

#### THE SAN JUAN NATIONAL FOREST

The present day San Juan National Forest is a combination of the old San Juan and Montezuma National Forests. These two Forests were created by proclamation of President Theodore Roosevelt in June 1905. They were combined into the present San Juan National Forest in July 1947.

The Forest contains 2,086,462 acres, of which 236,615 acres are in State and private ownership.

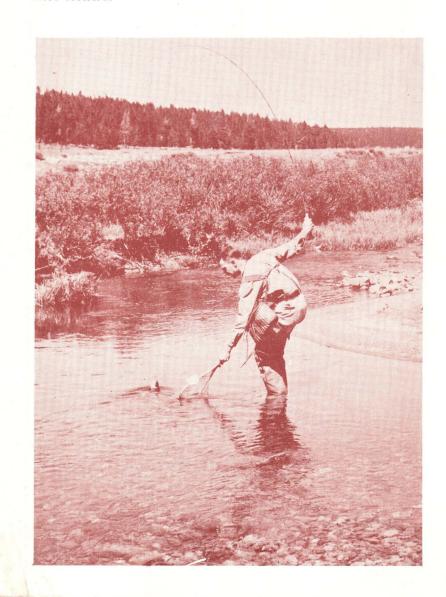
The San Juan National Forest is divided into eight Ranger Districts, each with a forest ranger in charge. These men are responsible for the development, protection, and proper use of all the resources on their districts.

Paved highways #160, #550, #666, #84 are the principal routes leading to the San Juan Forest.



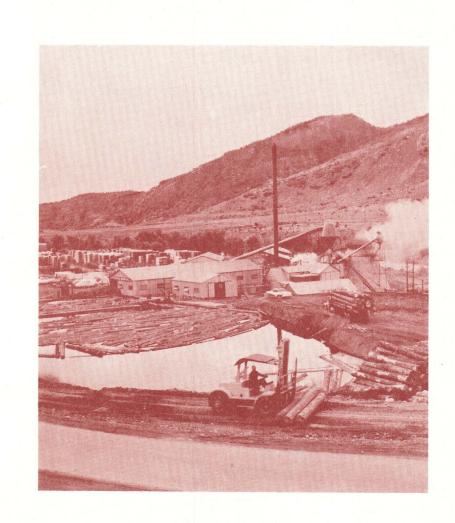
The rugged and scenic San Juan National Forest is a summer and winter playground for the recreation-seeking public. In 1960 over 500,000 people came to the forest to camp, picnic, hunt, fish, hike, ski, and sight-see.

Operation Outdoors is a program to construct new camp and picnic grounds, and to rebuild old campsites to take care of more and more visitors.



### TIMBER

The logging industry is very important to the communities in and around the San Juan National Forest. Each year private operators harvest 50 million board feet of timber from the forest. The logs are cut and hauled to mills where they are made into lumber and other products. These products are shipped all over the country from Los Angeles to New York.

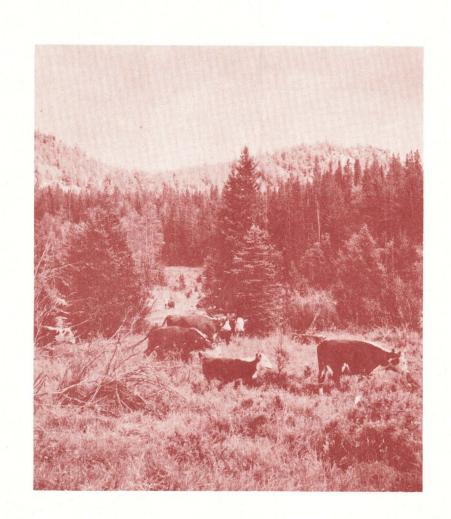


### RANGE

HERITAGE

YOUR NATIONAL FOREST

In 1960, the San Juan National Forest provided summer range for 20,000 cattle and 80,000 sheep. These livestock are owned by local ranchers and contribute greatly to the local economy.



