



THE ALLEGHENY NEWS

April - 1976

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by the

Allegheny Section
Society of American Foresters

P. O. Box 134
Mont Alto, PA 17237

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

PROBLEMS OR OPPORTUNITIES

The Allegheny Section of the Society of American Foresters was founded in 1922 primarily as a means of dealing with the problems of the day, i.e. unregulated cutting and forest destruction by fire. Through the 1940's and 50's the problems facing the Section changed to how to tend and utilize the young second growth forests. By the 1960's, the second growth forests had reached merchantable size and our problem changed to one of how to best harvest and reproduce mature stands.

It is my hope that the 1970's, and particularly 1976, will not be a period of seeking solutions to problems but rather one of seizing opportunity. We have a choice of staying one step behind and working on problems or getting one step ahead and taking advantage of the opportunity that awaits us.

Most of us got into forestry because, a long time ago, we recognized the value of the peace and solitude that the city-bred wilderness advocate just recently discovered. Fifteen to twenty years ago we foresters had the woods pretty much to ourselves, but times have changed.

Our forests have been invaded by recreationists, our quiet life shattered by motorized toys, our work scrutinized by so-called ecologists, our decisions challenged by the courts, our land regulated by attorneys and planned by sociologists and landscape architects.

Foresters, by nature are conservative people. Too often we sit back and rather than act, we wait and re-act. We seek solutions to problems after they arise. We can no longer wait and re-act, we must lead and act. Herein lies our opportunity.

The lawyers, the landscape architects, the sociologists, or the engineers have never been schooled in, or developed a philosophy of, resource management. Foresters by nature of their training and experience have developed a philosophy of resource management and are the best qualified professionals to lead the planning and future course of action for the 56,000 square miles of forest that constitute 63% of the land area within the five state Allegheny Section.

Only by working together through an organization like the Society of American Foresters with its local impact through Chapters, its regional impact through the Section and its national impact through Council and Staff, can foresters take their rightful place in helping to guide the course of future actions.

If there is any direction in which I would like to see the Allegheny Section move during the next two years, it would be toward greater involvement in planning and public decision making.

We don't have to wait for the public to impose its demands on us, we can help mold public opinion. We don't have to lobby against poor legislation, we can help draft good laws. We don't have to wait for city folks to tell us where the wilderness is, we know where the roadless areas are and can develop programs within our existing framework to provide peace and solitude in forest areas - call them wilderness, wild areas or whatever.

We don't have to rely on botany professors to locate our unique or unusual plant communities. There is no group of professional people that knows as much about the land area of the five states that encompass the Allegheny Section as do the foresters. We don't have to try to reverse fuzzy planning, we can help formulate good plans based on sound resource management.

These are opportunities if we act now or they can be problems if we wait and react later. Your Allegheny Chairman, Executive Committee or Chapter Chairman can't do the job for you. It will take a commitment on the part of every member of the Section. The future of forestry promises to be exciting. Let's make sure that everyone of us is in on the excitement.

- James C. Nelson

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ALLEGHENY SECTION

Summer Meeting

Dates: 19, 20 August 1976

Place: State College, PA

Topic: Natural Areas, Rare Plants, Foresters (and other endangered species)!

Arrangements: Frank Pelurie
Section Chairman of Natural Areas
Committee

More details in the August newsletter.
Plan now to attend!

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ALLEGHENY SECTION

Winter Meeting

Dates: 3, 4 February 1977

Place: Quality Inn, Carlisle, PA 17013

Topic: Legislating Forest Practices

ALLEGHENY SECTION - SAF

Summary of the Minutes
February 5, 1976

Sheraton Inn, Dover, Delaware

The annual business meeting of the Allegheny Section was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. David White.

