

FOREST SERVICE NEWS



PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
AND

PACIFIC NORTHWEST FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
PORTLAND, OREGON

RELEASE

IMMEDIATE

Y-112
112762

Fifty million board feet of timber felled by the Columbus Day storm has been sold in 122 salvage sales in National Forests of Oregon and Washington. A total of 135 million feet will be sold by the end of December, bringing the total number of sales to 300.

Both amounts are part of the Forest Service effort to salvage quickly as much as possible of the more than one billion feet of blowdown timber in the National Forests of the two States.

"I'm very pleased with the progress made toward the goal of salvaging this great amount of timber and repairing the damage incurred in the October 12 storm," said Regional Forester J. Herbert Stone. He pointed out that an additional volume of blowdown timber already has been removed from areas of timber sales in operation before the storm. Most Forest Service contracts permit adjustment by mutual agreement with the purchaser to include nominal amounts of adjacent salvage.

The spring of 1964 is the target date for completion of the task. If salvage is not completed by that time, entomologists estimate the Douglas-fir beetle population will increase to such proportion in the down timber that emerging adult beetles will attack healthy standing timber.

(More)

Forest Service surveys of damage and steps to begin salvage operations began immediately after the October 12 storm. The first salvage sale was made October 16 on the Siuslaw National Forest. Since then, all National Forests hit by the storm have put windthrown timber up for sale as fast as possible, Stone said.

Several steps were taken to expedite salvage of the timber. Numerous small sales have been handled by district rangers directly with timber purchasers who were operating in areas hit by the storm. This small sale procedure has been particularly useful in opening blocked roads for crews to get into forested areas to determine extent of blowdown. At the same time the procedure permits selling the timber removed from the roads.

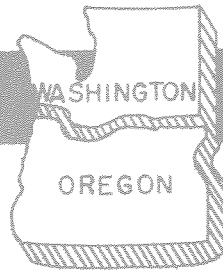
In addition, the Forest Service is permitting time extensions on existing timber sale contracts upon application in order that purchasers may log blowdown timber, Stone said.

Seven and ten day advertising periods were used for salvage sales made to date. This short term advertising authority, for use under emergency conditions, permits operators to start logging 2 to 3 weeks earlier. This is particularly important in areas where winter logging is not possible.

Several temporary shifts in personnel have been made to speed the salvage job in areas of heavy blowdown. Twenty timber sale men have been assigned to the Siuslaw National Forest, hardest hit by the storm. Other hard hit Forests are receiving similar manpower assistance from areas of lesser damage.

#

~~CRF~~
~~PWO~~
~~RED~~
~~PBB~~
~~10/7~~



FOREST SERVICE NEWS



PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
AND
PACIFIC NORTHWEST FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
PORTLAND, OREGON

RELEASE
IMMEDIATE

Z-31
5363

National Forest Timber Salvage Progresses

The U.S. Forest Service has sold over 40 percent of the timber blown down in the National Forests of Oregon and Washington by the Columbus Day storm.

Sales to April 1 totalled 484,147,000 board feet involving 533 sales on the forests of the Pacific Northwest Region.

Approximately 709 million board feet remains to be sold. The Forest Service will sell the bulk of this volume by July 1, according to J. Herbert Stone, Regional Forester, Portland.

Actual harvest of the blowdown reached 145,769,000 board feet on April 1, Stone reported. Salvage logging has been aided by mild weather in many areas, and a preponderance of small sales in accessible areas has speeded up the effort to remove the damaged timber.

An estimated 1 billion 192 million board feet of timber was felled in 17 of the 20 National Forests of Oregon and Washington where the October storm struck. The Forest Service goal is to remove all salvable timber from the woods by May 1964.

An additional 40 million board feet of timber was downed by a storm on March 27, Stone said, but this is little more than would result from a "normal" winter storm.

#

JMD
SH
APB
DMCC