


Second Annual Report

of the

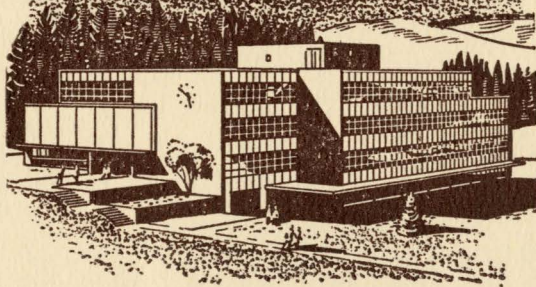
Priest Lake Timber
Protective Association



For the Year 1922



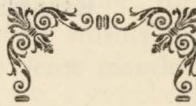
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Second Annual Report

of the

Priest Lake Timber Protective Association



For the Year 1922

Report of the President

Upon consideration of the severe fire season that existed, the Priest Lake Timber Protective Association has had a very successful season.

Twenty-eight fires occurred, burning over 647 acres and destroying 532 M per B. M. of merchantable timber.

The total cost of administration was approximately 7 cents per acre, prorated as follows:

Fighting forest fires, .022; patrol and incidental protection, .031; construction and maintenance of improvements, .009; equipment, .007.

A boathouse and storhouse were constructed at Coolin, which greatly facilitates the storage of equipment at that place.

Owing to the severe fire season we were unable to carry out the improvement program in regard to the construction of proposed trails and telephone lines. All existing trails and telephone lines were put in good shape and material is on the ground for the construction of a telephone line to the head of the South Fork of Hunt Creek.

BEN E. BUSH, *President.*

OFFICERS

BEN E. BUSH,
President

J. JENSEN,
Secy-Treas.

E. C. OLSON,
Vice President

R. A. PHILLIPS,
Fire Warden

Day-NW
SD
421
P7
1922

Report of Fire Warden

The fire season for 1922 was unusually severe throughout Eastern Washington, the Panhandle of Idaho and the extreme Northwestern section of Montana.

The first fire occurred on the Association lands on Fox Creek, May 18, and burned over an area of nearly 5 acres before being controlled. The rate of spread and severity of this fire gave a true prophecy of the long severe fire season which was to follow. Early in June two fires of large proportions occurred on the National Forest, west of Priest Lake, establishing a precedent for the early opening of the fire season and hastening the mobilization of protective forces, several weeks in advance of the date established by past experience. By July 10 numerous fires burning on private lands throughout Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho had obscured the vision of the lookouts to the extent that they were wholly valueless for the purpose of detection of fires and necessitated putting them on patrols covering as much of the adjacent region as possible, on foot.

Electric storms accompanied by little or no rain occurred periodically throughout June, July and August, the rainfall occurring during these storms being insufficient to clear the atmosphere of the dense mantle of smoke that covered the region.

Weather bureau records kept at the Priest River Experiment Station indicate that the precipitation was 2.1 inches for the period extending over the months of May, June, July and August. In comparison with the notable fire years since 1910, the record indicates that the precipitation is less than on any previous year for the period elapsed. The same fact holds true for the months of June, July and August, having a total precipitation of 1.1 inches.

The last fire of the season occurred September 4 on Caterpillar Ridge and the fire season was officially closed September 10, when all protective men were laid off, with

the exception of a few men to complete the records and assemble and store equipment.

Rangers Ward and Kempff are to be commended on the efficient manner in which they handled the fires on their respective districts, suppressing 28 fires in all and only one of which, the Highland Fire, covered a large area and reached dangerous proportions. This fire was left by careless campers on July 31 and spread from a smoldering camp fire, that they had ineffectively quenched with water. The fire spread with great velocity and only by concentrating every available resource were the adjacent drainages of Big, Fox and Denton Creeks saved from destruction.

A number of the fires occurring on the Association were fought by nearby improvement crews furnished by the Forest Service and through the aid of these crews fires were caught in their incipiency that would probably have been controlled only at great cost, had it been necessary to delay action until men were obtained from other sources.