John Kegg reported for the Tellers Committee giving the following election results:

Chairman Elect	George Kemp
Secretary-Treasurer	Ronald Sheay
Executive Committee	Dave Weissert
	Bill Scherer
	Ken Funderburke, Jr.
	Robert Forney

Jim Nelson reported for the House of Section Delegates. Some of the highlights were:

1. The HSD recommended that the Council consider advising undergraduate schools to establish more stringent standards and curricula to correct the oversupply of forestry graduates.
2. The HSD requested the Council to give more aid to Sections and Chapters with the problem of Forest Practices Act legislation.
3. The HSD petitioned Council to review the standards for accreditation and to require that practicing professional foresters have full voice in setting these standards.
4. The HSD recommended to Council that the Forest Policy Committee develop a position on strip mining.
5. The HSD recommended that Council develop a position on the Bureau of Land Management Organic Act which is now before Congress.
6. The HSD requested that Council make known its position concerning the role of forest technicians in the Society.
7. The HSD recommended to Council that the staff explore a "split-dues" type of payment.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Nelson reported for the Membership Committee. As of December 1975 membership stood at 1099 which is a decrease of 35 from the previous year. During 1975, the Section lost 140 members for non-payment of dues, 70 of which were students or one-year members.

Bill Grafton reported for the Newsletter Committee. Three issues of the Allegheny News were published in 1975. Bill thanked all contributors stating that without their help it would not have been possible to produce the newsletter. Peter Fletcher commended Bill for his excellent work during the past two years.

Ken Funderburke reported for the Legislative and Policy Committee. Chairman White thanked Ken for an outstanding report and recommended that a synopsis of the report be published in the Allegheny News.

Asher Kelly, Jr. reported for the Fire Control Committee. During the past 10 years there have not been any serious forest fire problems. However, he also reported that there were no extended dry spells during the same period. The Allegheny Section showed a decrease in the number of operational fire towers in 1975.

Clyde Hunt reported for the Tree Improvement Committee, saying that progress was being made in the establishment of seed tree orchards.

John Kegg reported for the Entomology - Pathology Committee. Defoliation by the gypsy moth in 1975 amounted to 318,000 acres in Pennsylvania, which is a reduction of 162,000 acres from 1974. Mr. Kegg predicted increased defoliation by this pest during the next three years, however, in northern New Jersey and eastern Pennsylvania.

Chairman White displayed a Gifford Pinchot medal and thanked Dick Kennell for his work on this commemorative medal. Without Dick's idea and work the medal for the 75th anniversary of the SAF would not have been possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman White reported that plans are being made to establish a grove of trees at the National Headquarters as a memorial to Tom Gill. Each section will be asked to donate a tree. Northern red oak (first choice) and black cherry (second choice) are being considered by the Allegheny Section.

Newly elected Council member Robert Dinneen spoke. He said that the SAF is considering what is a good definition of the forestry profession? He also mentioned that the news media is an excellent source for getting the forestry story before the public. As a Council member representing the Allegheny Section, he asked for help in the form of suggestions, comments, or recommendations from the members present.

Len Carey, SAF administrative assistant, spoke for the national office. He thanked the Section for the invitation to attend and participate in the annual meeting.

Len mentioned the great need at all levels of SAF to take positions and set forest policy. Forest policy can be established at the national office by using the expertise of the membership and presenting the recommendations to proper authorities. Another method is by getting the sections and chapters highly involved at the local level.

Once a position or forest policy is established by a section or chapter, it must be offered to senators and congressmen for their review. Chapters and sections could also offer assistance to these elected officials.

The question was asked if the SAF does any lobbying. Len stated that the SAF is prohibited by law from lobbying. SAF does work closely with administrative orders of elected officials in Washington, D.C.

The SAF council turned down the recommendation to accredit forest technician programs. Dr. Harry Mosher questioned this decision and asked for the Council's reasons.

(Ed. - This summary of the minutes was submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Ron Sheay.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

December 1, 1974 - November 30, 1975

Balance on hand December 1, 1974:

Savings Account	\$3,799.00	
Checking Account	659.85	
TOTAL	4,458.85	\$4,458.85

Income:

Dues	3,701.00	
Winter Meeting	507.49	
Allegheny News - adv.	240.00	
Interest	221.79	
TOTAL	4,670.28	+ 4,670.28

GRAND TOTAL \$9,129.13

Expenses:

Winter Meeting	444.19	
Postage and Supplies	35.07	
Allegheny News	951.15	
Chapter Reimbursement	1,017.00	
Travel	875.99	
TOTAL	3,323.40	-3,323.40
		5,805.73

Balance on hand November 30, 1975:

Certificate of Deposit	2,500.00	
Savings Account	1,520.79	
Checking Account	1,784.94	
TOTAL	5,805.73	\$5,805.73

APPALACHIAN TRAIL, OVERUSE?

