

SUMMER HOMES  
IN  
THE NATIONAL FORESTS  
OF OREGON  
AND WASHINGTON



BY  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
NORTH PACIFIC REGION

ISSUED 1932

## NATIONAL FORESTS AND HEADQUARTERS

### OREGON

Forest	Location	Post Office
Cascade	West-central Oregon	Eugene, Oreg.
Crater	Southern Oregon	Medford, Oreg.
Deschutes	South-central Oregon	Bend, Oreg.
Fremont	Southern Oregon	Lakeview, Oreg.
Malheur	Eastern Oregon	John Day, Oreg.
Mount Hood	Northwestern Oregon	Portland, Oreg.
Ochoco	East-central Oregon	Prineville, Oreg.
Santiam	West-central Oregon	Albany, Oreg.
Siskiyou	Southwestern Oregon and northwestern California	Grants Pass, Oreg.
Siuslaw	West coast of Oregon	Eugene, Oreg.
Umatilla	Eastern Oregon and Washington	Pendleton, Oreg.
Umpqua	Southwestern Oregon	Roseburg, Oreg.
Wallowa	Northeastern Oregon	Wallowa, Oreg.
Whitman	Eastern Oregon	Baker, Oreg.

### WASHINGTON

Chelan	Northern Washington	Okanogan, Wash.
Columbia	Southern Washington	Vancouver, Wash.
Colville	Northeastern Washington	Republic, Wash.
Mount Baker	Northwestern Washington	Bellingham, Wash.
Olympic	Far-western Washington	Olympia, Wash.
Rainier	West-central, Washington	Tacoma, Wash.
Snoqualmie	Northwestern Washington	Seattle, Wash.
Wenatchee	North-central Washington	Wenatchee, Wash.



### HOW TO PUT OUT YOUR CAMP FIRE

Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground thoroughly around the fire. Drown out every spark. Then—  
*Pour on several more buckets of water!*

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### INTRODUCTION

The object of this publication is to tell where and how permits may be secured for summer-home sites on the national forests in the north Pacific region. It will answer general questions and also give certain information as to what the summer-home permittee may expect from the Forest Service and what the Forest Service will require of the permittee. It will endeavor also to explain standards of construction and improvement that will safeguard the property of the permittee and the adjoining property of other individuals or of the Government from fire, insanitary conditions, or other hazards. It will tell also how to preserve and promote the scenic and recreational values which are inherent in the national forests.

### RECREATION PLANS

In preparing recreation areas or units for the use of the public the ground is first carefully examined, mapped, and classified, and a detailed plan of usage decided upon. Future needs are planned for, in so far as they can be foreseen, and the land subdivided into parcels for free camp grounds, picnic parks, and playgrounds; resorts, hotels, and commercial enterprises which foster recreation usage; organization sites and summer-home sites. The fact that the Government has much timber and forage to harvest also requires that provision be made not to hamper unnecessarily the coordinated use of these resources. The plan seeks to safeguard and protect high recreation and scenic values and sometimes must modify commercial exploitation of other resources. Ranger stations, road-maintenance camps, fish-hatchery sites, and many other administrative tracts which are more or less the by-product of recreational usage must be given a place in the general scheme. (See map p. 12.)

Public camps and picnic parks are generously supplied and selected in naturally safe convenient locations; commercial sites are very conservatively selected to fit actual public need; summer-home sites and clubs are almost always located to afford seclusion—away from dust, noise, and dangerous traffic of highways.

There are hazards from fire, snow slides, and surcharged streams which require certain restrictions of location which may not be readily understood by the applicant.

#### WHERE TO FIND A SUMMER HOME

There are 22 national forests within the States of Oregon and Washington. Each of these forests has opportunities for supplying the summer-home demand. These forests are located almost entirely



A simple and attractive little summer home. Mount Hood National Forest

in mountainous country, which varies from spectacular, rough, and rugged to friendly, gentle types of land.

