acre Bland Mountain Fire burned 10 miles east of Canyonville in Douglas County. The fire started when battery cables shorted on a bulldozer clearing blackberry vines. More than 106 million board feet of timber was killed, 1.07 million board feet of felled and bucked logs were destroyed along with other property, improvements, and residences. Two loggers perished trying to move equipment out of a logging operation (Forest Log, Aug./Sept. 1987, p. 7).

The worst multiple fire situation in recent years struck Oregon in late August and early September when a dry lightning storm moved through Douglas, Josephine, Jackson, and Klamath counties, starting more than 600 forest fires. Initial fire fighting efforts were complicated by the fact that readily available fire suppression resources were spread thin for such a large number of fires, and there were many rural homes located in the vicinity of the fires. By the end of the month more than 167,000 acres of forest land had been burned with 67,740 acres of that being on state protected lands. Fourteen of the fires became 3,000 acres or larger, with the largest being the Silver Fire in the Siskiyou National Forest that burned more than 97,000 acres by early October. For the second time in 2 years, a unified command center was established in Salem to assist in the effort (Forest Log, Aug./Sept. 1987, p. 6-7).

Forest Service released management plans for Oregon’s National Forests: The US Forest Service completed publication of draft environmental impact statements and proposed land and resource management plans for all of Oregon’s 13 national forests. The Forest Service manages 15.6 million acres of land in Oregon that includes 13.6 million or 48 percent of Oregon’s 28.3 million acres of forestland. The Department’s responses to all federal plans have been based on Board of Forestry policy as expressed in the Forestry Program for Oregon:
1. Maintain the maximum potential commercial forestland base.
2. Identify and implement economically feasible levels of intensive forest management.

1988
The first stands of timber reforested under the Oregon Forest Practices Act are beginning to mature and a recent survey conducted by the Department indicates that private forest lands in western Oregon reforested since 1972 have produced well established young stands that are "free-to-grow." The survey indicates that nearly 90 percent of the private land reforested between 1972 and 1978 are growing free from vegetative competition in southern Oregon (Forest Log, Feb./May 1988, p. 3).

A memorial to deceased employees of the Oregon Department of Forestry and forest protective associations was dedicated on June 13, 1988 honoring 54 forestry employees. Located on the east bank of Mill Creek within the Salem State Forestry Compound, it consists of a redwood structure with employees' names engraved on attached metal plates (Forest Log, Jun./Jul. 1988, p. 12).

Snake River Valley Crews (near Vale) mark 25 years of firefighting. Organized in 1963 by the Bureau of Land Management, SRV Crews were made available to all agencies in the West for major fires (Forest Log, Jun./Jul. 1988, p. 5).

1989
Work began in 1986 to update the Forestry Program For Oregon (FPFO) which had been delayed because of 1987 legislation that established a new Board of Forestry. A subsequent Board decision was made to delay action until the new Board could be a part of the policy review process. The new Board is now preparing a revised FPFO in an effort that will continue over the next 12 months (Forest Log, Feb./Mar. 1989).

1989-1990
Oregon Timber Supply Assessment Report: The results of a three year study were produced in the report "Timber for Oregon's Tomorrow – The 1989 Update" by Oregon State University. The report updates the 1977 study known as the "Beuter Report" which first defined the timber supply situation for Oregon. The current report states that national forest timber harvest is expected to decline by 15 to 20 percent while the harvest on forest industry lands is expected to decrease by 5 to 10 percent. Harvest on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands should increase slightly and private non-industrial lands are expected to remain about the same. After the year 2000, harvest levels are expected to stabilize (Forest Log, Dec./Jan. 1989-'90, p. 4-5).
Today, the use of lookouts in Oregon is declining, being largely replaced by aerial surveillance.

Fire spotting from plane.
The Oregon Department of Forestry adopted a new logo replacing the modern “half-tree” logo first used in 1971. This logo is the fifth one used by the Department over the past 79 years. Beginning March 1, 1990, the new logo will appear on department vehicles, uniforms, headquarters signs, publications, service awards and other uses (Forest Log, Feb./Mar. 1990, p. 3).

The Department of Forestry’s assortment of logos includes the State of Oregon seal, an old growth tree, a federal shield with a tree, a “half-tree”, and the new logo (above right).

The updated Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO) was approved by the Board of Forestry on January 3. The new FPFO looks at what needs to be done by government and private landowners addressing all forest values and how to seek a balance in managing our lands to protect these values (Forest Log, Feb./Mar. 1990, p. 6-8).

The forest lookout tower is a fire detection tool that may be on the decline but still serves an important function. Currently the Department of Forestry owns 46 forest lookout towers, however, only 32 are still used each fire season for forest fire detection. Nine are used only during critical fire danger, three are used as radio repeater sites, and two are unused. During the 1940s there were about 805 lookout towers in Oregon’s forests. Most fire detection on the nearly 800,000 acres of state forestland in Oregon is now conducted by air patrols (Forest Log, Apr./May 1990, p. 10-11).

The Awbrey Hall Fire struck the outskirts of Bend on August 4 and forced the evacuation of thousands of people. The cause of the fire was an arsonist near Bend’s Shevlin Park. The fire spread quickly through extremely dry grass and brush and in the end, the fire had destroyed 22 homes and blackened nearly 3,500 acres of pine forest (Forest Log, June/Dec. 1990, p. 9).

