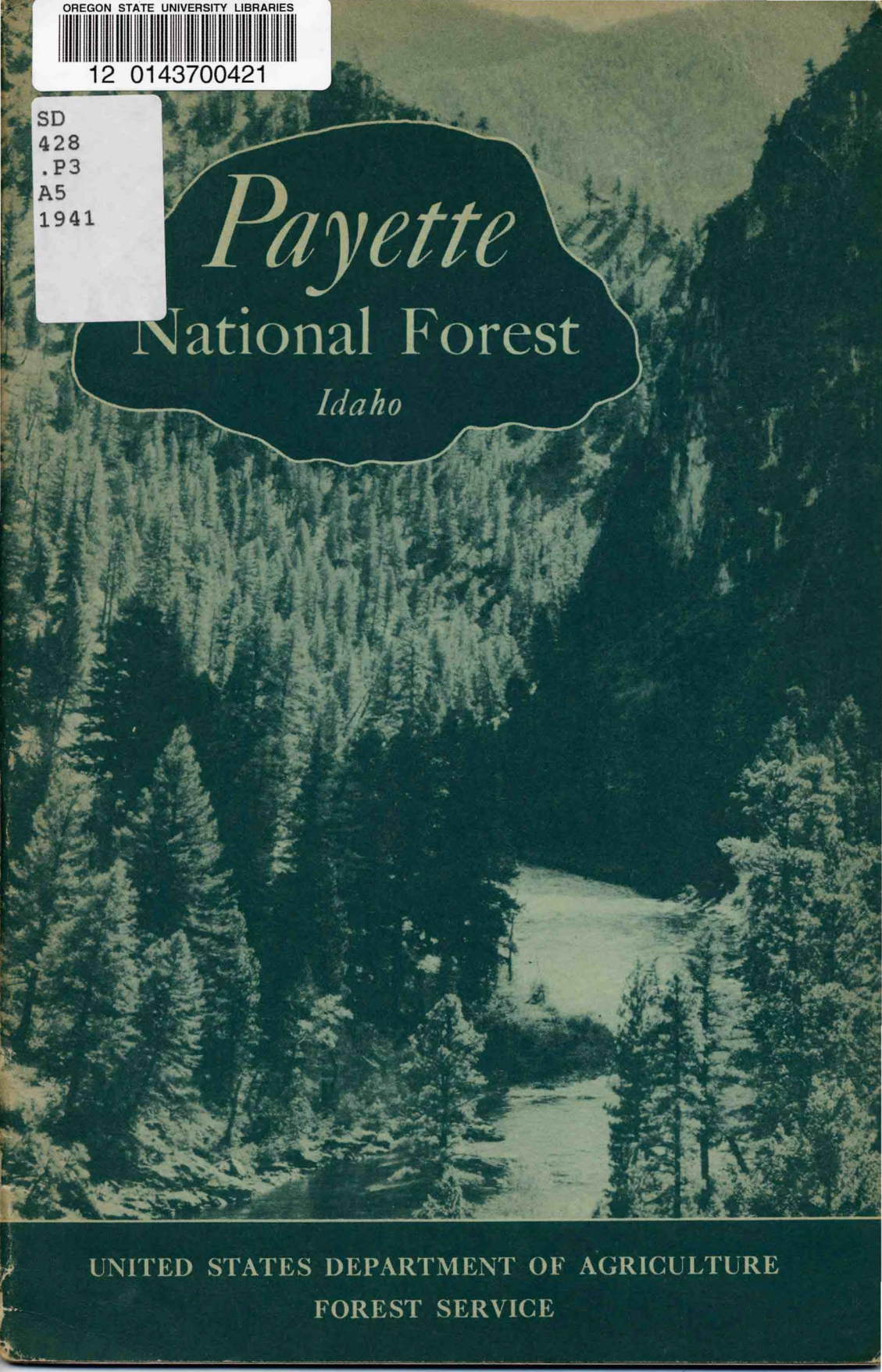


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*Payette*  
National Forest  
*Idaho*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE



# PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

IDAHO

## *YOUR HERITAGE*

WITHIN THE WATERSHED BOUNDARIES of the beautiful and picturesque Payette and Salmon Rivers in central Idaho lies the Payette National Forest, one of the big timberland estates which belong to you as a citizen of the United States.

All national forests are administered by the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, under a decentralized plan of organization. The Payette is under the jurisdiction of a forest supervisor and is divided into five ranger districts, with a ranger in charge of each district. The supervisor has headquarters at 210 Main Street, Boise, Idaho, and district rangers are located at Cascade, High Valley, Garden Valley, Bear Valley, and Landmark.

The Forest officers will be glad to give you information with regard to the forest, its use and industries, its roads and trails, and its recreational opportunities and facilities. The Payette's towering peaks, sparkling waters, and verdant slopes are yours to enjoy—and to help protect.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION - - - - - OGDEN, UTAH

NEGATIVE NUMBER FOR COVER—F-36385



F-369539

THROUGH VIRGIN TIMBER IN THE PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST, ROADS LEAD TO STRANGE  
PLACES AND OFFER PLEASANT ADVENTURES.

## In a High Mountain Country

THAT PART OF YOUR national heritage represented by the Payette National Forest, in Idaho, includes about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  million acres, and most of it is high mountain country. From 3,300 feet in the Garden Valley area in the southwestern portion of the forest, elevations range to 9,722 feet atop Big Baldy Mountain, a landmark on the breaks of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River between Pistol and Indian Creeks. Scott Mountain, best known peak in the southern extremity of the forest, rises 8,268 feet and overlooks the South Fork of the Payette River. In general, elevations increase from southwest to northeast, and most of the forest is above 5,000 feet.

The West Mountain Ridge, directly west of Cascade and Long Valley, is the dividing line between two great geological formations—the Columbia lava flow west of the ridge and the giant Idaho batholith of granite rock to the east. These formations have a marked effect on soil texture and road conditions. In the lava country, roads are very slippery and muddy when wet, while in the granitic formation, they are, in general, more stable under all conditions.

Precipitation over the Payette is usually very light or almost entirely lacking from about July 1 to the middle of September. During the mid-summer months, however, temperatures seldom exceed  $90^{\circ}$  F. except in the valleys. Winter temperatures as low as  $40^{\circ}$  F. below have been recorded in Cascade and  $50^{\circ}$  F. below in Pen Basin. Snow and freezing weather may occur in any month at elevations above 6,500 feet.

