

My company's manufacturing operations are principally in Oregon, Idaho, and Colorado. We are entirely dependent on Federal land for our raw material supply. NFPA, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., is a federation of 17 regional, product, and species associations representing lumber and forest products manufacturers nationwide.

Our industry has taken an active interest in the land and water conservation fund legislation since its introduction. We supported the concept of user fees for Federal recreation facilities. We also urged that the Federal portion of the fund be available for development of recreation sites and facilities rather than just for land acquisition.

We are concerned with several aspects of S. 1401 which would substantially increase revenues available for the fund and also introduce several innovations in Federal land acquisition and management practices.

We are also concerned that it is not generally recognized that recreational use of land does not necessarily preclude other productive use. Conversely land used for production of timber is not necessarily unsuitable for recreation. Land uses are not generally mutually exclusive. This committee has recognized this capability in legislation for national recreation areas, scenic rivers, and trails bills, but the concept needs to be more forcefully stated.

Timber production can and must be maintained in areas devoted to recreational development if we are going to be able to meet our Nation's need for wood and wood products. A growing forest adds as much to environmental quality as an old-growth forest. We urge that this truth be recognized in any proposals that come before this committee providing for substantial land acquisition or management restrictions on private and public lands.

EARMARKING OF RECEIPTS

Section 1(a) of S. 1401 proposes that certain Federal resource receipts, including Forest Service receipts, be earmarked for deposit in the land and water conservation fund.

The practice of earmarking receipts for certain purposes is generally not considered a wise fiscal policy and is even more questionable in light of our continued national budget deficits and uncertain international commitments. While these funds are not available until appropriated by Congress, earmarking does preclude their use for other purposes.

Currently, 25 percent of national forest receipts are returned to the counties in which the forests are located for use for roads and schools and 10 percent is available for national forest roads and trails. These funds are related to the production of additional revenue or are payments in recognition of the burden nontaxable Federal land places on local governments.

In another application of derived funds, user fees at Federal recreation sites are deposited in the land and water conservation fund. However, the use of these funds for development of Federal recreation areas is precluded by law. This restrictive assignment of funds should not be accepted as justification for earmarking additional Federal receipts, in no way related to recreational revenues.