Protective Organization

The protective force consisted of sixteen men, distributed as follows:

Assistant to Ranger.....	Coolin
*Office assistant.....	Coolin
Boat Patrolman.....	Coolin
Packer	Soldier Creek
Smokechaser	Soldier Creek
Smokechaser	Indian Creek
Smokechaser	Two Mouth Creek
Smokechaser	Lookout Mountain
Lookout	Lookout Mountain
Smokechaser	Upper Priest Lake
*Smokechaser	Upper Priest River
*Assistant to Ranger.....	Experiment Station
Smokechaser	East River
Lookout	Experiment Station
Smokechaser	Experiment Station, L. O.
Smokechaser	Falks Ranch

*—50% of salary paid by Forest Service

**—25% of salary paid by Forest Service

Six head of pack horses were maintained at Soldier Creek.

The launch, *Honeymoon*, was purchased at Sandpoint and transported to Priest Lake. This launch proved invaluable in getting action on fires occurring on the area tributary to the lake and unquestionably the cost of the boat was saved several times over by the rapidity with which men and supplies were placed on fires.

Construction of Improvements

A storehouse and boathouse were constructed at Coolin during the past season.

Due to the early date on which fire season opened and to the severity of the season as well, work on the East River and Divide Lookout Trails was not initiated, as the work could not be given the proper degree of supervision by the Rangers or this office, in the matter of location work for the projects and the organization of crews, that could be readily coordinated with the protective organization in the capacity of fire fighting units.

Materials are on the ground for the construction of a telephone line to the divide between Priest Lake and Pack River. After a field examination by the writer and Ranger Ward in October, it was decided that a peak at the head of the South Fork of Hunt Creek was the most desirable point for a lookout station from which to cover the section of the country, particularly the Upper Soldier Creek drainage, which is not directly visible from any lookout station.

Improvement Maintenance

During June all trails were opened up and telephone lines maintained. This work was done by men who were hired primarily for qualifications as smokechasers, and who had an opportunity of learning their district thoroughly while engaged in cutting out the trails.

The following list of equipment was purchased during the past season:

- 1 Alidade, 18-in. brass
- 2 Axes, double-bitt
- 3 Arrestors, vacuum
- 6 Buckets, canvas water
- 6 Blankets, saddle
- 5 Compasses, box-pocket
- 1 Padlock
- 15 Ground rods
- 3 Flies, tent, 10 oz., 9½-ft.x12-ft.
- 4 Halters
- 2 Hoes, grub
- 2 Horses
- 1 Launch, Honeymoon
- 1 Lock, night latch
- 16 Lamps, miners' carbide
- 3 6-man K. & N. Outfits
- 3 10-man K. & N. Outfits
- 2 25-man K. & N. Outfits
- 2 Rigs, packsaddle
- 1 Pliers, lineman's
- 1 Saw, crosscut
- 13 Sacks, pack, Duluth No. 2
- 5 Stoves, Kimmel
- 10 Shovels, long handle
- 9 Smokechasers' tools, comb., Hazel Hoe
- 4 Smokechasers' tools, Pulaski
- 5 Telephones 1317S
- 5 Telephones, Adams portable
- 3 Tents, 7-ft.x9-ft.
- 1 Tub, wash
- 7 Switches, Turnbull No. 707

December 1, 1922.

R. A. PHILLIPS, *Fire Warden.*

Financial Statement

NOVEMBER 29, 1922

RECEIPTS

(January 25-November 29, 1922)

Balance on hand, January 25, 1922.....\$	\$2,564.27	\$
Assessments		
Bonners Ferry Lumber Company—		
640 Acres		
July 6	12.80	
August 1	12.80	
October 28	12.80	38.40
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Dalkena Lumber Company—		
371 Acres		
July 6	7.42	
August 24	7.42	
October 28	7.42	22.26
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Weeks Law Fund		
September 22	176.99	
November 14	2,094.00	2,270.99
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Diamond Match Company—		
24929.22 Acres		
June 19	498.58	
August 24	498.58	
October 28	498.58	1,495.74
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State of Idaho—		
177585.28 Acres		
July 6	3,551.70	
August 1	3,551.70	
October 17	3,551.70	10,655.10
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Northern Pacific Railroad—		
3888 Acres		
August 24	116.64	
November 17	58.32	174.96
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Miscellaneous		
Sale of boat	25.00	17,246.72

