

Measurement of Sediment Accumulation in Catchment
Basins at Stream Gage Sites 1, 2 and 3
H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest

by
Raymond Graber

The purpose of this report is to present the data and the procedure used to measure the basins and in such a way that it will be possible to duplicate the method in successive years. The following is an outline of this procedure.

Survey of Catchment Basins

I. Requirements

Basin to be cross-sectioned at three-foot intervals and depth measurements are to be made. These measurements are to be compared with future measurements to discover the annual sediment accumulation.

II. Method

A. Instruments

1. Level and rod--rod equipped with light gage metal base
2. Compass (Silva)

B. Control for level transects of basin

1. A primary control line was laid out on the dam (Figure 1).
 - a. The primary line is marked at each end by a 4" x 4" x30" cedar stake. The stakes are marked with aluminum foil and numbered.

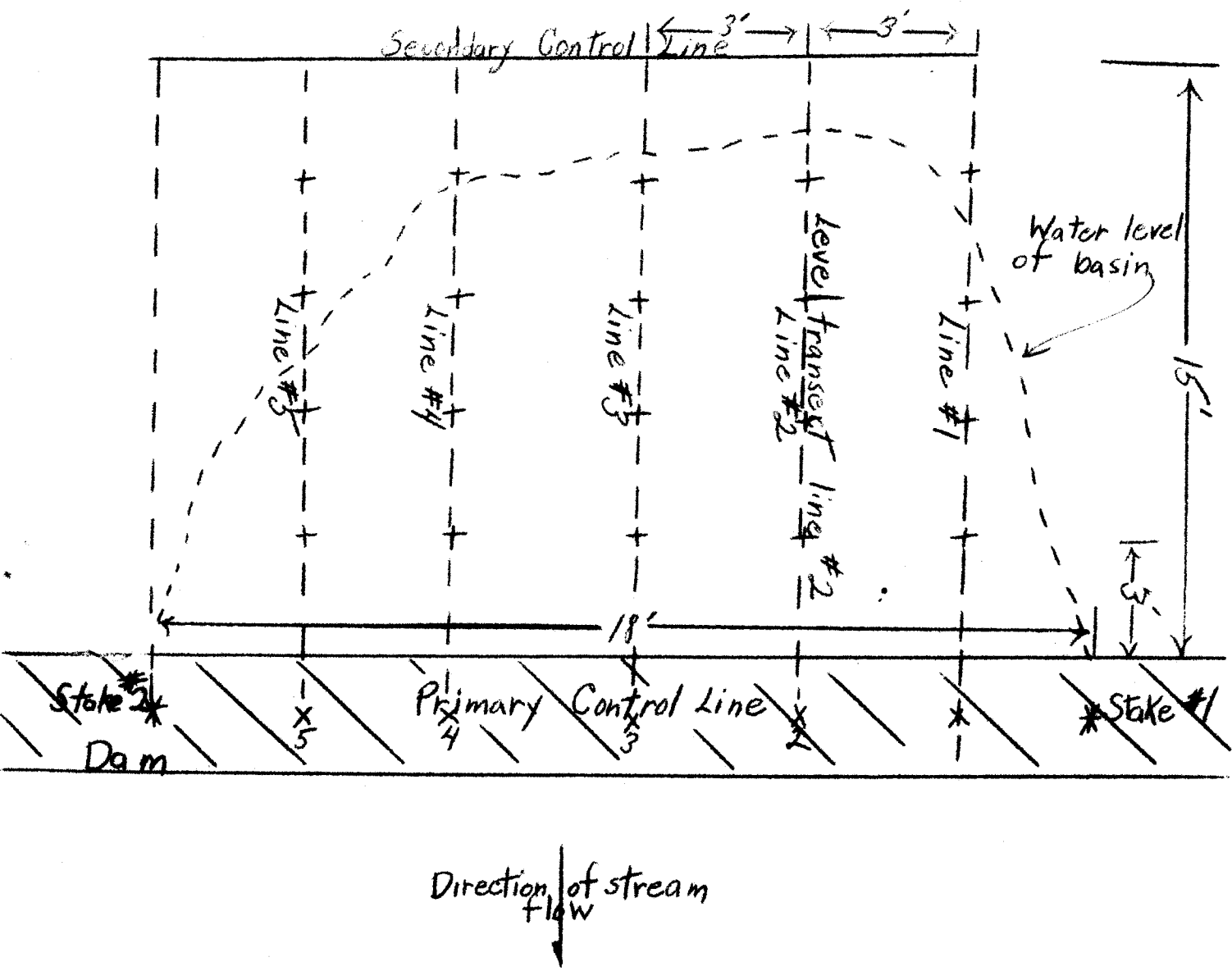


Figure 1.--Typical control system for cross-sectioning debris basin.

2. A secondary line was laid out on the opposite (upstream) side of the basin parallel to the primary line.
3. Starting on the right side (facing up stream) three-foot intervals were set off on the primary line and numbered.

