

January 31, 1992

For Immediate Release:

FOREST SERVICE NAMES ROUSSOPOULOS SOUTHEAST RESEARCH DIRECTOR

Asheville, NC -- Dr. Peter Roussopoulos, now assistant director at the North Central Forest Experiment Station, will become the director at the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson announced today. Roussopoulos will fill the position vacated by J. Lamar Beasley, who was named Deputy Chief for Administration last year.

A native of St. Paul, MN, where he also began his Forest Service career, Roussopoulos earned a B.S. and an M.S. in forestry from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. in forest ecology from Michigan State University. His early emphasis as a research scientist and project leader in several northern and western states and in the Washington Office Research staff was on forest fire management. In 1985, he became staff assistant to the Deputy Chief of Research, and in 1989 he returned to St. Paul to become assistant director of the North Central Station.

As director of the Southeastern Station, he will manage forestry research at laboratories in five southern coastal States--North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Virginia--with projects that concentrate on global change; forest inventory and health monitoring; fisheries, wildlife, and endangered species; forested wetlands; human values; silviculture and ecosystem responses; and watershed management.

In making the announcement, Chief F. Dale Robertson noted that Roussopoulos' wide breadth of experience make him exceptionally well qualified for the position, "Pete has a long and successful career in research, coupled with a firm understanding of the Forest Service as a whole and a real talent for bringing people together to accomplish the task at hand."

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USDA—FOREST SERVICE

NEWSPAPER CLIPPING SLIP

Name of paper

Where published

Date of issue

Sent by

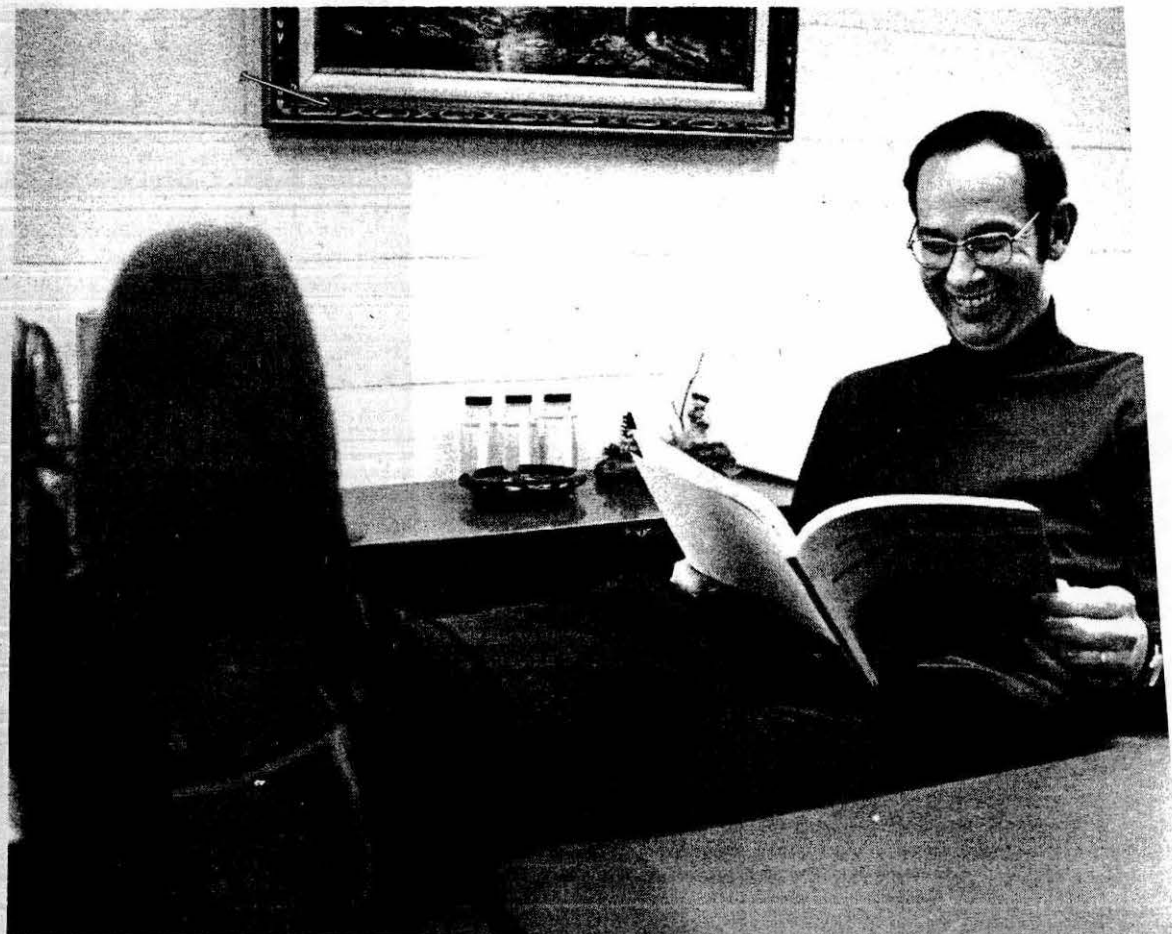
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FOREST SUPERVISOR

SIUSLAW N.F.

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Gazette-Times Photo By Johr

F. Dale Robertson's feet won't be on a Siuslaw National Forest desk much longer. Robertson has been promoted to supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest with headquarters in Portland.

Dale Robertson will have twice as much to supervise

By William Monroe
Of The Gazette-Times

F. Dale Robertson, supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest for the past two years, was too good to last very long, according to his staff.

He was just too young, they said, too well organized. "He's too damned competent," one staffer lamented. Robertson, 35, is on his way up again.

threatened to slump into tributaries — have been rehabilitated: the dirt pulled back and the areas replanted with grass.

—The Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area has been defused as a controversial showdown between dune buggy enthusiasts and environmentalists. The two groups have generally accepted a compromise denying the Dunes status as a wilderness area but reducing the amount of

Monday morning he will start a new job as supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest — Goodby Corvallis, Hello Portland.

The promotion will mean that Robertson will have a forest nearly twice as big to manage and one which encompasses most of the north Oregon Cascade Mountains from the North Santiam River drainage to the banks of the Columbia.

When Robertson took over the Siuslaw in late 1973, he was the youngest supervisor in the national forest system, a "comer," some said.

He came straight into a boiling controversy about a road on Marys Peak. In the past two years, things have happened to and on the Siuslaw which have brought it into the spotlight of both the national system and the environmental movement in Oregon.

The times in Corvallis have been mostly good for the native Arkansan.

In late 1973, there was trouble brewing in the Coast Range — trouble from state biologists who were concerned about logging road activity and the mud it was pouring into coastal tributaries; trouble from environmentalists concerned about over-cutting of timber on the forest and improper road building on Marys Peak; trouble about the use of the brand-new Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area and concern from industry about the new forest inventory and a possible reduction in the allowable timber cut on the Siuslaw.

While those storm clouds haven't disappeared from the Siuslaw's horizon, the weather has improved.

Here is what has happened in the two years that Robertson has held the Siuslaw's reins:

—Plans for the new Marys Peak Road, between government camp and the peak's summit, were revised, after objections from environmental groups, to incorporate new engineering techniques and preserve some old growth timber. The road has been built and generally accepted by former critics. Forest Service engineers have said that it is a better road because of the changes.

—In two of the three winters, the Coast Range has experienced severe storms which have sent runoff mud from roadsides and abandoned log landings into streams.

The problems of siltation led to the development of a new fish habitat management policy on the Siuslaw, which was extended to all forests in Region Six, which includes Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The new policy places prime importance on the quality of water standards of streams running through forest lands. In areas where water quality might be jeopardized on the Siuslaw, entire timber sales have been canceled until technology enables the logging industry to remove logs without building high-risk roads on steep hillsides.

—A complete soils inventory of the Siuslaw has been conducted through which the forest has been classified in terms of the ability of different areas to grow trees. The Siuslaw's first soil scientist was hired last January.

—A water quality monitoring program was started to keep track of turbidity and herbicidal pollution of coast streams. (Robertson said that herbicides have negligible effect on water quality).

—An emergency road maintenance program began during winter months. Regular patrols cruise Siuslaw roads during rainstorms, keeping culverts cleaned and ditches unplugged. Muddy runoff is reduced when water doesn't back up over roadbeds. The program was expanded to all of the nation's forests.

—The Siuslaw staff has adopted a policy declaring that some areas, primarily in the Mapleton area, are too steep for any logging activity.

—More than 50 abandoned logging landings — which

land available to dune buggy use by 40 per cent.

—A large backlog of pre-commercial tree thinning has been eradicated, increasing the growth potential of the forest by millions of board feet a year.

—Areas with large stands of alder are being converted to the growth of Douglas firs. Approximately 100,000 acres, or one-sixth of the forest, are involved.

The changes haven't been without controversy. Environmentalists have threatened lawsuits, industrialists have complained about not having enough timber to cut, state officials have criticized timberland management policies.

Most recently, Siuslaw engineers were criticized for allowing quarry work west of Alsea to continue into the winter without preparing the steep hillsides for the rain.

When much of the Wolf Creek watershed washed into the Alsea River, the forest service spent more than \$150,000 it hadn't budgeted for to clean the mess up.

Leo F. "Hank" Schneider, then supervisor of the regional Department of Fish and Wildlife Office, was vocal in his criticism of the situation.

But Robertson said that although newspaper stories have put him and Schneider at opposite ends of issues, they have enjoyed a close working relationship.

"We have actually had a good relationship, a professional one with a great deal of respect for each other," Robertson said.

Schneider had said the same thing earlier in January when Robertson joined more than 250 other people at his retirement banquet.

"The Wolf Creeks, the Marys Peaks, those things — every national forest has them," Robertson said. "You don't just manage a million acres of public lands where a lot of people have some interest in what's going on without getting into a little controversy."

Siuslaw forest most productive

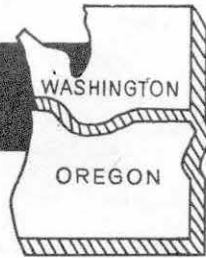
The Siuslaw National Forest is the nation's most productive forest in terms of growth of trees per acre. It is one of a dozen or so national forests which annually return more timber receipt money to federal coffers than it takes to administrate the forest — \$40 million in 1975 receipts for an operating budget of \$14 million. Other "paying" forests are most of those here in the northwest and some in the deep south.

The allowable timber cut on the Siuslaw has been 357 million board feet a year; it will change later this summer (Robertson declined to predict the change) when a new 10-year figure is determined.

The Mt. Hood forest has similar economic status in the national forest system — an allowable cut of 330 million board feet annually; a budget of \$14-\$15 million, and an income of approximately \$40 million.

The major differences between the two are the Mt. Hood's greater size — one million acres to the Siuslaw's 623,000 — and more people who use the north Cascades for recreation; fishing, hunting and camping near its streams, skiing and sightseeing on Mt. Hood and hiking and backpacking in large wilderness areas. The impacts of management decisions on the Mt. Hood National Forest are going to be more immediately visible, more controversial.

Robertson, F. Dale



Forest Service News

Pacific Northwest Region



P.O. BOX 3623 PORTLAND, OREGON 97208 • (503) 221-2971 (Area Code 503)

News Contacts: Merle Pugh, Evelyn Brown

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

M-2
1-23-76

Robertson Named Supervisor of Mt. Hood National Forest

F. Dale Robertson, Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest, Corvallis, will succeed Wright T. Mallery as Supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest, Portland.

Robertson's promotion was announced by Regional Forester Theodore A. Schlapfer, U.S. Forest Service, who said no successor has been selected for the Siuslaw Forest post.

Robertson served one year as deputy to Supervisor Mallery, who recently retired, before being named Supervisor of the Siuslaw Forest in October 1973.

Robertson, 35, first worked on the Deschutes National Forest, 1961-62. He later had two tours of duty in Washington, D.C., and served as an assistant ranger in Texas and as district ranger in Arkansas. He is a 1961 graduate in forestry from Arkansas A&M and received a master's degree in public administration from American University in Washington, D.C., 1970.

Robertson's new assignment is effective February 29.



Distribution: 06, 12, 18.

Robertson, F. Dale



Forest Service News

Pacific Northwest Region



P.O. BOX 3623 PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

503/221-2971

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

J-48
10-9-73

Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor Named

F. Dale Robertson has been named supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest succeeding S.T. (Tenny) Moore, who recently was chosen to head the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Vancouver, Washington.

Effective date of Robertson's transfer will be October 14, according to Regional Forester Theodore A. Schlapfer, U.S. Forest Service.

The new supervisor has been deputy forest supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest since August 1972. He began his Forest Service career on the Deschutes National Forest, Bend, June 1961 to August 1962. He served as a management analyst in Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C., the following two years, then served as an assistant ranger on the Sabine National Forest in Texas and as district ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas, August 1966 to June 1968. He then served in the Washington, D.C., office of the Forest Service until returning to Oregon.

Robertson, 33, is a 1961 graduate in forestry from Arkansas A & M and received a masters degree in public administration from American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970.

He and his wife Mary Jane have a daughter and a son.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

U.S. Forest Service
P.O. Box 3623
Portland 8, Oregon

TO : Information & Education

File No. 6130

FROM : Personnel Management

Date: Sept. 1973

SUBJECT: Written Information

Your reference:

Information on Personnel Change

Name: F. Dale Robertson

Military Service: None

Native State: Arkansas

College Attended: Arkansas A&M - BSF Degree and Major and year:

Marital Status: American University (Washington D.C.) Masters in Public Adm. 1970

Married ☒ Single ☐

Family:

Work History: (MONTH + YEAR) -

Wife - Mary Jane

Daughter - Donna Lynn (13)

Son - James Douglas (9)

June 1961 - Aug 1962 - Forester on Band RD
Deschutes NF

Aug 1962 - Aug 1964 - Management Analyst, W.O.

Aug 1964 - Aug 1966 - Asst Ranger, Sabine NF, Texas

Aug 1966 - June 1968 - Ranger, Choctaw RD, Ouachita NF ~~Arkansas~~

June 1968 - Aug 1972 - Management Analyst, W.O.

Aug 1972 - Present - Deputy Supervisor, Mt Hood NF

New Assignment: Forest Supervisor, Siuclaw National Forest,

Effective date, if known: Oct. 14, 1973.

Remarks:

Date of birth:

7/17/1940

Release Date:

R6-6130-37

F. Dale Robertson

ER- (12)
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
Region 6
P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

REPLY TO: 6130 Status Changes

August 17, 1973

SUBJECT: Forest Supervisor Positions - Gifford Pinchot and Siuslaw



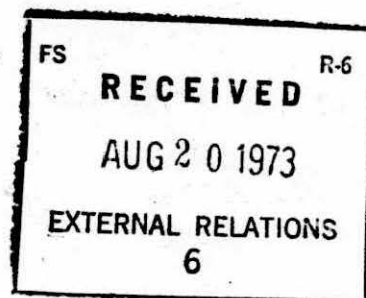
TO: Forest Supervisors and Division Chiefs

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Spencer T. Moore has been named Forest Supervisor, Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Dale Robertson, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Mt. Hood, will replace Tenny as Forest Supervisor on the Siuslaw National Forest.

These actions are contingent upon Departmental approval and this information is for In-Service use only.

Neil B. Opsal
NEIL B. OPSAL
Regional Personnel Officer



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

F. DALE ROBERTSON
Chief

Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

F. Dale Robertson became Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture on February 2, 1987, at the age of 46.

Robertson is a native of Arkansas. He joined the Forest Service in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. His early assignments included positions as an assistant district ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as District Ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968-1972 he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C. in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson was named Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon. He became Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest, also in Oregon, in 1973, and returned to the Mt. Hood as Supervisor in 1976.

In 1980, he was named Assistant to the Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in Washington, D.C. He became Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in 1981. On June 27, 1982, he was named Associate Chief, and was serving in that position when he was named Chief.

February 2, 1987

1987

Robertson, F. Dale

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19--F. Dale Robertson has been appointed chief of the Forest Service, succeeding R. Max Peterson, who will retire Feb. 2 following a 37-year career with the agency, Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng announced today.

George M. Leonard will replace Robertson as associate chief. He formerly served as associate deputy chief for the National Forests System.

Robertson will be the 12th chief since the Forest Service was established in 1905. He began his career 26 years ago after graduating from the University of Arkansas with a forestry degree. He later earned a graduate degree in public administration at American University.

Lyng said Peterson, who has headed the agency for more than seven years, has agreed to undertake special projects for the Forest Service as its first Chief Emeritus. "Anyone who has worked with Max knows what a superb job he has done of balancing the economic, recreational and environmental demands of our national forests," Lyng said. "I am, therefore, extremely pleased that he will be available to me and to the Forest Service when we need him."

"Dale Robertson is the ideal individual to carry on the highly professional, complex and important role of the Forest Service," Lyng said. "Nobody knows the issues facing the agency better than he does, and nobody is better qualified to be chief."

Robertson's experience includes numerous assignments in the South, the Pacific Northwest and in Washington, D.C. He was named associate chief in 1980 after eight years as forest supervisor of the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon.

In making the announcements, Lyng noted that the Forest Service manages forests and grasslands representing some 8 percent of the land in the U.S., has a research team of 800 scientists, and cooperates with the States to encourage good forestry practices on private land. "Dale Robertson and George Leonard are outstanding career employees with broad experience and proven managerial ability. So I'm gratified to have them at the helm to carry on the high standards and great traditions of the Forest Service in natural resource conservation and service to the public," Lyng said.

Peterson, in an address earlier today to a group of Forest Service supervisors, said "I am most pleased with the Secretary's decision to continue the career professional leadership of the Forest Service and for his selection of Dale Robertson as the new chief. Under his leadership and with your continued help, the Forest Service will continue to be the best outfit in government."

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February 2, 1987

BIO OF DALE ROBERTSON

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February 2, 1987

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robertson, F. Dale

File

F. Dale Robertson

Associate Chief

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Robertson is a native of Arkansas. He joined the Forest Service in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. His early assignments included positions as an Assistant District Ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as District Ranger on the National Forest in Oklahoma.

KATHIE
DURBIN

From 1968, at Forest Service headquarters, a master's degree in public administration, University in Washington, DC, in 1970.

THE OREGONIAN
227-5306
(FAX)

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Robertson is a member of the Society of American Foresters, The American Forestry Association, and the American Society of Public Administration. He and his wife Mary Jane live in Alexandria, Virginia.

NEWS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of
Governmental
and Public Affairs

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ROBERTSON NAMED FOREST SERVICE ASSOCIATE CHIEF

WASHINGTON, June 8--F. Dale Robertson today was named associate chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the number two spot in the agency.

Robertson, a career Forest Service employee, succeeds Douglas R. Leisz, who is retiring at the end of June.

Appointment of Robertson was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

As associate chief, Robertson will assist Chief R. Max Peterson in administering Forest Service programs, with responsibility for the day-to-day activities and operations of the agency. Prior to today's action, he was an associate deputy chief with the agency.

Robertson's career with the Forest Service includes a broad range of assignments. He joined the agency in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

His early assignments were in the South, including positions as an assistant district ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as district ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968 to 1972, he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson moved to the Pacific Northwest Region, where he served as forest supervisor for more than 6 years on the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon. He returned to Washington, D.C. as assistant to the

deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1980 and was named to his current position as associate deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1981.

Block said Robertson's recent experience in Forest Service field assignments would be a valuable asset in administering the programs of the decentralized agency.

Doug Leisz is retiring after a 32-year career with the Forest Service, during which he rose from a nursery assistant in California to the top ranks of the agency.

Leisz received his forestry degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1950. After his nursery assistant job on the Shasta National Forest, he served in various staff assistant and district ranger assignments on national forests in California.

He was supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest 1962-67. In 1967, he moved to the Pacific Northwest Region in Portland, Ore., as assistant regional forester.

In 1969, Leisz came to Forest Service national headquarters in Washington, D.C., to administer the agency's manpower and youth conservation programs.

Leisz returned to the California Region as regional forester in 1970. While in that position, he served as federal representative to the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. He returned to Washington, D.C., as deputy chief for administration and was named associate chief of the agency in 1979.

In 1980, Leisz received a Presidential rank award of "Distinguished Executive" for demonstrating outstanding leadership, motivation and ingenuity through many years of service as a career federal manager.



NEWS RELEASE

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
P.O. Box 2417
Washington, D.C. 20013

O'Connor (202) 447-4211

August 7, 1981

ROBERTSON NAMED ASSOCIATE DEPUTY CHIEF FOR PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION:

F. Dale Robertson has been named Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation (P&L) for the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.

Chief R. Max Peterson said today that Robertson, who has served as assistant to the P&L Deputy Chief since 1980, will move to the Associate Deputy Chief spot held previously by J. Lamar Beasley. Beasley is now Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation.

In his new position, Robertson will assist Beasley in administering the Forest Service's legislative, budget, renewable resources planning, environmental coordination and policy analysis programs.

Robertson received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello in 1961 and a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970. His first job with the Forest Service was in 1961 as a forester on the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon. His career has included assignments on national forests in Texas, Oklahoma, and Oregon, and as a management analyst in Washington, D.C. He served as Forest Supervisor on two National Forests in Oregon, the Siuslaw (1973-1976) and the Mt. Hood (1976-1980), before returning to Washington, D.C. as staff assistant.

Robertson is a member of the Society of American Foresters, American Forestry Association, and American Society for Public Administration. His new assignment is effective August 9.

NEWS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Robertson, F. Dale
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In 1972, Robertson moved to the Pacific Northwest Region in 1972 where he served as Forest Supervisor for over 6 years on the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon. He returned to Washington, D.C. as assistant to the deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1980 and was named to his current position as associate deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1981.

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Eagle Image

The Winter 1991 Newsletter of the Times Mirror Magazines Conservation Council / Vol. 1 No. 2



PARTNERS FOR THE FUTURE

Signing the NOAA-TMM Agreement are (clockwise from the right): TMM's Executive Vice President Patricia Campbell, TMM's CEO Francis P. Pandolfi, Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher, and Under Secretary Dr. John Knauss.



PHOTOGRAPH BY VALERIE GLEASON-BRIGGS

On November 13, Times Mirror Magazines and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration signed a partnership agreement at a ceremony in the National Aquarium in Washington, D.C. Signing for NOAA were Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher and Under Secretary Dr. John Knauss. Times Mirror Magazines was represented by Executive Vice-President Patricia Campbell and President and CEO Francis P. Pandolfi.

The partnership agreement recognizes that the solution to major environmental problems requires the combined scientific expertise of NOAA and the communicative powers of Times Mirror Magazines. The TMM Washington office will work regularly with NOAA on issues such as global environmental change, marine pollution and the degradation of marine fisheries.

"Almost all of our magazines are connected to the environmental factors researched and managed by NOAA," said Campbell. "The signing of this agreement is a further step in the harnessing of the power of our 30 million readers through our Conservation Council to influence environmental issues."

"With NOAA's scientific expertise, and our ability to reach the public, we believe this partnership will result in very real accomplishments in the conservation of natural resources," continued Campbell.

The partnership sprung into action quickly with National Weather Service Director Joe Friday joining *Ski Magazine* at the annual industry meeting in Colorado to discuss global warming and its implications for the ski industry. Shortly thereafter, all the NOAA agency heads came to TMM's New York offices to learn how magazines are published. ♣

In This Issue

- *Times Mirror Using Ecologically Safe Inks*
- *Profile: Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson*
- *Red Rock Canyon Bill Passes*
- *Second Meeting for Striped Bass Coalition*
- *Back Country Byway Kiosks*



FOREST SERVICE CHIEF DALE ROBERTSON

A career forester who joined the Forest Service in 1961, Dale Robertson has been the agency's chief since 1987. During that four years, he has presided over issues confronting the agency that run the gamut of public land concerns, timber harvests, grazing permits, preservation of wilderness areas, improvement of watersheds, and protection of air and scenic quality.

