

Group Interview in Transport to, and at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, with Bob Tarrant, Roy Silen, Jerry Franklin, Ted Dyrness, Al Levno, Art McKee, Fred Swanson, and Martha Brookes, September 22, 1997; Interviewer -- Max G. Geier

Participants in this group conversation represent a wide variety of disciplines and roles spanning the entire history of the experimental forest: Forest Service Research writer/editor Brookes, Forest Service soil scientist Dyrness, University of Washington professor Franklin, Forest Service Field operations manager Levno, Andrews Forest Director and OSU employee McKee, retired Forest Service scientist Silen, Forest Service geologist Swanson, retired Forest Service and College of Forestry science administrator Tarrant. This event was a field trip from Corvallis to the Andrews Forest, where more people joined the group for a drive to Carpenter Mountain Lookout at the highest (5300 ft), most northerly (and distant from the headquarters site) point in the Forest. The audio is very rough because of the noisy van ride, shifting size of group, and other factors. The settings vary from being in the van to being in a more controlled environment. During the drive from the headquarters to the lookout there is much commentary about many sites along the way. The conversation continued when the group returned to the headquarters site. The evening was truncated when word came that Roy Silen's wife had been killed in a traffic accident in Corvallis – a somber ride back to town ensued.

Note: Begins in van on way to pick up Ted Dyrness in Tangent, Oregon, in route to H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest. Interruptions and competing noises with interview during recording noted parenthetically; regular parentheses () for background/scenario, brackets [] for data/explanations.

Bob Tarrant: [Telling story about flying experiences in Alaska. Heavy traffic noise obscures most of the conversation – which starts after picking up Dyrness] Morning Ted!

Ted Dyrness: (Climbing into the van) Morning! Ahh! Everybody's there, huh? Oh, now I've got my boots, and pictures. What are you guys doing?

Al Levno: We're telling war stories. (Laughter, general conversation, traffic noise)

Roy Silen: [Discussing regeneration efforts on the Andrews] Every spot we had on the Andrews was reforested within 10 years, naturally reforested. [Silen noted that ranger had standards calling for reforestation within 5 years, and this led to artificial planting efforts on the Andrews, even in stands that were naturally regenerating.]

[Lengthy conversation obscured by freeway traffic noises, including discussion of Mike Savelich, logger who did projects at the Blue River/H.J. Andrews EF in 1950s/1960s.]

Dyrness: Whatever happened to Mike Savelich?

Silen: I don't really know. I don't know how long --

Dyrness: He got all the contracts, didn't he?

Silen: He was a good poker player, and he worked it out where he got those contracts. [HJA timber sales in 1950s and 1960s.]

Dyrness: Is that right? (Laughter)

Silen: Let's see, he contracted with Associated Plywood, and as I understand it, he [Savelich] had a quite a thing going on. [Discussion of how he would bid against other contractors on timber sales, and he would raise the bid higher than other loggers wanted to go.] He always ran up the price on all these other sales. He'd go in and bid up, as he was a good poker player, and he'd never get stuck with the sale. He would always bid the price up a little higher than some others really wanted to pay, and then he got out of the bidding, and so, he made a deal that he'd get all the sales out on the Andrews, and Associated Plywood was fine with that. So, that's how he did it.

Geier: So, nobody else bid on it?

Silen: I think Mike Savelich got all the bids [many early timber sale bids at HJA – 1950s/1960s].

Geier: Huh.

Silen: There was no collusion you know, just – (Laughter and conversation continued, obscured by highway noise.)

Tarrant: [Discussion about National Advisory Commission visiting Andrews for a 2-week field trip]. That was the National Advisory Commission, when they had, I remember, the publisher of the *Saturday Evening Post*, that's how long ago it was – [Conversation obscured by road noise, includes discussion about ranger at Blue River who was interested in research: Bob Mealey.]

Silen: [Discussion about Mealey's work with Hank Gratkowski and cost-cutting measures to lay out timber sales.] We were doing it at about half the cost normally required for timber sales.

Geier: Because there were fewer people doing it?

Silen: Well, for one thing, (unintelligible discussion about location of logging operations/landings and roads). Well, that would be Hank! (Laughter)

Geier: Did he have a reputation for giving managers a hard time?

Silen: Yeah. (Unintelligible discussion about rapid speed at which he and Hank were working, usually without assistance.) It was very difficult, very fast, kind of work.

Geier: Why did you work at such a fast pace? Were you trying to get other research done?

Silen: Well, I decided – [Unintelligible--likely to "go forward with sale and road layouts"]

Geier: But the district didn't supply you with manpower to do it? [Timber sale layouts]

Silen: Well, you've got to remember that the biggest motivation for doing all this was [Willamette National Forest Supervisor] Bruckhart, and he was only interested in providing the cut [timber]. When the experiment station [PNW] requested to establish the Andrews, it was going to come out of his cut [Will. NF territory]. And so, he insisted we would be cutting a lot of it. But, the sustained annual cut was about 60 million [board feet]. (unintelligible-road noise – subject

focused on observation that this level of cutting would have required Silen to lay out over 180 million board feet, rather than 60 million per year he laid out to achieve a 20 million bd. ft. cut).

Tarrant: [Discussing closing ceremony at Wind River Nursery.] This work on the alder strip at Wind River, and the scientist who had his family distribute his ashes over the Wind River Experimental Forest. Tarrant mentioned this in passing [and in jest], to Ken Wright, that he thought that might “distort scientific readings of nutrient cycling.” Wright took him seriously, and tracked down the opinion of several other people, then reported back to Tarrant that he didn’t think it would have an appreciable effect. (Unintelligible discussion on other aspects of Wind River EF, road noise.) (Unintelligible name of Forest Service employee) and her husband, in 1947, went directly from the wedding reception to Marys Peak that same day, as they were lookouts up there that summer. That was what she wanted to do, but they went up there. Last time I was up there, all it was, was a couple of guys standing there looking at the ruins of the facilities. [Unintelligible conversation due to road noise; some discussion of Marys Peak vandalism issues]

Tarrant: [Discussion of Blue River Ranger District locale vs. old location at McKenzie Bridge, and whether they were going to go by the old plumber’s house.] Do you recall the old caretaker?

Silen: Hmm?

Tarrant: Remember, we found the dead guy that day?

Silen: Not that I can recall.

Tarrant: You don’t remember that?!

Silen: No, I don’t remember that.

Tarrant: Well, we were coming in to go up there and we went by that, there was a big estate where the logs –

Silen: Oh, yeah.

Tarrant: Yeah, they had a road, and some Californian, an old fella, as caretaker. We came by one morning and he was lying on the ground in front of this bench, and so we stopped and asked ourselves, “Is he dead?” His hands were clutching a Bayer Aspirin tin, which had white pills in it. I don’t know whether they were aspirin or not, but I remember that, and I said, “He’s dead.” He’d had a heart attack and fallen off the bench. Do you recall that? Huh?

Dyrness: You think you’d remember that! (Laughter)

Silen: I don’t remember that at all. (Laughter) Are you sure I was there?

Tarrant: Yes sir. Yes sir. Because, there were some flies starting to fly around his face, so we picked him up and carried him back behind a couple of trees and put him in the shade. He had a black mackinaw, we laid that over his face, and I said, “We’ll go down and talk to the plumber. [Ray Bromberg] He’ll know what to do.” So, we stopped at the plumber’s, and told him what had happened, he got a strange look on his face, and said, “There’ll be two more in the McKenzie Valley before this is over.” [As in reference to superstitious belief about numbers and events] You don’t remember this? You remember anything about the Andrews?

Dyrness: This sounds like fiction. (Laughter)

Martha Brookes: Yeah! What were you on?

Tarrant: We went on and he called the state police, coroner, or whomever. You don't remember this?

Silen: No, I don't.

Tarrant: The latest part of the story, and I'm not making this up, like this guy who writes the column, "I am not making this up." (Laughter) So we went on, and we were laughing about it, eventually. It was kind of a sobering thing, but we went up to the woods, we were laughing about superstitions, and there being "two more in the valley." This is where I can't get too specific, but it was a matter of days, I was reading the paper, and two guys had lived together somewhere --

Silen: Yeah, I remember, Bromberg had three guys. I remember that.

Tarrant: -- they had gone down to Springfield somewhere and bought a TV, with a big long antenna, and brought it home. It was after dark, and they were walking around the yard, both of them holding this antenna to find the best antenna location, and touched a power line.

Dyrness: Ohhh! Both of them died?

Tarrant: Yeah, both of them died. You don't remember? The old man, was laying dead.

Silen: No, no [Remembering]. Yeah, I know who you're talking about.

Tarrant: He was in his fifties? Well, you think hard on that, because we did that.

Group: (Laughter)

Brookes: I think he didn't want to remember.

Dyrness: Yeah, well, some things you block out.

Tarrant: And the joke was, you were known around the community as "the plumber's friend," Bromberg's friend. Known around as the plumber's friend. (Laughter) We stopped right there, he came out as was having breakfast. He came out, got all serious, and said, "There'll be two more."

Silen: Well, Bromberg is the guy who went [to some restaurant] where I ate all my meals. I had breakfast and supper there every day. (Unintelligible discussion about roadwork)

Tarrant: Later on, I got a chain letter from [Bromberg?]. I was to accept this trout fly he had in there, and send to five other people, trout flies of my own that I liked. I can remember that. That was the closure to that.

Silen: Was it a good fly?

Tarrant: No, as I remember, it looked like one that had gotten in between the seats there. (Laughter) Well, that made a bigger impression on me than it did on you, I guess!

Dyrness: Remember the time that you, Jim Trappe, and I were having a beer at Silver Lake? And a fire broke out? Remember that?

Tarrant: Uh-huh.

Dyrness: And as I remember, you took over and were in charge of the fire.

Tarrant: Well, I remember very little about that. (Laughter)

Brookes: Now they're trading!

Tarrant: Was that the time where we switched over, ran into a bunch of guys from the Oregon Game Commission, they had a camp up on the ridge, and they'd shot a nice, succulent little deer, and they invited us to come up and meet them there that night and have dinner with them.

Brookes: Oh, no!

Tarrant: It was a barbeque, and so, I said to Jim, you get our gear, and maybe I'll do something. Maybe that was all involved in this fire? Do you remember that part of it?

Dyrness: No, I don't remember.

Al Levno: You're going to have a hard time with this, Max [Geier], all these "mythical" events happening! (Laughter)

Tarrant: So, we went up this rotten road in their rig, because it was getting way up on a ridge somewhere. We had a nice dinner, we're sitting around the campfire, it was getting about time to turn in, and I said, Jim, where's my bedroll? He looked at me and said, "I don't know." I was stuck up there on this ridge with no bedroll, and this guy said, "Well, you get the tent." It was a tent where they just had gear, the weather was cold, and he said, "There's a saddle there, you can put your head on, and here's your blanket." He gave me a damn horse blanket! (Laughter)

Dyrness: That's kind of cool, huh? Oh, boy.

