



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**\*\*PROGRAM ALERT\*\*PROGRAM ALERT\*\*PROGRAM ALERT\*\***

**C-SPAN OFFERS COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF FOREST CONFERENCE**

Washington, D.C., April 1, 1993 -- C-SPAN, the Cable Satellite Public Affairs Network, offers comprehensive coverage of The Forest Conference scheduled to air on **Friday, April 2 at 8:00 PM (ET)**. *(If the U.S. House of Representatives adjourns while the conference is in progress, C-SPAN will air the conference live on Friday).*

The Forest Conference takes place 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM (PST) in Portland, Oregon. The conference provides a forum for a variety of views on issues concerning federal forest lands in the northwest and northern California. Participants scheduled to attend are: President Bill Clinton; Vice President Al Gore, Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy; Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt; Labor Secretary Robert Reich; Commerce Secretary Ron Brown; EPA Administrator Carol Browner; Deputy Director OMB Alice Rivlin; and Science and Technology Advisor Jack Gibbons.

For more information on C-SPAN's coverage of The Forest Conference, please call the C-SPAN Schedule Hotline at (202) 628-2205.

C-SPAN is funded entirely by America's cable television companies as a public service. C-SPAN is currently available in 58.7 million households nationwide and worldwide via satellite.

# # #



# THE FOREST CONFERENCE

- WHEN:** Friday, April 2, 1993  
10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. PST
- WHERE:** The Oregon Convention Center  
Portland, Oregon
- WHO:** President Clinton  
Vice President Gore  
Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy  
Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt  
Labor Secretary Robert Reich  
Commerce Secretary Ron Brown  
EPA Administrator Carol Browner  
Deputy Director OMB Alice Rivlin  
Science and Technology Advisor Jack Gibbons

(Also see participants list.)

- WHY:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore are committed to a balanced and comprehensive long-term policy that recognizes the importance of the forests and timber to the economy and jobs in the region as well as the importance of America's precious old growth forests, a part of our national heritage that, once destroyed, can never be replaced. The Forest Conference fulfills a commitment President Clinton made to the people of the northwest and northern California to break the gridlock that has blocked progress on these issues.

- WHAT:** The Forest Conference will provide a comprehensive forum for a broad and diverse range of views on the issues associated with the management of federal forest lands in the northwest and northern California. As a critical and urgently needed step toward a balanced approach, it will provide the President, Vice President, and members of the Cabinet with a first-hand understanding of these issues and how the people and communities in the region have been and will be affected.



# THE FOREST CONFERENCE

## *Agenda*

Friday, April 2, 1993

10:30 a.m.            **WELCOME**  
                          Portland Mayor Vera Katz  
                          Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts

10:40 a.m.            **OPENING STATEMENTS**  
                          President Clinton, Vice President Gore

11:00 a.m.            **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**  
                          Kimbark MacColl  
                          Oregon Historical Society

11:15 a.m.            **ROUNDTABLE 1: WHO IS AFFECTED AND HOW?**  
                          This roundtable will allow people from across  
                          the region to speak to how this controversy is  
                          affecting their lives.

PRESENTERS:(NOTE-each roundtable will begin  
with brief statements from some of the  
roundtable participants. After these brief  
statements, there will be general discussion  
among all the roundtable participants,  
including the President, Vice President,  
Cabinet and other Administration officials.)

- o MIKE DRAPER, Executive Secretary, United  
Brotherhood of Carpenters Western Council of  
Industrial Workers, Portland, OR
- o DIANA WALES, Attorney, member Audubon Society  
Roseburg, OR
- o BOB SPENCE, President, Pacific Lumber Sales  
Company, Seattle, WA
- o PATRICIA LEE, Innkeeper, Charter member of  
Oregon Trout, Streamside Inn, Steamboat, OR
- o ARCHBISHOP THOMAS MURPHY, Catholic Archdiocese of  
Seattle

12:45 p.m.            **LUNCH**



1:30 p.m.

**ROUNDTABLE 2: ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS**

This roundtable will feature experts from public, private, academic, and non-governmental organizations to discuss the technical issues -  
- economic, environmental, and sociological -- involved in forestry and forest related economics.

