DRAFT #5

Silviculture Prescription
Block A36909 - Demonstration Block
Gough Creek

1 INTRODUCTION

Increasing concerns about the impact of clearcutting on aesthetics, wildlife habitat, and other resource values has stimulated interest in partial cutting systems. The shelterwood harvesting system is one alternative which may help integrate timber objectives with other resource values.

The shelterwood system involves the gradual removal of the entire stand in a series of cuttings extending over a fraction of stand rotation. Natural regeneration (and planted if required) establishes and grows with even-aged structure beneath the shelter of the canopy of the older stand.

This plan summarizes the prescription of a uniform shelterwood with reserves on a timber sale (A36909) near Roberts Creek. The uniform shelterwood with reserves system is a modification of a traditional shelterwood since reserves are retained throughout the rotation of the new stand. The reserves retained have the potential to become snags, important habitat for a wide range of birds and mammals and add to the structural diversity of the site. Research and operational experience acquired during the harvesting of this block will be utilized in establishment of the Roberts Creek Silviculture Systems Research Project.

Management objectives on this block are:

1) Maintain an overstory following harvesting for wildlife and aesthetics reasons throughout the rotation of the new stand,

2) Regenerate an even-aged stand of Douglas-fir and western redcedar,

3) Maintain water quality reaching users at Roberts Creek by preserving the integrity of streams and other water courses within the research area.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

Proposed block for the shelterwood trial is a 8 ha site above the community of Roberts Creek on the Sunshine coast (Fig 1 and 2).
4.6 Intermediate Treatments

Thinning may be required for stocking control. Western hemlock, if any, can be removed in this treatment. Thinning should retain a mixture of other species (including deciduous) although Douglas-fir should remain the dominant species following treatment.
TIMBER SALE LICENSE A36909

OPERATIONAL TIMBER CRUISE

Panfor Consulting Ltd.
March 8, 1990.

INSET SCALE: 1 : 20,000