This national known hiking trail (which passes through four of the five states in the Allegheny Section) is facing a staggering increase in hiker use, according to Paul Pritchard, executive director of the National Appalachian Trail Conference. It is estimated that four million hikers used the Trail last year! By actual count, as many as 150 people a day passed through a check point near Caledonia State Park, in Pennsylvania, in July 1974.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

1976 Spring Meeting of SAF Council

The Council met April 1 and 2, 1976, in the Tom Gill Conference Center at the Gifford Pinchot Forestry Building, Washington, DC. These are the highlights of that meeting. The Council:

- Amended SAF Bylaw II to include "Procedures for SAF Forest Policy Activities" with amendment.
- Approved an SAF position on Land-Use Planning
- Voted to submit to the membership for referendum a revised Code of Ethics, developed by legal counsel, with recommendation for adoption.
- Amended SAF's Ethics Bylaws (VIII-A through VIII-I) as recommended by legal counsel to assure due process.
- Directed the Forest Sciences Board to develop and maintain a program which identifies national research needs in forestry.
- Directed an analysis of the effectiveness of existing federal financial incentive programs in forestry.
- Established an SAF position on proposed EPA regulations on water quality.
- Approved, based on change in the Consumer Price Index and subject to consultation with the House of Section Delegates, a dues increase effective January 1, 1977, of \$1 for Technician and Corresponding Members, \$1.50 for \$20 Members, \$2 for \$30 Members, and \$3 for \$40 Members and Fellows.
- Increased Journal of Forestry subscription rates for institutional subscribers from \$18 to \$24 per year.
- Noted that the Renewable Natural Resource Foundation has not obtained sufficient funds to retire the bank loan due December 12, 1977. Directed steps be taken to bring about sale of sufficient land to meet this obligation.
- Directed the staff to develop for the Council's consideration a combined national position on the use of insecticides and herbicides on forest lands.
- Authorized Executive Committee to approve expenditure of up to \$10,000 in 1976 for member recruitment based on plan by Task Force on SAF Growth.

CHAPTER NEWS

PLATEAU CHAPTER

At the January meeting of the Plateau Chapter the following officers were elected:

- Chairman - Stephen B. Horsley
- Vice Chairman - Robert J. LaBar
- Secretary-Treasurer - David L. Steward

PINCHOT CHAPTER

The following chapter officers were elected at the January meeting:

- Chairman - Richard E. Cary
- Vice Chairman - Jane L. Frounfelker
- Secretary-Treasurer - Donald K. Wary

Section Committees:

- Public Affairs - Anthony Santoli
- Newsletter - John Miller
- Natural Areas - Richard Cary

KEYSTONE CHAPTER

The spring meeting of the Keystone Chapter was held April 6, 1976 at The Embers Motel, in Carlisle. Thirty-two members attended a dinner meeting followed by a slide presentation, "Forestry As a Career Choice". This program, designed to be used at high school career days, was prepared by the Southwest Chapter, SAF, and was presented by Lee Gillespie of Penn Line Services, Scottdale, Pennsylvania.

Officers for 1976 are:

- Chairman - Bob Johncour
- Vice Chairman - Jack Denniston
- Secretary-Treasurer - Ken Swisher
- Executive Committee - Jim Pflieger
Jim Anderson
Don Cole

R. Rex Gambill, a 1972 Purdue graduate has joined The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company, as Tree Farm Family Forester. Rex, who worked for International Paper in Mississippi, will be based at Spring Grove and will be responsible for forest management assistance to landowners of the Tree Farm Family in a number of southcentral counties in Pennsylvania.

SEND IN MORE

CHAPTER NEWS!

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Past meetings, coming events,
pictures; anything!

