

**SPECIAL EDITION!**

# FOREST VOICE

A publication of the Native Forest Council

Volume I, Number 1

1989

## *An Urgent Appeal to Citizens and Congress Stop the Destruction of the Last Remnants of the Public's Native Forests*



*Clearcut logging devastates the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon  
Photo courtesy of Project Lighthawk*

*Americans are concerned with the destruction of tropical rainforests, yet fail to take a hard look at what the timber industry is doing to our national forests.*

*In 1949 the cut from the entire National Forest System, coast to coast, was just 2.6 billion board feet. Last year, 16 billion board feet of public and private timber were hauled out of Washington and Oregon alone. This cut represents an unbelievable line of log trucks more than 20,000 miles long! And twice as much public and private raw material was exported as was cut on our federal Northwest forestlands.*

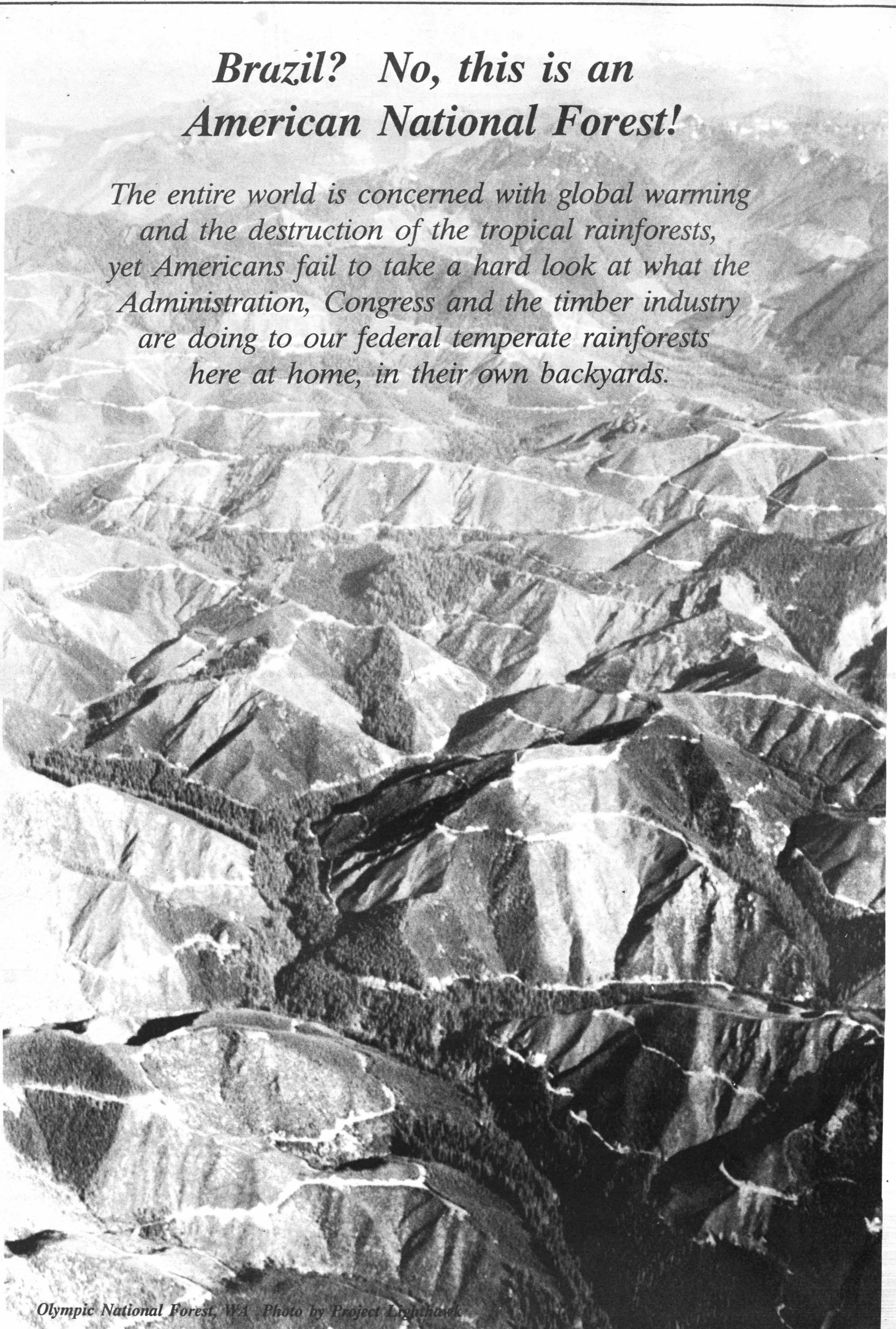
*Less than five percent of the nation's original native forestlands remain. In Oregon and Washington, less than ten percent of this ancient old-growth forest remains. Yet, ten square miles are logged every month in Oregon alone. And, the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management intend to cut most of the remaining unprotected old-growth forests according to their 1989 ten-year Forest Plans.*

*A catastrophe for the nation and for the entire world! Your public cry of outrage can stop it.*

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## *Brazil? No, this is an American National Forest!*

*The entire world is concerned with global warming  
and the destruction of the tropical rainforests,  
yet Americans fail to take a hard look at what the  
Administration, Congress and the timber industry  
are doing to our federal temperate rainforests  
here at home, in their own backyards.*



# It's 95% gone, and it will never be back.

America can not tolerate the loss of one more acre of natural, virgin, old-growth forest. What little remains must be guarded and protected. By diverting only one quarter of our raw-material exports, all of our remaining native forests can be saved.

A virgin, old-growth forest represents a complex relationship between thousands of plant and animal species; a result of millions of years of evolutionary processes. These priceless gene pools comprise nature's "best and brightest" biological communities for each site-specific hillside, valley, ridgetop, soil type, exposure, and precipitation. They have endured fires, disease, insects, drought, and competition. Once lost, they cannot be replicated or reconstructed as an entire, self-sustaining, complex, forest ecosystem.

For mankind to clear-cut, burn, and kill what's left with herbicides and then plant a single species, even aged tree farm as a substitute for a native forest is ludicrous. It is a world-class disaster!

### Scientific Quotes:

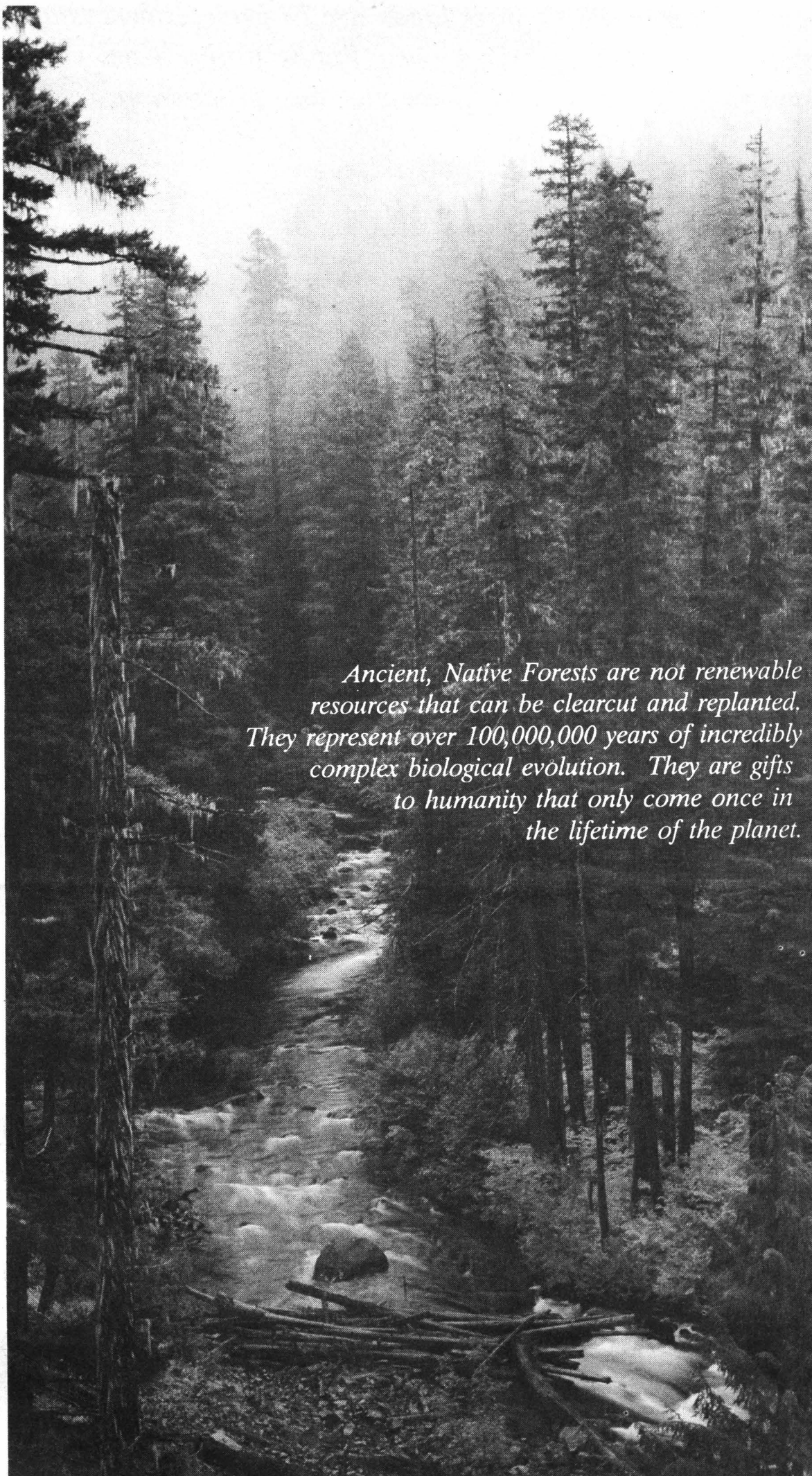
"How much of the genetic base are we willing to lose? How much profit are we going to be able to deny ourselves for the sake of future generations? These are social and moral issues, not scientific ones. But you don't have to close out options when you don't have to. You don't have a right to, in effect, mine the productivity of the earth. And you don't have a right to eliminate species."

