Design Strategies

Design Strategies

- Selecting Appropriate Colors
- Designing Earthwork Projects
- Manipulating Vegetation
- Designing and Siting Structures
- Locating Linear Alignments
- Reclaiming/Restoring Surface Disturbances

Selecting Color

Landscapes exhibit complex color combinations

Selecting Color

Color variation is the rule

Selecting Color

A single dominant color is often the exception

Selecting Color

Our goal is to select appropriate colors for projects being placed on public lands

Selecting Color

Use of Standard Environmental Colors

Selecting Color

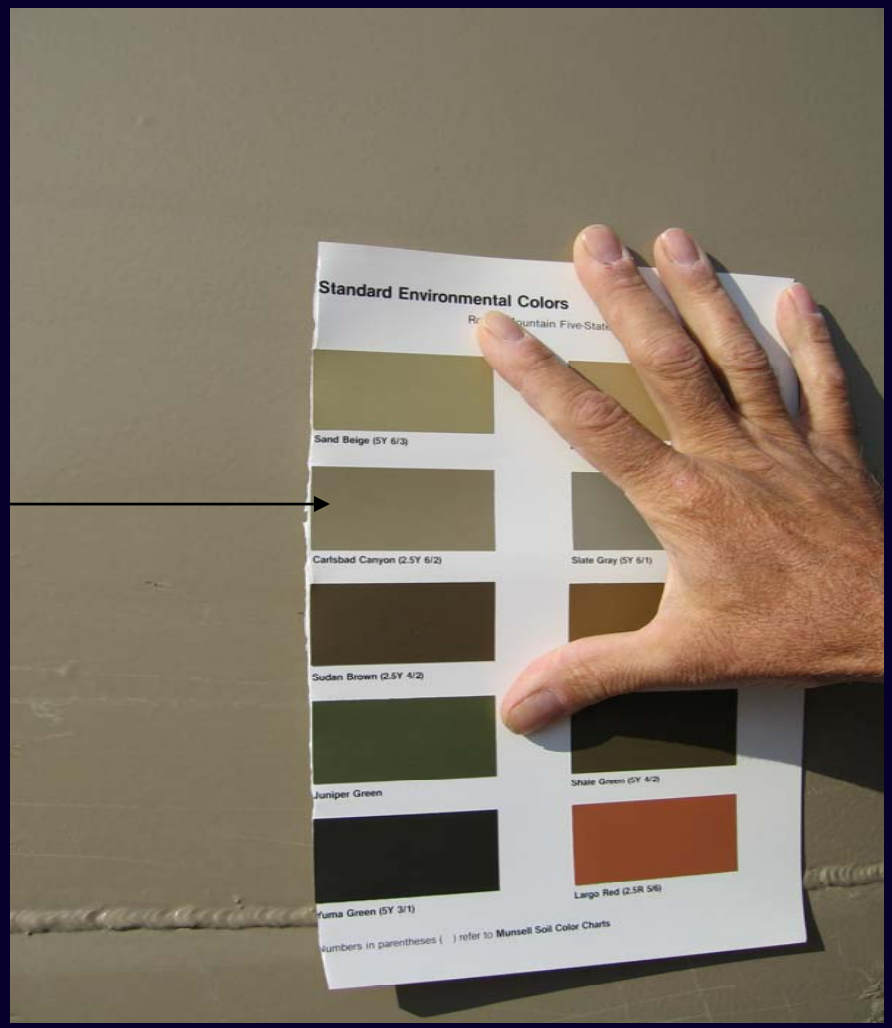
Inappropriate color selection

Selecting Color

Widespread use of *Carlsbad Canyon*

Selecting Color

Field Offices in the Rocky Mountain West widely specify *Carlsbad Canyon*



Selecting Color

Strategies for Color Selection

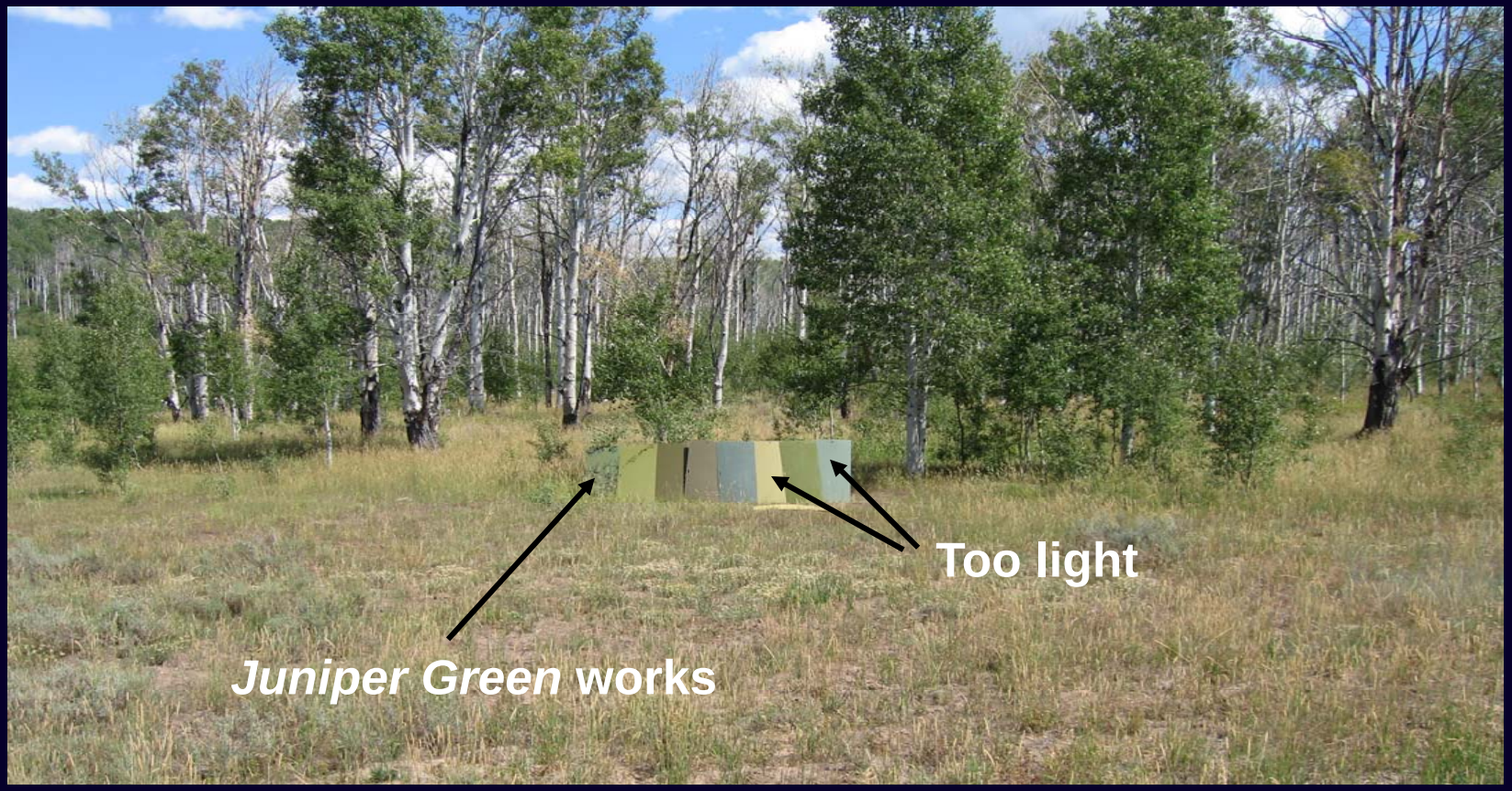
- Choose a color that is equal to or slightly darker than the surroundings
- Dark colors retreat into the landscape
- Light colors advance, attract attention and create contrast
- Color is most effective at distances beyond ¼ mile