Oregon’s Forest Practices Act achieved a milestone this year – 20 years of effective regulation, evaluation, and protection of Oregon’s forest
resources. Since 1971, when a cross-section of interest groups, law makers, and the Board of Forestry finalized what was then a revolutionary concept in regulation, the Act has continued to effectively regulate a wide variety of forest operations. One of the act's most prominent achievements has been the ongoing successful reforestation of more than 97 percent of all private forestland. Oregon's approach toward forest practices regulation has served as a model for many other states. Changes have been implemented over the past 20 years as public values have changed and as better scientific information has emerged (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1991, p. 2).

The Oregon Department of Forestry Community Arboretum, located on three acres of the Forest Grove District headquarters, was dedicated by the State Forester and Board of Forestry Chairman. The facility resulted from a cooperative effort by the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce, the City of Forest Grove, and many local service clubs, organizations and local businesses (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1991, p. 16).

This summer marks the 25th anniversary of the Oxbow Ridge fire that burned more than 43,000 acres of prime forest in Douglas, Lane and Coos Counties. Today a healthy, productive forest replaces the snags and ash left behind by the fire, most of the trees are now 50 feet in height, fish and wildlife habitat has been re-established, and eroded areas have been stabilized (Forest Log, Jul./Aug. 1991, p. 2-3).

The 1991 Legislature passed Senate Bill 1125 which makes significant changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Changes include limiting the size of clearcuts, increasing reforestation requirements, improving protection for waters of the state, and more changes expected to have significant effect on forest resource management for years to come (Forest Log, Jul./Aug. 1991, p. 13-15).

Trading ships from the Soviet Far East are inadvertently bringing egg masses of the Asian gypsy moth to the Pacific Northwest (Forest Log, Sept./Oct. 1991, p. 16).

A Log article about the Urban Forestry Program notes the value and importance of urban forestry in Oregon. In 1991, the Department hired its first Urban Forestry Coordinator and created its Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program. By the end of 1991, 49 Oregon communities received technical assistance visits or personal communications and technology transfers (Forest Log, May/June 1992, p. 3-11).
Two employees, Andy Barrett and Mike Melta, became the first Oregon Department of Forestry employees to rappel into a forest fire from a helicopter. Their rappel occurred July 24 in the rugged Rogue River canyon. Helicopter rappelling crews were first used in wildfire suppression in the 1970s under a program developed by the US Forest Service to speed response to fires in remote areas. In 1990, under the direction of a Forest Service Helicopter Specialist, six Department firefighters from the Grants Pass Unit were trained as rappellers (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1991, p. 22).

Recreation Planning on the Tillamook State Forest is developed by the Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon Parks & Recreation in an effort to ensure multiple use compatibility. Demand for outdoor recreation has increased dramatically in recent years as the urban population of the Willamette Valley has grown (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1992, p. 3-6).

Spotted Owl surveys conducted for the Oregon Department of Forestry during 1991 by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, discovered over 100 spotted owl sites on state forestland. Protection measures for the threatened spotted owl included leaving a 1.5 mile core area around all known and probable owl activity centers (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1992, p. 3-6).

Spotted Owl (Strix Occidentalis Courina). In 1992, more than 100 spotted owl sites were discovered on state forestland.
The Stream Enhancement initiative was born in 1991 when the Department of Forestry, Department of Fish & Wildlife, and Oregon Forest Industries Council made a commitment to work together to improve fisheries habitat on private forest land in Oregon. Pilot projects in Coos and Tillamook Counties included using large logs and boulders to create habitat structures, such as rearing and holding ponds, for steelhead and coho salmon (*Forest Log*, May/June 1992, p. 14, 15).

The fires of '92 were a case study in the complex issue of fire in the urban/forest interface. Hundreds of homes were evacuated and nearly a dozen destroyed. As of the end of August, a total of 1,269 fires burned 24,094 acres on Oregon Department of Forestry-protected lands. In the past few decades Oregon's urban population has spilled into forestland areas creating a situation where wildland fires often involve or threaten homes and raising land use and public safety issues (*Forest Log*, July/Aug. 1992, p. 3).

"The Elliott State Forest, A New Long Range Plan" was adopted by the State Land Board in December 1991. The long-range plan will address all the Elliott State Forest's resources including threatened and endangered species such as the northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets on the Elliott Forest. The long-range goal of the Elliott State Forest is to maximize all available revenue sources over time consistent with federal and state laws and good stewardship principles (*Forest Log*, Sept./Oct. 1992, p. 3).

On May 22, 1991, Oregon became home to another champion Douglas-fir tree. The 329 foot high "Brummet Fir" was located in the rugged Coastal forest between Roseburg and Coquille in Coos County (*Forest Log*, Nov./Dec. 1992, p. 2).

The Tillamook State Forest began returning long-range investment through commercial thinning. Beginning July 1993, the Tillamook District began offering, for public sale, approximately 2,000 acres of Douglas-fir for commercial thinning. These thinnings would continue in 1994 with 3,000 acres, 4,000 acres in 1995, and then maintaining that level into the next century. These trees are typically 30-40 years old and are of commercial value. The 364,000 acre Tillamook State Forest located 40 miles west of Portland was created as a result of a series of fires in the 1930s and 1940s known as the Tillamook Burn (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1993, p. 22).