Example: Line one would be located three feet from primary control stake No. 1, at six feet would be line two, etc.

4. Level readings were taken at three-foot intervals on the lines running perpendicular to and between the primary and secondary control lines.
5. Level readings were taken on the outlet to determine the elevation of the water surface.
6. All elevations are relative and in reference to a railroad spike driven into a hemlock. The assumed elevation of the spike is 100.00 feet in all three cases.

C. Field Technique

1. Stakes were driven at each end of an arbitrary primary control line which was laid out on and parallel to the axis of the dam. A string was strung between the stakes to mark the center of the primary control line. (Figure 1).
2. A small log was placed on line between the stakes and three-foot intervals were marked with nails driven into the log.
3. Using the hand compass (Silva), a secondary control line was established at the opposite end of the basin parallel to the primary control line. Using the same procedure as described above, a log was placed on line and three-foot intervals were marked off.

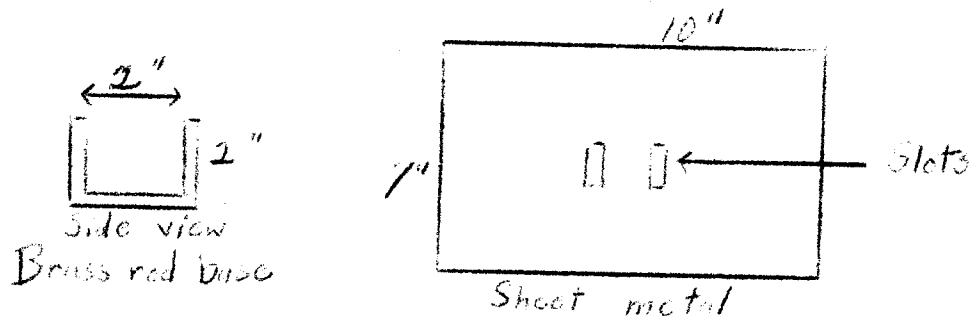
4. A string was then strung between the primary and secondary line logs. The string was fastened to the nails in the logs. This string acted as a guide for the level transects between the primary and secondary lines.
5. The rod man carried a seventy-five foot metal tape. One end was hooked over the nail on the primary control line. The rod man was then able to let out tape and accurately place the rod at three-foot intervals. The rod man stopped every three feet and a reading was taken by the instrument man.
6. Readings other than those taken at the three-foot interval:

At the start and finish of each line a reading should be made at water level. The distance of these two readings from the primary control line should be recorded in the field notes. This information will be very helpful when a map of the basins is made. This was not done in the original survey, the water edge being determined by interpolation between the last reading inside the basin and the first reading outside.

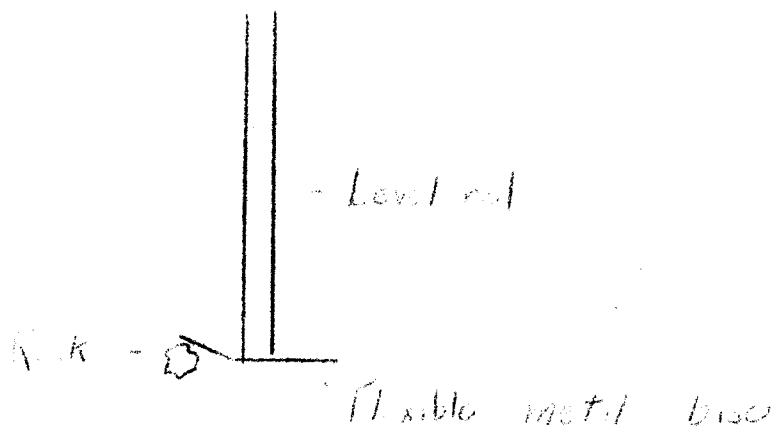
D. Additional Information

Bench marks -- A railroad spike was driven into a suitable Tsuga at each basin site. The assumed elevation of the bench mark in all cases was 100.00 feet. The azimuth to the Tsuga in each case is given on the map of that area included in the survey notes. The trees are marked with an aluminum foil cross.

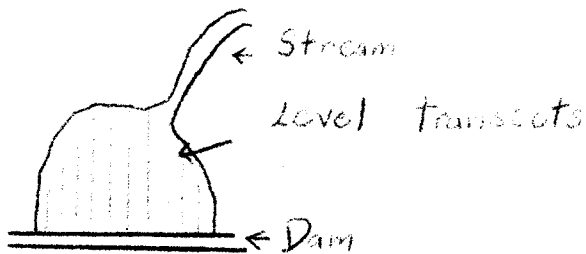
Level Rod Base -- A 7" x 10" sheet metal forest boundary sign was used as a base. Two slots were cut in the center of the sign. The brass base was removed from the rod. The projecting legs of the brass base were pushed through special slots in the sheet metal. The base was then reattached to the rod.



