

McCall Nursery Is Now Growing 800,000 Trees

People who occasionally pass the National Forest nursery in McCall may be surprised to know that on that acreage there is now growing 800,000 Ponderosa pine.

True these trees are only one-year-olds, but they are on the way. They will grow two more years, and reach an average height of about six inches, and will then be moved to reforestation projects on cut-over lands.

E. L. Thompson of the Idaho Forest service is in charge of the nursery and is doing a splendid piece of work. He has a crew of 10 men now working. The local nursery was first started in 1936 and the first seeding was made in 1938. Mr. Thompson expects that by the end of the sea-

was made in 1938. Thompson expects that by the end of the season 1,700,000 yellow pine trees will have been produced here.

In 1938 land which had been logged by the Brown Tie and Lumber Co., was replanted with 2,000 fir and 1,600 pine. It takes about 75 years for these trees to reach saw-log size. Last year 100,000 trees from the McCull nursery were planted on the Phillips Creek Bar, in the Payette Forest, scene of the disastrous fire of two years ago.

Seed which has been planted at the nursery was mostly gathered in the Idaho forest. CCC boys usually do the gathering and last year turned in about 1200 bushels of cones.

Mr. Thompson has a special drying rack for these cones which he designed himself. A series of racks and screens are so arranged on a trolley that they can be exposed to proper weather conditions, cone husks removed and the seed preserved.

The planting season, according to Mr. Thompson, is about 45 days in