The Forest Resource Trust, passed by the 1993 Legislature and administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry, provides low-interest loans to people wanting to make substantial contributions to the long-term health of Oregon's economy and environment. Over the next 15 years, the Trust hopes to assist with the reforestation and rehabilitation of 250,000 acres of underproductive forestland. Based on a 1992 survey, more than 600,000 acres in western Oregon were identified as non-producing or underproductive non-industrial private forestland (Forest Log, Sept./Oct. 1993, p. 9).

The planning process for the Sun Pass State Forest and other eastern Oregon state forest lands began in January, and is scheduled to produce a draft plan by September, 1994 (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1993, p. 7-9).

Draft of the Elliott Forest Plan is out for public review. The final plan will provide a higher level of certainty for both harvest scheduling and

1994

Tillamook State Forest Recreation Projects included changes and improvements in both campground facilities and forest trails. For the next several years, as plans for each forest area are completed, the Department will be making changes to include updating visitor information boards in campgrounds, adding hosts, thinning dense growth around campsites, and building trail bridges (*Forest Log, May/June 1994, p. 5*).

![Tillamook Recreation – King Mountain Trail.](image)

The Elliott State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan was completed for the 93,000 acre state forest. The plan allows for the maintenance and enhancement of habitat and the management of timber, presenting a conservation strategy for the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet on the Elliott (*Forest Log, May/June 1994, p. 6-7*).

A long-range planning process began for the Northwest Oregon state forests. Approximately 615,000 acres of state forestland were involved in the planning process, which would gather all available natural resource data for these northwest state forests (*Forest Log, May/June 1994, p. 8-9*).

On August 9, 1944, artist Albert Staehle created a new forest fire prevention symbol when he completed the picture of a bear pouring a bucket of water on a campfire. 1994 marks Smokey Bear’s 50th anniversary. Throughout the year, events sponsored by the Department of Forestry, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Portland Fire Bureau, World Forestry Center, Washington Department of Natural Resources and others were scheduled to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Smokey. Rudolph “Rudy” Wendelin (the long time artist responsible for creating the current image of Smokey Bear), visited Oregon as a special...

Forest fires on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry contributed to Oregon’s worst fire season since 1987. The number of fires, acres burned and the overall cost of suppression were all above the ten year average. Major fires were Ironside, Little Baldy No. 2, Thompson Complex, Jordan Springs, Powder, Freezout, and Wallowa Complex, all in eastern Oregon, and Hull Mountain in southwest Oregon (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1994, p. 2).

Oregon’s timber harvest declined for the fifth straight year and is now at a record low level. A total of 5.3 billion board feet was harvested from all public and private forest lands in the state in 1993. Much of the decline occurred in National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands due to court injunctions and forest land set aside to protect spotted owl, salmon and other species (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1994, p. 16).

1995 Declared a threatened species in 1990, the northern spotted owls are now protected by the federal government against anything that may harm them. The Oregon Department of Forestry is conducting a study to determine, first, how many spotted owls are on state forest lands, and secondly, to track the range, movement and population levels of the owls. Department goals are to develop a better understanding of the owl’s habitat in managed forests and allow silvicultural strategies that provide for owls while ensuring a continuous supply of timber (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1995, p. 4-7).

The most controversial issue in land use has always involved dwellings on resource forests. The Department is concerned about the negative effects of a growing wildland/urban interface where homes and associated urban developments intrude into forests and other wildland areas. The Department is also concerned that growth of the wildland/urban interface will cause conflicts between residential and timber uses, and that such growth will also lead to an increased number of dwelling related wildfires and an increase in landowner and state General Fund fire fighting costs (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1995, p. 13-17).

This year, Forestry is celebrating 65 years of the Forest Log. Approximately 3,000 copies of the Forest Log are printed every two months. Most are mailed to households, businesses and government agencies which have expressed interest in receiving the magazine “devoted to helping Oregonians understand Oregon’s valuable forest resources” (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1995, p. 24).
A new committee focuses on incentives for private forest landowners. A special working group appointed by the Oregon Board of Forestry began to examine a range of incentives to help private forest landowners better manage their lands. The 12-member Forest Incentive Group held its first meeting February 17 at the Oregon Department of Forestry Headquarters in Salem (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1995, p. 30).

Stream surveys become an important part of the planning process. In 1994, five two-person crews conducted physical habitat surveys in 30 streams over 100 miles. An additional 50 streams were surveyed for fish distribution and abundance (Forest Log, May/June 1995, p. 9).

The Elliott State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) was approved under auspices of the Federal Endangered Species Act. The Elliott HCP was completed in October and was the first such management plan from a state agency and the first HCP that includes a comprehensive marbled murrelet plan to be approved under the Federal Endangered Species Act (Forest Log, Sept./Oct. 1995, p. 12).

Structure Based Management (SBM) is a new approach for managing state forest lands to produce a variety of forest structure types that provide a diverse and sustainable flow of benefits being developed in the Northwest Oregon's State Forests Long Range Management Plan. SBM emulates many aspects of natural stand development patterns and produces structural components found in natural stands but in a shorter period of time (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 1995, p. 19).

**STRUCTURE BASED MANAGEMENT**

**Examples of Stand Types**

**Type 1 – Regeneration**
( Goal: 5-15 percent).
Occupied primarily by tree seedlings or saplings, and herbs and shrubs. Trees can be conifers or hardwoods. Vigorous herb, shrub and/or grasses cover up to 80 percent of land. Also snags, residual trees, and down wood. Begins when disturbance – timber harvest, fire or wind – has killed or removed most or all larger trees.