The earliest snows of any consequence usually occur about the middle of September, but are not likely to remain on the ground until after the middle of October. Snow depths vary from 2 to 3 feet in the lower valleys to 10 feet on Deadwood and other high summits. Through traffic over the high summits is not possible until sometime between May 1 and June 15.

### RICHES FROM FURS AND MINERALS

When the national forest was created from the public domain in June 1905, by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt, it was named for Payette, a French fur trader and a member of the Hudson's Bay Company

at Fort Boise. The influence of this hardy trader on central Idaho is attested not only by the national forest which bears his name, but also by a river, a lake, and a town named in his honor.

Many of the colorful episodes connected with the "Baby Klondike" gold rush to the Thunder Mountain strikes at the turn of the century had their locale on or near the present Payette National Forest. During these feverish days adventurers from the four corners of the earth poured into the district.

Over the terrific grades of the wagon road from Thunder City, close to the spot where Cascade now stands, stamp mills and heavy machinery were hauled to equip the newly located mines. Mortar blocks and camshafts are still strewn along the road, evidently dumped by disgusted freighters and never salvaged.

From the present ghost towns of Crawford, Van Wyck, and Thunder City pack trains supplied the famous gold camps in the Thunder Mountain country, immortalized by western writers in their tales of boom towns.

GARDEN VALLEY RANGER STATION. FROM HERE THE DISTRICT RANGER ATTACKS THE COMPLICATED MANAGEMENT OF A QUARTER OF A MILLION ACRES OF NATIONAL FOREST LAND.

F-369489



## The Ranger and His Job

THE FOREST RANGER is not simply a guardian, he is the manager of a great timberland domain. His district of a quarter of a million acres or more presents a hundred and one problems of resource management. To protect these resources, to perpetuate them, to use them wisely, to make his district render the greatest possible service to the county, State, and Nation demands careful planning, much executive ability, untiring effort, and devotion to the highest ideals of public service.

One of the big jobs of the rangers on the Payette Forest is to supervise the maintenance and protective improvements, including 450 miles of telephone lines, 150 buildings, 350 miles of roads, 60 miles of pasture fence, and 1,380 miles of trails.

### TIMBER MANAGEMENT AND USE

The Payette Forest is in the heart of one of the most profitable timber-producing areas in the Intermountain Region. For more than a generation its timber stand of approximately 5 billion board feet has contributed much to the lumber industry of southern Idaho.

Under proper management this forest can produce, for generations to come, 60 million board feet of logs each year without depleting the timber stand or disturbing the watershed cover. At the present time, from 10 to 12 million board feet are cut annually.

Under the Forest Service sustained-yield program of cutting, the oldest stands of timber are selected to be cut first. Ripe or defective trees are marked for cutting; the younger trees are left to grow. This wise policy of tree selection prevents harm to the watershed, accelerates growth by providing room for the remaining trees, and improves the condition of the forest generally.

Besides supplying many local sawmills with timber for local and national use, the Payette rangers sell and give away large amounts of green and dead timber to hundreds of farmers in the valleys. Farmers and settlers may also purchase timber from the national forest for their own use at about the cost of administration.

#### *Dominant Tree Species.*

Eight species of so-called evergreen or softwood trees are found on the Payette Forest. The principal species and the one most valuable for lum-

ber is the ponderosa pine, formerly known as the western yellow pine, which occurs normally at elevations of from 3,000 to 6,000 feet. It is estimated that of the 5 billion board feet of timber on the forest, 1½ billion is in ponderosa pine stands.

The second most important species is Douglas fir, with a stand of ¼ billion board feet. The six other species are: Lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, white fir, larch, alpine fir, and white bark pine.

There are also a few hardwood trees, such as the aspen and the cottonwood, but they are of no commercial importance and occur only in very small quantities.

HARVESTING A MATURE FOREST GIANT. THIS OLD PONDEROSA PINE WILL PRODUCE VALUABLE, HIGH GRADE LUMBER.

F-369526





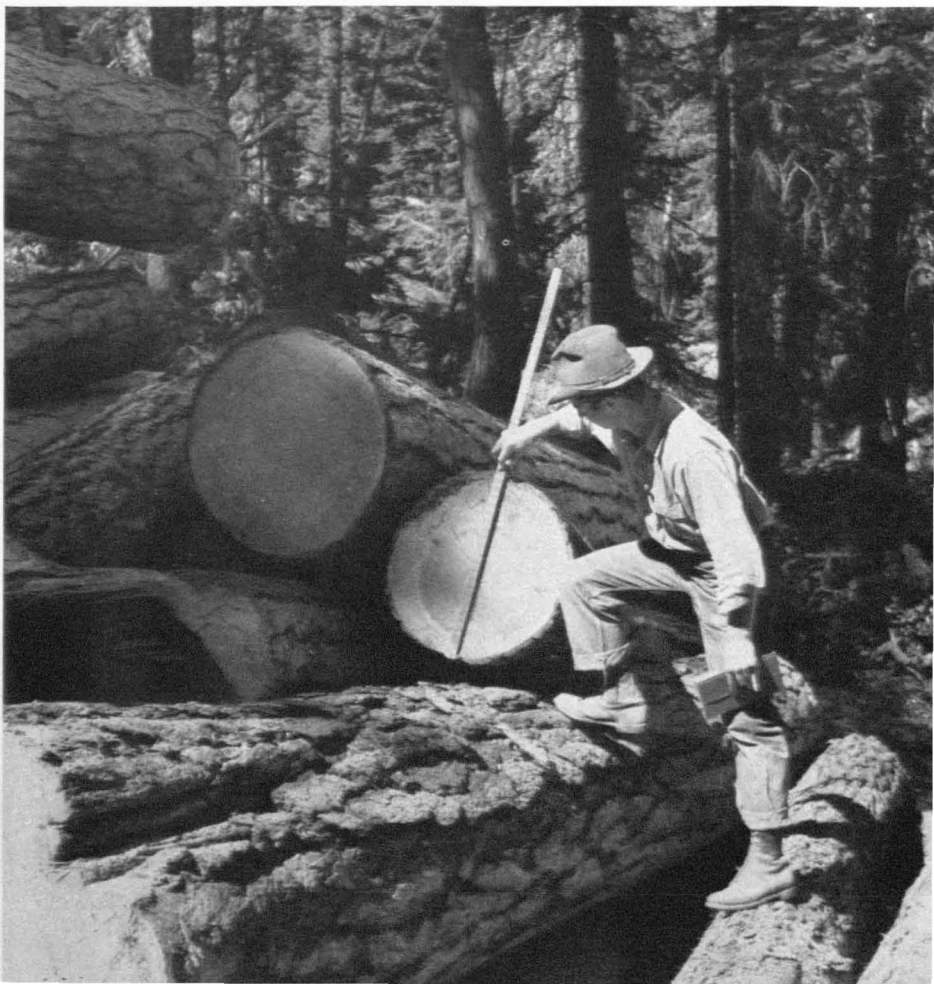
## WATER FOR IRRIGATION

The Payette Forest is drained by tributaries of the Salmon and Snake Rivers. The Warm Lake country is drained by the South Fork of the Salmon River; Pen Basin by Johnson Creek, a tributary of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon; and Bear Valley by Elk and Bear Valley Creeks, both tributaries of the Middle Fork of the Salmon. The remainder of the forest is drained by the North, Middle, and South Forks of the Payette River, a tributary of the Snake.

