

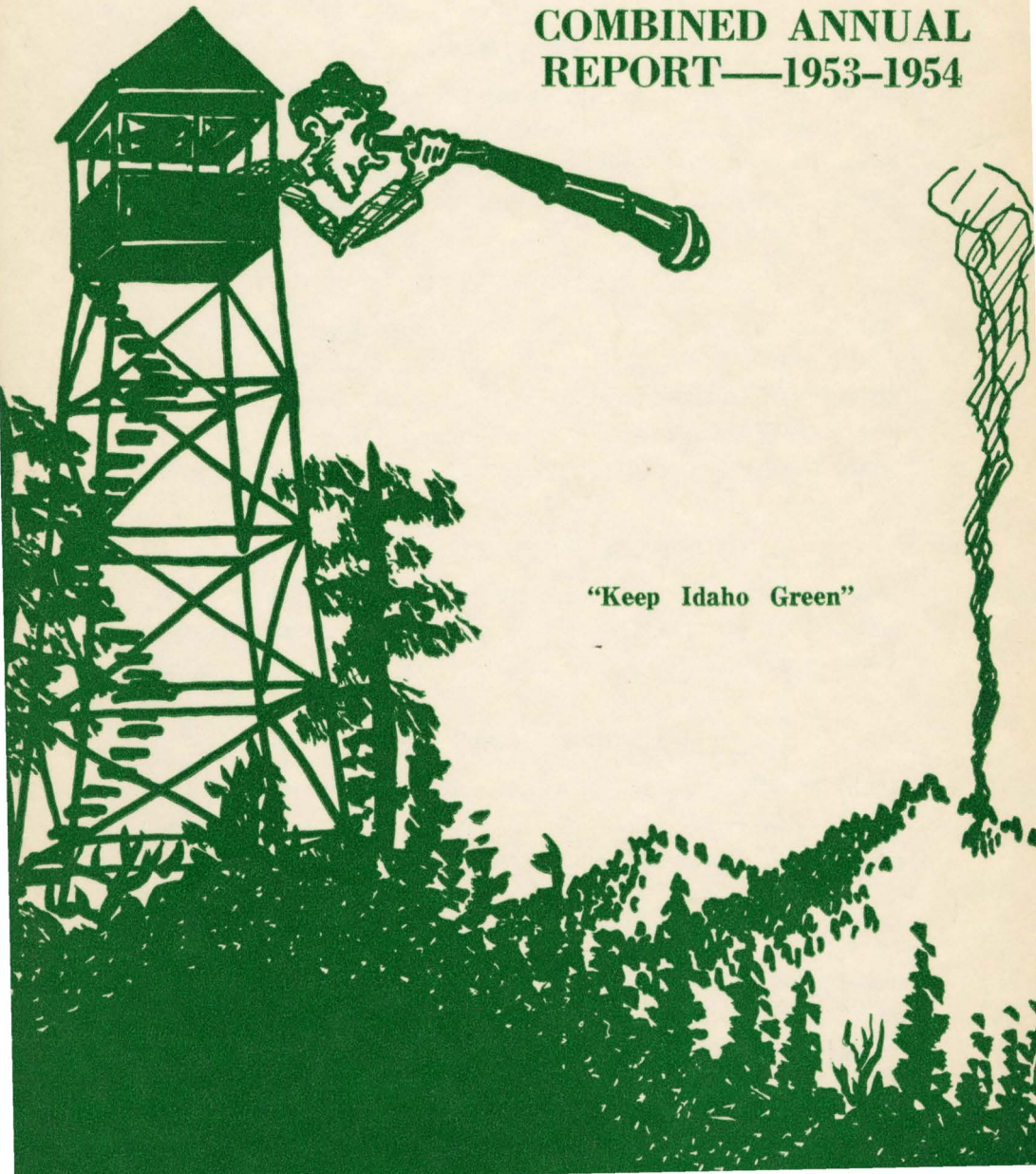
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POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

COMBINED ANNUAL REPORT—1953-1954



"Keep Idaho Green"

Official Directory

Potlatch Timber Protective Association

1954

OFFICERS

George W. Beardmore, *President*Lewiston, Idaho
 Roger L. Guernsey, *Vice-President*Boise, Idaho
 Adrian G. Nelson, *Secretary-Treasurer*Orofino, Idaho
 A. B. Curtis, *Chief Fire Warden*Orofino, Idaho

DIRECTORS

George W. BeardmoreLewiston, Idaho
 Roger L. GuernseyBoise, Idaho
 R. G. SackersonSeattle, Washington
 J. S. BarronSpokane, Washington
 John SanfordCoeur d'Alene, Idaho

COMMITTEE ON FIRE PROTECTION

Roger L. Guernsey, *Chairman*Boise, Idaho
 Roger BillingsNewport, Washington
 George RauchLewiston, Idaho

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Roger Guernsey, *Chairman*Boise, Idaho
 George RauchLewiston, Idaho
 Roger BillingsNewport, Washington

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Grant Potter, *Chairman*Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
 Roger L. GuernseyBoise, Idaho
 L. J. DavisSandpoint, Idaho

5. From June 1 to September 31, 22 days occurred with .10 of an inch or more of rain. The longest dry period was from July 21 to August 16 with 26 days of uninterrupted dry weather.

Several tables accompany this report which will show the cause of fires, percentages, losses and location of fires with reference to our various fuel types. The study of these tables should be of interest to the reader desiring more detail.

FIRE WEATHER

Fire weather observations were made at our Elk River Weather Station from late April until the activities of the season ended the first of December. Rainfall measurements during the 1954 season reveal interesting facts to those that study climatic conditions. On the basis of a 27 year record, the month of May was nearly normal with 2.07 of an inch, while June was nearly an inch greater than normal, a near normal July, followed by the wettest August of record.



Potlatch Timber Protective Association Directors and Officers, Standing—Left to Right—President George Beardmore, Lewiston, Idaho; Vice President Roger Guernsey, Boise, Idaho; Director J. S. Barron, Spokane, Washington; W. G. Cochran, St. Maries, Idaho representing Director R. G. Sackerson, Seattle, Washington. Front row—Secretary-Treasurer Adrian Nelson, Orofino, Idaho; Chief Fire Warden A. B. Curtis, Orofino, Idaho; Director L. J. Davis, Sandpoint, Idaho.

The 3.67 of an inch rainfall for August has no equal. A near cloudburst occurred on August 19 with 2.26 of an inch of rainfall. The August, 1954 rainfall occurred on eight different days starting with August 15, with various amounts from .09 to a heavy rain of 2.26 on August 19. This made a very unusual condition with the 1954 August being the wettest month of the year, whereas the average August is the driest month of the year. In the statistical section of this report you will note a rainfall record, which is published for the first time. This shows monthly rainfall as compared to fire occurrence and acreage burned.

Without the heavy August rainfall, 1954 might well have been a comparatively dry year with greater fire difficulty. The four month period (June through September) of the 1954 season was only 1.91 inches above average. 1946 was the last season, previous to 1954, when an above average rainfall occurred.

PRE - SUPPRESSION

Our principal source of labor came from high schools and colleges. Many applications for work were received during the winter and spring months previous to the fire season. These applications were closely examined. Young men of previous experience, those interested in forestry or who have worked on farms or other jobs requiring the use of tools were considered. An ample supply of local people interested in forest protection work was available to fill key positions and take jobs of greater responsibility.

To train new employees and to determine the ability of the new workers, a fire training school was held as usual in conjunction with the training program of the Clearwater Timber Protective Association. After a week of training and study of aptitude, selections were made to properly orient our new workers into the job which they could best fill.

Practice work and training was given in the use of the compass, cross-country hikes to fires with and without the aid of the airplane, fire line construction, small smokechaser type fire projects, work at digging fire lines, sawing, snag felling, mop up work, use of the dozer and use of water.

MAINTENANCE WORK

The maintenance of Association improvements started early with favorable May weather and continued favorable weather throughout the fire season. Our very wet June weather delayed the manning of our first lookout until the twelfth of July. Satisfactory weather conditions made it possible to get through the season with the least number

of lookouts in the history of the organization. Only 3 lookouts were established during the year. August 21, which is usually the peak of the fire season, resembled conditions more like the end of the fire season and a reduction of lookouts was possible at this unprecedented early date. Never in the recent history of the organization have we had a situation of no lookouts at the end of August.

Our Association has many miles of fine roads, telephone lines, many fine lookout points, wood and steel towers, a fine radio system, all of which must be maintained in both good and bad years. The development of our fine communication and transportation system has been the key to adequate forest protection. The maintenance of these improvements must be looked at as a necessary job and normal expenditures are budgeted to do the work. The cost for maintenance work during the easy years differs little from normal season expenditures. At the outset of each fire season, it is difficult to predict how serious a fire season might be. An organization is built up to do the job and work is planned to keep fire personnel busy. The same men who do maintenance work, therefore, become the men who first go to fires. It would be difficult to develop an organization otherwise.



This five thousand gallon tank was salvaged from a gasoline tanker outfit which had tough luck on the highway. Instead of holding gasoline, it now sits on one of our bad fuel locations with five thousand gallons of water always ready to be used during fire season. During the fall it is emptied and put away. This is another example of intensive protection.

Several lookouts were repaired during the year. These included: Jericho, Little Green Mountain and Mason Butte. Each of these structures are wooden. Maintenance work on wooden towers usually require horizontal brace replacement and occasional upright timber replacement, stair tread and railing repair, and less frequent repair of observation cabins and living quarters. Considerable paint, creosote and oil to preserve wooden structures are necessary.

HUNTING SEASON

During the 1953 season, serious fire trespass by careless hunters was reported. I am pleased to report that during the 1954 season there were no fires caused by careless hunters. It is believed, however, that this more favorable report was due principally to the wet weather conditions. Many hunters, fishermen, sportsmen and people seeking recreation and outdoor life visit the Association areas. There seems to be an increasing number with each passing year. While we have not this year been bothered with this cause of man-made fires, another public relation problem has developed in the excessive use of Association property and improvements. Several are as follows:

1. Destruction of sign boards along trails and roads.
2. Abuse of lookout structures and cabins by breaking and entering, resulting in broken windows and acts of vandalism, such as building and tower defacement with wood portions being used for fuel for warming and cooking fires.

A serious attempt has been made the last several years to contact hunting parties and do a job of public relation. Patrolmen were assigned the job of contacting hunting parties to advise them where and how to build their camp fire, where they should camp and what to do with refuse. They also stressed that cleaning up of camp grounds at departure time was expected decency to the next sportsman.

Our Association areas are having high public use. This problem will not diminish; it is a situation now growing and one which we must plan for to cut down the flagrant vandalism and abuse of Association improvements. Forest courtesy, respect and regard for other persons who enjoy outdoor life, must be continually discussed with persons entering Association areas.

FIRE INSPECTIONS

In fire prevention work, as in all other fields of endeavor, a considerable amount of planning is necessary. Good planning familiarizes our organization with the prob-

lems, uncovers certain deficiencies in our organization, and generally promotes more efficiency. We have found our co-operators eager and willing to be helpful in fire prevention work. Most operators ask for Association guidance in pre-suppression and fire protection. With over 100 forest operations on Association lands, the job of fire plans and other pre-suppression activity must be considered as important and a real challenge to develop the greatest cooperation possible among our operators.

The Association Fire Inspector had the help of one and, at times, two seasonal assistants to work out adequate fire plans throughout Association areas. All operations were visited and on the job planning was done. Our fire plans call for the orientation of all men in the various crews to make them more effective in the case of fire. Some forest workers are capable of handling suppression crews, while others lack experience in fire fighting work and are best at manual labor with the use of axe, shovel and saw. Other loggers have had experience in cruising, timber survey or engineering which makes them more valuable for scouting and smoke-chasing work. This is the job to analyze the crew and organize these crews into units of their greatest effectiveness in fire control work.

Throughout the season our fire inspectors revised fire plans to changing conditions such as size and location of crews and fire dangers in the operating area.

Inspections of all forest operations to point out existing fire hazards in camps and mills started early in the fire season and continued throughout the summer. When inspections revealed the need for improvement or correction on the part of an operator to better safeguard his operation from fire, I am pleased to say we have had splendid cooperation. Special emphasis was given to the following:

1. Proper location and size of tool caches. Fire tools in most instances are furnished free of charge by the Association with a charge being made for the maintenance and transportation of fire tool caches to and from the operators' camps. Fire tool caches are contained in specially built wooden boxes designed to stand rough wear and be water resistant. The fire tool caches are sealed by an Association provided, self locking type, serially numbered seal. They are amply marked with warning signs that the tools contained in the cache are for fire purposes only.