# WILDLIFE AND FISH

WATER

Every year over 2½ million acre feet of water flow from the San Juan National Forest. It means life to many, many families all

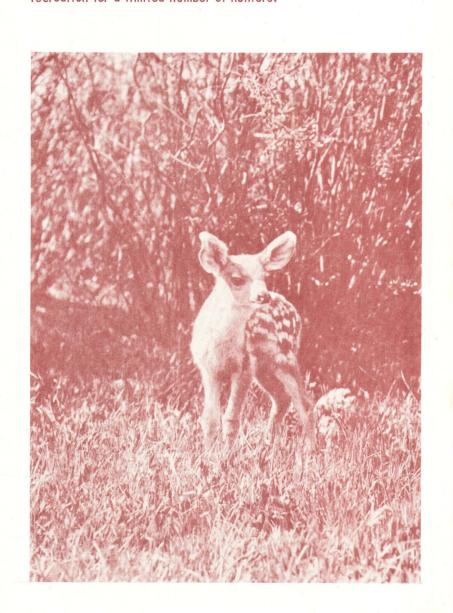
Clear, usable water comes from mountains that are densely covered with vegetation. Without heavy plant cover, rain and snowmelt would run off at once, carry away tons of soil and be unfit

the way from Silverton to Los Angeles.

Some of the finest deer and elk hunting in Colorado is found on the San Juan National Forest.

Fishing is good to excellent, particularly in the back country.

Bighorn sheep and small game, including turkey, hunting furnish recreation for a limited number of hunters.



## HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

The southern part of the Forest is rich in signs of ancient Indian life. These mound and cliff dwellers were the predecessors of the Utes and Navajos, who now live on reservations south of the

In 1765, Captain Juan Marie de Rivera and his party reached the San Juan Basin on an expedition from Santa Fe. This party passed south of the present day town of Durango and crossed what is now the San Juan National Forest west of the La Plata Mountains, proceeding north to the San Miguel River. Padre Francisco Escalante followed approximately the same route

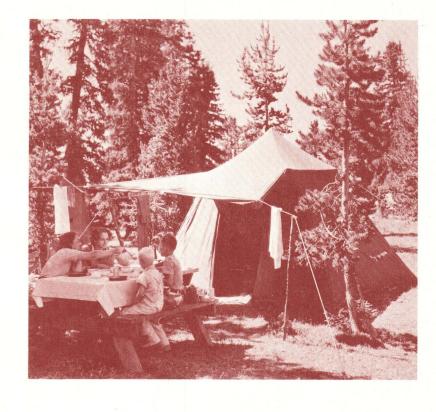
in 1776. Father Escalante is credited with giving Spanish names to many geographical and topographical features. Many of these names have been retained throughout the Forest, but farther north they were replaced by English names, usually of the same mean-

The name of the San Juan National Forest comes from the San Juan River which was originally called the Rio San Juan, after

After these first recorded expeditions, fur trappers and the mountain men followed. An expedition from the St. Louis Fur Company brought a heavy influx of trappers in 1831. In 1860-61 Charles Baker led an expedition into the San Juan Basin from the San Luis Valley. Their camp was established in Baker's Park, the present site of Silverton. From this base, members of the party thoroughly explored the region. Prospectors soon followed and within ten years staked claims near Rico and Silverton. The prospectors were followed by ranchers who were more interested in the lower elevations in the south and west parts of the basin. Cattle raising and the mining industry were responsible for most of the settlement and development within and adjacent to the Forest.

## RULES FOR HEALTH PROTECTION

- 1. PURIFICATION. Mountain streams are seldom pure. Boil or chlorinate all suspected water.
- 2. GARBAGE. Burn or bury all garbage, papers and tin cans or use garbage cans provided in campground
- 3. TOILETS. Use public toilets if available, otherwise bury all human excretions at least 200 feet from streams, lakes or



## CAMP AND PICNIC GROUNDS

- (See Red Figures on Map)
- 1. Overlook Picnic Ground, 2-C, overlooks the 1500 ft. deep Dolores River Canyon, carry water.
- 2. Forks Campground, 5-D, fishing.
- 3. Emerson Picnic Ground, 5-D, No camping, fishing.
- 4. Mavreeso Campground, 5-D, fishing.
- 5. West Dolores Campground, 5-D, fishing.
- 6. Burro-Bridge Campground, 7-C, fishing.
- 7. Priest Gulch Campground, 6-D, fishing, hiking. 8. Cayton Campground, 7-C, fishing.
- 9. Transfer Campground, 6-E.