Robertson strongly believes in a philosophy of sustainable multiple use as the guiding principle for management of the National Forests. As Chief, Robertson helps assure that the agency's budget reflects this philosophy, and has had before inflation increases of 150% in wildlife and fish programs and 75% in recreation programs.

Building a truly diverse agency workforce has been a top priority for Robertson. He has spurred employment and promotion of women, minorities, and the physically challenged with a goal of a workforce that reflects the communities where employees work and live.

In 1989, Robertson launched the New Perspectives program, aimed at strengthening the ecological and social basis for forest management. The intent is to increase collaboration between agency researchers and managers with more meaningful participation of local interest groups and individuals. TMM can consider itself part of this new program, having signed a partnership agreement with the Forest Service in May, 1990.

Robertson won an important victory for recreationalists in 1989



PHOTOGRAPH BY KARL PERRY

when the Supreme Court upheld a Forest Service decision on the proposed Early Winters Alpine Ski Resort on a National Forest in Washington State. That case affirmed the agency's approach to planning recreational development and limited the threat of appeal of those decisions.

Chief Robertson is optimistic about the future of the Forest Service and the National Forests. Of the current level of public and congressional concern about public land management he says: "They're fighting over us because they care!! I'd be more concerned if people did not care." ❁

STRIPED BASS COALITION HAS SECOND MEETING

On November 1, the Times Mirror Magazines Conservation Council (TMMCC) with the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association convened the Striped Bass Conservation Coalition for its second meeting. The Coalition is comprised of various national, state and local conservation organizations interested in striped bass conservation. Attending the meeting were organizations from eight East Coast states.

One of the primary topics of discussion was the very low 1990 spawn in the Chesapeake Bay. The magnitude of the spawn is considered one indicator of the long-term health of the fishery. The Coalition agreed that the decision to reopen the East Coast striped bass fisheries in 1990, based on controversial measures of a high spawn in 1989, was premature. Given the poor spawn in 1990, the Coalition concluded that there is a strong case to seek federal legislation to prohibit the sale of striped bass to assure the conservation of the species. Such a prohibition, however, must be coupled with enforceable restrictions on sport fishermen who also can damage the resource.

Following the Coalition meeting, and expressing the sentiment of the group, the TMMCC wrote to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) regarding their upcoming deliberations for the 1991 fisheries: "TMM believes a very conservative approach is warranted for the 1991 fish-

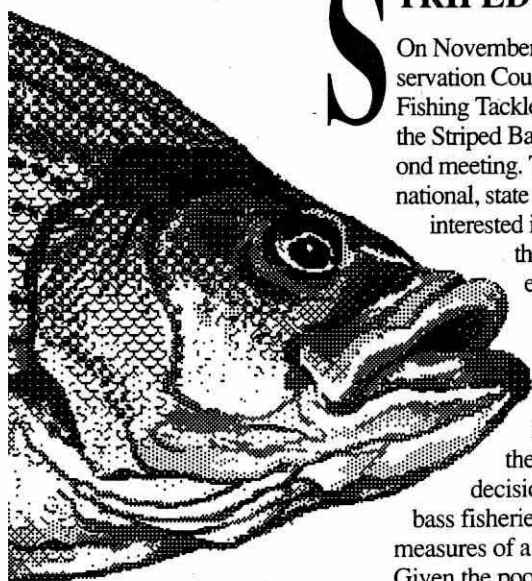
eries. We believe that the data are insufficient to allow for a significant level of fishing effort without potentially jeopardizing any gains achieved by the public sacrifice from the extremely restricted fisheries from 1985 to 1989.

"Each month, 30 million people read our magazines. Forty percent of these people live on the East Coast. Based on responses to reader surveys and the letters that we receive, our readers who are concerned about striped bass believe a conservative approach is necessary. The ASMFC must take account of the public's desire for a conservative approach to striped bass management when considering the magnitude of the 1991 fisheries."

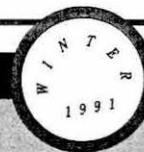
The Striped Bass Coalition will meet again in the early spring of 1991 following the introduction of legislation in the 102nd Congress to conserve striped bass. Additional state legislation has already been introduced in Maryland, and the Coalition model legislation is available to additional state level efforts, and will serve as a guide for federal legislation.

In recent striped bass news, New Jersey has passed a prohibition on the sale of striped bass. In Maryland, 30,000 signatures have been collected in support of no sale of wild striped bass. While the Governor is supportive of this proposal, the Maryland initiative remains handicapped by a handful of Eastern shore legislators who are not acting in the best interest of the resource or the gillnetters who would benefit financially from the proposed buyout. ❁

ILLUSTRATION BY PAMELA POWERS



Reader Mailbox



LETTERS

The Times Mirror Magazines Conservation Council continues to receive a steady flow of letters from our readers in response to the first Council editorial in July 1990. In addition, readers of the October editorial on wetlands and the January 1991 Conservation Agenda for the Outdoors are flooding our mailbox.

A significant number of the letters come from soldiers stationed overseas and particularly in Saudi Arabia. One of the most recent letters came from Private Carl Dean Clark stationed in Fulda, West Germany who

included an article he wrote hoping that readers would recognize the importance of natural resource conservation. An excerpt from Private Clark's article reads:

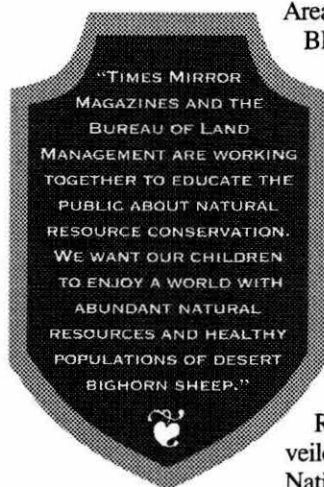
"Anyone and everyone can help restore our declining natural environment by learning more about the land he or she lives on. This will cause people to appreciate nature more and in return create a willfulness to help in the process of replenishing the earth."

Private Clark's statements reflect much of what the TMM Conservation Council is about. We believe that the conservation of natural resources occurs best when there is a strong constituency for natural resources. This constituency develops through active involvement in the outdoors that provides learning opportunities.

Given the high interest level of our readers and the valuable input they provide, we intend to publish an update of their letters in each of these newsletters. ♣

RED ROCK CANYON BILL PASSES

A bill the TMMCC worked on in the 101st Congress was the designation of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area located outside of Las Vegas on BLM lands. The bill passed in the waning hours of this last Congress and was signed into law on November 16 by President Bush. The Red Rock area provides excellent habitat for the Desert Bighorn Sheep and fantastic outdoor recreation opportunities including a scenic byway for watchable wildlife. The TMM Conservation Council is creating a display about the Desert Bighorn Sheep for the 500,000 annual tourists to Red Rock, the design of which will be unveiled at the April 21 dedication of this National Conservation Area. ♣



BACK COUNTRY BYWAY KIOSKS

The Back Country Byways are a response to the recommendation by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors that roads with special recreational, scenic and historic features be identified, protected and enhanced. The Commission found that driving for pleasure and sightseeing is one of America's favorite leisure activities.

With over 270 million acres, Bureau of Land Management lands can provide many of the opportunities needed to address the Commission's recommendation. Kiosks will be constructed throughout the country to provide attractive, low-cost information centers on Back Country Byways on BLM lands. The goal is to have 2,000 kiosks erected by the year 2000.

The American Recreation Coalition (ARC) along with American Izuzu Motors and the Farmers Insurance Group of Companies developed the kiosk program. The design of the kiosk was selected from a national competition. ♣

TMM USING SOYBEAN INKS

Times Mirror Magazines began their office paper recycling program in the summer of 1990. Since then, efforts have been made to further TMM's corporate policy of conservation.

Will Lampe (Senior Purchasing Manager/Creative Services) has been seeking environmentally sound solutions to the problems he faces in buying TMM's promotional printing. He has encouraged the use of recycled paper for brochures, letters, and the like, and has recently introduced the use of vegetable-based inks.

Traditional printers' inks use a petroleum-oil base, which emits toxic compounds into the air, contributes to the depletion of the ozone layer, and increases dependency on foreign oil. For many

years, printers of food packaging have used soybean oil-based inks to comply with regulations regarding products which come into contact with food. Recently, this technology was improved to the point where soybean-based inks could be used to produce high quality four color printing.

Soybean oil is used to create inks that have several advantages: the level of toxic substances given off during printing is substantially reduced, the clean-up is faster and easier, and the use of vegetable-based inks helps support American agriculture and reduces our dependence on foreign oil. Although use of vegetable-based inks is still in the testing phase, the 1991 **Field & Stream** Rate Card and Media Kit folder were printed entirely with soybean inks. Lampe is looking forward to full implementation for all promotional pieces if further testing shows similar results. ♣



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

There's a guy who has been my best friend since we were twelve. Through high school, college, wives and kids our friendship has held on.

When we were young, we fished incessantly. In memory, it seems that every day after school and most weekends we were out flogging the waters with our rods and reels. We would camp out overnight so that we would be right there when the first rays of light lit the banks of the streams and rivers around our hometown in Central Jersey.

As we reached adulthood and moved to different towns, we began to drift apart in our appreciation of the outdoors. He became an avid backpacker, while I became an avid hunter. His prized acquisitions were sleeping bags and tents that would be comfortable in single digit temperatures, while my purchases were shotguns and a bird dog.

When we got together for visits, invariably the discussion would turn to whose way to enjoy the outdoors was best. My friend would accuse me of having joined the group of people who litter the outdoors with beer cans, carelessly leave animals to die of poorly placed shots, and who make the woods unsafe for anyone who was not covered from head to toe in blaze orange.

I, in turn, would tell my friend that his blanket characterization of hunters was by someone who had become a yuppie elitist. Furthermore, I accused,

backpackers left as much litter in the woods as anyone else, and were busy making National Parks of every piece of woods in America. This was intended to exclude anyone who did not enjoy trudging through the woods with 70 pounds on their back with their noses up in the air. As the coup de grace, I would argue that long ago cavemen learned to come out of the weather, and I failed to see the reason to put on a backpack and set evolution back millions of years.

This past Thanksgiving, my friend and I again began our never ending discussion of whether hunters or backpackers are the better conservationists. My 5 year-old looked up and asked: "What's a conservationist?" As we each tried to answer her, we started talking about the environmental movement of the 1990's and the opportunity this country has to use this public groundswell to make real improvements in the world in which we live. The

more we talked, the more we came back to that shared love of the outdoors that we had experienced while growing up. Maybe we hadn't drifted as far apart as we thought. Maybe, we were so busy trying to prove which of our pursuits was better, that we had missed how much backpackers and hunters have in common.

These days, everyone's a conservationist. But we spend our time fighting every other use of the outdoors while trying to protect our own. In the end, we all lose. The trout fishermen fight the bass fishermen while both are oblivious to the fact that the lake is being drained. The bow-hunters fight the gun-hunters while the animal rights activists make hunting illegal. The wildlife enthusiasts fight the ski area developers while clean air and water slowly become memories. Sailboaters try to restrict motor boaters and vice-versa failing to realize we're all in the same boat.

Before the kids recaptured our attention that day, we had found a great deal of common ground. We agreed that no user of the outdoors can ignore attending to the ethical aspects of their activity. In an ever more crowded world, compromise and consideration of others become paramount and necessary. We all have to clean up our acts.

We came to the conclusion that preservation (or locking away the outdoors) is not the answer. Instead, the conservation, or wise use of natural resources must be the guiding philosophy. The most powerful mechanism to protect the outdoors we enjoy is to have a constituency for natural resources. People become constituents by having access to, and the use of, the environment. If that use is eliminated, with it goes a constituency for natural resources. As a consequence, no one is there to stand up for the resources when the environment is threatened. If preservationists are successful, the long-run effect will be the loss of the resource rather than its protection.

But the biggest lesson we learned was that there must be a banding together of outdoor enthusiasts to make the environmental decade a success. Skiers, golfers, backpackers, hunters, fishermen, bikers and everyone who enjoys the outdoors, need to work collectively to plan and manage for our kids. We must turn our attention away from debating the best use of the outdoors, and instead channel our collective energies toward making the 1990's the environmental decade we all hope it will be. ♣

—Dr. David Rockland

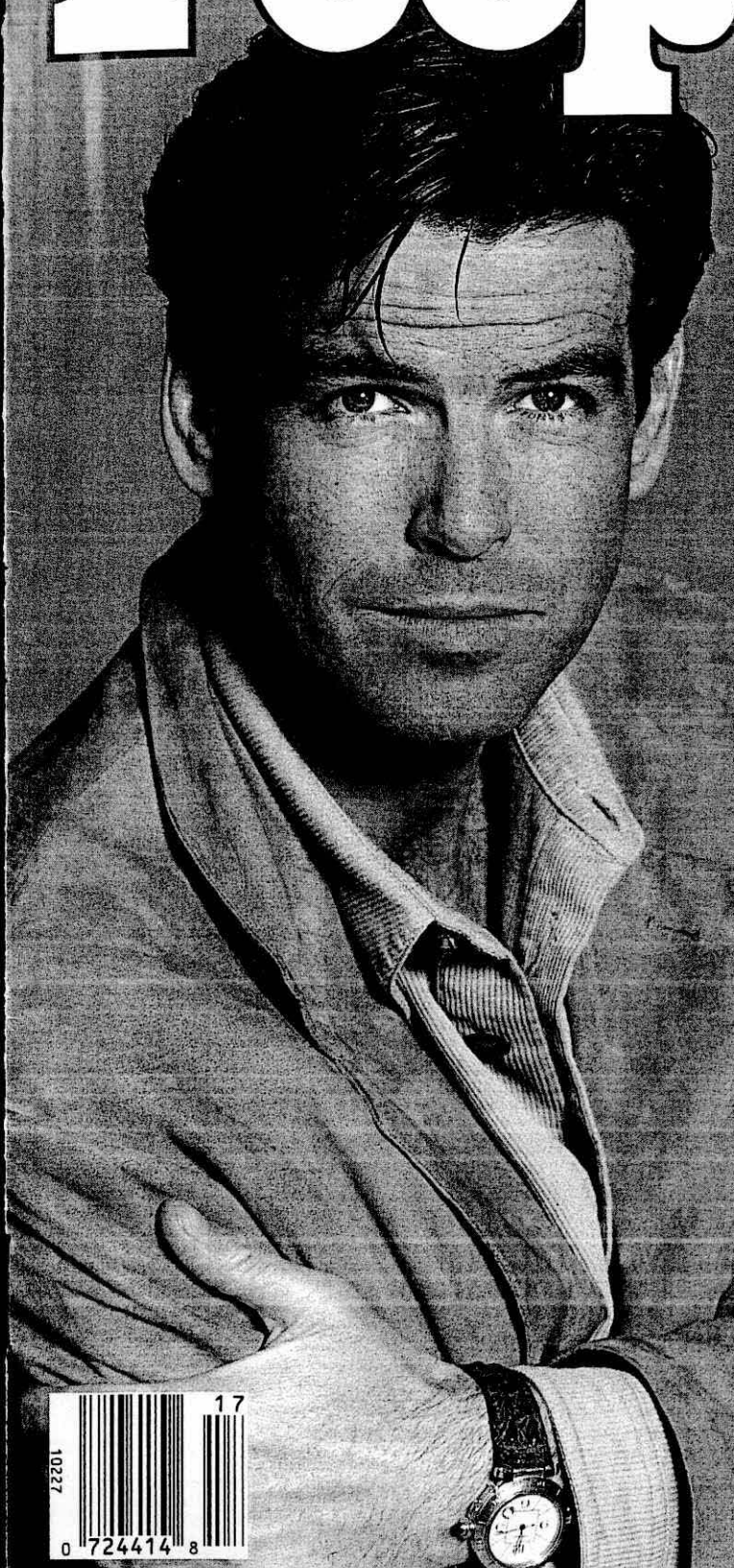
"We agreed that no user of the outdoors can ignore attending to the ethical aspects of their activity. In an ever more crowded world, compromise and consideration of others become paramount and necessary. We all have to clean up our acts."

LINDA LAVIN: A rough divorce and *Room for Two*

APRIL 27, 1992 \$1.99

People

weekly



PIERCE BROSNAN THE WIFE HE LOVED AND LOST



Brosnan with
Cassandra
Harris in 1987

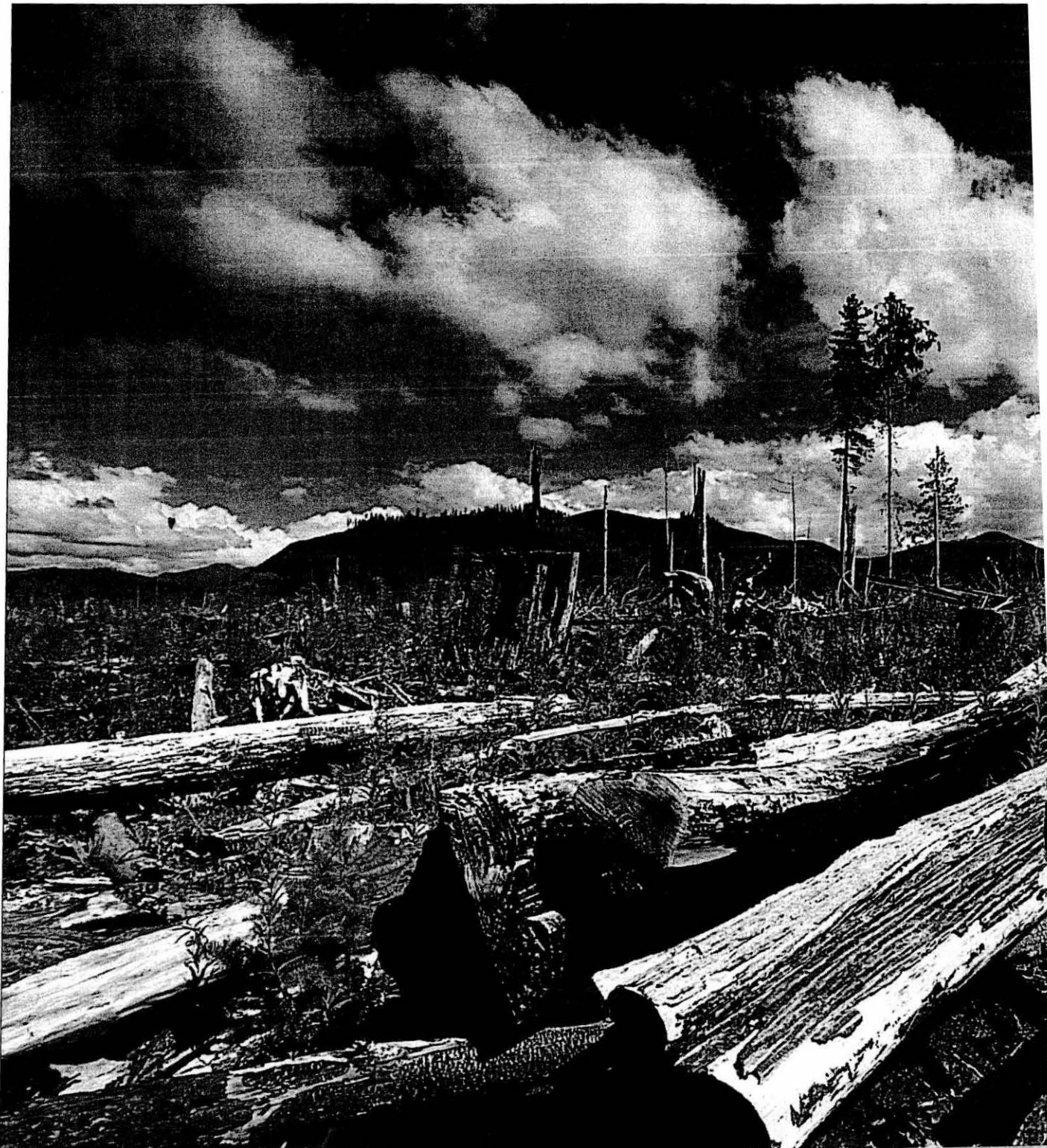
Four months after Cassie's death from ovarian cancer, the actor talks movingly about his grief and her courage. "She made me the man I am," he says. "I was blessed."



ENEMIES OF THE EARTH

How to provoke an environmentalist: Mention one of these names ■ by Susan Reed

This Wednesday, April 22, is Earth Day, a time for contemplating the state of the planet. As part of a week-long celebration, bikers will tour Olympic Boulevard in Los Angeles, hikers will walk the wetlands of Eden



to provoke an environmentalist: one of these Susan Reed is Earth and the week-

Minn., and urbanites will at a fair in New York City. For most Americans, of course, Earth Day will be just another day—marked perhaps by resolutions to car-pool more often or use fewer Styro-foam cups. But for some organizations—committed, as they see it, to the defense of an embattled world—it will be time for assessing the damages and assigning the responsibility for them. PEOPLE asked dozens of environmental groups, including the Wil-

derness Society, Greenpeace and Defenders of Wildlife, to name the person or persons they consider most deserving of living next to a toxic dump. The nominees varied, but among the most frequently mentioned were the following eight.

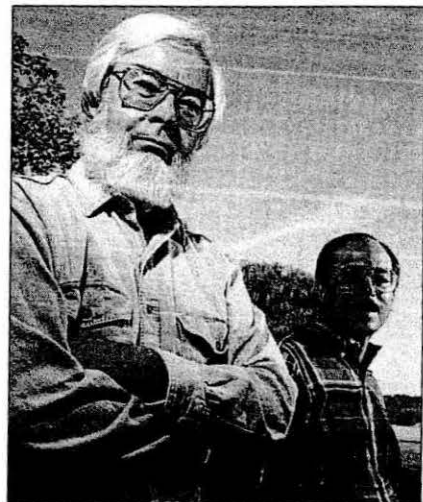
Counterattack: Exploiting public lands for private profit

There's not much you can teach Ron Arnold and Alan Gottlieb about environmental activism. They've stud-

ied the topics—everything from the Northern spotted owl to global warming—and they've mastered the tactics, from raising funds to filing lawsuits. But Arnold and Gottlieb are activists with a difference: They are point men in a mad-as-hell movement called Wise Use. Join one of their rallies and you might hear the chant, "Hey, hey, EPA, how many jobs did you kill today?"

Arnold, 54, a former Sierra Club member, and Gottlieb, 44, a pro-gun

► Ron Arnold (left) and Alan Gottlieb paired up in 1984 to crusade for commercial exploitation of public lands. Arnold called environmentalism "anti-human" and some environmentalists "nature fascists."