Send to: Allegheny News
P. O. Box 134
Mont Alto, PA 17237

VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER

At the December, 1975 meeting the following officers were elected for 1976-77:

- Chairman - Ronald Langford
- Vice Chairman - Joseph Barnard
- Secretary-Treasurer - John Kitch

VALLEY FORGE CHAPTER

The Valley Forge Chapter sponsored an open meeting on the subject, "The Effect of Regulations on Forest Management Today." A panel consisting of the following people presented their views:

- Jim Bashline, Outdoor Editor, Philadelphia Inquirer
- Calvin Glattfelder, Vice President, Glatfelter Paper Corporation
- Margot Hunt, League of Women Voters
- Edward McGuire, Vice President, Drexel University, substituting for Congressman Edgar
- Al Morris, Deputy Administrator, EPA, Philadelphia

The moderator and discussion leader was Robert Struble, new-elected County Commissioner for Chester County. It was a lively meeting with between 50 and 60 people in attendance. Attached are some highlights of remarks by the panelists and of the discussion which followed.

Jim Bashline

I am interested in the regulation of forest land, but not technically in forest management, per se. The question before us today is how to use the forest and forest products while still maintaining an aesthetic balance. How do we utilize wisely and yet maintain natural beauty? The problem seems to be the old story of man's castle on one hand, and programs to "do good for all" on the other. Usually we both defend our castle and go along with good for all of us, just as long as the outcome doesn't affect us. If the regulation affects our neighbor but not us, our concern level is low. If the regulation affects us, then we are most concerned to see that it affects our neighbors as well.

I have always believed good forest management is good wildlife management. Both are renewable resources. Actually, wildlife is a barometer for environmental quality. The healthier the woods, the larger the variety of wildlife. There should be no clearcutting where forest lands are scarce, but clearcutting is preferred when the forest land consists of solid blocks of fairly uniform stand conditions because it adds to the variety of habitat available and hence the variety of wildlife.

Calvin Glattfelder

I'd like to explain briefly what our company does, why we are interested in today's topic, and suggest a solution. Our company employs 1100 people. We use 300,000 cords of wood a year, produce 550 tons of paper per day, including about 250 different grades of paper. Ninety percent of our wood purchases come from private owners. We have 15 graduate foresters who provide technical assistance to woodland owners. On a matching tree seedling basis we have reforested 18,000 acres of land. For this we have received a National Environmental Improvement Award.

In Pennsylvania there are about 300,000 woodland owners who average approximately 42 acres per ownership. These woods are generally low in volume. The owners usually will make one harvest in their lifetime, and they prefer this to be an intermediate cut, not a clearcut. At best they utilize their woodland as a part-time occupation.

Now let us assume that the average Pennsylvania landowner wants to harvest some trees. Under present and proposed regulations this owner would need (1) a timber management plan (2) a permit from EPA to comply with the State Forestry Practices Act, (3) an erosion and sediment control plan required by Pennsylvania law, (4) a permit for every culvert as would be required by the Corps of Engineers under section 404 of P.L. 92-500. Additional permits are required to use chemicals, assure compliance with township zoning, etc. These regulations are causing considerable frustration. They have forced many loggers out of business, have hurt the processor, and resulted in a loss of government tax revenues.

My suggested solution is simple. We need to maintain freedom to use our land. This would require: (1) alter the zeal of bureaucrats by asking them to revise their approach from punishment to reward; (2) set-up a system to give blanket approval for most of our forestry practices. They should fit under the category of general permits as described in the Corps of Engineers regulations, issued in July 1975; (3) use a "notification of practice compliance" that puts certain authorities on notice that the process is being carried out without restrictions on completion, (4) authorize the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry to issue guidelines that users can voluntarily agree to follow. The Bureau should study the effectiveness of the guidelines, evaluate the program, and revise the guidelines when necessary. Use a trial period of say three years to determine environmental and economic impacts of following the guides; (5) if the voluntary approach fails, then issue regulations. Regulate where the voluntary system fails, and no other place.

Margot Hunt

I would like to talk about the environmental constraints caused by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 which set new national policy on maintaining a quality environment. The Act has high national priority. Section 102(c) on impact statements is the critical element. The Council on Environmental Quality reviews statements from Federal agencies initiating action. The environmental impact statement (EIS) contains positive impacts, adverse consequences, alternatives considered, a comparison of short and long term pros and cons, and a description of irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources. These statements are available for public review, so EIS opened decision-making to the public. The questions in court have caused considerable delay and may have improved the decisionmaking process. EIS's have been used in a number of different ways. (1) They have improved estimates of secondary effects. (2) They have been used as rubber stamps for previously conceived ideas. (3) They have been used to justify actions.

