

Growth and Yield Monitoring Task Force

Development of Monitoring Protocols for the Provincial Inventory

The Province of British Columbia has various procedures for inventorying the forest resources. These inventory values are periodically assessed and from these base values, the resource is projected into the future using a variety of growth and yield projection models. How well are these models reflecting reality in the field? This question will be answered largely through the establishment of monitoring protocols. The intent of monitoring is to provide feedback data from an independent set of statistically reliable samples. Monitoring will also address issues such as, "how is my inventory changing over time?" These protocols are being developed as part of the Vegetation Resources Inventory Ground Sampling Program.

Efforts to develop provincial monitoring protocols commenced in 1996 with the creation of a Growth and Yield Monitoring Task Force (GYMTF). This work, as requested by the Forest Productivity Council (FPC) on behalf of the Chief Forester, led to the establishment of a multi-disciplinary group to evaluate issues. Three main areas of interest were identified:

1. Single Tree;
2. Silviculture; and
3. Inventory.

A team of specialists was formed for each of these interest areas and was tasked with identifying monitoring needs and proposed solutions. The groups reported out their findings and recommendations at a Mesachie Lake workshop in June 1997. At this workshop, all aspects of monitoring were reviewed and a set of recommendations was developed that were subsequently accepted by the FPC later that fall. This process was followed by establishing a two-year contract to J.S. Thrower and Associates to advance the recommendations from the Task Force by developing monitoring protocols.

The results from the contract work are currently being implemented throughout the province as a series of pilots. It is anticipated that these monitoring protocols will be added to the VRI Toolset to address both inventory and growth and yield needs.

This website contains relevant documents and reports arising from this process. At the current time (June 2000), all of the monitoring protocols are DRAFT until approved by the Resources Inventory Committee (RIC).

For further information, please contact Jon Vivian, Chair, GYMTF at (250) 356-7185.

Reports on this website are grouped by the following criteria:

1. GYMTF: reports related to workings of the GYMTF;
2. Reports to March 1998;
3. Reports to December 1999; and
4. Reports to March 2000.

New information will be included, as it becomes available