



To: ✓ C.M. Johnson, Director,  
Silviculture Branch

K. Illingworth, Director,  
Research Branch

From: Silviculture Branch

Date: September 10, 1986

File: 955-14-9

Re: Coastal Douglas-fir Seed Zones and Seed Transfer Rules

The Task Group appointed to review seed zone boundaries and seed transfer rules has now concluded its study of Coastal Douglas-fir. Attached for your review and approval are the group's recommendations regarding the use and movement of Coastal Douglas-fir seed.


In its deliberations on this subject, the group made much use of C. Ying's analysis and interpretation of the 17-year results of E.P. 599. From this (albeit short-term) data, a number of conclusions were reached and formed the basis of the group's recommendations. These are summarized and attached for your review.

The Task Group undertook two field trips, with selected guests, to observe first hand, some of the plantations established under E.P. 599. Whenever time permitted, the group also examined progeny tests established under E.P. 708 and other tests or silvicultural projects pertinent to this study. Each of the field trips was culminated by group discussion during which, trial data was presented and discussed in the light of what was seen on the tour. A number of other presentations were also heard, among which was a report by three Task Group members of their visit to some sites of the U.S.F.S. 1912 Heredity Study.


In addition, comment on the preliminary recommendations (November, 1985) was solicited, and received from scientists at the Pacific Forestry Centre and from selected operational users of Douglas-fir seed.

From all of this emerged the group's recommendation for Douglas-fir seed zones and seed transfer, and the attached general recommendations regarding reforestation practice where Douglas-fir is used.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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J. Konishi, Chairman,  
Seed Zone and Transfer Rules  
Task Group

Attachments

  
86.10.08

All Regional Managers

Silviculture Branch

Attention: Forestry Managers,  
Silviculture Officers

86/10/22

955-14-9

Re: Review of Coastal Douglas-fir Seed  
Zones and Seed Transfer Rules

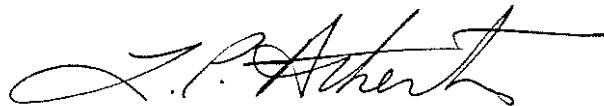
In regard to the above topic please find attached a copy of the following:

- (i) letter of transmittal dated September 10, 1986 by Coastal Seed Zone and Transfer Rule Task Group,
- (ii) recommended seed zones and transfer rules for Fdc,
- (iii) recommended reforestation practices with Fdc, and,
- (iv) interim - seed zone map for Fdc.

Research Branch provenance test data was invaluable in arriving at the recommendations of this task group. Silviculture Branch accepts the recommendations for implementations forthwith.

Within the natural range of coastal Douglas-fir, the Regional Silviculture Officer(s) should ensure that all Districts and licensees receive a copy of this report.

A more detailed map will be provided by January 31, 1987. Changes will be made to the tree seed register and inventory system to convert from the former numeric coded zones to the alphabetic coded zones.



for C. M. Johnson  
Director  
Silviculture Branch

Attachment: Seed Zone and Transfer Rules Task Group  
Report of September 10, 1986

RECOMMENDED REFORESTATION PRACTICES WITH  
COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR

1. Avoid planting Douglas-fir at elevations above 900 metres in the WETM, DRYM and CSUM zones.
2. Establish planting trials as soon as possible to compare the performance of seed from:
  - (a) seed orchards
  - (b) preferred Coastal B.C. provenances such as:
    - (i) Jeune Landing
    - (ii) Nimpkish
    - (iii) Chilliwack Low
    - (iv) Powell River Low; and
  - (c) preferred Western Washington State provenances such as:
    - (i) Hoh River
    - (ii) Darrington
    - (iii) Shelton
    - (iv) Granite Falls
3. Give seed orchard seed priority in making up sowing requests. If none is available, consider using preferred Washington State provenances and/or preferred B.C. Coastal provenances ahead of local seed.
4. Avoid seed collections from islands in Georgia Strait.
5. Tree Seed Register (T.S.R.) listings of purchased seed should indicate the seed zone for which the seed is intended.
6. Seed zone initials and Seed Orchard Planning Zone initials should be integrated, for convenience and clarification. For example:

Mt. Newton (#134) Johnson Strait 0-650 m  
would become "WETM-Low".

and

Sechelt (#116) Johnson Strait 600-900 m  
would become "WETM-High".

In addition, there were several recommendations proposed concerning seed orchards. However, this subject was considered to be outside the Task Group's terms of reference, and those recommendations will be directed to the Technical Planning Committee under a separate heading.

RECOMMENDED SEED ZONES AND TRANSFER RULES FOR  
COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR

1. There will be four seed zones (see map attached):
  - (a) WETM - wet maritime
  - (b) DRYM - dry maritime
  - (c) SSUM - southern subarctic
  - (d) CSUM - central subarctic
2. Seed may not be transferred into or out of CSUM and SSUM zones within the Vancouver Forest Region.
3. Seed may be transferred from WETM to DRYM but not in the reverse direction. Local discretion must be used.
4. Transfer of seed is permitted from superior Washington provenances into the WETM and DRYM zones for operational trial purposes.
5. Elevational criteria for collection and use of seed will be:
  - (a) under 450 metres
  - (b) over 450 metres

Seed may be transferred across the line of division (450 m) providing the difference in elevation does not exceed 200 metres.
6. Coastal Douglas-fir seed zones and transfer rules to be reviewed in five years' time (1991).

# COASTAL SEED ORCHARD PLANNING ZONES (Interim)

