

Forest conditions and problems in Prince Edward Island differ materially from those encountered in the other provinces of Canada. In consequence the forestry agreement with that Province is specially designed to assist the Province in the reforestation of waste lands unsuitable for the production of agricultural crops. Under this agreement the Government of Prince Edward Island is proceeding with a program for the reforestation of such lands and the Federal Government is sharing, on an equal basis, the cost of carrying out that program. A maximum federal contribution of \$7,500 was provided for each of the first two years of the five year period covered by the agreement. By the end of the fourth year the program had expanded greatly and the cost was almost doubled.

With the exception of Prince Edward Island the form of the agreements with all provinces is identical. The principal terms of this agreement form are summarized below:—

#### *Duration of Agreement*

The agreement applies to projects carried out and to expenditures incurred under it by the Province during the five year period from Apr. 1, 1951 to Mar. 31, 1956, and is subject to renewal thereafter on such terms as may then be decided upon.

#### *Forest Inventory*

- (1) The Province undertakes to complete, within five years of the date of the agreement, a forest inventory, including so far as is practicable all forests within its boundaries except those on federal lands, and to furnish summaries of the data so obtained to the Federal Government.
- (2) The Federal Government undertakes to pay half the cost to the Province of preparing and maintaining this inventory during the period covered by the agreement, provided that the inventory conforms to the general standards and specifications attached to the agreement. If these standards are exceeded, an appraisal is to be made to determine the federal share of the cost. Recognition is given to the present status of the inventory and to the methods already in use.
- (3) Inventory projects that may qualify for federal aid include: ground control surveys, air photography, base mapping, interpretation of forest data from photographs, field surveys for forest data, compilation and preparation of forest maps and inventory reports, and certain supervisory operations.
- (4) Two classes of forest inventory surveys are eligible for federal assistance—*reconnaissance surveys*, intended to determine locations of the areas of productive forests, and generally applicable to presently inaccessible regions and to those where the proportion of productive forests is small; and *provincial surveys*, intended to determine the areas of different classes of forest and to provide estimates of timber volumes for large areas, such as are required for purposes of provincial administration and for provincial and national inventory statements. Such surveys are particularly well adapted to the use of air photographs for classifying the forest according to type, height, and density—a process which greatly reduces the amount of ground sampling required. The more intensive *working plan* surveys, which provide detailed estimates of timber volumes and other forest characteristics for relatively small areas, are not included.
- (5) The classes of information to be obtained in federally-supported inventory programs are specified:
  - (a) Areas of productive and non-productive forest are to be determined.
  - (b) Productive forest is to be classified into three main types—softwood, mixed-wood, and hardwood—and is to be further classified as to merchantability and accessibility.
  - (c) Accessible productive forest areas are to be subdivided according to the following classes of tenure—occupied Crown forest, unoccupied Crown forest, and other forest.
  - (d) Estimates of timber volume are to be made for the principal species in the accessible productive forests, separate estimates being given for timber of 10 inches diameter at breast height and larger, and for trees of 4 inches to 9 inches diameter.
  - (e) Provision is to be made for obtaining preliminary data regarding forest growth.
- (6) Estimates of timber volumes are required for large unit areas only, of the order of one-half to one million acres, sampling on the ground being designed to give a probable error of plus or minus 10 per cent for gross volume estimates on such areas. Stratified random sampling is to be employed where possible, but it is recognized that in many cases some form of selective sampling may be necessary.
- (7) For reconnaissance surveys in thinly timbered areas, photography is planned on a scale of 1:40,000 (1 inch=3,333 feet), with base maps on a scale of 1 inch to the mile. Areas warranting more detailed examination are to be photographed at 1:15,840 (1 inch=1,320 feet), and mapped at a suitable scale between 1 inch and 4 inches to the mile. Federal assistance may be extended to share in the cost of reproducing the final forest maps at 1 inch to the mile.