

Idaho Forest Facts

1. The average yearly cut of lumber in Idaho is about 800 million feet, worth about \$30,000,000.
2. Twenty-four million dollars of this remains at home to the benefit of community business, of which about \$18,000,000 goes for labor.
3. The lumber industry employs about two-thirds of the State's industrial workers and produces about one-half of all its manufactured products.
4. It pays yearly about \$1,000,000 in taxes amounting in many counties to from 30 to 60 per cent of all taxes paid.
5. Idaho consumes less than one-fourth of its lumber-cut, the other three-fourths being shipped out, largely to eastern states, bringing to the state some \$20,000,000 in payment therefor.

Ownership of Forest Land and Timber in Idaho

<u>Land</u>			
Government	20,178,736	Acres	or 90.3%
Private	1,521,451	" "	6.6%
State	700,000	" "	3.1%
Total	22,940,187	"	100.00%

<u>Timber</u>			
<u>Board Feet</u>			
Government	51,740,000,000	or	61.3%
Private	25,000,000,000	"	29.6%
State	7,700,000,000	"	9.1%
Total	84,440,000,000		100.00%

<u>Lumber Cut in 1922</u>			
<u>Board feet</u>			
Government	90,234,000	or	10.5%
Private	737,867,000	"	85.8%
State	32,000,000	"	3.7%
Total	860,101,000		100.00%

While private owners have less than 30% of the timber, they furnished nearly 86% of the cut. At this rate the private timber will last about 35 years, although the industry will soon be on the wane in many communities. The Government and State Forests cannot at present supply more than a portion of the present cut, but if all of Idaho's forest lands were under high class management, the industry

could be permanently sustained, even on an increased basis.

The decline will be more serious by regions. The timber tributary to Spokane in North Idaho will go first, and here the loss will be felt keenly in 20 years or less.

The cut from the National Forests may be expected to increase very materially, but due to the policy of the Government to cut only as fast as the timber grows, it will only take up the slash in part. Not only will industry suffer, but taxes on logging and milling equipment and on standing timber will shrink to a point that will seriously affect the local governments. Many cities will lose a part of their population.

Twenty-five per cent of the receipts from National Forests are returned to the counties for roads and schools. The increase in sales from the Forests will therefore help the tax situation but can hardly be expected at the start, if ever, to make up for the shortage entirely,

The only way counties may insure their prosperity is through keeping private forest lands productive. Prevention of fires on cut-over lands will go far toward this result. A reduction in the tax rate on standing timber, and cooperation on the part of citizens to keep down the costs of protection would do much to encourage private owners to grow new forests.

The forest problem is one of the most important problems the people of North Idaho, the entire State in fact, have to face. A supply of timber is essential to both agriculture and mining, and the lumber industry plays a large part in the demand for products of the farm, dairy, and range.

Prevent forest fires - it pays.