*Dr. Jerry Franklin, University of Washington and US Forest Service*

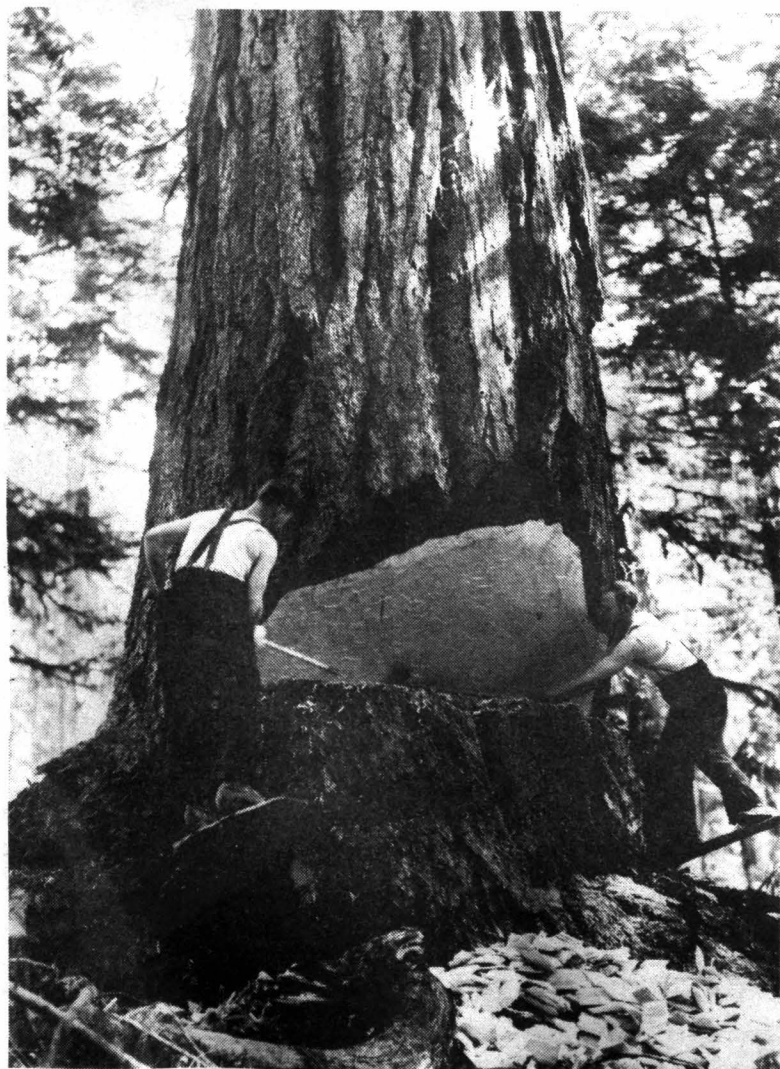
"The ancient forest is our maintenance manual for the world's evergreen forests. Only we don't even begin to know how many parts there are. The remaining ancient forests are our blueprint for the great coniferous forests which once covered this part of the world. This is the only place where the entire genetic code, the entire system is intact. If we liquidate the blueprint, we've lost it for the entire earth."

"There's still time enough to save enough of the earth's forests, but we can't mess around any longer. We need nature. But nature gets along perfectly well without us. It is supreme arrogance to alter and destroy Nature for short-term profits. In the long run that will be the costliest policy of all."

*Chris Maser, Scientist and former BLM biologist*



*Ancient, Native Forests are not renewable resources that can be clearcut and replanted. They represent over 100,000,000 years of incredibly complex biological evolution. They are gifts to humanity that only come once in the lifetime of the planet.*



Virgin Forests 1620



Virgin Forests 1850



Virgin Forests 1989

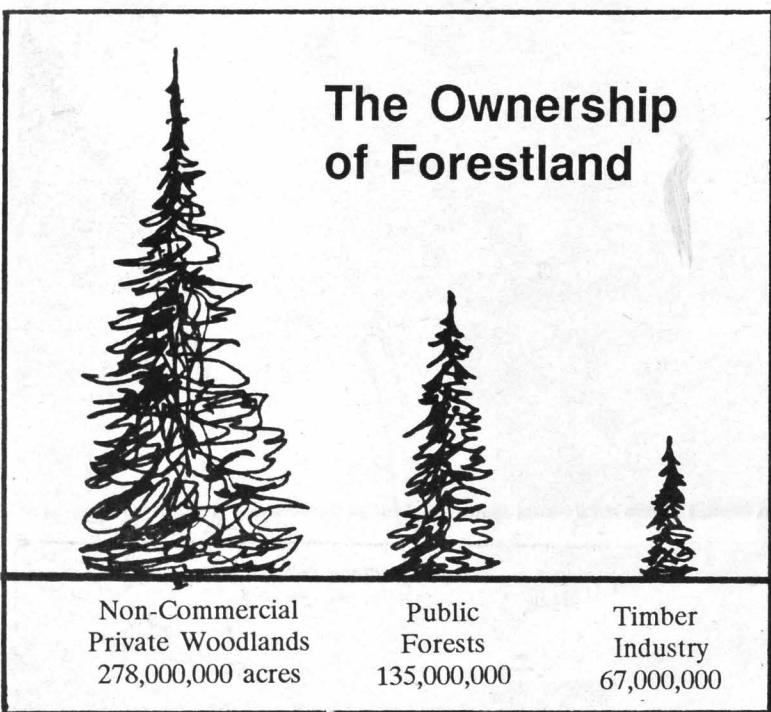
### HOW MUCH WE HAVE LOST!

The Northwest's temperate rainforest were once dominated by huge, healthy, douglas fir, cedar and spruce up to 2,000 years old. With the exception of a few isolated remnants, virtually all of these have been cut down. The remaining native forests in the Northwest are now largely 150 to 500 year old teenagers. These last remnants absolutely must be preserved and protected in their natural state.

