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The Gardener’s Ethic and Other Lessons from Forest Planning [outline]

Peter M. Emerson

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The Gardener's Ethic and Other Lessons from Forest Planning

Peter M. Emerson

Vice President
Resource Planning and Economics
The Wilderness Society

The Public Lands During the Remainder of the 20th Century: Planning, Law, and Policy in the Federal Land Agencies

Natural Resources Law Center
University of Colorado School of Law
June 8-10, 1987
I. Forest Planning -- The Process at Work
   A. National Forest Management Act of 1976
   B. Status of forest planning nationwide
   C. Assessing the results of forest planning

II. Conservationist Goals for the National Forests
   A. Protect wildlands and biological diversity; promote low impact, ecological forestry; strengthen resource stewardship; preserve cultural resources and scenic beauty; expand the constituency of interested citizens.
   B. Some specific proposals.
   C. Changing demands on America's forestland.

III. Lessons of Forest Planning
A. The "gardener's ethic" -- bring the national forests under active management.
B. No overall change in suitable timberland.
C. Increased emphasis on logging and road construction, more below-cost timber sales and taxpayer losses.
D. Threats to water quality and fisheries.
E. Loss of wildlife habitat and biological diversity.
F. Recreation and scenic values.
G. Allocation of future expenditures.

IV. Where Do We Go From Here?

A. Passing a law is not enough.

B. Strategies -- short-run and long-run.