**Type 2 – Closed Single Canopy**
( Goal: 10-20 percent).
Trees fully occupy site and form a single, main canopy layer. Little or no understory vegetation. Later, as less competitive trees die, snags and down wood appear.

**Type 3 – Understory**
( Goal: 15-35 percent).
Gaps in tree canopy of branches from one tree to another provide ground to allow shade-tolerate, diversified understory of shrubs and herbs to grow.

**Type 4 – Layered**
( Goal: 20-30 percent).
Tree canopy of two or more layers, with extensive layering of diverse shrubs and herbs in understory. Trees that are 18 inches in diameter and 100 feet tall mixed with younger trees at least 30 feet tall.

**Type 5 – Older Forest Structure**
( Goal: 20-30 percent).
A minimum of eight trees per acre with at least 32-inch diameters. Two or more canopy layers with shade-tolerant species. At least six snags per acre. Substantial down wood at various stages of decay. Diverse understory.
1996  Repeated windstorms that took place across Oregon's forests from November 1995 into February 1996, followed by near record-setting rainfall in early February, result in flooding, landslides, slumping, road failures and bridge washouts. This shapes up to be the most damaging winter in recent history (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1996, p. 15).

The Eastern Oregon Long-Range Plan, completed in 1995, examined all relevant social and economic resources affected by these lands and detailed the uneven-aged stand management approach the Department will follow. Work on a new plan for northwest Oregon state forestlands is ongoing (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1996, p. 2).

The Department added the Geographic Information System (GIS) as a planning and management tool, hiring a full-time GIS Analyst and upgrading necessary equipment for a fully functional GIS Resource Center (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1996, p. 14).

1997  The 1997 Legislature authorized funding of the first two phases of the Salem Headquarters Compound construction project (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1998).

The Oregon Forestland Urban Interface Fire Protection Act was signed into law on June 27. The interface is generally those areas outside of urban growth boundaries where traditional forestlands and residential areas intermingle - where homes are outside of city and rural fire protection districts and have no structural fire protection. The bill requires Oregon Department of Forestry to work with affected landowners and all levels of government to develop administrative rules that define, identify, and classify the interface; to provide mitigation standards and guidelines for property owners to meet, and to provide rules and guidelines for the Department's administration of the bill (Forest Log, July/Aug. 1997, p. 1 & 3).

1998  The Board of Forestry unanimously approved a subcommittee's recommendation for administrative rules for the management of state forestlands. The rules define the "greatest permanent value" of state forestlands as "healthy, productive, and sustainable forest ecosystems" and directs the State Forester to achieve that value by actively managing state forest land for "sustainable timber harvest and resources" while providing for other forest resources (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1998, p. 6-7).

In January, the Department, in cooperation with Oregon State University (OSU) and Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), released the preliminary results of scientific studies concerning forest practices and landslides. The studies found that landslides were more frequent in areas
that had been clearcut in the last nine years but lower in 10- to 100-year old-stands, compared to mature forests (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1998, p. 5).

Since 1994, the Department of Forestry has been developing long-range plans for more than 600,000 acres of state forest lands in Western Oregon based on Structure-Based Management (SBM) to ensure that the environmental, economic, and social values can continue as Oregon’s forests mature (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1998, p. 13).

Oregon Department of Forestry initiated the updating of its lightning detection system in 1997. The new system called “Lightning Tracker” will interface with the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to provide greater detail for tracking lightning storms. The information appears on a computer screen at the Salem ODF Fire Coordination Center within 11 seconds of a strike (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1998, p. 18).

The Tillamook Interpretative Center was launched in 1996 when the Oregon Department of Forestry entered into a partnership agreement with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to develop the Tillamook State Forest Interpretation and Education Program. In addition to the program, planning began on an interpretation and education center to be located at Jones Creek on the Wilson River Highway east of Tillamook (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1998, p. 32).

An Executive Order directs ten state agencies to protect salmonids. ODF will carry out the mandates in the Executive Order in several ways, including state forest management plans and habitat conservation plans and strategy that protects and restores both in stream and riparian habitat for wild salmon, trout and steelhead (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 1999, p. 6).

The seven-member Oregon Board of Forestry has been empowered by the Oregon Legislature to supervise all matters of forest policy within Oregon. The Board appoints the State Forester and provides general supervision of the State Forester’s duties in managing the Department of Forestry’s six major programs (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 4-5).

1. The Forest Practices Program operates under the Forest Practices Act (FPA) and directly regulates forest operations on nearly 12 million acres of non-federally owned forests (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 6).

2. The State Forests Management Program manages about 789,000 acres of forestland statewide. Most of it is within five state forests: Tillamook, Clatsop, Santiam, Elliott and Sun Pass (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 8).
3. The Protection From Fire Program protects nearly 16 million acres – more than half of Oregon’s forest land – from wildfire on private, state and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 11).

4. The Forest Resources Planning Program conducts economic analyses, forest economic studies, timber harvest projections, and, provides technical assistance to other programs and agencies in forest-related studies (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 15).

5. The Forestry Assistance Program provides information, incentives and services to equip forest managers and landowners with knowledge, skills, abilities and motivation to voluntarily invest in their forestland and resources (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 18).

6. Administrative Services offers support of all Department programs and services (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 1999, p. 23).

