

[From the Western Timber Industry, March 1965]

**BIG TIMBERLAND OWNERS CONTRADICT BATTELLE BELIEF THEY WOULD EXPORT
OWN LOGS; REPLACE FROM PUBLIC**

A principal point made by the Battelle Report in recommending against restrictions on the export of logs from public lands was that if such curbs were applied, private forest owners would export their own stumpage and would replace it in their mills with purchase of public timber. Thus, the report concluded, the sawmills dependent upon public timber still would lose their raw material.

Western Timber Industry has surveyed several of the large landowners in the area, asking whether they would engage in such activity if public stumpage were restricted.

WTI feels that small landowners such as belong to the Washington Farm Forestry Assn., having no mills, would not be in a position to bid against the sawmills.

Published below are denials from several major timberland owners that they would, as public policy, export their own logs and replace with public stumpage.

WTI feels that, if the small private landowners can't do so and the large ones won't, restrictions would then, in fact decrease the total volume of export and make significantly more logs available to domestic mills.

Crown Zellerbach Corp. and Longview Fibre Corp. were already on record against this kind of activity. Below, Weyerhaeuser Co., St. Regis Paper Co., Boise Cascade Corp., Simpson Timber Co., and Rayonier, Inc., also indicate this would be against their public policy. Evans Products Co. declines to make a public statement of its company policy. Georgia-Pacific Corp. and International Paper Co. did not reply to the inquiry.

WEYERHAEUSER Co.,
New York, N.Y., February 23, 1965.

MR. VERNON S. WHITE,
Managing Editor,
Western Timber Industry,
Portland, Oreg.

DEAR VERN: If export restrictions are placed on public timber, Weyerhaeuser Company has no plans to purchase public timber to replace logs it might export from its own lands.

Weyerhaeuser's public timber purchases have always been a minor part of its total wood usage and have been made to meet specific needs of our mills; they have not been made to replace exports from our own lands.

In 1964 approximately two-thirds of our log sales went to domestic mills.

Best regards,

B. L. ORELL,
Vice President.

SIMPSON TIMBER Co.,
Seattle, Wash., February 25, 1965.

DEAR VERN: Your letter of February 18 came along while I was east. I hope this response is in time with your needs.

It is not now nor would it be under any form of restrictive legislation the policy of Simpson Timber Company to export logs from private timber sources and replace this volume through the acquisition of publicly owned timber, either state or federal.

Based on our knowledge of the practices of other private timber owners, it is our firm belief that the policy of Simpson Timber Company and the expressed policy of Weyerhaeuser would be reflected by most of the timber owners. There may be a few minor exceptions, but certainly the major operators would not engage in the practices of buying timber sales to replace their private log supply that had been depleted through export.

Regards,

DAVE JAMES,
Director of Public Affairs.