Water is perhaps the most important resource of the national forests in southern Idaho. Success or failure of the agricultural industry in the valleys is almost wholly dependent upon irrigation water from streams

MEASURING THE TIMBER CROP IS ONE OF THE MANY JOBS OF UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS.

F-369572





F-373690

CONVERTING THE FOREST TREES INTO USEFUL PRODUCTS. TIMBER ON THE PAYETTE HELPS TO SUPPORT AN IMPORTANT LOCAL INDUSTRY.

rising in the high mountain country, and protection of the watersheds is a primary objective of the management program of the Forest Service.

Snowfall is heavy on the thickly timbered slopes of the Payette Forest and furnishes much of the water stored in Black Canyon, Deadwood, and Sage Hen Reservoirs, and used on the irrigated farms along the lower reaches of the Payette River and the adjoining rich areas of the Snake. It is of vital importance, therefore, that the watersheds of the Payette be kept at their best. All uses made of the forest are so directed as to prevent the impairment or destruction of the cover of timber, brush, or forage on the mountain slopes.

### FORAGE FOR LIVESTOCK

Other assets of the Payette Forest valuable to southern Idaho are its alpine meadows and grassy slopes, covered with verdant forage, that provide summer and fall pastures for flocks of sheep and herds of cattle owned by residents of the nearby valleys. Here literally thousands of tons of grass are converted into fat beefs and lambs, since much of the forest area of 2,100 square miles is used for grazing.

During the usual grazing periods approximately 83,000 head of sheep and 6,000 head of cattle use the forest. Seasonal use varies, but cattle graze an average of 5 months per year and sheep about 3½ months. Generally, the lower ranges are allotted to cattle and the higher and more rugged portions to sheep. Numbers and seasons of grazing stock are adjusted as necessary by the owners and the Forest Service to balance use with the amount of available forage.

Management of the range is one of the big jobs of the Payette rangers, the primary objective being to maintain the watershed cover in good condition and, at the same time, give stability to the livestock industry through the utilization of the valuable annual forage crop.

## MINERALS FOR THE PROSPECTOR

Prospectors still roam the hills of the Payette seeking elusive pay dirt on placer claims or rich minerals in the mother lode, and there is considerable mining development.

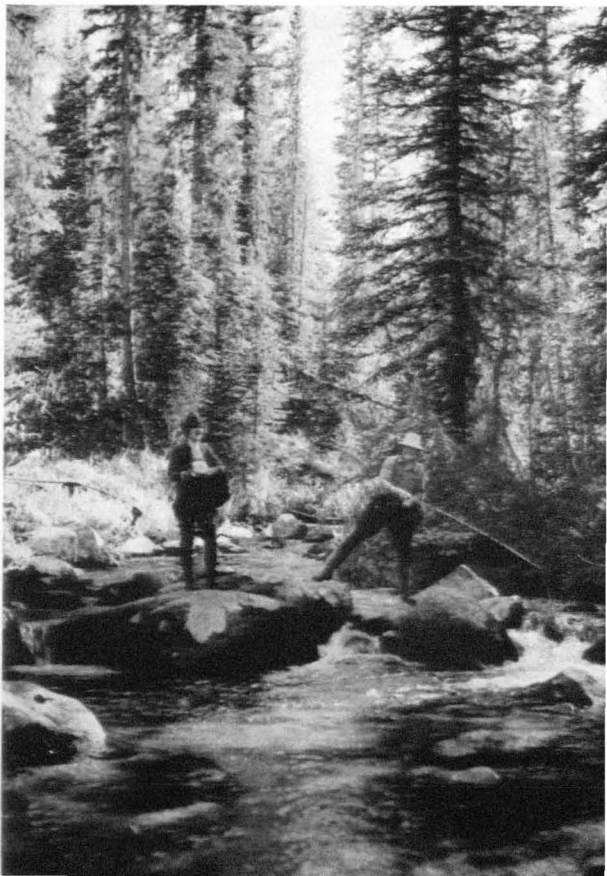
The same mining laws apply in the national forests as elsewhere. There are no restrictions on prospecting or other mining activities so long as the mining claimants comply with provisions of applicable laws. Timber and forage products on claims may be used for the development of the claim, but may not be sold or used elsewhere prior to obtaining patent.

Rangers report on claims proposed for patent and often cooperate in the construction of roads for mining developments.

## WILDLIFE AND FISH ABUNDANT

Wildlife is plentiful on the Payette Forest. Its streams and lakes are the delight of fishermen; its cloistered recesses are a laboratory for naturalists; and big game, including elk, deer, goats, bear, cougar, and mountain sheep, supply adventure for thousands of nimrods. Hunters come to the Payette Forest not only from Idaho but from all parts of the nation.

F-369974  
HEADWATERS OF SOUTH FORK  
OF SALMON RIVER, TYPICAL  
OF HUNDREDS OF MILES OF  
PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST  
STREAMS, WHERE FISHING  
IS EXCELLENT AND FOR-  
ESTED WATERSHEDS ASSURE  
A STEADY FLOW OF WATER.



Herds of deer winter on the ranges of the South Fork of the Payette and Middle Fork of the Salmon Rivers, and during the summer they scatter to all parts of the forest, principally to higher elevations.

During the early part of the open season the best deer hunting is on the drainages of the South and Middle Forks of the Salmon, and on the East Fork of South Fork of the Salmon in the vicinity of Yellow Pine and Stibnite. After the fall storms, the best hunting is on the drainage of the South Fork of the Payette River between Garden Valley and Lowman.

There are no open seasons on elk at present.

The Payette is also the home of beaver, fox, martin, badger, ermine, and muskrat. Under permit from the State these animals are caught by trappers, who spend the lonely winter months traveling their trap lines between overnight cabins.