# Private lands can produce the nation's timber

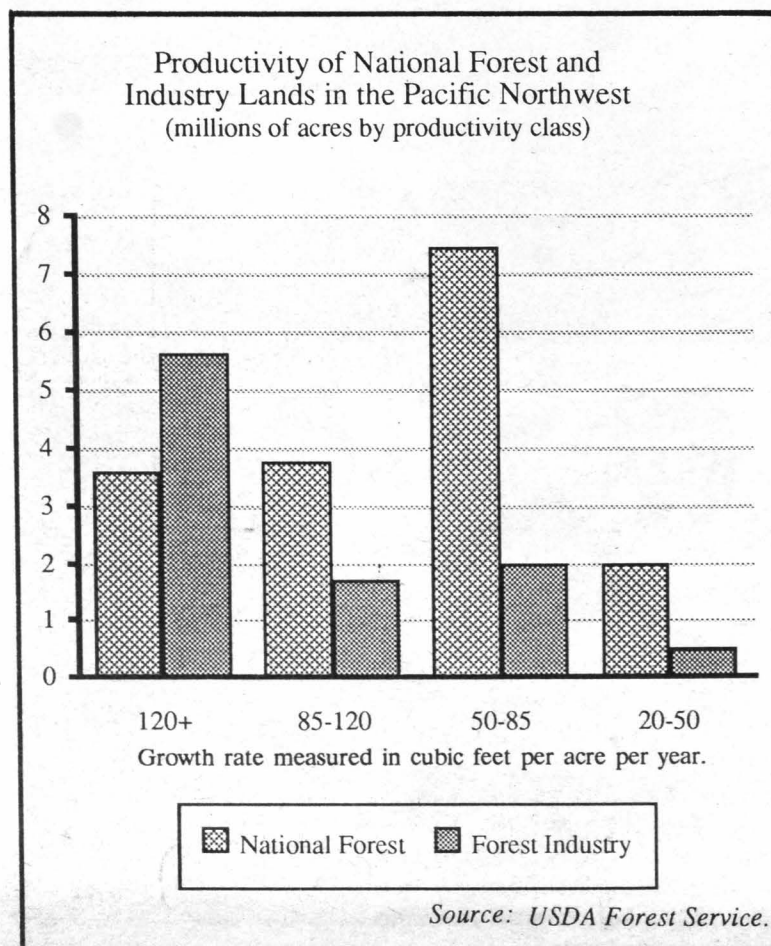
**72% of the nation's forestlands are in private ownership and they are the most fertile lands. Public timber sales are competing unfairly with private timber production.**

A Forest Industry Council study (1980) stated that domestic timber demand could be entirely supplied by private forest lands alone, if landowners can only realize a 10% annual return on investment. Even Weyerhaeuser admitted that they could grow all our timber needs on one third of the nation's forestlands. By permitting timber sales below replacement cost, the government engages in a kind of "predatory pricing" that places downward pressure on the market price for timber, thus reducing economic incentives to invest in intensive timber management on the more-productive private forest land.



## Who owns the most fertile and productive forestland?

The timber industry holds significantly more acres of the best tree growing lands than the U.S. Forest Service and they hold fewer acres of poorer land.



## Wisdom Versus Greed

"Every creature is better alive than dead -- men, moose, and pine trees -- and he who understands it aright will rather preserve its life than destroying it."

Henry D. Thoreau

"My hope is that the incorrigibly spoiled infants that we are will soon cease to squander the limited resources of our planet."

Jacques Cousteau

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and places to pray in, where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul."

John Muir

"The tree that moves some to tears of joy is to others only a green thing that stands in the way."

William Blake

"We abuse land because we view it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."

Aldo Leopold

"They are felling Oregon's glory, trunk by trunk. The majestic old trees 6 feet thick and soaring 200 feet into the blue northern sky, have stood on these mountains since the discovery of America. Now they are crashing down in record numbers . . . disappearing at an equivalent of 86 football fields a day . . ."

The Times of London, November 1988

"This we know. The earth does not belong to man, man belongs to earth. This we know. All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. . . . Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself."

Chief Sealth

(the man after whom the city of Seattle was named)

"The large timber companies, however, have an amazing record of getting what they want from government. They have continued to cut, a policy based on the calculated bluff that when economic push comes to environmental shove, Congress will open up the last of the National Forests, maybe even the National Parks. Says, Jim Langlois, timber lobbyist, 'We have not given up on getting that timber.'"

Pacific Northwest Magazine, January 1989

". . . in the 1950's and 1960's, the private industry, having overcut its own lands, began to look to the public's forests for more and more of its timber supply. Industry has since become alarmingly successful in persuading the Forest Service to lose sight of its own guiding principles, to the point where 'multiple use' and 'selective logging' have been replaced by 'dominant use' and 'clearcut logging' of the nation's commercial forestlands."

Gordon Robinson, forester, 1988

"It's time the public stops being naive about what the Forest Service gets its money for."

Supervisor, Nezperce National Forest, 1985

"If there were any doubts about the vulnerability of forest-products companies under the old conservative management policies, they were dispelled three years ago when raider Sir James Goldsmith grabbed Crown Zellerbach, which analyst Dan Nelson calls "the industry's premier example of under utilized assets." Financing the raid has been basically a matter of liquidating the company's massive Northwest timber holdings and selling the logged-off lands."

Pacific Northwest Magazine, January, 1989

# How Can It Be?

*How can it be that congressional delegations from just two northwest states can mandate unconscionable and unsustainable cut levels in our National Forests?*

*How can it be that the Senators and Representatives from the other 48 states allow the pillage and destruction of their national treasures, the property of each of their constituents?*

*How can it be that they accept congressional appropriations riders which ride roughshod over the nation's finest laws and moral principles?*

*We believe it is because the nation's citizens are unaware of the enormity of the theft of their priceless heritage, the magnificent native forests, for the misguided economic benefit of a single industry and a few states.*

*Once informed, the public must demand the protection of its forests. Just like protecting whales or wetlands, saving the last of the nation's native, virgin forests becomes more important than short-term economics and profits. And they will hold Congress accountable. This urgent national issue is too important for "pork-barrel" politics.*

*Time is running out for these virgin forests and trees. Stop the chainsaw massacre, now.*



MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST....

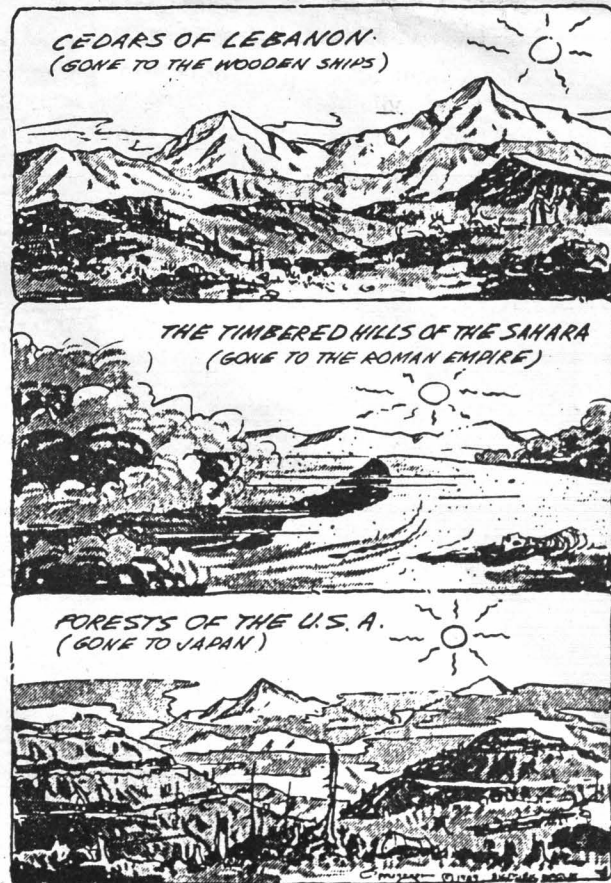


## What Americans can do?

*Urge your congressional delegation now, to halt the degradation and destruction. Only Congress has the power.*

*Join and support the Native Forest Council and other organizations that are taking this issue to the American Public. Help us send a copy of this Special Edition to every voter in America by distributing them to members of your favorite local organizations, and by your financial contributions.*

*Come visit and see for yourself both the glory and the destruction. Don't just drive the scenic corridor highway routes, but drive up any side road to the ridgetops, or fly over these National Forests to see what is being carefully hidden from the public.*



