



SECTION 5: REGIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Operational fertilization programs in the western forests continue to be developed and implemented. This experience provides a knowledge base of when, where, and how to plan, select, contract, and monitor fertilizer treatments. Four case studies are presented in this section, offering perspectives on both the region and the landownership involved: (1) interior British Columbia, public land; (2) the interior intermountain region (northern Idaho), private land; (3) the coastal region (southwestern Washington), public land; and (4) the coastal region (western Oregon), private land.

Operational questions explored in these chapters include: During decision making, how does your organization decide to, or not to, use fertilizer? What criteria are used to select units? What fertilizer is used; does it fit your needs? What are effective, efficient ways to apply materials? What processes or checklists are used in implementation? How do you contract work, what stipulations are used, and how is work quality measured? What environmental monitoring is carried out? Is tree response monitoring done? What are operational information gaps and needs?

Regional variables affect both productivity and opportunities. Variables include climate, soils, crop species, products desired, land patterns, and clientele.