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STUDIES - Columbia
Historical Information
Wind River Nursery

April 25, 1939.

Forest Supervisor,

Vancouver, Washington.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 21 is received.

Mr. Kummel does not recall having compiled any history of the Wind River Nursery, but there is enclosed a brief summary in chronological form of the more noteworthy happenings in regard to the building up of the physical plant and the development of cultural methods.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. KUHN,
Assistant Regional Forester,
Division of Education & Information.

Enclosure.

By

Geo. E. Griffith

Acting

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J.C.K.

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J.C.K.

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PLANTING - Columbia
Nurseries
Wind River

Portland, Oregon,
April 25, 1939.

Chronological History of Wind River Nursery

- Fall, 1909 Site selected and clearing started during the winter. Production set at one million trees. H. O. Stabler, Forest Supervisor. Site was selected because of the suitability of the soil for nursery work, accessibility to the towns of Carson and Stevenson, and to large denuded areas on the Columbia and Mt. Hood Forests, and further, because of its central location within the Region.
- 1910 Three acres cleared and first seed beds installed in the spring in the present southeast corner. Clearing continued on the remainder of the ten-acre site. Martha Creek water system installed. Road between Ranger Station and nursery constructed and named Chapman Avenue in honor of C. S. Chapman, District Forester at the time of the selection of the area. Charles A. Miner, Assistant Forest Ranger, in charge of the nursery.
- 1911 First trees shipped - 99,000. Combined residence and office and a warehouse building constructed. Clearing of additional land continued. A. R. Wilcox, Forest Assistant, in charge of Nursery.
- 1912 Rated capacity increased to one and one-half million. Mess house built east of nursery. Norway spruce hedge planted along the west side of the nursery on Chapman Avenue. Slat topped crate adopted for shipping trees.
- 1913 R. L. Cline, Assistant Ranger, in charge of nursery. Upper floor of warehouse remodeled into sleeping quarter. Storage shed for frames erected adjoining warehouse. Water system installed on five additional acres, making ten acres within nursery. Spring installation of seed beds and broadcast seeding adopted as standard practice after previous experimentation.
- 1915 Broadleaf maples planted along Chapman Avenue. Sewer system installed.

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- 1917 Storage cellar constructed. Lifting plow with horizontal blade at right angles to plow share constructed for lifting trees.
- 1918 Burlap bales substituted for crates for shipping stock.
- 1919 Ten years since establishment. Total output to date 8,571,000 trees.
- 1920 W. F. Will succeeds R. F. Cline in charge. Liming nursery soil commenced.
- 1921 First motor equipment procured.
- 1922 First model of seedling root pruner and lifter designed by W. F. Will. New area of approximately 3.2 acres added to nursery along the north side.
- 1924 Sowing crop of winter oats and hairy vetch in the fall adopted as standard practice. New form of seed bed and frame with solid board sides adopted.
- 1925 Shingle tow substituted for moss in packing trees.
- 1926 Tree lifter for transplants constructed similar to the lifter for seedlings. Fall installation of seed beds adopted as standard practice for Douglas fir to obtain larger grades of stock.
- 1927 Practice adopted in shipping of digging and baling all shipping stock as soon as possible and placing in storage cellar to await shipment. Nursery now completely motorized. Seed kiln built.
- 1928 Work shop and implement shed constructed.
- 1929 Detailed study of damping-off control started by office of Forest Pathology, resulting in use of sulphuric acid. Nursery 20 years old. Total output to date 19,619,000 trees.
- 1931 Production of 2-0 Douglas fir in place of transplants started on a large scale. Calcium nitrate added to acid sulphate as fertilizer for soiling crops.
- 1932 Drainage tile installed in portions of nursery. Aluminum sulphate substituted for sulphuric acid on low altitude Douglas fir seed beds for damping-off control.

- 1933 Nursery connected to new Trout Creek water system. Potash added to acid sulphate and calcium nitrate for fertilizing soiling crops. New mess house built.
- 1934 Nursery office constructed. Old mess house removed. Four-stall garage built. Nursery 25 years old. Total output to date, 28,517,000 trees.
- 1935 Treatment of shipping stock with strychnine spray as a preventive against rabbit damage initiated. Capacity of nursery increased to 3.5 million.
- 1936 Five acres added to nursery area on the north, making 22 acres available for growing trees. First unit Skinner Overhead Sprinkling System installed. Treatment of 2-0 seed beds with chemical fertilizer initiated.



J. F. KUMMEL,
Chief of Planting,
Division of Timber Management.

April 25, 1939.

APPROVED:

FRED AMES, Acting Assistant Regional Forester.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
COLUMBIA NATIONAL FOREST



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FOREST SUPERVISOR
AND REFER TO

VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

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STUDIES
Historical Information
Wind River Nursery
Columbia

April 21, 1939

APR 22 1939
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Regional Forester

Portland, Oregon

Dear Sir:

It is our understanding that at one time Mr. Kummel compiled a history on the Wind River Nursery. We are not able to locate our copy and would appreciate receiving a copy of this history to complete that section of our historical files.

The information we particularly desire is when the nursery was started, reasons why present site was selected, its capacity, the years of different additions to the place and the personnel in charge.

Very truly yours,

K. P. CECIL, Forest Supervisor

By *[Handwritten Signature]*

Acting

Attention: [Faint text]
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