

WOODLAND SUITABILITY GROUP 2

These soils have very high or high site index, moderate to severe but mostly severe equipment limitation, slight to moderate pest and disease hazard, and slight to moderate windthrow hazard. They have a moderate limitation for growing Christmas trees.

The soils in this group are suited to intensive management. Trees grow rapidly and economic returns can be expected at an early age. Thinning and pruning can be started even after the trees have become fairly large. Seedlings become established easily after logging if a seed source is near and they grow rapidly to maturity. Logging is more difficult on the soils in this group than on the soils of Group 1 because of steepness.

In places, logging during wet weather can cause soil compaction. Soil compaction can affect germination and future stand densities. Logging wet soils can cause ruts. The ruts can be the beginning of gullies.

Locating and building roads is fairly difficult. Except on gravelly or cobbly soils, roads need to be graveled for year-round use. Roads and skid trails should be protected from runoff water. Main roads need bridges, ditches, and culverts. Temporary and minor roads should be out-sloped and grades should slope downward toward the watercourse for a short distance on both sides where they cross creeks or draws. Grades should not exceed those considered safe in existing design standards and construction practices. When constructing roads, adequate erosion-control measures are needed.

Fire is difficult to control because of the steep slopes. The soils in areas where trees have been removed by fire or other causes are difficult to prepare for planting. Planting is by machine on gentle slopes where soils are not adversely affected by the use of machinery.