Tarrant: But God, it was cold.

Silen: The coldest I ever got working for the Forest Service, was just after WWII broke out, and I was, I don't remember, I was on the North Bend, where the dam is now, and the Forest Service was trying to save money and make lighter gear. Anyway, in trying to get lighter gear, they were testing paper sleeping bags. (Laughter) I remember, Harvey McFarland and I were given the task to go up on this lookout and sleep there that night in paper sleeping bags. (Laughter) And, we found a flat spot under the tower of the lookout and crawled in our paper sleeping bags. They crinkled, every time you moved, they went (paper sounds, laughter), and it got cold. I wondered how I would make it through the night, and Harvey said, "Roy, are you cold?" I said, "What do you think?" (Laughing) He said, "Can I come in and sleep, tape the two bags together and sleep with you?" That's how we made it through the night. (Laughing) It was too cold.

Tarrant: You know, they thought they could use them for fire crews, things like that, and they had those around for years. Why anyone would want to use them? [Unintelligible conversation, road noise, laughter] Was it not you Roy, that about a year ago, you wrote this editorial about how you were at the lookout and there was a rattlesnake?

Silen: Well, I had a rattlesnake, but I don't remember?

Tarrant: Put the mouse on a string and then --?

Silen: No, no. That wasn't me.

Tarrant: Okay.

Silen: No. [Unintelligible/road noise, discussing experience with rattlesnake at fire lookout, went inside to get a 22-rifle, came back, rattlesnake had left, shot at rocks, never wrote story about it.]

Tarrant: Well, this was just before the war, and the newspaper had an editorial a year ago or so, about this. (Unintelligible/road noise, discussing story of how a person manning a fire lookout before WWII attached a mouse to a string, let it go, and it ran under the lookout, and then yanked it out and caught the snake that had eaten the mouse).

Silen: I remember this guy named Floyd Wilkinson, who eventually became in charge of the BLM and was a ranger at the time. I called, and said, "I got this rattlesnake outside, you got any suggestions? I've been thinking about what's the best way of approaching it." He said, "Well, you put out a plate of milk." (Laughter)

Dyrness: What did that do?

Silen: I didn't put any plate of milk. [Laughter/road noise, unintelligible, fragments of story about how Silen stored 15 paychecks that got eaten by mice in his trailer before he could cash them, and discussion of U.S. Forest Service Washington D.C. office officials who visited the Andrews to fish on the McKenzie, and play poker with Roy at his trailer].

Geier: Did these Washington office guys stay at the bunkhouse [Blue River R.D.] when they came up, or did they stay at the motels up here?

Silen: They stayed at the motels, but I think sometimes they were in the field. At the time, the summer crews were eating their meals, there was a kitchen at the camp, and they had no problem with the meals, [unintelligible/road noise, discussion about trail going up side of the valley, conversation about raptors and fishing on the McKenzie River.]

Silen: [Discussion of efforts to save main stem McKenzie River from dams by river guides.] They were very well-organized. They were well-enough organized so that they prevented a mainstream dam down on the McKenzie River. The man who was president at that time was [unintelligible –Eisenhower or Truman]. They proposed several dams, I forget how many, but they proposed enough so there would be a series of gates on this river. That was starting through Congress, and these McKenzie River guides, I guess there must have been 7 or 8 of them, they decided this was going to affect their business, and they should do something about it. What can 7 or 8 guys do? Well, they can write old customers, President [Herbert] Hoover, Secretary of State [Henry] Stimson; they went down the list, wrote these letters, and the Corps of Engineers just gave up. [Laughter, road noise, unintelligible conversation about fishing.]

End of Side A, Tape 1 (of 5); Side B of Tape 1 is blank

Begin Side A, Tape 2 (of 5)

(Road noise on main highway up to dam above Blue River, in route to H.J. Andrews H.Q. site.)

Geier: Did they have peacocks up here when you were here? Last time I came up this road, there were peacocks running up and down it.

Silen: Is that right? No. One time late in the fall, we were coming out after working in here [the HJA] all day, and there was a slide that had taken 50 feet or more of the road right out, and there's where I left my pickup, the panel truck, for the rest of the winter.

Dyrness: No kidding.

Silen: Yeah. I unhooked the battery, went back in there the next spring, and I'll be danged, hooked up the battery, and it started right up.

Geier: Looks like the water is getting down kind of low [Reservoir behind Blue River Dam].

Levno: It's getting really high for this time of year.

Silen: Don't they darn near empty this when they get near to winter?

Levno: Yeah, they do. By the beginning of winter, there won't be any water in here. Another slide was here, where the lower part of the road slid into the reservoir.

Dyrness: Is this about the place where that camp was?

Levno: No, it's back. [In the forest]

Dyrness: It's that way? Well Lucky Boy Cabin was --

Levno: -- Right by Lucky Boy swimming hole. I'm surprised you don't remember that. (Laughter)

Dyrness: Because I ruined my knee there, I should remember.

Levno: They continued for a long time after that, and they had a swimming pool there, the only one in Blue River. Closed it up.

Silen: (On access road to HJA HQ site). I'm lost [Likely referring to how much things changed].

[Conversation at the HJA HQ site after arrival as group looked around.]

Silen: That stand [pointing to ridge NW of headquarters site], when I started working in it, was a 400-year-old stand, but it looked almost young. The trees all had intact tops. Now, lots of them are snag tops. Happened in 50 years.

Geier: Hmm. Wonder what would cause that?

Silen: Well, trees die from the top down. They're on their way out. This is the last century that they're going to live. Most of them broke off. There was a lot of mortality already, when you stop to think, there were 1,000 trees per acre at one time.

Geier: Yeah.

Silen: Now, it's down to 20 trees per acre.

Geier: You said this was the first clear-cut here?

Silen: This was one of the early clear-cuts. No, I don't think it was [first timber sale/clear-cut]. This was not the earliest, because we worked on that side of the drainage for the first sale. To get at this clear-cut, they put a log bridge across the river at this point, for just this unit alone.

Geier: Oh, really? Well, it's growing pretty good. Is that natural reseeding?

Silen: I don't remember. I remember that I set them all up for natural reseeding, and the district came along and planted them. [Combination of natural seeding & planting used at HJA over time.]

Geier: Okay.

Dyrness: [Discussion on who installed first flumes for watershed studies] Was it Marvin Hoover?

Silen: I can't remember Marvin Hoover being involved. No.

Dyrness: See, he was doing it.

Silen: Actually, I had the contract, let the contract for work, and he brought equipment down and put it in. [Flume and basic infrastructure, planned and built, early 1950s.]

Dyrness: Somebody knew what they were doing, because it would have been bad to put in weirs, as you needed flumes to pass the debris that would come down some of these courses.

Levno: This is the only place that this exists.

Dyrness: What's that?

Levno: Here's a map with the new unit numbers, all the L101, but then, on this map, this sheet that we drew, all the unit numbers. But the old timers never used those unit numbers.

Geier: When were those unit numbers put on there?

Levno: Let's see, they changed a couple of times. Was it in [mumbling dates]? I'll leave that with you guys.

[Unintelligible/construction noise—work on new HJA conference center behind the HQ site]

Silen: By '55, I don't know what we did, but we had got [pause/unintelligible discussion with several people talking on different topics] the sale layouts done.

Jerry Franklin (Just arriving by car from the Eugene airport). Roy, it's been years! Christ Almighty! (Unintelligible comments by Tarrant, laughter) That's right! (Background noise, unintelligible, discussion about logistics, where Fred Swanson and Mike Kerrick will later join the group, several people talking, discussion about the weather, which was sunny.)

Levno: Hey! Jerry made it.

Franklin: Yeah, I'm right on schedule. When I say I'm gonna be there –

Levno: -- You're gonna be there. Great.

Dyrness: Have you seen Art? Should we take off?

Levno: I haven't seen him.

Franklin: That was the area where Roy Johnson did a study of sampling methods, wasn't it?

Silen: Yeah, the road sort of stopped there, and we walked. They built the access road up to where the – (unintelligible conversation about roads)

Franklin: That was the piece of road that was built by the federal highway funds?

Silen: That was the access roads program, for building roads financed separately from the Forest Service.

Franklin: Yeah, and that was about, what, 3/8 of a mile to that?

Silen: Well, they had a plan to build a road to Watershed 3?

Franklin: All the way? Oh, that would have been lovely. (Laughter)

Dyrness: No kidding.

Silen: I was involved with watershed management at the time, and I could see that all you'd do is (loud noises, unintelligible voices) and I came back into their location just above the bridge (unintelligible, several people talking at once as group prepares to leave in the van).

Franklin: [Discussing his pen, which he got as a wedding present from his wife, in exchange for a flute that he gave her]. We already had our rings, so she bought me a pen, and I bought her a flute. She has a \$6,000 flute, but she didn't like to take it with her out in the woods, so I got ahold of a musician, and I had him explain what kinds of flutes you could get, and I got her one that was okay for taking -- [Into the outdoors].

Tarrant: '55, that would have been about when I –

Dyrness: Yeah, because that's what my recollection about where we were. And I just wondered whether my recollection was right.

Tarrant: Did you live down here?

Dyrness: In the summertime. And what we did was live in this trailer above the ranger station. But most often, it was just Jack [Rothacher], Al [Levno], Dick Fredriksen, and I, and every once in a while, guys like Jerry would come through. Then, at the beginning of the IBP, it all changed, and that's when Jerry shifted a lot of his emphasis. We've got it pretty good now. But back then, we also came down to the Andrews in winter. When we wanted to get away to write, we'd come up here, and stay in the trailer and write.

Silen: Do you [Geier] have any material on Andrews [Horace J. Andrews] himself?

Geier: I've got some material on him.

Silen: I can't help thinking that he was special, and what was so important at the time was that he was tabbed to be Chief of the Forest Service. [Chief Forester-Region 6, up for top USFS position.]

Geier: Yeah, you mentioned that.

Silen: That was why he was in Washington, D.C. [auto accident while looking for home in D.C.].

Dyrness: I remember when we were doing that, one of these vegetation plots on Watershed 10.

Silen: Well, he [Horace J. Andrews, Region 6 Chief Forester, 1943-51] was coming into the Forest Service at the time when the big shift was underway – from protection, well, not protection, to timber management, and he was involved in that.