PRESENTERS

On Forest Ecology Issues:

o JOHN GORDON, Professor, Yale University School of Forestry, New Haven, CT. (Gordon spent the majority of his career at Oregon State Univ.)

o LORIN HICKS, Plum Creek Timber Co., Seattle, WA

o CHUCK MESLOW, Director, U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Cooperative Unit, Corvallis, OR

On Economic Issues:

o BRIAN GREBER, Professor, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

o LOUISE FORTMANN, Professor, University of California, Berkeley, CA

3:00 p.m.

**BREAK**

3:15 p.m.

**ROUNDTABLE 3: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

This roundtable will focus on new and innovative ideas for forest management and economic development.

PRESENTERS:

o JULIE NORMAN, Headwaters, Ashland, OR

o JIM GEISINGER, President, Northwest Forestry Association, Portland, OR

o GUS KOSTOPULOS, President, Woodnet, Port Angeles, WA

o ROSLYN HEFFNER, Vocational Counseling Service, Tualatin, OR

o RICH NAFZIGER, Former Director, Washington State Timber Team, Olympia, WA

4:30 p.m.

**CLOSING STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CLINTON**



# THE FOREST CONFERENCE

## *Participants*

### *ROUNDTABLE 1: WHO IS AFFECTED AND HOW*

#### Presenters:

- o **MIKE DRAPER**, Executive Secretary, United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Western Council of Industrial Workers, Portland, OR, represents 30,000 members across ten western states. His members work as loggers, in sawmills, and in plywood and particle board manufacturing and re-manufacturing plants..
- o **DIANA WALES**, is a partner in a small law firm in Roseburg, OR with a practice limited to family law. She is also a co-chair of the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society Conservation Committee as well as other environmental, professional, and civil organizations.
- o **BOB SPENCE**, President, Pacific Lumber Sales Company, Seattle, WA. Mr. Spence and his family operate this privately-held company which owns three sawmills and exports both logs and finished wood products.
- o **PATRICIA LEE**, , Charter member Oregon Trout, Streamside Inn, Steamboat, OR, runs an inn and is in the process of creating an environmental education center for the children of Douglas County.
- o **ARCHBISHOP THOMAS MURPHY**, Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle; Archbishop Murphy has led the Roman Catholic Church in western Washington since 1991. He has helped organize relief and social service efforts for timber-dependent communities..

#### Panelists:

- o **BILL ARTHUR**, is Director of the Sierra Club's Northwest Office in Seattle. He grew up in Montana where his father was a small independent timber operator. He is an economist by training and has been involved with the Sierra Club and forestry issues for the past ten years.
- o **NADINE BAILEY**, of Hayfork, CA, is the wife of a logger and a dedicated spokeswoman for loggers whose livelihoods depend on timber harvesting. Nadine's daughter, Elizabeth, participated with the President in the ABC TV Town Meeting for children.
- o **NAT BINGHAM**, is a commercial fisherman who owns and operates a fishing vessel and fishes for salmon, crab, and albacore. He served as President of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association and currently serves as their field coordinator for their fisheries habitat program.
- o **BUZZ EADES**, Eades Forest Resources, is a graduate forester and a sixth generation logger.
- o **JOHN HAMPTON**, Chief Executive Officer, Willamina Lumber Co., Portland, OR, founded Hampton Lumber in 1950 and became CEO of Willamina in 1970. He currently serves as Chairman of the Northwest Forest Resources Council.
- o **KEN MARSON**, Marson & Marson Lumber, runs a retail lumber yard, Ace Hardware Center and Truss Manufacturing Plant. He also is active in the National Lumber



Dealers and Building Material Dealers Association.

o **LARRY MASON**, Western Commercial Forest Action Committee, is from Forks, WA, and owned a mill that had to close. He now heads a group of 500 individuals who represent a broad section of timber dependent communities.

o **MARGARET POWELL**, Member, Hoopa Tribe, Hoopa, CA, is the owner of a small mill located on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. She also has served on the Hoopa Tribal Council for 14 years and is active in other tribal affairs.

o **VIC SHER**, is the Managing Attorney for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund in Seattle, WA. His practice is devoted entirely to representing citizens in litigation and administrative action related to environmental protection. He has been counsel to the environmental plaintiffs in a series of cases relating to the forest and wildlife management issues in the region.

o **PHYLLIS STRAUGER**, Mayor, Hoquiam, WA, has served on the Hoquiam City Council from 1969 to 1988. She has served as Mayor since 1988. She has been active in state service and in the National League of Cities.

o **FRANK TALLERICO**, Superintendent of Schools, Siskiyou County, Yreka, CA, has served as Superintendent for the past eight years. Prior to that, he served in other capacities in the Superintendent's office and taught fifth through 12th grade classes.

o **MECA WAWONA**, is the founder of New Growth Forestry in Ukiah, CA. She and her husband run a small business cooperative that specializes in forest and salmon habitat restoration.

