

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

for

ROCKY THOMPSON
398 Leonard's Road
Boulder, CO 80302

Seven Hills Subdivision, Lot 66
SW1/4 NW1/4, Sec 22, T1N, R71W, S.P.M.

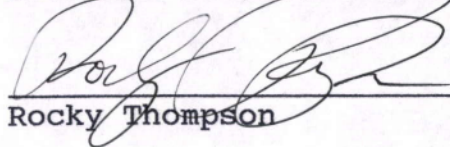
(2.3 Acres)

Prepared By:

Douglas J. Stevenson
Colorado State Forest Service
936 Lefthand Canyon
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 442-0428

November 6, 1993

This management plan has been prepared at my request to guide my Stewardship management activities which I voluntarily apply on my property. I believe that activities recommended in this plan are appropriate to meet my objectives and will benefit the natural resources on my property. I intend to apply the recommended practices and to maintain them for a period of at least ten years, thus helping me to be a good steward of the forest and associated resources entrusted to me on my property.


Rocky Thompson

11/29/93
Date

STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PLAN

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OBJECTIVE

Light cutting activities are planned to control the spread of dwarf-mistletoe. A Defensible Space practice is planned to provide fire resistance for the house, and a visual barrier (farmstead windbreak) is planned to provide a screen along the property line.

DESCRIPTION

The property is located at 398 Leonard's Road, off the southwest side of the curve at the southwest end of the meadow. The lot contains 2.3 acres, of which 1.8 acres contain a native stand of ponderosa pine.

There are two small dwarf-mistletoe patches straddling the north and south property lines and mostly located on the neighbors' property. The stand is heavily-stocked, but not over-stocked.

There is a house standing at the top of the hill, with forest below it. Should fire ever get started in the lower portions of Dry Gulch, this lot would probably burn.

The southeast corner of the lot is open and exposed to view from neighboring lots.

Annual precipitation is about 15 inches. Plant cover is ponderosa pine on the west end with mountain grasses on the east end.

The soil is Juget-Rock Complex under the pines and Peyton-Juget very gravelly loamy sand under the meadow.

Juget soils are shallow, excessively-drained soils on mountain slopes and ridges in sandy residuum weathered from granite. Climax vegetation is mainly ponderosa pine. The growing season is 80 to 120 days. The surface layer is dark-gray very gravelly sandy loam, about 6 inches thick. These soils are slightly acid. Root penetration is less than 20 inches. Runoff is rapid and erosion hazard is high. Land capability unit is VIIIs-1, non-irrigated; tree suitability group is 2.

Peyton soils are deep, well-drained soils on upland hills and valley side slopes in locally transported sandy material. Vegetation is mainly tall grasses, with occasional ponderosa pines. The growing season is 80 to 120 days. The surface layer is dark-gray very gravelly loamy sand, about 11 inches thick. These soils are neutral. Root penetration is 40 to 60 inches. Runoff is medium and erosion hazard is moderate to high. Land capability unit is VIIIs-1, non-irrigated; tree suitability group

is 2.

Capability Unit VIIs-1 (non-irrigated) can be used for range and wildlife habitat. Suitable grasses are big bluestem, little bluestem, needle-grass and side-oats grama. Trees grow well without irrigation if weed barrier, cultivation or other water-conserving practices are applied.

INVENTORY

The wooded portion of the lot (1.8 acres) is occupied by a heavily-stocked ponderosa pine stand, containing about 20 cords of wood. Two small dwarf-mistletoe patches are included.

The eastern (grassy) end of the lot is occupied by grass and low shrubs.

WILDLIFE

Deer have been seen in the meadow. No threatened or endangered species have been seen in the vicinity.

DWARF-MISTLETOE CONTROL

A dwarf-mistletoe reduction project is recommended to halt spread of dwarf-mistletoe and protect existing trees. Heavily-infected trees should be removed and dwarf-mistletoe pruned out of remaining trees. Pruning (cleaning) needs to be thorough and repeated each year for three consecutive years to be sure of removing incipient-stage infections. Reinfections from the neighbor's can easily be held in check with a once-a-year inspection and pruning.

This practice is eligible for Stewardship Incentives cost-sharing, but on a project this small, would only pay about \$80 the first year and \$30 each of the next three years. It is questionable whether the \$30 is worth the trip into Longmont to do the paperwork.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROJECT

The purpose of Defensible Space is to increase fire resistance of the area around a building. It also opens up the immediate area so that a pumper crew or strike team can reach the danger area

without undo risk to their lives and equipment. This is accomplished by thinning the forest in the immediate vicinity of the building, removing trees so the crowns do not touch and preventing the spread of fire through the crowns. Also, low-hanging limbs are pruned to eliminate fire ladders that fire could use to climb into the crowns of the trees. Accumulations of burnable debris are removed. The above are eligible for 65% of actual cost, up to \$750 in cost-sharing funds (This includes slash chipping.).

Other practices such as enclosing open decks, keeping woodpiles away from buildings and cleaning out gutters and troughs in the roof are required. If, during the ten-year life of the practice, the roof undergoes major overhaul, it must be upgraded to a higher grade of fire-resistant material (Wooden shingles to asphalt shingles, asphalt shingles to metal sheeting, etc.).

PLANTING PROJECT

Farmstead Windbreak; SIP-4, FFW & MUL; 0.3 acres.

Purpose: To protect the house site from visual exposure to the south and east (Though a visual barrier, this is designed and, possibly, cost-shared as a windbreak.