2. Close check on smoking regulations. Smoking is permitted only at camp locations and specially designed areas, such as at landings. Smoking is not permitted in dangerous places while working.

3. Spark arresters are necessary upon all gas combustion engines in the logging areas.

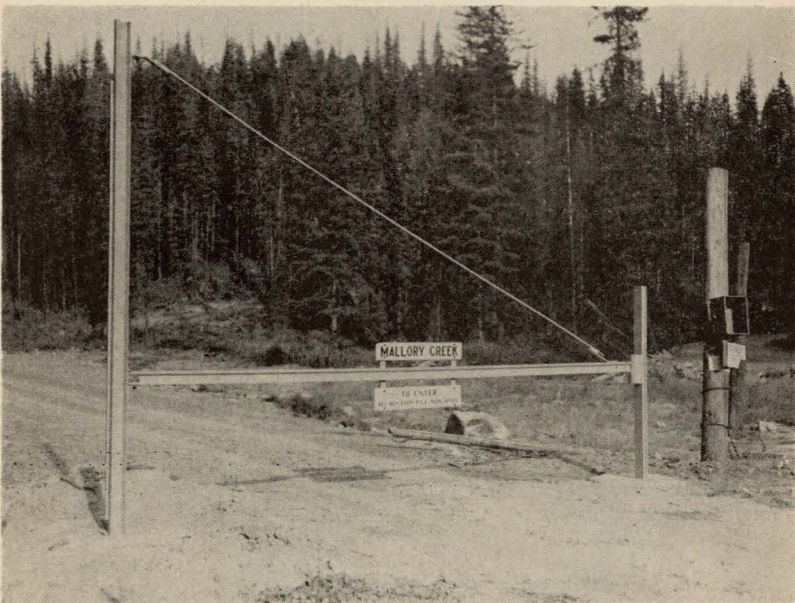
4. Fire tools on all equipment such as skidding and dozer tractors, jammers, logging trucks, trains, speeders and etc. are necessary and required.

5. Power saw operators are required to carry a small fire extinguisher and shovel at the discretion of the fire warden.

6. Saw mill refuse burners, exhaust stacks, power plants and hazardous equipment are examined carefully to correct dangerous conditions.

7. Here are several of the rules relating to the use of the gasoline powered power saws.

- A. Hot muffler and exhaust manifold apparatus must not come in contact with inflammable forest fuels.
- B. The muffler must not be removed from the saw.
- C. Caution must be used that hot carbon blast discharges do not go into highly inflammable fuels.



Scrap steel rails makes a very good gate to keep public out of high critical areas. This gate is well locked and not easy to break through with padlock protected by heavy steel guard shown at right. The gate uprights are secured in poured concrete.

Rough Life for Keep Idaho Green Signs – Maybe Special Targets Will Help



In the spring of 1951 a \$12.50 Keep Idaho Green sign was erected at Benton Creek bridge on the Clearwater North Fork. By 1952 the sign bore 24 bullet holes. By 1953 the bullet perforations had increased to 46. Pockmarked with 76 holes, the sign was retired this year and a shiny new duplicate was put in place. By its side was hung a nice wooden target, with bull's eye and all. At last reports, the target sign had 21 big-calibre bullet holes and the new Keep Green sign was unmarked.

- D. Caution must be used to see that the fuel tank is not permitted to overflow during fueling operations.
- E. Motors must be kept clean of saw dust and inflammable material while in use.

This is the first year since 1948 that a closure proclamation was not asked of the Governor. Wet weather and a favorable fire season permitted unrestricted entry throughout the year.

IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT WORK

Compared to other seasons, a smaller crew of men was employed for maintenance work, fire crews and other work crews. The use of fewer men was made possible by the short fire season and other favorable weather conditions: Consequently, there was not as much accomplished on new projects as compared to recent years. An improvement and development work program was under way, however, during part of the season and principal accomplishments were as follows:

A fire control road, started in 1953 along the divide between Stony and Isabella Creek, was extended.

A fire control road, started in 1953 along the divide between Isabella and Breakfast Creek, was extended.

A fire control road was built from the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River about four miles upstream from Boehl's Cabin to Finn Saddle and Smith Ridge. This road reduced our mileage from Boehl's Cabin into the Smith Ridge country by approximately 14 miles.

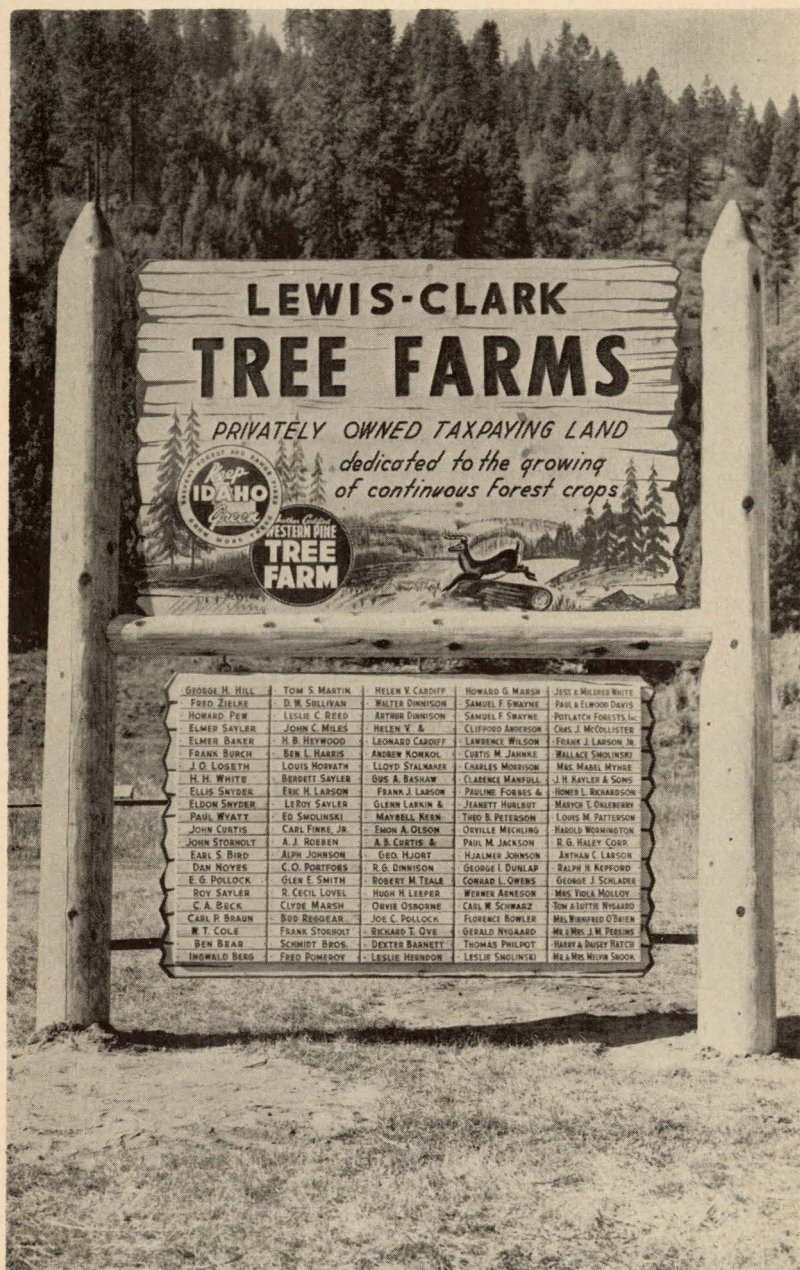
The operation of our VHF radio equipment was vastly improved with the completion of a power line from Elk River to Elk Butte Lookout, at which point our repeater equipment is located.

A new bath house was built at Boehl's Cabin.

The past several years our airplanes have been equipped with audio equipment used principally to direct smoke-chaser crews in fire fighting work. Considerable research in this work developed a far more satisfactory type than heretofore available. Cooperation from sound equipment manufacturing firms made this improvement possible.

GRAZING

Association sheep and cattle summer ranges enjoyed another season of good use. Good grazing practices were achieved with the cooperation of our permittees. Areas of



GEORGE H. HILL	TOM S. MARTIN	HELEN V. CARNAFF	HOWARD G. MARSH	JEST & MESSER WHITE
FRED ZIELKE	D. W. SULLIVAN	WALTER DIMMISON	SAMUEL F. SWAYNE	PAUL & ELWOOD DAVIS
HOWARD PER	LESLIE C. REED	ARTHUR DIMMISON	SAMUEL F. SWAYNE	POTLATCH FORESTS, L.
ELMER SAYLER	JOHN C. MILLS	HELEN Y. B.	CLIFFORD SANDGREN	CHARL. J. McCOLLISTER
ELMER BAKER	H. B. HEYWOOD	LEONARD CAROFF	LAWRENCE WILSON	FRANK J. LARSON, JR.
FRANK BURCH	BEN L. HARRIS	ANDREW KONKOL	CURTIS M. JANNAE	WALLACE SMOULINSKI
J. O. LOSBETH	LOUIS MORRATH	LOYD STALMANER	CHARLES MORRISON	MRS. MABEL MYRSE
H. H. WHITE	BERNARD SAYLER	GUS A. BASHAW	CLARENCE MANFULL	J. H. KATLER & SONS
CLIPS SNYDER	ERIC H. LARSON	FRANK J. LARSON	PAULINE FORBES &	JAMES L. BOGARDSON
ELDON SNYDER	LEROY SAYLER	GLENN LARKIN &	JANETT HUBBERT	MARCOY T. OILBERRY
PAUL WYATT	ED SMOULINSKI	MAYBELL KEEN	THEO B. PETERSON	LOUIS M. PATTERSON
JOHN CURTIS	CARL FINKE, JR.	EMON A. OLSON	ORVILLE MECHLING	HAROLD WERNHINGTON
JOHN STORHOLT	A. J. ROBERN	A. B. CURTIS, JR.	PAUL M. JACKSON	B. G. HALEY CORP.
EARL S. BIRD	ALVIN JOHNSON	GEORGE HIGHT	WALMER JOHNSON	ARTHUR C. LARSON
DAN NOYES	C. O. POSEFOBS	R. G. DIMMISON	GEORGE I. DUNLAP	BALPH H. KENFORD
E. G. POLLOCK	GLENN E. SMITH	ROBERT M. TEALE	CONRAD L. OWENS	GEORGE J. SCHLADER
ROY SAYLER	R. CECIL LOVELL	HUGH H. LEEPER	WERNER AERSON	MRS. IDA MOLLLOY
C. A. BECK	CLYDE MARSH	ORVIE OSBORNE	CARL W. SCHWARZ	TOM ALBETT WYGAARD
CARL P. BRAUN	BOB BRIDGEAR	JOE C. POLLOCK	FLORENCE ROWLER	Mrs. WENDELL O'BRIEN
W. T. COLE	FRANK STORHOLT	RICHARD T. OYLE	GERALD WYGAARD	Mrs. LINDA J. H. FERRIS
BEN BEAR	SCHMIDT BROCK	DEXTER BARNETT	THOMAS PHILLIPS	HARRY A. DUNSEY BATES
INOWALD BEER	FRED POMEROY	LESLIE HEARDON	LESLIE SMOULINSKI	Mrs. MRS. MYRSE SROOK

The Lewis-Clark Tree Farm was dedicated at Orofino, Idaho on September 18, 1954. 106 land owners participated in the dedication, the largest number of tree farmers to ever participate in such an event. This event marked a highlight in the interest of forestry by small land owners.

big game winter range were not leased nor were they grazed by sheep or cattle. In all cases, our stocking of areas has been held to less than 50% utilization.

Competition seems to be on the increase for good cattle ranges, while some areas more desirable for sheep are unused.

The work of predatory animals seems to be on a slight increase.

Our receipts reflect a slight increase over previous years with sheep producing \$1,502.40 and cattle \$3,028.50, for a total receipt of \$4,530.90 for the 1954 season.

PUBLICITY - KEEP IDAHO GREEN

Our Association has had fine publicity this year in behalf of our Fire Prevention Program. The Governor's KEEP IDAHO GREEN Committee has been particularly effective to keep the general public mindful of responsibility.

