

4. Preparing Fireguard Lanes, etc. Mechanical means are used extensively in preparing fireguard lanes in brushlands to be burned. Records maintained in the Mendocino National Forest by Kaiser provide useful information on rates at which this work can be done.

1949 DATA ON D-7 TRACTOR OPERATIONS

Mendocino National Forest

Type of work	D-7 HOURS	Operator HOURS	Swamper HOURS
Construct 40 foot fireline with blade - <u>time per mile</u>	18	20	20
Crushing brush two blades wide and wider at critical points to facilitate firing out and also building outside access lines into probable spot fire areas <u>time per mile</u>	15	20	20
Falling Knobcone Pine <u>time per acre</u>	3	3	3
Estimated time to build 40 foot fire line pulling Towner-Meyer 9 foot disc - 5 widths, 2 discings <u>time per mile</u>	10	12	12
Estimated time to crush 1 acre of medium-heavy brush with D-7 and heavy disc <u>time per acre</u>	1	1	1

For those who might be interested in cash costs per unit area the following cost rates were involved in the above cases:

Operation of D-7	\$6.50 per meter hour
Operator's wage	1.80 per hour
Swamper's wage	1.30 per hour

Since the above costs do not include overhead, car mileage, repair costs to equipment, lost time, moving equipment, etc., probably 20 per cent additionally should be added to the total cost to achieve an actual cost figure per unit area treated mechanically.