

# Early Stand Development and Establishment: Pre-Free Growing

Photographer: Moresby Creative

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**WALKING THROUGH A STAND THAT YOU HELPED TO DEVELOP CAN BE A WONDERFUL THING. EVEN THOUGH** it is unlikely you'll be around when it comes time to harvest the stand (unless you have an unusually long career!), it is still a good feeling to know you are contributing to sustainable resource management in BC. In this issue, we examine early stand development and establishment, prior to free growing.

Because of the devastating mountain pine beetle infestation, BC is seeing a lot of rehabilitation work in impacted stands. BC's Chief Forester Jim Snetsinger, RPF, discusses the issue of not satisfactorily restocked area in the province. Jeff McWilliams, RPF, and Bruce Blackwell, RPF, write about the importance of considering all the factors in beetle-affected stands before pursuing any type of rehabilitation.

Next we look at early stand establishment in the south-central Interior and on the coast. Dennis Farquharson, RPF, tackles the subject in the Interior and discusses two operational challenges – forest policy and environment – that hamper forest professionals. On the coast, Rick Monchak, RPF, urges forest professionals to incorporate new ideas into their plans.

Finally, Kathy Swift, RPF, provides a summary of the decision support tools that exist for early stand establishment. She provides lots of websites to guide forest professionals to the right tools for the job. And Al Waters, RPF, reflects on how silviculture has changed over his career.

Also in this issue you'll find an annual favorite feature: Forestry Team in Action. You'll enjoy reading about some of the more unusual projects your colleagues have been up to including creating an interpretive forest in Mission, managing forest fuels in one of Canada's most famous parks, building log stringer bridges and establishing a tree nursery in Tanzania. 🌲