DISBURSEMENTS

Clerk Hire, Sandpoint	187.50
Equipment	907.52
Maintenance Trails and Telephone Lines	294.32
Horse subsistence, 3½ months.....	186.68
Transfer of horses	35.95
Construction East River Trail.....	39.46
Construction Divide Lookout Trail	23.76
Construction Soldier Creek Tel. Line....	266.93
Purchase of 2 horses	185.00
Overhead U. S. F. S. Officers.....	1,576.00
Field Patrol	
Field Assistant, Coolin District.....	214.66
Office Assistant, Coclin	222.99

Boat Patrolman, Priest Lake.....	173.85		
Packer, Priest Lake District.....	283.43		
Fireman, Soldier Creek	230.85		
Fireman, Indian Creek.....	209.67		
Fireman, Two Mouth	213.44		
Lookout, Lookout Mt.	234.93		
Fireman, Upper Priest Lake.....	202.50		
Fireman, Lookout Mt.	195.50		
Office Assistant, Experiment Station....	270.73		
Fireman, Falk's Ranch	244.12		
Lookout, Experiment Station	119.41		
Fireman, Experiment Station	231.16		
Fireman, East River	273.83		
Fireman, Extra, Priest River District....	18.67		
Boat, Evinrude, maintenance and supplies	93.52		
Mis. horse hire, bond premiums, etc.....	350.67		
Boathouse and warehouse, Coolin.....	1,245.49		
Boat, Honeymoon, purchase and mainten- ance	729.06		
Travel, misc. not chargeable to fire....	107.47		
Horses, feed, medicine and pasture....	122.32		
Carried Forward	\$9,691.39		
Subsistence supplies, emergency.....	564.22		
Fires			
Fox Creek	\$ 68.13		
Jungle	102.00		
Lake	80.09		
Sections 35, 57, 4.....	3.60		
Trapper Creek	8.40		
Trapper Creek, No. 2.....	543.56		
Canoe Point	192.94		
Sections 4, 57, 4	3.00		
Flat	159.24		
Jack Pine	130.24		
Indian Creek, No. 2.....	135.13		
Rock Creek	1,413.36		
Happy Gap	56.32		
Highlandng—Total \$1,742.79, with credit for Lake Fire, as above. which was Government Fire, \$80.09.....	1,662.70		
McKenzie Fire	54.42	4,613.13	14,868.74
Balance on hand November 29, 1922.....			\$2,377.98

LIABILITIES

Unvouchered subsistence supplies pur- chased through U. S. Forest Service (Central Purchase)	\$ 216.21		
Salary, Clerk, Sandpoint, Nov. 16-30, 1922	12.50		228.71
Balance after paying liabilities.....			\$2,149.27

SUMMARY OF 1922 FIRE SEASON, PRIEST LAKE TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

