

Job Loss 'Simply Hogwash'—Andrus

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Gov. Cecil D. Andrus terms as "simply hogwash" Boise Cascade president John Fery's contention that wilderness classification for a large chunk of central Idaho would cause a loss of jobs.

The timber industry should call for better management practices on forests outside the primitive area instead of trying to log Idaho's wilderness lands, the governor said Saturday.

The 40 million board feet of timber Boise Cascade wants to cut each year in the primitive area "can easily be made up in other places," Andrus said.

Boise Cascade proposed earlier this week that a roadless recreation area be set up along the Salmon and Middle Fork rivers and multiple use be permitted on the remaining primitive area lands.

The U.S. Forest Service has proposed a 1.4-million-acre wilderness area be set up in and around Idaho and Salmon Breaks primitive areas. Andrus has proposed wilderness classification for 1.8 million acres in the area.

While Fery called the Boise Cascade position a "middle ground compromise," Andrus said it wasn't a compromise at all.

"It is a typical industry short-range plan proposed as a solution to a long-range problem," he said. "If you permit them to manage the areas their map proposes ... you might as well give them the whole area and forget about

the Middle Fork forever."

Andrus said the "loss of jobs" argument is a "club being held over the public." He said in the past two years the state has managed to increase the allowable cut on state forests by 55 million board feet each year—more than Boise Cascade suggested be logged from the proposed wilderness area.

Andrus said the U.S. Forest Service's poor management practices was "the real villain," adding that lumber firms could maintain a sustained yield of 40 million board feet outside the primitive area.

Meanwhile, the Idaho Mining Association said in view of the bleak outlook for future mineral supplies "the nation can not afford to impose further restrictions and handicaps on the exploration for, and development of, its sub-surface resources of minerals and fuels.

In a prepared statement, the association said it favors management of the primitive area "so as to permit a multitude of uses, including reasonable access for mineral exploration and production."

The association said its position is based largely on a report of the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Bureau of Mines identifying known and potential mineral deposits within boundaries of the primitive area and adjacent lands.

"The mining industry is not adverse to management to the main Salmon and Middle Fork river corridors, the Big Horn Crag and the Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area in a manner which recognizes recreation as the predominant resource value," the association said. "However, these areas should not be withdrawn from mineral exploration because they have not yet been adequately evaluated for their mineral production potential."

Hansen Favors DDT On Tussocks

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho (AP)— "Timber loss due to the Tussock moth epidemic is far more disastrous than any possible damage that may be caused by the limited use of DDT in the infested area," said Rep. Orval Hansen, R-Idaho, Saturday.



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