The KEEP IDAHO GREEN slogan on posters, highway signs, radio, T.V., newspaper releases and advertising material by various manufacturing firms has been constantly before the forest traveler. The KEEP IDAHO GREEN slogan and the DON'T BE A GUBERIF slogan (means fire bug) were on the bumpers and windows of thousands of cars in the area. The catchy, bright colored posters seemed always in demand.

The work of Boy Scouts of America, 4-H clubs and other organizations were helpful in material distribution.

The American Forests Products Industries and the U.S. Forest Service have been very active in releasing material through various channels to remind the public of the shameful waste because of fire carelessness.

It is a pleasure to report excellent cooperation from several newspapers which have extended help in publicizing fire news and fire publicity. Appreciation to the Lewiston Morning Tribune, the Daily Idahonian, the Clearwater Tribune, the Spokesman Review and the Spokane Chronicle for their good work is gratefully extended.

TREE FARMS

A Tree Farm is an area of privately owned forest land dedicated to continuous growth and production of forest crops for commercial purposes. If a private owner of forest land assures his willingness to use his land for the production of forest crops; provide reasonable protection from fire, in-

sects, disease, and from damage by excessive grazing; and harvest the crops from his Tree Farm in a manner which will assure future crops; he is eligible to apply for certification as a Tree Farmer.

Nationally, the American Tree Farm System is sponsored by the American Forests Products Industries. The Tree Farm movement is not a new development. It got its start in 1941 when the Clemons Tree Farm was named in Grays Harbor County of the State of Washington. A forest industry erected signs around a large tract of forest land and began a community educational program to tell its neighbors that it was not just another cut-over property, but an area on which a new crop of trees was to be grown and harvested. The idea caught, and since then the program has become active in 36 states and includes more than 4,600 members, 80 per cent of which are small, non-industrial woodland owners. The Tree Farm acreage in the United States has climbed steadily and is now over 29 million acres.

Locally the program is sponsored by the Western Pine Association which, on September 18, 1954 at Orofino, Idaho, certified 106 more Western Pine Tree Farms which acreage totalled 59,383 acres. This dedication is one more step toward eliminating the nation's number one forestry problem—better management of the 261 million acres of small woodlots (averaging 62 acres apiece) to bring them into full and continuing production.

The purpose of the Tree Farm program is to make it possible for the small forest land owner to continue and increase his importance to the local and national economy. The program has developed so that he can benefit from assistance and advice by being a member of a nation-wide organization which has for its program the growing of trees, and the goal of which is tree crops for today, tomorrow and forever.

AIR OPERATIONS

Air patrol operations were contracted to a private air service operator during the past season. A contracted rate of \$15.00 per hour was paid with the operator furnishing pilot, fuel and insurance on public liability and property damage.

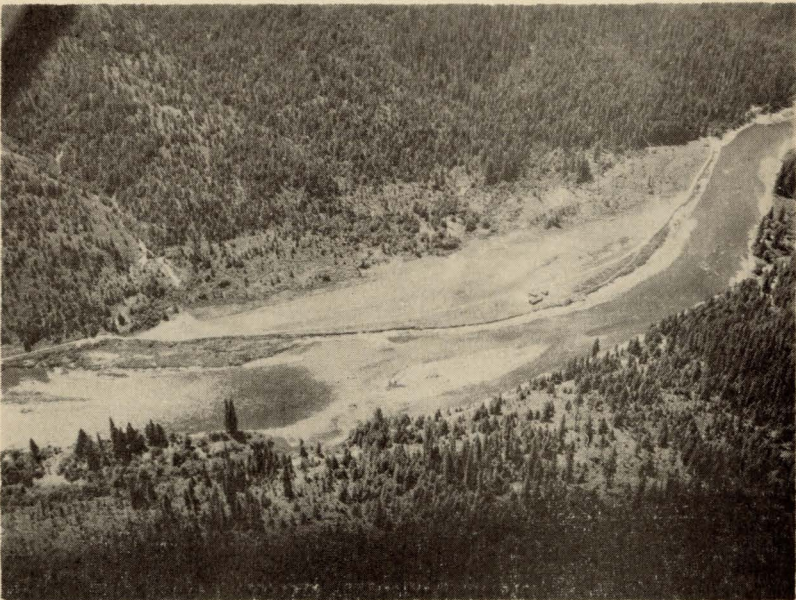
The directors of the Association authorized additional insurance to its employees, paid for by the Association in the amount of \$25,000.00 for each accident. This insurance cost \$150.00 for a minimum of 50 employee flying hours. Association employees were assigned to flying duties only at times deemed necessary and the minimum hours were not exceeded. Had more hours been flown than the minimum

allowed under the insurance policy, additional premiums in the amount of \$3.00 per hour would have been paid.

The airplane used in our fire patrol operation is equipped with VHF radio and audio equipment. The usual daily flight, made only when burning conditions justified, required from two to three hours per day. Flights were planned to cover the more critical fuel types late in the afternoon during hours of greater danger.

The following table indicated the value of our air operation:

Fires first discovered by lookouts	0
Fires first discovered by air patrol	7
Fires first discovered by Association employees and others	6
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Total Fires	13
Airplane used in location of fires	9
Airplane used in buzzing and directing men to fire location	1
<hr/>	
Total number of fires, airplane used	10



This airfield is located on the North Fork of the Clearwater River and is called Larson Bar. A very good airfield with splendid approaches. This strip is about 3,000 feet long and a good 400 to 600 feet in width. Elevation about 1500 feet.

In connection with our new equipment, it is of interest to report that tanker trucks were used on 6 fires during the 1954 season.

AIR COST - BREAKDOWN

Patrol	\$1,207.58
Passenger Service	78.25
Radio Testing	55.76
Training (air)	63.25
Parts	15.00
Buzzing Expense	13.50
Hospital Expense	113.76
Total Air Cost - 1954	\$1,547.10

It should be noted that the 1954 air operations expense was less than budgeted and considerably less than anticipated because of weather conditions and the absence of usual severe electrical storms.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER YEARS

1954	\$1,547.10
1953	1,756.25
1952	3,724.17
1951	1,590.57
1950	1,502.90
1949	1,287.38
Total (6 Years)	\$11,408.37

HAZARD REDUCTION

The State Forester has supervision, control and management of all fire hazards created by the cutting of timber within the Potlatch Timber Protective Association as provided by the 1945 Legislature. I am pleased to report as State Fire Warden of the Potlatch Forest Protective District, that all forest operations during 1954 complied with the law.

In formulating plans, programs and rules for the management and reduction of fire hazards created by the harvest and removal of timber, the State Cooperative Board of Forestry and the State Forester have been most cooperative.

During the 1954 calendar year, approximately \$95,665.62 was collected from various forest operations within the district, as provided by the Forest Management Act. Approximately \$9,219.82 of this amount was paid by operators who preferred to do their own hazard reduction work and that

amount will be refunded to these operators upon satisfactory compliance and completion of their work as provided by law. The remaining sum of money, or \$87,445.80, was used to carry on the work of the Forest Management Fund in accordance with plans and rules referred to above.

The Past and Today

For many years hazard reduction work was confined principally to hand piling and burning operations. Little thought was given to any objective other than complete piling and burning and in many cases such work being done



A spraying operation demonstration was given to the State Land Board during the summer of 1953. The demonstration effectively pointed out the seriousness of insect invasions in our two associations.

upon areas where little fire hazard existed. In some cases such operations have been detrimental to good forestry. This I regret to report. Through the years many hundreds of thousands of dollars have thus been spent.

Now a new viewpoint is held. Fire protection has improved. Better roads, new powerful machines employed in fire fighting work, better cars, trucks, radio equipment, air-plane, tanker and water equipment have made a difference in the job. Logging methods have changed from the 100% horse logging days. We now do not have the large unbroken areas of heavy slash isolated and so impossible to reach with equipment. Long logs and tree length logging, the retirement of the swamper in the woods, the taking of greater mixed timber specie, the use of powerful logging equipment and greater utilization of forest material have all had their part in making a difference in the job.

Since the enactment of the Forest Management Act, nearly a million dollars has been spent on hazard management on the Potlatch Forest Protective District. This is a large sum of money. Timber land owners have a right to know that the money is well spent. Forest managers must use the best judgment and correct practice to insure future timber crops.

The Forest Management Act is important legislation to the future of Idaho forestry. It came into being as a problem resulting from World War II. Problems have occurred and will continue to occur that are a menace to good management of our forests. In my opinion, the operation of the Forest Management Act should be re-defined. (See recommendations.)

POTLATCH FOREST PROTECTIVE DISTRICT REPORT OF OPERATIONS IN 1954

Compliances Issued, Logs and Lumber	62
Compliances Issued, Cedar Poles	5
—	
Total Compliances Issued	67
Cedar Post Permits Issued	29
Master Contracts Active, Logs	18
Master Contracts Active, Cedar Poles	3
—	
Total Master Contracts Active	21
Master Contracts Inactive	13
Logging and Pole Operators	57
Sawmill Active	4
Sawmill Inactive	1
Sawmills Served Outside District	19
Estimated Daily Capacity Mills in District	25,000 ft.

P. F. P. D.

1954 CALENDAR YEAR PRODUCTION
LOGS AND CEDAR

Total Log Production from Operators		
Holding Contracts with F. M. A.	98,272,316	
Dollars Received from above		\$ 75,014.24
Total Log Production from Com-		
pliances and Cash Bond Operators	8,954,750	
Dollars Received from above		\$ 8,963.76
Total Log Production	107,227,066	
Total Money Received from Logs		\$ 83,978.00
Total Cedar Production from		
Operators Holding Contracts		
with F. M. A.		
35' and longer	18,921	
30' and longer	3,154	
Total Dollars received from above ...		\$ 11,431.56
Total Cedar Production from Com-		
pliance and Cash Bond Operators		
35' and longer	209	
30' and shorter	554	
Dollars received from above		\$ 256.06
Total Cedar Production		
35' and longer	19,130	
30' and shorter	3,708	
Total Cedar Poles	22838	45,676
Total Dollars Received from Cedar ..		\$ 11,687.62
Total Dollars Received from all		
Operators		\$ 95,665.62

BLISTER RUST CONTROL

This Association contributed 3¢ per acre for Blister Rust Control operations upon State and private lands within the Association. The work is carried on under the direction of the Regional Forester's Office in Missoula, Montana. With Federal Funds for work upon State and private lands reduced by Congress, the management of forest lands for White Pine production becomes a management problem with a very uncertain future. This reduction of funds to fight the forest disease may place a new and difficult financial responsibility upon our State Government. The report of blister rust control operation on Association lands follows:

Blister rust control was continued on the Potlatch Timber Protective Association for the 26th consecutive year. The

transfer of the blister rust control activities from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to the U.S. Forest Service on January 1, 1954 did not interrupt nor change the State and Private cooperative blister rust control program. The same working agreement and policy which had been in effect was continued in 1954.

The 1953 - 54 cooperative control program consisted of two 50-man camps in 1953 and two 45-man camps in 1954. In the two seasons, 1,260 acres were worked for the first time and 6,350 acres were reworked. Control work was confined to the white pine pole and reproduction areas adjacent to Elk River, Idaho; Syringa Creek; and the selectively logged areas on the East Fork of Potlatch Creek. All crews were given one day of forest fire-fighting training, and were organized and equipped for fire-fighting duty.

Three truck-mounted power sprayers were used to apply a chemical solution of 2,4,5-T to ribes on these recently logged areas. There were 1,130 acres power sprayed in 1953-54. 3,200 acres of pole and reproduction were worked to a maintenance status. Additional rework will be required on the recently logged areas due to the unstabilized ribes population resulting from logging.

Control work is being directed toward the protection of the better stands of immature white pine which will produce the greatest amount of return per dollar invested. All the funds available were spent on the 66,290 acres comprising the total acreage of the present control program on this area. Initial ribes eradication has been performed on 55,740 acres and 54,000 have been reworked. There are 10,550 acres unworked area, 25,000 acres of the control area are on maintenance.

There are 140,000 acres of state and private lands representing mature white pine stands or highly productive units of recently cut-over not in the present program. No work on these lands is contemplated until the control work on the present program units is completed or until additional funds are made available.

An analysis of the present program units, (66,290 acres) indicates that a future white pine yield of 1,382 million board feet can be expected. Future blister rust protection costs to complete the protection job on the present program area are estimated at \$1.30 per M compared to the average stumpage value of \$28 per M for western white pine.

