

Exhibit A-40: Bartelt Timber  
Management Plan for Trillium  
Corp Lands (Nov. 5, 2009)

**TIMBER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

For

Trillium Corporation Lands Located in  
Sections 26, 27, 34, 35 Township 36 North Range 4 East

and

Section 3 Township 35 North Range 4 East

Consisting of Approximately

722.60 Acres

Prepared for:

**Miles Sand & Gravel**  
**663 Pease Road**  
**Burlington, WA 98233**

Prepared By:

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**Forester**  
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November 5, 2009

## **Forest Management Plan**

Trillium Corporation is the owner of approximately 722.60 acres located in Sections 26, 27, 34 and 35, Township 36 North Range 4 East, and Section 3, Township 35 North Range 4 East, situated in Skagit County, Washington, the "**North Grip Road Property**". The North Grip Road Property consists of 36 tax parcels, of which approximately 20.93 acres are zoned Rural Reserve (RRv) and 701.67 acres zoned Rural Resource-Natural Resource Lands (RRc-NRL). Trillium Corporation acquired the property from Scott Paper Corporation in the early 1990's.

The property is accessed from Grip Road in Section 3, Township 35 North Range 4 East via the GN1000 road system (see Road System map in section titled "**Property Description**").

### **Topography & Soil Conditions:**

The North Grip Road Parcel is located northwest of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, situated between Interstate 5 to the west, State Route 9 to the east, Grip Road to the South, and Prairie Road to the North. The topography is gently to rolling with elevations ranging between 150 feet MSL and 350 feet MSL; the property is bordered on the north by the Samish River with Swede Creek bisecting the property just north of the main entrance to the property. Both the Samish River and Swede Creek are fish bearing water.

General soils in the area are referred as follows:

**BARNESTON-DYSTRIC XERORTHENTS-INDIANOLA:** Very Deep, somewhat excessively drained and excessively drained, level to very steep soils; on terraces and terrace escarpments.

Soils in this general soil group include: Dystric Xerochrepts, 45 to 70 percent slopes; Bow gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes; Sehome gravelly loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes; and Skipopa silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes.

### **Goal and Objective:**

The goal and objective is to transfer the Trillium parcel to Miles Sand & Gravel (Landowner). The new Landowner wishes to maintain the current Forest Land Designation; the integrity of the property shall be maintained by managing the property as a productive tree farm. Managing the property as a tree farm will provide timber production, wildlife habitat, watershed management and recreational activities. The object is to provide a future return on investment through good forest management practices. Landowner will take title to the property subject to a conservation

easement with respect to the gravel underlying the property; provided, however, tax parcels P50155, P125655, and P125645 will be free of the conservation easement.

***Recommendations are as follows:***

**Forest Roads:** An extensive all-season forest road system services the property. The Forest Practices Act requires maintenance on all roads on forest land used for the transportation of forest products and that all roads under jurisdiction of forest practices rules be included in a road maintenance and abandonment plan submitted to the Department of Natural Resources. Further, the rules specify that all upgrades must be completed and new maintenance standards be applied to all roads used since 1974 by 2015. Trillium Corporation submitted its Road Maintenance Abandonment Plan (RMAP) to the Washington State DNR for its Grip Road Property on July 8, 2002; the plan was accepted by the DNR on September 19, 2002, RMAP number R2800007L. A copy of the original plan is included in the Section titled "**RMAP**". All aspects of the plan have been implemented to date.

Road surface, turnouts, and shoulders should be graded and shaped as needed to provide a suitable travel surface and control water in an even, dispersed manner. Grading may be substituted with a lift of surface rock. Culverts should be inspected and cleaned routinely and immediately after any significant storm events. Culvert inlets should be armored and ditches should be kept clear of any debris. It is recommended that roadside vegetation be controlled every 2-years using the appropriate herbicides at manufacturers suggested rates, or every 2-3 years using mechanical brush control.