Dryness: What we [work crews in 1950s] did was get up there before daylight, and get up in the stands here, just as it was getting light, and then we'd work until about 1, come back to the trailer, and of course, by then, the trailer was hot, when we got back. (Laughter)

Silen: There was this shift from where the Northwest was just another part of the National Forest system, to where the Northwest was producing the biggest cut. Predominantly, the money that was coming into the U.S. Treasury was from the Northwest forests. And up to World War II, there hadn't been any appreciable cutting on National Forest lands, because industry didn't want it, for one thing. And so that changed, and he [H.J. Andrews] was a very fine man. He really had a lot of leadership capability. He was picked to lead Region 6 over other parts of the country, and it [the Pacific Northwest] was to be important, and they wanted somebody who would be familiar with it.

Dryness: Okay. Then we'd have fires here, too.

Levno: He [Art] said he's ready to leave, so go ahead and get ready to go. (Noise of people preparing to leave in van to go up to Carpenter Lookout, unintelligible conversations)

Franklin: [Mostly unintelligible conversation while climbing into van, Franklin seems to be asked by Dryness about his career start and path.]

Franklin: To start with, my real major interest was in management. I'm on the advisory body.

Geier: [Draws Franklin's attention to document explaining the HJA history study, conversation unintelligible, background conversations, noise of people climbing into the van, getting settled.]

Silen: [Discussing merits of aging] What I'm looking forward to, is they say that when you pass 80, you can get away with anything. It doesn't matter what you do when you're 80. (Laughter)

Franklin: That's incredible. You just don't look that at all. Well, I was thinking just this summer about you relating the solar eclipse, when you went in there on..... (Muffled conversation)

Geier: Here it is Roy. It was Carl Berntsen [author of 1959 *Guide to the H.J. Andrews EF*].

Levno: Yep, this is it [in HJA guidebook]. The entrance to the Andrews sign is right here, and I think there's a plaque over here.

Tarrant: A memorial?

Levno: Yeah.

Franklin: It was dedicated in 1956.

Dryness: '57.

Franklin: '57. Fall of '57.

Levno: We have some pictures of the old stand that was here. Oh, it was a beautiful stand.

Franklin: A great stand.

Silen: I used to get European visitors, I would give them a 100-foot tape and an abney, and ask, "How high do you think that tree is?" They'd say, "50 meters." (Laughter) And so, I'd go back a hundred feet, and they'd take the abney [surveying instrument] back and it would go run off the

scale, and I'd say, "go back another hundred feet," and we'd go back another 100 feet, and it would go off the scale. It was the third hundred feet before they would be able to measure it.

Tarrant: Flabbergasted, huh?

Silen: Oh, yeah. And it was impressive.

Levno: This is Jerry's paved road.

Franklin: Yeah, I sure arm-wrestled with them. I wanted this thing paved all the way to the concrete bridge [on Lookout Creek].

Levno: Yeah.

Dryness: Who paved it?

Franklin: That was the ranger before the "experimental ranger." [Steve Eubanks-"exp. Ranger"]

Levno: Oh, [unintelligible name – likely Jim Caswell]?

Franklin: No. No. I don't remember the ranger's name.

Levno: Well, it [Lookout Creek] ate out here [bridge during '64 flood]. It just about came in here.

Franklin: There'd be real holes in here.

Levno: I tried to figure out where this ribbon of mud was coming from. There was one big ribbon coming out of here, and the biggest ribbon was coming out of Watershed 3. No, this is Watershed 2. This washed out in '64, the sediment basin, and then in '96, we built this wall of boulders here to prevent damage to the reference area on the bench above. Now, there's the Watershed 3 canyon, and the flume up there, and we're going to put a new sediment basin right in here.

Franklin: Is that the original flume?

Levno: Yeah.

Dryness: That's been dug up twice.

Levno: And this new sediment basin will be on top of the two others. The first one, Jerry, did you build that first one?

Franklin: The first what?

Levno: Sediment basin.

Franklin: No, but I was involved in the first re-measurement of it.

Dryness: Now what about the sediment basin in [Muffled – likely Watershed 1 or 2]?

Levno: Yeah, well that's down, too. (Laughs) Another sediment basin on top of it, and we're going to put one right in there where the orange ribbon is.

Franklin: Do you ever get an estimate as to the amount of material, the tonnage of rock, that comes down?

Levno: Well, we made an estimate of the canyon, but never used it. It all went down into the creek [Lookout Creek]. I think we had 500 thousand cubic yards trapped in this sediment basin. We've got a problem up here now, the Watershed 3 stream has changed directions, and it makes a sharp turn just before the flume. It didn't used to be that way. And then there's a slide that broke loose above it, so I don't know if we'll be able to fix that or not. The thought was, if we have to take it out, we'll put it farther over here where this gravel road is, and let it shoot straighter into it.

Dryness: Yeah, yeah.

Levno: But, it's still there!! (Laughter) Anytime anybody wants to stop [the van], let me know.

Franklin: I think that looks great. If you haven't thought about it already, Dick Waring. [While handing back copy of book prospectus to historian/interviewer Geier.]

Geier: Yeah. In fact, Ted and I were just talking about that the other day, and he mentioned that.

Franklin: Especially for the IBP days, and also to talk to him about why people left the group.

Dryness: Yeah. He would be a good example of that.

Franklin: So, I'm not sure it would be a good example, it would probably be a unique example. (Laughter). But, yeah.

Dryness: But, you know, I – (unintelligible exchange with Franklin due to traffic noise)

Geier: Why did he leave?

Franklin: Why did he leave? Oh, I think because the program was not congruent with his own direction, career-wise, and experimental interests.

Geier: Oh, I see. So, the long-term aspect wouldn't be that attractive to him?

Franklin: No, no. Not at all. In fact, his attitude was that, if you're going to do research, it should be experimental research. Hey, okay, here we come to the edge of 1-B.

Levno: This is 1-B?

Franklin: This is the oldest cut on the Andrews. [1950]

Dryness: This is the oldest one? Well, I'll be.

Silen: Then, after it was already well-stocked, the district came in and planted it. (Laughter)

Franklin: Well, they just had to make sure, Roy! (Laughter)

Levno: Yeah, what went on in here? Wasn't there a fertilizer study?

Franklin: There was a little landing over here that Jack Rothacher and I put in a little fertilizer pellet study.

Silen: Yeah, and then Morris had a plot in 1-C. Bill Morris had a plot for burning, and he had a lot of regeneration info on these studies.

Dryness: Yeah, Bob, I think that's where we went in in '55. Up through there.

Tarrant: Okay.

Dryness: Yeah. That field trip.

Tarrant: That's when we came back from California and came up this way?

Dryness: Yeah. Yeah.

Tarrant: With the guy from South Africa.

Dryness: Yeah. What was his name?

Tarrant: I don't remember it. I think he rode with us for several days. He looked at our dog and he said, "You're fortunate." Where he came from, he can't keep a dog, and he said the [wild animals] always get it.

Franklin: This is the culvert that washed out in the first flood. [1964 Christmas flood]

Levno: And out in '96, also.

Silen: And out in '53 or '54.

Dryness: Oh, is that right?

Silen: Yeah, this went out in '54.

Dryness: Well, I don't think so.

Franklin: It went out a couple of other times.

Silen: I didn't know much about these sort of things, and Savelich [Mike-logger] talked me into putting in 2- and 3-foot culverts. Maybe they were 4-foot culverts. Anyway, he put them in side-by-side, and didn't pack the material very well in-between them, and they didn't hold. (Laughter) We had culverts in the bottom of Lookout Creek. I don't know, maybe they're still down there.

Franklin: We're coming up on one of my favorite trees right here. I always wanted to bring the road in at least this far, so we could have a little trail down in there. Hey, Roy! Remember Corrugated Metal and Copper Pipe? CMCP? Christine [McPhay]?

Silen: I remember Christine McPhay. (Laughter)

Franklin: Remember the joking about the CMCP and all those [unintelligible/road noise]. She always used those initials, didn't she?

Silen: Oh, yeah.

Geier: Did you get help from the district on the slash burning?

Silen: Oh, they did it.

Geier: Oh.

Silen: I did help, but they did it. (Unintelligible/road noise)

Levno: In the '64 flood, there was a river running around that side, and the river on this side, so the bridge was right here in the middle of the river. (Laughter). They did a whole bunch of cat work to try to get that channel straight, and now, you see the channel has moved over to the side.

Silen: There was a hole in this stream down here that the [U.S.] Fish and Wildlife people sampled, and that's the one that had 1,100 fish in it.

Dryness: Is that right?

Silen: One hole. We were helping them sample. You would clip a fin when you'd get a fish and throw it back in, and the next time through, you'd look and see if it had a clipped fin, and if it did, you didn't count it, you'd only count the ones [without clipped fins]. That's the way we got a very accurate figure.

Levno: Is that where those pictures were taken, of the seining?

Silen: And they found 400 in a deep hole in Mack Creek, over 400. I fished in here before people came up.

Tarrant: Stopped in there a couple of times in the evening. We'd go out down there with a fly rod, we'd move it back and forth and they'd strike.

Silen: Yeah that's right.

Tarrant: Caught a nice one about a foot long, and an otter had taken a bite out of it?

Silen: Yeah.

Tarrant: The next day, we caught him again. Bullhead. [Road noise obscures conversation about Steve Eubanks]

[Muffled conversation, likely about HJA, areas cut or not cut, regenerated, etc.]

Franklin: The thought was that we didn't have hardly any units on the Andrews that hadn't been burned. There were only two. We thought, we'd better regenerate a couple units naturally, we better do it now, before the pollen cloud from nearby plantation trees becomes overwhelming.

Silen: There were all of these strips we were cutting that were naturally regenerating.

Franklin: Well. In that case, they ended up planting them.

Dryness: Yeah, what did you find, 500 or so trees per acre already?

Franklin: I remember, Bob Ruth had had the Boy Scouts plant, I think, one of these, maybe two, of these strips.

Silen: Who?

Franklin: Bob Ruth.

Silen: Bob Ruth had nothing to do with that.

Franklin: Well, he did for a little while. Basically, when you went back to school, he was in charge of a lot of research. He and Carl [Bernsten] were. (Unintelligible/road noise) I don't know, but I think they were looking for someplace to build [roads?] (Unintelligible/road noise). They didn't plant the east-west strips because there were so dang many trees.

Silen: And I was kind of surprised at the regeneration numbers, because I thought--(unintelligible)

Franklin: I think the only large unit on the Andrews that never was planted was 5-B, which was the big unit in that cutting. And it's still understocked by today's standards. [Road noise obscures conversation with Silen concerning the original layout of the strip-cutting units.]

Silen: [Discussing original road location for main road van was on.] Mike Savelich decided he had found a better way [on that portion of road], so when the other road was built, and the road came up the other side, he put up a temporary bridge in that unit, that went up from that point to that last unit, and then, when Savelich was done logging, he put in this last section [of main road].

Franklin: Well, we used that route for many, many years.

Dryness: Yeah, that was the shortest way home.