The use of a permit system will be very difficult at best. What should be recognized is public policy in this country is changing. The League always thought the Forest Service's management was good, but pressure due to people and their changing values is causing the Forest Service to change. Environmentalists and industry are shifting from their previous firm positions. Economic pressures, fewer work hours, and more leisure time result in increased pressure upon forest land. This is causing changes in management, especially within the Forest Service. The concept of multiple use is also changing. Clearcutting is but one of many larger issues the public is concerned about. It is the tip of the iceberg.

Dr. Edward McGuire

Bob Edgar ran on a strong conservationist platform. He was against cutting trees. Then the folks from Scott Paper got to him, and the people in the Forest Service started to educate him. Bob didn't realize the value of forest resources and their renewable aspects when he was elected to his seat in Congress. I can say he has a deep-seated belief in this spaceship we call earth, and a desire for effective and intelligent management of its resources.

People became concerned with the forest with the passage of the Organic Act. This was reinforced with the Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act which reflects the will of all the people, not just those in the Forest Service. The Forest Service has no monopoly on forest land. Foresters have many community values which must be considered.

Bob Edgar got the different sides together- Scott Paper Company and the environmentalists. He got them to work together to determine effective uses of natural resources. We have come a further step now with RPA that says let's get to planning for the use of our forest and range land. Hopefully, this process will strike a happy balance of multiple uses and map out the right course for the future.

Dr. Al Morris

Our philosophy is changing. We have the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. These indicate we should pay for goods and services in their total cost. There are both tangible and hidden costs in the production process. The hidden costs include the cost to clean up the adverse by products. When we include total costs, we have a choice whether we want to buy that product or not. Ignoring hidden costs, as was done in the past, gives us no choice, but to pay for it by a less healthy environment, or through taxes.

I would like to mention the use of pesticides on forest land, and the ban on DDT. DDT was allowed to be used on the Tussock moth when it was shown to be in the long term good. The ban on DDT is to restrict its use, not particularly to eliminate it. The ban is aimed at producing viable alternatives.

The evaluation process in EPA has caused us to look more at the world in which we live yet still be responsive to management needs. We insist on considering *reasonable alternatives*. This reminds me of a problem that Winston Churchill had when he was at a cocktail party with the Bishop of Australia.

A sweet thing came up and offered them a drink, first to Winston, who took it, and then to the Bishop, who said, "Lady, I would rather commit adultery than take that drink". At which Churchill replied, "Come back here, Miss, I didn't know I had a choice."

Considering sedimentation problems caused by forestry practices EPA tried to exempt silvicultural practices from the permit system because: (1) it is not a big problem and (2) it comes from a dispersed source. We got sued by the National Resource Defense Council, so it looks like we will have to be in the regulation business.

EPA sets the standards but does not dictate how to meet them. For example, EPA set the air quality standards that automobiles must meet. It was industry's choice to go to the catalytic converter and not to other ways of reducing auto pollution emissions.

Open Discussion

Our charge is to have regulated stewardship and not preservation. If we continue with this regulation-punishment approach, we'll be like India and its cows. Masses of Indians are starving, while the cow eats their food and keeps them at poverty level, and yet there is a huge source of protein walking around which they could tap. If we continue with regulations we will be priced out of wood products in the middle of a forest of plenty. The economic and environmental constraints will cut off our supply of wood and other resources from forest land.

Citizen education is a long and involved process. You get involvement only by bringing forth an emotional issue, such as the Monongahela decision.

Jim Bashline said that he and a number of other outdoor editors have tried for 20 years to get an environmental education program going in schools. We could really make progress if we could just teach the value of forests and land in general to our youth. What we need to teach is the philosophy of management, not particularly how to do it. Show how management is in rhythm with nature. Some of the possible ways are use of comic books, TV programs, and games for kids. We also need to educate the people who make the decisions at all levels of government today. How to do this is the question.

SAF PRESIDENT ON THE ORGANIC ACT

Speaking before the Forests Subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture, President Keith Arnold on March 24, 1976, presented SAF's views on proposed legislation to remedy forest land management problems emanating from the interpretation of the Organic Administration Act of 1897. This interpretation resulted from a suit brought by the Izaak Walton League against Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz to limit the harvesting of trees on the Monongahela National Forest to only those trees which are "dead, mature, or of large growth." Several bills have been introduced to make the management of National Forests more responsive to today's needs.

