



The Resilient Forest: *Looking beyond the stumps*

A 35-Year Examination of the Forecasts and Assertions
of a 1970s Environmental Campaign

By

Robert Stevenson
Steve Ferdinand
Robert Udell

Then

Now

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the environmental group “Save Tomorrow Oppose Pollution” (STOP) was casting a critical eye on forest industry practices in Alberta. One of its members, Arnim Zimmer, was a critic of forestland management and forestry practices. During the period of 1971 – 72, he compiled a pictorial essay exposing what he claimed to be environmentally destructive logging practices and regeneration failures of clear-cut logged areas in the Forest Management Agreement area (FMA) of North Western Pulp and Power Ltd. near Hinton. His claims were highlighted in a 1972 report, which precipitated a number of meetings between STOP, mainstream media and the Minister of Lands and Forests.

Mr. Zimmer’s findings and the resulting adverse publicity in the media resulted in a number of actions by the Department of Lands and Forests, as well as the Company, which included the identification of ground photopoints and specific examination of the issues raised.

Thirty-five years after these events, the individual logged areas have been revisited and re-photographed, and their silvicultural status determined. The result is this status report on their current condition relative to the assertions in the STOP report.

This book can be purchased through Foothills Research Institute for a cost of \$20.00 CDN plus shipping and handling. You can purchase this book online at www.foothillsresearchinstitute.ca or by contacting Fran Hanington by phone at (780) 865-8330 or by email at fran.hanington@gov.ab.ca.