

Summary of:

Models of Succession in the Southern Boreal Forest; Thorpe, J.;  
1996; Prince Albert Model Forest Assoc. Inc., Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. 32 p.

## INTRODUCTION

This report deals with patterns of forest succession which are relevant to the Prince Albert Model Forest (PAMF), and their implications for models of forest growth. This work was requested by PAMF to be used in refining their forest growth models.

The report consists of the following components:

- a point-form literature review on boreal forest succession, with list of references;
- a series of diagrams outlining major successional pathways, based on the literature review and personal knowledge; and,
- suggested revisions to the HSG model to incorporate these successional patterns.

In reading the report, the following points should be noted:

- the report deals only with natural processes, not with responses to management;
- the report deals with the main stand/site types and their development following the main types of disturbance (usually stand-destroying wildfire); other stand types and disturbance types are not dealt with;
- the patterns of development in the absence of further disturbance are followed as far into the future as the available knowledge allows. In most cases, long paths of disturbance-free development are unlikely to happen. However, in order to model the incidence of future disturbance explicitly, it is necessary to project the development until disturbance occurs.

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- Jeff Weir and Michael Fitzsimmons of Prince Albert National Park;
- Terry Rock of Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management; and,
- Gido Langen and Thomas Bouman of Prince Albert Model Forest.