The sheet metal base was flexible resulting in an accurate reading on uneven rocky ground as well as on the unstable silt soils in the basin.



Instrument location -- The best location for the level is as shown below.



By placing the level to the side, unnecessary focusing is avoided.

The level must be at least nine feet from the nearest desired reading as it will focus at no distance less than nine feet.

E. Calculations

The purpose of this calculation is to show the annual sediment accumulation in the catchment basin.

Method -- The sum of all rod readings greater than the reading taken at the water surface is divided by the total number of readings to give the average reading. The average reading minus the reading taken at the water surface equals the average depth of the basin:

$$\left(\frac{\sum \text{of all readings greater than reading at water surface}}{\text{number of readings}} \right) - \begin{matrix} \text{(reading)} \\ \text{(at water surface)} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{av. depth} \\ \text{of basin.} \end{matrix}$$

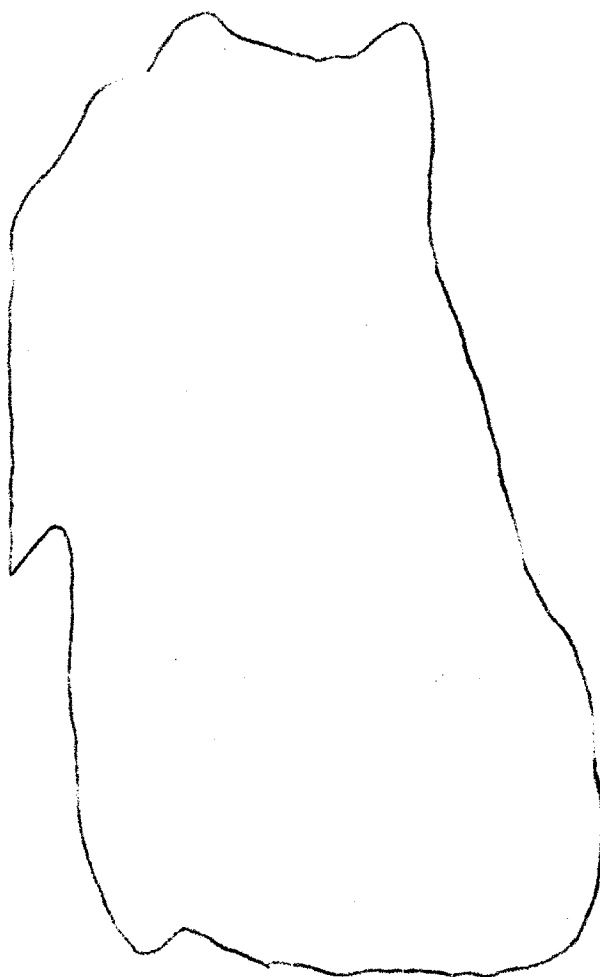
The surface in square feet is taken from the scale drawing of the basin.

In the future the difference between the present average depth and the average depth of a later year multiplied by the surface area will equal the sediment accumulation in cubic feet. The same surface elevation must be used:

$$(\text{area of water surface in sq. ft.}) \times (1956 \text{ av. depth} - 1957 \text{ av. depth}) = \text{the volume sediment accumulation in cubic feet for the water year.}$$

Original maps and field sheets are enclosed in the Andrews copy of this report. In case of loss, duplicates are being made for the Willamette Research Center copy.