Sparkling mountain streams furnish the best fishing in central Idaho. To insure perpetuation of this sport, heavily fished streams are stocked each year by the Forest Service with fingerling trout grown at State and Federal hatcheries. Only the more expert anglers may expect to catch their limit on the streams easily accessible from the highway. Others not so skillful must travel less used roads or take mountain trails to waters where trout are more abundant, less wary, and more easily tempted.

DAYBREAK ON WARM LAKE.

F-389998





F-389980

MUTTON CHOPS IN THE MAKING. GRAZING UNDER CAREFULLY PREPARED MANAGEMENT PLANS AND HANDLED BY EXPERIENCED HERDERS, SHEEP UTILIZE MUCH OF THE RICH FORAGE ON THE MOUNTAIN RANGES.

Years ago salmon runs were common in almost all of the tributaries of the Salmon River, but today they are confined largely to the Middle Fork of the Salmon and its tributaries, such as Elk Creek and Bear Valley Creek.

Steelheads run in April and May. At that time of the year roads are not usually open, but an occasional party of sportsmen will fly to the Middle Fork of the Salmon for this early fishing.

The chinook salmon runs from about July 10 until the latter part of August. Each year hundreds of persons come to the Bear Valley region to witness this phenomenon of nature or to try their luck at landing a few choice chinooks.

Following are some of the choicest trout fishing spots on the Payette Forest:

**CRAWFORD DISTRICT.**—Raft and Skein Lakes; North and South Forks of Gold Fork; Big Creek; South Fork of Salmon and tributaries; Cabin, Warm Lake, and Curtis Creeks; Warm, Long, Summit, and Roaring Lakes.

**THUNDER MOUNTAIN DISTRICT.**—Johnson, Sand, Trout, Rustican, Burntlog, Trapper, Riordan, Sulphur, Bear Valley, and Elk Creeks; Riordan, Knight, Hidden, Black, Caton, Marion, Pistol, Honeymoon, Morehead, Bernard, and Lost Lakes; Middle Fork of Salmon and Deadwood Rivers.

Middle Fork, one of the best fishing spots on the Payette Forest and one of the best in the West, may be reached by pack trip from Snowshoe Cabin, a distance of 20 miles down Pistol Creek, or from Bear Valley, where pack stock may be obtained from Hanson's Dude Ranch on Bruce Meadows.

GARDEN VALLEY DISTRICT.—Garden Valley along South Fork of Payette and Middle Fork of Payette, Silver Creek, Lower Deadwood River, and Big Pine Creek, tributaries of South Fork of the Payette.

Rangers cooperate in the enforcement of game laws and give careful consideration in all their plans to the protection, use, and development of wildlife resources on their districts.

## RECREATIONAL VALUES AND USES

Lavishly endowed with the beauties of nature, the Payette Forest offers varied opportunities for pleasure and recreation. Here, far away from the stress and strain of modern living, one may relax beside quiet, cool streams, among green trees. Or from the mountaintop he may enjoy the scenic grandeur of vast expanses of wooded hills and majestic mountain ranges.

Beyond good motor roads, which run throughout the forest, are out-of-the-way places for those who yearn for undeveloped areas off the beaten track, where the beauty and splendor of the forest, its atmosphere of peace and quiet, its irresistible appeal, and glimpses of wildlife may be enjoyed

CATTLE GRAZING LAZILY ON RICH FORAGE AREAS. NATIONAL-FOREST RANGES ARE VITAL TO THE IDAHO LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY.

F-398436



without interruption. Three hundred and fifty miles of excellent mountain roads, built by the Forest Service, penetrate the forest and are open to public use.

Freedom of action on the part of visitors is interfered with as little as possible by restrictive rules. True, a forest guest will find it necessary to be careful with fire because of the dry condition of the forest fuel during the vacation season. He will be expected to leave a clean camp; refrain from damaging green trees and signs or other improvements; and observe the necessary rules of sanitation.

Located along practically all the forest roads are camping facilities which supplement the unusual scenic attractions of the Payette Forest. Except in periods of extreme fire danger, there are no restrictions on public camping anywhere on the forest.

A list of campgrounds, developed by the Forest Service for public use, and other accommodations follows.

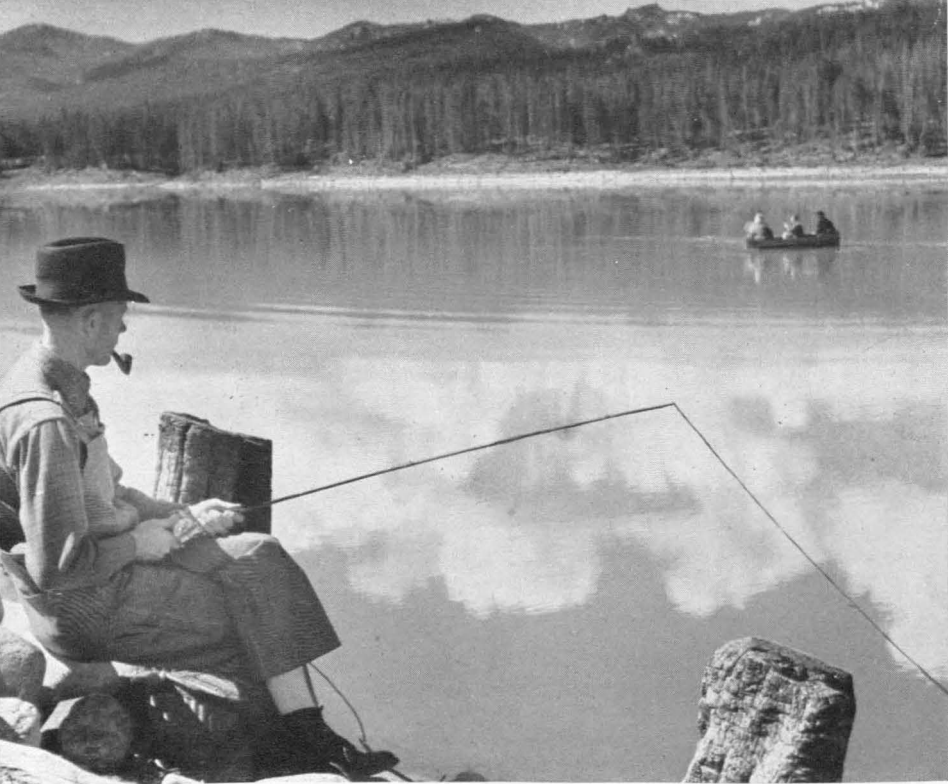
#### CAMPGROUNDS:

**WARM LAKE (Valley County).**—27 miles east of Cascade. Improved forest road, piped water supply. Season—May to October; attractive lake, boats, tackle, fishing, and hunting.