In the Pacific Northwest there is not only abundant timber and brush for shade and as a setting to frame the summer-home picture, but there is abundance of water in different forms. Water of some kind is practically always a part of the picture and fulfills the greatest need of the vacationist. If the seeker for a mountain summer home desires to be near a lake, a river, a creek, a hot spring, a mineral spring, a cold spring, or a falls, he can be satisfied within reason if he will but inquire.

The angler, the hunter, the hiker, the photographer, the mountain climber, the water-sports lover has but to make inquiries, and in all probability he will find a suitable place.

The Cascade Range, forming the backbone of the two States, furnishes the principle vantage ground for the summer-home seeker. He may, if he wishes, find space in the Olympics of far western Wash-

ington or in the Coast Range or the Siskiyou of Oregon, or he may prefer the pine country of the Blue Mountains, or a location in one of the dozen or so minor mountain ranges of the two States.

At the back of this publication is a list of the national forests of the Pacific Northwest, or what is known as the north Pacific region. It gives the location of the forests and the headquarters of the forest supervisors. Maps and information are available from these offices or from those of many forest rangers scattered through the forests.

#### HOW TO GET A SUMMER-HOME PERMIT

A summer-home permit is a written permission from the Forest Service to build a home for summer use on a certain piece of Government land. The land or building lot is not sold by the Government but is merely leased to the occupant. The recipient of the permit must construct at his own expense the buildings he wants.



A beautiful setting for a summer home. Olympic National Forest

Application for a summer-home permit may be made verbally or in writing. Term-permit applications must be in writing and should state the character and approximate cost of the improvements contemplated. A formal application blank is not needed. The application may be made to a forest ranger or through any Federal forest officer, but preferably to one of the forest supervisors on the above-mentioned list. A letter addressed to the forest supervisor at the city indicated will reach him.

Those who want general information may write to the regional forester, Portland, Oreg., who has jurisdiction over all of the national forests in the Pacific Northwest.

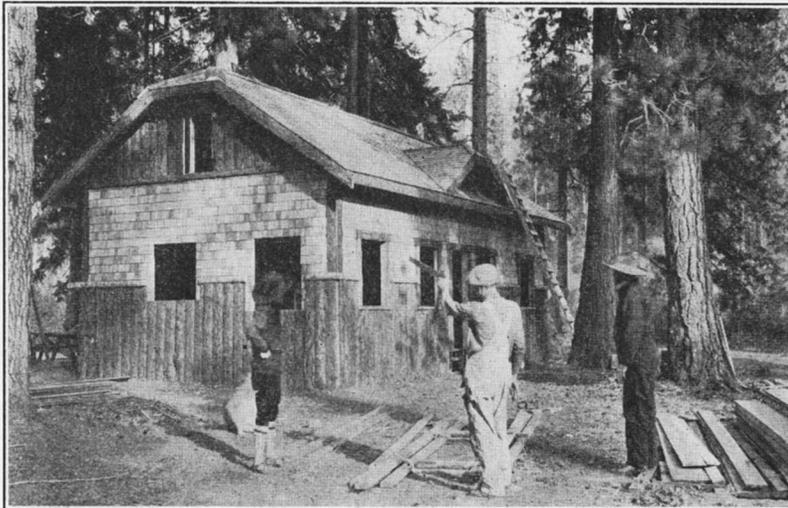
Ordinarily the interested person should see the ground before he makes application. Dependence on the judgment of other people is seldom satisfactory, and application made from hearsay may result

in much inconvenience. If the summer-home seeker is making a selection on a popular summer-home ground it is well to note second and third choices in the event the first may have been disposed of.

While the Government desires to please the applicant and supply his needs so far as possible, obviously no guaranty can be given to fulfill the wishes of everybody. (See Recreation Plans, p. 1.)

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The Forest Service does not discriminate among individuals so long as the permittee obeys the laws and regulations of the United States, the State, and county in which the land is located and the rules of any local governing body, which are determined by a majority of the users in any community or recreation unit.



