

of the Industrial Forestry Association which has been working for a permanent timber supply for the forest industry of the douglas fir region in western Washington and western Oregon for 34 years.

Industrial Forestry Association consists of 105 companies and individuals in the business of growing and harvesting timber and manufacturing lumber, pulp and paper, plywood and veneer, shingles and shakes, hard and soft boards, poles and piling, doors, furniture, and other forest products. Our members operate more than 400 wood-using plants, conduct more than 200 different logging operations and employ more than 80,000 people. The annual payroll of their employees exceeds \$500 million.

Industrial Forestry Association first urged Congress to authorize an adequate system of timber access roads in the national forests in 1947. It supported increased authorizations for forest development roads and trails before your committee and the comparable committee in the Senate in 1952, 1954, 1957, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, and 1966.

This has been our consistent position since we knew that without timber access roads the national forests cannot contribute their rightful share to the Nation's economy as envisioned by Congress in the act of June 4, 1897 (30 Stat. 35, 16 U.S.C. 475) when it decreed that one of the two principal objectives of the national forests was "to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of the people of the United States."

In the last 5 years our members have purchased one-third of the national forest timber sold in our region and they buy a significant amount of logs produced by independent loggers from national forests. We have extensive knowledge of the necessity for timber access roads because our industry builds, as part of its timber sale contracts, more than \$30 million worth of roads for the Government in our region annually.

Only a few pertinent data are necessary to make the case for an adequate system of timber access roads in the national forests of Washington and Oregon. What we set forth for our own two States applies to all other States where national forests contain an important part of America's timber supply.

Washington and Oregon have three out of every eight trees in the Nation's timber supply. From them we produce about one-fourth of all the forest products consumed by the American people annually. The annual value of our forest crop is \$2.6 billion. It furnishes an annual payroll of more than \$1 billion to more than 155,000 people. This is our largest individual payroll, unsubsidized in every respect, and backstops 50 percent of our region's basic economy.

Because of the renewability of timber through forestry, we can continue to live off our trees, providing the principal forest ownership, the national forests, does its part. And this means continued capital investment in timber access roads until every national forest is developed for the growing and harvesting of trees on a permanent basis.

Washington's national forests have close to half of the State's total timber supply (table 1¹); in Oregon considerably more than half (table 2). The national forests were the last major forest ownership to be placed under constructive forest management, largely due to their relative inaccessibility until slightly more than a decade ago.

¹ See p. 349.