REX USA/STAFF

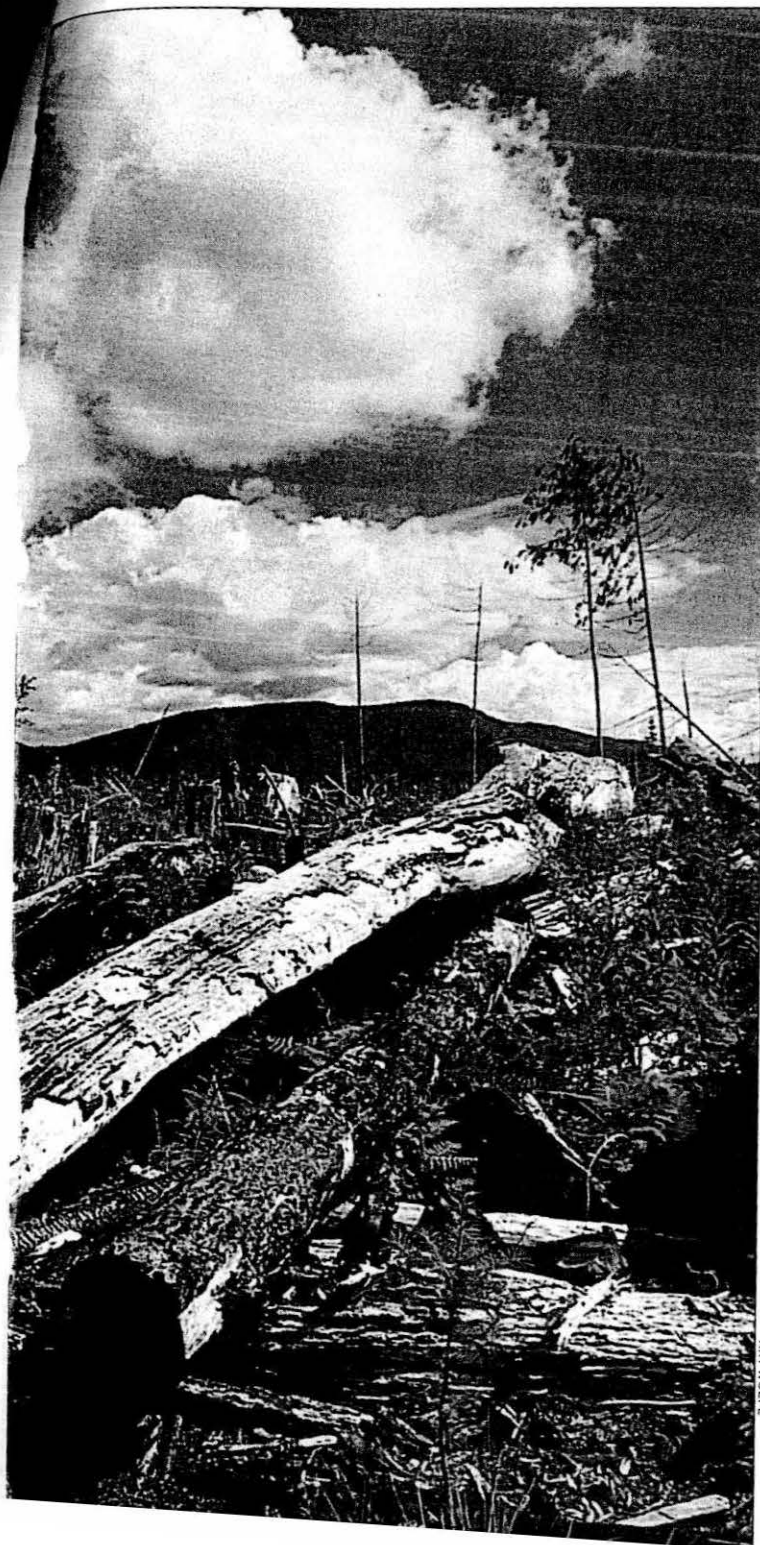
► Despite record levels of timber cutting, U.S. Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson says his policies "protect the environmental and economic health of the nation."



DELLZABETH FERNY, 1992

◀ The results of clear-cutting in Washington's Olympic National Forest: "If the public knew what was happening, they'd be stunned," says ex-Forest Service employee Jeff DeBonis.

activist who used to raise money for conservative causes, run the Bellevue, Wash.-based Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise. The center is a 125,000-member organization whose goal, says Arnold, is "to destroy the environmental movement by offering a better alternative." Arnold and Gottlieb helped put together a 25-point Wise Use agenda, the goals of which include harvesting of ancient forests, opening national parks to mining and energy production and softening the Wilderness and Endangered Species



ART WOLFE

Acts. The movement is getting results: It helped block an increase in grazing fees on federal lands and got \$30 million of federal gas-tax money allotted to build trails for off-road motorized vehicles and other recreational uses. "They pose as plain folks," says Jim Pissot of the National Audubon Society, "but they're bankrolled by industries trying to shake off environmental regulations."

Arnold, who denies being a captive of special interests, relishes the battle. "This is a war zone," he tells his crusaders. "Either put on your armor or get the hell out of the way."

Timber! A bureaucrat's deep cuts into the nation's forests

Environmentalists think of U.S. Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson, 52, as the Paul Bunyan of bureaucrats. Since assuming his post in 1987, Robertson has presided over the heaviest logging of America's 156 national forests in the agency's 86-year history—more than 12 billion board feet per year, or triple the volume of 40 years ago. In 1989 old-growth forests in the Northwest fell at the rate of three to four square miles each week. Moreover, the government sells the timber to private companies at a huge loss, with the explanation that it is supporting local economies. Critics allege that, besides issues of trees and money, Forest Service overcutting is creating erosion, loss of wildlife habitat and the silting of streams.

Robertson, who joined the Forest Service fresh out of the University of Arkansas in 1961, defends current practices as sound. "Timber harvesting is carefully planned and adjusted when necessary to provide the greatest degree of environmental protection." Andy Kerr, conservation director of the Oregon Natural Resources Council, disagrees. Robertson "has gone from being the principal protector of the forests to their principal destroyer," he says.

A World Banker's stunning proposal for a toxic waste dump

Lawrence Summers, Washington, D.C.-based chief economist for the World Bank, wrote a memo and teed off the entire Third World. "I think the economic logic behind dumping a load of toxic waste in the lowest-

wage country is impeccable, and we should face up to that," suggested Summers, 37, in a memorandum addressed to his staff last December and quickly leaked to *The Economist*. Summers went on to argue that if a pollutant were going to cause prostate cancer, a disease of older men, it would make sense to place it

in a low-income country. They can't get through the healthiest parts of the Amazon, which is a vast reservation, and the River Valley project. 32 large dams will displace thousands of poor people. "A totally shocked by the men-



BUNYAN/ILLUSTRATION BY SARA



RICHARD HOWARD

Comments by World Bank chief economist Lawrence Summers revived criticism of bank projects that wreak environmental destruction, like deforestation in Rondonia, Brazil (left).

in countries where people weren't likely to live long enough to get it.

Though Summers issued an apologetic statement in January, maintaining that his comments were "highly ironic" and meant to "sharpen analysis," the memo, in fact, has become a lightning rod. Many environmentalists believe the World Bank, whose mission is to promote Third World development, has financed too many projects that reflect an eco-

Josh Karliner of Greenpeace, which called for Summers's resignation.

"Then I thought, 'Of course he would write that.' The World Bank has been acting this out for decades. We just got an inside look at their thinking for a change."

Nay: A Congressman's response to environmental initiatives

Although the dinosaurs that once roamed the sweeping plains of east-



ART WOLFE



JAMES R. CONNER

According to the League of Conservation Voters, Rep. Ron Marlenee of Montana (with wife Cynthia) has one of the most antienvironment voting records in the House. Opposing protection of the endangered gray wolf (left), he promised state Republicans in 1989, "No more wolves, wilderness or welfare."

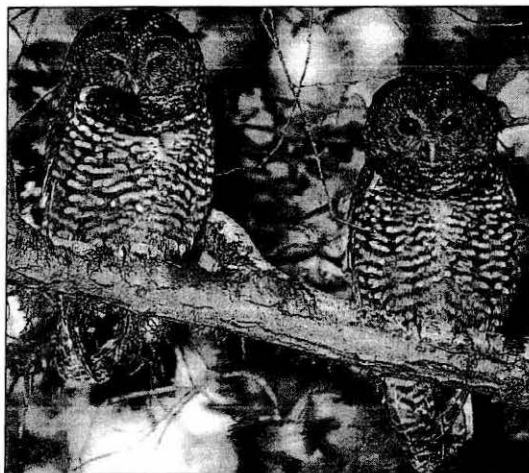


NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE



WYATT COUNTS/OUTLINE

Under Robert L. Bartley, *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial page argues for fishermen and loggers, often at the expense of dolphins and spotted owls.



KEVIN SCHAFER/TOM STACK & ASSOC

ern Montana disappeared about 60 million years ago, environmentalists swear that one prehistoric relic survives: Rep. Ron Marlenee. The eight-term Republican is "among the most antiwildlife, antiwilderness persons in Congress," according to Wayne Pacelle, national director of the Fund for Animals. "His ethics are trapped in the 17th century: 'If you can't shoot it, mine

it or log it, then bulldoze it.' "

Marlenee, 56, a former wheat farmer and auctioneer from Scobey, Mont., delights in taunting environmentalists, whom he calls "fern feelers" and "prairie fairies." The Endangered Species Act, he tells audiences, is a plot to stifle economic growth.

His record matches his rhetoric. The ranking Republican member on

the National Parks and Public Lands Subcommittee, Marlenee offered an amendment—backed by the National Rifle Association—to allow hunting in the proposed 1.5 million acre Mojave National Park. Last year he voted against nearly every environmental measure introduced in Congress, including the Administration-sponsored Clean Air Act, earning him a zero rating from the League of Conservation Voters. Such legislation, Marlenee argues, is "economically bankrupting communities throughout Montana." And he welcomes criticism from environmentalists, which he maintains will only help his re-election bid for Montana's one House seat this fall: "It's the greatest campaign assistance I've had."

Poison pen: Editorialist for an endangered species—profits

Corporate profits excepted, the color green seems to make Robert L. Bartley, editorial-page editor of *The Wall Street Journal*, see red. Or at least red ink. Name an environmental is-

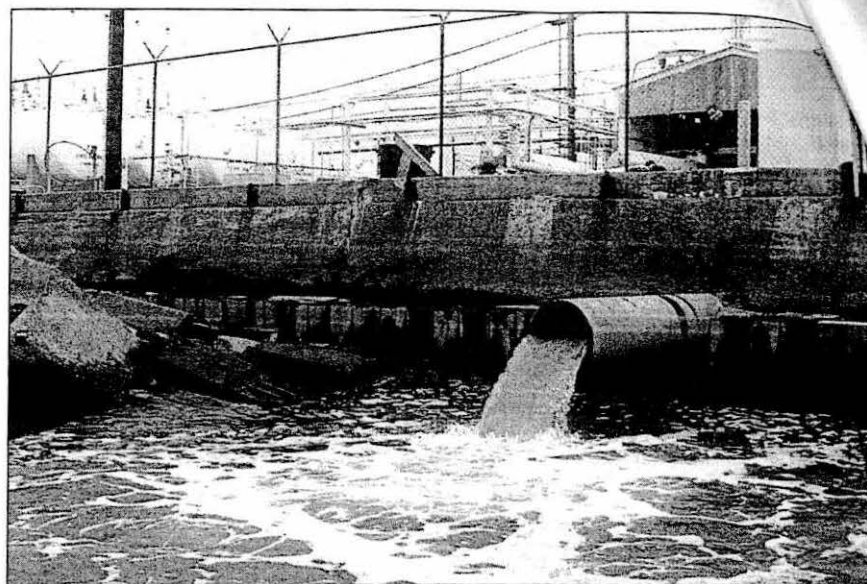
sue, and Bartley, 54, and his editorial skeet shooters will bring it down to the bottom line. The California Clean Air Act? Boom! It "will add 16 cents to a gallon of gas." The Endangered Species Act? Blam! It would "sacrifice tens of thousands of loggers for an owl." Open space? Wetlands? More national forests? Pow! "Costly initiative schemes cooked up at Greenie campfires." In the last year editorials have questioned the "roast of global warming" and scoffed at "scant evidence" of a new ozone hole.

Bartley, who was raised in Ames, Iowa, and attended Iowa State University, joined the *Journal* in 1962. When he was appointed editorial-page editor at the relatively tender age of 33, executive editor Fred Taylor described him as "the world's youngest old fogey." It is not unusual, says a former staffer, for *Journal* reporters to "grumble, complain, roll their eyes and gnash their teeth" about the paper's environmental stances.

America's corporate record holder—for toxic pollutants

Edgar S. Woolard Jr., CEO of America's biggest chemical company, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., likes to say that his title stands for "chief environmental officer." Last year, in fact, Du Pont made a bid for a White House environmental award. But his campaign failed to mention his company's chief ecological distinction: According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Du Pont is America's largest corporate polluter. In 1989, the last year for which figures are available, the company discharged 349 million pounds—6.1 percent of the nation's total toxic waste—into air, water, land and underground wells. "Du Pont bears an enormous responsibility [to reduce emissions]," says Ed Rothschild of Citizens Fund. "What Du Pont does, others will follow."

The total output does not include ozone-destroying chlorofluorocarbons—chemicals used in air conditioning, refrigeration and polyurethane foam—of which Du Pont is the nation's largest producer. Dr. Bruce Karrh, the company's vice president for safety, health and the environment, says that Du Pont is phasing



ROBERT VESSEN/GREENPEACE

out CFCs "as soon as possible." Any delays, he says, are attributable to governmental concern for "disruptions in commerce, medical care and the food supply."

Friends of the Earth, a Washington-based environmental group, sees it differently. Du Pont "orchestrated a campaign to forestall [CFC] regulation," it says.



© JONATHAN LEVINE 1992

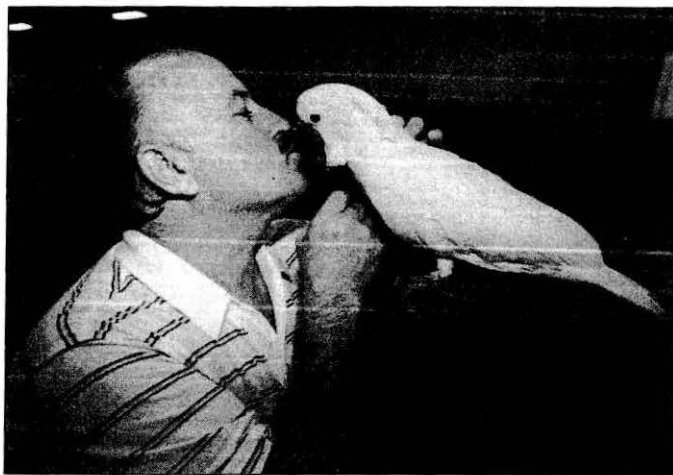
Latest figures make Du Pont's Edgar S. Woolard CEO of America's biggest corporate polluter. Above: A plant pumps effluent into the Delaware River.

Fowl play: The lucrative business in exotic birds from the tropics

It may simply be a matter of perspective. Environmentalists charge that bird importers are ravaging the world's stocks of exotic species. A.A. "Buzz" Pare, whose Miami-based company brought in nearly 20,000 avians during the first six months of 1991 for resale to pet shops, sees his role differently. "We find homes [for the birds]," Pare told *The Washington Post* last year. He

went on to argue that because tropical rain forests were doomed anyway, he was "actually salvaging birds."

Largely as a result of the bird trade, Brazil's hyacinth macaw (which can fetch \$15,000 retail) and the palm cockatoo (up to \$20,000) are nearly extinct in the wild. Disappearing species aren't the only problem: According to Kristin Sarri of Defenders of Wildlife, some 16 percent of all U.S.-bound birds, jammed by the dozens into small wooden



TOM SALYER

◀ **Wild-bird traders like A.A. "Buzz" Pare (with an endangered Moluccan cockatoo) imported 7 million birds during the '80s. As many as half die during capture.**

NEWS

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ROBERTSON NAMED FOREST SERVICE ASSOCIATE CHIEF

WASHINGTON, June 8--F. Dale Robertson today was named associate chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the number two spot in the agency.

Robertson, a career Forest Service employee, succeeds Douglas R. Leisz, who is retiring at the end of June.

Appointment of Robertson was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

As associate chief, Robertson will assist Chief R. Max Peterson in administering Forest Service programs, with responsibility for the day-to-day activities and operations of the agency. Prior to today's action, he was an associate deputy chief with the agency.

Robertson's career with the Forest Service includes a broad range of assignments. He joined the agency in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

His early assignments were in the South, including positions as an assistant district ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as district ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968 to 1972, he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson moved to the Pacific Northwest Region, where he served as forest supervisor for more than 6 years on the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon. He returned to Washington, D.C. as assistant to the

deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1980 and was named to his current position as associate deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1981.

Block said Robertson's recent experience in Forest Service field assignments would be a valuable asset in administering the programs of the decentralized agency.

Doug Leisz is retiring after a 32-year career with the Forest Service, during which he rose from a nursery assistant in California to the top ranks of the agency.

Leisz received his forestry degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1950. After his nursery assistant job on the Shasta National Forest, he served in various staff assistant and district ranger assignments on national forests in California.

He was supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest 1962-67. In 1967, he moved to the Pacific Northwest Region in Portland, Ore., as assistant regional forester.

In 1969, Leisz came to Forest Service national headquarters in Washington, D.C., to administer the agency's manpower and youth conservation programs.

Leisz returned to the California Region as regional forester in 1970. While in that position, he served as federal representative to the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. He returned to Washington, D.C., as deputy chief for administration and was named associate chief of the agency in 1979.

In 1980, Leisz received a Presidential rank award of "Distinguished Executive" for demonstrating outstanding leadership, motivation and ingenuity through many years of service as a career federal manager.

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Ottawa
National
Forest

Ontonagon Ranger District
1209 Rockland Road
Ontonagon, Michigan 49953
(906) 884-2411

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Reply to: 1200

Date: October 26, 1993

The Honorable Michael Espy
Secretary of Agriculture
14th Street & Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

A concern has arisen among many of us career professionals in the Forest Service over your apparent desire to make the Chief of the Forest Service a political appointee. I ask that you reconsider.

I am a District Ranger, that is a line officer at the level in the Forest Service where the field work is actually done. I have worked for the Forest Service for slightly over 18 years and prior to that I spent 6 years in the Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. I also spent 6 months as a temporary with the Bureau of Land Management. Prior to my government civilian employment, I was an officer in the U.S. Navy for 4 years. I have seen a great deal of the world, both good and bad. I have worked with a great number of people, both good and bad. However, I have never worked with people more dedicated to responsible land management than I have been privileged to do with the U.S. Forest Service.

I would ask that you solicit input from those of us on the ground level that have been making this agency work so well. Talk to the foresters, technicians, biologists, engineers, archaeologists, landscape architects, and the many others and see how they feel about our role in land stewardship. And, look at our accomplishments! There may be voices clamoring throughout our land for change in the agency, but many of those are simply malcontents or those who have special causes to promote.

Let me just add that I take my land stewardship responsibilities seriously. I actively solicit public input, expert staff guidance, and move forward with a decision only after carefully weighing all the information. I feel I am accountable to the American people and to myself. I have no remorse for the land management decisions I have made in my career. I feel that like most of my colleagues in the U.S. Forest Service, I have done the job that I was asked to do, using scientific forest management principles coupled with common sense.

So with all due respect Mr. Secretary, please give serious consideration to this momentous decision you are about to make. The Forest Service is a proud "we can do" agency and we only ask that you allow us to continue to operate as responsible land managers, independent of the shackles of political guidance, with its myriad of changes.

Very respectfully,

M.C. HALL
District Ranger

Puget Sound News Summary

Supervisors object to proposal for political forest chief

Sixty-nine national forest supervisors from 29 states and Puerto Rico are among the officials who have told the White House that it would be a mistake to break the nearly century old tradition of naming career professionals as Forest Service chief. The same concern has been voiced by a retired Forest Service chief and Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus who was secretary of interior under President Carter. The forest supervisors sent a letter to President Clinton saying that naming a political appointee "would set a precedent for all future administrations, making it possible for the then currently correct special interest groups to control the national forests." Andrus said the administration is courting political problems in the west by fiddling with the post. Earlier this month Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy told the Senate Agriculture Committee that he plans to replace the current Forest Service chief, Dale Robertson. Environmental groups have lobbied openly for his replacement. Sources in Congress and environmental organizations have told the Associated Press that the administration plans to replace Robertson with Jack Ward Thomas, but critics were concerned because he is a biologist rather than a forester and because he is not a member of the government's senior executive service. (AP, Everett Herald)

Espy reopens probe of aircraft deal

Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy has reopened a probe of the Forest Service's part in a series of deals that resulted in five private companies getting \$67 million worth of airplanes for almost nothing. A department spokesman said Espy's action resulted in part from an assertion by Gary Eitel of Silverdale, Wash. that the Forest Service was simply continuing a long standing arrangement with the CIA. He claimed military surplus plans sold as forest fire tankers ended up in CIA hands. The investigation will be handled by the Office of Inspector General. That office has already criticized the Forest Service in a 1992 report which said the agency traded mothballed but valuable C-130 transport planes for practically worthless aircraft. (AP, Seattle PI, Journal American)

Environmentalists criticize meadow restoration plan

The Oregon Natural Resources Council says a Siskiyou National Forest plan to restore a meadow is a ruse because it involves logging 2 million board feet of timber. The proposal is to cut 75 acres of trees in one of President Clinton's proposed forest reserves where logging would be prohibited. It would restore a meadow that since 1940 has filled in with trees. Joe Niesen, timber management assistant for the Siskiyou's Chetco Ranger District acknowledged that timber would be removed but said "The idea is to enlarge the meadow." He said the plan was based on 1942 aerial photographs that show a large meadow but Mark Hubbard, a spokesman for the Oregon Natural Resources Council, said, "The Forest Service is attempting to sidestep President Clinton's proposed forest plan in order to clearcut huge tracts of forest in a proposed reserve." (AP, Everett Herald, Seattle Times)

Attempt to end grazing-fee filibuster fails

An attempt to end a Senate Filibuster by foes of a proposed grazing fee increase failed in a 53-41 vote. (Journal American)

October 15, 1993
10742 Marlborough Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

Assistant Secretary James Lyons
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Room 217 E, Main Administration Building
Washington D.C. 20250

Dear Jim:

The purpose of this letter is to document the discussions I have had with you and others concerning plans for replacing the Chief of the Forest Service. For reasons that are not clear to me, my position has been either distorted or stated incorrectly. I feel sure you understood my position which I stated to you by phone and in person at Grey Towers.

First let me make it abundantly clear that I have not sought a role in determining whether there should be a change in Chiefs and if so who the replacement should be. I also understand that the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act gives authority to the Secretary of a Department the authority to reassign any member of the Senior Executive Service after due notice and that such authority includes the Chief of the Forest Service. That same act established competitive requirements for entry of people as career members of the Senior Executive Service. During my career as Chief of the Forest Service I considered it a solemn duty to insure that such competitive requirements were met and that every person who desired to do so should have an ample and fair opportunity to be considered. Any idea of manipulating the process is repugnant to me and against everything I stand for.

I first learned of apparent plans to make a change in the Chief of Forest Service on September 5 when I called home after a week hunting in an isolated area in Alaska. A retired Forest Service employee in Oregon had called about articles in Oregon papers which quoted various sources as saying the Chief would be replaced by Jack Ward Thomas. I took no action as the result of that call.

My concern was triggered when I learned from several sources more than a week later of an apparent plan to change the Chief's job to a noncareer (political) appointment in order to circumvent the competitive requirements and reach Jack Ward Thomas who had never previously applied for or qualified as a career Senior Executive. To say I was shocked and disappointed that you would support such a process is an understatement. I immediately called you to state my concern but in what has been a familiar pattern recently you were not available and did not return my call. I then called Mark Gaede and outlined my concern and asked him to relay my concern to you. When you called me later I outlined my concern and suggested there were a number of options available to you for filling the position which would not lead to politicizing the job with the long run adverse consequences that will certainly occur. I repeated those concerns and went over options with you in person at Grey Towers, Pennsylvania on Saturday September 25 so there would be no misunderstanding between us. I also said I would appreciate your letting me know what you decided to do because I would much rather work with you than against you. I did reiterate my

opposition to making the job a political appointment because of my concern that you were unwisely trying to meet what you consider an immediate problem by a course of action that in my judgment would have long term adverse consequences. If I have learned anything in more than 45 years of work in natural resources it is to vigorously oppose such unwise tradeoffs.

For reasons that are unclear to me you have not bothered to advise me of your decision but instead you have complained to a number of people including officers of this Association about my opposition to your efforts. I am deeply disappointed that you would adopt such tactics which do not enhance your standing in anyone's eyes.

For the record let me reiterate that you have at least these options for filling the job without the long term adverse consequences of making it a political position:

1. Advertise the job competitively and equitably consider ALL applicants including Jack Ward Thomas as well as numerous other people including women and minorities who are qualified and entitled to equitable consideration. I understand that the preferred advertising time is 90 days so it could take 120 days to fill the job. If it is considered urgent to do so you have at least 80 career people to choose from in designating an acting Chief.