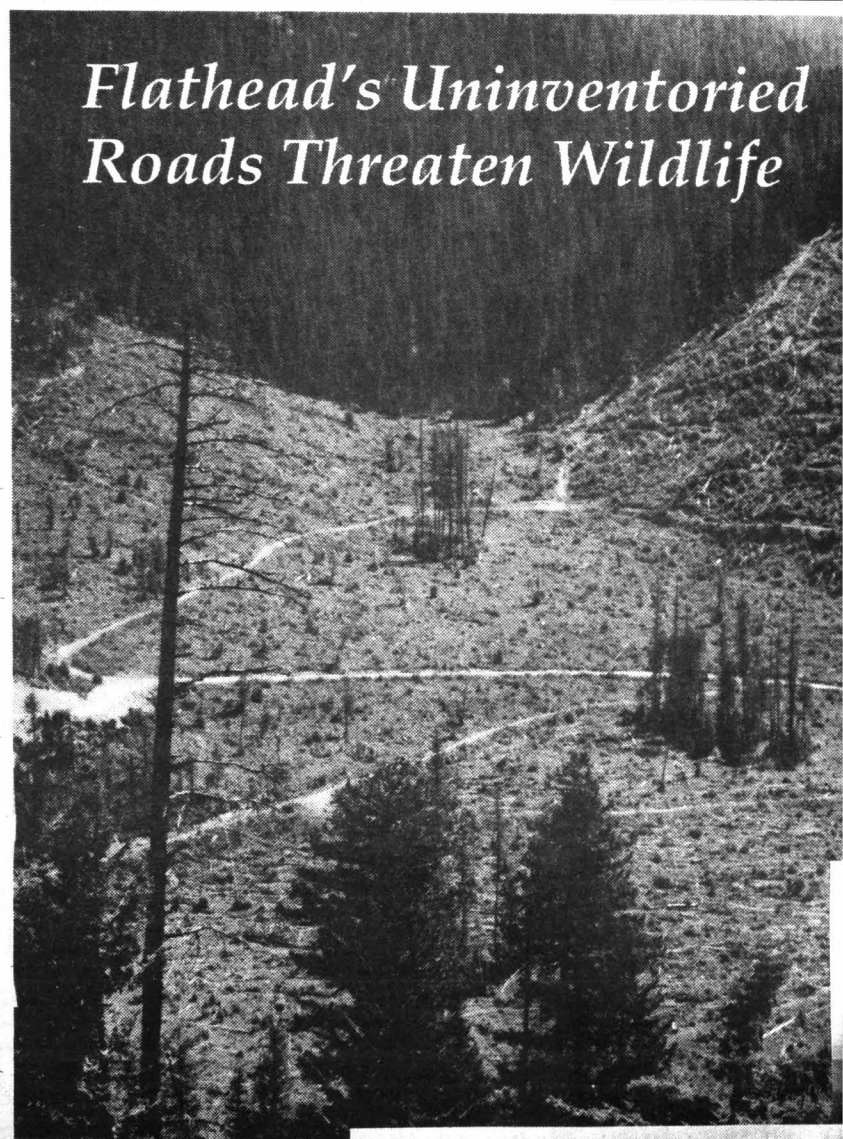
# The Destruction is Nationwide ---

*(These pictures are nothing compared to*

*For the past 8 years, the Administration has ordered the maximization of commercial uses on all public lands. Responding to pressure from the powerful timber industry, the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management rapidly allowed increased cutting on all public unprotected forestlands, far beyond long-term sustainable levels. Federal forestlands throughout the country are being sacrificed to the detriment of all other multiple-use values.*

*This represents a complete betrayal of the public trust, and is in violation of land management laws now in force.*

## Flathead's Uninventoried Roads Threaten Wildlife



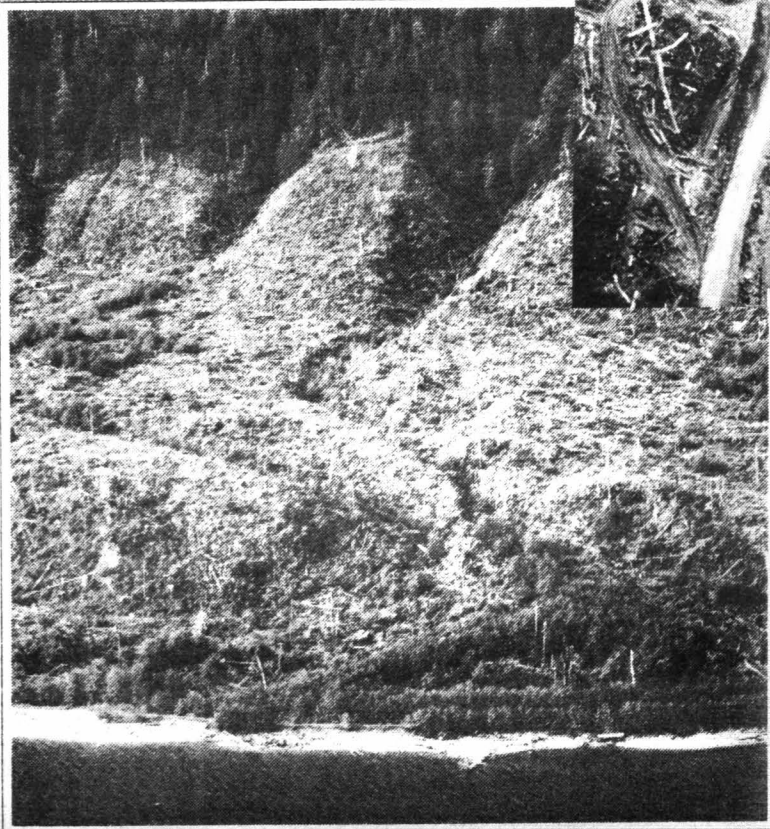
Willamette National Forest OR  
Trygve Steen



N to Mt Jefferson, Detroit Ranger District, OR

T.G. Hermach

Forest Service



Tongass National Forest, Alaska

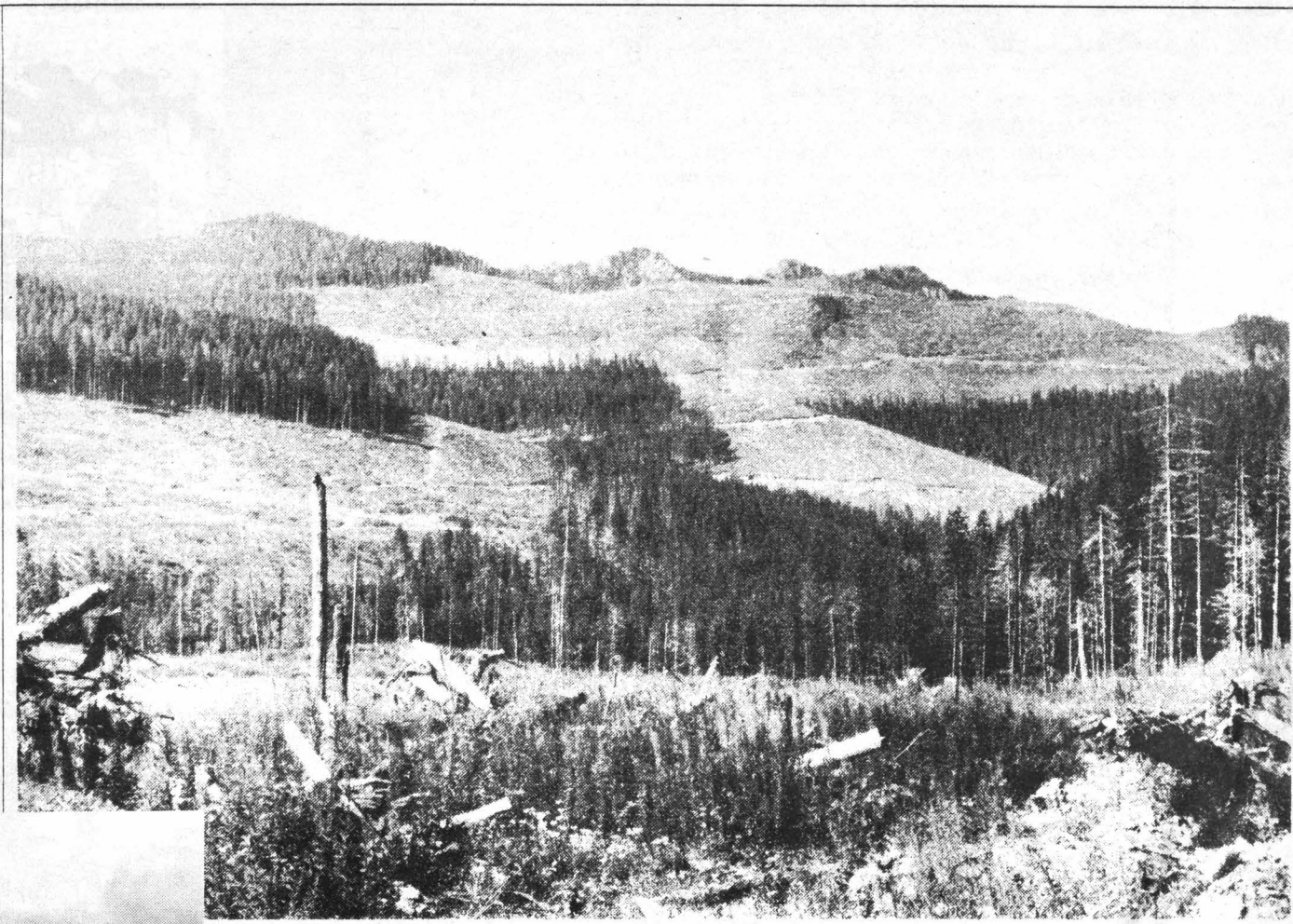
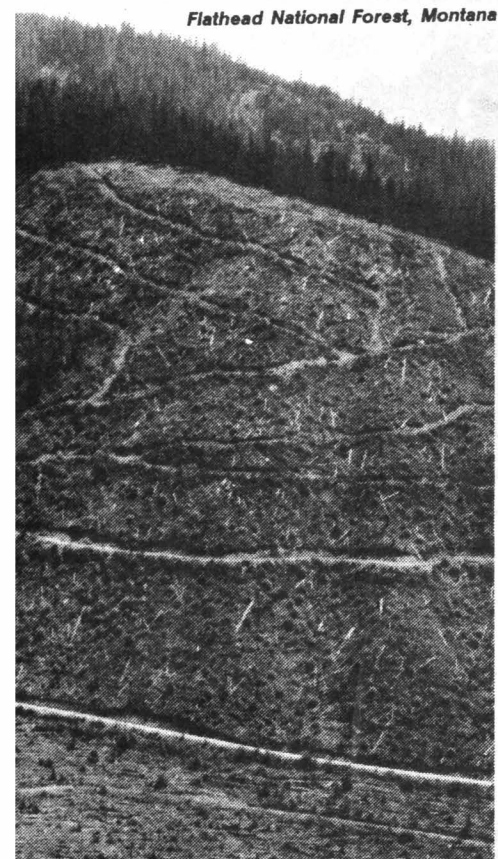