Considerable progress has been made during the past years in coordinating blister rust control with timber management planning and practices on federal, state and pri-

vate lands. Such planning includes: (1) selection of the areas where white pine will be grown and protected; (2) the application of the cutting methods or silvicultural treatments which will reduce the ribes eradication problem and secure the natural restocking of the areas to white pine or prepare the ground for planting.

However, the logging of isolated patches of mature timber by small operators continues to be a very serious problem. This logging practice causes abundant ribes germination in most all cases. The ribes on these areas must be eradicated in order to protect the adjacent immature white pine stands.

In 1953, \$45,117 of Federal funds and \$25,161 of State and private funds were expended. In 1954, \$36,071 of Federal funds and \$34,000 of State and private funds were spent.

Annual funds available under the present program are sufficient to conduct blister rust control on only a small part of the 256,000 acres of high priority white pine lands in and adjacent to the Potlatch Timber Protective Association.

HOMER J. HARTMAN

Agriculturist

St. Joe National Forest

St. Maries, Idaho

January 14, 1955

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Forest Management Act of 1945 was model legislation for good forestry. Our forests have many enemies, some of which are not as spectacular as fire, but nonetheless deadly. The forest must be protected from fire, insect and disease, all of which are enemies of the forest.

Insect attacks in the forest come quickly. Rapid build-ups of insects are possible before funds can be made legally available to halt such invasions at their incipience.

The operation of the Forest Management Act should be more clearly stated to include the possible use of such funds for hazard reduction work made necessary because of forest insects and disease. A more ideal legislation would be to make Forest Management Funds available for any forest emergency, whatever it may be.

CONCLUSION

In concluding this report I wish to express appreciation to many who have been very helpful in making the 1954 fire season a success.

The various committees, directors and officers of the Association have been most generous with their time and their good advice which has always been helpful.

The State Cooperative Board of Forestry and State Land Board have been very forestry minded and outstanding in their understanding of forestry problems.

The U. S. Forest Service and Weather Bureau, among the Federal agencies, have been helpful and very cooperative. These organizations, many civic groups and individuals contributed much to the job of keeping our forests green and productive. To the above I desire to express a feeling of gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. CURTIS

Chief Fire Warden

TABLE NO. 1

SHOWING FIRES BY CAUSE, EXTENT OF LOSS, CLASS AND ACREAGE INSIDE ASSOCIATION BOUNDARY—1954

Cause	No. of Fires	Per Cent	Acres Burned	Loss M.B.F.	Loss Cedar Poles	Class of Fires		
						A	B	C
Lightning	8	61	0	0	0	8	0	0
Smoker	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	0
Camper	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	0
Debris Burning	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	0
Unknown	2	15	0	0	0	2	0	0
Totals	13	100	0	0	0	13	0	0

TABLE NO. 2

SHOWING NUMBER, TYPE AND ACREAGE BURNED IN VARIOUS TIMBER TYPES

Cause	Cut Over		Merchantable Timber	B. O. & Grass Land	Reproduction		Total	
	No.	Acres			No.	Acres	No.	Acres
Lightning	6		2				8	
Smoker	1						1	
Camper	1						1	
Debris Burning			1				1	
Unknown	1		1				2	
Totals	9		4				13	

TABLE NO. 3
FIRES IN FUEL TYPES

	Acres in Ass'n.	Percent of Ass'n. Area	No. of Areas	Expected*		Actual		1954 Acres Burned
				No. of Fires	Percent	No. of Fires	Percent	
Extreme High	3,240	.07	3	0	.07	0		0
High	43,260	9.30	19	7	9.30	3	23	0
Normal	419,339	90.63		71	90.63	10	77	0
Total	465,839	100.0%	22	78	100.0%	13	100	0

* Northern Rocky Mountain Range and Experiment Station Fifteen Year Occurrence Record.

POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FIRES — 1954

No.	Name	Date	Acres	Sub. Div.	S.	T.	R.	Land Owner	Cause	Type Land	Damage
1		5/18/54	Spot	NENW	15	38	1W	John Darby	Brush burning	Mer. Tbr.	None
2		7/ 7/54	Spot	NENE	34	42	5E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
3		7/21/54	Spot	NESW	34	41	2E	National Forest	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
4		7/29/54	Spot	NWNE	25	40	2E	Diamond Match	Smoker	Cut-Over	None
5		7/31/54	Spot	SESW	16	38	2E	State of Idaho	Unknown	Mer. Tbr.	None
6		8/13/54	Spot	SENE	21	41	2E	P. F. I.	Camper		None
7		8/30/54	Spot	NENW	18	41	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
8		8/31/54	Spot	SENE	7	40	2E	Diamond Match	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
9		8/31/54	Spot	NESW	9	40	2E	Diamond Match	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
10		8/31/54	Spot	NWSW	2	41	2E	St. Maries Lbr. Co.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
11		8/31/54	Spot	SWSE	34	40	1E	G. M. Leonard	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
12		9/10/54	Spot	NENE	27	42	3E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
13		10/ 6/54	Spot	SWNE	27	40	2E	U.S. Forest Service	Unknown	Cut-Over	None

	May	June	July	Aug.	5 Month Sept.	4 Month Total*	Remarks	Total No. Fires	Light- ning Fires	Acres Burned	Cost
1928	.06	1.13	.65	.13	.54	2.51	2.45	115	56	12.97	
1929	.91	2.54	.12	.14	.27	3.98	3.07	202	164	7568.35	
1930	2.47	2.08	.95	.58	1.52	7.60	5.13	90	60	147.70	
1931	.91	.60	.34	.07	2.00	3.92	3.01	95	36	17180.65	
1932	4.36	.99	.41	.14	.63	6.53	2.17	64	15	44.10	
1933	No. Data	2.63	.27	.74	2.49	6.13	6.13	64	35	6.50	
1934	1.59	3.31	.19		.64	5.73	4.14	44	20	38.75	
1935	.42	1.77	.27	.80	.57	3.83	3.41	40	19	28.35	
1936	1.67	3.41	.44	.12	.79	6.43	4.76	67	17	18.90	
1937	.56	3.94	.33	.68	.74	6.25	5.69	48	38	2.40	
1938	.16	2.05	.40	.52	1.97	5.10	4.94	51	32	144.80	
1939	1.33	2.33	.63	.05	.85	5.19	3.86	50	25	60.84	
1940	.85	1.00	2.49	.02	4.06	8.42	7.75	42	33	14.40	
1941	6.04	3.49	.49	1.85	4.42	16.29	10.25	30	27	.40	
1942	3.75	3.86	1.39	.36	.51	9.87	6.12	47	40	7.95	
1943	2.32	3.82	.83	.64	.27	7.88	5.56	60	54	11.10	
1944	.87	2.54	.11	1.17	2.38	7.07	6.20	42	26	32.00	
1945	3.30	1.24	.12	.61	3.49	8.76	5.46	90	87	1264.95	
1946	1.26	3.18	.95		1.69	7.08	5.82	34	22	14.95	
1947	1.57	4.19	.27	.38	2.41	8.82	7.25	70	66	37.61	
1948	6.22	4.54	5.11	1.16	1.12	18.15	11.93	22	16	0	
1949	1.93	1.83	.33	.07	2.31	6.47	4.54	53	41	247.00	
1950	1.60	4.76	1.35	.30	.37	8.38	6.78	69	66	35.05	
1951	1.71	2.16	.93	.46	1.51	6.77	5.06	46	37	4.00	
1952	3.34	3.80	.30	.42	.49	8.35	5.01	40	25	5.25	
1953	3.87	1.32		1.25	.52	6.96	3.09	54	36	13.50	
1954	2.07	3.59	.57	3.67	.63	10.53	8.46	13	8	0	
TOTAL	55.14	72.10	20.24	16.33	39.18	203.00	148.04	1642	1101	26942.47	
27 YEAR AVERAGE	2.12	2.67	.75	.60	1.45	7.52	5.48	61	40	9978.69	

* Fire Season Only - June Through September.

TABLE NO. 3
FIRES IN FUEL TYPES

	Acres in Ass'n.	Percent of Ass'n. Area	Expected*		Actual		1954 Acres Burned
			No. of Areas	No. of Fires	Percent	No. of Fires	
Extreme High	3,240	.07	3	0	.07	0	0
High	43,260	9.30	19	7	9.30	3	23
Normal	419,339	90.63	—	71	90.63	10	77
Total	465,839	100.0%	22	78	100.0%	13	100

* Northern Rocky Mountain Range and Experiment Station Fifteen Year Occurrence Record.

POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FIRES — 1954

No.	Name	Date	Acres	Sub. Div.	S.	T.	R.	Land Owner	Cause	Type Land	Damage
1		5/18/54	Spot	NENW	15	38	1W	John Darby	Brush burning	Mer. Tbr.	None
2		7/ 7/54	Spot	NENE	34	42	5E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
3		7/21/54	Spot	NESW	34	41	2E	National Forest	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
4		7/29/54	Spot	NWNE	25	40	2E	Diamond Match	Smoker	Cut-Over	None
5		7/31/54	Spot	SESW	16	38	2E	State of Idaho	Unknown	Mer. Tbr.	None
6		8/13/54	Spot	SENE	21	41	2E	P. F. I.	Camper		None
7		8/30/54	Spot	NENW	18	41	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
8		8/31/54	Spot	SENE	7	40	2E	Diamond Match	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
9		8/31/54	Spot	NESW	9	40	2E	Diamond Match	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
10		8/31/54	Spot	NWSW	2	41	2E	St. Maries Lbr. Co.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
11		8/31/54	Spot	SWSE	34	40	1E	G. M. Leonard	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
12		9/10/54	Spot	NENE	27	42	3E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut-Over	None
13		10/ 6/54	Spot	SWNE	27	40	2E	U.S. Forest Service	Unknown	Cut-Over	None

	May	June	July	Aug.	5 Month		4 Month	Remarks	Total	Light-	Acres	Cost
					Sept.	Total	Total*		No. Fires	ning Fires	Burned	
1928	.06	1.13	.65	.13	.54	2.51	2.45	Bad Fire Year	115	56	12.97	
1929	.91	2.54	.12	.14	.27	3.98	3.07	Very Tough Year	202	164	7568.35	
1930	2.47	2.08	.95	.58	1.52	7.60	5.13	Normal Year	90	60	147.70	
1931	.91	.60	.34	.07	2.00	3.92	3.01	Bad Fire Year	95	36	17180.65	
1932	4.36	.99	.41	.14	.63	6.53	2.17	Easy Year	64	15	44.10	
1933	No. Data	2.63	.27	.74	2.49	6.13	6.13	Easy Year	64	35	6.50	
1934	1.59	3.31	.19		.64	5.73	4.14	Easy Year - Long Fire Season	44	20	38.75	
1935	.42	1.77	.27	.80	.57	3.83	3.41	Easy Year	40	19	28.35	
1936	1.67	3.41	.44	.12	.79	6.43	4.76	Normal Year	67	17	18.90	
1937	.56	3.94	.33	.68	.74	6.25	5.69	Easy Year	48	38	2.40	
1938	.16	2.05	.40	.52	1.97	5.10	4.94	Normal Year	51	32	144.80	
1939	1.33	2.33	.63	.05	.85	5.19	3.86	Easy Year	50	25	60.84	
1940	.85	1.00	2.49	.02	4.06	8.42	7.75	Easy Year	42	33	14.40	
1941	6.04	3.49	.49	1.85	4.42	16.29	10.25	Very Easy Year	30	27	.40	
1942	3.75	3.86	1.39	.36	.51	9.87	6.12	Very Normal Year	47	40	7.95	
1943	2.32	3.82	.33	.64	.27	7.88	5.56	Easy Year	60	54	11.10	
1944	.87	2.54	.11	1.17	2.38	7.07	6.20	Easy Year	42	26	32.00	
1945	3.30	1.24	.12	.61	3.49	8.76	5.46	Tough Year	90	87	1264.95	
1946	1.26	3.18	.95		1.69	7.08	5.82	Easy Year	34	22	14.95	
1947	1.57	4.19	.27	.38	2.41	8.82	7.25	Very Easy Year	70	66	37.61	
1948	6.22	4.54	5.11	1.16	1.12	18.15	11.93	Very Easy Year	22	16	0	
1949	1.93	1.83	.33	.07	2.31	6.47	4.54	Bad Year - Y Fire	53	41	247.00	
1950	1.60	4.76	1.35	.30	.37	8.38	6.78	Easy Year	69	66	35.05	
1951	1.71	2.16	.93	.46	1.51	6.77	5.06	Bad Year	46	37	4.00	
1952	3.34	3.80	.30	.42	.49	8.35	5.01	Bad Year	40	25	5.25	
1953	3.87	1.32		1.25	.52	6.96	3.09	Tough Year	54	36	13.50	
1954	2.07	3.59	.57	3.67	.63	10.53	8.46	Easy Year	13	8	0	
TOTAL	55.14	72.10	20.24	16.33	39.18	203.00	148.04		1642	1101	26942.47	
27 YEAR												
AVERAGE	2.12	2.67	.75	.60	1.45	7.52	5.48		61	40	9978.69	

* Fire Season Only - June Through September.