Dr. Arnold presented a set of ten forest management principles developed by SAF to evaluate remedial legislation. Using these principles, he analyzed the proposed bills for the Subcommittee and showed that with revision the bill introduced in the House by Congressman Harold T. Johnson of California and in the Senate by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey is worthy of enactment. "This bill," Arnold said, "requires public participation in development and revision of regulations pertaining to forest land management and land management plans called for by the Resources Planning Act." This will reduce the possibility of future mistakes in forest land management and silvicultural practices. Also, the bill promotes a continuing review of National Forest policies and requires a statement of national goals which recognize the relationships between several renewable resources.

Dr. Arnold said that the bill should be strengthened to provide for establishment of a comprehensive policy for the nation's forest and range renewable resources.

The editor thanks the following people for contributing news items for this issue of the Allegheny News:

Samuel Shaw	James C. Nelson
Richard Cary	James E. Pflieger
Robert Shipman	William E. Towell
Ronald Sheay	

• AXES • AUGURS • CALIPER
 • LADDERS • **MAKE**
 • KNIVES • NURSERY SPADES
 • WINCHES • **LIFE**
 • HERBICIDES • STEREOSCOPES
 • **EASIER!**
 • ALTIMETERS
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AROUND THE SECTION

ANOTHER "MONONGEHALA" DECISION?

A recent decision in the Salisbury Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, is threatening to catapult this name into the same prominence now associated with the Monongehala decision. The Township of Salisbury has adopted an ordinance regulating logging and cutting of trees. The ordinance restricts a landowner to cutting only three trees over six inches in diameter per year, provided, he first obtains a permit. Non-commercial improvement cuttings are not permitted. Commercial logging will be permitted only as a special exception and in accordance with a forest management and logging plan prepared by a forester and subject to various restrictions, including the provision that only the selection method be used. Clearcutting is prohibited.

Foresters Terry Rader (Penn State University), John Bitzer, Nevin Slusser, and Pat Lantz (PA Bureau of Forestry), and Dick Cary (PA Power and Light Company) had the opportunity to provide input for the ordinance but many of their comments and suggestions apparently fell on deaf ears. Reportedly other townships in the area are considering similar ordinances.

For further information or copies of the Salisbury Ordinance, contact Dick Cary, Supervisor, Conservation and Land Management, Pennsylvania Power and Light Company, Two North Ninth Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Woodlots - Reinventory

During the summer of 1976, the School of Forest Resources Woodlots will be re inventoried. According to Bob Shipman, Woodlot Committee Chairman, the initial management plan for the then "College Farm Woodlands" was established by Don Stevenson, Arthur Meyer, and Logan Bennett in 1939, some 37 years ago. The reassessment of the University Woodlots and Experimental Forests will include (1) an overall delineation of the University Woodlots, including recent acquisition and losses to other land uses (2) a revised stand map based on general size and species characteristics (3) a description of each stand, including present dominant use and recommendations for cultural treatment, if necessary. As expressed by Dr. Shipman "the data obtained will serve as a base for use of the woodlots in terms of research, demonstration and teaching." Also, plans are currently underway to obtain funds for the installation of roadside and plot signs to explain the cultural practices and research that is underway on these woodland areas, one of the most valuable assets of the School of Forest Resources.

RAFTING ON THE SUSQUEHANNA

The Clinton County (Pennsylvania) Bicentennial Commission is sponsoring an old-time square timber raft for the bicentennial. A crew has already constructed the raft on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River, near Karthus, Pennsylvania, and is waiting for higher water before beginning the trip.

The raft is authentic in every way, including construction details and dimensions. It is 26 feet wide, 115 feet long and weighs approximately 80 tons. The timbers are held together with white oak lash poles, white oak bows and white ash pins. Huge oars, located at either end of the raft, will control the "craft" on its down-river voyage.

An all volunteer crew of 21 men will man the raft. A shanty on board will provide eating and sleeping facilities for the crew. The trip will cover 63 miles from Karthus to Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, and will last three days.

