WORKING PLAN FOR SITE PREPARATION TRIALS

OBJECTIVE

To compare the performance and survival of seedlings on different site prepared areas.

HYPOTHESIS

Great improvements have been made over the last few years in our seedling quality and quantity, stock handling, and planting which has resulted in better survival yet many areas remain NSR due to other constraints. The micro site for the seedlings must be improved to further increase seedling survival and growth. Two treatments shall be tested on a heavily brushed in site on Birk Mountain near Barriere. (C.P. 48, T.S.H.L. A00553)

DESIGN

To prepare a site with:

1. V Blade
2. Ripper trencher

The 23.3 hectares that were treated had a random treatment by rows over the whole area. In the spring of 1987, within the two treatment areas, two stock types (1-0) & (2-0) plug spruce will be planted. Each block will have 100 of each stock type planted and each treatment shall be replicated 3 times. A control area will also be established in the untreated brush area.

MEASUREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4 Week</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Survival</td>
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<td>Growth Height</td>
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The degree of brushing in or competition will also be noted yearly.

DATA COLLECTION

Balco will be responsible for the collection and initial tabulation of the survival and growth data which shall be forwarded to the Regional and District Offices of the Ministry of Forests.
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SITE PREPARATION TRIALS

COST ESTIMATES

1986
Site Preparation $5,028.00

1987
Planting and Measurements $1,500.00

1988-91
Measurements ($500 x 4) $2,000.00

TOTAL COST $8,520.00
A total of 23.3 ha. was treated on C.P. 48 Block B. The original design to randomize blocks of the two treatments was very difficult to achieve due to the amount of alder and wet ground. As a result, individual trials of varying length of the two treatments were done over the whole area. Because there was a large area treated there is an opportunity to compare survival and growth on both an alder and rhododendron site. As illustrated by the photos there has been a marked improvement for planting by both types of site treatments. Unfortunately I was unable to take photos before the treatment was done. Also the difference in treatment is also difficult to determine because of the harshness of the treatment. In 1987 a close examination of the site will show the mounded furrows as opposed to the track impression of the cat.

Generally any mechanical treatment on these sites will create a plantable site. The establishment and survival of the seedlings must be secured before the ingress of the brush occurs. It is hoped that the mounding by trenching will create the microsite for early root growth and ultimate survival.
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>120 B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 1986 Site Preparation</td>
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**Invoice Number N° 0331**

**Date**

Invoice Date: 7 November 1986

**To:** Baco Industries Ltd

**VOC 120**

Heffley Creek, B.C.

**Att:** Dennis Arkat

**Phone:** 376-7227

**Box 56, Merritt, B.C. - VOX 280**