Unusual but good-looking type of construction. Deschutes National Forest

F-206003

Permits will be issued to a family, a club of two or more individuals or families, or to a large organization, such as the Boy Scouts or Young Womens' Christian Association, or even to a city for a community health camp.

Associations of summer-home and recreation users for handling local community business, water developments, fire protection, sanitation, etc., are welcomed by the Forest Service and are mutually beneficial.

#### BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements must not be placed on ground not under specific permit except by special authority.

Construction plans must fully satisfy the Forest Service with regard to fire menace, sanitation, and appearance. It is mainly required with buildings that they be put up in a workmanlike manner

with substantial roofs, floors, doors, windows, brick or masonry chimneys, fly-proof toilets and garbage containers; and that the setback of residence and general ensemble be not out of harmony with the neighborhood. Plans and locations of improvements must be approved by the Forest Service before construction begins. This does not mean that buildings must be uniform in character, but it will usually mean that they shall be of a generally accepted rustic style, and attractive in appearance. Glaring colors are not permitted.

In large colonies it may become necessary to install chemical toilets or septic-tank disposal, a piped water system, or other improvements to safeguard life and the health of the community.

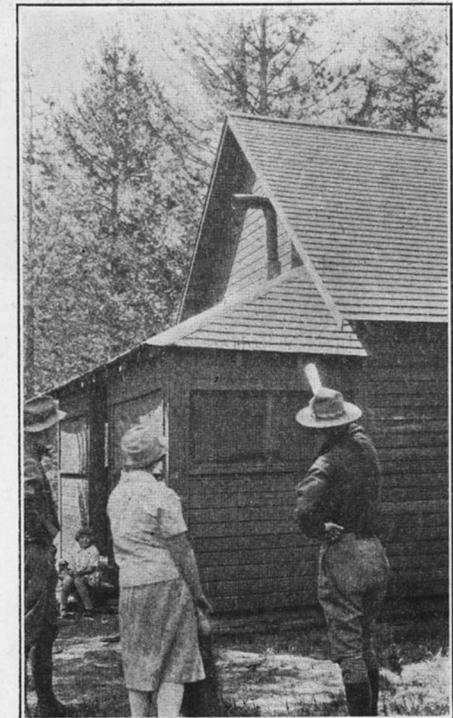
Should there exist, or subsequently be organized in a summer-home colony, a cooperative public-service organization composed of a majority of the permittees, holders of individual permits must agree to be subject to all rules and regulations of such association or organization.

If house logs are available and desired for building they may be purchased, and application for cutting should be made to the nearest forest officer. Although the stumpage price of this material is very low, it should be understood that the cost of log construction usually runs considerably higher than frame, except where lumber is inaccessible. Bark left on logs, except cedar, invites insects. Barbed wire should not be used in fence construction.

Toilets, chemical or pit, septic tanks, and garbage pits must be built at least 100 feet away from a possible source of drinking-water supply and must be securely screened against insects and animals,

and placed out of sight wherever possible. In the natural growth of the community, stricter sanitation measures may be necessary for the safety of the public.

The ordinary summer-home lot is surveyed for one residence only. Any attempt at evasion of this principle, such as construction of an extra building for subrental, may result in cancellation of the permit. It will at least mean increasing the fee proportionately. Summer-home permits are not intended for commercial use. Club and organization permits allow of more buildings.