(Ed. - We plan to have a follow-up on this bicentennial venture - with pictures - in coming editions of the Allegheny News.)

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EASTERN WILDERNESS: Big "W" or little "w"?

by William E. Towell

(Editor: The following is a summary of the speakers' comments at the Dover SAF meeting, February 1976. For those who missed this excellent meeting, Mr. Towell provides a comprehensive summary of the papers presented... This summary was edited by the Allegheny News.)

Foresters, too long, have straddled the fence on wilderness. It has given forestry a bad image. Every professional forester I know supports a wilderness program, but not all to the same degree. In spite of the origin of the wilderness concept by foresters within the U.S. Forest Service, we still are branded anti-wilderness. The profession was too slow in coming around to support the Wilderness Act and still is dragging its feet in implementing the Eastern Wilderness System.

Many of us still talk timber production as an alternative to wilderness when what we actually seek is better balance. Let's quit being negative and defensive and get our wilderness house in order. Wilderness is a legitimate part of our total conservation effort and our own management responsibilities. There surely is a rational point of view we can all support. Let's find it.

The basic question is not "Can we save a small part of our natural heritage before it is all gone?" We already have. The real questions are: How much wilderness do we need? How much do we want? How much can we afford? And the answers will come only with understanding, study, analysis of trade-offs, and commitment, both as professionals and as a society.

Let's review some of the key points made by our excellent speakers. It is impossible to do justice to them all, but here are a few of the points that struck home. Rex Resler, Associate Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, reviewed our wilderness history and the major role his agency played in it. He assured us that Eastern Wilderness, although nearly all is "recovered" areas from past logging, development and other uses not usually considered compatible, will be managed no differently than our original wilderness areas. However, he did point out grave problems, particularly in the 16 "instant" wilderness areas set aside by Congress in the East, with respect to intermingled private ownerships and conflicting land uses. These first Eastern designations point out the lack of careful study before classification. Further land acquisition is the only solution, Resler told us.

David Lime of the North Central Forest Experiment Station gave us an excellent illustrated report on wilderness research. He pointed out that many wilderness users are satisfied with less than pure

wilderness and suggested the need for both wilderness with a capital "W" as well as something less with a small "w". There is general opposition, Lime observed, to manipulating the environment in wilderness, although many are not aware of its manipulation.

Clarence Streetman of Bowaters Southern Paper Corporation told of his company's program for setting aside and protecting "pocket wilderness" areas on company land. His is a real success story of cooperation between a business corporation interested in "maximum profits within public limits of tolerance" and local conservation groups interested in saving and using company-owned areas of natural beauty and uniqueness. His advice was to "start where you are with what you have and get company management committed before you begin..."

George Davis gave us valuable information from his job as Director of Planning for the Adirondack Park Agency in New York, representing the oldest and largest non-federal wilderness in America. This six million acre "forever wild" park dates back to 1894 and encompasses more land than Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Teton, Great Smokies, Grand Canyon and Glacier National Parks combined. "Much of the value of wilderness," Davis told us, "is in its contrast to the rest of the landscape. We have room for both economic growth and preservation--the interests of the forest products industry and preservationists go hand-in-hand..." Davis advises that we must provide for all compatible uses but separate those uses which are not compatible. Foresters and wildlife biologists lack wilderness management experience, he warned, and "if we are to successfully manage land, and particularly wilderness land, we must learn not only biological and physical resource considerations but we must begin to appreciate what land means to others in our society..."

Fred Simmons, Executive Secretary of the Northeastern Loggers Association who gave us the industrial point of view, attributes our wilderness frenzy to a "torrent of misleading and often downright false information about the wilderness" handed down to us by the early explorers. The virgin wilderness was not all undisturbed "forests of gigantic trees, interspersed with open areas and young stands, teeming with wildlife, and laced with clear flowing streams..." These better areas, about 30 percent, were in subclimax types due to some past disturbance usually wildfire. The remaining 70 percent were climax forests with "dark and forbidding interiors, virtual absence of wildlife, lack of openings and streams that often dried up. These are the kind of forests the policies of wilderness area enthusiasts will restore to the areas they succeed in 'preserving'..." The tourist industry has never been a particularly good contributor to community support," Simmons comments. "In contrast, forest industry puts half of its receipts into the pockets of local tax-paying citizens..."