**PACK AND SADDLE HORSES ARE THE ONLY FEASIBLE MEANS OF TRAVEL OVER MUCH OF THE PAYETTE FOR THE FOREST RANGER, FOREST USERS, AND VISITORS.**

F-363522





F-369520

FISHERMEN BY THE HUNDRED VISIT DEADWOOD RESERVOIR FOR BOAT AND OFF-SHORE FISHING.

**TRAIL CREEK** (Valley County).—18 miles north of Garden Valley on Middle Fork of Payette River road. Improved forest road, spring water supply. Season—May to October, fishing and hunting.

**HARDSCRABBLE** (Valley County).—13 miles north of Garden Valley on Middle Fork of Payette River. Good water supply. Season—May to October, hunting and pack trails.

**BOILING SPRING** (Valley County).—At Boiling Spring guard station, 36 miles north of Garden Valley. Improved forest road, piped water. Season—May to October; fishing, hunting, and pack trails.

**BIG EDDY** (Boise County).—On Idaho 15, 8 miles south of Smiths Ferry; nearest post office Cascade—26 miles. Pressure water system. Season—May to October, fishing and hunting.

**HOT SPRING** (Boise County).—18 miles east of Banks on Banks-Lowman forest road; nearest post office Garden Valley—6 miles. Improved forest road, spring water. Season—May to October, fishing and hunting.

**PINE CREEK** (Boise County).—East on Idaho 21 for 13 miles from Garden Valley to Junction, thence north 5 miles on Deadwood Reservoir



forest road. Nearest post office Garden Valley. Spring water. Season—May to October, fishing and hunting.

PINE FLAT (Boise County).—6 miles west of Lowman on Idaho 21. Pressure water system. Season—May to October, fishing and hunting.

SWINGING BRIDGE (Boise County).—56 miles north of Boise on Idaho 15, 10 miles north of Banks on North Fork of Payette. Pressure water system. Season—April to December, fishing and hunting.

#### OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS:

KNOX.—26 miles east of Cascade. Meals, lodging, gasoline, saddle horses.

WARM LAKE.—28 miles east of Cascade. Meals, lodging, cabins, gasoline, groceries, boats.

COX'S RANCH.—53 miles east of Cascade and 10 miles above Yellow Pine. Meals, lodging, gasoline, saddle horses, guide service.



F-363508

POISED FOR FLIGHT. THIS HANDSOME BUCK IS ONE OF THE MANY THOUSANDS OF DEER THAT ROAM THE WILDERNESS OF THE PAYETTE FOREST.

JOHNSON'S RANCH.—45 miles east of Cascade on Pistol Creek Summit. Saddle and pack horses.

YELLOW PINE.—63 miles from Cascade. Meals, lodging, gasoline, groceries, general merchandise.

BEAR VALLEY DUDE RANCH.—80 miles from Cascade. Meals, cabins, saddle horses, gasoline.

### *Warm Lake Recreation Area.*

From Cascade, the hub of the forest, the road leads east and north through dense stands of ponderosa and lodgepole pine and fir along Big Creek, up and over Big Creek Summit, and into Knox and the Warm Lake Recreation Area.

Warm Lake, which derives its name from the mineralized springs nearby, is the center of the largest recreation development on the Payette Forest and



F-390005

PEACE AND SILENCE OVER  
WARM LAKE AS THE SHAD-  
OWS LENGTHEN.



F-389986

BILLY RICE BOY SCOUT CAMP AT WARM LAKE. HUNDREDS OF IDAHO AND OREGON BOYS VACATION HERE.

one of the most popular in southern Idaho. Here one may camp, picnic, swim, and boat in surroundings of great natural beauty. The playground contains many well-equipped camps, a public swimming pool, ball park, and boat landing. For those not wishing to camp, other good accommodations are available.

Seeking a cool haven from the intense heat of the summer months and indulging the American yearning for outdoor life, many residents of the Boise and Payette Valleys have leased from the Forest Service, at a nominal fee, sites along the lake on which they have erected summer homes.

Boy and Girl Scouts have also leased sites near the lake, where for a time each summer they make first-hand acquaintance with nature.

The outdoor swimming pool, fed from a mineralized hot spring, comes as a surprise when first seen in its sylvan setting of virgin pines and attractive rock outcroppings. Dressing rooms have been provided here for the convenience of swimmers.

Many other forest campgrounds have been and are being developed near this area, and its scenic features and excellent fishing insure its continued heavy use.

Visitors going to the North Fork area of the Payette travel an oiled highway through a beautiful canyon. The road runs beside a scenic river which rushes in cascading haste, with dense evergreen growth carpeting its banks to the water's edge. Once the scene of turbulent log drives manned by white-water rivermen from the eastern lumber regions, there now remains only a silent marker near the highway in memory of those who lost their lives in this perilous enterprise.



ENJOYING THE CAMPFIRE AFTER THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES.

F-38994

Cool, pleasant, attractive campgrounds, constructed and maintained by the Forest Service, lure passing travelers to pause and enjoy themselves among the colorful creations of nature. For the noncamper there are accommodations at several places along the canyon.

The scenic area along the South Fork of the Payette River affords an awe-inspiring trip. It is reached by turning right at Banks from Idaho 15 to Idaho 21 leading into Garden Valley. The road penetrates the enormous wilderness adjacent and lying south and west of the famed Idaho Primitive Area. At Crouch a road branches off up the Middle Fork of the Payette River and makes an interesting trip for those who wish to camp at the road's end and go by trail to streams at the upper reaches of the river.

Continuing east the road goes to Lowman through a rugged and picturesque canyon. Hot springs abound, and along the road a few miles past the Garden Valley Ranger Station, one of them provides a bathhouse with mineralized hot water. This is open to the public and is part of a campground which overlooks the river.

At Pine Creek, the Scott Mountain Motorway leads off to Deadwood Dam. Two excellent campgrounds located on this stretch of road tempt visitors to tarry and try their angler's luck. The dam, a concrete arch structure 160 feet high and 700 feet wide, impounds a maximum of 106,000 acre-feet of water. Boats are for hire here, and devotees of lake fishing usually make a good catch.

