Title
VEGETATION RESPONSES OF CONIFEROUS STANDS IN CENTRAL NEWFOUNDLAND TO FIRE AND TIMBER HARVEST

Date
2003

Keywords
Fire, Harvesting, Forest Types, Age Classes

Objective
To give an idea about the differences in tree-species composition brought about by stand replacing fire and timber harvesting. To provide information about stand productivity across disturbance types. To determine differences in species diversity of ground vegetation following natural fire and timber harvesting at mature ages.

Description
Clearcut operations can alter forest microclimate, soil, hydrology, physical and chemical characteristics and hence productivity, composition and plant diversity of the cutover. These same characteristics are influenced also by forest fire. In Central Newfoundland, where this study was conducted, the forest experiences more fire than any other part of the island. The history of commercial timber harvesting in this region goes as far back as 1909 when the paper mill in Grand Falls was established, now owned by Abitibi Consolidated. With a history of disturbances by fire and clearcutting over the landscape, mature fire origin stands, single-harvested stands, and even double-harvested stands can be found up to and about 40 years since the last major disturbance.

Reports and Products

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