WEATHER INFORMATION

Observation Taken at P. T. P. A. Elk River — 1954

Date	Prec.	Monthly Totals	Totals Car. Fwd.	Prec. During Fire Season
MAY				
3	.08		.08	
4	.08		.16	
5	.04		.20	
11	.16		.36	
21	.03		.39	
22	.05		.44	
25	.44		.88	
26	.38		1.26	
27	.15		1.41	
30	.32		1.73	
31	.34		2.07	
Total		2.07		
JUNE				
1	.03		2.10	.03
4	.19		2.29	.22
6	.24		2.53	.46
7	1.18		3.71	1.64
10	.31		4.02	1.95
11	.13		4.15	2.08
13	.18		4.33	2.26
15	.65		4.98	2.91
16	.06		5.04	2.97
17	.11		5.15	3.08
26	.14		5.29	3.22
27	.06		5.35	3.28
28	.31		5.66	3.59
Total		3.59		
JULY				
1	.26		5.92	3.85
9	.01		5.93	3.86
10	.09		6.02	3.95
14	.03		6.05	3.98
21	.18		6.23	4.16
Total		.57		
AUGUST				
15	.09		6.32	4.25
16	.13		6.45	4.38
17	.19		6.64	4.57
20	2.26		8.90	6.83
21	.03		8.93	6.86
22	.02		8.95	6.88
24	.35		9.30	7.23
25	.14		9.44	7.37
26	.19		9.63	7.56
31	.27		9.90	7.83
Total		3.67		

WEATHER INFORMATION (Continued)

Date	Prec.	Monthly Totals	Totals Car. Fwd.	Prec. During Fire Season
SEPTEMBER				
15	.16		10.06	7.99
16	.12		10.18	8.11
17	.09		10.27	8.20
18	.21		10.48	8.41
28	.05		10.53	8.46
	Total.....	.63		
OCTOBER				
3	.03		10.56	
8	.16		10.72	
11	.17		10.89	
12	.20		11.09	
15	.02		11.11	
17	.18		11.29	
18	.01		11.30	
19	.18		11.48	
20	.01		11.49	
21	.44		11.93	
22	.26		12.19	
23	.01		12.20	
	Total	1.67		

OPERATING REPORT

December 1, 1953 to November 30, 1954

Revenue:

Membership Assessments	\$ 41,910.30	
Non-Member Assessments	3,358.77	
Other Income	64.04	
Forest Service - Protection Charges 1953-54	20,450.34	
Dept. of Interior - Protection Charges 1954	2,130.00	
Federal Contributions - Clarke- McNary Funds	12,786.23	
Wanigan Revenue	142.75	
		<hr/>
Total Operating Revenue	80,842.43	
Grazing Fees Collected	4,530.90	
		<hr/>
Gross Revenue		\$ 85,373.33

Expense:

Fire Expense - Emergency Men..	21.60
Headquarters Expense	8,031.51
Salary & Expense, Chief Fire Warden	4,185.50
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	597.94
Lookout Development & Maintenance	689.21
Maint. of Livestock & Equipment	298.75
Maint of Radio System	949.54
Main Office Expense	4,348.25
Maint. of Road Equipment & Machinery	2,780.79
Maint. of Headquarters Buildings	651.30
Maint. & Operation of Motor Vehicles	4,611.26
Maint. of Established Roads & Trails	8,176.51
Maint. of Telephone System	3,939.56
Patrolling, Smokechasing & L. O. Watchmen	12,666.10
Airplane Patrol	1,369.25
New Road & Trail Building	3,835.15
Miscellaneous Expense	270.70
Hospital Expense	379.75
Insurance	1,132.17
State Unemployment Tax	1,136.61
Federal Unemployment Tax	137.09
Federal Old Age Benefit Tax	752.94
	<hr/>
Total	60,961.48

Depreciation Deductions:

Camp Equipment & Tools	1,071.73	
Radio System	690.91	
Road Equipment & Machinery	703.82	
Livestock & Equipment	41.93	
Headquarters Buildings	1,078.60	
Motor Vehicles	1,577.12	
Telephone System	328.12	5,492.23
		<hr/>
Total Expense and Depreciation		66,453.71
Grazing Fees to be Distributed	4,530.90	
Blister Rust Contributions	8,382.06	12,912.96
		<hr/>
Total Gross Expense		79,366.67
		<hr/>
Net Gain for Period to Surplus..		\$ 6,006.66

BALANCE STATEMENT

Close of Business, November 30, 1954

Assets:

Current:

Cash - Idaho First National Bank, Potlatch		\$ 8,136.75
Accounts Receivable - Sundry..	\$ 7,057.62	
Assessments Receivable	7,256.10	
Merchandise Inventory		
Provisions & Supplies	\$ 3,416.89	
Wanigan	456.61	3,873.50
		<hr/>
Liberty National Insurance Co. - Deposit	200.00	18,387.22
		<hr/>
Total Current Assets....		\$ 26,523.97

Fixed:

Camp Equipment & Tools	12,324.84	
Radio System	5,351.28	
Road Equipment & Machinery..	4,825.65	
Livestock & Equipment	377.37	
Headquarters Buildings	12,403.94	
Motor Vehicles	4,220.53	
Telephone System	3,773.39	
		<hr/>
Total Fixed Assets		43,277.00
		<hr/>
Total Assets		\$ 69,800.97

Liabilities:

Grazing Fees Payable	4,530.90	
Deferred Income Credit	18.17	
Surplus - Present Worth, November 30, 1954	65,251.90	
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities and Surplus		\$ 69,800.97

Acreage and Assessment of Members
1 9 5 4

	Acreage	Assessment No. 1 10c	Assessment No. 2 5c	Total Assessment 15c	Amount Paid Prior to Nov. 30, 1954	Balance Due
L. Cardiff, Inc.	160	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.00
Diamond Match Company	17,620	1,762.00	881.00	2,643.00	1,762.00	881.00
M. P. Flannery	952	95.20	47.60	142.80	95.24	47.56
Milwaukee Land Company	5,386	538.60	269.30	807.90	538.60	269.30
Northern Pacific Railway Co.	1,815	181.50	90.75	272.25	181.50	90.75
Ohio Match Company	11,883	1,188.30	594.15	1,782.45	1,188.30	594.15
Potlatch Forests, Inc.	137,318	13,731.80	6,865.90	20,597.70	20,597.70	
Rubedew, Grace C.	160	16.00	8.00	24.00	16.00	8.00
Schaefer-Hitchcock Co.	209	20.90	10.45	31.35	20.90	10.45
State of Idaho	103,899	10,389.90	5,194.95	15,584.85	10,238.00	5,346.85
Totals	279,402	\$ 27,940.20	\$ 13,970.10	\$ 41,910.30	\$ 34,654.24	\$ 7,256.06

Assessment No. 1 was levied July 21, 1954, and included an item of 3c per acre contribution for blister rust control.
Assessment No. 2 was levied Nov. 19, 1954.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRAZING FEES FOR 1954

	Acreage	Factor	Amount
L. Cardiff, Inc.	160	.00057	\$ 2.58
Diamond Match Company	17,620	.06306	285.72
M. P. Flannery	952	.00341	15.45
Milwaukee Land Company	5,386	.01928	87.36
Northern Pacific Railway Co.	1,815	.00650	29.45
Ohio Match Company	11,883	.04253	192.70
Potlatch Forests, Inc.	137,318	.49147	2,226.80
Rubedew, Grace C.	160	.00057	2.58
Schaefer-Hitchcock Company	209	.00075	3.39
State of Idaho	103,899	.37186	1,684.87
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
.0162164 per acre	279,402	1.00000	\$4,530.90

MEMORANDUM COMPARISON

Fiscal Years 1952, 1953, and 1954		1952	1953	1954
1.	Number of Members (Including N. P. Railway)	10	10	10
2.	Amount of Members Acreage Assessed (Acres)	277,263	279,031	279,402
3.	Rate of Assessment per acre - Members	16c	16c	15c
4.	Non-Member Acreage Assessed	48,575	49,747	51,307
5.	Non-Member Assessments Collected	\$ 2,436.49	\$ 2,405.88	\$ 3,555.54
6.	U. S. Forest Service Acreage	111,543	111,543	111,543
7.	Public Domain - Department of Interior Acreage	11,851	11,851	11,817
8.	Net Grazing Fees Distributed or to be Distributed	\$ 3,683.70	\$ 4,462.65	\$ 4,530.90
9.	Gross Payroll	\$ 51,214.47	\$ 46,175.32	\$ 42,834.41
10.	Clarke-McNary Contribution	\$ 12,509.36	\$ 14,765.73	\$ 12,786.23
11.	Total Revenue	\$ 85,308.16	\$ 88,613.90	\$ 85,373.33
12.	Total Expense	\$ 97,959.46	\$ 84,330.71	\$ 79,366.67
13.	Total Receipts	\$122,490.23	\$119,415.14	\$104,179.53
14.	Total Disbursements	\$131,775.47	\$109,018.02	\$ 97,552.75
15.	Total Accounts Payable, November 30th	\$ 3,683.70	\$ 4,462.65	\$ 4,530.90

Official Directory

Potlatch Timber Protective Association

1953

OFFICERS

George W. Beardmore, <i>President</i>	Lewiston, Idaho
Roger L. Guernsey, <i>Vice-President</i>	Boise, Idaho
Adrian G. Nelson, <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Orofino, Idaho
A. B. Curtis, Chief Fire Warden	Orofino, Idaho

DIRECTORS

George W. Beardmore	Lewiston, Idaho
Roger L. Guernsey	Boise, Idaho
R. G. Sackerson	Seattle, Washington
J. S. Barron	Spokane, Washington
L. J. Davis	Sandpoint, Idaho

COMMITTEE ON FIRE PROTECTION

Roger L. Guernsey, <i>Chairman</i>	Boise, Idaho
Roger Billings	Newport, Washington
John Titcomb	Potlatch, Idaho

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Roger L. Guernsey, <i>Chairman</i>	Boise, Idaho
John W. Titcomb	Potlatch, Idaho
Roger Billings	Newport, Washington

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Grant Potter, <i>Chairman</i>	Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Roger Guernsey	Boise, Idaho
L. J. Davis	Sandpoint, Idaho

1953 Report OF The Fire Warden

Officers and Members:

POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

I hereby submit my annual report as Chief Fire Warden of the Potlatch Timber Protective Association for the period of December 1, 1952 to November 30, 1953, both dates inclusive.

FIRE SEASON AND WEATHER SUMMARY

The 1953 fire season on the Potlatch Timber Protective Association in many ways resembled the season of 1952. Like 1952, the 1953 season was notably dry and long with near normal fire occurrences. With the exception of the month of May, rainfall received and measured during the fire season at Elk River Weather Station was a record of less moisture.

The ten year average of May rainfall is 2.56, compared to the 1953 total of 3.87.

The overall rainfall received record for the 1953 season was one of 3.03 inches less than average of immediate past ten years, according to our Elk River weather observations. This ten year record of fire season rainfall averages 6.12 inches and the 1953 with but 3.09 inches recorded, is therefore approximately one half of this average.

May of 1948 remains the wettest month of May in the past ten years with 6.22 inches received that month.

In comparison with 1953, the year of 1949 was the next driest when only 4.54 inches of rain was received for the four month period. Following the fire season, which normally ends late in September, the dry weather continued this year well into November to establish a long time dry period of or near the record.

Eighty days, from June 7th to August 24th, developed into the longest dry period of the season. But a few scattered showers of rain occurred totaling .64 inch of moisture over this span of time, nearly 3 months in length.