Two forest lookouts, Scott Mountain and Deadwood, are reached by roads which branch off from this motorway. Scott Mountain Lookout, at an altitude of 8,268 feet, affords an awesome panorama of jumbled mountainous terrain.

From Lowman, the road leads through a portion of the Boise Forest along Clear Creek and again enters the Payette Forest to continue through Bear Valley and on to the Stanley Lake region on the Sawtooth National Forest. Along this route new vistas open constantly before the fascinated gaze of the traveler.

For the lover of nature in its pristine form, untouched and unchanged by the works of man, there is the Idaho Primitive Area, which includes a million and a quarter acres of the Payette, Idaho, Challis, and Salmon National Forests. The Payette is the principal gateway to this vast undeveloped area, which may be entered from Landmark or Bear Valley, jumping-off points from developed roads and modern methods of transportation.

The wilderness unit has no automobile roads, and the only practicable means of access is by trail with saddle horse and pack outfit. It is designated by the Forest Service to remain as nearly as possible in its natural condition, unmarred by modern structures or conveniences, save those necessary for administration and protection. It is recommended that competent guides be employed for wilderness trips.

ROADS LEADING INTO THE "BACK COUNTRY" TAKE ONE THROUGH SCENIC AND ROCK-BOUND GORGES LIKE THE SOUTH FORK OF THE PAYETTE RIVER.

F-369497



Throughout this vast, wild, undisturbed empire flows the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, a mighty stream in itself and the mecca of fishermen from all parts of the Nation. The Middle Fork was originally called "The River of No Return," because its rapid, turbulent waters which dash over a boulder-strewn bed make it impossible to navigate a craft upstream. This name is now applied to the main stream of the Salmon River.

## HUCKLEBERRYING IS GREAT SPORT

A minor but delightful resource of the Payette Forest is its abundant yield of wild mountain huckleberries. During the last of July and early August, thousands of gallons of this delicious fruit are picked, to be made into delectable pies and jams. Huckleberry time is the signal for many people to pack their troubles and duffle and hie to the hills on berry-picking expeditions.

Some of the best berry patches are in the following areas:



F-398399

WHEN IT'S HUCKLEBERRY TIME ON THE PAYETTE FOREST, HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES FROM THE VALLEYS MIGRATE TO THE HIGHLANDS IN SEARCH OF RECREATION AND THIS LUSCIOUS FRUIT.

Along the foot of West Mountain, from a point southwest from Cascade and north of Brush Creek the entire length of Long Valley to a point opposite the village of Donnelly. Some years when the late frosts do not kill them, good berries are found along the north side of Beaver Creek, about 5 miles northwest of Cascade.

An area which lies south and east of the old town of Cabarton, and known as Grassy Flat on Fawn Creek, is the camping site for scores of berry pickers during August nearly every year.

The famous mountain berry also grows on the east side of South Fork of the Salmon from Knox ranch north to the forest boundary; on Lone Mountain, due west of Warm Lake and east of South Fork of the Salmon; also between the mouth of Trout Creek and Rustican Creek on the east side of the Landmark-Yellow Pine road.

It is possible to stop at good improved campgrounds along the Middle Fork of the Payette and Silver Creek and scout the environs for easily accessible berry patches.

WARM LAKE—A SPOT OF RARE BEAUTY—OFFERS ALL KINDS OF OUTDOOR RECREATION TO A GROWING NUMBER OF VISITORS.

F-389999



## Fire—Number One Forest Enemy

FIRE IS THE FOREST'S arch enemy. It can destroy the growth of a century in a few minutes. Lightning fires, which cannot be prevented, account for 60 percent of the fires on the Payette Forest each year; the other 40 percent are the result of human carelessness in discarding lighted cigarettes, cigars, and pipe heels, and by leaving campfires unextinguished. Causing a fire through carelessness is a crime against all citizens.

The war on fire demands quick detection and rapid attack. The construction of lookout stations, telephone lines, roads, and trails; the development of fire-fighting equipment; the transportation, feeding, and care of fire fighters; and the tactics of fire fighting require the ranger's most determined study, preparation, and performance. No quarter is given in this fight.

Fire hazard is always high on the Payette Forest between June 1 and October 15. All visitors are requested to carry a shovel, ax, and water bag, at least during the most critical periods in July and August.

The forest maintains about 450 miles of grounded or single-wire telephone lines for fire communications and administrative purposes. Telephones are located at all ranger and guard stations and lookout houses; also, at a number of private cabins and other places scattered over the forest. They are available to the public for reporting fires and other urgent use.

### LOOKOUTS ACCESSIBLE

Four lookouts on the Payette National Forest can be reached by automobile. Scott Mountain and Deadwood Lookouts are on the Scott Mountain Motorway, a road branching off from the South Fork of the Payette road at Big Pine Creek. Silver Creek Lookout may be reached by driving north from the Garden Valley store for 30 miles up the Middle Fork of the Payette River and Silver Creek. Gold Fork Lookout is reached by a road which takes off from the Cascade-Knox road at Johnson Creek, 15 miles from Cascade.

In addition to the Payette Forest lookouts, the South Idaho Timber Protective Association has two well-developed lookout stations, accessible by road. East Mountain Lookout may be reached by turning east about 7 miles south of Cascade on the main highway; and Packer John by turning off the main highway at Smiths Ferry, crossing the river, and turning south at the loading corrals.



