

Speymouth Forest
Forester's Annual Report 1951.

1. Unit

Area additions for the year total 3,887 acres of which 1,241 acres are acquired Woodlands. The total acreage of the forest is now 9,142.3 acres.

2. Year's work.

Scope for development, although not unlimited, is fairly broad. Successes are a planting programme of 788.14 acres; & a thinning programme of 295 acres. Thinnings were mainly sold standing & the planting was practically all done on piece-work.

The $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of direct seeding has an average loss of 34% which might have been worse.

Fire protection is being organised to a high state of efficiency which we hope to attain in 1952.

Compartmenting of the whole forest is now complete and thinning plans & working plans should be completed & in operation in November 1952.

The weather has been favourable generally & results all round not too bad.

3. Payments & Receipts. —

Certain supplementary estimates were granted over the year due to acquisition - the Lake over of the Management scheme etc.

E 10 Estimate £30 Expenditure £428-16-2

Difficult condition on an extensive ploughing programme and extended transport facilities on the farm brought this back up considerably.

E 11 Estimate £420 Expenditure £10-12-1

This money does not appear to me to have been needed urgently this year but certain jobs have been estimated for in FY 52.

E 12 Estimate £280 Expenditure £360-4-4

A lot of masonry work was included with the Crown Lands Management scheme plus an additional lining out programme in the heathland masonry made this a head high.

E 13a Estimate £320 Expenditure £2362-2-11

An increased planting programme & a large ploughing programme all of which meant an increased burning programme while together they cost a lot of money.

E 13b Estimate £250 Expenditure £116-9-7

This has been underspent because of line ploughing taking the place of what would have been an extensive draining programme. Much of the draining done was done by buckethead plough.

E 13c Estimate £220 Expenditure ~~£2459-10-8~~ ^{£626-6-2}

Overspent due to advance fencing of part of p 52 planting programme & fencing of an additional 35 acres by Islandland front for planting in FY 52.

E 13d Estimate £1360 Expenditure £2459-10-8

Increased planting programme.

E14a Estimate £180 Expenditure £94-6-7.

Underspent due to tightening up of B/U.

E14b. Estimate £1860 Expenditure £1255-17-10

Underspent - programme not completed at end of forest year.

E14c Estimate £100 Expenditure £408-5-5

Overspent - urgent cleaning that was not estimated for - Deer Park acquisitions.

E14d

Estimate £90 Expenditure £324-17-9

Overspent due to neglected drains on acquired areas & woodlands.

E14e. Estimate £50 Expenditure £27-1-9

Underspent - This job except for major items is included in E15b as trapper work.

E15a Estimate £220 Expenditure £379-13-8

Overspent due to conversion to Aid-unit & general build-up of organisation to present standards.

E15b Estimate £570 Expenditure £1255-17-10

Overspent but partly offset by increased revenue

E16 Estimate £600 Expenditure £973-0-9

Overspent due to acquisition of Brownhills staff.

E19b Estimate £120 Expenditure £1024-7-5

Overspent due to marking of thinnings, Whopping, survey, & lay-out of entire forest for working & thinning plans. This will be money well spent.

4.

Focal Supervision (including ex-school gangers)

Focal Staff consists of one Forester II & one Foreman with two ex-school gangers.

The Forester & the Foreman have been here some time. One ex-school ganger came here direct from school (P. Thorpe) while C. F. Stuart was posted here ex-Yetteremo forest in the spring to help cope with surveying & general work on the forest. All four are in charge of "Beats". The ex-school gangers are an excellent type & are doing a splendid job & to my mind learning their job in the way they ought to while their training is still fresh in their minds.

5.

Labour (excluding ex-school gangers)

The labour figure here fluctuates from time to time due to the employment of the salmon fisher in the off-season. Maximum 75 & minimum 40

The labour is good & the recruitment possibilities are fairly good. We have now 6 boys while we started the year with one.

