

# Pacific Northwest

Of interest to those concerned with elk and deer population management is the decision by the U.S. Forest Service to go forward with a proposed 10-year study of interactions among elk, deer, and cattle in the Starkey Experimental Forest and Range, 30 miles southwest of La Grande, OR. The study aims at establishing animal unit equivalencies similar to the animal unit month (AUM) for cattle and to establish procedures for allocating forage for various combinations of deer, elk, and cattle. Other study objectives include determination of the effects of intensive forest management and the influence of different levels of traffic on forest roads on deer and elk. Very low male-to-female ratios and the effects of breeding by immature males on elk herd reproduction also will be investigated.

\* \* \*

Ecology of coarse woody debris (CWD) in temperate ecosystems is the title and subject of a nearly book-length article by M.E. Harmon, Jerry Franklin, F.J. Swanson and 10 other authors in *Advances in Ecological Research*, Vol. 15, London; New York [and others], Academic Press; 1986: pp. 133-302.

Input, decomposition, amount and distribution, and roles of coarse woody debris are presented and analyzed. Conclusions compare CWD in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and consider the effects of human activities on such debris. The summary suggests several recently documented areas where better scientific understanding of functions and natural factors influencing CWD dynamics should lead to more enlightened management practices.

\* \* \*

A doctoral thesis by William D. Newmark of the University of Michigan, "Mammalian richness, colonization, and extinction in western North American national parks," and an article by Dr. Newmark in *Biological Conservation*, 33:197-208, are available on a loan basis from the Pacific Northwest Regional Library in Seattle and from Olympic NP Library.

according to Olympic Park Chief of Natural Science  
Studies, John H. Aho.