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Ploughing as a method of
site preparation in
northern Vancouver Island
Interim Report

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Ploughing as a method of site preparation in northern Vancouver Island

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(for Regions - Silviculture Officer)

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(for Regions - Forestry Manager)
Growth of 200 western hemlock seedlings on four plots established north of Port McNeill in 1981 was measured this year. The greatest incremental increase over last year's measurement occurred in the area that was burned and plowed (11.9 cm). This was followed by the area that was only burned (11.1 cm). The area that was unburned and plowed has the third greatest increase (8.2 cm), while the unburned and unplowed area had the smallest increase (5.5 cm). Statistical analysis of these data will be presented in a detailed report in 1983.

Site treatment was also carried out on Malcolm Island early in 1982. A control area was established and monitoring of survival and height growth of 170 planted western hemlock and amabilis fir was initiated in the fall of 1982.

Plans are to continue monitoring height growth of seedlings in both areas and to carry out a foliar analysis in 1983. In addition, the invasion of salal into the treated areas should be evaluated since poor seedling performance often seems to be related to intensity of salal competition.