Willamette Nation

# These Pictures Don't Lie.

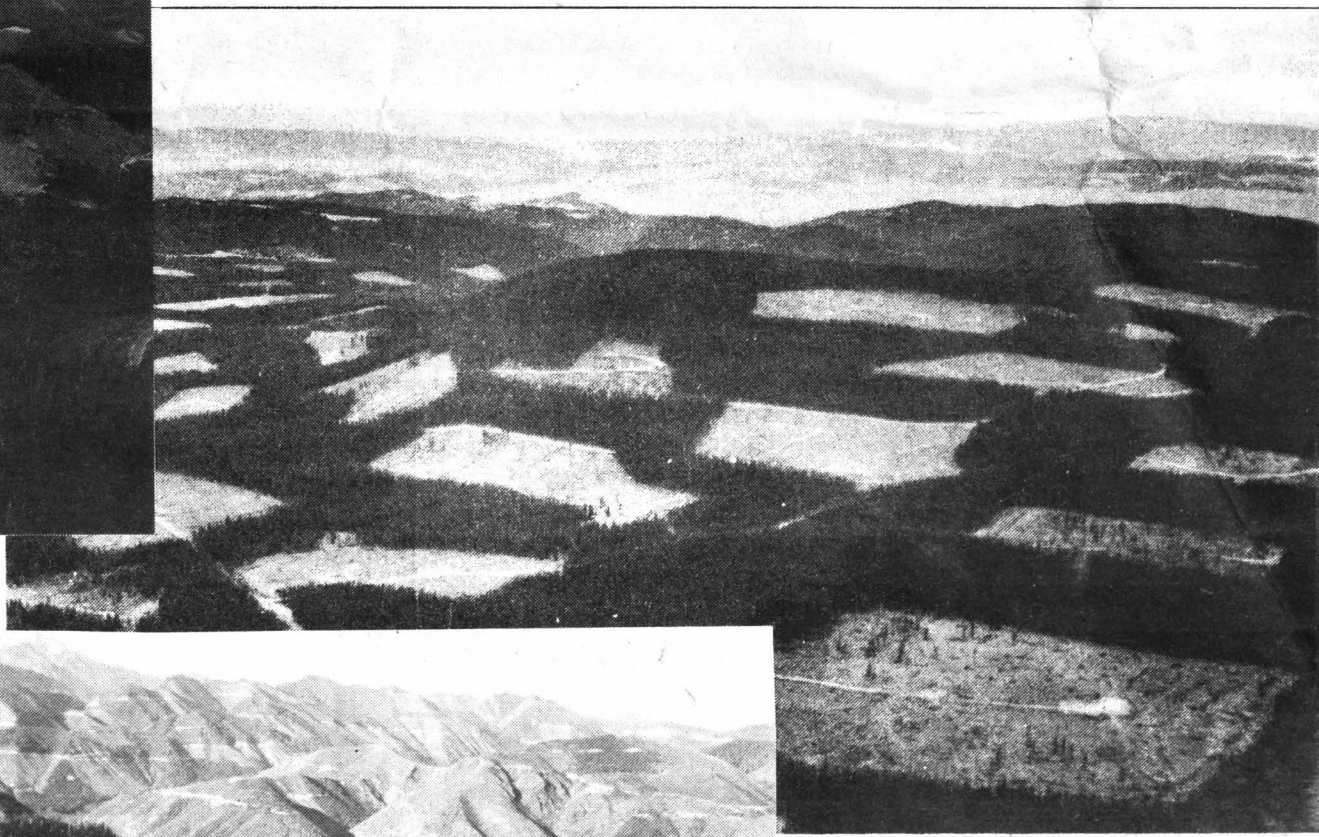
(If you fly over these lands and seeing for yourself the magnitude of the loss of the nation's virgin forestlands)

