## Assistant ag secretary asks wood conservation

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. he United States must earn to conserve wood, ather than increase tumber production, if there is to be society's future needs, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture M. Rupert Cutler said.
"'Today's
esources are natural sarcer and more difficult and costly to extract", Cutler said. "Now and in the future it may well be cheaper to conserve than to produce additional
restructure our policies to fiber,"he sald address these new realities. "We must delhberately seek to hold down the rise in demand for raw'timber by meeting consumer demand more efficiently," he said.
"We can do this by in creasing the recovery of wood fiber in hugh-value products, by improving the efficiency in using wood efficiency in using wood products for construction
and other purposes, and by developing wood and by recycling systems to reduce prove efficiency include: --Using experimental truss-frame house designs that could save a billion board feet of lumber a year; -Using smaller pieces of lumber to make wide-width and long lumber could save another billion board feet per year; and
-Makıng stronger papers from lower quality pulps. Cutler said some future ncreases in timber production were possible
from public forests, but the more promising opportunities to increase production are on private lands. However, he said, the overall increase would not be enough to meet current trends in demands, unless wood conservation practices are also adopted.
Cutler announced plans to provide centralized expertise for dealing with problems of managing pest vegetation, the brush which competes with new forest plantation. He said this expertise in research and

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echnology will provide Service to use specia olicy for using en- criteria to decide when the anmentally acceptable application of the herbicid n forests and vegetation $2,4-D$ is appropriate. He said using these criteria wilu to public concern about the use the most essential needs and phenoxy herbicides, consideration of human ent said he had instructed health and environmenta


