

(EPUB Free) Timber and the Forest Service by David A. Clary

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By: David A. Clary

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Nearly onequarter of America is covered with forestsalmost 800 million acres. There are 151 national forests, comprising close to 200 million acres in thirtynine states and Puerto Rico. These protected lands are administered by the U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the Department of Agriculture. David Clary here examines the history of and controversies surrounding the Forest Services policies for timber management in our national forests. In this first indepth study of the political, bureaucratic, social, and ideological relationships between the Forest Service and the production of timber, Clary traces the continuity in the agencys outlook from its creation in 1905 through fears of atimber famine to theclearcutting controversies of the mid 1970s. He shows convincingly that, despite legislative remedies and agency reports, timber production has remained the agency's first priority and that other (multiple usesrecreation, watershed protection, wilderness, livestock grazing, and wildlife managementwere regulated so that they would not interfere with potential timber harvests. Throughout its history, the agency is shown to have been enchanted with the objective of producing timber. Clarys theme, in what he describes as anadministrative, political, scientific, and anecdotal history, is that the Forest Service exhibited consistent actions and attitudes over the years and failed to confront realistically changes in the national culture that altered what the American people wanted from the forests and the Forest Service.

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