

LOGGING AND SAWMILLS



Horse logging in winter

Early pioneers to Meadows Valley began logging as a necessity for building materials and firewood. Sawmills sprang up to make lumber from the logs, so logging and sawmills quickly became mutually beneficial industries.

Jack Morgan began his logging career with Boise Payette Lumber Co. (now Boise Cascade Corp.).

In 1946 he purchased half of Boise Payette's logging division and moved his operation to New Meadows. Morgan progressed to become very influential in western logging associations and was

known for his many inventions, including heeling booms, bunk locks, loading rigs on tractors, and aerial cable logging apparatus.

By the mid 1900's J.I. Morgan, Inc. had grown to become one of the largest logging companies in the western U.S. and for years was the primary economic factor in New Meadows. J.I. Morgan, Inc. still occupies the same location at the edge of town near the P&IN Railway depot. The logging industry continues to be economically important to Meadows Valley.



Logging truck being loaded Circa 1950



Jack Morgan on location



J. I. Morgan, Inc. Truck line up, Circa 1960



Ira Irwin sawmill #13, circa 1925



Price Valley Lumber Co., Tamarack, 1950



Evergreen Forest, Tamarack Sawmill, LLC present day

Note: the railroad trestle in the Price Valley photo can be seen in the Evergreen photo.

In the early 20th century there were several sawmills of various sizes in Meadows Valley. Ira Irwin owned a number of these mills in the 1920's. In 1946 Price Valley Lumber Co. obtained the Richardson's Mill located along

the railroad tracks in Tamarack just west of New Meadows on Highway 95. After continuing modernization efforts Tamarack Mill, LLC has survived and been rebuilt, now owned and operated by Evergreen Forests.