Flathead National Forest, Montana



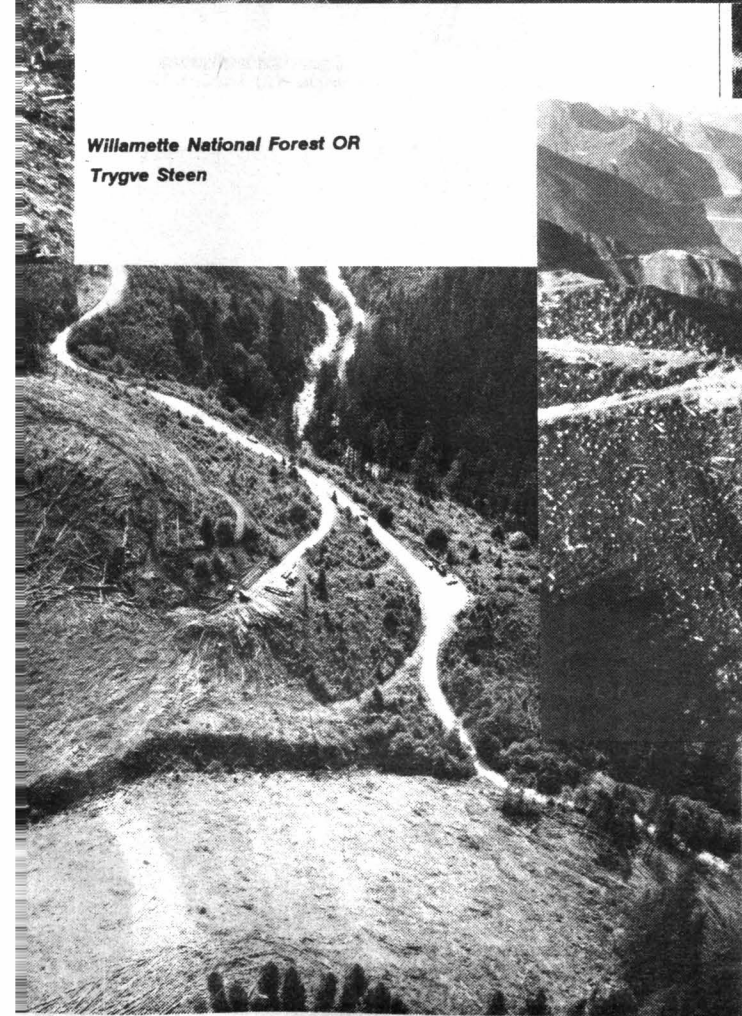
Melvin Burke

Mt Baker - Snoqualmie National Forest, Washington



Forest Service

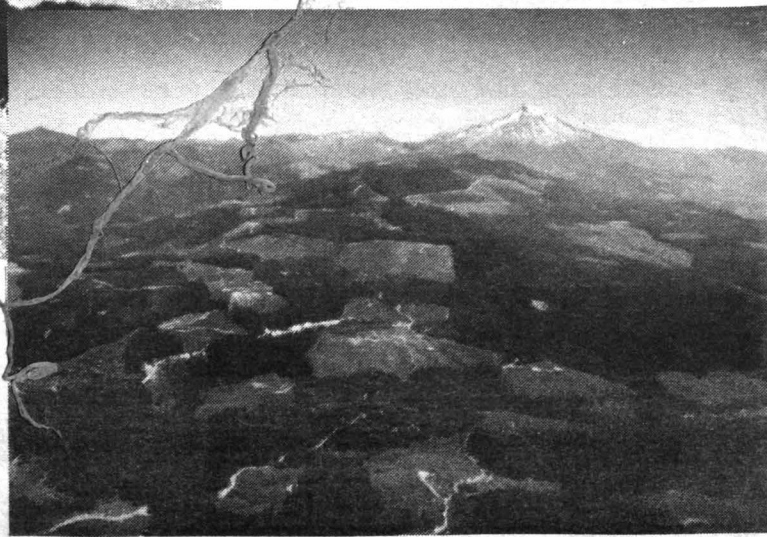
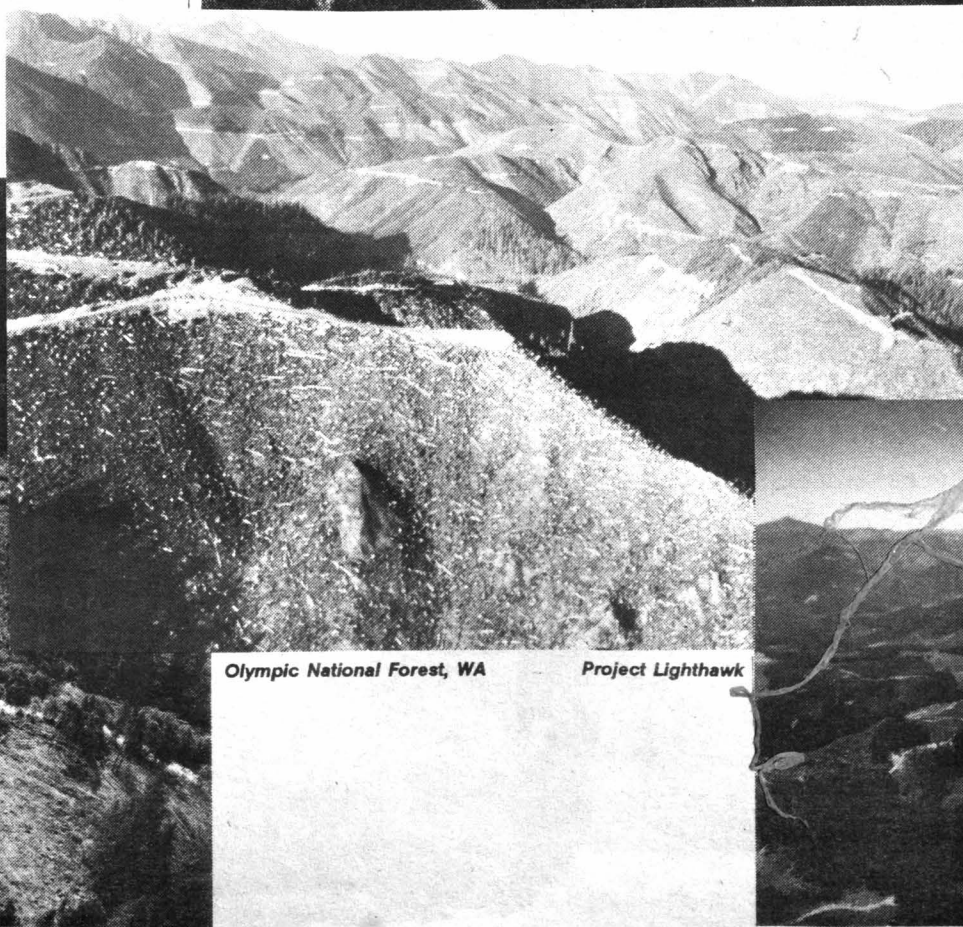
Willamette National Forest OR  
Trygve Steen



Trygve Steen

Olympic National Forest, WA

Project Lighthawk



Detroit Ranger District, Willamette NF

T.G. Hermach

OR

# Myths, Deceptions, and Lies

**Myth-1: "There is plenty ancient forest left on public lands. Besides it's protected in National Parks and Wilderness Areas."**

Facts: Virtually all of the native, old growth forests on private land have been cut down. Only about five percent of the nation's public uncut native forests are left and most is unprotected. Less than 10% of the Northwest's Wilderness Areas are ancient forests as most are mountains, meadows, rock and ice. *Speaking about the last of the public timber in Wilderness Areas and National Parks, Washington State timber lobbyist Jim Langlois says, "We have not given up on that timber".*

**Myth-2: "Exports of raw-material wood products from public lands are not causing the timber "shortage" problem."**

Facts: The raw-log exports from state and private land last year equaled or exceeded the total amount of timber cut from all federal lands in Washington and Oregon, the largest suppliers of federal timber. Federal timber exported through all the legal loopholes may double the quantity of raw-material wood products exported to over twice the amount cut on all federal lands. Only raw logs are banned from federal lands, not wood chips, wood pulp, Port Orford Cedar, "cull logs", slabbed logs, etc..

**Myth-3: "The National Forests are being harvested at a sustainable rate."**

Facts: The USFS and BLM fail to manage the forestlands for the high quality, long-term, ancient, native, old-growth and other multiple-use forest values. Retiring NW Regional Forester James Torrence recently acknowledged that the Northwest forests have been overcut for years and that the new Forest Plans continue these unsustainable cut levels.

**Myth-4: "The government makes a profit selling trees from national forests."**

Facts: The Forest Service has an annual budget deficit of over \$1 billion. This loss does not include the replacement cost value of the old-growth timber sold, damaged or wasted. The additional long-term environmental losses and costs further increase this taxpayer subsidy into the tens and possibly hundreds of billions of dollars. Global warming will only multiply these negative and costly impacts.

**Myth-5: "Old growth forests are dead, decadent or dying and should be harvested and replanted with faster growing trees."**

Facts: Native, old growth forests are not dying. They are remarkable self-regenerating, balanced ecosystems that withstand fire, insects, disease, and help mitigate global warming. They provide abundant clean air and water, wildlife and complex biological diversity, of benefit to all mankind.

**Myth-6: "The public must sacrifice its native forests to provide employment in timber dependent communities."**

Facts: The industry's failure to market finished products overseas and the increased exports of its own raw materials is clear evidence of their disregard for employment. Only the timber industry can determine whether to expand into more value added manufacturing with positive impacts on employment. While cutting levels over the past five years have increased 40% employment decreased by 33%.