Silen: It turned out that was a bit of a problem. But I've got to tell you this story. When we first started building roads, a lot of people tried to figure out a way to get around it [difficult task], but the last thing, though, was that we were on the trail with [unintelligible], he said, "This road here, if it were done a little differently, we'd save a little money," and Mike says, "Damn you, every time we change Roy's location, we lose money."

Franklin: This is also the one where Jack used the pictures that we had how much debris down the drainage.

Dryness: Oh, is that right?

Franklin: That was right out of this fill that washed out.

Levno: Oh, yeah.

Franklin: Memorable curve for me over there. I was coming down from Carpenter one night about 6 o'clock, and I was thinking, there was nobody on the road, I came around this curve, I was hanging to the inside, and here was this log truck coming along. (Laughing) Ohhh! We thought fast the same way; passed each other on the right. It's just a damn good thing neither of us tried to correct ourselves, man. The guy who was sitting on my passenger side, just really, wow! (Laughter/road noise/unintelligible conversation.)

Silen: [Road noise obscures Roy's recollection of an accident down near Blue River dam.]

Franklin: Here's your 50-foot-wide east-west strip coming up here, Roy.

Levno: What's the story of this unit here? I never?

Silen: Shelterwood. Yeah. Let's see, is this the shade-tree, shelterwood area?

Franklin: No, we cut those two a long time ago, Roy. We figured we needed to have a couple of samples there for people to look at. Two of these strips have been cut, so -- [road noise obscures conversation with Silen about natural regeneration] Here's the next strip. Yeah, a little bit of snow damage there.

Levno: Yeah, we had a lot of snow damage. Year before last.

Franklin: Yeah. [Road noise obscures conversation with Silen] We used to talk about the [fire?] in '58. There's an age range in it, but fundamentally, that's it. Sometime around the late 1400s,

1490, somewhere in there. (Road noise obscures Silen's comments). I've been watching the Andrews as I fly back-and-forth between Seattle and Sacramento, and it's really greened up a lot.

Levno: Yup.

Franklin: And the units are beginning to merge into the matrix [of the forest], you can really see that. Roy, here's your quarter-acre right here on the left. And the half-acre and the one acre is just back up a little spur in there. I was going to say –

Silen: -- They're too darn dense.

Franklin: Well, they're super-dense, yeah. The one-acre unit was right off here, you told me not to bother with it, because a tree had fallen across it.

Silen: Has it been very windy?

Levno: (Conversation obscured by road noise)

Silen: We were very conscious of the possibilities of movement. Yeah. We had quite a bit of help from the engineers. [USFS Region 6]

Franklin: What would you do differently, Roy?

Silen: About what? You mean the Andrews?

Franklin: Well, in terms of road layout, sale layout, harvest units?

Silen: I don't know, but probably, I don't know if it was ever a strong possibility, but one of the Harvard people, he says he looked over this Lookout Creek drainage, and thought, what they should have done is to have come through the saddle above the three small watersheds drainage, put a road at about that elevation, right around the drainage.

Franklin: Long-line? (Laughing)

Silen: Long-line the whole thing out. That's right. (Laughter)

Franklin: That sounds like – [Unintelligible name]

Silen: Yeah, it is.

Levno: (Stopped van-looking out.) This, we've determined, is the median-elevation slope aspect to the Andrews. So, back up this road just a little ways, we built a hellacious big weather station, and it telemeters data, wind speed, rainfall, and we actually have a rain gauge that will melt the snow when it hits it. Telemeter that stuff back to the ranger station, or to the headquarters site, and then we can pick it up in Corvallis, within the hour. And, we come up this road every three weeks now with a snow-cat to service it. A little cabin up there. Quite an impressive site.

Franklin: This is the seed-tree unit, right here and on the left.

Levno: Is that right?

Franklin: Cut the seed trees right here. I'm really sorry we didn't leave those trees, but that's not what we thought about in those days.

Levno: From a regeneration standpoint -- [Unintelligible/road noise]

Franklin: Well didn't manage that. They really screwed it up. (Laughs)

Silen: Well, I had to move up to [Unintelligible/road noise/how to fall trees correctly].

Franklin: In the end, this timber sale administrator let them take 'em out, helter-skelter, with a 'cat.

Silen: I know the intention was that they'd take them out with a 'cat, but it would be one line.

End Side A, Tape 2 (of 5)

Begin Side B, Tape 2 (of 5)

Franklin: Well, Roy, this is the one that goes to the top of 5-B. There went your road, right there. Your road went over the top of 5-B. Now, you're on the Carpenter Saddle road. You undoubtedly laid out the location for this one, too. [Talking while looking at road layout/direction].

Silen: I think so.

Franklin: Never saw it built.

Levno: It would take a good part of the day, just to hike in here.

Silen: Yeah, we wouldn't hike in, in a day. We would hike in on Monday and stay for a week. Yeah. [Road noise obscures Silen's discussion of pack trip] One time Carl Bernsten and I, first year he was here, we camped out just down the stream from Mack Creek. We were sleeping in our sleeping bags, and we could hear this storm moving up the valley, thunder and lightning flashes, and I remember counting, it was 40 or something [seconds], to begin with, and then it was 30, and 20, and 15, and 10, and finally, it was just flashing right around us, and trees started to fall, and one of them dropped, oh, about 100 feet from us, and you can imagine the ruckus of one of these bringing down everything that was around it, and I wondered whether we were going to come out of that. I remember, Carl Bernsten, immediately afterwards, he had to urinate. (Laughter)

Franklin: That was this trail that went up this mid-rib [ridge]. I remember that trail, there was one along the outside, but there was one on the divide down Lookout Creek. And there was a trail that followed the divide, followed this mid-rib up the divide.

Silen: It was a trail that I had no record of. Did you see where the survey people had come across it and marked it?

Franklin: Nooo! I do remember that there was a sign up on the ridge that said ["groundhopper's"] sheep camp. One of the old, enamel signs.

Silen: [Road noise obscures discussion about old Indian artifacts, obsidian arrowheads].

Franklin: They could have been digging camas, too, couldn't they? I remember, but do you remember, Ted, whether camas is up here?

Dyrness: I don't remember if it is.

Franklin: I know camas is.

Levno: I know those shepherders were running sheep up here.

Franklin: This is where some of the oldest trees on the Andrews were. They were down in that unit, about 800, 900-year-old, right down in there, 800 to 900-year-old trees. [Near Carpenter Saddle]. I've forgotten the number of the unit, but it should be right about in here. [Discussion about a high elevation study unit.] This unit is a pretty good example of what happened with these high units. They never regenerated. The north-slope regenerated, but that south-slope was cut 33 to 35 years ago. Anyway, maybe 5, 6 high-elevation clear-cuts, are up here on the Andrews.

[Van arrives at Carpenter Saddle. People getting lunch out of van, preparing for hike up to Carpenter Mountain Lookout from Carpenter Saddle. Discussion of photography efforts by Al Levno. Group poses for photo. Overlapping conversations. Art McKee arrives in separate car. Group begins hiking up the trail to Carpenter Lookout. Trail noises obscure background conversations on tape for about 30 minutes, until the group stops at the Lookout]

(Group arrives at the Lookout Tower on top of Carpenter Mountain)

Geier: I brought the panorama pictures from 1935. [Taken from Carpenter lookout locale.]

Franklin: You did?

Geier: I've got the one from 1993 also.

Franklin: Oh, man.

Geier: Maybe we should go inside [the lookout tower].

Franklin: Yup, here we go. Alright. Does it always look like this?

Lookout: Have you all been up here before? This is probably the prettiest day of the summer.

Franklin: Even better than yesterday?

Lookout: Oh, I don't know, that was a toss-up. Yesterday was awfully good too.

Franklin: Yeah, you can see how clear [Mt] Hood is, looking at it here. Like a diamond. And you can see [Mt.] Shasta to the south, depending on the visibility.

Lookout: Yeah.

Tarrant: That is Mary's Peak?

Lookout: Yes, it is. And that's Wolf Rock [foreground to north]. I guess you knew that.

Dyrness: Yep. (Unintelligible conversation)

Lookout: And that's Tidbits [Mountain] that you're looking at [to west].

Dyrness: Not much chance of fire now, is there?

Lookout: [Discusses conditions contributing to fire concerns during hunting season.]

Silen: [Background conversation becoming audible – story about early days]...and we were supposed to meet at that slide, way down in the basin, about 5:30. [Co-worker Hank Gratkowski did not show up on time] You can imagine what I was going through, thinking that Hank probably was injured. Now, I retraced what I thought would be his route quite a ways back, and then came back, because I didn't know quite what happened. I finally decided about quarter to seven, that

the best thing I could do would be to get help. I climbed out of that basin and up the ridge, and I had just about gone down the trail, and I thought, well, I'll give one more yell, and then, you know, I heard him [Hank], way down in the bottom.

Dyrness: Oh, my gosh!

Silen: What happened was, the first picture point was on the spur ridge from the Lookout, from Lookout Mountain. I mean, I put him on the wrong ridge.

Dyrness: Oh-oh. (Laughs)

Silen: He couldn't find the first picture point. He tried and tried to figure it out, and finally decided that it was another place, and figured that this put him almost 2 hours behind. When you walked off the trail, you couldn't see [anything].

Franklin: How'd you do it?

Silen: Well, you could see it, you could feel a little-- [Tape Ends]

End of Side B, Tape 2 (of 5)

Begin Side A, Tape 3 (of 5)

Franklin: I feel sorry for those people who lived by themselves. All alone. (Unintelligible background conversation as the rest of the group arrives at the Carpenter Mountain Lookout)

Lookout Person [Doug]: [Explaining how to locate Mount Shasta on the horizon to south.]

Levno: (Trying to get the group together so he can take a group photo.)

Geier: Do you have a place I can lay some pictures out?

Lookout: Sure, right here on the –

Dyrness: Do you have pictures?

Geier: I've got those 1935 ones.

Levno: Oh, wow! Yeah. You've got 'em! Where'd you get 'em?

Geier: You gave them to me.

Franklin: Oh, I see it. [Sighting Mt Shasta].

Lookout: Yeah, that was pretty surprising, the first time I saw it, too. [Clear skies/good visibility]

Franklin: Whoo! I've been here many times, and I've never seen that!

Lookout: [Offers group juice to drink, discussion of lunch, the view, panoramic pictures, etc.]

Franklin: [Background conversation with Dyrness becomes intelligible]he was an Oregon State University timber beast.

Dyrness: You'd shake up some of the timber beasts?

Franklin: Oh, yeah, and they'd say, "Why the hell do we need wilderness like this?"

Dyrness: Yeah?

Franklin: Yeah. Oh, yeah. He managed to ding me for about a year-and-a-half, on that.