**Commercial Thinning (CT):** At age 25+, types should be of adequate height and diameter, which if logged, would produce merchantable saw and pulp logs. Landowner may elect at this time to enter the stand and remove logs for sale to local markets to provide a return on investment. Operation should remove trees in poor health and poor quality, such as trees with poor crowns (broken tops, crooks, multiple tops, frost breaks), suppressed/dying trees (diseased, damaged or leaning), and hardwoods. Retain conifer trees with good healthy crowns, straight boles and small limbs. Use caution not to damage leave tree boles or roots. Light thinning is recommended to prevent blow-down and will provide landowner the option of additional future thinning.

**Final harvest:** Stands may be clearcut when they reach 45+ years of age. Landowner may elect to hire a professional forestry consultant to assist with timber harvest layout, new road design and construction, permitting, selecting a logger or preparing a "Timber Sale Agreement", and assist in maintaining adequate records for logging, road construction and forest excise tax payments. A current list of consulting Foresters may be found in Section titled "**Consulting Foresters Directory**".

Following harvest, brush piles should be burned or chipped to reduce overall fire hazard and to maximize planting densities. Leave a few small piles for wildlife habitat. All brush should be removed around any structures to remove fire hazard. Burning permits may be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources, 919 North Township, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

**Reforestation:** Following final harvest, replant non-stocked areas with a minimum of 300 well-distributed native seedlings per acre. Plant Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) in open sunlight and Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*) in shade or wet areas. Landowner may elect to plant 435 trees per acre and follow with a precommercial thin (PCT) at age 10-15 yrs.

Seed or seedlings can be purchased from local timber companies, the Department of Natural Resources, Silvaseed, IFA or Weyerhaeuser Company. Seed or seedlings should come from a native source adapted to the local geographic region and elevation (see section titled "**Seed Zone Map**"). Genetically improved seed can be purchased from local timber companies such as Sierra-Pacific Industries, Longview Fibre, Bloedel Timberlands or Trillium Corporation.

**Brush Control:** During the first two years following harvest and reforestation, landowner should monitor brush competition within the stand and may elect to control competing vegetation via aerial or backpack spray. Landowner should consult a forester or chemical sales representative for specific spray recommendations.

If hardwoods begin to compete with planted seedlings, landowner may elect to control competing species via aerial spray or by manual release. If chemical control is preferred, landowner should once again consult a forester or chemical sales representative for specific spray recommendations. A Forest Practice permit is required for all aerial spray.

**Precommercial Thinning (PCT):** Once stands reach 10-15 years, landowner may elect to thin trees to reduce competition with non-crop trees for light and nutrients. Stand should be thinned to maintain approximately 280-300 well distributed trees per acre. Crop trees to be retained should be selected based on overall health and vigor, spacing and species. PCT should remove trees in poor health and poor quality, such as trees with poor crowns (broken tops, crooks, multiple tops, frost breaks), suppressed/dying trees (diseased, damaged or leaning). Retain trees with good healthy crowns, straight boles and small limbs.

**Inventory:** A detailed forest inventory is included in the Section titled "**Forest Inventory**". The inventory should be updated in January 2010 to adjust for 2009 growth.

**Fire Protection:** There are numerous streams in the immediate area that can be used as an emergency water source for fire suppression. It is recommended that landowner have at a minimum the following tools during fire season: shovel, ax, fire extinguisher, and a small portable water tank or bladder bag. In the event of a fire landowner should contact the local fire department (9-1-1) and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources at 360-856-3500.

**Insect and Disease Control:** No insect or disease control is anticipated for this site. In the unlikely event an outbreak should occur, landowner should consult with a professional tree service specializing in insect and disease control.

**Animal Damage Control:** With intensive forest management strategies comes the increasing need to protect the forest from animal damage. Animal damage may come from a broad range of wildlife species, including beaver (*Castor canadensis*), mountain beaver (*Aplodontia rufa*), porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*) and black bear (*Ursus americanus*).

Historical beaver activity exists in the southwest corner of the property off the GN1010 road. This area should be periodically inspected and any plugged culvert pipe should be cleaned of sticks and/or debris.

During the spring, black bear strip the bark off trees to feed on the newly forming vascular tissue. Damage inflicted through this behavior (called girdling) reduces growth rate and can be lethal. The North Grip Road Property should be inspected in early to late spring to look for fresh stripped bark on the ground at the base of the tree and vertical tooth and claw marks visible on the bole. If new bear damage is observed Landowner should contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to discuss animal damage control options.