2. Advertise the position under expedited procedures which I understand can be as short as 21 days which means the position could be filled in 5 to 8 weeks. All interested and qualified applicants can and should be considered. Again an acting can be designated if considered necessary.

Let me close by assuring you that I do not relish the idea of opposing the action you apparently are still pursuing. I have been a long time supporter of yours and in fact personally advocated that our Association support you for the Assistant Secretary position you now occupy. I fervently hope your legacy is not a political Chief of the Forest Service which causes long term politicization as has happened to agencies such as BLM. Both of us have seen what that can do to the fine people in BLM who want to practice long term professional stewardship of resources.

Whatever happens I assure you that I will be as vigorous in supporting you when I think you are right as I have been in opposing you when I think you are wrong!

Sincerely

/s/

R. Max Peterson

Robertson, Dale



Chiefs salary 74,500
Robertson's 72,500

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Age - 59 George
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of America's free-flowing rivers.

American Rivers President Kent Olson presented the award to Robertson in recognition of his leadership in planning for the protection of many rivers in the 156 National Forests. In November 1988, on the 20th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, Robertson set a goal for the Forest Service to study and recommend 200 rivers for inclusion in the system by 1993. The agency has recommended 83 rivers for designation and is currently studying 79 more.

In accepting the award, Robertson said he was glad to see Forest Service people get credit for the excellent conservation job they were doing which tends to get lost in all the controversy over management of the National Forests. "I am very proud to accept this award on behalf of the people in field offices. Those are the people who are getting the job done," he said.

Robertson also thanked American Rivers for its continuing support of the program. "Designation of these rivers as wild and scenic is only the first step," he said. "Then, they must be protected and managed for their unique qualities. With help from partners such as Kent Olson and American Rivers, we can get the job done and maintain these areas for all Americans to enjoy."

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

F. Dale Robertson, Chief
USDA-Forest Service

F. Dale Robertson became Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, on February 2, 1987.

Robertson is a native of Arkansas and attended the University of Arkansas where he majored in forestry. After graduation, Robertson joined the Forest Service in 1961, and has had several field assignments in the South where he was District Ranger and in the Pacific Northwest where he was Forest Supervisor of the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon.

Robertson has had three different tours of duty in Washington, D.C. While in Washington, he attended The American University and received a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1970.

Robertson was named Associate Chief in 1982 and moved up to the Chief's job in 1987.

In 1988, Mr. Robertson was given the Distinguished Service award by President Reagan.

January 13, 1989



NEWS RELEASE

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
P.O. Box 2417
Washington, D.C. 20013

O'Connor (202) 447-4211

August 7, 1981

ROBERTSON NAMED ASSOCIATE DEPUTY CHIEF FOR PROGRAMS AND LEGISLATION:

F. Dale Robertson has been named Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation (P&L) for the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.

Chief R. Max Peterson said today that Robertson, who has served as assistant to the P&L Deputy Chief since 1980, will move to the Associate Deputy Chief spot held previously by J. Lamar Beasley. Beasley is now Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation.

In his new position, Robertson will assist Beasley in administering the Forest Service's legislative, budget, renewable resources planning, environmental coordination and policy analysis programs.

Robertson received a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello in 1961 and a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970. His first job with the Forest Service was in 1961 as a forester on the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon. His career has included assignments on national forests in Texas, Oklahoma, and Oregon, and as a management analyst in Washington, D.C. He served as Forest Supervisor on two National Forests in Oregon, the Siuslaw (1973-1976) and the Mt. Hood (1976-1980), before returning to Washington, D.C. as staff assistant.

Robertson is a member of the Society of American Foresters, American Forestry Association, and American Society for Public Administration. His new assignment is effective August 9.

NEWS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of
Governmental
and Public Affairs

Robertson, F. Dale

USDA News Center
Room 404-A
Washington, D.C. 20250

O'Connor (202) 447-4211
Napier (202) 447-4026

ROBERTSON NAMED FOREST SERVICE ASSOCIATE CHIEF

WASHINGTON, June 8--F. Dale Robertson today was named associate chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, the number two spot in the agency.

Robertson, a career Forest Service employee, succeeds Douglas R. Leisz, who is retiring at the end of June.

Appointment of Robertson was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

As associate chief, Robertson will assist Chief R. Max Peterson in administering Forest Service programs, with responsibility for the day-to-day activities and operations of the agency. Prior to today's action, he was an associate deputy chief with the agency.

Robertson's career with the Forest Service includes a broad range of assignments. He joined the agency in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

His early assignments were in the South, including positions as an assistant district ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as district ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968 to 1972, he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C., in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson moved to the Pacific Northwest Region, where he served as forest supervisor for more than 6 years on the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon. He returned to Washington, D.C. as assistant to the

deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1980 and was named to his current position as associate deputy chief for programs and legislation in 1981.

Block said Robertson's recent experience in Forest Service field assignments would be a valuable asset in administering the programs of the decentralized agency.

Doug Leisz is retiring after a 32-year career with the Forest Service, during which he rose from a nursery assistant in California to the top ranks of the agency.

Leisz received his forestry degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1950. After his nursery assistant job on the Shasta National Forest, he served in various staff assistant and district ranger assignments on national forests in California.

He was supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest 1962-67. In 1967, he moved to the Pacific Northwest Region in Portland, Ore., as assistant regional forester.

In 1969, Leisz came to Forest Service national headquarters in Washington, D.C., to administer the agency's manpower and youth conservation programs.

Leisz returned to the California Region as regional forester in 1970. While in that position, he served as federal representative to the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. He returned to Washington, D.C., as deputy chief for administration and was named associate chief of the agency in 1979.

In 1980, Leisz received a Presidential rank award of "Distinguished Executive" for demonstrating outstanding leadership, motivation and ingenuity through many years of service as a career federal manager.

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Ed VanderMillen (202) 447-3760
John McClung (202) 447-8005

FOREST SERVICE CHIEF TO RETIRE; REPLACEMENT NAMED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20--F. Dale Robertson has been appointed chief of the Forest Service, succeeding R. Max Peterson, who will retire Feb. 2 following a 37-year career with the agency, Secretary of Agriculture Richard E. Lyng announced today.

George M. Leonard will replace Robertson as associate chief. He formerly served as associate deputy chief for the National Forests System.

Robertson will be the 12th chief since the Forest Service was established in 1905. He began his career 26 years ago after graduating from the University of Arkansas with a forestry degree. He later earned a graduate degree in public administration at American University.

Lyng said Peterson, who has headed the agency for more than seven years, has agreed to undertake special projects for the Forest Service as its first Chief Emeritus. "Anyone who has worked with Max knows what a superb job he has done of balancing the economic, recreational and environmental demands of our national forests," Lyng said. "I am, therefore, extremely pleased that he will be available to me and to the Forest Service when we need him.

"Dale Robertson is the ideal individual to carry on the highly professional, complex and important role of the Forest Service," Lyng said. "Nobody knows the issues facing the agency better than he does, and nobody is better qualified to be chief."

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69-87

Robertson's experience includes numerous assignments in the South, the Pacific Northwest and in Washington, D.C. He was named associate chief in 1982 after eight years as forest supervisor of the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon.

In making the announcements, Lyng noted that the Forest Service manages forests and grasslands representing some 8 percent of the land in the United States, has a research team of 800 scientists, and cooperates with the states to encourage good forestry practices on private land. "Dale Robertson and George Leonard are outstanding career employees with broad experience and proven managerial ability. So I'm gratified to have them at the helm to carry on the high standards and great traditions of the Forest Service in natural resource conservation and service to the public," Lyng said.

Peterson, in an address earlier today to a group of Forest Service supervisors, said "I am most pleased with the Secretary's decision to continue the career professional leadership of the Forest Service and for his selection of Dale Robertson as the new chief. Under his leadership and with your continued help, the Forest Service will continue to be the best outfit in government."

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When named assoc. dep. chief
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Dales/George's ages

Peterson quote
less logging in 80's than 70's
less road building now than
before he became chief.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

F. Dale Robertson

Associate Chief

Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

F. Dale Robertson became Associate Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture on June 27, 1982.

Robertson is a native of Arkansas. He joined the Forest Service in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. His early assignments included positions as an assistant district ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as District Ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968-72 he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, D.C. in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson was named Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon. He became Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest, also in Oregon, in 1973, and returned to the Mt. Hood as Supervisor in 1976.

In 1980, he was named Assistant to the Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in Washington, D.C. He became Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in 1981, and was serving in that position when he was named Associate Chief.

Robertson is a member of Society of American Foresters, The American Forestry Association, and the American Society of Public Administration. He and his wife Mary Jane live in Alexandria, Va.

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The following is a verbatim transcript of an article that appeared in the September 21, 1990 Washington Post on the Federal Page. It appeared with a nice picture of Dale Robertson with a Forest Service shield and stylized trees in the background. The caption under the picture read "Robertson has shunned interview requests and avoided public appearances".

UNDER ATTACK,
FOREST SERVICE
CHIEF IS SILENT

Robertson Avoids
Public Debate on Owl

By John Lancaster
Washington Post Staff Writer

Appearing at a news conference on the Pacific Northwest's threatened spotted owl earlier this summer, F. Dale Robertson stood silently to one side as top administration officials outlined their plans for balancing loggers' jobs with preservation of the ancient, old-growth forests where the owl lives.

As the conference broke up, reporters swarmed around Robertson, who, as chief of the U.S. Forest Service, has played a critical role in what has become one of the Bush administration's most pressing environmental challenges. But aides quickly cut short the exchange. The chief had an appointment, one said, and would not be making any more comments.

In the intervening months, the usually accessible Robertson has virtually gone underground, shunning interview requests and avoiding public appearances in the face of strident attacks from environmentalists and the timber industry alike.

"Either for good or bad, the chief is choosing not to be in the limelight at this moment," spokesman Denver James said.

Robertson's reticence is understandable. An amiable professional forester who joined the Forest Service, an Agriculture Department agency, fresh out of the University of Arkansas in 1961, Robertson, 50, presides over an organization in the throes of an identity crisis. The spotted owl is only the most visible symptom.

Environmentalists charge that excessive logging has turned many national forests into virtual tree farms, to the detriment of wildlife, fisheries and other natural assets. The timber industry warns of a looming "timber crisis" if forest managers do not find ways to sell more trees from public lands.

A Very Tough Situation

"We are in a very tough situation--maybe the toughest we have ever faced as an agency," Robertson said in congressional testimony earlier this year.

Few would disagree.

For his efforts to resolve the spotted owl crisis, key congressional members from the Northwestern states have rewarded Robertson with calls for his resignation. Even his own agency has rebelled. In two internal memos last year, supervisors of several Western forests warned that the agency is "out of control" and too cozy with timber interests. Other agency employees have joined a dissident group dedicated to "environmental ethics."

Despite 30,500 employees, a \$3 billion budget and landlord responsibilities for 191 million acres of forests--nearly 10 percent of the entire United States--the Forest Service has traditionally kept a low profile. Indeed, Robertson's \$83,000-a-year job is not even filled by political appointment: his wife says people still have trouble understanding exactly what he does. "Here in Washington, they think you're saying the Foreign Service," Mary Jane Robertson said.

But the controversy has exposed the agency to intense public scrutiny, and no one has felt the heat more than Robertson.

An Arkansas native who supplemented his forestry training with a public administration degree from American University, the slender bespectacled Robertson is by all accounts approachable with a penchant for compromise and public relations. He began his career as a ranger, worked at several staff jobs in Washington, then supervised the Siuslaw and Mount Hood national forests in Oregon before returning here in 1982 as associate chief of the Forest Service.

"He's a tall, skinny guy and his shirt was always coming untucked," recalled Max Peterson, Robertson's predecessor and the man who promoted him to the associate chief's job over the heads of several higher-level officials. On the day Robertson was named to replace the retiring Peterson, the former chief recalls, Robertson showed up at work wearing mismatched shoes.

Wildlife Programs Expanded

But Peterson also remembers Robertson as the quintessential agency professional. "Dale tries to build consensus," he said. "He really wants to have everybody agree with what he works out."

Environmentalists express grudging approval of some Robertson initiatives. For example, although timber production still claims most of the agency's budget, Robertson has presided over a near doubling of expenditures for wildlife and fisheries programs. "When Dale became chief, quite frankly I didn't know where he stood," said a wildlife official in the agency. "(But) he gave us one of the strongest endorsements we've ever had."

Similarly, the agency recently released a five-year strategic plan that lists "recreation, wildlife and fisheries" as its number one priority. The document also promises a new emphasis on environmentally sound forestry, tree planting and scientific research into areas such as global warming. "It's absolutely revolutionary," the wildlife specialist said.

But Robertson also has proved himself an ardent defender of timber interests--and has not hesitated to blame environmentalists for the paralysis afflicting logging programs in many national forests.

"We can't ignore the fact that we have a proliferation of strong, influential environmental groups teamed up with lawyers who are determined to change the way we practice forestry in this country," Robertson told a pro-development group in July. "It's getting to the point that every decision in the Forest Service has to be approached on the assumption that you're likely to end up in an appeal or in court."

Barry Flamm, a former Robertson colleague who runs forestry programs at the Wilderness Society, said he doesn't "remember any great sympathy for the environmental movement and I've never detected any since...I've always considered him a process person."

Flamm adds, "He talks friendly, but its hard to figure out where his values lie."

Many environmentalists cannot forget that Robertson has presided over some of the heaviest logging of public forests in U.S. History, or his insistence last year that logging levels in the Pacific Northwest could be maintained without jeopardizing the spotted owl.

Largely out of frustration with Robertson's steadfast adherence to the status quo, national forest supervisors from several Western states warned in memos last year that the agency had lost touch with its original conservation mission.

"We are not meeting the quality land management expectations of our public and our employees," wrote supervisors from Region One, which includes 13 national forests in Montana, Idaho, and the Dakotas. "The emphasis of National Forest programs does not reflect land stewardship values...of many Forest Service employees and the public."

A Shift in Awareness

Rank and file employees for their part have signaled their discontent by joining the Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, which has 1,500 agency members. Jeff DeBonis, a former agency forester who founded the group last year, said he sees in Robertson "a shift in awareness, but I see it as coming out of desperation, not out of foresight."

Whatever his motives, Robertson seems to have undergone something of a conversion in recent months. To the dismay of the timber industry, members of the Northwest congressional delegation and some administration officials, he has embraced the recommendations of a scientific panel that has called for preserving large tracts of old-growth forest.

Robertson has acknowledged that the plan could mean a steep drop in Northwest timber harvests, and his stand has stirred outrage from the likes of Rep. Denny Smith (R-Ore.). "Dale, for whatever reason, is sort of a political forester," Smith told reporters in calling for his resignation in May. "He caved in to the environmental protectionist community."

But James F. Torrence, who retired last year as Forest Service regional supervisor for the Pacific Northwest, suggests another motive. "There was a