Dyrness: I often think about even clearcutting Watershed 1. We'd do it without a qualm, you know? [Context: post-World War II "industrial forestry" model used by U.S. Forest Service]

Franklin: Same old thing. We thought they were going to cut it all. Remember?

Dyrness: Yeah. (Laughter)

Franklin: The only thing we could do was maybe get some Research Natural Areas?

Dyrness: Yeah. Oh, yeah. (Whistling in background)

Lookout: [Referring to the old panorama photos.] Looks a little bit different, doesn't it?

McKee: Yeah, let's see, what's the change, now? (Laughter) Who shot these, then? Al, do you remember? I was outside.

Geier: It used to be, you came up here, and all you saw was black and white. (Laughter)

Martha Brookes: That's changed a lot. Very strange.

Dyrness: Did you get his picture when he was out there talking?

Levno: Yeah, this might be better, through the window.

Dyrness: See, Roy's the guy that laid out most of the roads around here.

Lookout: That's what I understand.

Franklin: Look at the trail. You can see the trail. Holy smoke!

Levno: Are you ready now, Doug?

Lookout: Sure. Firefinder on there now? [Replacing cover for the fire-finder]

McKee: Look at the brass shine on that!

Levno: [Setting up photograph/discussion of where and when to eat]

Levno: [Referring to the panorama photos] Did you see these yet, Art?

McKee: Yes, I did. They're incredible.

Levno: 1933. There was a crew of 3 people with a pack train, to carry the cameras in. (Laughter)

Geier: Did they do that at different spots around the Northwest?

Levno: Yeah. They did every lookout in the United States, in 1933 and 1934. We used this camera, Jerry; it's an interesting one, it goes 360 degrees. [Special camera to mount on Osborne Fire Finders that shoots with 360 degree markers, found at most USFS fire lookouts by the 1930s.]

Franklin: Whose is that?

Levno: It's my camera. I bought it in. [Discussion of who designed the cameras involved] But I think it's a double enlargement.

Franklin: That's what's been driving me nuts. I couldn't figure it out for a while. You can see that. You can see that in the 1935 one pretty well.

Levno: Where? Oh, really?

Franklin: And I'm amazed at these. Oh, yeah. [Group looking at photos]

(Discussion becoming audible as people sit on rocks eating lunch – looking at panoramic scene).

Franklin: Was that the landing strip?

Silen: No, it was down on the McKenzie, well, out of McKenzie Bridge. They flew out of there. It was up from the ranger station [Forest Service, McKenzie Ranger District] about a mile-and-a-half. On the road, and it was on the right-hand side, as you go up.

McKee: That makes a lot more sense.

Silen: It had a 7 percent grade, and you would get extra weight, because they'd load it up, they would run it down the grade and take off.

Geier: Where was this plane crash you were talking about on the way up here? [About Silen's narration on the hike to lookout about his discovery of plane crash on the Andrews in the 1950s, in which pilot survived crash long enough to scramble out of the wreckage, which was hung up in the trees, and drop to the ground, only to be covered with leaking fuel from the plane, as he lay immobilized on the ground below with injuries. Eventually, he caught fire and burned to death]

Silen: About half a mile from here.

McKee: Was this the backside of Two-Finger Jack?

Silen: Yeah. [Multiple background conversations, discussion about food.]

Franklin: Yeah, we went everywhere on the Andrews. I was thinking about Glen Hawk the other day. I remember, he asked me to write him a letter. I wrote this for him about 10 years ago, and that was the one where I wrote a letter of reference for "Glen Campbell."

Dyrness: Oh, no. Glen Campbell? (Laughter) Oh no!

Franklin: I don't know what I was thinking about.

Dyrness: Glen Campbell is a singer.

Franklin: I started losing my mind early! You can see that. I remember. I sent him a copy of it, and he [Hawk] sent me back a nice letter, saying he really appreciated that, but could I write one for him? (Laughter) Glen Campbell, Glenn Hawk, geez. They're both from Texas. (Laughter)

Dyrness: I thought Glenn was in [unintelligible/Hawk likely in U.S. Southwest]

Franklin: I don't think so. I think he's teaching. No, he's guiding.

Dyrness: Guiding?

McKee: Do you know why he's doing that? Well, after his dad died, the Mexican government yanked their holdings away from them.

Franklin: No. They didn't?

McKee: Yeah. The provincial government took them away, something where ownership would pass on, so they [Hawk's family] lost the lion's share of a guiding business. He's been teaching, apparently, someplace in the southwest, the past two years. He got into this Jesuit-Catholic school, based in Missouri? He had a 3-year contract to provide college-level classes in the southwest.

Dyrness: He's teaching biology?

McKee: He's teaching biology. I wrote a letter a couple of years ago to support him for a full-time position.

Franklin: Well, I can understand why he never asked me to write him another letter. (Laughter)

Brookes: He did, only he sent it to Jerry Garcia. (Laughter)

Dyrness: So that's where he is, then. You know, he married this gal from Junction City.

Franklin: Is he still married to her?

McKee: No. I asked him how he was doing. He laughed, and said, "Well, Art," "I'm fine. I'm a genuine, certified, bona fide red neck now." I said, "What do you mean? What are you talking about?" He said, "Well," I went to a reunion. Remember that joke about how when you're a redneck, you go to family affairs to pick up dates?" "I married my third cousin. I met her at a wedding." (Laughter)

Dyrness: Oh, man. I never could understand why he left.

McKee: [Obscured conversations discussing plane crash in Falls City in relation to Glenn Hawk's family ties to Oregon and subsequent career] Glenn worked the summer of 1980 in southwest Oregon on the FIR project. [Forestry Intensified Research] Then, by '81 he was teaching in Falls City. [Obscured discussion of AMWAY sales efforts by Glen Hawk] They tried hard to get him to sign a contract, but he dropped out of sight, from where the family base of operations had gone.

Dyrness: Wasn't he into AMWAY, too?

McKee: He was. He was a big AMWAY salesman.

Franklin: He still does that, doesn't he? Man. He toyed with us, you know. He lured us over to his house one night. We thought he was finally going to introduce us to his new wife. Put on the pitch, he just slipped it to us. (Laughter) Carol [Franklin's wife] never forgave him. I don't believe she ever had a civil conversation with him again. And that was also about the time he was really losing it with regards to the science.

Dyrness: Yeah, he did that when he came up to Alaska, too. [AMWAY]

Franklin: Did he? People who do that ought to have a big scarlet "A" blazed on their forehead so that you know what you're getting into when you talk. Look at the raptor. Is it a raptor, or a ...?

McKee: A vulture.

Franklin: A vulture? Big bird.

Lookout: There are a pair of falcons that come by. Peregrines.

[Extended discussion and comments about peregrine falcons on Wolf Rock, ospreys on Van Buren Bridge in Corvallis. Overlapping conversations/discussion of traffic tickets/fines in Corvallis, Junction City, and Gold Beach. Fred Swanson joins group, hiking up to Carpenter Lookout.]

Franklin: Art, you weren't on that field trip to [unintelligible location] with Glenn Hawk, were you? The one where we had foreign visitors who drove up to Nisqually, and Glenn had that big knife, and he reached up, pulled down a branch of an Alaska cedar, pulled out his knife, and went 'whack' and almost cut his finger off. (Laughter) We had to take him into the hospital.

Levno: Well, should we take pictures now? You guys don't mind?

Franklin: Hey, Fred! How you doing? [Greetings to Fred Swanson, who just arrived]

Dyrness: He crept in.

Franklin: Quietly. [Discussion of when Mike Kerrick will join the group/comments about lunch/dessert, vantage points, photographic arrangements, group photo, reconfiguring on rocks].

Dyrness: Where's that cake?

Geier: Fred ate it. I think it's gone already.

McKee: I'm sure it is. (Laughter) The first time I worked with Fred up on Watershed 10, at lunchtime, we went back to his car, and in back there was this huge bottle of Dr. Pepper, a package of Hostess Twinkies, and that was --

Dyrness: -- That was lunch?

McKee: He had his banana sandwiches, ate that whole pack of Hostess Twinkies, and washed it down with a whole bottle of Dr. Pepper. I thought, "Wow. This guy's not playing with a full deck." (Laughter)

Dyrness: Who was this?

Brookes: Fred.

Swanson: Training meal. (Laughter)

McKee: And he was telling me about how, remember how you had just finished the race, and the guy was getting on you about eating after the race?

Swanson: Oh, yeah. That was in Corvallis, and Mary [Wife] and I had gone out and gotten burgers at the A&W stand. (Laughter)

McKee: That was about when this guy came up and saw Fred eating and lost it. (Laughter)

Swanson: The only time I ever ran in a marathon, I ran in the Boston Marathon. I wasn't in very good shape, I was just there to experience the spiritual values (laughter), and going along about 20 miles out, it was one of those deals where you run 20 miles, and then you have 6 miles left in front of you, which still seems like an awfully long way. Well, I was running by this old guy, at least he seemed old at the time. I was in college then, and he didn't look in very good shape, but along the way, people would hold out oranges or water, stuff like that, it's a tradition of the Bostonians. Some kid just came out of a store, and he had an ice cream cone, and he sort of jokingly held it up, and this guy, this old guy, grabbed it (laughter), goes ahead and eats it.

So, we're gathered here today. I want to thank everybody for coming up here, I mean, this is really an incredible collection of human resources and knowledge of this area. Max and I were talking about it a little bit last night, some things we could do to capitalize on our time here together. I don't have any idea that anything new or different will turn up. He said he'd spoken to all, or most of you, individually, but number one, we wondered about what might emerge in the way of recollections from just looking at this landscape, and being out here. Number two, was being together and hearing what the memories of certain people and ideas might trigger in others. One reason for thinking about this place is, I came up here with Jerry last summer, who was leading a class out of the University of Washington; we parked down on the saddle, we walked up here, and at one point Jerry recollected that, well, you [Franklin] tell the story.

Franklin: I came down here [HJA] in '57 when I was just a student trainee, and the first weekend, I decided I'd circumnavigate the Andrews, on the ridge up, the trail up Blue Ridge, and back across on down to McKenzie Bridge. But, I'd never slept in the big woods by myself. I'd never really been out in the wilderness by myself. So, I figured the way to do it, I'd get so far out there that there's no way I could do anything but stay. (Laughter) So I did. It was 8 miles in to the Carpenter Saddle Trail Shelter, and it was just about dark when I got there, and I was stuck. And I remember, I built a big fire at the mouth of the shelter to ward off the various and sundry nightmares that were obviously out there, but the damn fire kept waking me up. Because it was, a log would roll over in there, make a noise, and I'd wake up thinking, "Oh boy. The bears are here." (Laughter) Anyway, the notion was to put yourself in a place where you just had to persevere. Well, and what Fred decided was that's what I'd been doing with the Andrews ecosystem group; getting them way out in the wilderness. (Laughter)

McKee: That's an interesting metaphor, all right.

