

Elwha Revegetation 2013: A Plant Performance Study

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Objectives

The study examined plant survivorship of 5 different woody species over the initial 2013 summer growing season and the effect of site, soil moisture content, soil texture and proximity to LWD on plant condition.

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Research Questions

- Is plant survivorship affected by site?
- Is the distribution of soil particles or substrate material similar across sites?
- Do sites with large-woody debris (LWD) have higher plant survivorship?

5 species



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Site and Plots



Conclusions

- Plants performed better in the fine sediments than in the coarse substrates.
- Plant survivorship was significantly related to site.
- The distribution of soil substrate was most similar between sites MP13-10 and MP13-11, which were distinct from site MP13-12.
- Soil moisture significantly <u>affected survivorship</u>.
- Presence of LWD significantly affected survivorship.

Results

- Survivorship was highest at site MP13-12 and lowest at site MP13-11.
- S. scouleriana had the lowest overall survivorship at 85% and P. monticola had the highest at 98%.
- Site MP13-12 had an average 42% soil moisture content over the summer months, while site MP13-10 had 3% and site MP13-11 had 2.5%.