Poor construction—stovepipe too near roof and gable—apt to cause fire

F-220291

## LANDSCAPING

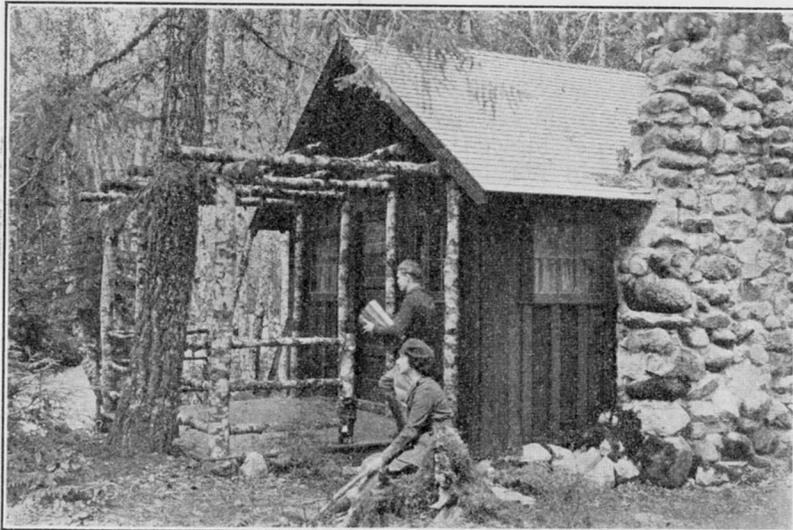
Trees and brush screens should be given proper consideration. Any tree which is a menace to life and property or impairs the view or



Good taste in both house and grounds

F-218701

shuts off desirable breezes may be cut, but not without prior approval of the forest officer in charge.



Rustic porch frame and native stone for chimney

F-204559

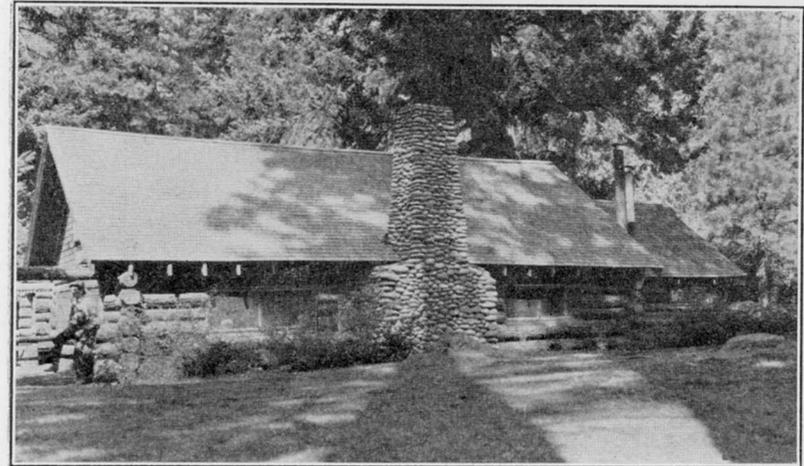
Houses should be well braced in areas of heavy snowfall and should not be built under leaning or dead trees.

In landscaping the lots, it is expected that a natural appearance will be kept. Small trees should not be "limbed up," but only the dead material should be removed.

Groups or clumps of trees and bushes should be encouraged between houses and especially between the house and roads or streams. Occasional vistas or glimpses of the roads or water are desirable and are preferred to a steady open view.

The slashing and removal of trees and brush is permitted only after obtaining the consent of a forest officer.

If summer-home lots are adjacent to public-travel routes, appearance of premises will be the subject of close supervision by the Forest Service. This means that signs, fences, gates, clearing, and other individual improvement efforts must be sufficiently conservative to retain the effect of natural roadside beauty, which is one of the principal aims of the Government in treatment of scenic highways. Signs giving lot numbers or names of permittees are always



A clubhouse on the east side of Rainier National Forest

F-170120

allowable, but conservative standardization may be necessary. Simple rustic signs are suggested.

Advertising signs are not permitted on the national forest except by special authority.

## LOT DESCRIPTIONS

A summer-home lot runs from one-fifth to one-half acre, according to roughness of land, timber and brush cover, and other features. It will average from three to five times the size of the ordinary city residence lot, and be all that the ordinary family wishes to care for. It is intended to be so located as to give seclusion and a taste of the wilderness. Lots are practically always surveyed in colonies, which gives that feeling of safety desirable where women and children are so much in the majority.

The lots are surveyed along landscaping principles with the idea of obtaining vistas, building sites, and safety. No attempt is made

to square up the lots. They are made to fit the streams, the slopes, the roads, and other features. The corners may be stakes, rocks, or living trees, but they are official surveyors' markings and should be carefully preserved in place to avoid complications.

