TRIAL SUMMARY

SX 84405 V

TITLE: Salal Removal and Its Impact on Crop Tree Performance (MB 314.2)

OFFICER I/C: B.G. Dunsworth (MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., Woodlands Services Division, Nanaimo, B.C.)

LOCATION: TFL 39

REGION/DISTRICT: Vancouver Forest Region

OBJECTIVE: 1. To determine the survival, height and volume effects of salal removal on Douglas-fir crop trees. 2. To determine the micro-climatic and physiological changes to crop trees resulting from salal understorey removal.

PROGRESS: Preliminary analysis indicated that, although average height growth and caliper growth differences between treated and nontreated plots in both plantations was slight, cumulative volume was 50% greater on treated as compared to nontreated plots.

NEXT SCHEDULED ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT: Spring 1985

REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Interim Report/September 1985:

Silviculture Branch, Victoria

Research Branch, Victoria

Silviculture Section, Vancouver Region

All Forest Districts, Vancouver Region
TRIAL SUMMARY

SX: 84405 V

TITLE: Salal Removal and Its Impact on Crop Tree Performance (MB 314.2)

OFFICER I/C: B.G. Dunworth, MacMillan Bloedel Ltd.
Woodlands Services Division
65 Front Street, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5H9

LOCATION: TFL 39

REGION/DISTRICT: Vancouver Forest Region

OBJECTIVE: 1. To determine the survival, height and volume effects of salal removal on Douglas-fir crop trees.
2. To determine the micro-climatic and physiological changes to crop trees resulting from salal understory removal.

PROGRESS: This project was initiated to determine if vegetation control of salal (Gaultheria shallon Perch) in Douglas-fir/salal ecosystems on the east coast of Vancouver Island could provide significant survival and volume growth gains to warrant treatment. Salal has a major impact on the seasonal water budget on these sites. Significant increases in water availability during the growing season could result in yield benefits.

The project was established on adjacent 12 and 25-year-old Douglas-fir plantations. Two growing seasons of salal vegetation control have resulted in an approximate 57 percent increase in relative volume growth and a 17 percent increase in relative height growth for Douglas-fir during the second growing season in the young stands. No significant differences in height or volume growth were evident in the older stand. The improved performance in the young stand is attributed to improved soil water storage and higher seasonal predawn PMS.

NEXT SCHEDULED ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT: Fall 1986

REPORT DISTRIBUTION: Interim Report/April 1986
Silviculture Branch, Victoria
Research Branch, Victoria
Silviculture Section, Vancouver Region
All Forest Districts, Vancouver Region
Silviculture
B.G. Dunsworth

Salal Removal and its Impact on Crop Tree Performance (MB 314.2)

Technician i/c: B.G. Dunsworth

Location: TFL 39

Region/District or Nursery: V

Objective:
1. To determine the survival, height and volume effects of salal removal on Douglas-fir crop trees.
2. To determine the micro-climatic and physiological changes to crop trees resulting from salal understory removal.

Progress: Working plan has been submitted.


Report Distribution: Silviculture Branch, Victoria
Research Branch, Victoria
Silviculture Section, Vancouver Region
All Forest Districts, Vancouver Region

Incomplete