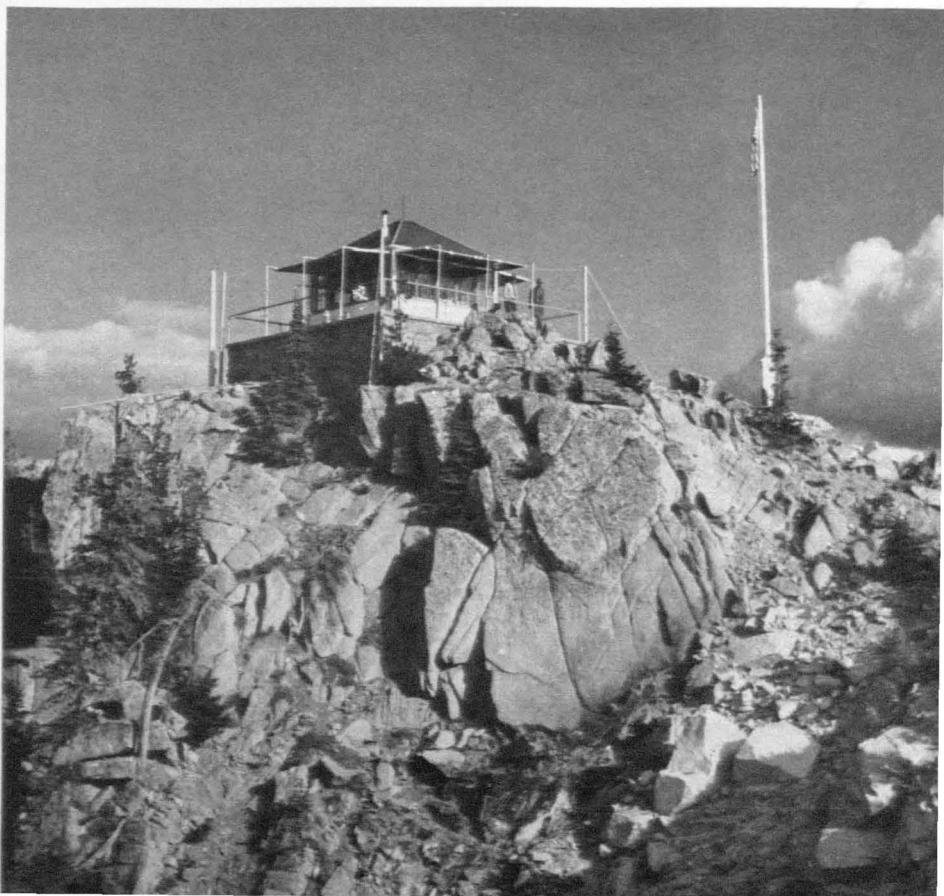
## LANDING FIELDS PROVIDED

Several landing fields have been developed for use of airplanes, principally for delivery of men and supplies in case of fire and for service to isolated ranches and mining camps.

Fields have been located on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River at the mouths of Mahoney and Indian Creeks and opposite the Hood Ranch; in Pen Basin, about 2 miles from Landmark; at Yellow Pine; the Yellow Pine Mines Syndicate on Meadow Creek; at Bryant Ranch on Johnson Creek, 4 miles above Yellow Pine; and at Oberbillig's mine near the Bryant Ranch. These flying fields are usually small and not recommended for general use, since special equipment and experience are required. Flying service is available at Cascade.

SCOTT MOUNTAIN LOOKOUT—ATOP A GRANITE CRAG—A HOUSE OF MANY WINDOWS  
SHELTERS THE LOOKOUT MAN WHO IN CONSTANT VIGILANCE SCANS THE VAST  
TIMBERLANDS BELOW.

F-369506



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# Payette National Forest

## THE GEOGRAPHICAL PLANT

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Located in south-central Idaho.  | River, a tributary of the Snake.                                     |
| Contains the headwaters of the South and Middle Forks of the Salmon, and the North, Middle, and South Forks of the Payette | Covers about 2,100 square miles, or a gross area of 1,342,000 acres. |
|  | Varies in elevation from 3,300 to 9,722 feet.                        |

## THE RESOURCE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <i>Watersheds.</i> —Five valuable units.                      | <i>Forage.</i> —880,000 acres usable area.                            |
| <i>Timber.</i> —Five billion board feet.                      | <i>Minerals.</i> —Valuable mineral wealth.                            |
| <i>Wildlife.</i> —Varied and abundant, all important species. | <i>Recreation.</i> —For old and young. Many and varied scenic values. |

## THE JOB TO DO!

Protect! Use! Develop! Insure the resource against loss, and step it up to its maximum production of water, timber, forage, minerals, fish, game, and recreation enjoyment, ever keeping in mind the policy of the greatest good to the greatest number in the long run.

## REQUIREMENTS

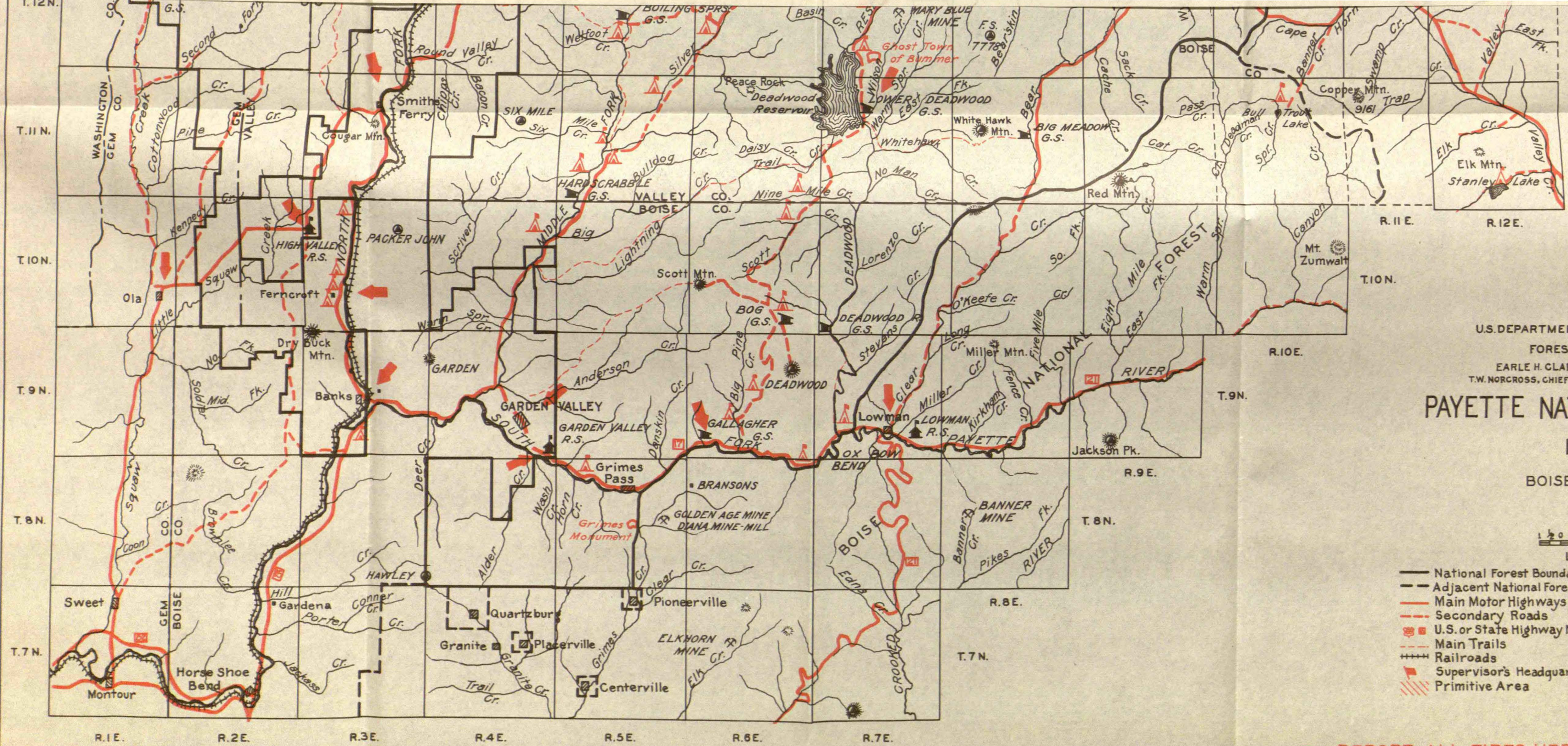
LEAVE A CLEAN CAMP AND A DEAD FIRE!