time, not too long ago, when a lot of us thought we were going to be able to keep a fairly high level of timber activity and still provide for the spotted owl," he said. "(But) we just kept getting more information."

~~~~~  
Provided in the interests of timely information by Jerry Mason WO/PAO

## **Biographical Sketch**

### **F. Dale Robertson, Chief USDA Forest Service**

F. Dale Robertson became Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture on February 2, 1987, at the age of 46.

Robertson is a native of Arkansas. He joined the Forest Service in 1961, after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. His early assignments included positions as an Assistant District Ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as District Ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968-1972, he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, DC. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, DC in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson was named Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Mt. Hood National Forest in Oregon. He became Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest also in Oregon, in 1973, and returned to the Mt. Hood as Supervisor 1976.

In 1980, he was named Assistant to the Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in Washington, DC. He became Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in 1981. On June 27, 1982, he was named Associate Chief, and was serving in that position when he was named Chief.



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

**F. Dale Robertson**  
**Associate Chief**  
**Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture**

F. Dale Robertson became Associate Chief of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, on June 27, 1982.

Robertson is a native of Arkansas. He joined the Forest Service in 1961 after receiving a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. His early assignments included positions as an Assistant District Ranger on the National Forests in Texas and as District Ranger on the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma.

From 1968-72, he was a management analyst at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, DC. He received a master's degree in public administration from The American University in Washington, DC, in 1970.

In 1972, Robertson moved to the Pacific Northwest and served as Forest Supervisor of both the Siuslaw and Mt. Hood National Forests in Oregon.

In 1980, he returned to Washington, DC. He became Associate Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation in 1981, and was serving in that position when he was named Associate Chief.



# The Friday Newsletter

No. 6

1690-3

February 6, 1987

## 12th Chief Stresses Continuity



F. Dale Robertson

I FEEL honored and privileged to be your new Chief. Over the past two weeks, many people have congratulated me and have wished me the best of luck in handling the many difficult issues and challenges that we face.

We do have a big challenge ahead of us, but that's no different than what every other Chief has faced coming into office. I don't feel like I'm carrying the burdens of the world on my shoulders. In fact, I'm excited and enthusiastic about the job and am optimistic about our future!

The reason I feel that way is because of the people in the Forest Service. We're the best at what we do. No one could do the job better. I view the Chief as just the leader of the team and it's a comforting feeling to know that I've got such a great team behind me to get the job done.

Many people have asked me "now that you're Chief, what changes are you going to make?" More importantly, I would like to stress continuity and a smooth transition. Max and I worked closely together over the past five years as Chief and Associate Chief and I've been a part of past decisions. For example, we worked closely in developing the new Forest Service vision statement, "Caring for the Land and Serving People." It reflects my philosophy and thinking and I will work hard to put into practice the ideas and concepts described in the vision statement.

I don't see any sharp turn or major changes just because there has been a change in Chiefs. However, the Forest Service is constantly changing and must continue to do so to stay in tune with the times and reflect changing values and expectations. I don't see any shortage of opportunities in the future to make changes as we go about our normal business of making decisions and dealing with specific situations.

As your new Chief, I would like to share with you some of my philosophies:

1. Forest Service People. I strongly believe in Forest Service people. I have a tremendous amount of faith and trust in your capability. As long as you have the right information, I'm convinced we will get good decisions in the Forest Service. We need to continue to work hard at increasing the diversity of our workforce.

2. Winning Attitude and Teamwork. I've always approached my job with a "winning attitude and teamwork." I believe in putting forth the extra effort and doing the strategic thinking necessary to succeed. I like to see people take initiatives and make as much progress for the Forest Service as possible as long as they communicate, coordinate, and bring people along with them. None of us should be confined to the bounds of our job description when additional things need to be done.

3. Loosening up the System. I believe the Forest Service system needs to be loosened up. There are too many policies, systems, and procedures that get in the way of getting our basic job done in caring for the land and serving people. Obviously, some structures and processes are necessary but they shouldn't dominate over our people exercising common sense judgments. I believe we should embrace change and experimentation as the normal way of doing business. I encourage people to examine their jobs and see if they can't free up some time to do those things that best take advantage of their talents and that will benefit the Forest Service the most. The results of Pilot Test experiments at the Pacific Southwest Station and three national forests (Ochoco, Mark Twain, and Gallatin) have re-enforced my thinking and I believe better represent the future mode of operation in the Forest Service.

4. Professional Judgments. I believe the Forest Service has the obligation to seek out and listen objectively to the views of the public. We must evaluate the merits of what is being said and consider that in our decisionmaking process. But, when all is said and done, the Forest Service has the obligation and responsibility to make the decision as we see it based on our best professional judgment. We should not feel threatened by criticism, nor should we trade off the public interest in order to satisfy the demands of a particular group. To do so would undermine our credibility as professional land managers.

5. Finally, we are in this business for the long run. Let's give it our best shot, relax, enjoy the challenge, and have fun at our jobs.

I look forward to being your Chief and hope over the next few years that I will have the opportunity to meet all of the employees in the Forest Service.

#### **New Payment System Aids Firefighting Efforts**

THE FOREST Service has received expanded authority to make payments for supplies and services necessary during fire or other emergency situations. The new authority is in addition to the authority we have had for a number of years to make payments for casual firefighters' wages and for rental equipment. The authority will be used on a trial basis during FY 1987.

Under the new authority, given only to two agencies, the FS and the National Park Service, Class A Assistant Disbursing Officer (ADO) Teams will use "checkbooks" to make immediate payments for supplies and services rendered during emergency situations. Not all emergencies will require Class A ADO teams and immediate payments. However, we expect this expanded authority will provide a better working relationship between the Forest Service and local vendors in extended or extreme emergency situations. The new authority will eliminate the need for vendors to wait for delayed payments before restocking supplies. It will also ease the problem of payment backlogs that local Forest Service budget and finance offices face after emergency situations.

A maximum of two or three Class A ADO teams will be available for each region. Training for team leaders will be provided in March at Marana, AZ. Further information on the new payment system is available from Bob Birnstengel, Fiscal and Public Safety, WO, FTS 235-8359.

**Fourth Conservation  
Reserve Signup  
Period Begins**

THE NEXT Conservation Reserve Program signup will be February 9 through February 27. There will be a special one-time, one-year bonus for CRP enrollees during 1987 as an inducement to participate in the program. The bonus provides for enrollees to be paid in the form of an increased annual rental payment. The payment will be equal to \$2 times the farm program payment yield for corn, times the number of acres of corn base designated for enrollment in the CRP. This bonus will be payable in the form of generic commodity certificates when a 1987 CRP contract is accepted. In subsequent years, the annual rental payment will be only that amount specified in the CRP contract.

I encourage you to spread word of these new benefits as well as the continuing benefits of CRP--especially of tree planting. Tree planting is an excellent longterm investment of which CRP enrollees should be made aware. To date, 8,916,185 acres of highly erodible land have been accepted into the CRP. Of that, only about 580,000 acres have been planted to trees. We have our work cut out for us if we wish to reach the congressional goal of 12-1/2 percent of enrolled acres planted to trees. Please share this new information with the people who support and participate in the program. It is a good opportunity to bring additional land into the CRP and into the tree planting program.

**Job Corps Productivity  
Improvement  
Team**

THE FOREST Service has established a Productivity Improvement Team to identify cost savings in the Job Corps program and to improve overall efficiency of the Corps while maintaining our high level of program effectiveness. Areas of study include costs associated with operations, vocational skills training, capital investment, and program direction at all levels of organization.



Team members include:

Mack Ferrick, R-6 (Team Leader)  
Kathy Johnson, R-6  
Nella Dickson, R-6  
Bill Case, R-1  
Joe Crowley, R-1  
Bob Hightower, R-8  
Hobert Cook, R-8  
Rudy Caruthers, R-8  
Jim Berlin, R-9  
Bob Williams, WO  
Jan Ulrich, R-5 (Facilitator)

The Team met in Washington, DC, during the week of January 26, for orientation and training and to develop a study plan. They will be working on the project in anticipation of reporting their findings to Chief and Staff at the May 4 Standard Session.

#### **Multi Level Resource Information System**

FOREST ENGINEER Ron Van Natta and Geographic Information Specialist Stan Bain, both from the Flathead National Forest, visited the WO this week to share their experience in the development of the Forest's Multi Level Resource Information System (MURIS). The program was part of the WO seminar series.

The project grew from a cooperative effort of the Flathead National Forest, Glacier National Park and Washington State University that has been very successful. Development of the system grew from increasing pressure to provide better management of forest resources with reduced budgets.

MURIS consists of a geographic information system coupled with remote sensing and image processing technologies. The combination of a computer assisted geographic information system and remote sensing satellite data has provided digital map overlays which assist in analyzing multiple layers of information.

The project has produced a number of tangible benefits. In a 2000-acre test plot, MURIS resulted in an 80 percent savings over conventional field examination and inventory. The project has produced a number of tangible benefits. According to Ron and Stan, the demand for information from the MURIS database grows steadily with each successful application of its analysis and query capabilities. In addition, the computer approach provides a faster and more economical means of maintaining the database. MURIS will have major applications in the next round of forest planning.



Chief

## PEOPLE

BY LESLIE KAUFMAN

### DOMESTIC DEPARTMENTS

#### AGRICULTURE

**Patricia Jensen** has been named deputy assistant secretary for marketing and inspection services. Jensen had been executive director of the Farmer's Legal Action Group, a non-profit legal aid and education group in St. Paul, Minn.

#### COMMERCE

At the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, **Meredith Jones** is the new general counsel. Jones had been senior counsel with Bechtel Financial Services Inc. Before that, she was a partner in a San Francisco law firm.

At the Marine Fisheries Service, **Roland Schmitten** has been named assistant administrator. For the past eight years, Schmitten has served as director of NMFS's Northwest Regional Fisheries Office. Before that, he was director of the Washington State Department of Fisheries.

**Leslie Doggett** has been named deputy undersecretary for travel and tourism. Prior to her appointment, Doggett was the first director of the Mayor's Office of Tourism in New York City. She was previously a senior account executive for Peter Martin Associates, a public relations firm based in New York.



Patricia Jensen



Leslie Doggett

#### EDUCATION

**Jamienne Studley** has been named deputy general counsel for regulations and legislative service. Most recently, she was executive director of the California Abortion Rights Action League. Studley was also an adjunct faculty member at the University of California at Berkeley School of Law from 1990 to 1992.

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**Donald Sykes** has been named director of the Office of Community Services. He had been executive director of the New Hope Project, a welfare-reform research group headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis.

#### INTERIOR

**Mary Harriss Olson** will direct the new President's Council on Sustainable Development, which is housed at Interior. Olson had been a special assistant to **Jim Baca**, director of the Bureau of Land Management.

#### JUSTICE

**Shelley Altenstadter** has been named chief of the National Central Bureau, which represents the United States in INTERPOL, the international police organization.

This appointment marks the first time a female law enforcement agent has been named to head a federal law enforcement bureau. Before her appointment, Altenstadter served for four years as deputy director of

Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. She was also director of the Office of Commercial Fraud Enforcement at the Customs Service from 1987 to 1989.

**Laurel Robinson** has been

### LIGHTING A FIRE AT THE FOREST SERVICE

President Clinton has provoked the ire of career officials at the Agriculture Department's Forest Service by ousting its chief, **Dale Robertson**, a career Forest Service official who headed the agency under Presidents Reagan and Bush, and replacing him with a political appointee.

Clinton Administration officials had been at odds with Robertson, who won a reputation as an aggressive promoter of logging, since last January. Robertson angered environmentalists and won national attention during the Bush Administration by approving a logging plan in the Pacific Northwest that a federal judge eventually halted in order to protect the spotted owl. Clinton officials, who favor a more conservationist approach to forest management, publicly criticized Robertson and finally forced him to resign from his post on Oct. 29.

The White House broke with tradition by giving the top job to **Jack Ward Thomas**, a government scientist who has been with the Forest Service for 27 years and who helped the agency develop a plan for more moderate logging of the Northwest forests. The Forest Service head is usually a member of the Senior Executive Service, and Thomas is not an SESer.

The Administration got around that problem by making Thomas a political appointee, a tactic that drew an angry response from Forest Service personnel who take pride in a long tradition of having career bureaucrats run the agency.

Dozens of senior Forest Service personnel protested Clinton's intention to nominate Thomas in a letter to Agriculture Secretary **Mike Espy** in late October. "With all due respect, we oppose this course of action," they wrote. "It would set a precedent for all future administrations, making it possible for the then-currently correct special interest groups to control the National Forests."

The Thomas appointment left environmentalists in a quandary. While they understand the dangers of politicizing the service, they are convinced the agency needs real reform and that this may be the best way to get it.

**David Unger**, a former Robertson deputy and longtime employee of the Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service, served as acting Forest Service chief after Robertson left the agency. Thomas takes over on Dec. 1.



Dale Robertson

litical inequity is intergenerational. In order to keep taxes down, this generation may support relatively low-cost land fills. The next generation will pay the environmental costs. In TQP, all forms of intergenerational cost transfers will be openly and honestly discussed and acted upon. This will require those who practice TQP to lengthen their political time horizons.

**Principle Six: Respect the Public Service.** In TQP it is understood that the merit-based civil service is a full and entirely legitimate partner in the operation of government. It is assumed that the civil servant will be technically competent and politically neutral. But it is also assumed that civil servants will be advocates for their tasks.

Who would want a school teacher who was neutral about teaching and learning, or a chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff who was indifferent about defending the country? With training and competence comes commitment. The TQP practitioner should value that commitment in civil servants. It sometimes happens that elected officials will not or cannot make difficult decisions. When these difficult decisions are passed on to the civil service, those who practice TQP will not second-guess the bureaucracy. The Total Quality Politician will not make invidious comparisons of the public service with business or industrial employees, inasmuch as there is no evidence that employees in one sector are more competent or harder-working than those in the other.

**Principle Seven: Cautiously Sustain the Free Enterprise System.** It is increasingly clear that the private, public, and non-profit sectors overlap. Other countries have aggressively blended business and government to further their competitive edge. Most cities and states have elaborate systems whereby the citizens broadly underwrite business development and expansion. The economy is sustained by business-government partnerships of many types.

This has been helpful to the economy generally but more helpful to the suburbs than to the inner cities and more helpful to corporate agriculture than to the rural poor. Big business requires strong government to balance the needs of a capitalist economy on the one hand with a modicum of fairness, equity, and consumer protection on the other.

I call on elected officials to embrace the Seven Principles of Total Quality Politics and to put them into practice. If the bureaucracy practices TQM and our political leaders practice TQP, both citizens and government will be the better for it. ☐

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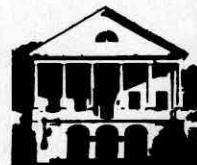
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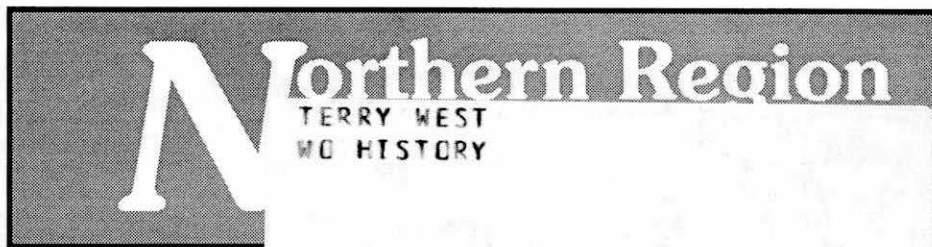
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Remember to Reserve These  
Dates on Your Calendar





November 3, 1993

A newsletter for Employees and Retirees

Issue 11

## Chief Dale Robertson Reassigned

*Robertson and Associate Chief George Leonard  
Moved to the Department*

**O**n November 1, F. Dale Robertson left his position as Forest Service chief to become special assistant to USDA Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger. Robertson was appointed chief in 1987 at the age of 46.

Robertson, a native of Arkansas, has held a variety of posts during his 32-year career with the agency. Among his many jobs: management analyst, WO (1968); deputy forest supervisor, Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon (1972); supervisor, Siuslaw National Forest, Oregon (1973); supervisor, Mt. Hood National Forest (1976); assistant to the deputy chief for Programs and Legislation (1980); associate deputy chief for Programs and Legislation (1981);

associate chief (1982), where he served until his selection as chief in 1987.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy appointed Dave Unger, 61, as acting chief. Unger was formerly associate deputy chief for the National Forest System. Most recently Unger led a national initiative to implement and coordinate efforts to protect endangered fisheries habitat.

Unger's professional background includes 14 years with the National Association of Conservation Districts. He worked as associate chief of the Soil Conservation Service for five years prior to joining the Forest Service in 1987. A native of Michigan, Unger graduated with a degree in Earth Sciences and holds a

master's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration.

Also assuming a new post as of November 1 was George Leonard, former associate chief of the Forest Service. Leonard is now working for Jim Lyons, assistant secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

Leonard began his career with the Forest Service in 1957 in California, where he worked for three national forests as well as the Southwest Regional Office in San Francisco. In 1970 he moved to Washington where he held several positions in Timber Management. He also worked for one year as environmental coordinator on the staff of the deputy chief for Programs and Legislation. In 1981, he was named deputy director of the Timber Management staff, assuming the position of director of that staff in 1982. In 1986, he became associate deputy chief for the National Forest System, where he remained until his selection as associate chief in 1987.

## Erasing Roads with Spyders

**New technology permits equipment to "walk" across the landscape, causing less damage to the land**

**R**oads have begun to disappear on the Wallace Ranger District of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Strange as disappearing roads may sound, this is not a science fiction story!

A dedicated watershed, wildlife and fish habitat improvement crew along with several contractors are erasing roads from the landscape. Each morning during the past summer, a dedicated crew of about 30 people fanned out to various project sites on the district. The goal is ecosystem restoration.

The program begins with inventory of resource conditions and identifying improvement needs. In roaded areas of the district, many of the improvement needs can be accomplished by

leaders such as the Redwoods National Park of the National Park Service. Recent technological advances such as highly efficient hydraulic excavators, and an amazing mechanical contraption called a "spyder hoe" make this work physically possible. The "spyder hoe" can walk up a stream channel, leaving only a few

in the summer of 1993. Don Loper and his assistants pride themselves in adapting state of the art technique and equipment to the projects and training new operators and others in the complex science of ecosystem restoration.

With the support of District Ranger Steve Uilliams and the Supervisor's Office of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF), the district has launched a multi-faceted program of "ecosystem restoration" in parts of the district that are extensively roaded. Even Congress is directly involved in the program. Through special legislation in the Fiscal Year 1993 Appropriations Act, the IPNF has pilot forest authority to require timber sale purchasers to rehabilitate existing watershed problems during







KURT WILSON/Missoula

**FRESH FROM** a three-day pack trip into the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Rep. Bruce Vento, D-Minn., chairman of the house subcommittee that oversees public lands, right, and Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson join others Saturday for a dedication of the new wilderness research and training centers at the Ninemile Ranger Station.

## Forest Service chief says his job's secure

THE MISSOULIAN

August 22, 1992

Missoula, Montana

By **SHERRY DEVLIN**  
of the Missoulian

**NINEMILE** — His job security the source of considerable speculation in recent months, Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson said Saturday that his agency has always been responsive to new presidencies and can, in fact, help Bill Clinton carry out his environmental agenda.

Robertson said he has not been approached by the Clinton administration about stepping down as chief, "and I haven't brought it up with anyone." The Forest Service chief is a career forester — not a political appointee — and normally does not change with presidencies, Robertson said.

Sources inside and out of the Forest Service have wondered, given Clinton's environmental leanings, if he would not replace Robertson, whose agency has been

■ Dorothy Bradley invokes the memory of her famous kin: conservationist Aldo Leopold.

— Page A11

criticized by environmentalists for intensive timber harvests on Western forests.

At Ninemile for the dedication of new wilderness research and training centers, Robertson said his marching orders from the president are threefold:

- "Manage the national forests with a greater degree of environmental sensitivity."
- "Embrace ecosystem management."
- "Encourage partnerships among land management agencies."

Saturday's ceremony, in fact, recognize a new partnership between the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The agencies will jointly administer the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute located at the University of Montana, and the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center, located at the historic Ninemile Ranger Station.

The Carhart center and Leopold institute will bring greater attention to the care and protection of the 95-million-acre National Wilderness Protection System, Robertson said.

He was joined at the dedication by representatives of the other public land management agencies, including Bureau of Land Management director Jim Baca, and

(See **ROBERTSON**, Page A-11)

From: NEWSTAB Delivered: Wed 6-Oct-93 14:19 EDT Sys 197 (18)  
Subject: FOREST SERVICE :forest service needs new leader washington reuter agr  
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BC-FOREST

ESPY SAYS FOREST SERVICE NEEDS NEW LEADER

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, in an unusually blunt statement, said Wednesday he wanted a new chief for the Forest Service, an Agriculture Department agency.

"In all honesty, I believe the current individual ... should be replaced," Espy said, referring to Chief Dale Robertson. "We need new leadership there."

Espy said he has not decided if the post should continue to be filled by career employees or by political appointees. Some career employees have been approached about the post, he indicated.

The Clinton administration has said it wants a new policy toward use of the 191 million acre forest system.

REUTER

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Southern  
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1720 Peachtree Road, NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30367

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Reply to: 6100

Date: October 22, 1993

The Honorable Mike Espy  
Secretary of Agriculture  
USDA Administration Building  
14th Street and Independence, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Espy:

You have said you want to hear from USDA employees. Therefore, I am writing to you regarding the Ancient Forest Alliance's recent news release and letter to you. I also understand there is the intent to remove our current Chief and replace him with a political appointee. While it is common for other agencies to have a political appointee, the Forest Service has been served well by a professional Chief. I would like to point out the facts that bear that out.

In 1989, our current Chief met with Senator Pryor on the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas. That historic meeting led to a major change in the way the Forest Service manages forests. Clearcutting was replaced with other forms of harvest methods. A brief 2-year New Perspectives Initiative was instituted, and in June of 1992 the Chief announced the Forest Service's adoption of Ecosystem Management. The concept of Ecosystem Management has progressed rapidly in the Southern Region. Why? Because we had a professional Chief who could relate to the benefits provided by an approach that puts ecosystem sensitive management of natural resources on equal footing with human needs.

The Southern National Forests are prime examples of the merits of this approach. The resources and values are in high demand from a wide spectrum of users. Forest products continue to be produced, but clearcutting has been reduced under the Chief's leadership by 80%. Water, wildlife, recreation, endangered species and biodiversity are actively provided for under the Ecosystem concept. A concept that our professional Chief had the vision to implement ahead of any other federal agency.

As a true professional natural resource manager with many years of experience, our Chief was also concerned about how well the Forest Service represented the people we serve. His vision led the Forest Service into a multicultural emphasis. The action plan "Toward a Multicultural Organization" spells out that vision. Because there have not been many natural resource professionals graduating from HBCU's, he initiated major cooperative efforts with the 1890 and other HBCU's. At the same time, all levels of the organization have been challenged to bring African Americans, women, Hispanics, Native Americans and other classes into higher levels of responsibilities within the Forest Service.

Yes, I believe the Forest Service and the country have been well served by a professional leader. I urge you on behalf of the employees in the Southern Region to continue the precedent set 90 years ago--maintain a career professional as the Chief of the Forest Service.

We would be most honored to have you visit the Southern Region and meet some of our employees, cooperators, partners, supporters and even our critics. You would see and hear firsthand the progress which has resulted from effective professional leadership. I believe you would be pleased with the commitment and effectiveness of our employees and the high level of support of the public we serve.

Sincerely,

Marvin C. Meier

MARVIN C. MEIER  
Acting Regional Forester

CC: Assistant Secretary Jim Lyons, USDA  
Southeastern Station Director, USFS

Press Release from the Ancient Forest Alliance

ANCIENT FOREST ALLIANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 14, 1993

Contact: Jim Owens, 202/939-3324  
Rich Hoppe, 202/429-2653

Environmental Organizations Call for Forest Service Reform  
Seek Immediate Replacement of Agency Chief

WASHINGTON -- Citing a history of Forest Service malfeasance and mismanagement of the nation's public forests, the Ancient Forest Alliance today released a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy calling for a "thorough structural and personnel reorganization" of the agency, beginning with replacement of Chief Dale Robertson.