Watershed No One Catchment Basin Map



0+78

0+72

0+66

0+60

0+54

0+48

0+42

0+36

0+30

0+24

0+18

0+12

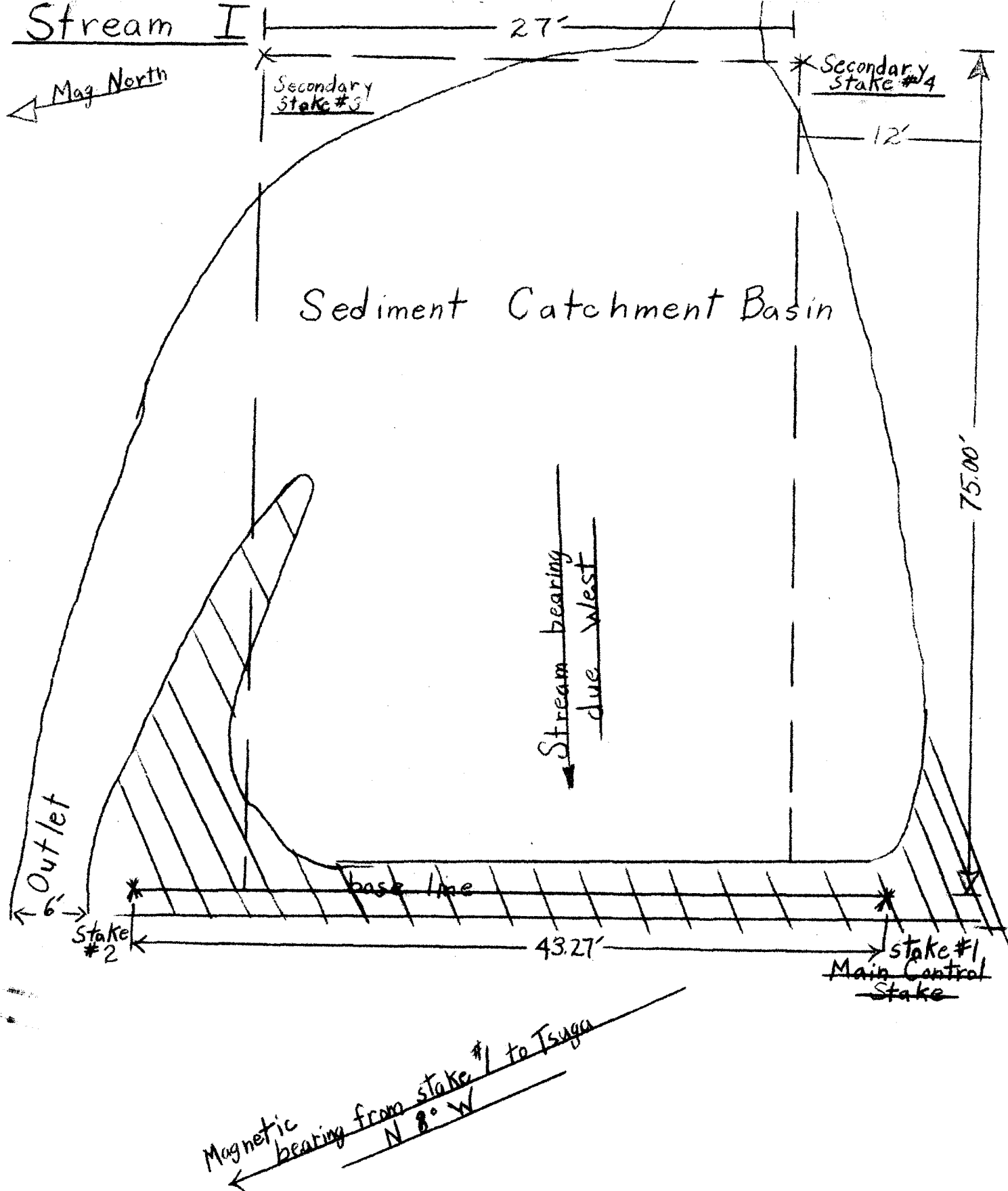
0+06

0+00

14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

0+42 0+36 0+30 0+24 0+18 0+12 0+06 0+00

Scale 1" = 12'
Sept. 19, 1956
R.E. Graber



 *Tsuga heterophylla*
dbh 17"

RI -- NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds
Benchmark: 100.00'
H.I. 4.60
Elev. 107.80

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED
IN CATCHMENT BASINS

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. P.
Basin Location: Stream I

Date: Sept. 5, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Allison
Notes Graber

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

Benchmark: 100.00'
H.I. 4.60
Elev. 107.80

Experimental Area: M. J. Andrews E. F.
Basin Location: Stream I

Date: Sept. 5, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Allison
Notes Graber

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds
Benchmark: 100.00'
H.I. 4.60
Elev. 107.80

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. P.
Basin Location: Stream 1

Date: Sept 5, 1936
Party: Rod Graber
Notes: Allison Graber

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Benchmark: 100.00'

H.I. 4.61

Elev. 107.80

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. F.