Selecting Color

Comparison of colors

Selecting Color

Comparison of colors

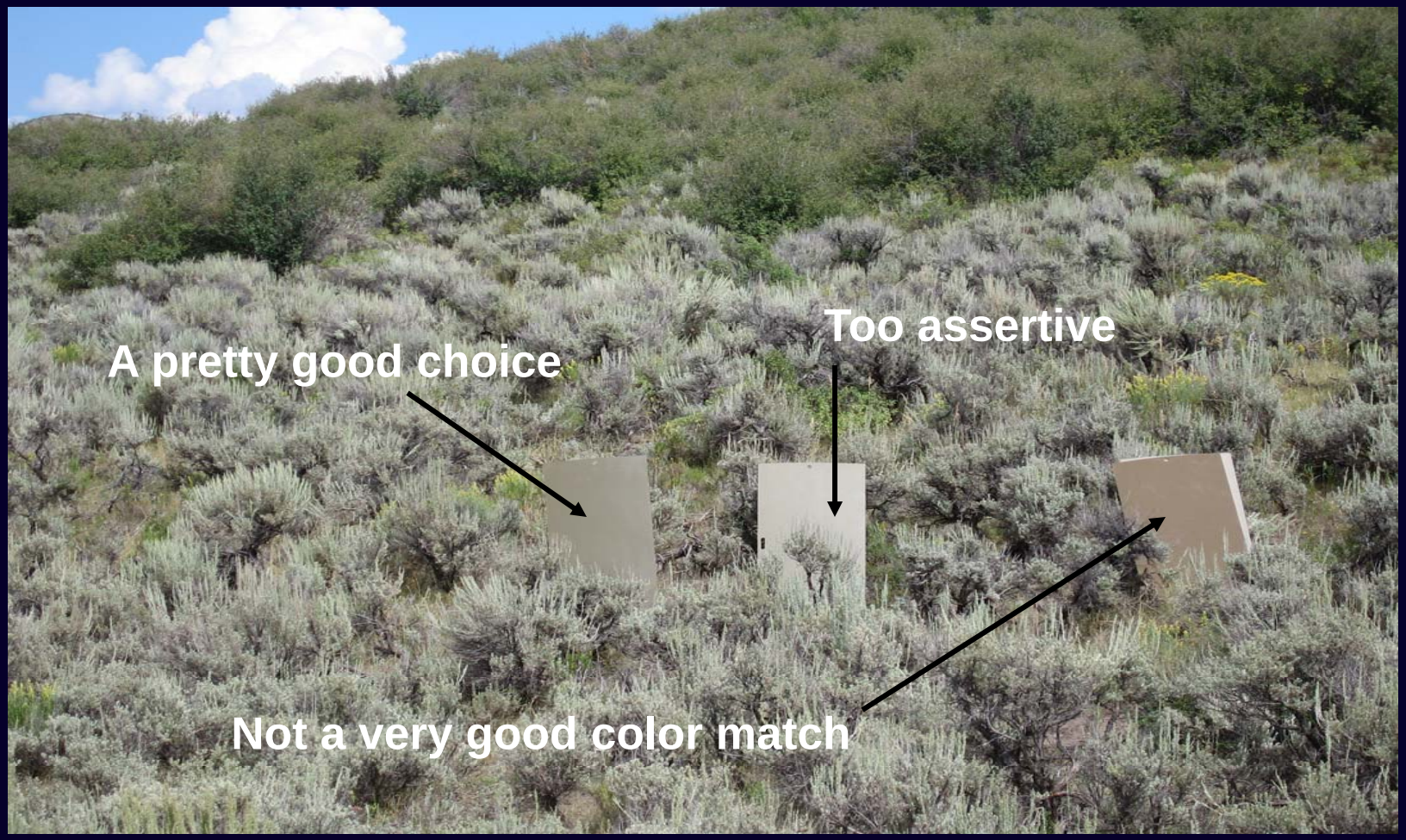


Selecting Color

Which would you choose?

Selecting Color

Which would you choose?