## **ROUNDTABLE 2: ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS**

### **Forest Management Issues**

#### **Presenters:**

o **JOHN GORDON**, Dean, Yale University School of Forestry. Dr. Gordon is a forest ecologist who spent the majority of his career at Oregon State University. He has written extensively on forest policy issues and was one of the "Gang of Four," the team of four government and university scientists who produced a 1991 study on the health of the forests and different management alternatives at the request of the House Agriculture and Merchant Marine Committees.

o **LORIN HICKS**, Plum Creek Timber Co., Seattle, WA. Dr. Hicks is a wildlife biologist who has conducted research on spotted owls on private and public lands. He was a contributing author of the Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, the Bush Administration's Department of Interior plan for protecting the owl.

o **CHARLES MESLOW**, Director, U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, Cooperative Research Unit, Corvallis, OR. Dr. Meslow is a research biologist and professor of wildlife ecology at Oregon State University. He is known for his research on northern spotted owls and was a member of the Scientific Analysis Team that released its report to the court on March 19, 1993.



**Panelists:**

o **RICK BROWN**, National Wildlife Federation, Portland, OR. Brown is a wildlife and forest ecologist who previously worked for the Forest Service. He has actively promoted 'ecosystem' approaches to forest management.

o **JERRY FRANKLIN**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Dr. Franklin is a leading forest ecologist whose research focuses on old growth forests. He was one of the "Gang of Four" and has been called the "Father of New Forestry."

o **CHAD OLIVER**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Dr. Oliver is a silviculture and forest policy professor at the University of Washington, School of Forest Resources.

o **JIM SEDELL**, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Corvallis, OR. Dr. Sedell is a fishery biologist who is a leading researcher into how forest land use affects fish habitat. He was the principal fishery biologist on the Scientific Analysis Team. He is a native Oregonian and local fisherman.

o **DAN TOMASCHESKI**, Vice President, Sierra Pacific Industries, Redding, CA. Tomascheski's company owns 1.1 million acres of commercial forest land in California. It is also the largest California purchaser of timber on federal lands. Almost one-third of the timber for the Sierra Pacific's nine sawmills comes from federal lands. Tomascheski was active in efforts to reach consensus with environmentalists on private forest lands in California.

**Economic Issues**

**Presenters:**

o **BRIAN GREBER**, Professor, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Dr. Greber's research addresses forest product markets and regional economics. He has been an advisor to several federal task forces, including the "Gang of Four," and the Endangered Species Committee.

o **LOUISE FORTMANN**, University of California, Berkeley, CA. Dr. Fortmann is a rural sociologist who has focused on environmental protest and community well-being. She has conducted major ethnographic and statistical analyses in the region.

**Panelists:**

o **ANN HANUS**, Assistant State Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry, Salem, OR. Ms. Hanus is a professional forester and economist who has been involved with this issue since 1985. She served as staff to Tom Walsh, the Oregon representative to the Endangered Species Committee.

o **BOB LEE**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Dr. Lee's field of study centers on the social aspects of forest resource use. For many years, he has studied the social and cultural consequences of wood supply reduction on forest-dependent communities. He is affiliated with the non-profit group, The Temperate Forest Foundation, which seeks to develop a middle ground for the development of sustainable use practices.

o **ED WHITELAW**, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. Whitelaw is an economist who believes that northwest regional economies are in transition and that most timber workers and companies realize federal lands will provide less timber than in the past.