Basin Location: **Stream I**

Date: **Sept. 6, 1956**

Party: Level Graber

Rod Allison

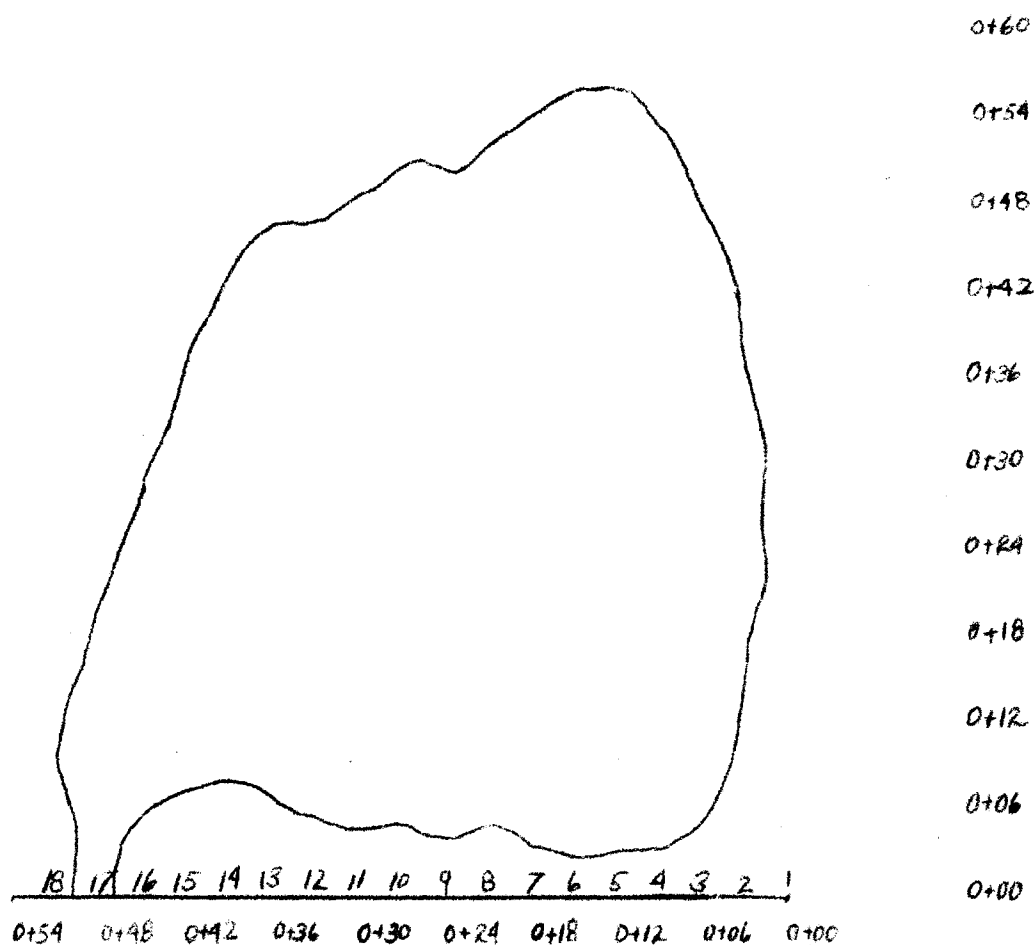
Notes Notes

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

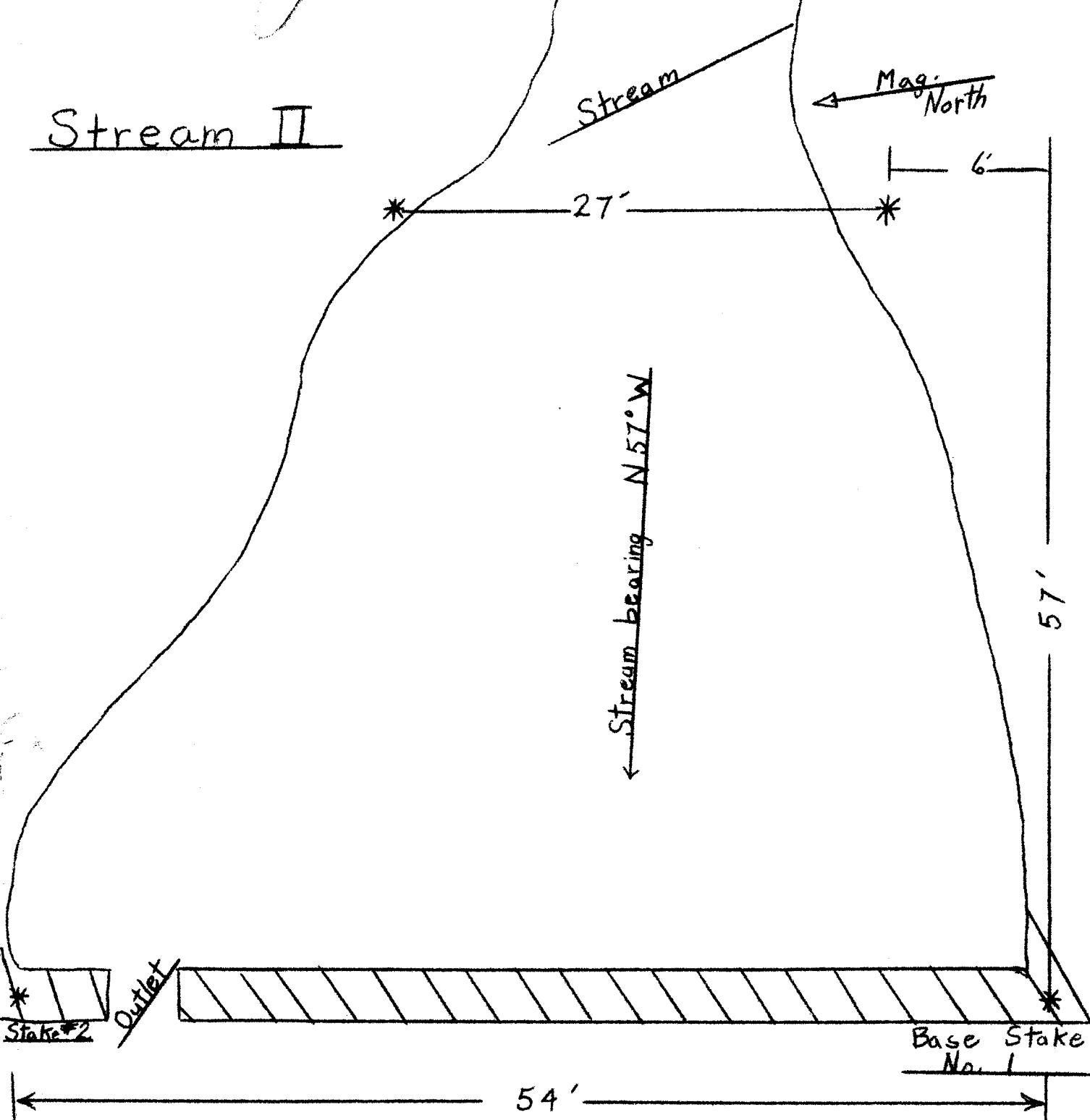
Watershed No. Two

Catchment Basin Map



Scale 1" = 12'
 Sept. 27, 1956
 R.E. Graber

Stream II



Magnetic bearing from stake #1 to Tsuga
N 5° E



Tsuga heterophylla (dbh 17")

Benchmark: 8.10
H.I. 4.66
Elev. 103.44

FORM RI-2

Date: Sept. 6, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Allison
Notes Graber

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews
Basin Location: Stream II

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED
IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Benchmark:

H.I. 4.66
Elev. 103.14

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. F.
Basin Location: Stream II

Date: Sept. 6, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Allison
Notes Graber

Station*	Transects (Designated in ft. starting at crest of dam)											
	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.
LINE 5			LINE 6			LINE 7			LINE 8			
Station			Station			Station			Station			
0+00	4.81		4.15			3.91			3.82			
0+03	5.71		5.89			5.51			4.81			
0+06	6.81		7.12			6.50			6.13			
0+09	5.43		7.10			7.26			7.28			
0+12	7.18		7.13			7.11			7.31			
0+15	7.48		7.62			7.66			7.18			
0+18	7.59		7.48			7.63			7.60			
0+21	7.62		7.59			7.65			7.61			
0+24	8.00		7.61			7.61			7.76			
0+27	7.69		7.78			7.76			7.78			
0+30	8.51		7.88			7.81			7.82			
0+33	7.76		7.86			7.78			7.87			
0+36	7.92		7.78			7.87			8.15			
0+39	7.78		7.77			7.78			7.71			
0+42	7.56		7.95			7.69			7.56			
0+45	7.56		7.81			7.13			7.43			
0+48	7.31		7.28			6.80			6.80			
0+51	6.98		6.11			6.36			6.01			
0+54	6.42		6.11			5.79			5.68			
0+57	5.56		5.72			5.45			5.07			
	127.92		126.91			119.03			118.30			
Total												
Average												