"The Chief has got to go," stated Jim Owens, Executive Director of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign. "Forest activists have no faith or trust in an agency headed by a person who thumbs his nose at the laws, and has run our nation's forestlands literally into the ground. We've been waiting for months for a new leadership in the agency, and can't understand why a new Chief hasn't yet been appointed."

"It's time for a new chief, and it's also time for a whole new team," said the Melinda Pierce, Associate Representative for the Sierra Club's Public Lands Program. "This is an agency that is mired in the failed dogma of the past," she continued, "and we question its ability to implement President Clinton's attempts at public land reform."

"The blundering leadership and incredible mismanagement at the Forest Service has nearly wiped out the last vestiges of public confidence in the agency. There is no excuse for any further delay in replacing the timber driven management of the agency. Time is running out for beginning the job of restoring not just the taxpayer's forests, but public confidence in what should be America's premier corps of land stewards," stated Michael Francis, Director of the National Forests Program for the Wilderness Society.

"Too many dedicated people at the agency's lower levels who want to practice responsible stewardship have been ignored, transferred or fired because they dared to question the failed policies of the past," said Brock Evans, Vice President for National Issues of the National Audubon Society. "Until we put an end to these policies of intimidation and 'rule by allowable cut', the Forest Service can never hope to regain its claim to be the conservator and protector of our nation's forests."



"The Forest Service has spent more time in court than most judges," noted Kevin Kirchner, an attorney with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. "The agency's got a rap sheet that make's Al Capone look like a saint. When it comes to violating the nation's environmental laws, the Forest Service is a repeat offender."

The Ancient Forest Alliance, a coalition of national and grassroots organizations engaged in seeking protection for the remaining ancient forest ecosystems of the the Pacific Northwest, cited the agency's upcoming lead role in making a final decision on the President's Northwest Plan as the catalyst for this call for agency reform. The only way to accomplish the goals of the Forest Plan is "to make the personnel changes in the Forest Service that would serve to illustrate a new spirit of leadership, stewardship or responsibility intent upon protecting the nation's heritage of natural resources," the letter to Secretary states. "These actions must start immediately, before final decisions are made on the President's Northwest Forest Plan."

###

**Forest Service Head Says He's Been Treated Unfairly**

by Scott Sonner, Associated Press

10/15/93

WASHINGTON (AP) - Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson says the Clinton administration showed his disrespect by announcing at a congressional hearing its plans to replace him.

"I respect this administration's right to appoint whoever they want as chief. You don't fight those things," Robertson told The Associated Press on Thursday.

But he said when Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy revealed the decision at a public hearing on Capitol Hill before discussing it with him it violated tradition and protocol.

"All I can say is, never before in the history of the Forest Service have we had a public process of going out and determining who is going to be chief," he said.

"It has always been worked out ahead of time with the full support of the existing chief. This one has just been handled differently."

Robertson, a career government worker, cannot be fired outright. But the administration could reassign him.

"I'm not really interested in any other job," he said. "I'm just staying in my job as chief until I'm replaced. Then I'll move on."

The Agriculture Department has been mum about Robertson's likely successor. Department spokesman Tom Amontree said, "We will not be pushed into a hasty decision."

Robertson, appointed in 1987 by the Reagan administration, had been rumored to be on the way out since President Clinton took office.

Environmentalists have accused the Forest Service of permitting excessive logging of national forests.

Espy last week disclosed to the Senate Agriculture Committee he intended to pick a new chief.

"In all honesty, I believe the current individual should be replaced. We need new leadership there," Espy said.

Robertson, 53, said while Espy never discussed the matter directly with him, Assistant Secretary Jim Lyons mentioned the possibility.

"I'd have to say it didn't catch me by surprise," Robertson said.

Asked if he felt he deserved to be treated with more respect, Robertson said, "That would be a fair statement."

Congressional aides and leaders of environmental groups speaking on the condition of anonymity have told the AP that Forest Service biologist Jack Ward Thomas, who headed President Clinton's Northwest forest advisory team, is among the leading contenders for the chief's job.

The AP obtained an internal Forest Service memo in September that said Lyons had offered the job to Thomas of LaGrande, Ore. He is highly regarded in the environmental community and led a government panel that first reported to Congress in 1990 that overharvesting of national forests was pushing the northern spotted owl to the brink of extinction.

Robertson, originally from Arkansas, served in a variety of Forest Service jobs, including deputy chief.

A coalition of environmental groups renewed their call Thursday for his ouster, saying his mismanagement of national forests has eroded public trust in the agency.

"The Forest Service has spent more time in court than most judges," said Kevin Kirchner, an attorney for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. "When it comes to violating the nation's environmental laws, the Forest Service is a repeat offender."

-end-

- o The Forest Service (FS) has been getting lots of criticism lately in the press. It has deteriorated into an attack on the integrity and creditability of the FS.
- o The chief testified last week to Congress re: law enforcement issues and "got bloodied up."
- o More information will be released by environmental groups at a press conference this afternoon regarding FS mismanagement and their ideas of FS reform. They plan to send a letter to Espy asking for Dale to resign.
- o Dale asked the audience "Am I going to be fired?" and he answered "Probably yes!"
- o Dale mentioned how Espy announced at last weeks hearings that he wants new leadership at the FS and will make a change.
- o Dale "this sounds an awful lot like a firing and that's how I interpret it."
- o Dale said he reads the same newspapers that we do. He has no insights into who will be the new chief since he has has no discussion with Espy regarding this matter.
- o We must face the issues and move on. The important thing to keep in mind is not to pay attention to those who say that the FS has an integrity problem. We are a strong organization with a good mission. Everyone must keep focussed on the work to be done.
- o Dale stated that he and the other SESers must realize that they don't own their jobs. "We must do what we can and then move on."
- o "We know ourselves and our integrity. Be self-confident and continue doing a great job."
- o "If I get fired, I'll join an elite group of 2 - me and Gifford Pinchot. He went on to write a great book and become 2 time governor of PA." Just remember to realize when leaving the room that the key word regarding Dale's firing is "probably".
- o Today's presentation on mentoring is therefore "appropriate and timely" given the context of Dale's speech.
- o Regarding the "buyout". If you read the paper, you know what we know. The FS has buyout authority in appropriation language and are waiting on the Government-wide bill. If someone is bought out, it creates a vacant position somewhere in the organization. A buyout doesn't exist to help FS employees and not everyone who wants a buyout will get one.
- o The agency head will set many of the buyout rules. A buyout is cheaper than a RIF and can maintain the diversity mix.
- o On 10/21 FS will meet with Lyons to bounce off of him how it will reinvent FS. Hank M. is currently working on this issue, thinking things through

though Hank hasn't shared things with the chief yet. By 11/1, a plan of reorganization must be presented to Espy. Lyons/SCS/Fs have meet to discuss options.

- o Alternatives to buyout must use criteria of improving customer services using less people and less money.

#### QUESTIONS

- o Concerned with # of buyouts. Dale thinks it will closely tie into list of surplus employees and won't be for the benefit of people but for downsizing efficiency. 2000 people are currently on the unfunded list and are targeted. Dale - people should not count on buyouts unless in an unfunded position, occupy a job that will be eliminated, or you can switch with someone who can do your job and you would accept a buyout. Buyout dollars come out of FS budget - no extra money. In addition, transfers of stations will be too expensive and not be offered. R-5 and R-6 have greater possibilities of offering buyouts than the WO. The FS won't run it as the Library of Congress - on a first come, first served basis.
- o Is Lyons involved with any other FS issues other than in PNW with the owl efforts? We have not had much time with Jim as we would have liked. we deal mostly with Mark Gaede.
- o Dale ended the meeting reiterating that once again, he was "probably fired", but stressing that the key word was "probably."



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE

Forest  
Service

San Bernardino  
National Forest

1824 So. Commercenter Circle  
San Bernardino, CA 92408-3430

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Reply To: 6100

Date: October 22, 1993

President Bill Clinton  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear President Clinton:

For 102 years, the USDA Forest Service has, under the leadership of career professionals, proudly managed America's National Forests and Grasslands. By all accounts, the Forest Service is the world leader in natural resource conservation and management.

We are aware of the effort to replace the Chief of the Forest Service with a political appointee. With all due respect, we oppose this course of action. It would set a precedent for all future administrations, making it possible for the then currently correct special interest groups to control the National Forests. Doing so would create a serious threat to the future of the National Forests.

The Forest Service has had a career professional Chief for nearly a century and this is a highly significant symbol to the career employees of the Forest Service. It is not our intention to lend support for or against any candidates for the Chief's position. Rather, we believe the Chief should be selected from the Senior Executive Service (SES) since members of SES are career employees of the Department selected by competitive process. We believe this competitive process to be extremely fair and that it provides a pool of candidates who are diverse and highly qualified career employees. We also believe the proper management of natural resources requires a long-term view--not the shorter view often engendered by the political process. "Caring for the land and serving people" for the long haul requires delicate and professional leadership.

The Forest Service is responsive to the changing values of the American people, and to changing public policy. Clearly, managing the nation's natural resources has not been without controversy. However, we believe that such controversy is part of the process of public involvement, since millions of people "love their National Forests," and judge our management against their own personal value system. Even with this inevitable controversy, the majority of the American people hold the USDA Forest Service in high regard.

We are Forest Supervisors, collectively responsible for the management of over 100 million acres of National Forest lands throughout this country. We represent over 1000 years of experience and we are very proud of our accomplishments and heritage. We are keenly aware of the changes that are going on in our Agency and feel that strong leadership is critical at this time.

We appreciate your consideration of our viewpoint and look forward to serving whomever is selected as our new Chief. Whatever your decision, we are committed to our proud tradition of excellence in "caring for the land and serving people."

The names of the Forest Supervisors listed below are committed to the content of this letter. Due to urgency, signatures were not possible to obtain, and many Forest Supervisors were unavailable.

LARRY D. KEOWN  
Forest Supervisor  
Bighorn National Forest  
Sheridan, Wyoming

BARRY DAVIS  
Forest Supervisor  
Shoeshone National Forest  
Cody, Wyoming

R. M. (Jim) NELSON  
Forest Supervisor  
Toiyabe National Forest  
Sparks, Nevada

JAMES L. CASWELL  
Forest Supervisor  
Clearwater National Forest  
Orofino, Idaho

RONALD C. PRICHARD  
Forest Supervisor  
Beaverhead National Forest  
Dillon, Montana

STEPHEN K. KELLY  
Forest Supervisor  
Bitterroot National Forest  
Hamilton, Montana

VAN ELSBERND  
Forest Supervisor  
Deerlodge National Forest  
Butte, Montana

ART CARROLL  
Scenic Area Manager  
Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area  
Hood River, Oregon

DANIEL K. CHISHOLM  
Forest Supervisor  
Mendocino National Forest  
Willows, California

J. DALE GORMAN  
Forest Supervisor  
Lewis & Clark National Forest  
Great Falls, Montana

ABIGAIL KIMBELL  
Forest Supervisor  
Stikine Area, Tongass NF  
Petersburg, Alaska

BRUCE VAN ZEE  
Forest Supervisor  
Chugach National Forest  
Anchorage, Alaska

GARY MORRISON  
Forest Supervisor  
Chatham Area, Tongass NF  
Sitka, Alaska

DAVE RITTENHOUSE  
Forest Supervisor  
Ketchikan Area, Tongass NF  
Ketchikan, Alaska

FRANCIS J. VOYTAS  
Forest Supervisor  
Wayne National Forest  
Bedford, Indiana

WILLIAM F. SPINNER  
Forest Supervisor  
Hiawatha National Forest  
Escanaba, Michigan

DAVID H. MORTON  
Forest Supervisor  
Ottawa National Forest  
Ironwood, Michigan

STEVEN T. EUBANKS  
Forest Supervisor  
Chippewa National Forest  
Cass Lake, Minnesota

MAYNARD ROST  
Forest Supervisor  
Gila National Forest  
Silver City, New Mexico

ORVILLE L. DANIELS  
Forest Supervisor  
Lolo National Forest  
Missoula, Montana

RICK D. CABLES  
Forest Supervisor  
White Mountain National Forest  
Laconia, New Hampshire

JOHN E. PALMER  
Forest Supervisor  
Allegheny National Forest  
Warren, Pennsylvania

TERRY W. HOFFMAN  
Forest Supervisor  
Green Mountain National Forest  
Rutland, Vermont

JIM PAGE  
Forest Supervisor  
Monongahela National Forest  
Elkins, West Virginia

JACK G. TROYER  
Forest Supervisor  
Chequamegon National Forest  
Park Falls, Wisconsin

MICHAEL J. ROGERS  
Forest Supervisor  
Angeles National Forest  
Arcadia, California

ANNE S. FEGE  
Forest Supervisor  
Cleveland National Forest  
San Diego, California

JOHN PHIPPS  
Forest Supervisor  
Eldorado National Forest  
Placerville, California

WAYNE THORNTON  
Forest Supervisor  
Plumas National Forest  
Quincy, California

KATHLEEN McALLISTER  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Superior National Forest  
Duluth, Minnesota

B. ERIC MORSE  
Forest Supervisor  
Mark Twain National Forest  
Rolla, Missouri

JOSE CRUZ  
Forest Supervisor  
Deschutes National Forest  
Bend, Oregon

MIKE EDRINGTON  
Forest Supervisor  
Mt. Hood National Forest  
Gresham, Oregon

THOMAS A. SCHMIDT  
Forest Supervisor  
Ochoco National Forest  
Prineville, Oregon

JAMES T. GLADEN  
Forest Supervisor  
Rogue River National Forest  
Medford, Oregon

J. MICHAEL LUNN  
Forest Supervisor  
Siskiyou National Forest  
Grants Pass, Oregon

JIM FURNISH  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Siuslaw National Forest  
Corvallis, Oregon

ABLE CAMARENA  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Umpqua National Forest  
Roseburg, Oregon

ROBERT RICHMOND  
Forest Supervisor  
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest  
Baker City, Oregon

DARREL L. KENOPS  
Forest Supervisor  
Willamette National Forest  
Eugene, Oregon

SANDRA KEY  
Forest Supervisor  
Sequoia National Forest  
Porterville, California

STEPHEN FITCH  
Forest Supervisor  
Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
Redding, California

TED C. STUBBLEFIELD  
Forest Supervisor  
Gifford Pinchot National Forest  
Vancouver, Washington

WALTER WEAVER  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest  
Mountlake Terrace, Washington

SAMUEL GEHR  
Forest Supervisor  
Okanogan National Forest  
Okanogan, Washington

RONALD R. HUMPHREY  
Forest Supervisor  
Olympic National Forest  
Olympia, Washington

SONNY O'NEAL  
Forest Supervisor  
Wenatchee National Forest  
Wenatchee, Washington

LEONARD LUCERO  
Forest Supervisor  
Carson National Forest  
Taos, New Mexico

LYNN C. NEFF  
Forest Supervisor  
Ozark-St. Francis National Forest  
Russellville, Arkansas

BRAD POWEL  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Daniel Boone National Forest  
Winchester, Kentucky

KENNETH R. JOHNSON  
Forest Supervisor  
National Forests in Mississippi  
Jackson, Mississippi

BOB CASTANEDA  
Forest Supervisor  
Winema National Forest  
Klamath Falls, Oregon

ED SCHULTZ  
Forest Supervisor  
Colville National Forest  
Colville, Washington

M. M. UNDERWOOD, Jr.  
Forest Supervisor  
Arapaho and Roosevelt NF  
Fort Collins, Colorado

JACK A. WEISSLING  
Forest Supervisor  
Pike and San Isabel National Forest  
Pueblo, Colorado

VETO J. LaSALLE  
Forest Supervisor  
White River National Forest  
Glenwood Springs, Colorado

JERRY SCHMIDT  
Forest Supervisor  
Medicine Bow & Routt NF  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

MARY H. PETERSON  
Forest Supervisor  
Nebraska National Forest  
Chadron, Nebraska

JOHN H. YANCY  
Forest Supervisor  
National Forests in Alabama  
Montgomery, Alabama

DONNA HEPP  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
National Forests in Florida  
Tallahassee, Florida

DANNY W. BRITT  
Forest Supervisor  
Kisatchie National Forest  
Pineville, Louisiana

PABLO CRUZ  
Forest Supervisor  
Caribbean National Forest  
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

DAVID W. WILSON  
Forest Supervisor  
Francis Marion and Sumter NF  
Columbia, South Carolina

JOHN F. RAMEY  
Forest Supervisor  
Cherokee National Forest  
Cleveland, Tennessee

GEORGE WAYNE KELLEY  
Forest Supervisor  
George Washington National Forest  
Harrisonburg, Virginia

JOY E. BERG  
Forest Supervisor  
Jefferson National Forest  
Roanoke, Virginia

JOHN G. IRWIN  
Forest Supervisor  
Savannah River Forest Station (DOE)  
New Ellenton, South Carolina

DAVID P. GARBER  
Forest Supervisor  
Gallatin National Forest  
Bozeman, Montana

DEBBIE AUSTIN  
Acting Forest Supervisor  
Inyo National Forest  
Bishop, California

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Gene Zimmerman

GENE ZIMMERMAN  
Forest Supervisor  
San Bernardino National Forest  
San Bernardino, California

cc: Vice President Al Gore  
Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy  
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Jim Lyons  
White House Director of Personnel Bruce Lindsay  
Chief, USDA Forest Service F. Dale Robertson  
Jack Ward Thomas



Forest Service

APn 10/27/93 8:26 PM

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By SCOTT SONNER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Assistant Agriculture Secretary Jim Lyons is urging an investigation into allegations the Forest Service does business with contractors who have hired illegal aliens. In a strongly worded letter to Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson, Lyons said, "I cannot condone, nor will I accept, any excuses for the hiring of contractors with a history of employing undocumented workers for purposes of fulfilling Forest Service contracts."

The letter dated Oct. 22 was obtained by The Associated Press on Wednesday. A House panel report in August concluded the Forest Service routinely was issuing contracts to unscrupulous businesses that were employing illegal aliens, ignoring federal labor laws and often mistreating workers.

The contractors plant trees, cut brush and fight fires in national forests. The U.S. Border Patrol estimates that more than half the people on reforestation crews in the Pacific Northwest are immigrants carrying phony green cards identifying them as legal workers.

Lyons' letter to Robertson identifies yet another area of the Clinton administration's displeasure with the leadership of the chief, who began the job under President Reagan and soon is to be replaced, perhaps as early as this week.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy earlier announced he intends to name a new chief. An administration official speaking on condition of anonymity said Wednesday an announcement on the job was expected Thursday, "but it will not be definitive." The official would not elaborate. Congressional aides and activists in the environmental community speaking on condition of anonymity have told The Associated Press that Forest Service biologist Jack Ward Thomas of LaGrande, Ore., remains the top candidate for the job.

The AP obtained an internal Forest Service memo in September that said Lyons had offered the job to Thomas, who led a team of scientists advising President Clinton on the spotted owl and Northwest forests. The House panel's report on illegal aliens said that the contract workers routinely are cheated on wages, overtime and benefits.

"Equally troubling is the inhuman and appalling treatment of many of these workers -- many of whom are forced to poach for food, live in cardboard boxes and some who suffer lice infestations so severe that they have been refused medical treatment," said Rep. Gary Condit, D-Calif., chairman of the House Government Operations subcommittee on agriculture.

Lyons, assistant secretary for natural resources and environment, said in the letter to Robertson he was interviewed on the subject recently, "and a number of issues were brought to my attention of which I was unaware. I believe it is imperative that this situation be completely investigated." An aide to Lyons said Wednesday the USDA would cooperate with the Justice Department and Labor Department in investigating the problem.

Robertson could not be reached for comment Wednesday. He said in an interview last week he was disappointed that Espy first announced plans to replace him at a Senate hearing without first discussing it with him.

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Washington  
Office

14th & Independence SW  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington, DC 20090-6090

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Date: October 29, 1993

**TO ALL FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

We want to thank you for all of your hard work and support during our tenure as Chief and Associate Chief over the past 7 years. It's been an exciting and challenging time for us. Together, we have made tremendous progress in some really important things--ecosystem management, outdoor recreation, wilderness, fisheries, wildlife, urban and community forestry, stewardship of private forest land, research, partnerships, work force diversity, and many more. These are no small accomplishments, and we feel fortunate to have had the privilege to serve as your leaders during this exciting period of rapid change. We want to thank you for a job well done. You made us proud!

In spite of all the criticism, we believe the Forest Service is the best agency in Government because you have made it so with strong performance, professionalism, and integrity. Don't let the criticism get you down. We don't take it personally, and neither should you.

The strength of the Forest Service is its people, and we know you will continue to make even-greater progress in the future. It's important that you pull together as a team and rally around the new Chief and Associate Chief. Until they are officially announced by Secretary Espy, Dave Unger has been designated Acting Chief. Dave and the new Chief will have our full support and backing.

We wish the Forest Service and all of you the best and you can count on two strong supporters. Again, thanks to the greatest group of people in the world!

/s/ F. Dale Robertson

F. DALE ROBERTSON  
Chief

/s/ George M. Leonard

GEORGE M. LEONARD  
Associate Chief

Steve Kinsella (202) 720-4623  
Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623

#### USDA ANNOUNCES ACTING CHIEF FOR THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Washington, Oct. 28 -- A career Forest Service leader will assume the role as acting chief of the agency Nov. 1, announced Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy.

Dave Unger, 61, currently associate deputy chief for National Forest Systems will assume the position of chief on an interim basis.

"Mr. Unger has had a distinguished career and as a leader in both the Forest Service and the Soil Conservation Service," said Espy. He has the experience and respect of his peers and will serve as an able administrator in helping the Forest Service address the problems and issues now facing the agency."

Unger is a veteran conservationist with a broad professional and organizational background. Most recently, Unger lead a national initiative to implement and coordinate efforts to protect endangered fisheries habitat. Before joining the Forest Service in July 1987, Unger served for five years as associate chief of the Soil Conservation Service.

Jim Lyons, assistant secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, said, "Dave Unger's experience in leadership positions with the Soil Conservation Service and the Forest Service at USDA will help accelerate our efforts to foster a closer working relationship between department's premier natural resource agencies."

Prior to his arrival at USDA, Unger served 14 years with the National Association of Conservation Districts. He was director of the Pennsylvania State Soil and Water Conservation Commission. A fellow of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, Unger also served as chairman of the National Watershed Congress.

A native of Michigan, Unger graduated with a degree in Earth Sciences from Antioch College and holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Pennsylvania and a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University.

Unger succeeds F. Dale Robertson, chief since 1987, who will now serve as special assistant to Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger.

"While I anticipate my new responsibilities will provide a daily challenge, I believe my diverse background at USDA specifically in the area of natural resources will assist me in my effort to work with the professional core of the Forest Service and help lead the agency in a new direction. It is with a great sense of pride that I accept my new role at the Forest Service." Unger said.

George Leonard who has served as associate chief of the Forest Service since 1987, will also leave his position effective Nov. 1, to assist the assistant secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

### **A Paul Bunyan-Sized Pile of Complaints**

■ So many people are weighing in against the Clinton administration's apparent plan to replace the head of the Forest Service with a political appointee, that soon they may have to measure the mail by the board foot.

Among those who've written or called top administration officials are Rep. **Bruce F. Vento** (D-Minn.), chairman of the parks and public lands subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee; Sen. **Max Baucus** (D-Mont.), chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee; more than 70 national forest supervisors; and Republican senators **Larry E. Craig** (Idaho), **Malcolm Wallop** (Wyo.), **Mark O. Hatfield** (Ore.) and **Conrad Burns** (Mont.).

The campaign has intensified as the grapevine has buzzed with word that the replacement for career employee **F. Dale Robertson**—chief since 1987—could come this week. The administration is expected to name **Jack Ward Thomas**, a wildlife biologist and architect of Clinton's northwest forest plan, in a departure from the almost 90-year tradition of having a career employee head the agency. That certainly would mean less timber-cutting.

Ironically, some of those now decrying the politicization of the Forest Service have vigorously pushed Robertson and other officials to maximize timber production. As the four Republican senators noted in their letter, "We have enjoyed a very cooperative working relationship" with Robertson.

What do you bet their working relationship with the new guy isn't so cooperative?

### **Tax and Energy Picks**

Washington Post 10/27/93



The New York Times, National Edition  
Wednesday, October 27, 1993

By: John H. Cushman Jr.

#### "CLINTON CHOICE FOR FOREST SERVICE CHIEF UPSETS RANKS"

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26 - The Clinton Administration has stirred broad resentment in the ranks of the National Forest Service with a plan to name a political appointee, rather than a career forest manager, to head the agency, which is embroiled in politically sensitive disputes over the use of public woodlands.

Jack Ward Thomas, the government scientist favored for the job by the Agriculture Department, which manages the agency, has been with the forest service for 27 years. But he is not among the ranks of the senior managers from which the appointment would usually be drawn, and therefore would have to be promoted as a political appointee.

That prospect has drawn unexpectedly strong condemnation from within the Forest Service, which for a century has prided itself for having a career professional at its head.

Determined to name Mr. Thomas anyway, the Administration has signaled that it plans to do so by using its power to make political appointments outside the career promotion process. Although the nomination has not been made formal, people throughout the forestry establishment said they expected it to be announced soon.

James Lyons, the Assistant Agriculture Secretary for natural resources and the environment, said he viewed the political appointment as an expediency that would, as in the past, put "a career professional from within the agency" at its helm. "I would prefer that people focus less on the process than on the leadership," Mr. Lyons said. "What is most important is strong professional leadership."

Mr. Thomas, generally regarded as an innovative and accomplished scientist, steered the agency's work on the most recent plan for controlling development of the forests of the Pacific Northwest. Opposition appears not to be directed at him personally, but at the idea that the Agriculture Department would be labeling the top forestry job a political one. Mr. Thomas declined to comment.

Representative Bruce F. Vento, the Minnesota Democrat who heads the House Interior Committee's subcommittee on public lands, said that despite Mr. Thomas's credentials naming him as a political appointee would be "setting a precedent that would be very harmful."

Scores for Forest Service supervisors from coast to coast, and at least four of the service's regional forest managers, have written letters of protest to Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy and the President.

"With all due respect, we oppose this course of action," said 70 forest supervisors in a letter to Mr. Clinton on Friday. "It would set a precedent for all future administrations, making it possible for the then currently correct special interest groups to control the National Forests. Doing so would create a serious threat to the future of the National Forests."

Advocacy groups who for years have criticized the Forest Service as too eager to promote logging are ambivalent about appointing Mr. Thomas, whom they describe as a scientist of integrity. "We are reluctant to see gross political interference in the Forest Service," said Jim Pissol, director of the Washington State office of the National Audubon Society. "Yet there has been such gross mismanagement that this may be one case where that is called for."