### **ROUNDTABLE 3: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

#### **Presenters:**

- o **JULIE NORMAN**, President of Headwaters, a southwest Oregon grassroots group working for federal forestry reform through policy research, timber sale monitoring, public education, and negotiations/litigation.
- o **JIM GEISINGER**, President, Northwest Forestry Association, Portland, OR. The NFA represents forest product manufacturers and forest landowners in Washington and Oregon who depend on public lands for fiber supply. He has more than 17 years experience working for forestry trade associations and has spent his entire career on resource issues affecting federal forest management.
- o **GUS KOSTOPULOS**, Executive Director, Woodnet, a non-profit network of more than 300 wood products manufacturers on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. Before establishing Woodnet, Kostopulos held a number of management positions, employing many of the techniques and strategies characteristic of flexible manufacturing.
- o **ROSLYN HEFFNER**, has been operating her own vocational counseling service since 1987, focusing primarily on assisting injured workers back to gainful employment. She is a registered nurse and has a Masters Degree in rehabilitation counseling.
- o **RICH NAFZIGER**, is currently Deputy Insurance Commissioner for Policy and Legislative Affairs for the state of Washington. Between 1988 and 1993, he served as Special Assistant to the Governor for Timber Policy and Rural Development and was Director of the Governor's Timber Team, responsible for coordinating state policy and programs relating to forestry issues and timber community development.

#### **Panelists:**

- o **CHARLES W. BINGHAM**, Executive Vice President, Weyerhaeuser Co.; Director of Puget Sound Power and Light Co.; Chair of the Tacoma-Pierce County American Leadership Forum; Vice President of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust; and a trustee of the Weyerhaeuser Foundation. He is past chair of the National Forest Products Association Board of Governors.
- o **JIM COATES**, Vice President, International Woodworkers of America Local 3-2. From 1990 to the present, he has served as Community Outreach Coordinator to provide information on training programs and available social service resources, creating innovative programs, such as a weekly television broadcast, "People Helping People," through a local ministerial association, to provide information to timber families..
- o **BOB DOPPELT**, Executive Director and Co-founder of the Pacific Rivers Council. He began the Council because he owned a commercial river trip and fishing business for 11 years and experienced first-hand the environmental impacts on the region's rivers and fisheries and felt a group was needed to specifically focus on these issues. He is known as a creative national expert on riverine protection and restoration strategies.
- o **IRV FLETCHER**, is President of the Oregon AFL-CIO.
- o **ERIC HOLLENBECK**, began working in the woods at 14, first surveying for timber access roads and later logging. At 24, he began a logging company, the Blue Ox



Millworks. Three years later, along with his wife, Hollenbeck built a sawmill and has been manufacturing finished wood products for the last 17 years. Two years ago, they opened the historic facilities for tours and this year they are opening a School of the Traditional Arts to educate tomorrow's woodworkers and entrepreneurs.

o **JIM IRVINE**, is Vice President and Treasurer, National Association of Home Builders and is a home builder from Portland. He is President of the Conifer Group, a construction, development and property management company building primarily single family homes and light commercial developments.

o **ANDY KERR**, is Conservation Director for the Oregon Natural Resources Council, a 20-year-old coalition of more than 40 sports, conservation, recreation, commercial and educational groups interested in the wise management of Oregon's lands, waters, and other natural resources. ONRC represents more than 6,000 individual members and maintains offices on Portland, Eugene, and Bend.

o **KATHERINE MATER**, is Vice President of Mater Engineering, Inc, a forest products engineering and market research firm based in Corvallis, OR, which has served the wood products industry for 50 years. She is recognized as an industry leader in researching and identifying value-added wood product manufacturing solutions which adapt to reduced raw resource supplies, yet offer profits and job security for the industry.

o **WALTER MINNICK**, is CEO of a \$400 million facility, TJ International, one of the largest purchasers of veneer in the west. They have 1,000 employees in Oregon and own four mills on the west side. He is currently a member of the Governing Council of The Wilderness Foundation, American Business Conference, Idaho Conservation League, and the Nature Conservancy.

o **CHARLES OLLIVIER**, has been an active participant in the International Longshoremens and Warehousemens Union Local 14 for 27 years, 12 of which were as President. Presently, he is elected Commissioner, 5th District Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District and is the Vice President of the District.

o **FELICE PACE**, is Program Coordinator for the Klamath Forest Alliance, a community-based, non-profit organization based in northern California. The KFA works to reform public land management with special emphasis on rehabilitating damaged watersheds on public land to restore salmonid and other fisheries at risk of extinction. He has lived in Siskiyou County for 18 years and has been active in forest issues since 1980.

o **TOM ROBINSON**, for the past six years has been manager of the Oregon Salmon Commission, representing the Oregon troll fisherman and primary processors through product promotions, education, communications and research. He has served as an official salmon fishery representative on the Pacific Fishery Management Council By-Catch Committee and on the Oregon Coho Review Committee.

