

Copy of circular No.40/78 on P3-25722/76 dt. 18.10.78 from the chief Conservator of Forests, Trivandrum to all Sub-officers.

Sub: - Evergreen Forests – Management – Instructions issued.

Ref: - Lr.No.WP-1624/76 dt. 21.4.'76 of the CF, W.P. & Research circle.

The conservator of Forests, W.P. & Research Circle has forwarded certain suggestions for the better management of evergreen forests. Based on the above suggestions the following directions are issued for the preservation and maintenance of evergreen forests.

1. All evergreen forests managed are to be managed in such a way as to retain their evergreen character since they produce valuable industrial timber for plywood, matchwood and packing case industries which cannot be raised easily in other areas by artificial means.

2. Where, there are over-mature and mature trees whose retention is not advantageous, the trees can be marked strictly as per working plan prescriptions but care should be taken to see that the felling should not exceed 10 to 12 trees per hectre. The marking of such trees should be well spaced not to create large gaps to cover the entire coupe confirmly with an eye on regeneration.

3. Dead trees can be extracted when their removal will not cause permanent gaps in canopy.

4. The marking for felling should be done one year ahead of felling.

5. Immediately after felling is completed in the coupe there should be tending which should ensure (a) lopping and thinning of poles of inferior species to remove obstruction for young valuable regeneration (b) climber cutting and tending should be carried out, low branched of trees which would affect the seedlings by drip should be cut. The tending should be done twice in the first year and once for the next two years. (c) A carefully prepared and corrected every five year. It should be prepared before felling indicating existing regeneration, poles etc. appropriately marked, counted and averaged. The sketch should be prepared and brought upto date by the Range officer and checked by D.F.O. The conservator of forests should invariably inspect such areas during the course of execution as well as soon after tending and assess the work so that any further directions necessary can be given. The progress of regeneration should be indicated by sampling seedlings, saplings and poles and indicating progressively in the map.

In future every division should take up works as per the prescriptions in the working plan. Simultaneously in each of the Divisions at least 3 sets of replicated plots should be laid down with controls in area to be felled. These will be replicated plots with controls for the following:- 1. plot with natural regeneration alone. 2. plots with augmentation by plating. 3. plots weeded thrice in a year. 4. plots where thinning, lopping etc. have been carried out with climber cutting.

The plots should be ½ hectare with a surround of atleast 100 metre all round. The plots may be located serially with adjoining controls. In order to select and locate suitable areas, the DFO concerned should contact the Silvi: Research officer and the Conservator of working plan & R.Circle for guidance in laying out the plots and taking initial measurements. Annual measurements should however, be taken by Research Rangers. Wherever here are no Research units the annual measurements should be recorded by the territorial staff. The laying out and maintenance of these plots should however, be attended to by concerned territorial staff.

The above instructions should be followed scrupulously in future.

(Sd.) K.K.Nair, chief conservator (Dev.) of Forests

Endt. on ML-17673/78/D.Dis/17.11.'78.

Copy to sections :CH/KT/TR/MLTMR/FS/CF's personal file and stock file

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For Conservator of Forests,
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