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED
IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Benchmark:

H.I. 4.66
Elev. 103.44

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. F.
Basin Location: Stream II

Date: Sept. 6, 1956

Party: Level Graber

Rod Allison

Notes Graber

Station*	Transects (Designated in ft. starting at crest of dam)											
	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.
LINE 9			LINE 10			LINE 11			LINE 12			
Station			Station			Station			Station			
0+00	3.73			3.64			4.07			3.36		
0+03	5.21			4.61			5.04			4.10		
0+06	6.71			6.23			6.33			5.98		
0+09	7.16			7.13			6.89			6.58		
0+12	7.16			7.12			7.52			6.99		
0+15	7.53			7.55			7.50			7.05		
0+18	7.61			7.61			7.58			7.10		
0+21	7.72			7.63			7.57			7.51		
0+24	7.75			7.76			7.61			7.65		
0+27	7.75			7.80			7.76			7.61		
0+30	7.60			7.64			7.71			7.59		
0+33	7.61			7.79			7.58			7.51		
0+36	7.71			7.78			7.51			7.13		
0+39	7.67			8.04			7.51			7.31		
0+42	7.62			7.65			7.05			6.83		
0+45	7.10			6.92			6.67			6.22		
0+48	6.35			6.31			6.01			5.65		
0+51	5.62			5.81			5.32			5.23		
0+54	5.36			5.17			4.86			4.16		
0+57	5.18			4.67			4.58			3.55		
	111.48			110.98			108.83			99.76		
LINE 13			LINE 14			LINE 15			LINE 16			
Station			Station			Station			Station			
0+00	3.35			3.77			4.20			5.31		
0+03	3.80			4.11			4.62			5.16		
0+06	5.10			4.72			5.61			6.06		
0+09	6.33			6.55			6.09			6.68		
0+12	6.91			6.66			6.57			6.71		
0+15	7.07			6.65			6.95			5.91		
0+18	7.15			7.22			6.66			5.97		
0+21	7.21			7.36			6.43			6.33		
0+24	7.56			7.12			6.51			6.25		
0+27	7.57			7.28			6.79			6.06		
0+30	7.47			7.40			6.80			5.68		
0+33	7.51			7.15			6.68			4.67		
0+36	7.33			6.68			6.33					
0+39	7.01			6.27			5.61					
0+42	6.50			6.12								
0+45	6.09			5.50								
0+48	5.58			4.62								
0+51	3.81											
	91.80			82.95			65.84			49.97		
Total												
Average												

