Working Plan for SXnmnnV - Slow-Release Fertilizer Trial

1. Objectives:
   a. Obtain estimates of the time required for application of Osmocote 17-7-12 to trees.
   b. Quantify the impact of fertilizer treatment on height, caliper at base and crown width of western hemlock and western red-cedar; monitor cover and height of species competing with planted trees; assess degree of damage caused by deer or other agents of destruction.

2. Location:

   Vancouver Forest Region, Malcolm Island (BCGS map 92L066), unit G of opening 5 and unit F of opening 32.

3. Methods:

   This trial will consist of 4 experiments, two on unit G and 2 on unit F which has been spot site prepared the preceding fall. One of the two experiments on an area will involve western hemlock the other, western red-cedar. Each experiment will consist of 8 rows of 25 planted trees. The rows and trees in rows will be 2.69 m apart. Four of the rows (randomly chosen) will then be fertilized with 29.4 g of Osmocote 17-7-12. The fertilizer will be placed in a slit which is 7.5 cm upslope from and perpendicular to the root ball. Western red-cedar will be protected from deer with tubes of plastic screen. The experiment with western hemlock will be on sites rated as mesic while that with western red-cedar will be on sites rated as hygric to subhydric. When the experiments are established the time required for planting, fertilization and plastic tube installation will be recorded. At the time of establishment and two growing seasons after trees have been planted their height, caliper at the base, crown width and condition will be assessed. Also, the cover and mean canopy height of the three major competing species that are growing within a 0.5 m radius of the tree will be quantified. Data presentation will be by summary tables; t-tests will be used as appropriate to test for significance of differences.

4. Dates of Planting and Assessment:


5. Summarize and Report:


6. Report Distribution:

   Research and Silviculture officers, Vancouver Forest Region (VFR), District Manager, Port McNeill Forest District.
   Research Branch and Silviculture Branch directors.

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