

THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

May 20, 1948

SKAGIT BRIDGE WILL RELEASE MUCH TIMBER

FOREST SERVICE POINTS OUT HUGE TIMBER STANDS TO COME OUT THIS WAY

Forest service officials at Portland estimate that approximately 20 million feet of timber a year on sustained yield cutting will be the timber yield to come across the proposed Skagit river bridge at the Dalles if the bridge is built within the next few years.

H. J. Andrew, Regional Forester at Portland, was in this city Tuesday with Phil H. Bradner of the Bellingham office and told of a recent conference held at Portland with H. O. Walberg, county engineer. In response to a request for information on the amount of timber from National Forest land that would benefit by a bridge. Mr. Andrews prepared an estimated in a letter to the county commissioners, which read:

“I am sure you will realize that since National Forest timber is sold competitively and since the area that would be served by the proposed bridge is already accessible to some degree from presently established log transportation routes, it is impossible for me to forecast with accuracy the amount of National Forest timber that would move over the new bridge if it were built. It seems reasonable to assume, however, that half of the available timber in the Suiattle drainage would be benefited, and that all of the National Forest timber in the Phinney Mill, Pressentin and Quartz Creeks would logically move down the Skagit if a suitable crossing in the neighborhood of Concrete were available. The National Forest timber volume in the Suiattle watershed is estimated to be 864

million feet B.M. In the other drainages mentioned, the total is slightly over a billion. If one-half of that in the Suiattle is added to this latter figure, it appears that about 1½ billion feet of National Forest timber might be beneficially affected by the proposed bridge. Converted to sustained allowable annual cut, this would amount to something in the neighborhood of 20 million feet per year.