

## Mullenax Run

The Monongahela National Forest was established, in part, in reaction to the devastating logging practices common prior to the arrival of modern forestry to the United States in the early 20th century. These earlier practices, involving deforestation on a massive scale, removed approximately 30 billion board feet of timber from West Virginia between 1870 and 1920. This short-sighted management led to serious environmental degradation: soil erosion with resultant stream and river sedimentation, flooding, devastating slash fires, and denuded landscapes were all a result of these practices.



Mullenax Run 1937

Condition of the area around Mullenax Run after the devastating 1935 and 1936 fire seasons. Mullenax Run, a tributary of the East Fork of the Greenbrier River, was the site of a very destructive fire, probably caused by slash, in 1936. In this photograph two Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) planting crews are shown moving up the slopes. 725 acres of were replanted in this manner in the headwaters of the East Fork of the Greenbrier District in this year; all in all, 386,000 trees, consisting of red spruce, Norway spruce, black cherry, and yellow poplar were planted.



Mullenax Run 1954

The same area as depicted in the 1937 photograph. The 1954 photograph shows the results of replanting by the CCC seventeen years earlier.