Franklin: That's the best way, if there's no way out....

Geier: Well, I thought we might start with that, and if everybody here would just talk about the first time that they had come up to the Carpenter Lookout here, or to Carpenter Saddle, and what your perceptions were at that time? Why you came there, what you observed, who you were with, what you were doing? No one wants to start? Roy, did you ever come up here?

Silen: Well, I came up here several times. I can't remember the first time I came up here. It was after I had been on the Andrews awhile. I don't remember whether it was the first summer or the next summer, but boy, I had an occasion to come to Carpenter, and I must have walked up and down today as I did then. It was manned, the lookout and I talked a lot, and I studied the landscape. We had only a quadrangle sheet for a map, and that was, what? An inch to the mile? Or half-inch to the mile? I forget, but it was a very low-grade map, so I studied the topography up here I remember, and we went back, came up the trail, and went back to McKenzie Bridge on the trail. I don't even remember. I think it was the ranger that was with me. I believe the occasion was that he was taking something in with pack animals, and I just decided I'd go along.

Dyrness: Did you ride a horse?

Silen: Huh?

Dyrness: Ride a horse?

Silen: No. I think we walked. I can't remember riding. I never rode a horse on this trail. I don't have a lot of recollection.

Geier: You didn't have much purpose to come up here?

Silen: It was just an observation point where you could see out, not for what you might say was a "business" reason. I'm wondering now, if I went back out the Blue Ridge trail. No, we went back the other way.

Geier: How would you compare the way things look today with that time?

Silen: Well, the weather was sure different. (Laughter) You'd find very few days like this. And I can't remember, we actually went in here and came out the same day. I think we did.

Dyrness: That was over 16 miles, wasn't it?

Silen: Yeah.

Franklin: 24. 24 miles.

Silen: Because I don't remember staying out here.

Dyrness: Well, that's a long ways, yeah. Wow! Man.

Silen: The other times we came in here was when we just happened to be on the trail. No, I don't think we even came up here then. I haven't been on the lookout many times. It was quite a ways back in the forest.

Dyrness: Too long a walk, in other words.

Silen: Yeah, it was something you'd have to give up the whole day for.

Geier: I don't know how many of you noticed that I put the pictures from 1935 out inside the lookout here, on the bed in there. There's a panorama, a view from the lookout taken in 1935, or '33, excuse me. There's a matching one from 1995. On the way up here, we were talking quite a bit in the van about the different sites we went by, and I was just curious what strikes you, from when the last time you were up here?

Silen: The last time I was up here?

Geier: Or just up at the Andrews site here.

Silen: At the Andrews site? Well, let's see, I came up here sometime in the past before a meeting, I guess. I can't remember when that was. The group here was just showing it off, and I visited it then, and I think you were on the same trip, Bob?

Tarrant: Is that right?

Silen: I think that was the 40th. [Anniversary of HJA-EF 1948 creation in 1988]

Tarrant: Was that the 40th birthday?

Silen: Yeah, I think that must have been it. That's the last time I was up here.

Geier: I was just wondering, if you think about the most striking changes on the landscape of the Andrews since you started working here, what would that be?

Silen: There are lots more openings. (Laughter) It was almost all forest [at the start], and very few clear-cuts you could see. From the last time I was up here to now, since nothing's been cut over, they've greened up so much they're blending back into the landscape. Yeah, it's a lot of change. Of course, there was no road to the saddle. All the years that I was here, going from McKenzie Bridge, or coming from McKenzie Bridge, either way you could take. But any time that I had occasion to come this far, I would have to plan for it, because I always had other priorities. Since this would involve the whole day, I avoided coming back here just for recreation.

Geier: I'm trying to think of the order here, I guess, you're the next person up here, Jerry.

Franklin: I think I was after Ted?

Geier: Okay, yeah.

Tarrant: I've never been up here before. (Laughter)

Geier: Really?

Tarrant: I think the difference I see is you don't see fresh clear-cuts, and except for the one-day visit, which I made, and watched it change in, now, what is it, 50 years?

Silen: Yeah, 50 years.

Tarrant: That makes a half-a-century benchmark.

Geier: Where did you usually go on the Andrews when you came up here?

Tarrant: Always to a clear-cut, and I studied up there. Always on a clear-cut, and as the weather dictated. I came up when the weather was dry, and worked in the summer. I think I was here when Roy was here, and George Meagher called and dropped the bomb on you that he wanted you to move into genetics.

Silen: Yeah, I think you were. [Silen was posted in Corvallis, working on forest genetics.]

Dyrness: It happened like that? They just called?

Silen: Just like that. They called, and I could tell, George had fortified himself a little bit before he called. (Laughter) Yeah, quite a shock.

Tarrant: I recall that you didn't say yes.

Silen: No. I didn't say "yes." In fact, my first impression was that I wanted to stay on the [Andrews] Forest. (Laughter)

Dyrness: But you were there? When was that?

Silen: '54?

Dyrness: '54? No kidding.

Silen: Yeah, they wiped it out. The program stopped, and what was to happen, I asked, and he said the Blue River District would handle the timber sales, and watershed management continued to be quite separate from where we were.

Dyrness: Yeah, that was why Jerry Dunford came to start the watershed management program.

Silen: Yeah. He was doing that before I left. He had some watersheds in --

Dyrness: And he's the guy that hired Jack [Rothacher] to come here.

Silen: Of course, in those days, everything we were doing was from the vantage of timber and getting it out, putting in the first cuts. It was a full-time job. Coming up to Carpenter Mountain was something I just didn't do.

Tarrant: That's a full-time job for a whole infantry.

Silen: Oh, yeah! That reminds me of something I've got to say, because the Siuslaw National Forest, what was their cut, about 100 million [board feet], something like that? And the largest sale on the Siuslaw Forest, two years ago, was an experimental sale in which we logged two loads of logs off our area, which was about the size of Corvallis. How about that, Bob? (Laughter)

Levno: Do any of you guys know anything about the operations of the Blue River watershed? The [Army] Corps of Engineers' snow studies?

Silen: Well, there was a cabin up here by Wolf Rock that was used by people who had snow studies. They used it. That was the main use of the trail.

Franklin: I have a picture of the old snow lab, which was up by Wildcat Mountain.

Levno: Oh, is that right?

Franklin: It was right there on the road. There where the Wildcat Trail takes off. I have a picture of that. And there was an old rain gauge that was there, and Jack carried part of it down the mountain, as a matter of fact, about '61 or so.

McKee: Where, at the [Carpenter] Saddle?

Franklin: No, it was right here.

Dyrness: Right here?

Franklin: There's an opening that you can see, and there was a part of a precip [precipitation] gauge there. So, my first trip up here was in '57. I came up here many times. I was less responsible than Roy. (Laughter) I always found excuses to come up here. But I actually had an excuse that summer. The first time I was here was just on a lark. I just wanted to walk the ridgeline, and see the Andrews from the back. Later in the year, at this time of the year, I came back up here to collect cones. I was collecting cones for the seedling identification study I was doing at that time. I came up here with Carol [his wife], and we packed your [Silen] aluminum section-rod thing that had kind of a little noose on it. Remember that?

Silen: Aluminum?

Franklin: Remember that section-rod thing? [Measuring device]

Silen: Yeah. Yeah. Well, those are big.

Franklin: I carried up about 24 feet of that stuff.

Silen: It was aluminum, but they weren't light. (Laughter)

Franklin: I came up, collected mountain hemlock cones, alpine fir cones, noble fir cones, and so on.

Silen: Well, you needed the poles?

Franklin: Yeah.

Silen: Oh, you could have climbed?

Franklin: Well, I could have, but I didn't know that then. (Laughter) And when we collected 2 or 3 burlap sacks of cones, and carried them back down.

Dyrness: How long of hike was that? (Laughing)

Franklin: 8 miles.

Silen: Did you make a sling out of the poles?

Franklin: No, we didn't. We weren't smart enough to do that.

Silen: Well, I can't feel sorry for you. (Laughter)

Dyrness: You had to walk 8 miles? To come up?

Franklin: Yeah, because you didn't have to walk all the way from the bottom, but you went to the top of, Unit 3H [timber sale] or something. Then, there was a salvage road that went back up to the top of the ridge, and that's where you started down. It was about 8 miles or so. It's a long ways.

Silen: I don't know whether you were listening to what we were saying earlier, about Hank Gratkowski getting lost up here. We were in a situation of needing a better map of the Andrews Experimental Forest, so we made one from air photos. To get the basic information of elevations and points, we had to go with an analog barometer and hydrometer to a plot, and take 15 minutes of records at this one spot, of barometric pressure, and while we were doing it, at base camp, do the same thing. And then, we'd go to another spot and repeat this, finding a spot on the air photo that we could actually pinpoint. We had in mind leaving very early in the morning that day, just as it got light, and Hank would go from the Blue River trail out across the valley, up the ridge on the other side, then back down into the valley. We were supposed to meet at this little lake in this basin down here. So, I came all the way up to Carpenter Mountain and back down, and reached the lake about 5 o'clock, 5:30 in the afternoon, something like that, and I expected Hank to be there before me, because he had a shorter leg. No Hank. I went out quite a ways on the trail where he was supposed to be on, or not a trail, as he was just going through the forest, so in the direction that he was supposed to come. I kept yelling and yelling, and no Hank. It got more and more nerve-wracking to think he might be injured out there. I think it was about 6:30 in the evening, late enough in the fall to where that was getting dark, and no Hank. So, I decided that the only sensible thing to do was to dash in and get myself organized, then get out there first thing in the morning, get lots of people, and start looking. So, I climbed out of the basin up to Blue River Trail, and was about to start down and gave one last yell, and I heard Hank, down in the valley bottom. Well, we got together within, it must have been after 7 o'clock when we started down the Blue River Trail, and it got quickly dark. We just had to make our way in the dark. You could feel the trail. You could feel the tread of the trail, and tell when you were getting

off of it, and, how long is the trail? Seven or eight miles? Something like that. All switchbacks and everything. We made it! (Laughing) We got out!

Dyrness: What had happened to him? He just got lost?

Silen: Well, it was my fault. I took him to a point on Blue River Trail where there was a ridge out that had a good picture point, and told him to take the first one there. Well, I got him started on the wrong ridge, and it took him almost an hour-and-a-half or so, before he finally figured out what was wrong, and so he was that much late, all the way around. We would have arrived very close together, but it didn't work out. Those things happen.

Tarrant: I'll bet you were relieved to hear him.

Silen: Oh, yeah. That was quite a relief. You can imagine what I was going through, with somebody out there. And my chances of finding him easily were not that good, because there were lots of alternatives for him to take on the rocks, from point-to-point. We didn't know all the picture points he was going to take.

