

# Hungry Horse

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FRIDAY, SEPT. 20, 1974



OUTDOOR DISCUSSION SESSIONS were held this week on tours of forest management sponsored by the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station on Coram Experi-

mental Forest. During lunch stop (it was Dutch), Royal Logging truck was being loaded for trip to Plum Creek mill. Ron Mueller was the driver with Buster Knutson operating the loader.

## Forest Research Study Centers on Desert Mtn.

Most intensive study of forested land use in the northern Rocky Mountains is now taking place in the 7,460 acre Coram Experimental Forest.

Wednesday and Thursday saw the U.S. Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station of Ogden, Utah sponsor an informational program and field trip to Desert Mountain, Coram Experimental Forest where Royal Logging has two skyline logging operations in progress for Plum Creek Lumber Co. on a 1,500,000 board feet sale.

Cableway logging has been revived as a method of causing less disturbance to an area's soil cover and vegetation and harvesting steeper slopes. It is more costly dollarwise.

Dr. Roger Bay, director of the Intermountain Experiment Station noted cooperative logging ventures are also underway in Boise and Nez Perce National Forests of Idaho, but the Coram study is further along.

There were 76 persons at the Wednesday briefing and field trip and 86 Thursday. Most were U.S. Forest Service, state and timber industry representatives from Montana, Idaho and Washington.

The 8:30 morning briefings started with opening remarks by Ranger Chuck Brooks of Hungry Horse District. Coram Experimental Forest is within the district, which handles the actual timber sale, slash disposal, tree planting.

Dr. Bay told of the overall project, while Ron Barger, program manager for residue research at the Missoula F. S. laboratories, acted as moderator.

Brief presentations of major areas of research were presented by Forest Service and University of Montana personnel.

Emphasized was the cooperative attitude of Plum Creek Lumber Co. (and affiliated Royal Logging) the firm that purchased the timber now being harvested by cableways.

Speakers included: Wyman Schmidt, silviculture; Robert Benson, inventory, production potential and economic analyses; Mick Gonsior, logging planning; Dr. Al Harvey, microbiology and plant pathology; Dr. David Fellin, insect infestation; Roger Hungerford,

(Please see pages 4 and 5.)