o **DAVE SCHMIDT**, has served as County Commissioner of Linn County, Oregon since 1988. He is a member of the Council of Forest Trust Lands and is a Board Member on the Western Interstate Region of Public Lands, which works with the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service on local issues.

o **TED STRONG**, has been Executive Director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission for four years, created by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Indian Nation, and the Nez Perce Tribe.



o **JACK WARD THOMAS**, is the Chief Research Biologist and Project Leader for Range and Wildlife Habitat Research for the USDA Forest Service. He has published more than 250 works, was a member of the "Gang of Four," the team of four government and university scientists who produced a 1991 study on the health of the forests and different management alternatives at the request of the House Agriculture and Merchant Marine Committees. Dr. Thomas chaired the Interagency Scientific Committee, which established the conservation strategy for northern spotted owls. He also was the leader of the Scientific Analysis Team which, under court order, released its report on the management of old growth ecosystems in March.

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# THE FOREST CONFERENCE

## *Background*

The issue is how best to manage and protect federal forest lands in the Pacific northwest and northern California. Years of short-sighted and contradictory policy-making by previous Administrations have fueled a region-wide battle that has polarized communities, totally blocked any rational policy making, and left decision-making in the courts.

The Forest Conference represents an urgent and critically needed step toward a comprehensive and balanced long-term policy that recognizes the importance of the forests and timber to the economy and jobs in the region as well as the importance of America's old growth forests that, once they are gone, cannot be replaced. In addition, the Conference represents an opportunity to demonstrate that economic health does not need to be sacrificed to -- but in fact depends on -- sound environmental policies.

### THE PROBLEM:

The debate centers on how all public forest lands should be managed to recognize the need to protect and preserve old growth forests, fish, wildlife, and water as well as the needs of the workers, businesses, and communities dependent on timber sales. Old growth forests are those at least 200 years old or older. Most remaining old growth forests are on federal lands. Nearly 90 percent of the region's old growth forests already have been logged. An estimated 8 to 9 million acres of old growth forest remain today.

Throughout the Bush Administration, key agencies responsible for managing federal forest lands (Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Land Management in the Department of Interior) simultaneously pursued not only contradictory policies, but policies the courts have ruled were in violation of federal laws (principally the Endangered Species Act [ESA], the National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA], and the National Forest Management Act [NFMA]). The debate was polarized, and gridlock ensued. As a result, court injunctions have stopped most Forest Service and some BLM timber sales, with serious economic consequences for the region.

### FEDERAL FOREST LANDS:

Federal land managers historically, and through the Bush Administration, emphasized commodity uses of federal lands, e.g. logging, mining, and grazing, over conservation of natural ecosystems. Easily accessible old growth forests on federal and private lands were extensively logged long ago, creating increasingly heavy reliance on the remaining old growth forests on federal lands. These old growth forests are in demand because of the size and quality of the trees to the timber industry. Second growth forests on most private lands are still 15 to 20 years away from harvestable age.



The old growth forests support a broad range of plants and animals and the health of these forests impacts further on the area's rivers and streams -- meaning that fish also are affected by the state of these forests. For example, the region's salmon industry, which employs an estimated 60,000 people, has already been affected by reduced fish harvests due, in part, to habitat degradation of rivers and streams in logged areas. Destroying the old growth forests has a domino effect on entire communities --reducing jobs in tourism and fishing, recreational opportunities, hunting and fishing, and endangering water supplies. Old growth forests also contain a number of known and unknown species which offer promise, such as the Pacific yew tree, whose bark yields taxol, a possible cure for breast cancer.

### **NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL**

The northern spotted owl range is located in the forests west of the Cascade Mountains in Washington, Oregon, and northern California. Within that range, the owls preferred habitat is old growth forests.

The Department of Agriculture's Forest Service manages 23 million acres in spotted owl range. The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 2.4 million acres in spotted owl range in Oregon and northern California.

The debate has focused on the environmental and economic benefits and costs of protecting the northern spotted owl. From 1984, when the Forest Service adopted guidelines for managing the owl's habitat on national forests in Washington and Oregon through today, this debate has been marked by contradictory and sloppy policy-making that has forced the issue into the courts.