The Northeast Oregon Fireline Explosives Blasting Team, formed in 1990, fights wildland fire using explosives. Since its inception, the blasting team has worked on about six project fires and numerous smaller fires, clearing firelines, creating pump chances and toppling snags (Forest Log, May/June 1999, p. 6-7).

ODF’s Protection From Fire program released the first draft of rules that address wildland-urban interface areas under the Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997. The rules define wildland-urban interface areas and direct county-based committees to classify interface areas based on geography, wildfire risk, and land use characteristics. Home owners have to make a reasonable effort to protect their property from fire and prevent its spread (Forest Log, May/June 1999, p. 9).

Two “firsts” occurred this year. The US Forest Service contracted with ODF to hire an Incident Management Team to manage the 288 acre Sebastopol Fire that burned this summer on the Siskiyou National Forest. The unavailability of a Forest Service team and the Department’s reputation in firefighting led to the Forest Service bringing in the ODF team (Forest Log, July/Aug. 1999, p. 4).

The other “first” occurred when the region's contract firefighting crews had all been dispatched. Oregon exercised a 1992 agreement between Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington’s Corrections Department, and the Oregon Department of Corrections allowing interstate travel of Washington’s inmate firefighting crews. ODF brought ten 10-person crews to Oregon to fight the Austa Fire in Western Lane District (Forest Log, July/Aug. 1999, p. 4).
2000s

Oregon Department of Forestry
Salem Headquarters

SRG PARTNERSHIP, PC

An artist's rendering of how the Salem ODF headquarters would look when construction was finished.
Oregon Department of Forestry is divided geographically into three administrative areas comprised of districts. Each district is led by a District Forester who, with district staff, oversees the major ODF programs at the district level. District staff are also involved with urban forestry, forest health issues and recreation on state forestlands (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2000, p. 23).

Eastern Oregon Area, headquartered at Prineville, is composed of four Districts and has 5.5 million acres of protected lands. EOA is the largest of the three areas, covering the eastern two-thirds of the state and includes one protective association (note: the Klamath-Lake Fire Association was the first protection association in Oregon) (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2000, p. 24-25).

Northwest Oregon Area, headquartered at Forest Grove, includes 3.3 million acres of protected lands in six districts (including South Fork Camp). NWOA has approximately three-quarters of the 790,000 total acres of state forestland (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2000, p. 26-29).

Southern Oregon Area, headquartered in Roseburg, has 7 million acres of protected lands in seven districts (including the D.L. Phipps Nursery). Unique features include two of the three Forest Protective Associations (Douglas FPA and Coos FPA) which are located in this Area (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2000, p. 23).

The Department Fire Cache operation moved to a new facility at the Salem Compound. The new physical plant was designed and built to accommodate all the testing and maintenance that goes into keeping the tools field ready (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2000, p. 11).

Fire Cache also plans to replace one of its 20-year-old traveling kitchens with a larger, more modern cooking and serving unit. The 40-foot trailer will have multiple grills, tilting skillets, ovens and a serving window. The new unit will have an increased capacity to serve fire crews, which usually range from 600 to 900, and can serve up to several thousand (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2000, p. 15).

While Oregon's fire lookouts still play an important part in detecting fires, only a handful are still operational. Together, ODF and the State's three Forest Protective Associations staff about 30 lookouts each summer. Even the increased use of airplanes and high-tech gadgets haven't totally extinguished the need for someone on a hilltop to spot that first puff of smoke (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2000, p. 12).
ODF wins recognition for innovative work in high-tech mapmaking. The Department's foray into Geographic Information Systems (GIS) occurred nearly 30 years ago when the technology was new and experts in the field were few. For budgetary reasons, ODF was forced to step back from the technology in the early 1980's and only re-entered the GIS arena in 1994. Recently the Department won a special achievement award from the largest GIS software company in the world, the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), in recognition of their outstanding work in the GIS field (for the Xtools software program developed by Mike DeLaune). *Note:* The GIS Unit was previously recognized in 1999 for developing Lightning Tracker, a GIS-based program that displays real-time lightning strikes during fire season (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 2001, p. 8).

At its January meeting the Board adopted Management Plans for state forests in northwest and southwest Oregon following a six-year planning process that involved broad public involvement and incorporated the latest available scientific information. The plans provide long-term direction for actively managing these state forests to achieve a broad array of benefits including timber harvesting, revenue generation, habitat conservation and restoration, and recreation (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2001, p. 39).

2001 marks the 90th anniversary of both the Board of Forestry and the Oregon Department of Forestry (Forest Log, Mar./Apr. 2001, p. 39).

An Oregon Heritage Tree was dedicated at the Constitution Wayside in Brookings. A Coast Redwood has an Oregon Historical Marker describing the only Japanese aerial bombing of World War II in the continental United States. The bomb site tree was planted in 1992 by the bomber's pilot Nubuo Fujita (Statesman Journal, April 5, 2001, p. 3).

Implementation of the 1997 Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act involved classifying the wildland-urban interface and developing standards for homeowners that would reduce the fire risk to their property and adjacent forestland. The final rules will be implemented first in two geographic areas with the highest risk, Jackson and Deschutes Counties, then statewide (Forest Log, May/June 2001, p. 6).