Description: This is a three-row windbreak along the south and east property lines, allowing a 10-foot buffer on the south and a five-foot buffer on the east so as not to interfere with an existing easement.

Southeast Planting: Area treated is 0.3 acres; area benefitted is 3.1 acres. Length is 333 feet. Plums are on a four-foot spacing; junipers and pinyons are on a six-foot spacing.

100 American plums @ \$0.38 ea.:	\$ 38.00
60 Large-pot Rocky Mtn. junipers @ \$0.91 ea.:	54.60
60 Large-pot pinyon pines @ \$0.91 ea.:	54.60
400 Staples @ \$43.40/1000:	17.36
1000' Weed Barrier @ \$110.00/300':	<u>366.67</u>
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 531.23
Sales Tax (3%)	<u>15.94</u>
TOTAL, MATERIALS:	\$ 547.17
LABOR, PLANTING; 180 trees @ \$1.50 ea.:	270.00
LABOR, WEED BARRIER; 333 yards @ \$0.88 ea.:	<u>293.04</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$1110.21
From Stewardship Incentives Program:	<u>-300.00</u>
Net Cost	\$ 810.21

In addition, there are tax advantages to tree-planting and disease control: that portion of out-of-pocket cost not reimbursed can be added to your cost basis and exempted from capital gains when you sell the property; if you wait at least a year, that amount will be 28% of the net cost, or an additional \$227.00 (assuming you hired the work done). There is also a very tiny benefit from state taxes, in this case, about \$10.00.

If you operate the property as part of a business, there are numerous other tax advantages, for example, the timber depletion allowance.

As even a small change can affect taxes (like doing the work yourself), be sure to check this with a professional tax preparer before you file.

MAINTENANCE

All three practices require maintenance to retain their effectiveness over long periods of time. For example, with Defensible Space, gutters need to be cleaned out once a year and debris needs to be kept cleaned up. With Dwarf-mistletoe Control, annual inspections and pruning of infected trees is needed, and with windbreaks, failed trees need to be replaced and weed barrier reanchored after every good windstorm.

The use of weed barrier just about eliminates the need for maintaining plantings, if it can be placed by mid-June (preferably June 1st). The only thing needed is an occasional inspection tour to re-anchor weed barrier that comes loose. Watering will increase survival and growth, but it is not needed.

You can expect about 15% loss during the first year a planting is in the ground. One year after planting, seedlings usually look terrible. Windbreaks and snowfences must be re-planted if they suffer even minor losses to keep from losing their effectiveness. These maintenance plantings may be cost-shared and generally pay the entire 65%. By the third year of a planting, transplant losses should no longer be a problem. A seedling is considered established after surviving five years.

Gaps in a windbreak are disastrous - wind blows harder through the gap than it does on the open plain. Gaps wider than 1.5 times the specified spacing should be filled with trees at the next maintenance planting.

There are a number of things that should be done to enhance seedling survival and growth:

Grass is a vigorous competitor with tree seedlings. It drinks up water and adds compounds to soil to poison competition. Seedlings grow much better if they don't have to compete with it.

Weed barrier is a woven plastic cloth. It kills grass. Laid around tree seedlings, it provides needed relief from competition. It is expensive (\$2.17 per tree for widely-spaced trees). It is cheaper if seedlings are placed close together (like plums). Weed barrier used in windbreaks can be cost-shared.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Plant the windbreak in the spring of 1994. To do this, you should sign up for cost-sharing right away. There is a January 15th deadline for applications for this coming spring. Give me a call so we can set up a time to do this.
2. Complete a Defensible Space practice around your house. This is cost-sharable and you should sign up for cost-sharing at the same time as the windbreak. Plan on doing the work next summer.
3. Control dwarf-mistletoe. Again, the practice can be cost-shared. You can wait until 1995 on this, if you prefer.

A wood-harvesting practice (In this case, dwarf-mistletoe control and defensible space both qualify.) is required as part of the package: to obtain cost-sharing for the windbreak, you will need to do one of the others. Also, a wild-life practice is required if you do anything under cost-sharing. This could be piling slash from the dwarf-mistletoe control project as animal shelter piles, or planting a shrub thicket, or putting up a bluebird box (Your property is so small, only one is needed to fill the requirement.).

We need to discuss the possibilities in more detail. We can do this when we meet for the sign-up.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Douglas J. Stevenson
Assistant District Forester

Rocky Thompson



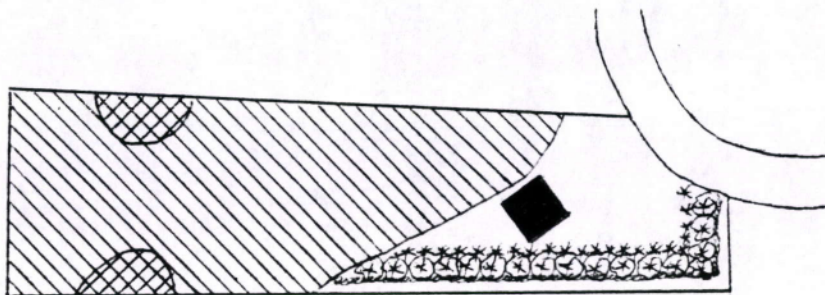
198 Feet



3 Chains

SEVEN HILLS, LOT 66

SW1/4 NW1/4, Sec 22, T1N, R71W, S.P.M.



- Property Line
- == Road
- House
- ▨ Forest
- ▨ Dwarf-mistletoe natch
- ⊗ Planting

Drawn By:

Douglas J Stevenson

November 6, 1993