Lots for large organizations may go up to 10 or 20 acres in size, and may sometimes include large playgrounds or athletic fields. Sometimes it is possible to set off a local park and playground to go with a colony of summer homes. Very often a generous strip of natural park is left between the lots and a lake or stream, to be used and handled by the community.

#### COSTS—PAYMENTS—REFUNDS

The fee charged for a summer-home permit is between \$10 and \$25 per year; the average is \$15. For permanent family residences



A simple, inexpensive, yet attractive, little summer cabin

F-224415

and for clubs and organizations using larger and more valuable lands the fees may be larger. Character-building organizations, such as the Camp Fire Girls and the Epworth League, are charged a low fee, even though the lands may be very valuable for recreation use.

Exclusive use of land is the basis for these charges. Of the gross national-forest annual receipts, 25 per cent is returned directly to the State for schools and roads, another 10 per cent is spent for construction and maintenance of roads and trails by the Government; the remainder is covered into the United States Treasury to offset costs of forest administration. Some counties levy a special tax on summer homes on Government ground, but it should be understood that they have no authority to levy a tax on the land, which is federally owned.

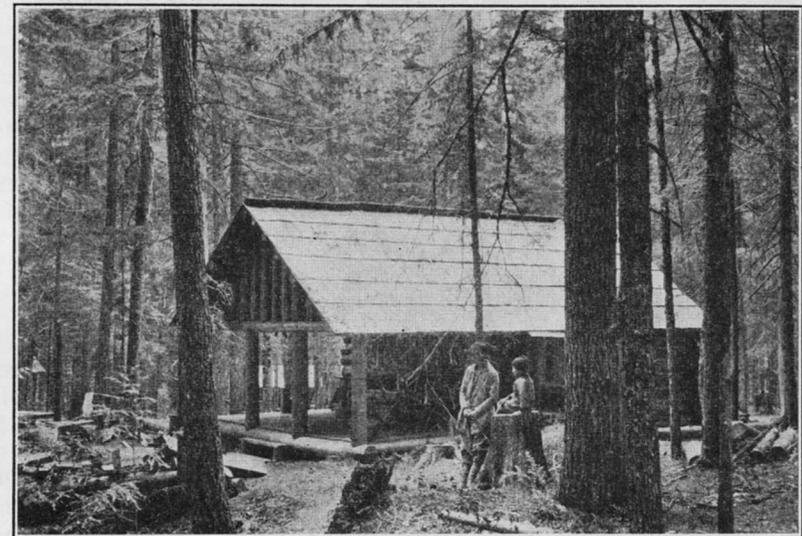
After initial deposit is made, annual payments become due on January 1 each year. Money not due the Government or paid on

account of a permit canceled through no fault of the permittee will be refunded.

#### RENEWALS AND TRANSFERS

The special-use permit is automatically renewed each year upon payment of the fee and satisfactory compliance with the terms of the permit. A 10-year lease or term permit at increased fee is obtainable unless there are special complications. This is renewable so long as terms are complied with. Either of these forms is satisfactory, and ordinarily there is no advantage in one over the other.

A permit may be transferred, with the approval of the officer by whom issued or his successor, to the purchaser of the improvements on the site. A letter or bill of sale authorizing such a transfer must



A summer home of logs in heavy Douglas fir, Rainier National Forest

F-182551

be presented to the forest supervisor before transfer can be completed.