A Capital Construction Bill (HB 5029) was passed by the 2001 Legislature authorizing various state agency capital construction projects. The Department has three specific items of authorization in the legislation that included: (1) design and construction of the Tillamook Forest Interpretive Center; (2) completion of the design and construction of the new facilities at the Tillamook District Headquarters site (including a new administrative building, fire cache and warehouse building, and an engine parking garage; and (3) completion of construction of the Salem ODF Compound (Forest Log, July/Aug. 2001, p. 22).
The South Fork Inmate Camp, located in the Coast Range 25 miles west of Forest Grove, off Highway 6, celebrated its 50th year on October 11. South Fork houses 150-200 inmates who serve on fire crews, plant trees in reforestation efforts, build hiking trails, and develop and maintain recreational facilities. The Camp is a joint operation of the Department of Forestry and the Department of Corrections (Forest Log, July/Aug. 2001, p. 23).

In September, Sudden Oak Death (Phytophthora ramorum) was located within an eight-square mile area of forest land near Brookings in Curry County, killing native tan oak, coastal live oak, black oak, madrone, rhododendron, and evergreen huckleberry, and also affecting other species such as bigleaf maple, manzanita and Oregon myrtle. ODF pathologists are uncertain how far-reaching the effects of Sudden Oak Death will be in the State. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is acting as lead agency because the fungus is a non-native or invasive species and, as such, it is their job to regulate and establish appropriate quarantines (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2001, pg. 4).

This year represents three major milestones for ODF. Besides being in existence for 90 years, the Department also celebrated 60 years of successful reforestation in Oregon and the 30th anniversary of the State’s Forest Practices Act, which regulates forest operations and promotes forest management on non-federal lands. A great deal has changed in the Department’s 90-year history, but the backbone of ODF’s mission to always be a steward of Oregon’s forests has not.
The festivities were held on the lawn behind Building 10, which houses ODF's Administrative Services. The setting was park-like with trees providing plentiful shade, with Mill Creek trickling nearby ... very appropriate for a land management agency! The event was held in conjunction with the September Board of Forestry meeting and was a great way for board members, ODF employees and others on the compound to cap off their day. In addition, several invited guests attended, including ODF retirees, agency partners, and dignitaries and friends of the Department (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2001, p. 8).

2001 was not only the 30th anniversary of the Oregon Forest Practices Act, the first such forest regulatory program in the nation, it also marked the culmination of new Oregon forest policy initiatives that firmly established the state as a continuing leader in sustainable forestry (Forest Log, Nov./Dec. 2001, p. 8-10).

2002

Most Oregonians want forest land in the State of Oregon to be managed for a balance of social, economic, and environmental benefits according to a study by Davis, Hibbits, and McCaig, who presented the findings of a survey of 1,400 Oregon residents (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 2002, p. 11).

"In theory, well designed, market-based, voluntary forest certification programs involving wood products producers, retailers and consumers, could complement the Forest Practices Act. Certificates could lead to a model to achieve and document high levels of forest stewardship, compared with government intervention and regulation alone" -- James Brown (Forest Log, Jan./Feb. 2002, p. 20-21).

The Biscuit Fire burned 499,965 acres. One of the worst fire seasons of the past fifty years led to ODF's first contract for an air tanker and additional firefighting resources.

2003

Major reconstruction of the Department of Forestry headquarters compound began in 1994 with final construction expected to be completed in 2003 (Forest Log, May/June 2001, p. 10).

The B & B Fire burned 91,000 acres.

The philosophy and objectives of the Oregon Department of Forestry are best articulated in the Department’s mission statement:

To serve the people of Oregon through the protection, management, and promotion of a healthy forest environment, which will enhance Oregon's livability and economy for today and tomorrow.
Since its inception in 1911, the Oregon Department of Forestry has sought to provide leadership in forest policy and resource protection. We are stewards of precious resources that belong to future generations. What we do today matters.

Leadership – The Oregon Board of Forestry develops the policies and direction of the Department of Forestry. Board members are appointed by the governor and are confirmed by the State Senate. The Board is composed of seven members, each of whom serves a four-year term.

The State Forester administers the Department under the policies set by the Board of Forestry. The State Forester appoints an Associate State Forester to assist in administration of the Department and direct the Administrative Services Division.

Assistant State Foresters direct the agency’s divisions for Fire Protection, Forest Management, and Resources Policy.

Oregon is divided into three administrative areas, Northwest, Eastern and Southern Oregon areas. Each area is divided further into districts. Area directors and district foresters coordinate all field activities of the Department in their sections of the State.

State Forests Management – The Oregon Department of Forestry manages approximately 780,000 acres of forest lands. State forest lands are concentrated in five state forests, the Clatsop, Elliott, Santiam, Sun Pass, and Tillamook state forests. There are also a number of smaller tracts, scattered mostly in western Oregon’s Coast Range.

State forest lands represent about 3 percent of Oregon’s forests. Over 200 million board feet of timber valued at approximately $100 million were harvested from state forest lands in 2000, producing revenues for schools, counties, and local taxing districts.

The Department of Forestry also manages 124,000 acres of Common School forest lands owned by the State Land Board. These lands were granted to the state by the federal government at the time of statehood to support Oregon public schools. Under the Oregon Constitution, the State Land Board must manage and protect these lands for the maximum, long-term benefit of the public schools. The Department of Forestry manages Common School forest lands through a contract with the State Land Board, with costs for land management billed to the Common School Fund (ODF web page 2003).
2003 Aerial view of the Salem Compound
References Cited:


15. Rehabilitation Section, Summary of Progress, July '49 - December '54.

16. Forest Resources of Oregon, Oregon State Board of Forestry, School of Forestry, Oregon State College, 1943.

The following resources were also used:


Various Forest Log articles were used as a source for history items and are referenced within this document.