**Myth-7: "Overcutting public lands beyond sustainable yield levels is only temporary, for a decade or two, until private forest lands are ready for cutting."**

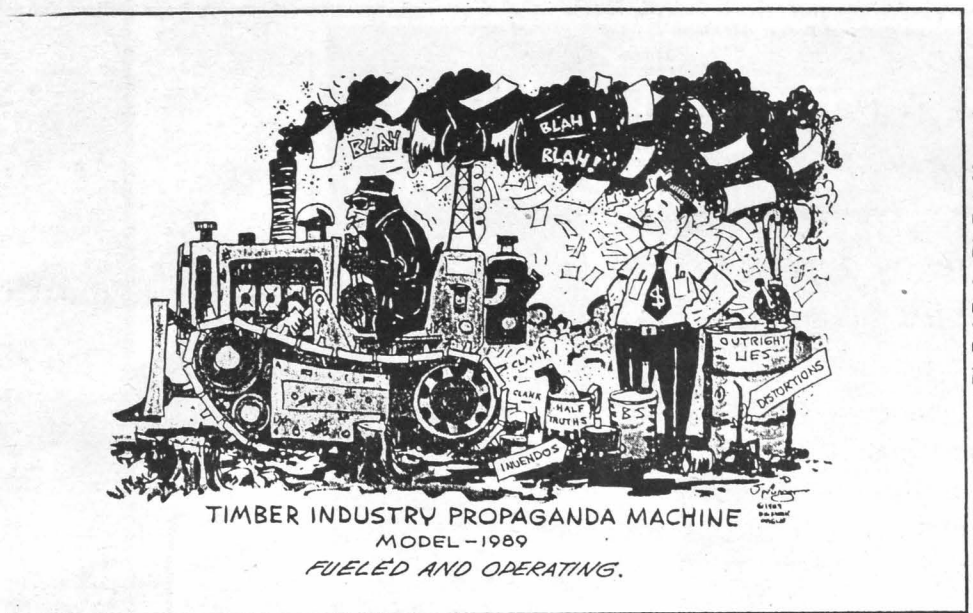
Facts: Overcutting has been going on for decades (see Myth-3). Private lands have been stripped of their old-growth and even immature trees are being cut to feed a profitable export market. Juvenile tree farms are also being liquidated as a defense against hostile takeovers, leveraged buyouts or to pay off their corporate junk bonds.

**Myth-8: "The wood and paper products industry needs access to federal forests for survival and economic health."**

Facts: The highly tax-subsidized sale of timber from public lands is actually detrimental to the long-term health of the nation and the timber industry. Unfair competition by the government with timber sale prices far below true replacement cost prevent private timber companies and non-industrial woodlot owners from making a fair profit and therefore discourage investment.

**Myth-9: "Payments from timber receipts to county governments and school districts make continued harvests from federal forests essential."**

Facts: There are no more significant saw-timber receipts in Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, or Florida and the same will happen in the Northwest if cutting continues at the present rate.



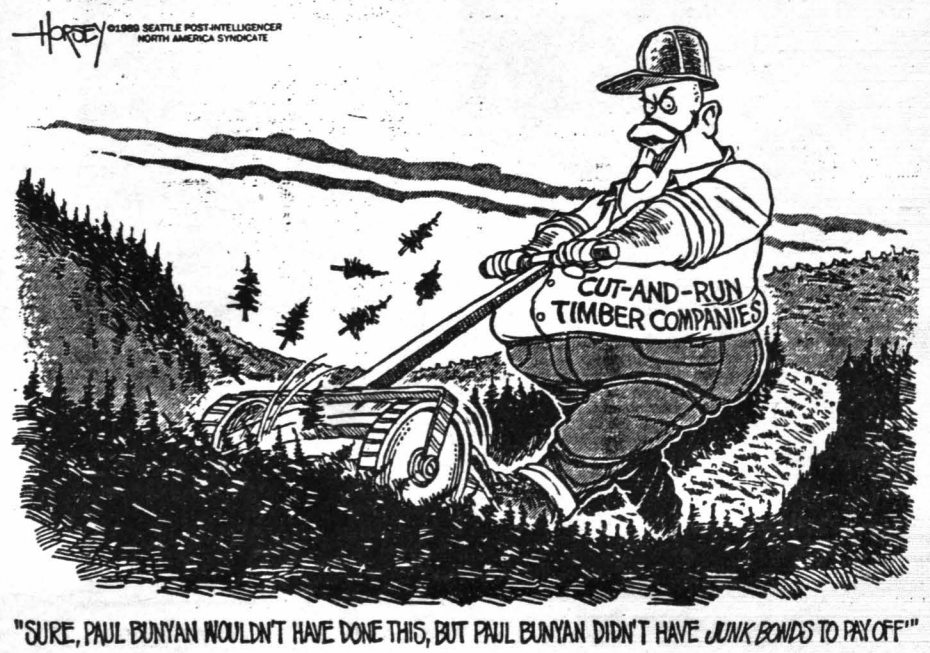
Elmer Sprunger: Big Fork Eagle (Big Fork, Montana)



©1989 SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER NORTH AMERICA SYNDICATE HOREY



Seattle Post-Intelligencer Seattle, WA) March 1, 1989



"SURE, PAUL BUNYAN WOULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS, BUT PAUL BUNYAN DIDN'T HAVE JUNK BONDS TO PAY OFF!"



# Log Exports: Economic & Environmental Folly

*One third of the timber cut in the Northwest is exported as whole or slabbed and squared logs. Another third is exported as chips or pulp. And at prices far below the true replacement cost to the taxpayer. The enormous tax subsidy to the economies of Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea must be stopped.*

Decisions made on Wall Street and in Tokyo are written on the denuded hillsides of the Northwest. Short term profit-taking clashes head-on with the long term commitment needed for sustainable forests and forest-dependent communities in America.

The forests of the Northwest are being overcut. Increasingly, unprocessed logs are shipped to more lucrative markets in Asia. Finished products are manufactured elsewhere. The states of the Northwest are colonies of Wall Street and Tokyo.

**Profound Quotes:**

*"They are making obscene profits by exporting our natural heritage. Their profits come first and our workers and communities second."* Representative Peter DeFazio, responding to companies that export private raw logs and then turn around and buy timber from our National Forests.

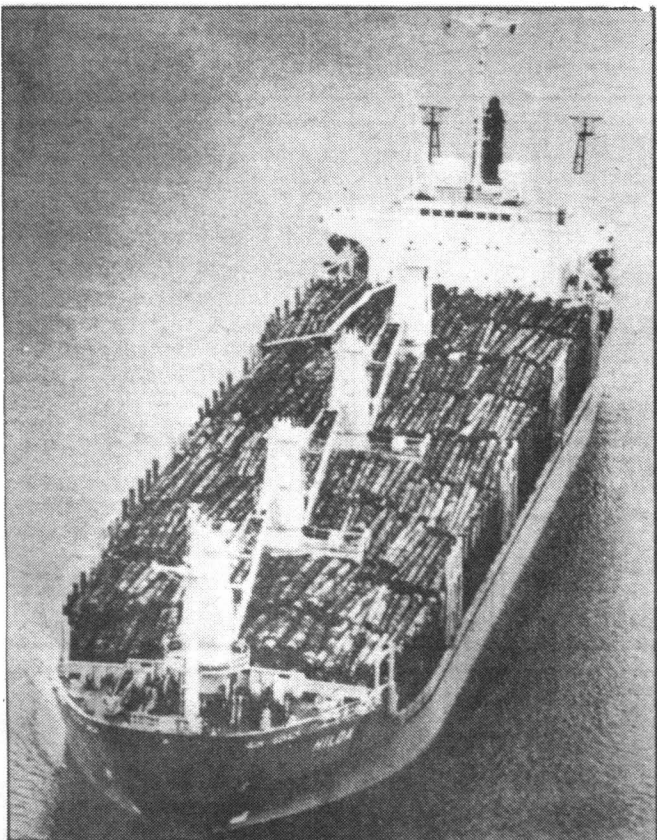
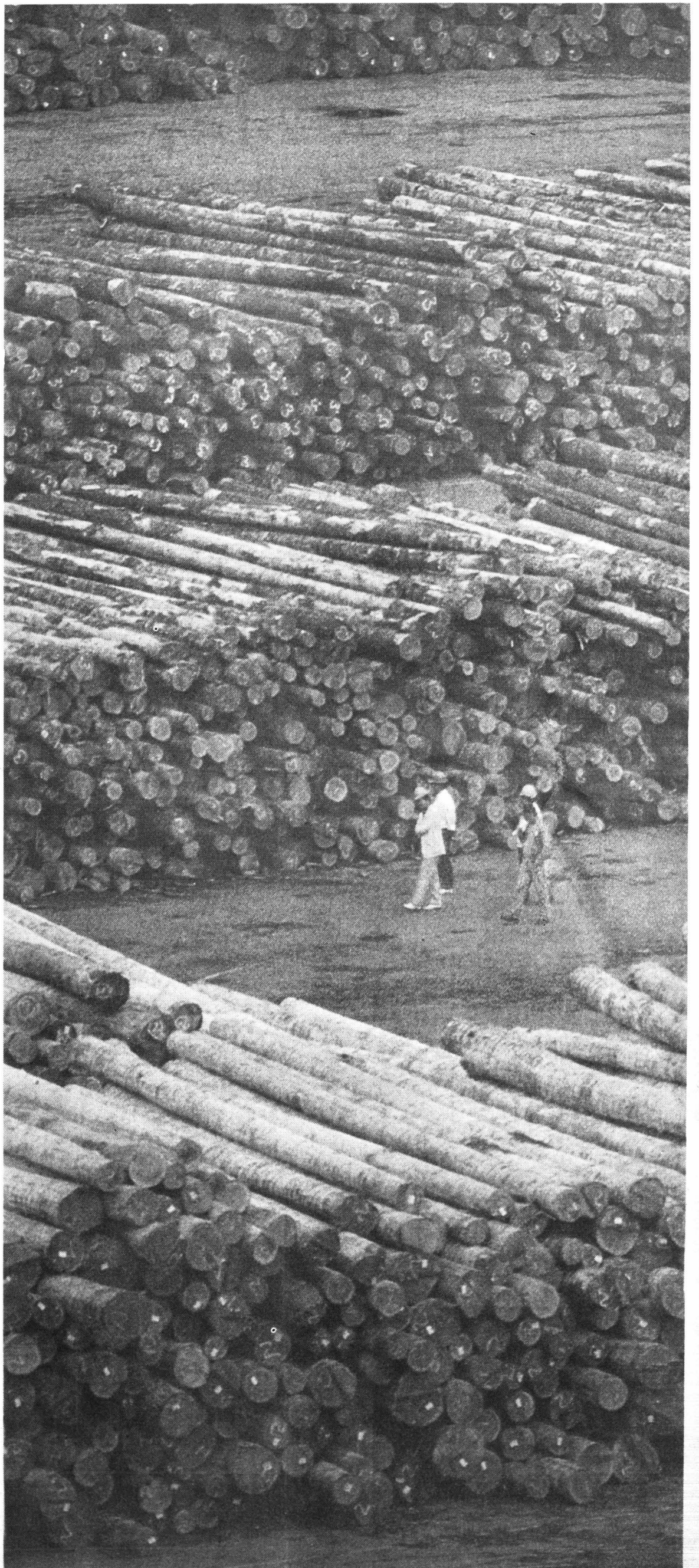
*"Statistics show that in the last ten years more than 30 billion board feet of raw logs - - have been exported from Oregon and Washington to foreign markets, primarily Japan. US District Judge William Dwyer in a March 15, 1989 decision to protect old-growth ancient forests in the National Forests in Western Washington and Oregon.*

