In the Stream

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A "Weyco" Experience

by Kirsten Held

Educational . . . thought-provoking . . . fun-filled . . . rewarding . . .

These are a few of the adjectives I would use to describe my 1979 summer work experience. I was an intern with Weyerhaeuser in Mountain Pine, Arkansas.

The program is designed to give interns a broad view of the company management policies and practices. I was shifted among various work assignments ranging from timber inventory to scaling logs in the mill. I was also given the opportunity to spend some time in the public affairs department of the Hot Springs office.

The final job of the summer was helping to collect data for a logging study. This research project was an evaluation of the tree harvester being used by Weyerhaeuser.

Weekends were generally spent recovering from a hard week of work, exploring the exciting town of Hot Springs, and relaxing at the "intern's abode" by Lake Hamilton.

The work assignments, the chance to meet and talk with people in all ranks of the company and seminars about Weyco all helped make the summer of 1979 an educational experience which I'll always remember.

In the Stream

by Carole Gillespie

While most of the country was in a shortage of water this past summer, I saw an abundance of it everyday. My job kept me literally in the streams of Packwood Ranger District, in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington. Larry (my partner) and I carried out stream stability and fish population surveys. Larry took care of the fish, while I did the watershed aspect.

My job consisted of dividing the stream into reaches according to changing conditions and evaluating landform slopes adjacent to the channel, mass wasting hazards, debris jam potentials, vegetative bank protection, channel capacity, bank rock content, obstruction and flow deflectors, plus a few other problems such as under bank cutting, etc. These surveys were to aid in reclassifying streams, and also to designate areas that needed work, for example, debris jams that threatened downstream installations such as bridges.

The job also had many challenges: how to get over and around a 100 foot water fall when the sidewalls were bedrock and you were wearing "lead" chestwaders two sizes too big; or how to tell if you are surveying the right stream when you had to walk a mile to get to it and it disappears into a swamp, or how deep a pool is when the water is so clear that the bottom looks only two feet away (and its really closer to five feet). The best part of stream surveying is seeing the part of the district that most people have not or ever will see, and that makes it very unique.

Weyerhaeuser nursery in Magnolia, Ark.

Kirsten spent part of her summer collecting time-motion data on this tree harvester.

Tree harvester in action.