Selecting Color

Which color fits here?

Selecting Color

Which color fits here?

Selecting Color

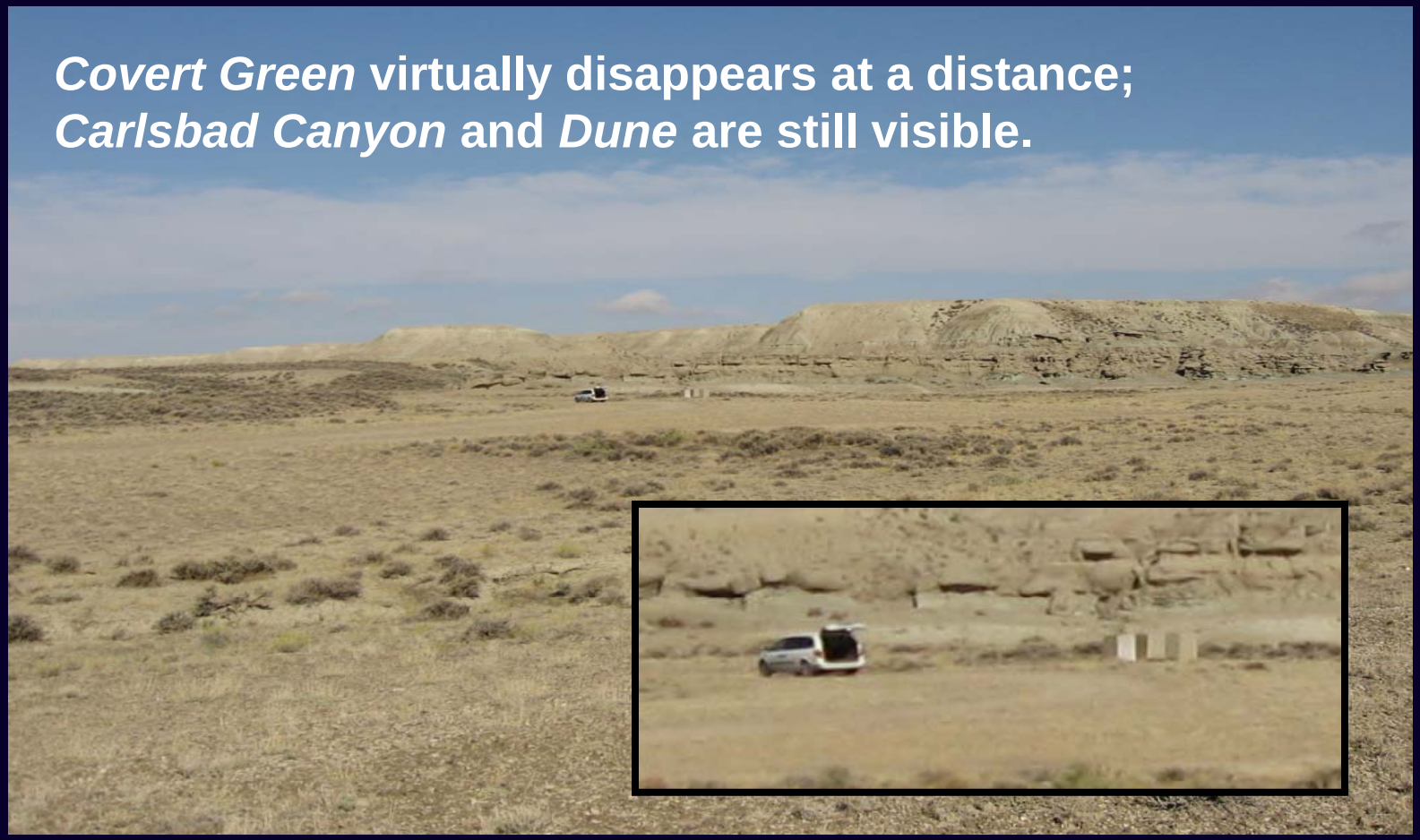
Here are fewer choices.