We ought to have a sufficiency of labour to carry out our annual programme over the next five years.

4 Local supervision (including ex school gangers).

Local supervision consists of one Forester II one Foreman & 2 ex-school gangers.

The forest is divided into 4 Beats one of which is under the charge of each of the above. Each of the above men furnishes weekly a summary of the week's work on his Beat showing concept, nature of work & Cost etc. He also keeps up to date his own R.O. form.

Tools are issued along with tool-boxes from a ~~general~~ ^{Central} store & are signed outwards & inwards so that nothing gets into the "lost" category.

Labour is passed from Beat to Beat, as required, through the forest office.

1. Unit.

Area additions & disposals

The area additions for the year total 3,887 acres of which 1,241 are acquired woodlands.

The total acreage of the forest now becomes 9,442.3 acres.

2. Years Work.

General Review of Scope, successes, failures, & weather etc.

Scope for development although not unlimited is fairly broad.

Successes are a planting programme of 153.4 acres & a thinning programme of 270 acres. The thinning programme was practically all standing sales & the planting was mainly done on piece-work. The 15 acres of direct seeding has an average loss of 34% which might have been worse.

Fire protection has been & is being organised to a high state of efficiency which we hope to attain in FY 52.

Compartmenting of the whole forest is now complete & Thinning plans & Working plans should be completed & in operation in November '51. The weather has been favourable generally & results all round not too bad.

3. Payments & Receipts.

These items are likely to be difficult to relate to estimates as certain supplementary estimates have been granted but no written statement of same received here.

Additional acquisitions during the year & the urgency of work requiring to be done on these acquisitions made most of the original estimates appear rather ridiculous.

E10.

Estimate £30 Expenditure £428 16 2

The difficult conditions prevailing on the extensive ploughing programme plus the expanded transport facilities on the forest brought this head up considerably.

E11.

Estimate £420 Expenditure £10 12 1

I am not aware of what this estimate was intended for originally & saw no need to apply this money to this head this year.

E12.

Estimate £280 Expenditure £360 4 4

The additional work entailed in the brown lands management scheme which was eventually incorporated into the forest necessitated a much greater expenditure.

E13a.

Estimate £320 Expenditure £2362 2 11

Greatly expanded due to increased planting programme & an unexpected ploughing programme for FY52 which required to be burned in advance so far as was possible.

E13b.

Estimate £250 Expenditure £116 9 7

This has been underspent because of lime ploughing taking the place of what would have been an extensive draining programme. & the major part of the draining which was done was by Luthbertson plough.

E13c.

Estimate £220 Expenditure £626 6 2

Overspent due to advance fencing of P52 planting programme.

E13d.

Estimate £1360 Expenditure £2459 10 8

Overspent due to increased acreage. Original programme 1402 acres. Area planted 1738 acres.

E14a.

Estimate £130 Expenditure £94 6 7

Underspent due to a tightening up of B/L to really necessary requirements.

E14b.

Estimate £1800 Expenditure £1255 11 10

Underspent - programme not completed due to pressure of other work.

E14c.

Estimate £100

Expenditure £408:5:5

Not enough!

E14d.

Estimate £90

Expenditure £324:11:9

Overspent - due to neglected drains on acquired woodland & areas.

E14e.

Estimate £50

Expenditure £27:1:9

Underspent - This job except for major items is included in E15b as trappers work.

E15a.

Estimate £220

Expenditure £377:13:8

Overspent - due to conversion to aid unit & general build-up of organisation to present conditions.

E15b.

Estimate £1800

Expenditure £1255:11:10

Overspent but partly offset by increased revenue. Both of which are due to extension of forest.

E16.

Estimate £600

Expenditure £943: - 9

Overspent - due to increased staff.

E17b.

Estimate £120

Expenditure £1024:7:5

Overspent - due to surveying, mapping, & laying out of entire forest for working & thinning plan purposes.