Geier: One thing I was wondering was, if there are places people have gone, where you went more commonly because you enjoyed working there more, or sometimes, just for aesthetic renewal. Someone was talking at the workshop about how, I think you Jerry, used to come out here just to write articles and get out of writer's block, things like that. I was curious if there were places on the Andrews that had kind of a special meaning?

Silen: I always wanted to get to the highest level that I could to look out over the country, or we had jury-built the road system up to about, 3,000 feet or so, so if I had any choice, why I'd work up there. But I didn't have any favorite spots or anything like that, I don't think. I used to fish the river, and had favorite holes and things like that. (Laughter) I had distractions, and for one thing, I was a bachelor. I lived in this little trailer furnished by the government, and I had all my meals prepared by one of the best cooks up the river. My bed was less than \$100 a month, you know, and they cooked all my meals. And so, I had a chance to fish every evening.

Levno: All right! (Laughter)

Silen: So, that's what I did. I couldn't leave the river, because every weekend of the summer there were friends of mine that wanted to visit, and so I'd be up there all the time. It was a good life.

Tarrant: Roy, did you fish McKenzie River?

Silen: McKenzie River, sure. I hardly ever, you know, I didn't come up here.

Tarrant: You never fished the Blue River very much then?

Silen: A few times. When I had other people come up, I'd fish Blue River.

Tarrant: But you never fished Lookout Creek?

Silen: Oh, I fished Lookout Creek more than I did Blue River. I would fish the experimental forest. But I don't recall coming up here alone in the evenings and fishing very much. It was just much better on the McKenzie.

Tarrant: Yeah.

Geier: Well, Jerry or Bob, do you have any response to that?

Silen: Pardon me?

Geier: Sorry, I was wondering if either Jerry or Bob had any response to that question.

Tarrant: Well, I'll defer to those who lived here.

Franklin: I always headed for the high country, if I ever had any excuse at all, and even if I didn't. (Laughter) So, very often, I would come up here, just simply for renewal. Just to get a view and clear the head, and Ted used to do it, too. Of course, I probably misled him. (Laughter)

Dyrness: Yeah. For a long time.

Franklin: For many years, if we were anywhere in the country, anywhere near it, we'd make an excuse to at least go to the saddle [Carpenter] for lunch, so we could look both ways, look down into the Andrews, and of course, look off to the Three Sisters. That's always my favorite spot for lunch. And you've got a couple studies that gives an excuse to come up here. One was the checklist of plants up at the Andrews, so we'd have to come up here for plants, and there was the reconnaissance study of vegetation on the Andrews, so we had to come up here for that. And of course, if you had a visitor, you had to bring him up here.

Dyrness: First place you brought them.

Geier: Hmm.

Dyrness: Yup.

Franklin: But the view sure has changed over the years. As I recall, before I arrived here in 1957, the only clear-cuts that were visible at that time, really, were at the head of Deer Creek. And the road didn't even extend to Deer Creek at the time. And there were none of the cuttings out in the High Cascades at all. There wasn't anything out there. So, it was an incredibly pristine landscape.

Levno: But that really changed in the '60s.

Franklin: Blue River drainage was essentially pristine. In fact, you had to hike the trail from Blue Ridge down to deal with the stream gauge. There wasn't any road when I first came here. Nothing on Wolf Rock, other than a jeep road into the (unintelligible-tape ends midsentence)

End of Side A, Tape 3 (of 5)

Begin Side B, Tape 3 (of 5)

Franklin: Now, it's pretty much a cutover landscape. Yeah, there was a different attitude in those days: there was no way you'd ever get rid of all these trees! (Laughter) It was impossible! Look out over miles and miles and there wasn't a cut anyplace! You'd never get rid of all those trees!

Silen: And you thought in terms of, oh, one day you'd be coming back and cutting a rotation. And you thought in terms of sustained-yield: how much timber you could cut, on average, each year. I

think the sustained-yield rotation was over a hundred years in the Andrews, so, it was a long time.

Geier: If you brought people up here then to see the pristine landscape, are the reasons why you bring people up to Carpenter Lookout different now? I mean, they're not going to be seeing a pristine landscape out here. Is this still high on the agenda when you have visitors from Washington out here? Is that a priority? Fred?

Swanson: One way I use it, when I come out here now and bring a class, is to stand at the saddle talking about these things and the examples of landscapes with different management trajectories you can view from here. The wilderness areas that are, "Let natural processes proceed, except try to suppress fire, take it off into this ecological state that it was never in." This former "general forest" that has had decades of general treatments [clear-cut logging] and now is in different land- use categories, and how that plays out. The Andrews has a couple decades of management, and now with almost 30 years of very little cutting, 28 or so years. That represents a 25 to 30-year-old, late-successional reserve. From up here, you can see some very different pieces of real estate.

Franklin: I think Bob Buckman would probably love to forget this, exactly what happened after this, but I remember when he first became director [of PNW Research Station], I came up to the top of Wildcat Mountain with him. We were there primarily, to look at the research natural area, but he was looking at all the staggered-settings, all the dispersed patch clear-cuts, and he was very upset by it. He said, "You know, there's just got to be a better way to do timber harvesting than to create all of these little patches of different age-classes scattered all over the landscape." I don't know what he was thinking about, but my initial reaction was, "Well, Bob, this is the way we do this stuff. It's a hell of a good system, it works really well, and what else would you do? Continuous clearcutting?"

Silen: Well, you could cut into the wind.

Franklin: You could. Yeah.

Silen: I thought about doing that on part of the experimental forest. But I didn't do it. You know why I didn't?

Franklin: Why?

Silen: I could've done it, you know, it would have been easy. The area that you had, where you had your study in that area, was a candidate for having a good, wide strip moving into the wind. The reason I didn't do it is because I'd already planned staggered-settings around, putting settings into the areas that had the most degenerate of the stands that were falling apart at different rates. Especially where there were root rot problems in a stand, and that it was rather apparent that the ones that were deteriorating the fastest were the ones that were the worst off. In other words, they had to be left together, so that I was looking ahead to what would be intact in 80 or 90 years. I was putting the clear-cuts in those areas that the stand was already deteriorated, and deteriorating more rapidly deteriorating than the stands around it. The continuous clear-cut approach would violate that whole concept. That's why I didn't go into it. I had one planned out at one time.

Swanson: See, that's just where the landscape rule of moving into the wind would override the stand-level considerations.

Silen: Well, see this is all 400-year-old stands, so I didn't worry about that.

Swanson: But you were setting your priorities based on the degree of decadence.

Silen: Yeah, the rapidity with which a stand was falling apart.

Swanson: Yeah.

Silen: That was happening in patches, and in '55, when I came out of here, I was thinking I should be weeding out those patches. I thought that should come first.

Franklin: That trip with Buckman, for me, was the one that probably first got me thinking about the negatives. People had started these clear-cuts, and it took about a decade for the whole thing to bloom in my mind, but it didn't happen on Carpenter.

Dyrness: What year was that trip?

Franklin: When were we doing that "natural area" work for Buckman? That would have been '71.

Dyrness: Buckman was not yet director of the [PNW Station]. He was coming out from the Washington office? [USFS]

Franklin: Maybe that's right. Yeah. Must have been in the early '70s.

Dyrness: Yeah.

Franklin: I'm sure today, he'd disown any responsibility for anything I've been involved in, subsequently.

McKee: Oh now! (Laughter)

Silen: You know, Jerry, there was a follow-up with that idea of deteriorated stands. I had this sale, Sale 3, and Herb Weiner was the man in the Eugene office of the Willamette Forest who did a lot of the cruising, and he had to cruise those units. I think they beat around in that brush to where it got obvious that this was an awfully brushy clear-cut. So, he let me know about it. He said, "Roy, these are the brushiest clear-cuts I think I've been in." (Laughter) I said, "Well, I have to admit that that was deliberate. I can't stand here and lie to you, but those are the brushiest areas that we have seen, and the reason I was doing it was....," and I explained it. I never heard any more. I expected to hear some reaction. Never heard any more until I saw a memo that came out of the Willamette [National Forest] office that said, "We are changing our policies on laying out clear-cuts, and we are now going to look for areas that are degenerating and put that clear-cut there." I never had to do it, never had to argue. It just came up that way. (Laughter)

Geier: Ted, do you want to talk about the first time you came up here?

Dyrness: Well, I can't remember the first time I came up here. Probably with Jerry. He was still there. When I first started to work on the Andrews, it was zeroed in pretty strictly on the three small watersheds. [Watersheds 1, 2, 3] And that would include the vegetation and soils work, because we were just starting the treatment phase, and it was high-time that we get some baseline information on the watershed. I was doing a soil study on the three small watersheds,

and I remember the time that Jerry happened by, and I don't know, he was checking on something, and we went out to eat supper at McKenzie Bridge, I think, to eat steaks. Remember that Jerry?

Franklin: Uh-huh.

Dyrness: He said, we ought to do a vegetation study on the Andrews. Nobody's really done a good job looking at what the full range of forest communities are. That was the genesis of getting me first off just doing the three small watersheds. Just not being that terrestrial, if you know what I'm saying? We started that, but neither of us could afford a lot of time every summer, but at the beginning of each field season, we set aside at least a couple weeks to put in plots, and do that. Then Jack Rothacher woke up one day, and he said, "You guys are doing this study. Where's the study plan?" (Laughter) Remember that?

Franklin: Yeah, I remember we had to work. (Laughter)

Dyrness: That's what stunned me about that.

Geier: Was there somebody you had to check in with when you were doing work down here, back then? When you came in to do something on the forest? Did you let people know where you were putting in plots, things like that, or did you just kind of come out and do it?

Franklin: We just went out and did it.

Dyrness: See, this was well before IBP, and there's not that much going on. So, there was no danger, not much danger, anyway, of you stepping on anybody's toes. (Overlapping conversations in background) So, we didn't worry about that, did we Jerry?

Franklin: No, we really didn't. It was a very low-density operation down here.

Dyrness: [laughing] Yeah.

Franklin: And I think it was '61 when they proposed eliminating the Andrews, because there was nobody working down here except on the small watersheds. They'd completely terminated any timber management activities. Timber management was in the late '50s and early '60s.

Dyrness: So in '61, they really wanted to shut it down?

Franklin: I think it was '61, when it was proposed to turn back the South Umpqua Experimental Forest and the Blue River Experimental Forest, the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest, to the [National] forests, except for the experimental watersheds.

Dyrness: Wow.

Geier: Do you know who was pushing that?

Franklin: I think it was George Meagher, wasn't it? [PNW Station Director of Timber Management Research at the time before becoming the PNW Assistant Station Director.]

Tarrant: Pushing which, what?

Franklin: Terminating.

