

The Postwar Development Era (1946-1959)

This era is marked with the new prosperity of the country. There was a tremendous need for timber for the massive building boom that occurred after the war. This marked the transition of when the Forest Service moved from a "soft hat" to a "hard hat".



CURRENT ACRES IN FOREST SYSTEM LANDS
185,805,378



1950-SMOKEY BEAR
A badly burned brown bear cub, was treated by Dr. Smith after he was rescued from a forest fire on the Lincoln National Forest near Capitan, New Mexico. The cub was destined to attain fame as the living symbol of Smokey Bear.



Smokey Bear

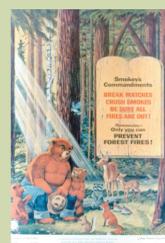
In 1952, Ideal Toys manufactured the first Smokey Bear stuffed toy. It came with a card that children could fill out and mail to become "Junior Forest Rangers." Children readily responded and by 1955 there were 500,000 Junior Forest Rangers. Children were encouraged to write to Smokey and in 1965 Smokey Bear was given his own zip code!

20252



Employees
9,116
1955

1957 - Leonard Bernstein completes "West Side Story".



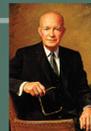
Climax Molybdenum Mine (on the San Isabel National Forest). Molybdenite ore from this mine was first shipped in 1911. The gray-blue mineral enhanced the armor and artillery used by the Allies in World War II.

Presidents of the United States

Presidents of the United States

Presidents of the United States

Dwight D. Eisenhower



Chiefs of the Forest Service

Chiefs of the Forest Service

1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959

Chiefs of the Forest Service

BLM is formed

In 1946, the Grazing Service was merged with the General Land Office to form the Bureau of Land Management within the Department of the Interior. It is the mission of the Bureau of Land Management to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

1947 - JULY 31- MINERAL MATERIALS ACT

allows the disposal of common variety materials including stone, sand, gravel, common clay, and various vegetative materials from public lands if not otherwise expressly authorized by laws of the United States. This act is the forerunner to allowing multiple use of the surface of the same tracts of the public land including mining claims. The act was amended in 1955 as part of the Multiple Use Mining Act.

1950 - APRIL 24TH - GRANGER-THYE ACT

broadens authority of the secretary of agriculture along several lines and adjusts range regulations.

MANN GULCH FIRE

On August 5, 1949, a wildfire overran 16 firefighters in Mann Gulch on the Helena National Forest in Montana. Only three survived—the foreman and two members of an 18-man smokejumper crew that had parachuted into a small valley or gulch near the fire. These deaths were a shocking loss to the firefighters' families and friends. The tragedy was also a severe blow to the Forest Service, which had not experienced a fatality during a decade of smokejumping and was extremely proud of its elite firefighters. Repercussions from this incident were severe and long lasting.

FIRE SUPPRESSION PHOTO

Specially staged photo showing fire equipment used in controlling fires—helicopter laying hose, motor equipment and pack horse for getting into back country, bulldozer, and smokejumper in background. Photo was taken on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California.

Richard E. McArdle

Richard Edwin McArdle, the eighth chief, was born on February 25, 1899, in Lexington, Kentucky. He received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in forestry at the University of Michigan in 1923 and 1924. Just after graduating, he began working for the Forest Service as a silviculturist for the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station in Portland, Oregon.

After a stint at the University of Idaho's School of Forestry, he then returned to the Forest Service to be the director of a new forest and range experiment station at Fort Collins, Colorado, then to another directorship at the Appalachian (now Southeastern) Station in Asheville, North Carolina. He moved to the Washington D.C. office in 1944, and then served as chief of the Forest Service from July 1952 to March 1962.

McArdle, being the first chief to hold a Ph.D. and to have been a researcher, felt the need for a balanced management of the national forests.

During his tenure, the Forest Service was assigned the management of four million acres of western plains lands, which they organized as national grasslands. McArdle was also instrumental in upgrading Forest Service personnel, hiring new specialists to bring about intensive management, and to increase the professionalism of employees.

Smokejumpers - Class of '53

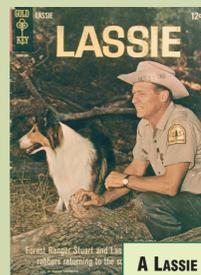


Proud Smokejumpers, "Class of '53," included future astronaut Stewart Roosa as a member of the group (top row, fourth from left).

The years following World War II were filled with optimism, the building boom was on, people had money to buy new automobiles and to travel and see the country. New highways were being built to accommodate this new demand.

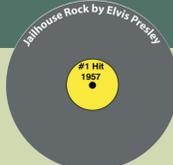


1956 - Winter Park (Arapaho National Forest) - Commercial Ski areas were developed on several national forests throughout the country. Snow Rangers had oversight for the tramway safety, ski run development, skier safety and avalanche removal.



A LASSIE PRIMER

1954 - Lassie comes to television
1957 - Little Timmy joins the show
1964 - Lassie moves from the city to the forest and is joined by Ranger Corey Stuart



"Clearcutting by staggered settings" is considered desirable for the continued production of healthy trees. It provides for regeneration of the cut area with seed from the adjacent trees, artificial seeding, or planting. Clearcutting has aroused considerable opposition over the years because of the temporary appearance of the cut areas. Later it is recognized that the short scheduled rotations would never allow the new stands to reach late successional stages, furthering the opposition.



The first practical airplane tanker airdrop of water and chemicals on a forest fire was in 1956. Many of the airplanes were converted World War II bombers.



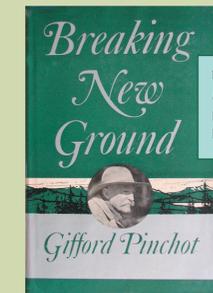
1953 - Academy Award for Best Picture is "From Here to Eternity" starring Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift, Donna Reed and Frank Sinatra.

1952 - Claude Rains, the actor, appears in the famous film, "The Invisible Man".

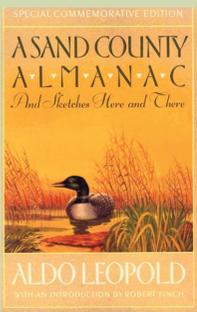
1958 - Elvis Presley is inducted into the U.S. Army (March 24).



After the war there was new found prosperity within the Nation. Veterans moved their families from the cities to the newly developed suburbs. Builders couldn't keep up with the demand for houses. The Forest Service was called upon by Congress and the private timber industry to help supply the needed wood. Cutting on the National Forests began in earnest.



1947 - Pinchot's book, Breaking New Ground is published shortly after his death in 1946.



1947 - Polaroid Camera
Dr. Edwin H. Land introduces a new camera that can produce a developed photographic image in sixty seconds.