

Representative DELLENBACK. When you say this line, you are referring to the baseline to which Senator Hatfield was referring just a little bit ago.

Dr. GRAVES. The so-called baseline or the present trend line. This line could be moved upward, as we have a little bit more resource to draw upon, but similarly of course these lines would indicate larger volumes.

Representative DELLENBACK. This time gain, for the record, when you say "these lines," you mean the lines of proposed alternative cuttings of which you have been speaking.

Dr. GRAVES. Lines indicating the amount of excessive inventory that would be available for cutting; yes.

Representative DELLENBACK. So really in effect if we were using modern data, you think a whole chart would rise, but all lines on it would rise?

Dr. GRAVES. Yes.

Representative DELLENBACK. So far as costs are concerned, do you have any estimates of what it would mean in the way of additional developments by the Forest Service in order to permit this cutting in the way of access roads or any other special procedures?

Dr. GRAVES. I do not have; no.

Representative DELLENBACK. Have such estimates been made?

Dr. GRAVES. I don't think so. I expect the cost of harvesting the excess of inventory indicated in the chart would be only slightly above the costs of harvesting present overage material. I say slightly above because it should be approached from the standpoint of the most distressed areas first, and they might not lie in proper juxtaposition to your standard cutting program, progress in the standard cutting program. This timber lies within the present cutting program, management units and operating areas, and therefore it should not be a greatly increased cost over and above the present unit cost of harvesting.

Representative DELLENBACK. When you say the coverage that would otherwise be lost lies in and among the other cutting areas, are you implying that the type of cutting that would take place would not be clear cutting, but it would be selective cutting?

Dr. GRAVES. No. For the Douglas-fir timber, the general accepted practice is clear cutting.

Representative DELLENBACK. Then are we talking here about reaching into other areas and doing selective cutting, or are you saying that the additional areas would be brought in on a strictly clear-cut basis, and that whole areas are splitting because of overage?

Dr. GRAVES. Primarily the latter, but keep in mind that this program as analyzed also contemplated an accelerated effort to preharvest salvage in the old growth, in areas where the cutting program would not reach for 20 or 30 years. It would be entirely feasible to move into those areas for preharvest salvage more rapidly than is now being done, and to intensify the program of thinnings. Now, these of course, in a sense, would be selective cutting operations, but in general, the program would be a more intensive schedule of clear cutting.

Representative DELLENBACK. Is there something about that particular combination of time and amount that is unique, or would it