The debate intensified over the past five years, particularly since the Fish and Wildlife Service listed the northern spotted owl as threatened in July 1990. The courts during this time repeatedly concluded that the Bush Administration was acting in violation of existing laws and issued injunctions stopping major timber sales. The Bush Administration, for example, agreed to list the owl as threatened but refused to act to protect the areas where the owl lives. Later, unhappy with the findings of the Interagency Scientific Committee, which was charged with examining the issues, the Bush Administration convened its own task force that produced a 1-1/2 page press release asking Congress to pass legislation enabling certain Forest Service and BLM timber sales to proceed and be insulated from forest management laws.

Using the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and "viable populations of species" standard of the National Forest Management Act, environmental groups have challenged Forest Service and BLM plans to sell timber in spotted owl habitat. The ESA prohibits agencies from taking actions which will "jeopardize the continued existence" of an endangered or threatened species, a determination which the Fish and Wildlife Service makes. National Forest Management Act regulations call for maintenance of viable populations of native vertebrates well distributed within the area.



A series of injunctions by the Seattle District Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals have stalled almost all timber sales in spotted owl habitat in Washington, Oregon, and northern California since 1989.

Almost routinely, the courts said the Bush Administration abused its discretion, acted arbitrarily and capriciously and violated the law. For example, in May 1991, Judge William Dwyer in Seattle District Court ruled that, "...a deliberate and systematic refusal by the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the laws protecting wildlife ...[demonstrates] a remarkable series of violations of the environmental laws."

### **SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS TEAM REPORT**

The scientific understanding of old growth forest ecosystem has evolved significantly in the past five years. Scientists have conducted three key independent assessments:

- 1) The Interagency Scientific Committee (ISC) in 1990
- 2) The Scientific Panel on Late Successional Forest Ecosystems in 1991
- 3) The Scientific Analysis Team (SAT) of the Forest Service in 1993

All three have confirmed the need to set aside larger areas of habitat to protect species which depend on old growth forest ecosystems, such as northern spotted owls, marbled murrelets, and several species of salmon.

The most recent scientific assessment on this issue from the Scientific Analysis Team was released Friday, March 19. This report was prepared by a team of 24 government scientists in response to a court order. The conclusion of these scientists is that significant acreage (no specific numbers) of public forest land will need to be protected if old growth species are to survive.

The SAT report responds to specific questions raised by Judge Dwyer. It is a scientific study prepared to answer a court order, not a statement of policy. The team considered not just protection of the spotted owl, but protection of the entire old growth ecosystem as a way to prevent a piecemeal and crisis-driven approach to land management. Its conclusions identify some 482 additional species that rely on old growth forests.

### **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

The forests of the Pacific Northwest and northern California have provided the foundation for the region's economy for the past century. Though historically important as a source of employment in the northwest, the timber industry has been declining in importance as other sectors of the economy have grown. In 1970, timber-related jobs accounted for about 10 percent of total regional employment. By 1989, timber employment was at about 140,000 jobs or about 4 percent of total regional employment. However, some rural areas depend almost totally on



forest industries.

In the northwest region, economic growth in the past two decades has diversified a regional economy that was once much more heavily dependent on manufacturing and timber. While many rural counties are vulnerable, overall economic conditions and trends in the northwest show substantial strength. After many years of somewhat sluggish economic growth, the Pacific Northwest economy has shown strong growth since 1986. The rate of employment growth in Oregon and Washington exceeded the U.S. average in every year since 1986.

About 43 percent of the timber land in the affected region is owned by the federal government, with the remainder in state or private hands. Federal timber sales provide local communities receipts of between \$200 and \$500 million dollars annually.

During the 1980s, the northern spotted owl region (public and private lands) accounted for more than 30 percent of the lumber produced in the United States. Because about one-third of recent timber harvests in the owl region occur on federal lands, about 10 percent of domestic timber supply potentially is affected by spotted owl protection.

Increased harvest levels have failed to increase jobs proportionately. Increased mechanization in harvesting, transporting, and milling has lowered the labor required for producing lumber. During the 1980s, for example, the number of jobs in the lumber and wood products sectors declined from 10 jobs per million board feet of harvest to below 8 jobs per million board feet. From 1981 to 1989, while harvest levels increased by 44 percent in Oregon and Washington, there was no increase in employment in forest products.

