Shading of Interior Douglas-fir and Planting

Establishment Report  (May 15, 1986)  T. Newsome

Objectives: To determine if a shading structure over the top of a newly planted interior Douglas-fir seedling will protect it from frost damage and so aid in the establishment of plantations.

Stock:
Species: Fd1
Type: PSB 313
Seedlot: 2439
Nursery: World Silviculture
Number: 200 seedlings planted

Site:
The project was established in the Williams Lake Forest District within the fenced area at the Em fire in the SW corner (refer to attached maps). The site specifics are given below:

Biogeoclimatic subzone: IDFb2
Elevation: 1,000 m
History: Wildfire 1971
Vegetation: Predominantly Calamagrostis rubescens and Shepherdia canadensis

Trial Establishment: Four blocks were laid out side by side. In each block there were two rows, one for each treatment. Twenty-five trees were planted in every row for a total of 200 trees. The treatments were assigned randomly to a row. A stake was placed at the beginning of each row with a metal tag indicating the row number and the treatment. The block layout is shown on the attached maps.

Louis Heilbig planted the trees. No site preparation including screeing was used. After planting, a piece of 50% shading cloth was placed over the seedling 8 to 12 cm from the terminal bud. This cloth was stretched across a 30 cm x 30 cm wooden frame. The control trees were marked with flags. Flags were not used on the shaded trees.

During the fall measurements the shading cloth was removed and the shaded trees were all flagged.

Weather: Partly cloudy with light breezes. The temperature was approximately +8°C.

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