#### GENERAL REGULATIONS

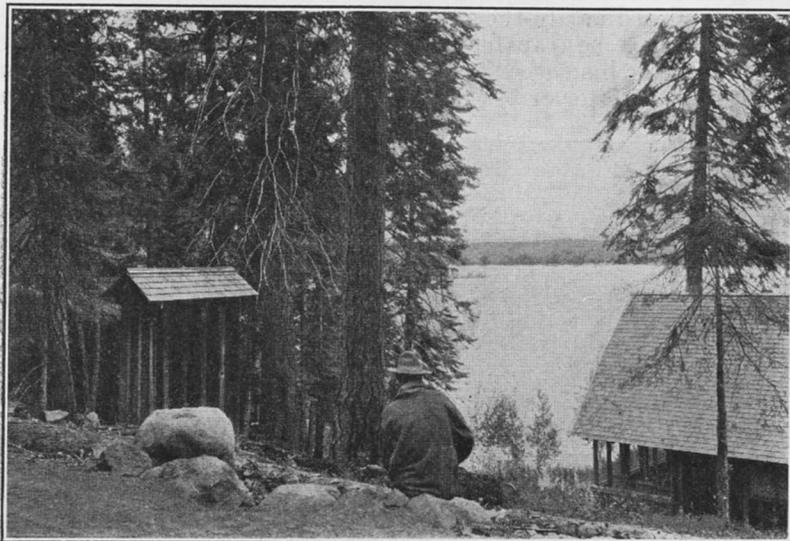
It is the intention of the Government that permittees shall have all the liberties and privileges that they might enjoy on their own land, provided the rights and liberties of others are not infringed upon. Local summer-home-association rules and regulations obviously must not interfere with Federal or State laws or regulations.

All summer homes and premises are subject to at least one, usually more, official annual inspection by the Forest Service. This is intended as principally advisory, but in case of infraction of fire or sanitation rules, drastic action must occasionally be taken in order to safeguard the general public. Continued negligence or intentional disregard of common-sense rules of safety will subject the permit to cancellation. Local forest officers have standard plans satisfac-

tory for summer-home sanitation and protection which are free for the asking.

Permittees may use dead or down timber on the permit area for firewood so long as the use is confined to family and guests, and so far as it comes within the free-use regulations of the Forest Service. Such material can not be sold.

Keeping of chickens, cattle, sheep, or other farm animals is not permitted unless special authority is obtained.



Improper location of toilet—in too exposed a site and too near the road

F-182481

### GOOD MANNERS IN THE FOREST

A good sportsman, camper, or tourist when he goes into the national forest—

- First obtains a camp-fire permit.
- Carries a shovel, an ax, and a bucket.
- Follows the smoker's code.
- Appreciates and protects forest signs.
- Puts out his camp fire with water.
- Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.
- Observes the State fish and game laws.
- Cooperates with the forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires.
- Practices what he preaches.

### HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

Practically all summer-home fires are caused by leaving unattended débris piles, by defective flues, or by wooden sills under fireplaces. A burned house wrecks the surroundings. Valuables and foodstuffs should not be left in summer homes over the winter or unused season.

Springs are intended for public use, and ways to them should be left open.

Fishing is permitted on national forests to those holding a State fishing license. Be a sportsman, and there will always be fish and game for all. It is not good forest manners to clean fish on the shores of lakes and streams; or to throw wash water, cans, and débris where they will be noticed by callers or travelers.

There are strict rules against picking wild flowers and digging up shrubs and plants on or near highways and recreation areas. By exercise of judgment, people may often make use of these wildings to beautify home and garden, but unless moderately done the waste of a great scenic beauty is inevitable. Please do not take wild flowers or shrubs growing within a hundred yards of travel routes.

Spur roads are often intended only for summer routes and may be subject to damage if traveled when wet. Much trouble will be saved by getting proper and prior authority for making any improvements outside the permitted lot boundaries.



Corner of log house at Diamond Lake, Umpqua National Forest

F-220293

### SMOKER'S CODE

(For the dry season)

