

BC Community Forest Association 2019

Restoring forests with Forest and Native Plant Seedlings

**Ron Jacobson
NATS Nursery**



Who we are...



Grower (since 1988) of
Native Plants, Conifers and NATS LiveRoof
...Christmas Tree seedlings, moss.



What we do...



Capacity:

Grow 250+ native plant species in a variety of sizes on 37 acres/
240,000 sq. ft. greenhouses (two locations) in Langley, BC



What we do...



Markets:

- Restoration (i.e. sensitive habitats, wetlands)
- Reclamation (i.e. mines, oil & gas, TMEP, major projects)
- *Reforestation (First Nations)
- Cities and Municipalities
- Landscapers (Residential/Commercial)
- Wholesale/retail nurseries
- Green roofs (LiveRoof), Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre



Seed harvest, Cleaning & Storage



Germination & Growing



Shipping



Community Forest Fire Reclamation



Multiple considerations:

- “Natural regeneration” of native plants: low-cost but not pro-active... potential for aggressive invasive species
- Ideally... continued efforts controlling invasives and reseedling and replanting with native species (including forestry seedlings)
- Opportunity to replant with local native plants (medicinal & food)
- Create a native plant walk/hike/bike
- After fire... “Crown has a duty to consult with First Nations re: rehabilitation on Crown land”
- Elder/youth education, transfer of knowledge



Forest Fire Reclamation



More considerations:

- Wildlife - (food, shelter)
- Non-native grasses dry out quicker than native plants (fire hazard)
- Clustered coated native grass seed
 - better survival
- Fire breaks (broadleaf shrubs/trees)
- Consider salmon bearing creeks, wetlands and riparian areas
- Harvest native plant seed from the area
 - (if fire... nearby, if logging harvest locally)



Plant Fire Resistant/Drought Tolerant



Ground covers:

- *Achillea millefolium* (Yarrow) DR - when mowed, turf alternative
- *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (Kinnickinnick)
- *Antennaria rosea* (Rosy Pussytoes)
- *Fragaria* species (wild strawberry) - turf alternative
- *Sedum* (Stonecrop) - turf alternative

Perennials:

- *Armeria maritima* (Thrift)
- *Aquilegia* species (Columbines)
- *Epilobium angustifolium* (Fireweed)
- *Gaillardia aristata* (Blanketflower) DR

Fire Resistant / Drought Tolerant



Shrubs:

- Amelanchier alnifolia (Saskatoon berry)
- Gaultheria shallon (Salal)
- Holodiscus discolor (Oceanspray)
- Mahonia species (Oregon Grape)

Trees (deciduous):

- Acer circinatum, glabrum, macrophyllum (Vine Maple, Douglas Maple, Big-leaf Maple)
- Betula species (Birch)
- Crataegus species (Hawthorne)
- Populus species (Aspen & Cottonwoods)
- Prunus virginiana, Prunus emarginata (Chokecherry, Bitter cherry)
- Salix species (Willows)

Native Plants: Why NATS?



Conclusion:

- Be forward thinking. Restore with forest seedlings and native plants.
- Include native plants for wildlife, the environment, the community, First Nations and for fire prevention.

Thank you!



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