DISCARD NO LIGHTED MATCHES OR BURNING TOBACCO.

BUILD CAMPFIRES ONLY ON BARE GROUND, AWAY FROM LOGS AND TREES.

OBSERVE SANITARY PRACTICES.

Should you discover a forest fire, put it out if you can. If you cannot put it out, report it to the nearest forest officer, the sheriff, or telephone operator. Headquarters of forest rangers are indicated on the map.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 FOREST SERVICE  
 EARLE H. CLAPP - ACTING CHIEF  
 T.W. NORCROSS, CHIEF, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

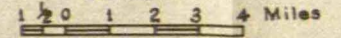
# PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

## IDAHO

BOISE MERIDIAN

1941

SCALE



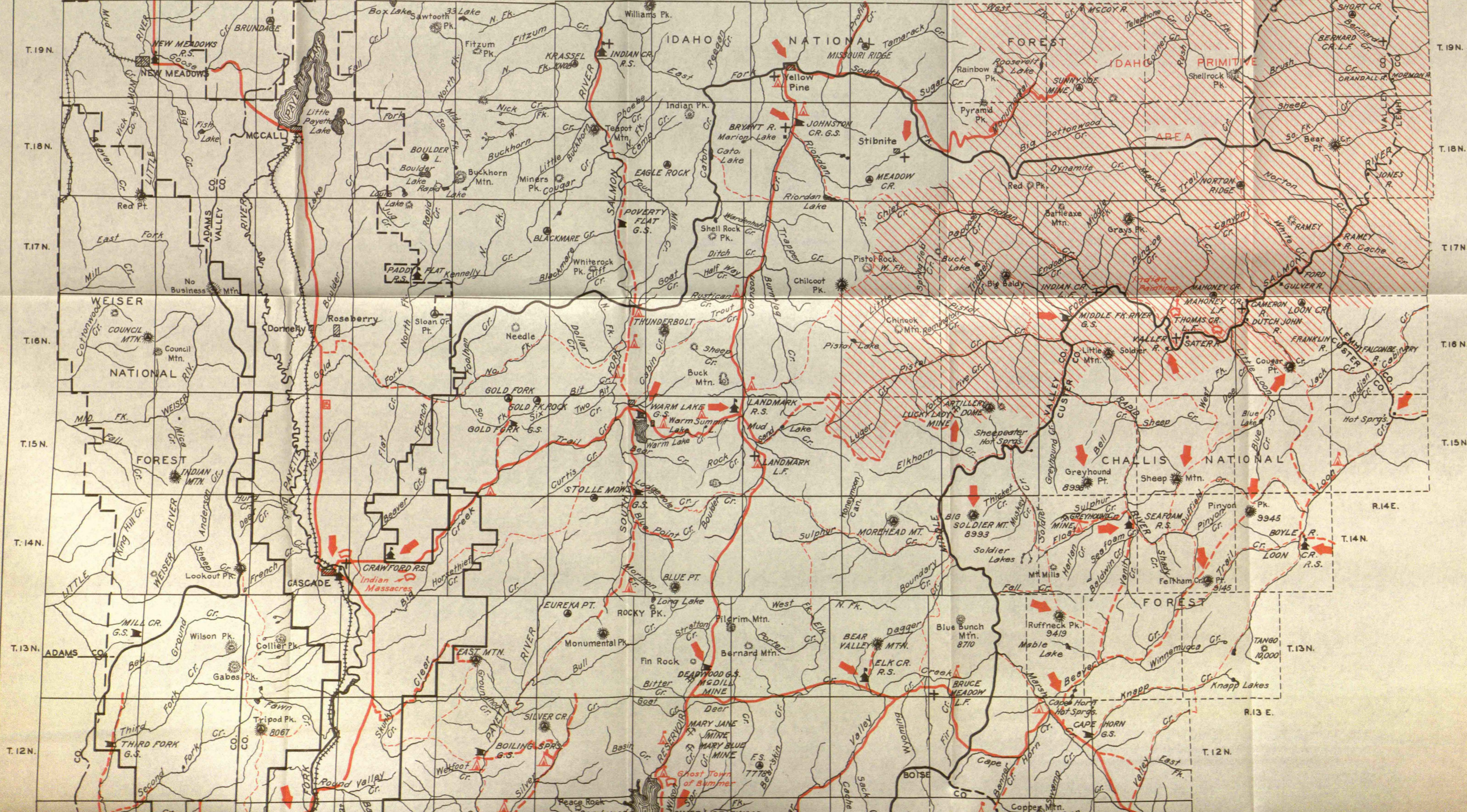
LEGEND

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| — National Forest Boundary               | ▲ District Ranger Station        |
| - - - Adjacent National Forest Boundary  | ● Guard or Ranger Station        |
| — Main Motor Highways                    | ⊙ Permanent Lookout Tower        |
| - - - Secondary Roads                    | ■ House, Cabin or other building |
| 1, 2, 3, 4 U.S. or State Highway Numbers | ▲ Picnic or Camp Ground          |
| - - - Main Trails                        | ⊗ Mine                           |
| ++++ Railroads                           | ⊙ Sawmill                        |
| ▲ Supervisor's Headquarters*             | ⊙ Air Port                       |
| ▨ Primitive Area                         | ⊙ Forest Service Landing Field   |
|  | ⊙ Special Interest Area          |

REPORT ALL FIRES HERE

\*Forest headquarters at Boise not shown

R.1E. R.2E. R.3E. R.4E. R.5E. R.6E. R.7E. R.8E. R.9E. R.10E. R.11E. R.12E. R.13E. R.14E.



T.19N.  
T.18N.  
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