

TITLE: SITE LIMITING FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN PRESCRIBING SITE PREPARATION AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES ON RECLAIMED SITES

Site Limiting Factors for Seedlings

Establishing a forested habitat depends on the conditions available at the time of planting. Considering thresholds that determine the maximum or minimum biological response for a given suite of environmental conditions must be a part of the revegetation planning process. These thresholds include moisture (too much or too little), light, temperature, nutrients, compaction and competition.

Vegetation Management

When vegetation management is required to meet reclamation objectives, species selection and herbicide application timing is paramount. Mike discusses non-traditional, non-chemical vegetation management tools, and when and where to deploy herbicide to protect your revegetation investment.

Site Preparation

Site preparation, especially excavator mounding, is an important tool to mitigate against site limiting factors. Mike will explain when and where to utilize mounding and where to plant a tree on a mound in different situations.

Seedling Selection

Seedling selection highly depends on the site that you are planting. In this section Mike will discuss different considerations to make while selecting the species for your site. In some instances, planting more than one species may be required to fulfill regulatory criteria.

SPEAKER BIO: MIKE TOFFAN, RPF, RECLAMATION COORDINATOR, TREETIME SERVICES INC.

Mike Toffan is a Reclamation Coordinator with Tree Time Services Inc. Mike's experiences in oil and gas reclamation and silviculture forestry allows him to provide creative solutions to reclamation challenges. Mike advises environmental professionals on reclamation planning with a focus on site preparation, species selection, seedling production, planting and vegetation management. Along with professional advice, Mike coordinates the planting of over one million tree and shrub seedlings annually.