### Years of Dissent

For the past few years the agency has been racked with dissent among its senior managers, many of whom disagreed with the forest policies of the Reagan and Bush Administrations. Some career managers have said that their decisions about how to protect the health of the forests were being undermined in Washington in order to promote the development of forests.

For weeks, the Agriculture Department has been saying that it would soon remove F. Dale Robertson, the current head of the service, a step that was being urged by groups opposed to heavy cutting of timber. "We need new leadership there," Secretary Espy said three weeks ago.

Many in the Forest Service believed they have been promised that the job would be filled from within the ranks of the senior executive service, a cadre of experienced senior managers who are promoted by competition.

"When Assistant Secretary Jim Lyons met with several of us on Sept. 28., he assured us that he intended to maintain this important tradition," said more than two dozen forest managers, from the Pacific Northwest in a letter, to Mr. Espy last week.

At a two-hour meeting today between Mr. Espy and hundreds of Agriculture Department senior executives including some from the Forest Service, the Forest Service job did not come up. But Mr. Espy made a point of telling the executives that he valued their work so much that he often used them even in positions that are normally filled by political appointees.

"I cannot conceive of someone coming in, even a political, and doing better," he said.

end

October 27, 1993

Washington Post  
IN THE LOOP

"Power Coupling in the Clinton Regime"

A Paul Bunyan-Sized Pile of Complaints

So many people are weighing in against the Clinton administration's apparent plan to replace the head of the Forest Service with a political appointee, that soon they may have to measure the mail by the board foot.

Among those who've written or called top administration officials are Representative Bruce F. Vento (D-Minn.), chairman of the parks and public lands subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee; Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.), chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee; more than 70 national forest supervisors; and Republican Senators Larry E. Craig (Idaho), Malcolm Wallop (Wyo.), Mark O. Hatfield (Ore.) and Conrad Burns (Mont.).

The campaign has intensified as the grapevine has buzzed with word that the replacement for career employee F.Dale Robertson-Chief since 1987- could come this week. The administration is expected to name Jack Ward Thomas, a wildlife biologist and architect of Clinton's northwest forest plan, in a departure from the almost 90-year tradition of having a career employee head the agency. That certainly would mean less timber-cutting.

Ironically, some of those now decrying the politicization of the Forest Service have vigorously pushed Robertson and other officials to maximize timber production. As the four Republican senators noted in their letter, "We have enjoyed a very cooperative working relationship" with Robertson. What do you bet their working relationship with the new guy isn't so cooperative?

end

The Register Guard  
Eugene, Oregon

By Lance Robertson

### "FOREST SERVICE TAKES SHELLING FROM BIG GUNS"

**Politics:** The administration, Congress, environmentalists, even employees want changes.

And the walls came tumbling down.

The U.S. Forest Service -- once highly respected for its long tradition of honesty, credibility and "can-do: attitude - has been pummeled into rubble in recent years of its forest management policies came under intense scrutiny by environmentalists, politicians and federal judges.

In recent months, the withering fire has escalated into something akin to carpet bombing.

Federal investigators are probing possible criminal wrongdoing, sweetheart deals and Central Intelligence Agency involvement in a Forest Service program that turns over surplus military planes to private firefighting contractors.

A recent congressional report cited 180 incidents of Forest Service management interference in ongoing timber theft investigations or retaliation against agency cops. Forest Service agents told Congress that thefts are running rampant partly because of the agency's "cozy" relationship with the timber industry.

Agency biologists have complained about ignored advice - most recently a California district forester accused of plowing a road that destroyed 80 percent of an endangered toad's last remaining breeding ground.

Whistleblowers have accused the Forest Service of knowingly allowing illegal aliens to plant trees on national forests. And a California district ranger actually was promoted after a whistleblower accused him of hiring prostitutes, hauling them to the ranger office in a "love van" and then dipping into the office's petty cash drawer to make the \$300 payment.

All of this has been piled on top of years of complaints and strong evidence of overcutting in the national forests - a fact even Forest Service chief Dale Robertson admitted in a recent national television interview.

"The blundering leadership and incredible mismanagement at the Forest Service has nearly wiped out the last vestiges of public confidence in the agency," said Michael Frances of The Wilderness Society, one of several conservation groups pressuring the Clinton administration to clean house at the agency.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy has promised to replace Robertson. But 70 agency field supervisors and some Northwest politicians are resisting plans by Assistant Secretary Jim Lyons to move agency biologist Jack Ward Thomas into the top spot.

"In all honesty, I believe the current individual should be replaced," Espy told a House committee two weeks ago. "This is not just a problem of structure, but of leadership."

Robertson has said he'll leave the job quietly.

"I respect this administration's right to appoint whoever they want as chief," he said last week. "You don't fight those things."

But he also has fired off a blistering letter to Espy, complaining about environmentalists' recent attack on the agency and his leadership.

"I can no longer stand by and let these vicious attacks on the integrity, honesty and professionalism of USDA Forest Service employees go unchallenged," Robertson said in an Oct. 15 memo obtained by The Register Guard. "I plan to speak out in their defense, because of serious injustice is being done to innocent people."

A decision about who will be the next chief could come as early as this week. The Forest Service has been targeted for reform under the administration's "reinventing government" effort.

The front-runner is Thomas, who has spent most of his Forest Service career as a wildlife biologist in La Grande, specializing in elk research. But Thomas has been steeped in the natural resource battle for the past three years creating a northern spotted owl protection plan in 1990.

Most recently, Thomas led a team of more than 100 scientists who developed a list of options President Clinton used to select a sweeping forest management plan for Oregon, Washington and California that slashed logging levels by 70 percent.

Lyons, a forester himself, reportedly offered the chiefs job to Thomas last summer. Thomas has refused to comment. One of the snags in Lyons' plan is that Thomas doesn't have the right civil service management credentials to assume the job.

Lyons has been trying to figure out a way to get Thomas in the job anyway. He told some Forest Service employees earlier this month in Portland that he wanted to name Thomas as a deputy chief, appoint deputy Lamar Beasley as interim chief and then move Thomas into the top spot when Beasley retires within the next year. As deputy chief, Thomas would get the necessary credentials to be chief under civil service rules.

"It seems like Jim Lyons is very fixated on Jack Ward Thomas," said Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., who has opposed Thomas' appointment as chief. DeFazio's been told by administration officials of the Thomas deputy scenario, but adds. "You essentially then have a chief-in-waiting and a weak chief. We need strong leadership at the top now."

DeFazio is pushing for Steve Eubanks as chief. Eubanks, a forest supervisor in Minnesota who has Washington, D.C. experience, pushed innovative "ecosystem" management ideas while serving as a district ranger in the Willamette National Forest - years before the concept became a fashionable buzzword.

Other candidates include Jeff Sirmon, deputy chief for International forestry, Elizabeth Estill, regional forester for the Rocky Mountain area; and California regional forester Ron Stewart.

There is movement toward making changes at a lower level as well. The congressional Interior appropriations bill includes language allowing Forest Service employees to take early retirement giving them cash payments up front and other incentives.

That may allow Lyons to clean house at the agency. Lyons and others in the administration have hinted that a Forest Service shake-up could reach all the way down to the regional level.

"We need some housecleaning, some new direction and some stability at the same time," DeFazio said. "The dilemma is, when you're trying to clean house with dead wood at the top, how do you bring in fresh blood with different credentials?"



Agency critics say it is amazing that so many bad things can happen to an agency without a single head rolling.

"These guys are survivors," said Jeff DeBonis, a former Willamette National Forest timber sale planner who now heads an advocacy group called **Public Employees for Environmental Ethics**.

"The Forest Service is considered (in Congress) to be one of the hardest nuts to crack," DeBonis added. "They are very savvy. They've been pounded for three years and it's just amazing the chief hasn't been replaced yet. It just takes constant pressure to get them to buckle."

Morale is very low at local forest service offices, but employees are more concerned about budget-cutting layoffs than who's going to be the next chief, said Cheri Brooks of the **Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics**, which is dedicated to changing the agency from within.

Thousands of Forest Service employees are being laid off because timber revenues are dropping as the agency imposes court-ordered reductions in logging.

Many of the workers complain that too many top-level managers' jobs are being protected in the downsizing. A year ago, the agency froze most jobs in middle management or above, thus preventing layoffs at higher levels.

"It's the people who clean up in the campgrounds and put out the fires who are going down the road while they (managers) keep their jobs," said a Willamette forest employee who asked not to be identified out of fear of retribution. "The managers care in a mentality of, we can just hunker down and wait Clinton out until somebody like Bush or Reagan gets back in there."

Some Forest Service critics, however, think Robertson and other agency managers aren't entirely to blame.

"A lot of people like Dale Robertson have just been singled out as convenient scapegoats," said Roy Keene, head of the **Public Forestry Foundation** in Eugene.

Keene's group has been working for two years with local district rangers and others in the agency, trying to convince them to change management to a more ecosystem based selective cutting style.

He said Congress, through laws mandating high timber cuts, has forced Forest Service managers to make bad decisions. The Forest Service budget, which relies heavily on timber revenues, also encourages managers to keep logging at higher levels, he added.

"A lot of people in the agency are feeling like sandwich meat right now," Keene said. "They're caught between politics and environmental reality. If they could just take care of their original mission, which was to be good stewards of the forest, they could do a heck of a job."

end

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Washington  
Office

14th & Independence SW  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington, DC 20090-6090

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Date: October 15, 1993

**MEMORANDUM TO THE SECRETARY**

**SUBJECT:** October 14 Letter from Environmental Groups

On October 14, the Americans for the Ancient Forests; National Audubon Society; Pacific Rivers Council; Sierra Club; Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund; Western Ancient Forest Campaign; and The Wilderness Society, sent you a letter aimed at discrediting the integrity, honesty, and professionalism of USDA Forest Service employees. They took a series of isolated cases and put them together in a way that implied they represented the behavior of USDA Forest Service people in general. That is a slam at USDA Forest Service employees who work hard at caring for the land and serving people with the highest degree of integrity and honesty.

I can no longer stand by and let these vicious attacks on the integrity, honesty, and professionalism of USDA Forest Service employees go unchallenged. I plan to speak out in their defense because a serious injustice is being done to innocent people. I hope that you will look at the facts rather than be swayed by the rhetoric and misrepresentations that were included in the October 14 letter and related comments made at their press conference. Still better, in the spirit of "Team USDA," I hope you will join me in standing up for our employees who are being badly maligned and unfairly treated by groups with a political agenda.

The management of the national forests and the USDA Forest Service work force requires constant vigilance. At times, there are controversial and undesirable results. Whenever we find a problem, we root it out and deal with it. With 191 million acres and nearly 40,000 employees spread across the United States and millions of Americans who care about what happens on the national forests, it would be miraculous if there were no controversy about national forest management.

Public trust is critical to the success of USDA and the Forest Service. Even though special interest groups have been very critical of the USDA Forest Service, because they cannot always get their way in how the national forests are being managed, our standing with the American people is high. For instance, a 1992 opinion poll taken in Idaho showed that 77 percent of the public had a high opinion of the USDA Forest Service. Comparable figures for environmental groups were 42 percent and forest product companies were 58 percent.

In addition to our standing with the American people, as indicated by this poll, the USDA Forest Service has the biggest partnership/volunteer program in Government. Last year, we had about 9,500 partners and 100,000 volunteers throughout the United States helping us get the conservation job done on the national forests. Our grass-root partners take a serious offense to the rhetoric and misrepresentations included in the October 14 letter.

In regard to the many court cases, the USDA Forest Service must follow a complex set of laws in everything we do on the national forests. In fact, Judge Karlton highlighted the difficulty in reconciling the conflicting laws regarding national forest management by saying, "Indeed, the crazy quilt of apparently mutually incompatible statutory directives is enough to drive any Secretary of Agriculture interested in discharging his lawful duties to drink."

Mr. Secretary, we do not want to drive you to drink as Judge Karlton suggested might occur. You need to know that USDA Forest Service employees are doing the best job they know how, under very difficult circumstances, to carry out congressionally authorized and funded programs. We need to support them in their difficult job, because they are being unfairly criticized and beat up badly by people who disagree with the implementation of these programs. The worst thing we could do would be to remain silent or imply that we are in agreement with the rhetoric and misrepresentations included in the October 14 letter.

In fact, our track record in court is notable. Over the past 4 years, we have won 67 cases and lost only 19 cases that deal with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Unfortunately, you are likely to only hear about the 19 losses rather than the 67 wins. Our people are doing a great job, and they should be recognized.

The USDA Forest Service people pride themselves in being responsive to our political leaders and the changing values and needs of the American people. For example, in June of 1992, the USDA Forest Service became the first agency in the world to adopt an ecosystem management policy. At the same time, the USDA Forest Service eliminated the use of clearcutting as a standard timber harvest practice. Clearcutting is now the exception on new timber sales on the national forests.

These recent changes, along with many others like wilderness management and the stewardship program for private forest lands, illustrate how the USDA Forest Service is adjusting to the changing needs and values of the American people. Earlier this year, we adopted a new Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles (MVGP) statement which makes clear our commitment to an ecological approach to land management, to the use of the best sciences, and to the use of partnerships to get the conservation job done.

The USDA Forest Service is on the move and we are changing in many ways. I hope you will join me in providing a supportive work environment for our employees who know their jobs and do them well with a high level of integrity.

The October 14 letter is an attack on the integrity, honesty, and professionalism of all USDA Forest Service employees. They deserve better! They should not be caught up in the political agenda of special interest groups who are trying to sway decisions by people in Washington, D.C.

/s/ F. Dale Robertson

F. DALE ROBERTSON  
Chief

cc:  
Deputy Secretary  
Assistant Secretary Lyons

The Oregonian  
September 26, 1993

By: Kathie Durbin

#### "HATFIELD WANTS A PRO TO LEAD FOREST SERVICE"

The Oregon senator says he wouldn't object if Clinton names Jack Ward Thomas to take over the troubled agency.

WASHINGTON - Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon and three other western Republican senators have asked Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy to replace Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson with a career professional, not a political appointee.

Espy told the Agriculture Committee earlier this month that he plans to replace Robertson, the target of broad criticism in recent years. By tradition, the chief's job has gone to a career Forest Service employee.

The senators' letter, dated Oct. 21, asks Espy to establish a well-defined process for the chief's selection if the Agriculture Department decides to look outside the Senior Executive Service, a cadre of career managers, for Robertson's replacement.

"If it is going to be a political appointment, we feel the candidate needs to come before the Senate Agriculture Committee," Hatfield spokesman Bill Calder said Monday.

"If this administration breaks with established...procedures and selects a political chief, we will live with that precedent for many years," said the letter, also signed by Sens. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo, and Conrad Burns, R-Mont.

The Agriculture Department's top spokesman did not return a call requesting comment.

The rumored front-runner for the job is Forest Service biologist, Jack Ward Thomas, a career employee. Hatfield has no personal objection to Thomas, Calder said. Thomas, who headed the team that developed President Clinton's forest plan, has been a Forest Service employee for 27 years and is the agency's senior research biologist. But because he is not a member of the elite Senior Executive Service and never has been in charge of managing a national forest, he is not qualified to become chief under established federal personnel rules.

The possibility of a political appointment also has drawn protests from the professional foresters who supervise the nation's timber preserves.

But the 10,000 member Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, an organization of federal employees who seek environmental reform within land management agencies, took a different position, calling for Clinton to replace Robertson with one of three "proven reformers: Thomas, Tom Kovalicky, former supervisor of Idaho's Nez Perce National Forest; or Jeff Sirmon, deputy Forest Service Chief for International Forestry and a former Northwest regional forester.

Meanwhile, Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., accused the administration of dragging its feet on getting a new chief in place and said Thomas would be a poor choice for the job.

DeFazio added that he thinks the administration should pick someone who can take a progressive, evenhanded approach to running the embattled Forest Service.



"Jack Ward Thomas is the other side of the Forest Service that's been fighting the timber beast for 30 years," he said. "I think he would be seeking revenge for 30 years of slights."

"Senators and congressmen are entitled to express their opinions," Thomas responded, adding, "I've never felt revenge in my heart toward anyone."

end



From the stump...

## Forest Service Chief Thomas?

by Mike Crouse, Publisher

### The USFS Chief...out!

**S**peculation is running rampant as to who the next U.S. Forest Service Chief might be....this as we await the imminent ouster of current Chief F. Dale Robertson.

The loss of Robertson, we imagine, is being quietly cheered within the Forest Service offices around the country. In his several years at the helm forest policy seems to have been guided by prevailing winds of the day more than a consistent philosophy.

Even more tragic has been the lack of support and backbone for existing forest service staff and past forest service policy. Emerging policy has appeared to be based more on politically correct thinking rather than solid, proven science.

In fairness, Robertson came on board during a time of great change which included a rash of Environmental Industry based litigation frenzies, and Affirmative Action. Any leader of the Forest Service would have had a difficult time in this changing landscape. But weak "appeasement" style leadership demonstrated throughout the tenure of Robertson essentially left the Forest Service a rudderless ship. The USFS, staff within the Service and the forest have, as a result, suffered

active management options of multiple-use while various theories are studied. Fine if you're a scientist with grant money, not so fine if you are dependent on federal forests for supply of raw materials.

Thomas, a research scientist with some fairly clear predisposed beliefs, could also point towards more of a forest reserve laboratory use of the forests rather than multiple-use. There is much in what Thomas has said and done which shows a greater degree of sympathy towards wildlife's situation, be it real or imagined, and man's part in creating that plight.

While there are many other qualified multiple-use, balance oriented, foresters who would be well qualified for the Chief's position who will have been passed over in favor of Thomas, there are also legions of environmental fanatics, of the same ilk as George Frampton, who were left out as well. A somewhat perverse good thought.

What remains to be seen, with Thomas's expected appointment, is if any forest sales will actually come to the table to see the light of day in the immediate future.

Will the acres of bug kills in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and California be actively managed with therapeutic cuts to eliminate the infestation or left on the ground as fuel for forest fires?

And, of course, what will the long range plan for the Forest Service be? A national planter with man essentially excluded from the ecosystem management plan?.....or managed for multiple-use under much more stringent guidelines both for harvest and replanting.

Either way, by the time you read

this, Jack Ward Thomas will, in all likelihood, be the new Forest Service Chief.

### Beam up Scotty

**S**cott Sooner writes, out of Washington D. C., for the Associated Press and is, particularly in this day and age, a good journalist who writes of facts, not fiction.

A story which appeared recently in *The Oregonian* was headlined: "Recovery of forest on Mt. St. Helens still 165 years away."

Sooner's story related to findings published by David Yamaguchi for National Geographic Research & Exploration Journal which said, in effect, that the "natural" new forest for the Mt. St. Helens Volcano blast area was 165 years away.

**W**hat was not said....the managed forestland owned by Weyerhaeuser is, and has been, on its way to recovery with some trees replanted in 1981 already reaching heights of 20+ feet.

Since 1986, Weyco has replanted 18,400,000 D. fir seedlings. ■



Summary Judgment....

## From scientific illiteracy comes weird science

by William Perry Pendley

**O**n Election Night 1992, Senator Al Gore stepped before the television cameras and announced, "We (Bill Clinton and Gore) are the

been planned carefully, visited President Clinton in the White House. One poignant moment came when "Pernell" of Garyville

have led, in the words of former Governor and author Dr. Dixy Lee Ray, "to a longer and healthier life."

As Dr. Ray wrote in *Trashing the Planet*, "The belief that the 'good old days' were simple, benign, and kind is wrong! The reality is those days were dirty, disease-ridden, and smelly. We have been privileged to live through the most extraordinary five decades of expanding knowledge and its use for bettering life that the world has ever known. Little wonder that some people cannot cope."

**I**nfortunately, scientific illiter-

**P**erhaps the most incredible suggestion came from a White House memo leaked (as has become the fashion) suggesting Jack Ward Thomas as the leading candidate for Forest Service Chief. Our first reaction, while throwing up our hands and laughing, was: why not?

Considering that Al Gore is Vice President, Bruce Babbitt is Sec. of the Interior and George Frampton is the Asst. Secretary, why not Jack Ward Thomas as Forest Service Chief? It would be in keeping with the "balanced solutions" we have already seen from this administration.

**W**hat would Forest Chief Thomas mean? Our guess.... lots more study.

As to the logging side of things, less logging would seem impossible (barring gluing fallen trees in log decks back to the stump).

We have no immediate problem with studying the forests when the forest is viewed and managed for multiple-use. Isn't that what's been involved through the course of the Forest Service anyway?

The central problem is more one of approach...to the exclusion of multiple-use as an active management reality. The movement, through the past several years, excludes most

when former Secretary of Education Bill Bennett later responded, "That's right, Mr. Vice President, you are the children of modern America and now it is time to grow up."

Clinton and Gore are of a new generation which came of age during the Vietnam War and which passed through the defiance, disaffection and dissidence of the sixties. While those rites of passage have not made Clinton and Gore's generation any more homogeneous than any other generation, there are some areas in which Clinton and Gore are representative, not just of a generation, but of a nation. They should not be so eager to admit it.

For when it comes to science and technology, Clinton and Gore represent, not the nation's best hopes, but its worst fears; Clinton and Gore are not proponents of progress, but advocates of apocalypse. Rather than providing critical leadership and seeking to moderate the nation's illiteracy on matters of science, Clinton and Gore have emerged as sky-is-falling demagogues seeking political gain from fear, superstition and dread.

**L**ast February, ABC's Peter Jennings, accompanied by several children whose remarks had

death from "a very rare brain tumor" which, according to Pernell, "may have resulted from...environmental contamination" caused by nearby petro-chemical plants.

President Clinton, while empathizing with the tragic loss of a young brother, could have calmed the boy's and the nation's fears. Instead Clinton fed upon them: "I think there are now all kinds of health hazards that we never knew about before...from some of the things we've done. And we need to do a lot of environmental cleanup in that part of Louisiana where you live and throughout the country...We'll do it for your brother, okay?"

**V**ice President Al Gore's demagoguery on matters of science and technology are well known. As Fred Barnes of *The New Republic* warns, Gore is "against scientific revolution...the industrial revolution...biotechnology, and...the internal combustion engine." Gore's view of technology appeared in his book: "We are not that smart, we never have been."

Speak for yourself, Mr. Vice President. For contrary to the politically-correct panderings of Clinton and Gore and their environmental elitist allies, science and technology

problem for "some people." It poses a grave threat to wise public policy and to the nation's ability to address and to resolve important technological and social problems. Obviously, Clinton and Gore and their willingness to echo the anti-technology utopians are not helping. Neither is much of the media.

However, there is hope. Three years after Dr. Ray's ground-breaking *Trashing the Planet*, and the appearance of her sequel, *Environmental Overkill: Whatever Happened to Common Sense?*, weird or political science is the subject of several new books, including, in particular, Michael Fumeto's outstanding *Science Under Siege*.

As one considers the momentous interplay between science and public policy, the admonition of James Madison once again rings true: "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

Mr. Pendley, a Wyoming attorney, is President and Chief Legal Officer of Mountain States Legal Foundation and a regular columnist in *Loggers World*.



*Finley's*

What did we want to do? Jean was pretty happy with things as they were. She has her work at Rigging Shack. She went to lunch with friends a couple of days ago.

strongly. He went on to say that occasionally they have a person come to their place to have dinner with them. This person eats very slowly and carefully. Everyone else is finished eating and she is still enjoying her food. One time Ray asked, "How come it takes you so long to finish your dinner?" The answer: "It takes a long time to make every-



... WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1993 A17

## THE FEDERAL PAGE

# Forest Service Chiefs Wink At Timber Theft, Hill Told

*Ex-Agents Cite 'Systematic Breakdown' of Enforcement*

By Tom Kenworthy  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Law enforcement officials told Congress yesterday that timber companies are routinely stealing millions of dollars worth of trees from national forests with the tacit encouragement of senior U.S. Forest Service managers who frequently thwart efforts to stop the practice.

In testimony before a House civil service subcommittee, three Forest Service law enforcement agents and a former U.S. attorney from Oregon painted a portrait of an agency so driven by institutional and political pressures to maximize timber production and so "inbred" with the industry that it invites and sometimes colludes in massive fraud and theft.

"Timber theft is out of control in our national forests," said Michael Nitsch, a 15-year veteran of the Forest Service's law enforcement program now working on the

the service "made the unilateral decision" to fine the company and two employees a total of \$750, said Turner.

Officers of the company, Turner said, "made barely veiled threats" against Forest Service enforcement agents in another case involving theft of 18 truckloads of wood chips. Despite internal legal advice to cancel the company's contract, said Turner, Forest Service managers "authorized the company to resume logging activities."