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

Benchmark:

H.I. 4.66
Elev. 103.44

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED IN CATCHMENT BASINS

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews
Basin Location: Stream II

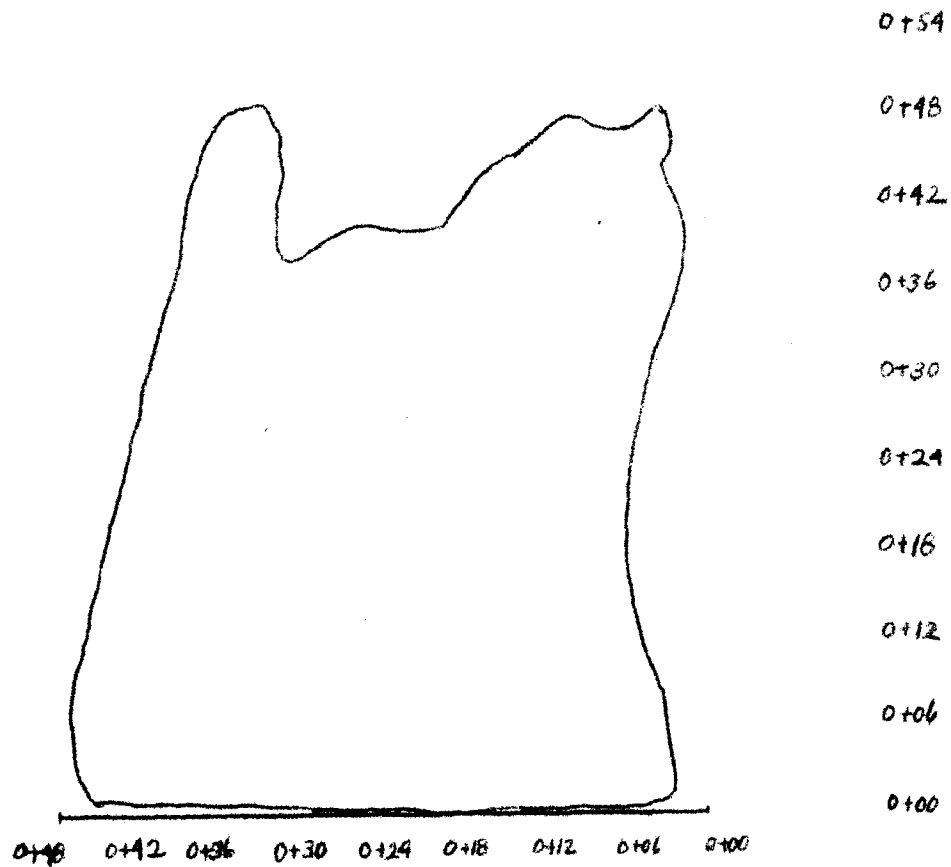
FORM RI-2

Date: Sept. 6, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Allison
Notes Graber