Following this dry period another 37 days occurred ending October 1st, during which time but .75 inch of rain was received. Further information on weather for the fire season this year and a 10 year monthly record is contained on the following pages.

SOME FAVORABLE CONDITIONS

A very fine vegetative growth developed on most forest lands of the Potlatch Timber Protective Association as a result of the favorable May rainfall. This contributed greatly to the success of the fire season, especially during its July and August stages.

Absence of strong drying winds and excessive high temperatures was further helpful to make this year successful.

A total of 54 fires occurred during the season. This number is 10 less than the average of 64 experienced over a 43 year record. Thirty six fires occurred as a result of electrical storm activity. This number of fires from that cause is only 4 less than the 43 year average of 40. August 1st to August 15th became a period of the greatest electrical storm activity when all but 6 of the total of 36 lightning fires resulted. Fires resulting from electrical storms were responsible for the loss of 8 acres of forest land of the total of 13½ acres burned. Forty six fires were held to less than one fourth acre in size, and only 8 fires became larger than one fourth acre with our largest fire of the season reaching a total of 4 acres. This exceptional low acreage loss from all causes made a year of outstanding success possible. Further detailed information is contained in the tables and detailed statement of fires submitted herewith.

HUNTING SEASON

Hunting season continues to be a problem during the dry fall months as experienced the past two years. In contrast to 8 hunter fires in 1952, the past year hunters were responsible for only 3. All three fires were obviously caused by big game hunters in isolated and remote sections of the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River drainage where hunting season opened on October 1st. A light rain and cool weather occurred on the 1st day of the hunting season, resulting in a short period of relaxation of common sense fire dangers on the part of a few sportsmen. As is the case with many such problems of fire protection, it usually is the 4% or 5% of the persons that create hardships on the majority. Warming fires, lunch and camp fires were permitted to burn after departure, perhaps thinking that fire season would terminate with moist weather about to start. Instead of more rain during the early days of hunting season, a return of warm drying weather resulted. This caused smoldering hunter fires to flame up and burn until detected by Association crews who promptly put the fires out.

I believe the use of the Association Inspector and special

patrolmen to contact hunters was helpful to prevent a greater number of hunter caused fires.

With the seemingly increased use of our forested area by persons and the resulting carelessness increasing, some corrective measure should be considered.

In my opinion the hunting season starts too early and everyone would benefit by a starting date of November 1st. At least this later date is worthy of a try in the interest of greater thought to the protection of our forest resources.

The later hunting season recommendation could be supported by the facts that all hunter fires on P.T.P.A. occurred in the small area between the Little North Fork and the main North Fork that was opened to hunting October 1st, while none occurred in the rest of the Association that was opened to hunting on November 1st.

FIRE WEATHER

Fire weather during the months of June to October may be reviewed by examination of the following Precipitation Chart.

The months of October and November are included herewith to present the information on late fall weather and indicates unusual conditions.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
May	.87	3.30	1.26	1.57	6.22	1.93	1.60	1.71	3.34	3.87
June	2.54	1.24	3.18	4.19	4.54	1.83	4.76	2.16	3.80	1.32
July	.11	.12	.95	.27	5.11	.33	1.35	.93	.30	
August	1.17	.61		.38	1.16	.07	.30	.46	.42	1.25
September	2.38	3.49	1.69	2.41	1.12	2.31	.37	1.51	.49	.52
October									.07	1.53
November									1.00**	2.19
Totals*	6.20	5.46	5.82	7.25	11.93	4.54	6.78	5.06	5.01	3.09

* Fire Season Only — (June through September)

**Date of November Precipitation only to 28th.

The above information is compiled from records obtained at the Elk River Weather Station. Precipitation would, of course, vary over other parts of the Association's area.

MAINTENANCE OF PROTECTION FACILITIES

Maintenance work on Association roads, bridges, trails, telephone lines, radio system, lookout towers and other improvements, preparatory to the fire season activities, started early and advanced well under favorable conditions. Fire protection facilities were in very good condition prior to the

peak of the fire season. A winter of light snow and less than usual rain and wind was helpful to reduce timber blow-down or windthrow, washouts, slides, culvert and bridge damage on our protection road system.

Boehls Butte Lookout tower was completely rebuilt this year and other towers received minor repair work. Most of the Association lookout towers are now in fair condition, although to keep them up, a constant review and minor repair program will be necessary for years to come.

The past two years, since the Association VHF radio system has been in service, the successful operation and use of radio has depended upon the good performance and reliable operation of a battery operated automatic relay point. To keep the batteries fully charged a propane automatically operated motor and a wind charger device has been used. This intricate device designed to work perfectly has not been free of malfunction. The failure to operate, according to plan and subsequent difficulty, has caused considerable expense and loss of valuable communication facilities. Loss of good radio communication during critical fire weather greatly hinders successful operation and carrying out the functions of the organization. Our difficulty in keeping the relay in satisfactory operation the past two years has led to the replacement of the battery operated equipment. At the termination of fire season this fall, work was started on the construction of a power line from Elk River, where commercial power is available, to the relay point, some $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles distance. The power line construction project was nearly completed before bad weather made temporary termination of work advisable. Present plans are to have the power line completed and more satisfactory repeater equipment in operation at the outset of the 1954 fire season.

ORGANIZATION - PRE-SUPPRESSION

A number of local workers returned in the spring to help form an organization of experienced leadership. Work crews were largely made up from high school and college boys seeking employment through the summer season. Our turnover in the student class of labor each year is large, and three or four years is about the limit that young men will return for work. A careful recruiting program of student labor over a wide area has been carried on to obtain boys interested in forestry. This plan has proved very practical, and many young men working for a college education have developed into splendid reliable workers.

To develop our new employees and to orient them into their most capable fields, a training school was held covering the broad field of activities necessary in fire protection.

Opportunity was thus made possible to observe and test our new workers on their interest and reliability to do the various jobs that must be provided for. As in past years, the training school was held with new workers of the Clearwater Association to gain advantage of more widespread exchange of ideas.

AIR SERVICE - PATROL

The use of airplanes in fire detection and their use for other purposes in connection with forest protection has developed into a very important and improved operation with each passing year. Daily routine observation was made each day primarily over areas of greater danger, but all areas were observed in general, auxiliary to the detection service of the regularly established lookouts.

The Association used four of its 11 established lookout points this year. The cost to operate them for three months is approximately \$1,000 per lookout per season. The air patrol has effected a considerable saving over the plan of all lookouts as used in past years. The plan of lookout and airplane combination detection in many instances has accomplished a much better job than is possible by the use of lookout for detector alone. There are, of course, many advantages to both types of detection and I do not feel that either type of watching is better than the other without modification, but to get the best, a combination of both is highly desirable. One of the greatest advantages in the airplane is its ability to fly low into canyons which are partly unseen by lookouts. Planes are also widely used to follow paths of electrical storms to investigate known strikes and suspected location to give quick and reliable information on existence of small fires; to observe the fuel types that a fire may be burning in, the exposure or possible danger of rapid spread, man power and special tool or equipment needs for specific fire control jobs. Radio equipped planes quickly relay vitally needed information to dispatchers headquarters and perform a special service to greatly improve the overall protection job.

Many other uses are made of the airplane, the more important of which has locally been termed as "Buzzing Men" or air aid to fire. This practice has been developed over the past several years with a steady record of improvement each successive year. Fires occur in locations where they may be very difficult to find at times. Difficult location of fire may be on the account of dense timber stands where the smoke from a fire is only intermittently seen. Rough terrain is often time consuming to crews going to a fire, especially when error is possible for the crew to take a more difficult and tiresome route than is necessary. Some routes are hard

to locate, especially in heavy timber stands, heavy windthrow or brush areas. Buzzing operations or air aid here calls for the quick dispatch of crews to the nearest point possible to the fire for them to reach without loss of time. From this location, known to both pilot and fire crews, the plane flies the most practical route from the rendezvous point to the fire. The flights are repeated each few moments so that the men can follow the course of the planes flight. Sometimes a compass is used by ground crews to take a bearing on the airplane's course. Radio contact from plane to walkie-talkie equipped crews is also possible where crews have this type of equipment, although quite often men taken to fire on short notice may not be provided with such special equipment. Many circumstances occur in fire protection for which a plan must be worked out as faultless as possible. In recent years a public address system or audio equipment has been added to our fire planes to be used between the pilot and ground crews. This has been a very big help to transmit instructions from the air, avoiding time consuming results or needless work. In our buzzing work we have found the high school or college boy best adapted. They are young, quick and strong which is a great help in making speed to a fire. Instances have occurred where small crews have been successfully directed across two or three miles of rough heavy forested terrain to find a small smoke, not possible to be seen from a distance of over two or three hundred feet, in less time than the ordinary woodsman would need to walk a good trail at twice the distance.

SUMMARY - COST OF AIR SERVICE

Total Hours of Flight During 1953 Season	126.30 hrs.
Cost of Air Patrol - Routine Observation	\$ 982.62
Cost of Air Aid Special Location	198.00
Cost of Emergency Hospital Service	8.00
Cost of Survey - Road, Power Line, Insect, Timber	118.15
Cost of Passenger Service - Emergency Help ..	28.00
Cost of Air Aid Buzzing into Fires	240.38
Fire Supply Food Drops	34.50
Training Program	51.60
Radio Test and Repair	49.35
Searching Lost Persons - Public Service	45.65
 Total Cost of All Air Service	 \$1,756.25

Special reference is made to the Association's first use of airplane for fire location work. In 1923 M. B. Mamer of Spokane, Washington, entered into a flying contract with the Association. He was paid the sum of \$313.02 for his

services. This early use of the airplane for detection work is believed to be the first of record. In 1922 a number of tests were made to determine the practicability which culminated in a contract during the 1923 season - 30 years ago. (Information for official reports, 1922 and 1923.)

Nearly 50% of fires occurring on Association lands were first discovered by the airplane as the detector. Of the fire season total of 54 fires, 8 were pre and post season fires during which time detection was by patrolmen or other persons than the scout plane or lookouts which leaves a total of 46 fires that were competitive between lookouts and airplanes for detection. The airplane has been given credit for being first to report 26 of the 46 or approximately 56% of the seasons total.

Further information on discovery of Association fires may be of interest and is herewith submitted:

First discovery by lookouts	12
First discovery by airplane	26
First discovery by patrols and guards	5
First discovery by other persons	11*
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Total fires for season	54

* Fires first discovered by other persons should be explained. There are instances where fires started on farmers property, along railroad right-of-ways and within townsites and etc., are reported first by persons not directly connected with the Association.

COST AIRPLANE - LOOKOUT

		Detection Cost per Fire
Cost of detection by airplane	\$ 982.62	\$ 37.79
*Cost of lookout, food, board, and expense	4,510.55	375.87
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Total Cost - all detection	\$5,493.17	

* Estimated.

While the association has spent much money on our lookout system and more money will be needed in years to come for tower maintenance, I feel that these fixed ground detectors will always be worth keeping in good repair for use when planes may not be possible for pre and post season observation, and to give local observation in cases that may have special value.

FOREST INSPECTION - FIRE PLANS

Inspection of all forest operations was started early in the fire season by the Chief Inspector and his assistant.

Initial objectives of early inspections were to prepare all forest operations for the fire season by elimination of all hazards which contribute to fire occurrence and develop, as early as possible, plans of action in case of fire.

It is reasonable that a fire that can be prevented or never occurs, certainly is a worthwhile objective both from the point of cost to suppress, as well as forest resources lost.

The work of keeping fires, the result of man's carelessness or neglect, from starting has become a matter of objective thinking. Our plan on this undertaking is first to examine all operations to see that fire prevention practices are being observed. Several closely checked items are:

(1) Examination of gasoline power saw operations which in the past have a record of fire occurrence. Principal fire occurrence from power saw operation has been because of faulty mufflers and dangerous practices in the use of gasoline about the hot motor of the power saw.

(2) Close observance of protection to exhaust of other gasoline powered internal combustion type engines, such as used on jammers, trucks, shovels and other similar heavy equipment.

(3) Close inspection of saw mills for adequate burners and the numerous other dangerous parts of a mill operation.

Forest inspections follow through the program to organize the potential fire crews into an effective unit to combat fire once it has started. Tools are required to be on the job, always ready and located so as to be quickly available, either in tool caches or on and about equipment, close to where men are working. A new rule of the Cooperative Board of Forestry provides that power saw operators must carry both fire extinguisher and shovel. Crews willingly accepted this new rule in 1953.