James Nelson of the Pennsylvania Department of (Environmental) Resources makes a strong plea for more natural areas instead of wilderness. This is the small "w" that others, too, proposed to answer varied public demands and use. By lesser designations, Nelson observed, wilderness is not lost forever, just a point in time. He recommends a thorough inventory and study first before wilderness classifications are made. "Foresters," Nelson said, "are not well equipped or trained to handle wilderness values or questions." His perception and portrayal of the varying attitudes and different interests in wilderness were astonishing correct. John Q. Public, he so ably demonstrated, is not only uninformed, but unconcerned.

Paul Pritchard, Executive Director of the Appalachian Trail Conference, described wilderness as an emotional experience. Ninety percent of that experience is visual or scenic. Speaking for the largest conservation group concerned with a single resource, the Appalachian Trail, he attributes wilderness with helping us to find security in ourselves and not being dependent upon society. In wilderness, we are saving something unique for all to enjoy, now and in the future.

Robert E. Jenkins, Director of Science for the Nature Conservancy, called for preservation of our natural diversity as our greatest need and the real objective of wilderness. "Diversity," he said, "is a necessary component of life, natural landscapes in particular." In his call for balance, Jenkins observed that the Wilderness Act can restore balance to a runaway world. Our challenge, he said, is "to save nature from the hand of man," and "to strike a balance with the rest of the biosphere."

John Keane from the Western Lumber Manufacturers, Inc., traced the legislative history of our Wilderness Acts and stressed the need to go back to the legislative intent of Congress. Wilderness preservation has become much more than the Congress intended and conflicts arise only because we are going beyond legislative intent. Wilderness has a definite place in our total conservation picture, but it is being expanded out of proportion to need and the laws which authorized it. Keane called for greater equilibrium and an end to the era of hostility over wilderness.

Dan Poole, President of the Wildlife Management Institute, called for the exercise of professionalism in the wilderness dispute. He admonished foresters against making sweeping claims like "good forestry is good for wildlife," or "wilderness benefits wildlife." Wild animals, like tree species, are all different and those things which benefit one animal may actually harm another. Poole advised that we avoid generalities and the polarization

they cause. Foresters, he feels, too often are fiber or cellulose oriented and not sensitive enough to intangible resource values. We should all be land managers in the broadest sense and not biased toward any one resource or resource use. Wildlife and forest management are both very complex and require the exercise of real professionalism. Management is required to protect or achieve the values we want from our wild lands. "Wilderness is neither good nor bad for wildlife generally," Poole observed.

Paul D. Weingart, Forest Supervisor for the White Mountain National Forest, observed that wilderness means something different to every person and, too, advised against sweeping generalities. The land manager must draw a fine line between use and protection of wilderness values. Multiple use and wilderness are not incompatible, he said. We can manage for both, but not without trade-offs. Weingart called for a land ethic that will show greater concern for all land uses and values and an end to the wilderness versus use controversy. Both are essential and both can be achieved by reasonable men.

Lloyd C. Irland of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies briefed a very lengthy and scholarly paper that will be cited for years to come. His conclusions: "Rarely...have so many argued for so long over so little timber...The conflict between wilderness and timber supply is a phoney issue. There is no reason why the timber cut on any eastern National Forest need fall as a result of wilderness land allocations...We can well afford the timber costs of wilderness in the East... I think Eastern Wilderness can...play a small part in guaranteeing a balanced pattern of land use for the region."

We all support wilderness, to some degree, at least, and I think it is time we demonstrated that support, as individuals and as a profession. Our past record has not been the best. My plea is for tolerance. The wilderness controversy represents honest differences of opinion and there is room for conflicting views without shrill polarization. We must avoid exaggerations and generalities that seek to belittle different points of view. As a profession it is our job to seek out the correct balance for use and management of all our natural resources, and support the allocations which best serve all people. Wilderness will play an increasingly major role in our outdoor future.

If our professional techniques can provide or retain preferred natural conditions, even in wilderness, they should be used only if we establish a graduated scale of wilderness, from big "W" to small "w", but in the long run this is the only way we will ever resolve wilderness differences. We must have both. ■

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