

gigantic task that the Forest Service has in providing stewardship and management of our Nation's timber resources. We, in the forest products industry, are aware of the expanded demands that are being placed upon our National Forests to provide the additional needs of recreation, wildlife, range, water, etc. It seems apparent that a new degree of intensity of forest management is required so that more volume of timber can be grown on a diminishing area of forest land. In our opinion, the most useful tool that can be provided to enact this new intensive practice of forestry is a network of well designed and engineered forest roads.

It has recently come to our attention that the appropriated sum of \$91 million for forest roads and trails as provided for in H.R. 17354 is now being reconsidered in H.R. 16994 and S. 3418 wherein the above amount is contemplated to be cut in half.

Please be assured of our awareness of the need for, and agreement to provide for, a reduction of \$6 billion in federal expenditures for fiscal year 1969. We are not so presumptuous as to designate or determine where these reductions should occur, but we do submit that maximum funds available for forest roads and trails is a matter of extreme importance and urgency.

It is my personal belief that an extensive program of forest road development and improvement would have a far greater impact upon our economy and solution of our depressed area problems, than many of our O.E.O. and anti-poverty programs now carried on in our state. Only one case in point is cited in recent testimony submitted to the "Special Subcommittee on Economic Development" of the "Committee on Public Works"; wherein, Nick L. Salazar, President of the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District, stated, "and to carry the logic a step further, if that man has a small farm and a paved road to carry him to a place of employment, wouldn't this in effect be establishment of long-range employment? We believed it would."

We sincerely believe that a maximum program for forest roads and trails will provide immediate benefit to all segments of our society and economy. Accordingly, your efforts and support to restore the United States Forest Service appropriations will be greatly appreciated.

Very sincerely,

YALE WEINSTEIN.

WESTERN FORESTRY & CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION,
Portland, Oreg., May 29, 1968.

HON. JOHN C. KLUCZYNSKI,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Roads, Committee on Public Works, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN KLUCZYNSKI: Reference is made to H.R. 16994, the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1968, which provides for, among other things, Forest Development Roads and Trails, Forest Highways and Public Lands Highways authorizations for Fiscal Years 1970 and 1971.

Western Forestry and Conservation Association respectfully urges your consideration of an amendment to this Bill to provide for the authorization of \$170,000,000 for Forest Development Roads and Trails. This amount has been the authorization for Fiscal Years 1968 and 1969 and is needed to provide the opportunity to appropriate more nearly sufficient funds for access to the forests of the western United States.

Western Forestry and Conservation Association has since 1909 been active in advocating legislation which will result in better forest management and protection. To this end, a section of the 1968 Policy Statement reads as follows:

"The Association recognizes that basic to any sound program of timber utilization, as well as to an effective protection system, is an adequate forest access road system which will permit orderly harvest and salvage of current mortality. The Association urges a more aggressive federal mainline access road program to permit the full development of the multiple-use potential of our Western public forests. Further, the Association recommends that governmental agencies determine areas most urgently in need of access roads to permit adequate forest management and to meet essential community requirements. The Association urges prompt salvage of dead and dying timber."

Passage of H.R. 16994 without the restoration of the \$45,000,000 authorization cut contemplated in the Bill would appear to be a step backward in the recognition of the need for access to and management of extensive public forested areas