

lands is governed by sustained-yield management plans which are not varied in response to surges in domestic or export market demands. Likewise, on some large industrial holdings, cutting schedules are set with the objective of supporting permanent operations. On other private ownerships, timber inventories are declining. Log supplies from these lands must necessarily drop over the next two or three decades as their currently small inventories are liquidated.

Thus, the available supply of timber in the Douglas fir region will not be adequate to meet a continuing expansion of log exports at the present rate plus maintain industries and communities of this important region. Problems of timber supply will be intensified during the coming decade. Predicted major housing construction increases and growth of the U.S. economy can be expected to require more lumber and plywood as well as pulp and paper and other timber products; yet, the timber base is shrinking in this region.

Increased log exports or even continuation of the present level of export will increase competition for the log supply. Public timber cannot fill the entire gap even if all log exports ceased.

COURSES OF ACTION

Earlier it was mentioned that we were participating in interdepartmental task force studies, industrial discussions, and negotiations with the Japanese. Countless staff hours also have been spent in studying the