The organization of all crews, regardless of size and location of work, into an emergency fire unit, has been helpful in providing for quick action. Logging camp foremen, their assistants and overhead, as well as their crews have accepted the plan in very good spirit and each passing year is a continuation of splendid results, better accomplishments and greater interest on the part of the men who work in the woods to keep our forests green and productive. Briefly I feel that we have a great fire fighting organization with 100% turnout each time a fire alarm is sounded.

POWER SAWS

It is pleasing to report a perfect year free from cause

by power saw operations. This, I believe, is due to the inspection work with operators and their willingness to cooperate. Reduction of fires during 1953 by power saws is the striking example of what can be done by working together.

In summary of this topic of fire inspections and plans, it is very gratifying to see such marked improvement in this phase of fire protection and, in my opinion, it is a part of the work which is of utmost importance and needs continued close observation, study and work. Certainly having every person in the woods well informed and conscious of fire danger is a good objective.

PATROLMEN

The old type logging camp fire patrolmen has been dispensed with as he once operated. In his place several members of each crew or crews in the woods are selected and appointed as deputy fire wardens. Such appointments are made to men who are reliable citizens willing to serve in this capacity. The foreman appointed deputy fire warden has complete respect of other woodworkers and cooperate well in law enforcement work. In their work of law enforcement and fire regulations, their work is subservient to the association inspector. The plan has merit for several reasons:

1. The operation of a camp patrolman in logging areas, covering large areas in the age of highly mechanized operations, is difficult and costly to patrol.

2. Well trained able patrolmen capable of the job seeks a job with better pay and soon leaves for better employment.

3. The use of trusted reliable workers employed in supervisory capacity with industry in this dual capacity affords transportation requirements, and places responsibility upon those that are in charge and most concerned with fire danger.

4. Frequent visits into all areas are made by the association inspectors to discuss objectives with deputy wardens and work on the problems. This integrated plan of law enforcement, rules and regulation observance lends closer and more realistic working relationship between men in the woods and the protection agency.

PUBLICITY

A program of publicity to all people of the area to inform them of the dangers of fire was continued this year.

The important publicity achievements noteworthy were as follows:

KEEP IDAHO GREEN. The Keep Idaho Green program, headed by the Governor's committee and its agent, distributed many good posters, painted impressive highway signs, and encouraged keep green movement with J. C. Organizations, The Boy Scouts of America and 4-H Organizations.

LETTERS TO OPERATORS. Letters to operators to inform them of special precautionary measures were mailed out to all at frequent intervals. Such mailings were designed to cover timely subjects, keep crews mindful of the dangers and give helpful information to woods workers. A good mailing list was prepared early in the season and kept current to reach all interested persons.

PRESS AND RADIO. News stories on fire danger, warnings, and releases were made throughout the fire year.

Exceptionally good press work was accomplished with the cooperation of the Lewiston Morning Tribune of Lewiston, Idaho; The Clearwater Tribune of Orofino, Idaho; the Daily Idahonian of Moscow, Idaho; The Spokesman Review and Spokane Daily Chronicle of Spokane, Washington. Two radio stations, KRLC of Lewiston, Idaho and KRPL of Moscow, Idaho, contributed much in the interest of fire danger information.

IMPROVEMENTS

The association enjoyed one of its better years in getting much good improvement work accomplished. A program of low standard fire control roads into inaccessible and remote areas was started at an early date and terminated late in the fall with the benefit of unusual good fall weather. Several important low standard road developments were as follows:

1. A new road was built from Elk Butte Lookout north along the divide between Elk Creek and the drainages of the Little North Fork of the Clearwater River to connect with existing road leading from Elk River to Hemlock Butte.

2. A low standard road was built east from the Elk Butte - Hemlock Butte divide along the ridge between Isabella and Stoney Creeks.

3. Approximately fifteen miles of road from Elk Butte east along the divide of Isabella and Breakfast Creeks.

4. Three miles of low standard road was built east

from Little Green Mountain along the divide of Weitas and Falls Creeks.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

A new barn and equipment shed was built at Boehl's Cabin, new bath house started at Boehl's Cabin, shop completed at Elk River and power line development from Elk River to Elk Butte.

GRAZING

Approximately fifty permits were issued, principally to local people to graze sheep and cattle upon lands of the association this year. Nearly 100% of the permits were issued to resident livestock owners. This large use of resident livestock people, has in no instance created overgrazing in any areas. Considerable competition has developed for the use of some ranges, and the practice of giving the allotment to operators with a satisfactory record of payment and use has been closely observed.

No reports have reached our office of stockmen suffering losses, the result of predatory animals or poisonous weeds. All of the association ranges have been maintained in good condition, although some areas lack water for good utilization. Requests have been made for stock ponds in some areas which should receive favorable consideration in the future and when possible.

The sum of \$4,462.65 was collected for the use of association ranges during the year of 1953. Of this amount \$3,397.25 was paid by cattlemen who grazed 1,941 head of cattle and the sum of \$1,067.40 was collected from sheep men who grazed 2,663 head of sheep.

INSECTS

The forest insect situation on association area continues to be serious. Heavy loss of timber during the winter of 1949 and 1950 by wind and snow provided the nucleus to start an insect build up on our forested lands. Insects, the past several years, have exceeded the drain of timber by fire and cutting operations. Greatest losses to date has been in Douglas Fir, Spruce and White Pine stands. The millions of feet lost has greatly complicated and disrupted management plans of both private and public timber owners.

To appraise the situation and determine methods to put an end to the work of the tiny killer of our forest, entomologists for the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Foresters from the U. S. Forest Service, State of Idaho, and Western Pine Association and Industry, have worked very

closely together. The work of mother nature as a destroyer is strong, her control will be difficult.

SLASH DISPOSAL

Fire hazard plans, programs and regulations on the Potlatch Timber Protective Association are under the control and direction of the State Forester as provided by the Forest Management Act, session laws of 1945. All operators complied with the law this year and no difficulty was experienced.

A close examination of cutting areas are made currently to work out plans to accomplish the most feasible and practical management of high fuel areas. Studies and trials of various methods employed have resulted in money saved in fuel reduction work. Accordingly greater sums have been made available for equipment and intensive protection expenditures.

Where it was necessary to carry on a program of fuel reduction to lessen the hazard, greater use of machines to do the work was resorted to. Other less costly operations such as scattering the slash to hasten deterioration were more commonly employed.

Many logging practices, especially where large and powerful machines are used, result in better access into high fuel areas. Cutting practices in some timber stands has also been helpful to work out adequate hazard reduction methods. In general, the work of hazard reduction has therefore become a development of new ideas with a more realistic approach to the job; adequate hazard reduction - intensive protection - better allocation of funds and a goal of increased forest productivity.

Reference is made to a special table contained in this report which shows the number of high fuel areas, the acreage, number of fires occurring in the various fuel types and acreage lost. Such studies are important to properly analyze the job and make an allocation of money available into their proper place more effective.

It is my opinion that progress is being made and our forest will be kept productive by continuing the program as has been and is being developed. The challenge is to meet the conditions as they may come with new doctrine. Some forest practices effect this, such as greater utilization made possible by pulp uses. It must be recognized that as the forest economy of our association changes, there will be demand and necessity for review of our operations.

The following table shows production of logs and poles

during 1953 on the Potlatch Timber Protective Association. It is noted that approximately \$20,000.00 less was collected from logging operations in 1953 than in 1952. This reduction in logging activity is partly because of timber salvage operations made necessary by insect activity on areas more critical, and upon lands outside of the Potlatch Timber Protective Association.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

1953

Active Master Contracts	27
Inactive Master Contracts	11
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Total Master Contracts	38
Active Compliances	78
Inactive Compliances	60
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Total Compliances	138
Active Cash Bonds	9
Inactive Cash Bonds	14
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Total Cash Bonds	23
Known Current Operators	74
Compliances Issued - 1953	42
Sawmills, Active	7
Sawmills, Inactive	3
Sawmills Served outside district	13
Estimated daily capacity of mills in district.....	49,000 bd. ft.

SLASH DISPOSAL (Continued)

1953 Calendar Year Production

Logs and Cedar Pole Production and Money Received - Forest Management Act

	Totals
Total log production from operators holding contracts with F.M.A.	104,450,168 B.F.
Dollars received above	\$ 91,051.28
Total log production from Compliance or Cash Bond Operators	4,471,495 B.F.
Dollars received above	\$ 4,715.15
Total log production	108,921,663 B.F.
Total Money Received, Logs	\$ 95,766.43
Total cedar production from operators holding contracts with F.M.A.	
Cedar pole production, 35' and longer ...	36,041 Pcs.
Cedar pole production, 30' and shorter ...	5,225 Pcs.
Total all lengths	41,266 Pcs.
Dollars received above	\$ 21,579.13
Total cedar production from Compliance or Cash Bond Operators	

SLASH DISPOSAL — (Continued)**1953 Calendar Year Production**

Cedar Pole Production, 35' and longer	685 Pcs.
Cedar Pole Production, 30' and shorter ..	2,304 Pcs.
Total poles	2,989 Pcs.
Cedar posts	12,300
Dollars received above	\$ 1,066.61
Total dollars received from cedar	\$ 22,645.74
Total Cedar Production, 35' and Longer ..	36,726
Total Cedar Production, 30' and Shorter..	7,529
Cedar Posts	12,300
Total Poles	44,255
Total money received from all operations..	\$118,412.17

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Officers, Directors and various Committees of the Association who have contributed unselfishly of their time and valuable guidance. I wish, also, to express appreciation to the various cooperators, the State Forester, the U. S. Forest Service, the Office of the Blister Rust Control, the Weather Bureau and other agencies who all extended excellent cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. CURTIS

Chief Fire Warden

POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION DETAILED STATEMENT OF FIRES — 1953

No.	Name	Date	Acres	Sub Div.	S.	T.	R.	Land Owner	Cause	Type Land	Damage
1	East Fork Potlatch	5/15/53	2A	SWNW	21	41	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
2	Elk Creek Fire 1	5/27/53	Spot	SESE	22	40	1E	National Forest	Unknown	Reproduction	None
3	Elk Creek Fire 2	5/27/53	Spot	SESE	22	40	1E	National Forest	Unknown	Reproduction	None
4	A. B. Laws	7/ 7/53	Spot	SESW	22	38	2E	A. B. Laws	Unknown	Other	None
5	Cameron Fire	7/11/53	½A	SESW	30	40	2E	State of Idaho	Misc.	Reproduction	None
6	Teaken Butte Fire 1	7/23/53	Spot	SESW	32	38	1E	State of Idaho	Misc.	Cut Over	None
7	Squaw Creek Fire 1	7/24/53	Spot	SWSW	29	40	2E	State of Idaho	Smoker	Cut Over	None
8	Camp Y	7/29/53	Spot	SWNE	10	38	2E	State of Idaho	Unknown	Cut Over	None
9	Halls Landing	7/31/53	Spot	SWNE	23	40	2E	National Forest	Unknown	Grass and Brush	None
10	St. Joe	8/ 3/53	Spot	NWNW	17	41	3E	National Forest	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
11	Baird Haundorf	8/ 3/53	Spot	NENE	5	40	3E	Baird Haundorf	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	3MBF
12	Diamond Match	8/ 3/53	Spot	NENW	9	40	3E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Other	None
13	Geo. Leonard	8/ 4/53	Spot	NWSE	34	40	1E	George Leonard	Lightning	Other	None
14	Potlatch Creek	8/ 4/53	Spot	NESW	19	39	1E	Bennett & Andreson	Misc.	Mer. Tbr.	None
15	Swamp Creek	8/ 4/53	Spot	NESE	20	39	3E	Montana-Idaho Mining Co.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
16	Breakfast Creek	8/ 4/53	Spot	NWNE	27	41	4E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
17	Tamarack Ridge	8/ 7/53	Spot	NESE	32	39	1E	George Dennler	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
18	Gold Hill	8/ 6/53	Spot	SWSW	27	39	1W	Zelma Grayson	Lightning	Cut Over	None
19	Robinson	8/ 8/54	Spot	NWSE	7	40	4E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
20	Gold Butte	8/ 8/53	Spot	NWSE	27	40	3E	Milwaukee Land Co.	Lightning	Reproduction	None
21	West Fork of Gold Creek	8/ 8/53	Spot	SESE	8	40	3E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
22	Shattuck Butte 1	8/ 8/53	Spot	NWNE	16	40	2E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
23	Shattuck Butte 2	8/ 8/53	Spot	SWNE	9	40	2E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Reproduction	None
24	Bull Run Creek North	8/ 8/53	Spot	NENE	9	39	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
25	Squaw Creek 2	8/ 8/53	Spot	SWSW	20	40	2E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Grass and Brush	None
26	Sour Dough Mtn.	8/ 8/53	Spot	NWSE	13	40	3E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
27	Hall's Old Camp	8/ 8/53	Spot	SESW	21	40	3E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Cut Over	None
28	Bull Run	8/ 8/53	Spot	NWSW	10	39	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	4MBF