Tarrant: Oh, yeah. I recall him. I recall him talking to, who was it, Cowlin then?

Dyrness: Bob Cowlin, yeah.

Tarrant: Yeah.

Swanson: Why didn't it happen?

Franklin: Well, for one thing, Ted and I got pretty tee'd off about it. (Laughter) We thought it was an extraordinary resource for scientists, and there was never any chance we were ever going to get another one established again, and I think we had a very sympathetic person in Jack Rothacher.

Dyrness: Oh, yeah.

Franklin: We decided there was only one way we're going to keep this experimental forest, and that we're going to have to get people to work here.

Dyrness: Right.

Franklin: And that's when we began to really kind of hustle people.

Dyrness: Yeah. It was like, we'd sit around and think, "Jiminy Christmas, we've gotta get more people working here." That's when Jerry caught wind of the IBP, saying, "We've got to get on board." [1967-1970 was period of query and application to International Biological Programme.]

McKee: When was that?

Franklin: That was the late '60s. Actually, it must have been about '64 or so, when they first proposed to eliminate the forest.

Dyrness: Yeah, that's right.

McKee: I think the first round of IBP proposals went out in '67.

Franklin: Yeah.

Dyrness: Yep.

Geier: So for about 3 years, between '64 and '67, it was kind of "on the bubble" to be eliminated?

Franklin: Basically, I think Jack was the responsible individual, and he sort of resisted it. South Umpqua was disestablished. [Except for Coyote Creek experimental watersheds. Later, when the Umpqua National Forest was preparing its forest plan, the question was raised of the PNW Station, "Do you agree to disestablish the rest of the experimental forest – the experimental watersheds?" and the watershed research team replied, "No."]

Swanson: What year was that?

Franklin: Have to look it up. I don't remember. Do you remember, Bob?

Tarrant: No, I don't. I never felt good about that. The watersheds.

Franklin: It was after the watershed group was created. When was that?

Tarrant: Sixty- (unintelligible).

McKee: When was the Port Orford Cedar [experimental forest] disestablished?

Franklin: That had been disestablished by the time I worked there the first time, which was in '68 [or '58?]. So that had been disestablished a long time ago, and the Blue Mountain Experimental Forest [NE Oregon] had been disbanded a long time before, and actually, I think South Umpqua had been eliminated, I don't know, by the early '60s. But what we did was, we tried to get anybody we could to work down here. I remember we got Dick Waring to come down here before the IBP days. Who else did we get down here?

Dyrness: Well, we tried to get Dennis Harr, because we were really hurting for people. Hydrologists, to look at the hydrology. [Harr was hydrologist who studied snow and runoff]

Franklin: We'd sit around and have all these interesting questions that nobody could work on, a lot of those problems.

Geier: Once you got people out here, how did you promote the experimental forest? [HJA] I mean, you couldn't afford to wait for a publication to come out, so how did you document that it was being used? Did you start to track the people who came out here at that point?

Levno: I think Jack had a map in the office at the ranger station [Blue River RD], with 'verboden' areas marked on it in green pencil, that these were, were study areas. Remember that, Art?

McKee: Yeah. The first thing I remember getting here, he had that.

Franklin: Well, one of the things we did was we started using it more. And that was about the time when we were doing the vegetation work. So, we began to use it more.

Dyrness: Plus, what really helped also was the '64 flood, to see what happened on the Andrews in the '64 flood. Documenting all the landslides and measuring them, and I think that helped, too. So, natural things, natural disasters.

Swanson: That's sort of interesting now, because I feel like our present station director [PNW] has had his focus in some other places, for example, water was not a primary issue in his mind. In fact, he was pushing two initiatives. One, disturbance, which he considered and framed for the eastside, and the other was timber production. And then we have a flood, the '96 flood, and we had ecological issues, we had public safety issues, and now, water quality, municipal water supply issues that take us back to the original framing of the experimental watershed work. We're right back there now, and so, you get back in the spotlight, because of circumstances.

Tarrant: How big a deal is the economics program in the station now?

Swanson: I'm not really sure. You may have a better fix on it.

Tarrant: Is there any relation with the current director's field of interest in economics?

Silen: He's an economist, isn't he?

Swanson: Yes. He's an economist. What he picked up on were two large, bioregional assessments, eco-regional assessments. He came on when the Interior Columbia Basin large-scale planning effort was underway. One thing I was wondering about as we are looking at the Wildcat Research Natural Area and thinking about satellite research areas, on one hand, you're talking about disestablishing experimental forests, like the Blue Mountains, and reducing the Umpqua [Experimental Forest]. On the other hand,

you two, Ted and Jerry, were working real hard to get RNA's set up. I was sort of wondering about the broader picture of the establishment of research properties. I get the picture you were trying to grow 'em, or plant the seeds and grow 'em, using a "use-it-or-lose-it strategy" for this one [HJA], which seemed like it had the best shot at getting a longer life. At the same time, it seems like you must have had to give up on some, or maybe it didn't involve you personally, as those that were being disestablished. I was wondering what the overall picture was looking like at that point. Like in the '60s, and then, the early '70s, the established experimental forests and then RNA's? Did you have a big picture, or were you just doing the best you could with all of them? (Laughter)

Franklin: Well.....

Dyrness: (Laughing) No, we had a "big picture," but at a conference we were accused of not having a big picture, so we got people together at, where was it?

McKee: Near Mt. Hood.

Dyrness: Yeah, yeah.

Swanson: That was on the RNA's.

Dyrness: So meanwhile, this experimental forest had been -- (Unintelligible)

Franklin: Well, I think that's an interesting concept. For one thing, Bob can comment on this, as in the '60s the Forest Service research organization started changing its image from one of woods-based to one of modern --

Dyrness: -- Lab-based! Yeah.

Franklin: Laboratory-based, yeah. The notion of an experimental forest; it was an old notion. It went against that new image that we wanted to have. Everybody was moving indoors, nobody was doing field studies anymore, and related to that, about the time they tried to disestablish this, was also the time when Meagher told us to pull all the tags on the permanent plots.

McKee: Whoa, whoa, whoa!

Dyrness: Who said that?

Franklin: George.

Dyrness: Meagher?

Franklin: Yeah.

Levno: Why, were you the original tree-spikers? [Radical environmentalists were putting spikes into trees in logging sites, to create havoc when they were run through saws at the mills.]

Franklin: No. (Laughter). George, and again, I'd be interested in Bob's take on this, George came from the [Fort Valley] tradition, where they were overwhelmed with permanent plots, and he hated them. I don't know if he hated them. Anyway, he said,

"We don't need those growth and yield plots anymore, and I want you to go pull the tags on them, so that no one can ever go back and re-measure them." (Laughter)

Dyrness: Oh, no!

Franklin: Of course, we didn't do it. But the point was, that sort of fit in with the all-new image for the Forest Service. So, we were building labs. Now, RNA's, on the other hand, didn't go against that. And an RNA didn't involve a whole lot of experimentation.

Dyrness: An outdoor laboratory, you know.

Franklin: Sort of control areas, and so, that was still cool. And in fact, we had a lot of people in the organization, and we realized this landscape's being cut over real fast, and we'd better get with the program. So, they were willing to encourage young folks like us to, "Well, get out there. Run into brick walls." (Laughter) We got out there, we ran into brick walls, sometimes we butted our heads, and sometimes we got through the wall.

Tarrant: It's amazing how successful you were. You know there's not another network like it anywhere else in the nation that holds a candle. Other regions are beginning to come on-line, but what you accomplished over that short period is just astonishing.

Dyrness: But at the same time, there were a lot of people saying, "Yeah, you established these things, and nothing ever happened, you know, who's used them?" To some extent, that was a logical thing to say. But Jerry and people who were working with Jerry, their attitude was, "Well, we're establishing these things for future generations. We might not use them at all." But at the same time, Jerry had this preliminary idea, what we ought to do is get out a guidebook of federal research natural areas, so that people who might use them would have some information about them. And at the same time, as a part of the write-up of natural areas, was, of course, a summary of what research was going on, and also, ideas of what good research could be done in these things. But, that kind of grew out of criticism, didn't it Jerry?

Franklin: Yeah. That was one of the ways of trying to stimulate some of that use.

Dyrness: Yeah. Also model it for the rest of the nation.

Franklin: Bob, how do you read that business, that lack of fit? Do you agree at all?

Tarrant: Well, where you started was, I think this is exactly what we are in right now. I think where you started was with this apparent "throw things out" attitude certainly did happen, and it was George Meagher who, incidentally, died recently.

Franklin: He did?!

Tarrant: Yeah. Yeah.

Dyrness: When did he die?

Tarrant: Oh, last year. Last year.

Dyrness: Oh, no kidding.

Tarrant: I was sitting, watching pretty close. That period was one that I worried about, because George was not very well at that time, and that's nothing for the record. I was uncomfortable, most of the time with his relations with project leaders, so I think it was a matter of not being really good time. I think his argument for the shutting the Andrews down was to shut up the study of old growth. He said, "Why should we study old growth, because second growth is all there's gonna be, all there's gonna be left?" Getting rid of the growth plots, I think, was more of a fact that he really didn't have the staff to keep up the measurements. I think he was looking for ways to cut corners. I don't know what would have happened had he not done this. I measured growth plots for various people early in the game, but I don't know if the measurements would have been kept up one way or the other. It was not a happy time, as I recall. I couldn't argue that doing away with measuring the old-growth plots was a tragedy, in as much as we probably wouldn't have kept the measurements up very long, anyway. What was your last thought on that, Jerry?

Franklin: Well...

Tarrant: I don't think that we had much interest on the part of the directors at that time, one way or the other.

Franklin: Well, that's important. We really were, in the '60s, trying to shift to a new image of forestry.

Tarrant: Well, I think so, and I think that --

Silen: -- You could get money for labs, that was one thing.

Tarrant: Yeah, that's right. I think that for the first time, there was a critical mass, small as it was, that was thinking differently. This is the way you do research, starting in 1915. I think the whole change was self-directed. For instance, John [Jack Rothacher] was told, "Go out and pull the tags," and nobody'd pull the tags, I think. (Laughter) John is a silent revolutionary, and for the better. That's right. I don't recall, in the early days, that anybody was seriously questioning this concept that, hey, forestry is getting rid of this old junk, and getting some good, fast-growing, young trees. Nobody was thinking of the consequences, or had anybody really thought through the consequences.

Silen: Oh, I don't think was because nobody was thinking. (Laughter)

Tarrant: Well, it wasn't widespread.

Silen: Well, it wasn't widespread, but there certainly people thinking about it.

Tarrant: Who, besides Phil Hagenstein was saying, "Now, wait a minute, you guys, there's the environment out here." (Loud laughter).

Dyrness: That Phil.

End of HJA Group Site Interview