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

Watershed No. Three
Catchment Basin Map

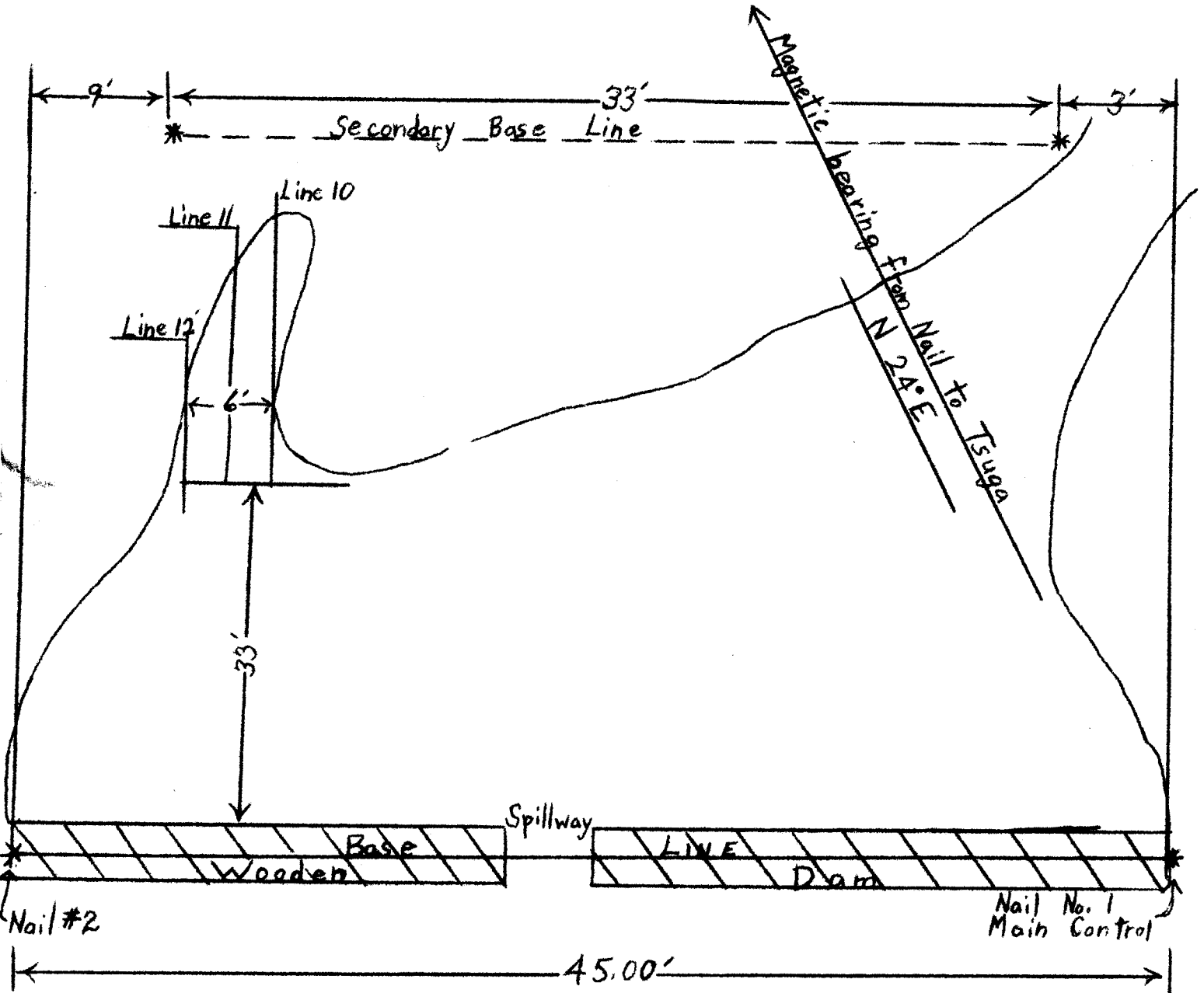


Scale 1" = 12'
Sept. 27, 1956
R.E. Graber

Stream III

Magnetic North

* Tsuga heterophylla
dbh 12"



RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED
IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Benchmark: 100.00
H.I. 4.26
Elev. 91.30

Experimental Area: AJ Andrews
Basin Location: Stream

Date: Sept 10, 1956
Party: Level
Rod: Rafferty
Notes: Gravel

Station*	Transects (Designated in ft. starting at crest of dam)									
	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.	H.I.	Elev.
	Benchmark - railroad spike in hemlock - assumed elevation 100.00 elevation at inst. = $100.00 - 8.70 = 91.30$ Elevation of Inst. $91.30 + 4.26 = 95.56$									
	LINE 1		LINE 2		LINE 3		LINE 4			
Station										12 ft
0+00	4.16		0+00	4.95					7.13	
0+05	4.23		0+05	6.22					8.18	
0+10	3.93		0+10	6.72					8.68	
0+15	2.48		0+15	5.72					8.23	4
0+20	2.65		0+20	5.21					8.18	5
0+25	0.85		0+25	4.79					7.54	6
0+30			0+30	4.77					7.25	7
0+35			0+35	5.16					7.24	8
0+40	3.59		0+40	6.29					7.24	9
0+45	3.16		0+45	6.11					7.24	10
0+50	3.99		0+50	5.22					7.24	11
0+55	3.94		0+55	5.22					6.51	12
0+60	4.75		0+60	5.40					7.24	13
0+65	5.63		0+65	5.27					6.27	14
0+70	3.97		0+70	4.41					5.23	15
0+75			0+75	5.78					7.24	16
0+80	3.24		0+80	5.22					1.25	17
	<u>Σ 30.99</u>	7		<u>Σ 84.83</u>	15			<u>Σ 109.39</u>	16	<u>Σ 111.97</u> 15
Total										
Average										

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds
Benchmark: 100.00
H.I. 4.26
Elev. 91.30

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Date: Sept. 10, 1956
Party: Level Grahar
Rod Rafferty
Notes Grahar

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Benchmark:	100.00'
H. I.	4.26
Elev.	91.30

Experimental Area: H. J. Andrews E. F.
Basin Location: Stream III

Date: Sept. 10, 1956
Party: Level Graber
Rod Rafferty
Notes Graber

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.

RI - NW
SOIL STABILIZATION
Watersheds
Benchmark: 100.00'
H.I. 4.26
Elev. 91.30

ELEVATIONS OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATED IN CATCHMENT BASINS

FORM RI-2

Date: ~~September 10, 1956~~
Party: Level ~~Craber~~
Rod ~~Rafferty~~
Notes ~~Craber~~

[illegible]

*Numbered to right starting with 0 at borderline which extends upstream from left end of dam.