*"There appears no way to satisfy the insatiable demand of foreign markets for our wood . . . log exporting should be stopped from all public lands - - no loopholes, no substitutions, no large cants, no slabs, and no chips. Perhaps there should be some limitations on milled lumber when there is insufficient volume to meet domestic needs. Log exporting should also be phased out from private lands, or at least heavily taxed . . . We do not have enough timber-growing capacity to supply all of Asia.*

*Marriner Orum, former forester, USFS*

*"Since 1980 the company has tripled its annual cut in the area to 110 million board feet, or about 5,000 acres per year. That's about four times the annual Forest Service cut in the region. . . . The trees were growing slowly and Burlington Northern needed money for investment. Also log exports to Asia were increasing, and half of the logs the railroad is cutting in Washington state are exported overseas."*

*Oregonian 10/16/88*



staff photos by Paul Carter

Weyerhaeuser's logs await export from their docks in Longview, Washington on the Columbia



PARDON ME  
THOU BLEEDING PIECE  
OF EARTH  
THAT I AM MEEK  
AND GENTLE WITH THESE  
BUTCHERS.

*Shakespeare*



Clear-Cut Logging, British Columbia 1985.

# What Has To Be Done?

*To save the last of the Nation's Native Forests  
citizens must appeal to Congress to:*

**1. STOP ROADING AND CUTTING**

*Declare an immediate moratorium on any further logging or road building on the remaining Ancient and Native National Forest and BLM lands.*

**2. STOP EXPORTING**

*Stop exporting raw-material wood products from our federal lands: logs, slabbed logs (merches), squared logs (cants), cull logs, Port Orford Cedar, chips, pulp and public-for-private substitutions.*

**3. ESTABLISH FOREST PRESERVES**

*Provide appropriate long-term protection for these special forest lands by additions to the Wilderness System and to the National Park System for those areas that clearly qualify, and establish a new system of Native Forest Preserves for the balance. Such preserves would permit only non-consumptive use and prohibit commercial timber harvest; areas the timber industry has stated they intend to gain access to and cut. Full recreational use would be permitted, such as camping, backpacking, hiking, boating, hunting, and fishing.*

**4. BEGIN REHABILITATION**

*Provide a program of Native Forest research, rehabilitation and restoration for those forest regions in the country where Native Forests have been lost. Such restoration would attempt long-term programs to re-establish the same diverse plant and animal communities that previously existed.*

# About the Native Forest Council

The Native Forest Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to uncompromising preservation and protection of the nation's last remnants of native, virgin forests. Founded by an initial group of business, academic and professional people with no vested interest in the forests except that of concerned private citizens, its membership now includes citizens from all walks of life.

We believe that a single-purpose organization dedicated and skilled in taking this issue directly to the American public, is now of critical importance. No other organization has yet made this their priority and focus.

We have undertaken a national campaign to preserve the nation's remaining native forests for the benefit of all Americans. We do so in conjunction with many other environmental organizations. Our cause has already been joined by many prominent citizens including David Brower, for many years Executive Director of the Sierra Club.

Among our programs are:

**Save Our Forests Campaign.** The Council provides leadership in a national petition to Congress calling for protection of native forests.

**Publications and The Media.** The Council funds print and broadcast advertising and television documentaries to bring the native forest crisis to the general public. It also publishes an informative newspaper, *Forest Voice*, for subscribers and a selected national readership.

**Committee of One Hundred.** The Council sponsors a group of nationally prominent citizens interested in native forest protection.

Virgin Forests 1620

Virgin Forests 1850

Virgin Forests 1989

## Why the NFC was formed

America's forests are priceless.

Yet in the time it takes to read this brochure, several acres of irreplaceable virgin forest will be clearcut. And there isn't much left, as shown at the left. Called ancient, native, virgin, primeval, or old growth, these are the original, untouched forests that existed when the first settlers arrived in North America. **And only five per cent is left.**

The national forests are on public lands. Every American is entrusted with the responsibility of preserving these forests for all time. However, under administrations committed to the commercial exploitation of all public natural resources, and with land management agencies headed by pro-timber industry appointees, the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have become major suppliers to the timber industry. The rate of destruction is difficult to imagine, but picture a line of log trucks 20,000 miles long. That's how much timber is taken out of our Northwest forests each year.

To make matters worse, our national forests are being liquidated at an enormous loss to taxpayers. **This practice must stop!**

**"Help mail a copy of this special edition to every home in America"**

Please make copies of this form and share with as many friends and supporters as possible.

Native Forest Council  
P.O. Box 2171  
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Phone (503) 688-2600  
FAX (503) 461-2156

**YES!** I want to help save the last of America's Ancient Forests. Here's how I can help:



**Stay Informed. Join the Native Forest Council and receive a free subscription to the Forest Voice!**

The *Forest Voice* is filled with stories of the effort to save the last of our ancient forests. Less than 5% of these once vast forests remain and they're being cut down at the rate of 185 acres per day. Trees that took 1000 years to grow are destroyed in ten minutes. Each year enough of these trees to fill a convoy of log trucks 20,000 miles long are taken from Northwest forests alone! The informative *Forest Voice* will keep you up-to-date on the latest news and unmask the lies and greed of the timber industry in their multi-million dollar effort to cut the remaining old growth trees. Join now and save the last of the ancient trees for our children.

**I want to join the cause. Sign me up!**

Please enroll me as a member of the Native Forest Council

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$5000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate 1000     | <input type="checkbox"/> Family 30         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron 500        | <input type="checkbox"/> Regular 25        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining 250    | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior 20         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting 100    | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Income 15 |

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 Enclosed is my check or money order payable to the Native Forest Council *Tax Deductible Status Pending*  
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 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
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