Mill closings follow a similar trend. In 1968, Oregon had 300 sawmills; by 1988 the state had 165 mills. In Washington, the number of mills fell from 182 in 1978 to 118 mills in 1988, while the total number of wood processing establishments (including veneer and plywood, pulp, shake and shingle plants and other operations) fell from 764 in 1978 to 351 in 1988.

These trends preceded the old-growth controversy. While the spotted owl often is blamed for weak employment, the long term projections indicate steady declines in employment for any given level of timber harvest.

Export-related issues are expected to be raised at the Forest Conference. It is important to note that by law, logs from federal lands cannot be exported and log exports from state-owned lands are highly restricted. However, substantial volumes of timber cut from private lands in the northwest are exported to Japan, Korea, and China with minimal domestic processing.

####



# THE FOREST CONFERENCE

## *Fact Sheet*

- o The Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture manages 23 million acres in spotted owl range. The Bureau of Land Management in the Department of Interior manages 2.4 million acres in spotted owl range. (Northern spotted owl range is in the forests west of the Cascade Mountains in Washington, Oregon, and northern California. Within that range, the owls preferred habitat is old growth forests.)
- o Old growth forests are those at least 200 years old or older. Nearly 90 percent of the region's old growth forests already have been logged. Today, there are an estimated 8 to 9 million acres of old growth forest, most on federally-owned land.
- o During the 1980s, the northern spotted owl region -- public and private lands accounted for more than 30 percent of the lumber produced in the United States. Since about one-third of recent harvests in the owl region occur on federal lands, about 10 percent of domestic timber supply is potentially affected by spotted owl protection.
- o The rate of employment growth in Washington and Oregon exceeded the U.S. average in every year since 1986.
- o In 1970, timber related jobs accounted for about 10 percent of total regional employment. By 1989, timber employment was about 140,000, which represents about 4 percent of total regional employment. (Note: The Fish and Wildlife Service listed the northern spotted owl as threatened in July, 1990.)
- o During the 1980s, the number of jobs in the lumber and wood products sectors in the region declined from 10 jobs per million board feet of harvest to below 8 jobs per million board feet.
- o In 1968, Oregon had 300 sawmills. In 1988, Oregon had 165 sawmills. In 1968, California had 216 sawmills. In 1988, California had 93 sawmills. In 1978, Washington had 182 sawmills. In 1988, Washington had 118 sawmills.
- o By law, logs from federal lands cannot be exported, and logs from western state lands are highly restricted.
- o Congressional Committees with jurisdiction in federal forest management are: Senate Agriculture Committee, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; House Natural Resources Committee, Agriculture Committee, and House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

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Contact: Virginia Diez  
(202) 626-4602

**REP. BRUCE VENTO (D-Minn.) APPEARS ON C-SPAN  
TO DISCUSS FOREST CONFERENCE**

Washington, D.C., April 1, 1993--Tonight, from 5:30-6:15 PM (CT),

Representative Bruce Vento, (D-Minn.) will appear on a **Live Viewer Call-in** to discuss tomorrow's Forest Conference in Portland, Oregon. The Conference will air on C-SPAN in its entirety tomorrow, April 2, starting at 7:00 PM (CT).

Rep. Vento chairs the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. Mr. Vento has been a supporter of the environment for over twenty years and an advocate of protecting the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest.

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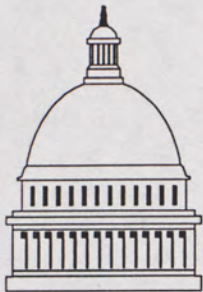
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## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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TO: KERRI McCHIMEN

FROM: VIRGINIA DIEZ

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Contact: Virginia Diez  
(202) 626-4602

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TO: VIRGINIA DIEZ  
FR: KERRI MCCLIMEN (CONGRESSMAN VENTO)  
RE: C-SPAN PROGRAM ON FOREST CONFERENCE IN OREGON  
AND ANCIENT FOREST LEGISLATION

TELEVISION:

KSTP

Ass. Editor: <sup>Mr.</sup> Daryl Adams — will pick it up.  
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News Director: Deborah Collura  
612-642-4412

KARE TV

Assignment: Fritzie or Patty Morris — will pick it up. —  
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News: Tom Lindner

assist. assign. editor.

KMSP TV

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Assignment: Mike Poole  
612-330-2504

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612-290-1407

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very grateful!