SILVICULTURE TRIAL

Title: Variable Density Commercial Thinning of a H (BS) 42M7 site to study growth response.
Officer: C.H. Spangl (under Roxton Chan)
Location: Clear Creek (Rosswood) Map Opening 103 I 087 044
Region: Prince Rupert
District: Kalum

Objective: Treatment 1: No treatment, maintain 2260 stems/hectare
Treatment 2: Thin to 600 stems/hectare from 2071 stems/hectare.
Treatment 3: Thin to 800 stems/hectare from 2200 stems/hectare.
Treatment 4: Thin to 1000 stems/hectare from 2116 stems/hectare.

Objective is to commercially thin older fire oriented immature stands whose growth rate (particularly diameter growth) have seriously decreased over the last 20 years to the point that their potential to become merchantable in the next 30 to 40 years is in doubt. Response to treatment is to be monitored on 5 year intervals up until the final harvest caliper has been obtained.

Additional information that we intend to collect is the rate at which the stand achieves crown closure at various densities, and the amount of understorey brush species that may begin to occupy the site with the hope that this will improve ungulate use of the area.

Progress: To date the area has been layed out and cruised. The cruise was altered to include stems from 17.4cm d.b.h. down to 10.0 cm. d.b.h. Thinning is scheduled to commence April 15, 1993 but this is subject to change due to snowfall.

C.H. Spangl
R.A. Incremental Silviculture