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Figure 3: Three rows of five-year-old ponderosa pine seedlings established by direct drilling in unimproved browntop/hawkweed grassland, Ribbonwood Station. (Photo: M. Davis)

INSTITUTE NEWS

Object of the Institute – proposed constitutional change

As noted in previous issues of the journal, the Institute Council has been giving considerable thought to the matter of policy, and associated issues. One of these issues is the object of the Institute, or "What are we here for?" At its think-tank session in Hanmer last year, the Council considered this question in some detail and concluded that the role of the Institute was to be:

- a major advocate for forestry
- a forum for discussion on forestryrelated matters
- a fraternity for members.

The existing section of the constitution dealing with the objects of the Institute is section II which currently reads as follows:

"The object of this Institute shall be to promote the best use of New Zealand's resources, to encourage the wise use of forests and forest land, and to further the interests of the profession of forestry."

Given the change in the name of the Institute to the Institute of Forestry, and the intent to have as members not just professional foresters but also professionals in other areas related to forestry, a more appropriate object is in order. A

number of wordings have been considered, and the following is put forward for comment by members before being formally advised as a proposed constitutional change:

"The objects of the Institute shall be:

- To be an independent advocate for forestry
- To serve its members by
 - (a) affording them opportunities to express and exchange views
 - (b) overseeing members' ethics
 - (c) encouraging fraternity and 'esprit de corps'
 - (d) providing recognition."

Several desirable features of the above wording and construction should be noted. Firstly, it clearly sets out a primary role in advocacy, and secondly, it makes it clear that one of the functions of the Institute is to serve its members. Thirdly, it sets a mandate for the journal and the annual conference.

Council is aware that considerable care needs to go into the wording and construction of the objects of the Institute, as in future years both the Council and the Institute will be judged by how

well they have been able to meet the Institute's objectives.

Members are invited to comment on the above revised objectives for the Institute before they are formally adopted by Council and put forward as a proposed constitutional change. The revised objectives may provide a good topic for discussion and debate at local section meetings. Please send your own or your section's views to the Institute Secretary.

Ben Everts

Frank E. Hutchinson award

Nominations are called for the award which commemorates Frank Hutchinson, a foundation member of the Institute. Until his death in 1982 Frank was an active member of the Institute and was elected an honorary member in 1964

The award, which will be in the form of a certificate and a book, is for significant postgraduate work related to reforestation in New Zealand.

Members wishing to apply for this recognition or who wish to nominate Fellows, Full and Honorary members, should apply, with supporting details to:

The Secretary, Institute of Forestry, P.O. Box 12-314, Thorndon, Wellington.

Applications close on January 31,