DAANGEROUS TO SMOKE WHILE TRAVELING ON FOREST, BRUSH, OR GRASS LANDS

Smoke only—

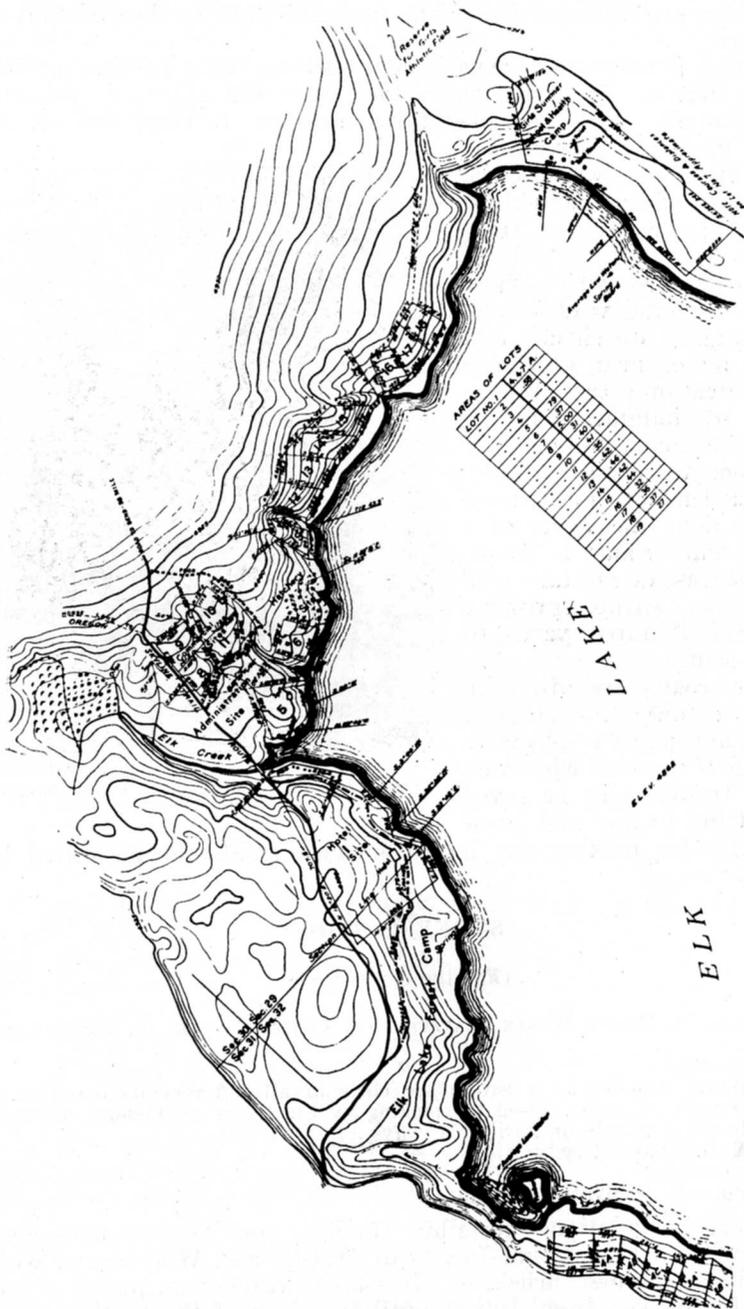
- While stopping in a safe place clear of all inflammable material, or
- Outside of areas closed to smoking by State law or Federal order, or
- Inside a vehicle on 2-way highways, or
- Above timber line, and

After smoking

- Put out all lighted material.

Federal regulations prohibit smoking on Government-owned lands within the national forests of Oregon and Washington while traveling in timber, brush, or grass areas (except on paved or surfaced highways) from July 1 until the close of the fire season, as declared by the regional forester, but not later than September 30.

The law prohibits throwing away any burning matches or tobacco, or other lighted materials in a forest region.



Map of a typical recreation area



SPECIAL-USE PERMIT

(Sample)

(Case designation.)

Permission is hereby granted to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ to use the following-described lands: \_\_\_\_\_

(Describe the lands to be occupied, if unsurveyed, by metes and bounds, with reference to a road or stream or well-known landmark, right of way by terminal points, direction, and lands occupied.)

for the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_ (Briefly but clearly describe the use, giving area of inclosures, length and width of right of way, etc.)

subject to the following conditions:

1. The permittee shall pay to the \_\_\_\_\_ Bank of \_\_\_\_\_ (United States depository), to be placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States in consideration for this use, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$ \_\_\_\_\_) for the period from \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, to December 31, 19\_\_\_\_, and thereafter annually, on January 1, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$ \_\_\_\_\_).

