Editor’s Note

This is the third in a series of newsletters that will provide updates on the activities of the Stand Tending Unit, Forest Practices Branch, BC Ministry of Forests. Although the Stand Tending Unit is involved in many activities, this newsletter focuses on a single theme—predicting outcomes of stand-tending treatments.

I hope you enjoy the brief, informal articles in this newsletter. At this time, I anticipate four issues over a one-year period—one per season.

If you have any comments on anything you read in this newsletter, please contact me.

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Attention Information Junkies

Frank Barber has compiled three compendiums of literature: Pruning for Value (June 1997), Compendium of Literature on Partial Pruning (June 1999), and Compendium of Spacing Literature (April 1999). These compendiums contain the latest published research and technical papers on operational procedures, research trial results, and the impact of these treatments on wood volume, wood quality, return on investment, and other resource objectives. Two additional compendiums (on forest fertilization and the impacts of enhanced forestry practices on wood quality) will be available this fall.

Copies of these compendiums have been circulated to each region and district. If you would like a copy of one of them, please contact Frank Barber at 250-387-8910.
The New OAF1 Survey Simplified

1. Most harvested areas develop numerous small gaps in tree stocking.

2. Stocking gaps reduce yield.

3. When you enter a #/ha into TIPSY, the program assumes a pattern of trees on the ground.

4. A stand may have a different stem pattern than TIPSY assumes.
5. The correct OAF1 is necessary in order to account for the difference between the tree locations assumed by TIPSY and the tree locations in the real stand.

6. There is a new survey for estimating OAF1.

7. This publication describes the new survey.

8. To obtain more information, call Pat Martin (250) 356-0305, or access the following publications on our website:
Timber Growing Potential of 1.6 Million Hectares of Regenerated Forest Land

The Integrated Silviculture Information System, or ISIS, is the provincial store-house for data on millions of hectares of harvested and regenerated forest land. With FRBC funding directed through the Site Productivity Working Group, we are adding site index estimates to ISIS forest cover polygons that lack them. Obtaining these site index estimates involves comparing each polygon’s ecological classification to a table that shows average site index by ecosystem. In 1998, this process was used to add site index estimates to 100,000 ISIS forest cover polygons. This year, work on the project will continue with the Major Licensee Silviculture Information System (MLSIS).

One by-product of this process is a summary of area by potential MAI class for the 1.6 million hectares of young forest in ISIS to which missing site index estimates have been added. Potential MAI is the mean annual increment of merchantable volume/ha that good silviculture is likely to produce at culmination age. Figure 1 shows the distribution of area by potential MAI class by region for this 1.6 M hectares.

For more information, contact Pat Martin (250-356-0305) or access the project report in pdf format on our branch web site at: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/pubs/interest/ISIS/ISIS.pdf

Figure 1. Area by potential MAI class by region for 1.6 million hectares in ISIS.
Courses

Want to do a better job selecting the equipment to use, identifying the right sites for treatment, and prescribing treatments that will yield the results you want? Consider taking one of our courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>What is the course about?</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How to determine site index in silviculture</td>
<td>Site index (SI) concepts, selecting the best method for estimating SI, and field training in the correct use of the new methods for estimating SI.</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest fertilization</td>
<td>How to plan, initiate, implement, and monitor a forest fertilization program in your management unit.</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pruning</td>
<td>The pruning techniques, equipment, and standards necessary to maximize the return on your pruning investment.</td>
<td>1/2 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood quality</td>
<td>Basic wood properties, the impact of silvicultural activities on these properties, and how to build treatment regimes to produced desired wood properties and products.</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using growth and yield concepts to build effective stand tending prescriptions and programs</td>
<td>How to use stand growth simulators and stand development concepts to create prescriptions and silviculture programs that meet your timber or non-timber objectives.</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines for developing stand density management regimes</td>
<td>The importance of stand density control, why and how to determine appropriate stand densities to meet specific stand level objectives, and tools that can assist field foresters in determining appropriate stand densities for their management regimes.</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prognosis training</td>
<td>How to run the new stand growth simulator, PrognosisBC.</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Cuts 99 Demo</td>
<td>Demonstration of equipment used for partial cutting, and the harvesting, forwarding and milling equipment available for small volume removal. Part Cuts 99 will be held September 15/16, 1999 in Vanderhoof.</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial thinning</td>
<td>The planning and implementation of a commercial thinning program to meet Forest Practices Code requirements.</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several of our courses are offered through the FCSN. Visit their web site at http://www.fcsn.bc.ca/ or call toll-free 1-877-222-9993 to see what is currently being offered. To arrange for a course to be delivered on-demand, call Ralph Winter at 250-387-8906.
New On Our Web Site

Our web site contains numerous recent publications. Here are some of the titles you’ll find listed at http://www.for.gov.bc.ca./hfp/hfp.htm.

OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND PRACTICES

Strategic Silviculture Planning
MS Powerpoint presentations:
  - Type I Silviculture Strategies.
  - Incremental Silviculture Strategy for B.C. ppt., 2,905 k. Posted July 8, 1999
Forest Level Analysis for Silviculture Investments - Workplan Draft 10. MS Word 7, 165 k. Posted July 8, 1999

Stand Density Management
Chief Forester’s Policy on stand density management. Adobe Acrobat pdf, 40 k. Posted March 8, 1999
Pre-Commerical Thinning Operational Guidelines. Posted February 15, 1999
Guidelines for Developing Stand Density Management Regimes
  - Guidelines for Developing Stand Density Management Regimes | PDF version (335 k) Posted February 10, 1999
  - Description of revisions to the maximum density requirements in section 13 of the Silviculture Practices Regulation deposited December 18, 1998. Posted February 10, 1999

Stand Tending Unit Newsletters
Predicting Outcomes - newsletter from the Stand Tending Unit, March 1999. Posted April 1, 1999
Predicting Outcomes - newsletter from the Stand Tending Unit, November 1998. Posted January 15, 1999

OAF 1 Project
OAF 1 Project Report #1 - An Overview of Stocking Gaps and OAF 1 Estimates for TIPSY. Posted November 6, 1998

TRAINING

How to Determine Site Index: Participants’ Workbook 999. Posted April 9, 1999