No.	Name	Date	Acres	Sub Div.	S.	T.	R.	Land Owner	Cause	Type Land	Damage
29	Bark Camp	8/ 8/53	Spot	SWNW	12	40	3E	Diamond Match Co.	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
30	Hemlock	8/ 8/53	Spot	NENW	15	41	2E	P. F. I.	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
31	Cold Creek	8/ 8/53	Spot	NWSE	6	38	2E	National Forest	Lightning	Burned Over	None
32	Copper Creek 1	8/ 8/53	Spot	SWNE	32	42	4E	Forest Service	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
33	Stanton Creek	8/ 8/53	Spot	SESW	14	41	4E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
34	Stoney Butte	8/ 8/53	Spot	NENE	31	42	3E	Forest Service	Lightning	Cut Over	None
35	Copper Creek 2	8/ 8/53	Spot	NESE	32	42	4E	National Forest	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
36	Moose Creek	8/12/53	½A	NWNE	17	41	1W	Forest Service	Lightning	Grass and Brush	None
37	Teaken Butte 2	8/13/53	Spot	NWSW	28	38	1E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Cut Over	None
38	Collins	8/15/53	Spot	NESE	12	41	1E	National Forest	Camper	Reproduction	None
39	Beals Butte 1	8/15/53	½A	SWNE	6	41	1W	State of Idaho	Lightning	Burned Over	None
40	Beals Butte 2	8/15/53	½A	NWSW	6	41	1W	National Forest	Lightning	Burned Over	None
41	City Dump	8/17/53	Spot	SWNE	27	40	2E	J. D. Cross	Misc.	Other	None
42	Shea Meadows	8/19/53	Spot	NENE	30	41	1W	State of Idaho	Lightning	Grazing	None
43	Butterfield	8/21/53	Spot	NENW	27	40	1E	National Forest	Lightning	Burned Over	None
44	McGary Butte	8/21/53	4A	SESW	32	40	1E	Latah County	Lightning	Reproduction	None
45	Burma Road	8/25/53	Spot	SWSW	31	41	4E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	None
46	Helmer	9/ 9/53	Spot	NESW	9	40	1E	Arthur G. Horton	Smoker	Mer. Tbr.	None
47	West Fork Potlatch	9/10/53	½A	NWNW	28	42	1W	National Forest	Lightning	Mer. Tbr.	2MBF
48	Bovill Dump	9/13/53	Spot	NENE	36	41	1E	P. F. I.	Unknown	Other	None
49	Bovill Railroad	9/14/53	5A	SESE	36	41	1W	Railroad Right of Way	Railroad	Grass and Brush	None
50	Shattuck Butte 3	9/16/53	Spot	SWNE	17	40	2E	State of Idaho	Lightning	Grass and Brush	None
51	Cedar Creek	10/ 3/53	Spot	SENE	4	41	5E	State of Idaho	Hunter	Mer. Tbr.	1MBF
52	Elk Creek 3	10/10/53	Spot	SWNE	13	38	1E	George Bacon	Brush Burning	Grass and Brush	None
53	East Cedar Creek	10/12/53	Spot	NESE	21	42	5E	State of Idaho	Hunter	Mer. Tbr.	5MBF
54	Freezout Road	10/13/53	Spot	NESW	19	42	4E	CTCO Clw. Unit	Hunter	Mer. Tbr.	None

WEATHER INFORMATION

Observations Taken at PTPA Elk River — 1953

Date	Prec.	Monthly Totals	Totals Car. Fwd.	Prec. During Fire Season
MAY				
7	.39		.39	
8	.03		.42	
10	.13		.55	
11	.04		.59	
17	.65		1.24	
19	.96		2.20	
19	.96		2.20	
20	.15		2.35	
21	.40		2.75	
22	.05		2.80	
24	.34		3.14	
25	.20		3.34	
26	.02		3.36	
27	.06		3.42	
28	.12		3.54	
29	.28		3.82	
30	.02		3.84	
31	.03		3.87	
	Total.....	3.87		
JUNE				
1	.06		3.93	.06
2	.02		3.95	.08
3	.03		3.98	.11
4	.02		4.00	.13
5	.09		4.04	.17
6	.02		4.06	.19
7	.83		4.89	1.02
8	.07		4.96	1.09
12	.03		4.99	1.12
13	.01		5.00	1.13
14	.05		5.05	1.18
15	.01		5.06	1.19
23	.01		5.07	1.20
27	.02		5.09	1.22
28	.09		5.18	1.31
29	.01		5.19	1.32
	Total.....	1.32		
JULY				
AUGUST				
4	.21		5.40	1.53
8	.13		5.53	1.66
24	.68		6.21	2.34
25	.03		6.24	2.37
26	.04		6.28	2.41
27	.01		6.29	2.42
28	.07		6.35	2.49
29	.08		6.44	2.57
	Total.....	1.25		

WEATHER INFORMATION (Continued)

Date	Prec.	Monthly Totals	Totals Car. Fwd.	Prec. During Fire Season
SEPTEMBER				
2	.13		6.57	2.70
3	.03		6.60	2.73
23	.08		6.68	2.81
24	.01		6.69	2.82
27	.14		6.83	2.96
29	.13		6.92	3.09
Total		.52		
OCTOBER				
1	.27		7.23	3.36
2	.30		7.53	3.66
18	.36		7.89	4.02
19	.12		8.01	4.14
20	.17		8.18	4.31
21	.03		8.21	4.34
27	.01		8.22	4.35
31	.27		8.49	4.62
Total		1.53		
NOVEMBER				
5	.27		8.76	4.89
6	.31		9.07	5.20
7	.13		9.20	5.33
11	.21		9.41	5.54
14	.01		9.42	5.55
15	.02		9.44	5.57
16	.38		9.82	5.95
17	.34		10.16	6.29
20	.02		10.18	6.31
22	.32		10.50	6.63
23	.05		10.55	6.68
24	.02		10.57	6.70
26	.03		10.60	6.73
27	.07		10.67	6.80
28	.01		10.68	6.81
Total		2.19		

TABLE NO. 1
SHOWING FIRES BY CAUSE, EXTENT OF LOSS, CLASS AND
ACREAGE INSIDE ASSOCIATION BOUNDARY * 1953

Cause	No. of Fires	Per Cent	Acres Burned		Class of Fire			Loss MBF	Loss Poles
			A	B	C				
Lightning	36	66.6	8.0	30	6	0	9	0	
Railroad	1	1.9	5.0	0	1	0	0	0	
Smoker	2	3.7	0	2	0	0	0	0	
Hunter	3	5.5	0	3	0	0	6	0	
Unknown	6	11.1	0	6	0	0	0	0	
Misc.	4	7.4	0.5	3	1	0	0	0	
Brush Burning	1	1.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Camper	1	1.9	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Totals	54	100%	13.5	46	8	0	15MBF	0	

TABLE NO. 2
SHOWING NUMBER, TYPE AND ACREAGE BURNED
IN VARIOUS TIMBER TYPES

Cause	Cut Over	Burned Over	Reproduction	Grass or Brush	Mer. Tbr.	Grazing	Agriculture	Other	Totals	
									No.	Acres
Lightning	11	4	4	3	11	1	0	2	36	8.0
Railroad	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5.0
Smoker	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Hunter	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Unknown	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	6	0
Misc.	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	4	0.5
Brush Burning	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Camper	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	14	4	8	6	15	1	1	5	54	13.5

P. T. P. A.

FIRES IN FUEL TYPES

	Acres in Ass'n.	Percent of Ass'n. Area	No. of Areas	No. of Fires	Expected Percent	1953 Acres Burned	No of Fires	Actual Percent
Extreme High	16,200	3.5	14	2	3.5	2	6	11.1
High	33,580	7.2	18	5	7.2	—	4	7.4
Normal	416,059	89.3	—	57	89.3	11.5	44	81.5
	<u>465,839</u>	<u>100.0</u>	32	64	<u>100.0</u>	<u>13.5</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>100.0</u>

* Northern Rocky Mountain Range and Experiment Station Fifteen Year Fire Occurrence Record.

**POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL REPORT**

BALANCE STATEMENT

Close of Business, November 30, 1953

Assets:

Current:

Cash - Idaho First National Bank, Potlatch		\$ 1,509.97
Accounts Receivable		
Sundry Accounts	\$ 4,476.32	
Adjustment Account	39.18	\$ 4,515.50
Assessments Receivable		8,362.02
Merchandise Inventory		
Provisions & Supplies	3,017.19	
Wanigan	415.05	3,432.24
Liberty National Insurance Co...	200.00	16,509.76
Total Current Assets		\$ 18,019.73

Fixed:

Camp Equipment & Tools	12,854.17	
Radio System	4,470.02	
Road Equipment & Machinery..	5,529.47	
Livestock & Equipment	419.30	
Headquarters Buildings	12,847.75	
Motor Vehicles	5,563.65	
Telephone System	4,003.80	
Total Fixed Assets		\$ 45,688.16
Total Assets		\$ 63,707.89

Liabilities:

Grazing Fees Payable	4,462.65	
Surplus - Present Worth, November 30, 1953	59,245.24	
Total Liabilities & Surplus		\$ 63,707.89

POTLATCH TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING REPORT

December 1, 1952 to November 30, 1953

Revenue:

Membership Assessments	\$ 44,644.86	
Non-Member Assessments	2,405.88	
Other Income	255.15	
Forest Service - Protection Charges 1952-1953	19,705.67	
Dept. of Interior - Protection Charges 1952-1953	2,245.74	
Federal Contributions - Clarke-McNary Funds	14,765.73	
Wanigan Revenue	128.22	
		<hr/>
Total Operating Revenue	84,151.25	
Grazing Fees Collected	4,462.65	
		<hr/>
Gross Revenue		\$ 88,613.90

Expense:

Fire Expense, Regular men ...\$ 1,821.95		
Fire Expense, Emergency Men 2,315.78		4,137.73
		<hr/>
Headquarters Expense	9,090.53	
Salary & Expense of Chief Fire Warden	3,914.60	
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	618.59	
Lookout Development & Maintenance	881.18	
Maint. of Livestock & Equipment	131.55	
Maint. of Radio System	1,400.67	
Main Office Expense	4,497.01	
Maint. of Road Equipment & Machinery	2,822.03	
Maint. of Headquarters Buildings	392.55	
Maint. & Operation of Motor Vehicles	4,682.10	
Maint. of Established Roads & Trails	7,667.01	
Maint. of Telephone System	4,799.15	
Patrolling, Etc.	11,824.18	
Airplane Patrol	1,738.25	
New Road & Trail Building	3,792.09	
Miscellaneous Expense	696.23	
Hospital Expense	387.06	
Insurance	1,131.70	
State Unemployment Tax	1,038.34	
Federal Unemployment Tax	150.88	
Federal Old Age Benefit Tax ..	634.17	
		<hr/>
Total	66,487.60	

DISTRIBUTION OF GRAZING FEES FOR 1953

	Acreage	Factor	Amount
L. Cardiff, Inc.	160	.00057	\$ 2.54
Diamond Match Company	17,455	.06256	279.18
M. P. Flannery	792	.00284	12.68
Milwaukee Land Company	5,231	.01875	83.68
Northern Pacific Railway Co.	1,815	.00650	29.01
Ohio Match Co.	11,713	.04198	187.34
Potlatch Forests, Inc.	139,504	.49996	2,231.15
Rubedew, Miss Grace C.	160	.00057	2.54
Schaefer-Hitchcock Co.	129	.00046	2.05
State of Idaho	102,072	.36581	1,632.48
.015993 per acre	279.031	1.00000	\$ 4,462.65