

Below is set forth in tabular form a comparison of the Pueblo's rights under the Permit and under the several numbered paragraphs of the Senate bills:

SECTION 2 (B), OF S. 1624-25

1940 PERMIT

(3) Authorizes sales of timber to individual Indians for commercial use without approval of tribal government. This could deprive the religious leaders of the Pueblo of their authority to protect the religious use of the watershed.

(9) Authorizes the Forest Service to issue 1-day permits unilaterally without concurrence of the Pueblo, and to abandon the requirement of 1-day entry permits altogether unless the procedure is annually requested by the "governing officials" of the Pueblo. The Pueblo's right of approval for overnight visitors would be forfeited if not requested annually.

(4) Timber may be sold for commercial use to non-Indians "with the concurrence of the Pueblo de Taos officials." Presumably such "officials" include persons other than the "governing officials of the Pueblo" referred to in paragraph (9).

(5) Timber may be "removed" if determined to be "necessary to prevent the spread of insect infestations and diseases." Large-scale logging operations could be conducted under that authority.

(6) "Such other steps" may be taken as are determined to be necessary to protect surrounding areas. This is a direction that Forest Service activities in surrounding areas shall prevail over the religious and cultural needs of the Indian people.

(7) Exclusive use from Aug. 16-31, subject to intrusions by unnamed "law enforcement officers" for unspecified "official" purposes. The Indians are denied full security in the practice of their religion even during those days in August.

(8) Protection of Indian shrines is not available unless the secret places are identified to the Forest Service. (As Sen. Metcalf observed, sanctity actually attaches to the entire watershed and not only to discrete shrines.)

(1) Total grazing capacity to be determined. Stock will be ear-tagged and counted. Forest Service can prevent grazing by Indian stock.

(2) Free wood for personal or community needs may be "made available." The Indians would apparently have no right to take wood if not made available by Forest Service.

Timber for commercial purposes may be purchased by "the Indians," i.e., the Pueblo as such. (It is significant that the tribe has consistently refused to permit any cutting of timber in the sacred area.)

Permits concurred in by Pueblo are required for all non-official intruders.

No provision for sales to non-Indians.

No comparable provision.

No comparable provision.

Exclusive use for 3 days in August subject to entry by "forest officers" for fires or other emergencies.

No comparable provision.

No specific limitations on grazing rights.

Forest Service has no right to prevent wood-gathering.

The Pueblo strongly opposes approval of S. 1624 and S. 1625 because they would deprive the Indians of the religious use of the Rio Pueblo watershed, except for the 3,150 acres around the lakes. That deprivation would be a death blow to the Pueblo's religion and culture.