Clear Cutting Banned

Continued from page 1

before it is done. The law provides that none of the forest's bottomland stands shall be cut except for the swale bottoms. This practice is known as "clear cutting" and involves the selective cutting of trees to improve the growth of select species. As a result of this practice, the forests have been reduced to a state of near desolation, with little or no forest cover.

Unplanned is the potential degradation of the effectiveness of the forest. Government agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service, are responsible for managing the forests and ensuring their sustainability. However, the lack of adequate planning and management has led to an increase in clear cutting activities.

Clear cutting is a practice that involves the selective cutting of trees to improve the growth of select species. As a result of this practice, the forests have been reduced to a state of near desolation, with little or no forest cover. The practice has led to a loss of biodiversity and a decrease in the overall health of the forest ecosystem.

The Forest Service has undertaken efforts to reduce clear cutting activities. In some cases, they have implemented conservation measures, such as the establishment of tree protection zones and the implementation of forest management plans. However, these efforts have been insufficient to address the problem of clear cutting.

The Forest Service has faced criticism for its role in the promotion of clear cutting practices. Some environmentalists argue that the agency has failed to adequately address the issue of clear cutting and has not done enough to protect the forests.

The Clear Cutting Ban Act of 1973 was introduced in Congress as a response to the issues raised by the clear cutting practices. It is a piece of legislation that aims to protect the forests from further damage.

The Act prohibits the clear cutting of forests, except in cases where it is necessary to promote the health and safety of the forest ecosystem. It also requires the Forest Service to conduct an impact study of the proposed clear cutting activities and to develop a management plan that includes measures to protect the forests.

The Act has been successful in reducing the amount of clear cutting activities in the forests. However, it has faced opposition from some groups who argue that it interferes with their right to access and use the forests.

The Clear Cutting Ban Act is a significant step in the protection of the forests. It is a testament to the efforts of those who have worked tirelessly to protect the forests.

Weekend Review Draws Big Crowd

The weekend review of the West Virginia State Forest Service at the Greenbrier also drew a large crowd.

The Greenbrier was the site of the recent West Virginia State Forest Service conference, which attracted a large audience.

The conference focused on the management of the state's forests and the challenges facing the Forest Service.

The conference included a range of topics, including forest management, sustainable forestry, and the role of the Forest Service in protecting the forests.

The weekend review was an opportunity for the Forest Service to showcase the work they have done and the challenges they face.

The Forest Service has been working to improve the health of the state's forests and to ensure their sustainability. They have implemented a range of initiatives, including the establishment of forest management plans and the implementation of sustainability practices.

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"The Years Of The Forest" by Merri1n Smith

REVIEW by Martin Smith

Documents often fall victim to the frequent tendency by even the more assiduous writers to blot their books with sentimentality at the expense of veracity. Helen Hooper's autobiographical documentation of her years in Minnesota's wilderness is no exception; and here, as in all literature, sentimentality is always a feeble and facile caricature of feeling.

Several opening lines occurred to me: "Would John Muir have broken out to write in case of canned hash?" and "Would Thoreau have had Wallow Pond contemplating names for the animals about him, like Mike, Tom, Jerry, Pretty and Mrs. Twixt?" Mrs. Hooper, however, is no John Muir or Henry David Thoreau. She is a highly discernible sentimentalist, a writer of a style so irksome that one can see why some people chose to leave the wilderness for the city, and why a sudden end to drastic changes might be supposed to produce a sense of the loss of wild things.

The local power company offers a prime example: They explained that it was necessary, and all that was necessary was an end. Years ago, the caretaker of the inn, the old woman who lived there, knew time as she lived it. She had lived close to the land, west, east, north, south, enough to strike the wires in falling. She left behind in 1965, two hundred feet south of the forest path. The Hoovers chose to live without it, and so Power simply cut its path around them. They petitioned and it required great will and much time before the years of work was hard, and some of it dangerous, and all of it, in some way, gratifying. If Helen Hoover fell short of being part of the forest, she and her husband lived closer to it and had greater access to it than most civilized people. Whatever inconvenience she has in her eclecticism, they really needed nature to stay alive, as the Thoreaus did, to touch it lightly and leave as little mark on it as possible.

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Mid-Winter Workshop

The Highlands Conservancy Mid-Winter Workshop is back for its 16th year despite the unsettled atmosphere surrounding gas and oil layoffs, speed limits and various energy crises. This year the Conservancy has broken tradition and scheduled the workshop for Elkins. In past years the workshop has been held at Blackwater Falls State Park.

As we go to press the workshop is scheduled for the last weekend in January, the 26th and 27th at the Department of Natural Resources Center in Elkins.

The workshop will concentrate on highways, the Appalachian Highlands, but committee workshops will be held on the 26th dealing with a variety of concerns to conservationists.

Among highway projects to be discussed in depth are the Highland Scenic Highway (W.Va. Route 100), National Engineers H and U.S. Rl. 218. Committee meetings will delve into Wilderness, Air Pollution, Logging and Logging, Land-use Planning and Recreational Development among others.

Details on speakers and panel discussions are incomplete at this time.

Those planning to attend the Saturday session are urged to arrive early, Friday if possible. The morning sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. The Sunday board meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m.

ACCOMMODATIONS DIRECTORY

Through assistance from Elkins, W. Va. Airport, the Highlands Mid-Winter Workshop can make arrangements for overnight accommodations. Contact the Highlands Mid-Winter Workshop at Box 247, Elkins, W. Va.

Preparation of this directory is based on an informal volunteer effort and is not intended to be complete.

S. 316 Moves Out, Otter Creek In

As we go to press word has been received from Washington that S. 316, the Eastern Wilderness Areas Bill, has been reported out of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Of particular gratification to the Conservancy is the fact that the entire bill was not included in the final draft of the bill. Earlier in the session a subcommittee had deleted Otter Creek and the Cranberry Back Country, including only Dolly Sods for wilderness designation.

However, Senator Jennings Randolph confirmed on Wednesday, December 6th, that Otter Creek was reinstated in S. 316. The back Country remains a "Study Area."

The next move for S. 316 is a vote by the full Senate. House of Representatives action must follow Senate action on the bill before Dolly Sods and Otter Creek are added to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Clear - Cutting Banned

A major step toward conservation of the national forests is being taken by Federal Judge Robert E. Moore, who has declared that the Forest Service is engaged in clear-cutting the National Forests, a form of clear-cutting on the Monongahela National Forest. Moore's decision was based on a suit filed against the Forest Service for violation of the National Forest Management Act of 1976. The suit contended that clear-cutting on the national forests was illegal and that the Forest Service had not followed the procedures established by the National Forest Management Act. The judge ruled that clear-cutting was in violation of the 1976 Organic Act. The Organic Act states that only "dead, mature, or large growth trees" may be clear-cut, and that all trees to be be must be "marketed and utilized." The act then requires that all timber be harvested in a manner that will not result in the destruction of wildlife habitat or other natural resources.