Name of Fire	Location			Cause	AREA BURNED				DAMAGE			Total Cost	
	S.	T.	R.		Timber	Open	Re-pro	Total	Timber MFB	Value	Repro Value		Total
McKenzie, SW ¼ SW ¼	22	27	58N 4W	Brush Burning	.3	.....	2.1	2.4	.....	.....	52.14	52.14	\$ 79.60
Fox Creek	36	58N 4W	Lumbering	.....	.....	4.7	4.7	.....	.....	224.75	224.75	224.75	96.59
Trapper Creek, No. 1, SE ¼	9	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	.16	.....	.16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15.90
Four Mile, lot 7	22	60N 4W	Campers	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.33
Jung'e, NW ¼	22	58N 4W	Incendiary	.....	.....	.68	.68	2M	1.00	1.26	2.26	2.26	13.13
Cabin, SW ¼	26	62N 4W	Campers	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.33
Indian Creek, No. 1, NW ¼	27	61N 4W	Campers	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.33
Cracker, NW ¼ NW ¼	21	57N 4W	Miscellaneous	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Caribou Creek, S ½ S ½	27	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	.....	1-10	1-10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.34
Phoebe, NW ¼ NW ¼	3	64N 4W	Lightning	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.00
Rock	10-15-16	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	99	.....	99	140M	224.00	.....	224.00	224.00	148.10
Dickensheet, NW ¼	21	5 N 4W	Smokers	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.33
Creek, NW ¼	24	61N 4W	Lightning	.....	.2	.....	.2	2.5M	5.00	.....	5.00	5.00	4.67
Canoe Point, E ½ E ½	23	62N 4W	Lightning	.....	9	.....	9	63M	234.00	.....	234.00	234.00	263.31
Hghlanding	26-27-34-35	58N 4W	Campers	.....	53	435.6	488.6	.....	.....	4 04.85	4904.85	4904.85	1851.03
Jack Pine, SE ¼	29	59N 4W	Lightning	.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	148.06
Flat, NE ¼	28	59N 4W	Lightning	.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	181.72
W. Fork Caribou	11	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.42
Trapper Creek, No. 2, SW ¼	10	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	7	.....	7	40M	72.00	.....	72.00	72.00	567.22
Fox Ranch, NE ¼	33	63N 4W	Lightning	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.33
Indian Creek, No. 2, SE ¼	19	61N 3W	Lightning	.....	9	.....	9	49M	123.50	.....	123.50	123.50	188.75
Hunt Creek, SW ¼	4	60N 3W	Lightning	.....	.5	.....	.5	1M	5.00	.....	5.00	5.00	19.49
Coolin, NW ¼	10	57N 4W	Campers	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.58
Happy Meadow, SE ¼	7	57N 3W	Campers	.....	spot	.....	spot	6.48	19.78	.....	19.78	19.78	15.44
Happy Gap	8-9	57N 3W	Campers	.....	9.6	9.6	18.12	228.47	758.57	94.37	852.94	852.94	100.44
Riley Creek, E ½ E ½	35	57N 4W	Lightning	.....	.....	.02	.02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.62
Prater, NW ¼ SW ¼	4	57N 4W	Lightning	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.83
Caterpillar Ridge, SE ¼ SW ¼	2	57N 4W	Lightning	.....	spot	.....	spot	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.40
					195.6	.16	425.80	647.48	532.45	1442.85	5277.37	6720.22	\$5229.09

The total cost of \$5,229.09 given above, includes contributed time by the regular smokechasers to the amount of \$615.96 paid from Field Patrol.

Report of Audit

—of the—

PRIEST LAKE TIMBER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
Sandpoint, Idaho

For the Fiscal Year

December 1, 1921 to November 30, 1922

Spokane, Washington, Dec. 6, 1922.

From: Wm. Gowen

To: B. E. Hyatt, Director, Bureau of Public Accounts

Subject: Audit of the Priest Lake Timber Protective Association for the fiscal year Dec. 1, 1921 to November 30, 1922.

All cash is deposited in the bank and all disbursements made by check. The bank balance was verified and all receipts and disbursements checked in and out of the bank from the bank statements.

All vouchers and bills were examined and found proper in amount and character with proper signatures and endorsements.

The U. S. Forest Service is handling all the work of the association. All expenses are budgeted and classified according to budget allotments. Purchases are made by requisition of Rangers on government form. Checks are signed by R. A. Phillips, Fire Warden.

Most of the miscellaneous expense shown in schedule of receipts and disbursements consists of equipment which should be charged to an asset account but no ledger has been set up yet. An inventory is being made now and a ledger will be set up for 1923.

There are no assets other than the cash shown and properties. I am told the only liabilities are for 1 month's clerk hire, \$12.50, and a bill for supplies to U. S. Forest Service, \$216.21.

(Signed) WM. GOWEN,

Senior Acctnt., Bureau of Public Accts.