2. The permittee shall comply with the regulations of the Department of Agriculture governing the national forest, shall observe all sanitary laws and regulations applicable to the premises, and shall keep the premises in a neat and orderly condition and dispose of all refuse, and locate outhouses and cess-pools as required by the forest officers.

3. This permit is subject to all valid claims.

4. The permittee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent and suppress forest fires.

5. The permittee, if engaged in business, shall conduct same in an orderly manner and in accordance with all requirements of the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ as well as the laws of the United States.

6. The permittee shall pay the United States for any damage to its property resulting from this use.

7. The permittee shall fully repair all damage, other than ordinary wear and tear, to roads and trails in the national forests caused by the permittee in the exercise of the privilege granted by this permit.

8. Construction work (or occupancy and use) under this permit shall begin within \_\_\_\_\_ months, be completed within \_\_\_\_\_ years from the date of the permit, and this use shall be actually exercised at least \_\_\_\_\_ days each year, unless the time is extended or shortened.

9. In case of change of address, permittee shall immediately notify the forest supervisor.

10. The charges for this use may be readjusted whenever necessary to place this permit on a basis consistent with the charge to other permittees for like privileges. A general readjustment will be made at the end of five years from the date of issuance of permit and at the end of each 5-year period thereafter.

11. No national forest timber may be cut or destroyed without first obtaining a permit from the forest supervisor.

12. Upon the abandonment, termination, or revocation of this permit, and in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the permittee, if all the rental charges due the Government have been paid, may, within a reasonable period, to be determined by the issuing officer, remove all structures which have been placed on the premises by him, except where the material was furnished by the Forest Service, but upon failure to remove the structures within that period they shall become the property of the United States.

13. This permit may be transferred with the approval of the officer by whom it was given or his successor, subject to such conditions as may be imposed at the time of transfer. It shall terminate upon breach of any of the conditions herein or at the discretion of the regional forester or the Forester.

14. The permittee shall provide, whenever requested by the forest officers, a way across the land covered by this permit for the free ingress or egress of forest officers and for users of national forest land and purchasers of national forest products.

15. The permittee shall keep the premises in a clean and sanitary condition and clear and keep same clear of all inflammable material.

16. The permittee shall construct a substantial building of permanent character in accordance with the plans and specifications filed with the forest supervisor and shall install a sanitary system approved by the Forest Service, before using these premises.

17. The proposed location of all buildings must be approved by a forest officer.

18. The permittee shall use this tract for noncommercial purposes only and not to exceed 10 gallons of volatile liquid (which shall be securely stoppered in air-tight containers) shall be kept on these premises outside the tanks of automobiles.

19. Should there now exist, or subsequently be organized, a cooperative public-service organization or association composed of a majority of the special-use permittees located on this tract, the holder of this permit agrees to be subject to all rules and regulations of such association or organization.

20. Flues must be constructed of brick, masonry, or poured concrete with a lining of terra cotta or cement tile. Standard brick or masonry flues constructed by a reliable mason will be accepted. Terra cotta or tin flues are prohibited.

-----  
(Date)

-----  
(Signature of officer issuing permit)

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(Title)

### NATIONAL-FOREST MAP FOLDERS

There are available from the forest supervisor or the district ranger detailed map folders for each of the 22 national forests in Oregon and Washington. These are the so-called ranger maps which



Portal entrance to a group of summer-home lots, Mount Hood National Forest

show streams, roads, trails, section and township lines, and other data. On the backs of these maps are data on the resources, use, and improvements of the particular national forest, as well as information on camping places, trail trips, etc. There are also available road map folders for each State and special folders and leaflets on the Oregon Caves, Oregon Skyline Trail, Mount Hood Loop Highway, Mount Baker Highway, and Naches Highway Logs.

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