- 10. Cherry Creek Campground, 6-G.
- 11. Junction Creek Picnic Ground, 8-G, No camping.
- 12. Sig Creek Campground, 8-D, fishing. 13. Columbine Campground, 8-D.
- 14. Purgatory Campground, 8-D, hiking. 15. Lime Creek Campground, 9-D, fishing.
- 16. South Mineral Campground, 9-C, fishing, hiking, very rough and scenic surroundings.
- 17. Transfer Park Campground, 9-F, fishing, hiking.
- 18. Old Timers Campground, 10-F, boat launching.
- 19. Graham Creek Campground, 10-F, boat launching.

22. Aspen Point Picnic Ground, 10-F, No camping.

- 20. North Canyon Campground, 10-F. 21. Pine Point Campground, 10-F.
- 23. Vallecito Campground, 10-E, fishing, hiking, trail to San Juan Wilderness Area.
- 24. Middle Mountain Campground, 10-F.
- 25. Pine River Campground, 10-F, horse unloading, corrals and parking available, trail to San Juan Wilderness Area.
- 26. Lower Piedra Campground, 12-G, fishing.
- 27. Piedra Campground, 13-F, fishing, hiking.
- 28. Bridge Campground, 13-E, fishing.
- 29. Williams Creek Campground, 12-E, fishing.
- 30. Little Brook Campground, 12-E, fishing at Williams Creek
- 31. Cimarrona Campground, 13-E, fishing, trails to San Juan Wilderness Area.
- 32. East Fork Campground, 15-F, fishing, hiking. 33. Wolf Creek Campground, 15-F, fishing.
- 34. West Fork Campground, 15-F, fishing.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

San Juan Wilderness Area -- includes approximately 250,000 acres of scenic alpine country extending from the Needle Mountains along the Continental Divide to the headwaters of the West Fork of the San Juan River. Contains many streams, lakes, waterfalls, colorful mountain meadows accessible only by trail on foot or horseback.

Wilson Mountains Wild Area -- 27,347 acres of alpine country surrounding Mt. Wilson, and El Diente Peak (both over 14,000 ft.) and including Navajo Lake.

The Narrow Guage Railroad, once the principle means of transporting heavy freight into the San Juan Basin, now conducts daily passenger trips every summer through the San Juan National Forest between Durango and Silverton, Colorado. In 1960 over 36,000 visitors made the historic ride through the deep canyons

of the Animas River.

Needle Mountains -- located on the divide between Animas River and Vallecito Creek. This range is one of the roughest in the United States. Windom Peak, Mount Aoleus and Sunlight Peak, all over 14,000 feet, plus a score of other peaks make the Needle Mountains a paradise for Mountain Climbers.

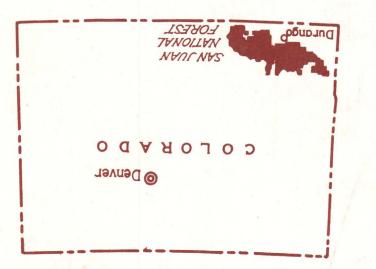


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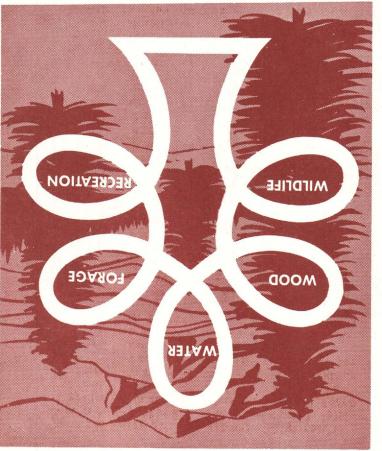
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is fundamentally a hallmark of service to a growing America. Each of these symbols, whether appearing separately or together,

aged for the benefit of all the people. Uses" represents the National Forests as a public property man-The National Forest Symbol, with its slogan "Lands of Many



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PROTECT YOUR FORESTS You have so many reasons to