



From the U.S. Weather Service or your local Soil Conservation Service, find out what percent of rainfall they estimate goes into sources (aquifers, streams, etc.) available for human consumption. How would this compare with the same amount of rainfall falling on a plot of the same size in open prairie, for example?

Calculate approximately what the forest is worth as a watershed. Attempt to calculate what the forest is worth as a watershed to living things other than people.

**WILDLIFE VALUE.** Find out what types of wildlife inhabit this forest land. How many animals and birds? Are there any deer, turkey, quail, or other species that are hunted by humans?

Determine how much money local hunters spend on licenses, guns, ammunition, equipment, lodging, travel, and guides. Include any forms of nonconsuming uses related to wildlife (photography and bird watching, for instance) that generate economic income in this area. What is the total wildlife value (as measured in dollars) of this land?

Describe the wildlife value of this land other than in dollars; for example, as a gene pool for future generations.

**RECREATIONAL VALUE.** Determine what forms of recreation take place in the forest. Find out what camping or park-

ing charges are levied per day. How many people use this forest for camping or other recreation, and how much money do they spend in the area? What is the total recreational value measured in dollars? What recreational values in the forest are not easily measured in dollars?

**FORAGE VALUE.** Determine whether cattle or sheep could use this land for grazing. How many animals could it support? How much are the animals worth on today's market? What are the total forage values, economic and otherwise?

The forest's intangible values for wildlife, meteorological influences, and natural beauty are hard to calculate but are nonetheless real and worthy of consideration.

If the community wanted to clear this forest in order to build homes, provide farm sites, or put in a highway, how would the proposal influence the land's value? Decide which uses make the land more valuable. To whom? Specify how you are measuring value. Find another way to measure value. Does your answer change?

Decide whether the various values determined for the forest could be applied to other areas of the same size but of different forest types. Specify what variables might make a difference in the economic (or the intangible) values of the area, and from whose viewpoint.