Another veteran Forest Service law enforcement agent, Dennis Shrader, said investigations of timber theft by the service's agents had frequently been hampered by superiors who withheld information, destroyed evidence, limited investigations and warned timber companies of spot checks.

"The agency has resorted to every trick in the book, from subtle to blatant, to avoid enforcing the laws protecting our national forests," said Shrader. "The Forest Service



## Ex-Official Says Agency Hid Data From Public

enforcement program now working on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington state. "There has been a systematic breakdown of the Forest Service law enforcement program."

The agency's "inbred relationship" with industry, combined with easily manipulated practices governing bidding, timber measuring and sale layouts, has resulted in a system riddled with "invitations to steal and defraud," said Charles H. Turner, former U.S. attorney in Portland, Ore.

"The law enforcement component of the Forest Service simply does not have sufficient independence to conduct wide-ranging investigations, free from administrative interference and the longstanding devotion of Forest Service managers to 'get out the cut,'" said Turner.

By law each national forest draws up a 10-year plan that determines an allowable annual timber harvest level. But many experts within and outside the Forest Service believe those ceilings were inflated during the 1980s by political pressures from Washington. In addition, Congress has sometimes set timber harvest targets for different regions during the annual appropriations process.

The Forest Service, with roughly 33,000 employees, manages 191 million acres of national forests and grasslands, and sells between 5 and 10 billion board feet of timber per year.

In one case detailed by Turner, Forest Service officials essentially overlooked the theft of "40 truckloads of logs worth tens of thousands of dollars." Rather than notify the U.S. attorney for prosecution,

has allowed favored timber companies to steal literally hundreds of millions of dollars worth of old growth timber."

Forest Service chief F. Dale Robertson—who is expected to be replaced by the Clinton administration—acknowledged that timber theft is a "serious problem" but said the agency is making strides in combatting it.

Robertson said he had reluctantly agreed with critics that investigative agents should not be under the control of regional foresters, who frequently are pressured by politicians and senior forest service officials in Washington to increase timber cutting. Robertson said that as of last month agents are reporting to senior law enforcement officers.

Witnesses described the problem as partly a function of the forest service "culture" in which budgets and promotions are tied to timber production, and where forest service employees live alongside timber company employees in small, tightly knit rural communities—and therefore are reluctant to antagonize neighbors through tough regulation of the industry.

Timber companies, according to yesterday's witnesses, defraud the government and steal timber through various practices including: a bid system that encourages rigging; a "scaling" or log measuring system in which independent scalers actually are paid by timber purchasers; moving markers to cut trees outside of sale boundaries; bypassing scaling stations where loggers are supposed to pay for cut timber, and re-using tickets to account for loads of logs.

Associated Press

A former head of the Forest Service's whistle-blower unit said the agency regularly denied the existence of documents to thwart attempts by the public to get them under the Freedom of Information Act.

In one case, John McCormick said his superiors rewrote an incriminating report before giving it to someone who sought it under the federal law guaranteeing broad public access to government documents.

McCormick, who retired under pressure in 1992, said he is prepared to testify in a court case in Portland, Ore., about widespread irregularities in the agency's handling of FOIA requests from 1989 to 1991. He said he knew of at least 25 cases in which agency officials denied the existence of documents that they knew they had.

He said many of the cases involved documents related to government logging operations that violated environmental laws or reprisals against workers who resisted orders to break the laws.

"I put those records in the files. I can lead the Justice Department and the General Accounting Office right down to the basement there and open up their eyes," he said.

Forest Service spokesman Denver James referred calls to the Agriculture Department. "We take all of these allegations very seriously," department spokesman Tom Amontree said.

Amontree said the department had no evidence FOIA requests have been falsified but "anybody caught doing anything like that will be dealt with severely."

In a related development, a GAO report released yesterday said that government investigators found "over 180 alleged incidents of interference and retaliation" against Forest Service law officers who investigate alleged wrongdoing within the agency and the timber industry.

IN THE LOOP

THE WASHINGTON POST



# Vento's vision

## Key congressman predicts an end to wilderness fight

By **SHERRY DEVLIN**  
of the Missoulian

**N**INEMILE — The chairman of the House subcommittee that oversees wilderness legislation said Saturday he is optimistic that Montana's decades-old debate over wilderness will be resolved late this year or early next year.

"I actually think it is possible," said Rep. Bruce Vento, D-Minn. and chairman of the House subcommittee on national parks and public lands. "It is important to the people of Montana to have a decision."

Vento said there is "consensus, but not unanimity" on a 1.56 million acre wilderness bill introduced by Rep. Pat Williams, D-Mont.

"There will be changes on some of the boundaries, and I want to take care of some problems with the water rights language," Vento said. "But I'm ready to go. I've been ready for years."

There are six million acres of roadless national forest land left to be designated in Montana.

The congressman spoke at a news conference just before dedication of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute and the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center at the Forest Service's Ninemile Ranger Station.

Vento said he does not — and will not — support an alternative wilderness bill written by Missoula's Alliance for the Wild Rockies and designating 16.3 million acres of wilderness in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington and Oregon.

"Adding five states together sounds like it multiplies my problems to 10 senators instead of two," Vento said. "You don't solve problems by expanding them."

Vento said the alliance's bill,

(See **VENTO**, Page A-11)

THE MISSOULIAN

August 22, 1992 Missoula, MT.

## Vento

(continued)

introduced recently by New York Rep. Carolyn Maloney, affords wilderness designation to lands that "are not really wilderness in character."

Just back from a three-day pack trip into the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Vento said he sees a "changing attitude in the Forest Service." He was accompanied on the trip by Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson and Northern Region Forester Dave Jolly.

The agency has stopped the misuse of wilderness dollars that launched a Vento investigation several years ago, he said. At that time, some money intended for wilderness management was spent on other programs, with the idea that "wilderness takes care of itself," Vento said.

Wilderness dollars now are spent only on wilderness management, Vento said, although he remains concerned about the amount of money siphoned off for administrative costs — a concern he voiced over the campfire with Robertson.

Vento also spoke of his "disappointment" that some Forest Service employees apparently have lost their jobs after they spoke out against the agency, oftentimes in defense of the environment.

There were some "mean-spirited" dismissals and forced reassignments in the past, the congressman said.

Vento said he cannot guarantee that all so-called whistle-blowers will be safe from reprisal in the years ahead. "When you choose to be an advocate, it has some risks," he said.

He added, though, that "without some disagreements, our land management agencies aren't worth a damn. I don't need someone out here saying yes to what some congressman from Alaska or Idaho tells them to do. These people at the Forest Service are sent out here to represent science and professionalism, not to represent politics."

## Robertson

(continued)

Rep. Bruce Vento, the Minnesota Democrat who chairs the House subcommittee on national parks and public lands.

Robertson said he got a firsthand look at wilderness management troubles — and wilderness attributes — last week during a three-day pack trip to the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Vento also took part in the trip to Gorge Creek and Sunburst Lake.

At Vento's prodding, Robertson said his agency is taking greater care to make certain that dollars appropriated by Congress for wilderness "get to where the boot hits the forest."

The Forest Service wants to hire more wilderness rangers, the chief said. Its new training center will help rangers and line officers alike learn more about the wilderness resource and its protection.



### **Aldo Leopold (1887-1948)**

Characterized as "a prophet of the environmental movement," Aldo Leopold was the developer of a philosophy of naturally, self-regulating systems and ecological concern for land health and ethic.

*"Our ability to perceive quality in nature begins, as in art, with the pretty. It expands through successive stages of the beautiful to values as yet uncaptured by language. The quality of [wilderness] lies, I think, in this highest gamut..."*



### **Arthur Carhart ( 1892-1978)**

Arthur Carhart was known as a pioneer in wilderness planning and was one of the first to formulate and apply practical principles to safeguard the wilderness values of forest land.

*"There is a limit to the number of lands of the shoreline on the lake; there is a limit to the number of lakes in existence; there is a limit to the mountainous areas in the world, and in each one of these situations there are portions of natural scenic beauty which are God made, and the beauties of which a right should be the property of all people."*

## **DEDICATION CEREMONY AGENDA**

Saturday, August 21

10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

Welcome - Master of Ceremonies, Dave Jolly,  
Northern Region Regional Forester

"From the Wilderness"

Judith Fraser, Wilderness Coordinator,  
Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness

Remarks by F. Dale Robertson, Chief, Forest Service

Keynote by Congressman Bruce Vento

Remarks by Kay Collins, friend of Arthur Carhart

Remarks by Dorothy Leopold Bradley,  
representing the Aldo Leopold family

Remarks by Jim Baca, Director,  
Bureau of Land Management

Remarks by David L. Olsen, Assistant Director,  
Refuges & Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Remarks by Robert Baker, Regional Director,  
Rocky Mountain Region, National Park Service

11:30 a.m.

Closing remarks by Dave Jolly

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Tours of Ninemile Ranger Station  
Wilderness-related activities and demonstrations

The Aldo Leopold Research Institute (WRI) and the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center (WTC) work in concert to link where we have been in relation to the environment with where we hope to go as stewards of the national wilderness resource and as members of the global community.

The WRI is an interagency program established to conduct wilderness studies, transfer technology, and cooperate in research efforts with universities and private sector partners. The WRI will focus on obtaining data needed to manage sustained wilderness resources in an ecological and socially-sound manner for present and future generations.

The WTC fosters interagency excellence in wilderness stewardship by developing skilled wilderness managers. The Training Center coordinates with leaders and managers to identify wilderness training needs and develop training programs. The WTC also maintains and shares an interagency skills file of knowledgeable wilderness leaders and technical experts.

The WRI and WTC were established with the active participation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, Fish & Wildlife Service, and National Park Service. The alliance between the two programs demonstrates that the best and most efficient way to act as stewards of the National Wilderness Preservation System is to integrate wilderness research and management efforts across agency and organizational boundaries.

**DEDICATION**  
**of the**  
**Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute**  
**and the**  
**Arthur Carhart National Wilderness**  
**Training Center**

Saturday  
August 21, 1993

Ninemile Ranger Station  
Lolo National Forest  
Huson, Montana

United States Department of Agriculture's  
Forest Service

United States Department of the Interior's  
Bureau of Land Management  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Park Service



in partnership with:  
Northwest Interpretive Association  
Wilderness Education Association (WEA)  
National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)  
Paul Petzoldt, Founder and Board Member of WEA; Founder of NOLS  
University of Montana

ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
ARTHUR CARHART NATIONAL WILDERNESS TRAINING CENTER  
Dedication - August 21, 1993

Ninemile Ranger Station – Lolo National Forest – Huson, Montana

9:30 - 10:00 **MEDIA AVAILABILITY** – Congressman Bruce Vento, D-MN, and Congressman Maurice Hinchey, D-NY

DEDICATION CEREMONY

10:30 a.m. Welcome by Regional Forester & Master of Ceremonies Dave Jolly

10:35 a.m. "From the Wilderness" - Judith Fraser, Wilderness Coordinator for the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness

10:40 a.m. Remarks by F. Dale Robertson, Chief, Forest Service

10:45 a.m. Keynote by Congressman Bruce Vento

10:55 a.m. Remarks by Kay Collins, friend of Arthur Carhart

11:00 a.m. Remarks by Dorothy Leopold Bradley, representing the Aldo Leopold family

11:05 a.m. Remarks by Jim Baca, Director, Bureau of Land Management

11:10 a.m. Remarks by David L. Olsen, Assistant Director – Refuges & Wildlife; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

11:15 a.m. Remarks by H. Gilbert Lusk, Superintendent; Glacier National Park; National Park Service

11:20 a.m. Closing remarks by Dave Jolly

**\*\* END OF DEDICATION CEREMONY \*\***

11:30 - 12:00 **MEDIA AVAILABILITY** – Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson

11:30 - 2:30 Events at Ninemile:

- \* Guided tours of Historic Ranger Station by Ninemile staff and Bernie Weisgerber, R-1 Historic Preservation Crew

- \* Northern Region Pack String, packing demonstrations & education display

- \* Cross-cut saw demonstrations and practice

- \* Blacksmith/horseshoe making demonstrations - Forge interpretation by Lyndel Makel, Grant Khoors Ranch; National Park Service

- \* Leave No Trace camping demonstrations by National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

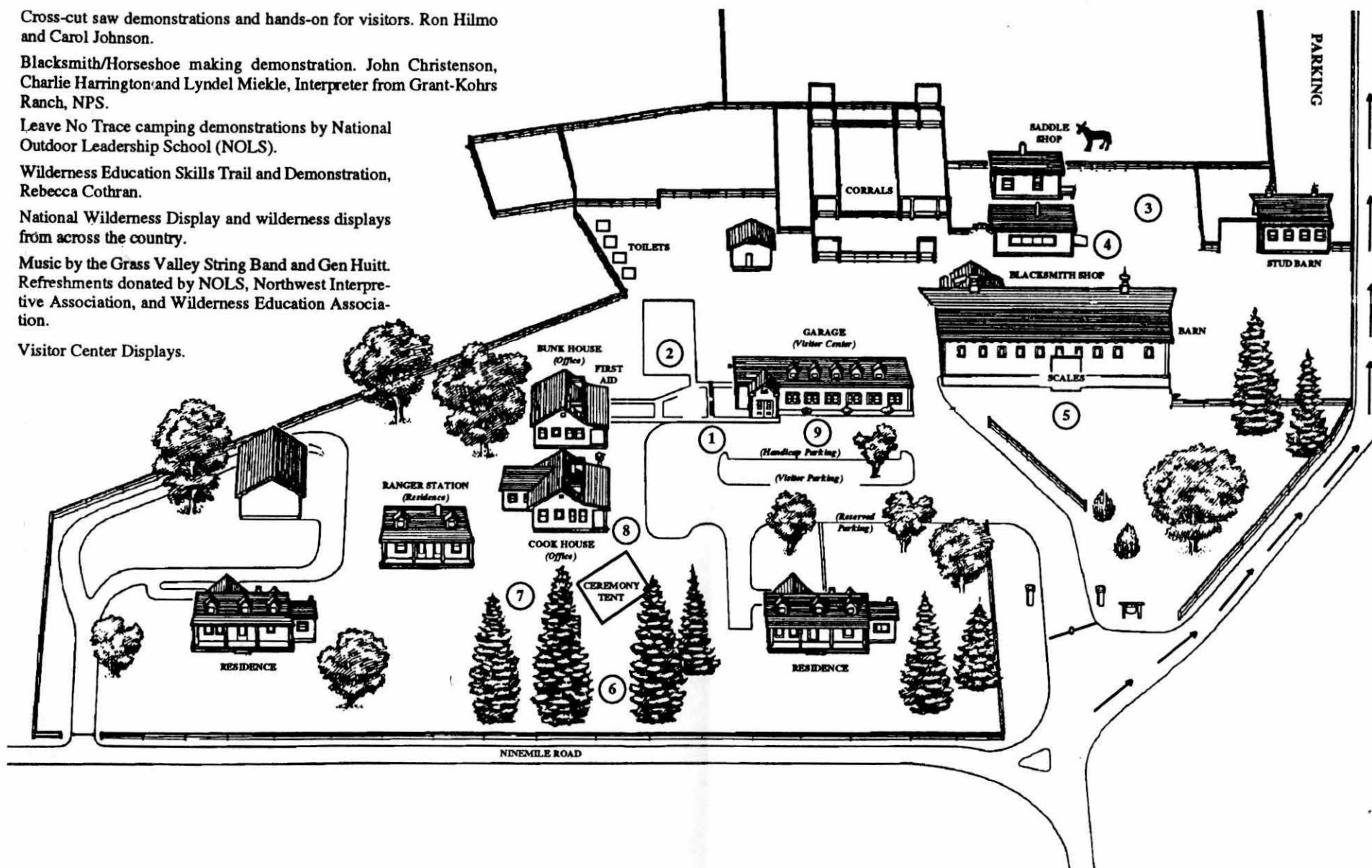
- \* Wilderness Education Skills Trails and Demonstrations by local wilderness rangers
- \* National Wilderness Display and wilderness displays from across the country
- \* Refreshments donated through a partnership with National Outdoor Leadership School
- \* Bluegrass music provided by the Lolo Locals



## POST-DEDICATION EVENTS AT NINEMILE

- 1 Guided tours of Historic Ranger Station by Ninemile staff and Bernie Weisgerber, Region One Historic Preservation Specialist. Tours begin at 11:45 and 12:45 and last approximately 45 minutes. Meet at the bell.
- 2 Northern Region Packtrain, packing demonstrations and educational display. Bob Hoverson, Dave York, Jennifer Wicks, Theresa York and Vivian Christenson.
- 3 Cross-cut saw demonstrations and hands-on for visitors. Ron Hilmo and Carol Johnson.
- 4 Blacksmith/Horseshoe making demonstration. John Christenson, Charlie Harrington and Lyndel Mickle, Interpreter from Grant-Kohrs Ranch, NPS.
- 5 Leave No Trace camping demonstrations by National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS).
- 6 Wilderness Education Skills Trail and Demonstration, Rebecca Cothran.
- 7 National Wilderness Display and wilderness displays from across the country.
- 8 Music by the Grass Valley String Band and Gen Huit. Refreshments donated by NOLS, Northwest Interpretive Association, and Wilderness Education Association.
- 9 Visitor Center Displays.

# NINEMILE RANGER STATION



# NEWS

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Office of  
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News Division  
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## DEDICATION CELEBRATES INTERAGENCY COMMITMENT TO WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, July 27--The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service will hold a dedication ceremony on Aug. 21 establishing two new wilderness management program facilities in Montana--the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center in historic Ninemile Ranger Station/Remount Depot and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute on the campus of the University of Montana in Missoula.

The Forest Service founded the new programs with the active participation and support of three U.S. Department of the Interior land management agencies--the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service.

"The closely-aligned programs of the Training Center and the Research Institute demonstrate the belief that the best and most efficient way to act as wilderness stewards is to integrate research and management efforts across agency and organizational boundaries," said Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Jim Lyons. "This integrated approach exemplifies the administration's commitment to efficiency in government."

The program facilities will be dedicated in a celebration sponsored by the four agencies. The dedication will be held near the Training Center site on the Ninemile District of the Lolo National Forest at Huson, Mont., about 30 miles west of Missoula.

The ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the historic Ninemile Ranger Station and will be followed by wilderness-related demonstrations, tours, and activities. Other sponsors include the National Outdoor Leadership School and the Northwest Interpretive Association.

Forest Service Chief F. Dale Robertson and the directors of the Interior agencies will participate in the event, as will Minnesota's Congressman Bruce Vento, the Montana Congressional delegation, and other federal, state, and local officials.

The facilities are named for early Forest Service employees, Aldo Leopold and Arthur Carhart, who pioneered the concept of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The NWPS was established by Congress in 1964 to secure an enduring resource of wilderness for the American people. Today the benefits and importance, both nationally and globally, of preserving wilderness are even more significant than they were 30 years ago. The NWPS represents one of the greatest ecological resources in the U.S. and abroad.

#

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**United States Department of Agriculture**  
**Forest Service**  
**ARTHUR CARHART NATIONAL WILDERNESS TRAINING CENTER**  
Background Information

The Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center (WTC) was established to foster interagency excellence in wilderness stewardship by cultivating knowledgeable, skilled, and capable wilderness managers. As with the Wilderness Research Institute, the WTC was developed with the assistance of Department of the Interior land management agencies, conservation groups, universities, and the wilderness community.

**Objectives:** To coordinate with wilderness leaders and managers to inventory and set priorities for wilderness training and educational needs; to develop Region- and agency-specific materials, programs, and partnerships to meet training and education needs; to export training programs and assist in program implementation; to develop an interagency skills file of knowledgeable, respected wilderness leaders and technical experts to assist in development and implementation of wilderness training and education programs; to coordinate communication networks and serve as a clearinghouse to transfer information and materials on wilderness training and education; and to coordinate with the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute for access to a data inventory that focuses on wilderness management.

**Administration:** A steering committee comprised of representatives from the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service advises the WTC and assists in setting priorities for management training needs. A working committee assigns tasks, determines priorities, measures performance, and evaluates Center objectives in accordance with the direction provided by the interagency steering committee. The working committee is composed of the National Training Center Director and members from each agency. Staffing consists of a Director, Operations Assistant, and Administrative Coordinator.

**Training Traditions:** Backcountry-related training has been presented at the historic Ninemile Ranger Station facilities for many years. Traditional packing and primitive skills training packages have been offered since 1980. Historic preservation, trail and bridge construction and maintenance, and minimum impact camping training has been offered since 1988. And since 1990, a course in Advanced Wilderness Management Training for Line Officers has been available to managers. About 900 people have attended more than 50 wilderness training courses developed and offered at Ninemile since 1989.

**Location:** Selection of the Ninemile Ranger Station (Lolo National Forest, 30 miles west of Missoula, MT) as the site for the WTC was based on a number of factors: location near the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute in Missoula; a tradition of leadership in presenting hands-on training over the past decade; the setting is historically significant, scenic, rural, and tranquil and allows a wilderness-like experience without impacting Wilderness; personnel had already established considerable credibility in the wilderness management community; a number of designated wildernesses are nearby; and many national wilderness-oriented groups and organizations are located in the region.

# # #

**Arthur Hawthorne Carhart**  
**1892 - 1978**

Arthur H. Carhart was the first landscape architect employed by the USDA Forest Service. He was, however, much more than the title implies; he was also a wilderness planning pioneer. Carhart was one of the first in the United States to formulate and apply practical principles to safeguard the wilderness values of forest land. His career with the Forest Service was fairly short; 1919-23. Yet during that time he launched the agency's wilderness system which now includes 34 million acres.

Congress created the National Wilderness Preservation System in 1964 with the passage of the Wilderness Act. Today the entire NWPS includes 95 million acres. Forty-five years before this historic act, the visionary Carhart prepared plans to protect outstanding scenic areas in Colorado and Minnesota national forests. He identified large tracts of public forest lands to be set aside and preserved in their natural state and persuaded the Forest Service to adopt a policy to protect these Wilderness, Wild, and Primitive Areas.

Carhart's public recreation plans for the San Isabel and White River National Forests in Colorado and the Superior National Forest in Minnesota contained the seeds of the wilderness concept as applied on public lands.

As a young Recreation Engineer on the San Isabel National Forest, in 1919 Carhart worked to prevent the development of summer cabins on the shores of beautiful Trappers Lake. This was at a time when the Forest Service was committed to a national effort to lease waterfront land.

Aldo Leopold, who at the time was assistant district (regional) forester in Albuquerque, had heard of Carhart's success at Trappers Lake and requested a meeting. They met for one day in Denver, and Leopold asked Carhart to record the notable points of their discussion. Carhart's memo to Leopold is now a historic document.

Five years later, in 1924, Leopold shaped the first Wilderness. Under strong urging by both Carhart and Leopold, the Forest Service established the Gila Wilderness (558,000 acres) in New Mexico. By the time Congress passed its wilderness legislation, the Forest Service had already established 88 Wilderness, Wild, and Primitive Areas.

After a visit to the Superior National Forest in Minnesota in 1921, Carhart recognized the canoe country in a report. He recommended that, "The whole place should be kept as near wilderness as possible, the wilderness feature being developed rather than any urban conditions." His plan for the Superior National Forest in Minnesota eventually culminated in the present Boundary Waters Canoe Area.



Arthur Carhart left the Forest Service in 1923 and went into private practice in Denver. He continued his work and interest in public recreation throughout his life. He wrote many articles and books on the subject, including the authoritative text, "Planning for America's Wildlands." He founded and for several years managed the National Conservation Library in Denver.



**United States Department of Agriculture**  
**Forest Service**  
**ALDO LEOPOLD WILDERNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
Background Information

**Program Philosophy:** The structure and function of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute (WRI) demonstrate the belief that the best and most efficient way to act as stewards of the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) is to integrate wilderness research and management efforts across agency and organizational boundaries.

**Development of concept:** The USDA Forest Service began work on the WRI concept in July 1992 following congressional hearings for the Wilderness Management Bill introduced by Congressman Bruce Vento (D-MN). The mission and charter for the Institute were developed with the assistance of Department of the Interior land management agencies, conservation groups, universities, and the wilderness community.

**Mission/Purpose of WRI:** WRI obtains and provides data needed to manage sustained wilderness resources in an ecologically and socially-sound manner for present and future generations. This mission is national and international in scope. The WRI:

Conducts and augments wilderness research; integrates and coordinates research efforts on or near NWPS lands; develops and implements innovative technology transfer methods; and provides technical assistance on wilderness-related issues.

**Research Topic Areas:** Four broad research topic areas have been identified: recreation and non-recreation uses; physical, ecological, and social impacts on the wilderness resource; monitoring the NWPS; and developing information for wilderness management and education.

**Programs:** The primary program components are research and application. The research function brings together scientific expertise to produce state-of-the-art knowledge about wilderness and ecosystem issues. The application function has the lead in coordinating and integrating the technology transfer of wilderness research to management efforts.

**Location:** The WRI site on the University of Montana campus in Missoula was selected to place it near the National Wilderness Training Center (located 30 miles west of Missoula). This permits the maximum interface between research and managers.

**Links to other Forest Service programs:** The WRI will provide understanding of basic ecosystem functioning as well as baseline monitoring of ecological conditions. It will also address research needs of the future. The information collected will be communicated directly to customers. Key roles identified for research include:

Gathering information about wilderness users; assisting in the development of visitor education programs; identifying the best methods to manage non-recreation uses of wilderness; working with scientists to characterize and monitor critical ecosystems within the NWPS to provide a yardstick of ecological health and improve wilderness management; and providing fundamental information about ecology, range, watershed, wildlife, and air-quality issues.

# # #



**Aldo Leopold**  
**1887 - 1948**

Aldo Leopold has been characterized as "a prophet of the environmental movement." Early in his career, like many other environmentalists of his time, Leopold believed people could control the environment to produce desired commodities. But he slowly developed a philosophy of naturally, self-regulating systems and ecological concern for land health and ethic.

Leopold was born in Iowa and educated at Lawrenceville School in New Jersey. He joined the Forest Service after graduation from the Yale School of Forestry, where he earned B.S. and M.F. degrees (1908/1909).

He filled a variety of positions in Arizona and New Mexico, and in 1919 was named assistant district (regional) forester for the Southwest Region at Albuquerque. Leopold's work on soil erosion problems in southwestern watersheds led him to develop the philosophy that people have a responsibility to maintain the health of the land.

In charge of the Southwest Region's game, fish, and wildlife ranges, he came to recognize that the maintenance and appeal of hunting and fishing was part of the larger problem of preserving wilderness conditions. His understanding and appreciation of wilderness grew out of his concern for the protection of wildlife.

Leopold's concern sparked discussions with his colleagues about the possibility of keeping part of the National Forests wild. He was greatly encouraged when he talked with a kindred spirit, Arthur H. Carhart, in 1919. He was impressed with Carhart's success in preventing construction of vacation homes around Colorado's beautiful Trappers Lake so that the area could be managed for wilderness recreation.

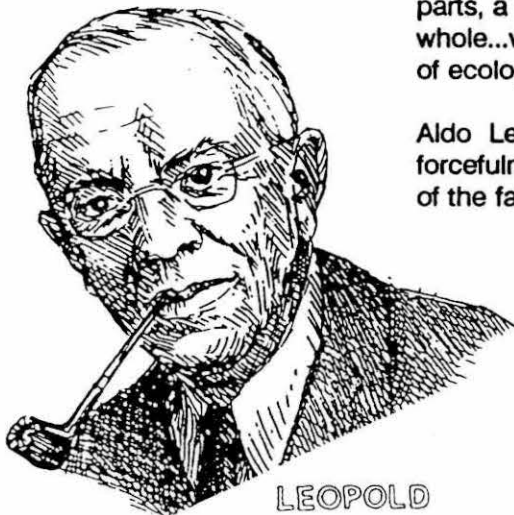
In an effort to give "definite form to the issue of wilderness conservation", in an article in the JOURNAL OF FORESTRY in 1921, Leopold defined wilderness as, **"...a continuous stretch of country preserved in its natural state, open to lawful hunting and fishing, big enough to absorb a two weeks' pack trip, and kept devoid of roads, artificial trails, cottages, or other works of man."**

He also campaigned successfully to have an undeveloped portion of the Gila National Forest in New Mexico set aside as a wilderness. Leopold and Carhart persuaded the Forest Service to establish the Gila Wilderness in 1924.

From 1924 to 1928 Leopold was assistant director of the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin. It was after he accepted a game management post on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin that Leopold "first clearly realized that land is an organism". His study of ecology taught him that all living things sharing an environment are interdependent and that people are part of ecological communities.

Ecology came of age during Leopold's lifetime. Roderick Nash, in WILDERNESS AND THE AMERICAN MIND (1967), writes that ecology enabled Leopold "to conceive of nature as an intricate web of interdependent parts, a myriad of cogs and wheels each essential to the healthy operation of the whole...wilderness had an important place in Aldo Leopold's land ethic as a model of ecological perfection."

Aldo Leopold's wilderness ethic was presented with such eloquence and forcefulness that it is now gospel with preservationists and will forever be a part of the fabric of preserving and protecting wilderness.



LEOPOLD