Several reports of the State Forester were used and are referenced within this document.
## Largest Fires in Oregon's History*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fire Name</th>
<th>Acres Burned</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1765</td>
<td>Millicoma</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1848</td>
<td>Nestucca (1)</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1849</td>
<td>Siletz (Yaquina 1)</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1853 or '57</td>
<td>Nestucca (2)</td>
<td>320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;1865&quot;***</td>
<td>&quot;Silverton Fire&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Yaquina (2)</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Coos Bay</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>170,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933***</td>
<td>Tillamook (1)</td>
<td>261,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Bandon</td>
<td>143,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939***</td>
<td>Tillamook (2) Saddle Mountain</td>
<td>209,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945***</td>
<td>Tillamook (3) Wilson River/Salmonberry</td>
<td>182,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>97,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Ashwood/Donnybrook (includes rangeland)</td>
<td>118,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>B &amp; B (Booth &amp; Bear Butte)</td>
<td>499,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>B &amp; B (Booth &amp; Bear Butte)</td>
<td>91,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fires that burned over 50,000 acres.

** The Silverton Fire of 1865 (estimated at 1,000,000 acres) is in question. The date and size of the Silverton Fire has not been documented by recent research as a single forest fire. It is thought to have been a collection of smaller fires over a number of years.

*** These are the 3 fires referred to as the Tillamook Burn. The 4th fire in 1951 was less than the 50,000 acres used as a minimum standard for this exhibit and is not included in this listing.

**Sources:** There are a number of reports on Forest Fires occurring in Oregon over the years. The information on fires comes from many sources and various reports include information on more than one fire. The sources listed are provided as a resource for documentation of this exhibit.


Schroeder, J.E. Forest, People & Oregon; A History of Forestry in Oregon. 1977. Oregon Department of Forestry.


Administrative Areas, Districts, and State Forests
Oregon Department of Forestry Organizational Chart

Oregon Department of Forestry

Region Forest Practices Advisory Committees (3)
- Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee
- Emergency Fire Cost Committee
- Committee for Family Forestlands
- Forest Resource Trust Advisory Committee

OREGON BOARD OF FORESTRY

OREGON DEPARTMENT of FORESTRY
- 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310
  (503) 945-7200
  TTY in Salem Area: 503-945-7213
  TTY Outside Salem Area: 1-800-437-4460
  Web Page: www.odf.state.or.us

State Forester

Assistant State Forester
- Forest Protection Division
  Protection from Fire
  Program Director
  Administration
  Admin Mgmt, Budget, Grants, Contracts/Agreements
  Operations
  Mobilization Plan, Large Fire Mobilization
  Policy and Prevention
  Fire Prevention, Planning, Investigations, Cost Recovery
  Smoke Management
  Weather Forecasting, Fire Danger Rating, Program Analysis

Assistant State Forester
- Forest Management Division
  State Forests
  Program Director
  Technical Services
  Silviculture, Wildlife, Engineering, Research & Monitoring, Seed Orchard
  Policy and Planning
  Forest Planning, Policy Assessment, T&I Policy
  Operations
  IFP, APIS, Waterbath Analysis, Accomplishment Reporting, Training
  Asset Management
  Legal Issues, Business Mgt, Land Exchanges, Log Accountability
  Integrated Information Systems
  GIS, Forest Resources, Inventory

Associate State Forester
- Administrative Services Division
  Business Services
  Program Director
  Equipment Pool
  Aviation, Transportation, Communications
  Support Services
  Administration, Property Control, Distribution/Mail, Payroll
  Facilities/Procurement
  Construction and Facilities Planning, Procurement
  Fiscal Services
  General Ledger, Revenues, Disbursements
  Budget Management
  Budget Development and Analysis

Human Resources
- Program Director
  Personnel, Safety, Training

Information Technology
- Program Director
  Special Projects
  GIS/IT Applications/Network Support
  System Design, Programming, User Support, Network Administration, Graphic Services/GIS
  Administrative Resources
  Data and Voice Communications, Data Entry, Records Management, Word Processing, Log Brands

Assistant State Forester
- Resource Policy Division
  Forest Resources Planning
  Program Director
  Analysis, Economics, Forest Planning, Legislative Tracking

Area Directors

Private and Community
- Forests Program Director
  Policy
  Policy, Interagency Coordination
  Operations
  Field Coordination, Training
  Business and Urban and Community Forestry
  Monitoring
  Program Effectiveness and Compliance Monitoring, Training

Oregon Forestland Protection Fund
- Administrator

Exhibit 3
State Foresters
1911 - Present

FRANCIS A. ELLIOTT, 1911-1930
Francis A. Elliott, ODF's first State Forester, was appointed at the first meeting of the Board of Forestry in March 1911. He served in that capacity up to his death in 1930. He is credited with developing and implementing a progressive state forest policy. He was instrumental in organizing a cooperative forest protection system covering more than 10.5 million acres of forestland.

Under Elliott's direction, ODF went from responsibility for fire protection only to responsibility for "perpetuation and continuation of forestlands." The Elliott State Forest, once known as the Millicoma Tract, in southwest Oregon bears his name.

LYNN F. CRONEMILLER, 1930-1935
Lynn F. Cronemiller served as State Forester for five years during the Depression, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the first of the four Tillamook fires. He was instrumental in implementing the land exchange which led to the establishment of the Elliott State Forest. He also assisted in establishing 12 CCC camps in Oregon, which provided much-needed jobs for nearly 1,600 men. He took an active role in the control of the Tillamook Fire of 1933, and later chaired a governor's committee to study how to reduce fire hazards.

Cronemiller retired from ODF in 1960. For the last 25 years of his career with ODF, he served as Assistant State Forester in charge of forest management and as public affairs director. Cronemiller died in 1989.

JOHN W. FERGUSON, 1935-1940
John W. Ferguson was one of the first employees hired by ODF when it was organized in 1911. He held many positions prior to becoming ODF's third State Forester. He served as District Warden of the Clackamas-Marion Fire Patrol Association before joining the Salem staff.

As State Forester, Ferguson supervised the construction of the State Forester's headquarters (now on the National Register of Historic Places) in Salem. Ferguson left ODF in 1940 and died in 1978.

CARL L. DAVIS, 1940
Carl L. Davis has the distinction of being the State Forester who held the job the shortest amount of time. An industrial private landowner from Coos Bay, Davis agreed to serve as State Forester for four months until Gov. Charles Sprague could make a permanent appointment. Davis died in 1970.

NELSON S. ROGERS, 1940-1949
During Nelson S. Rogers' nine-year tenure as State Forester, he secured approval for the Oregon Forest Conservation Act and was State Forester when Oregon became the first state to adopt a policy of public control over private forestland.

Rogers considered his greatest achievement to be a constitutional amendment that financed the rehabilitation of the Tillamook Burn. In 1965, a 3,700-acre memorial forest within the Tillamook State Forest was dedicated to honor Rogers. He died in 1949 just before his hard-fought rehabilitation efforts began in the Tillamook State Forest.
GEORGE SPAUR, 1949-1950 and 1952-1955
George Spaur served several years during the 1940s and 1950s as Deputy State Forester, Acting State Forester, and State Forester. He worked in fire protection and forest management, and initiated the present land-acquisition program.
Following the death of Nelson Rogers in 1949, Spaur served several months as Acting State Forester before being appointed to fill the job permanently. He was called into the U.S. Army in 1950 because of the Korean conflict. He returned to ODF in 1952 and retired in 1955. During his time as State Forester, Spaur oversaw the beginning of the Tillamook Burn rehabilitation. He died in 2001.

Dwight L. Phipps served two terms as State Forester, between 1950 and 1952 - while State Forester Spaur served in the U.S. Army - and again from 1955 to 1965. Phipps worked for ODF for 41 years.
He was directly involved with fighting the 1945 Tillamook fire and played significant roles in drafting the Tillamook Burn Rehabilitation Program.
Phipps was a dominant figure in Oregon forest protection, acting as a powerful advocate of close cooperation among forest agencies and landowners. Phipps was considered a progressive, energetic, dedicated forester. He retired in 1965 and died in 1978.

J.E. Schroeder, 1965-1979
During J.E. Schroeder's 14-year tenure as State Forester, the Oregon Forest Practices Act was enacted. In the late 1970s, Schroeder guided ODF in carrying out the Board of Forestry's Forestry Program for Oregon, the Board's strategic plan.
His career is closely tied to the development of the Tillamook State Forest. On the third Tillamook fire in 1945, Schroeder was on the fire lines. Soon after, he was appointed District Warden in what was then the Northwest Oregon District where he was involved in rehabilitation and forest management programs.
Schroeder retired in 1979. ODF's tree seed orchard is named after him. He lives near Salem.

H. Mike Miller, 1980-1986
H. Mike Miller was appointed State Forester in 1980. He began his career with ODF as a seasonal firefighter in the mid 1950s then accepted a full-time position in 1959. He worked in fire control, timber management, forest practices, and personnel throughout the state before becoming Assistant State Forester of the Administrative Division in 1979.
During his 6-1/2 years as State Forester, he guided ODF through the economic recession of the early 1980s. He also was involved with reviewing the Forest Practices Act and guided ODF in analyzing federal land management plans and policies. Miller resigned in 1986 to become the Executive Vice President of the Association of Oregon Loggers.

James E. Brown, 1986-2003
James E. Brown served as Oregon State Forester for 16½ years. He began his 36-year career with ODF as a forester trainee, and held many other positions including reforestation forester, timber management forester, resource analyst, program director for Service Forestry and Forest Practices, Northwest Oregon Area Director, Assistant State Forester, and Associate State Forester.
Under Brown's direction as State Forester, ODF actively engaged in progressive forest management, and Board and agency strategic planning that made Oregon a leader internationally in forest sustainability and future forest planning. He was also instrumental in creating working partnerships with environmental groups, private landowners, other government agencies, and the forest industry.
Brown resigned in early 2003 to take the position of Governor's Natural Resource Policy Director.

Marvin D. Brown, 2003 to present
Marvin Brown began his appointment as Oregon State Forester in June 2003. Prior to becoming Oregon's State Forester, Brown served as Director of Forest Land Management for the American Forest and Paper Association, the Director of Forest Policy for Willamette Industries/Weyerhaeuser Company, and as State Forester for the Missouri Department of Conservation for seven years, as well as holding a number of other positions with that agency over a total of 22 years.
Brown is particularly interested in sustainable forest management and the need to achieve social, environmental, and economic benefits so that the vision of sustainability can be translated into reality across the landscape.