Selecting Color

The same colors at a distance

Selecting Color

The same colors at a distance

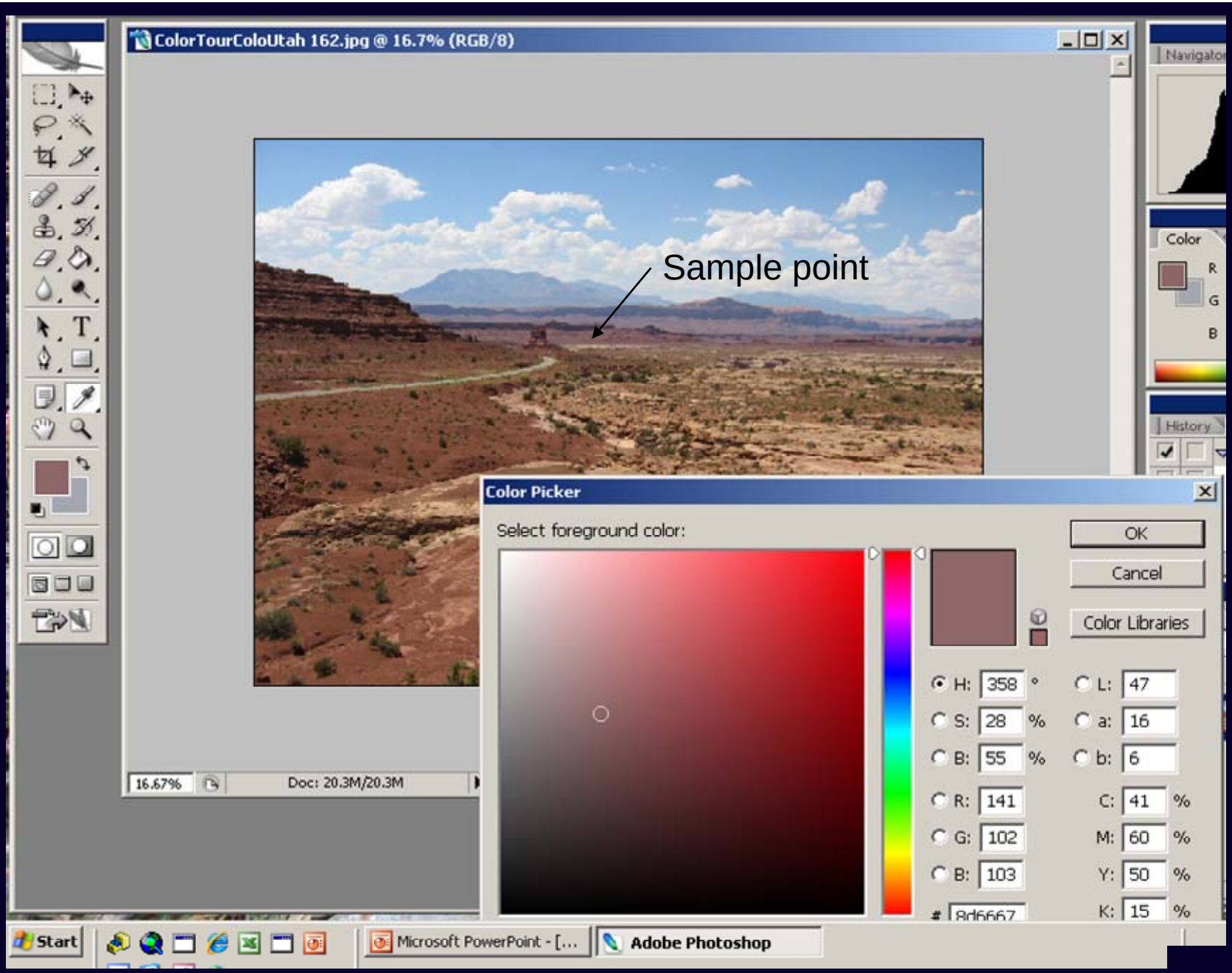


Selecting Color

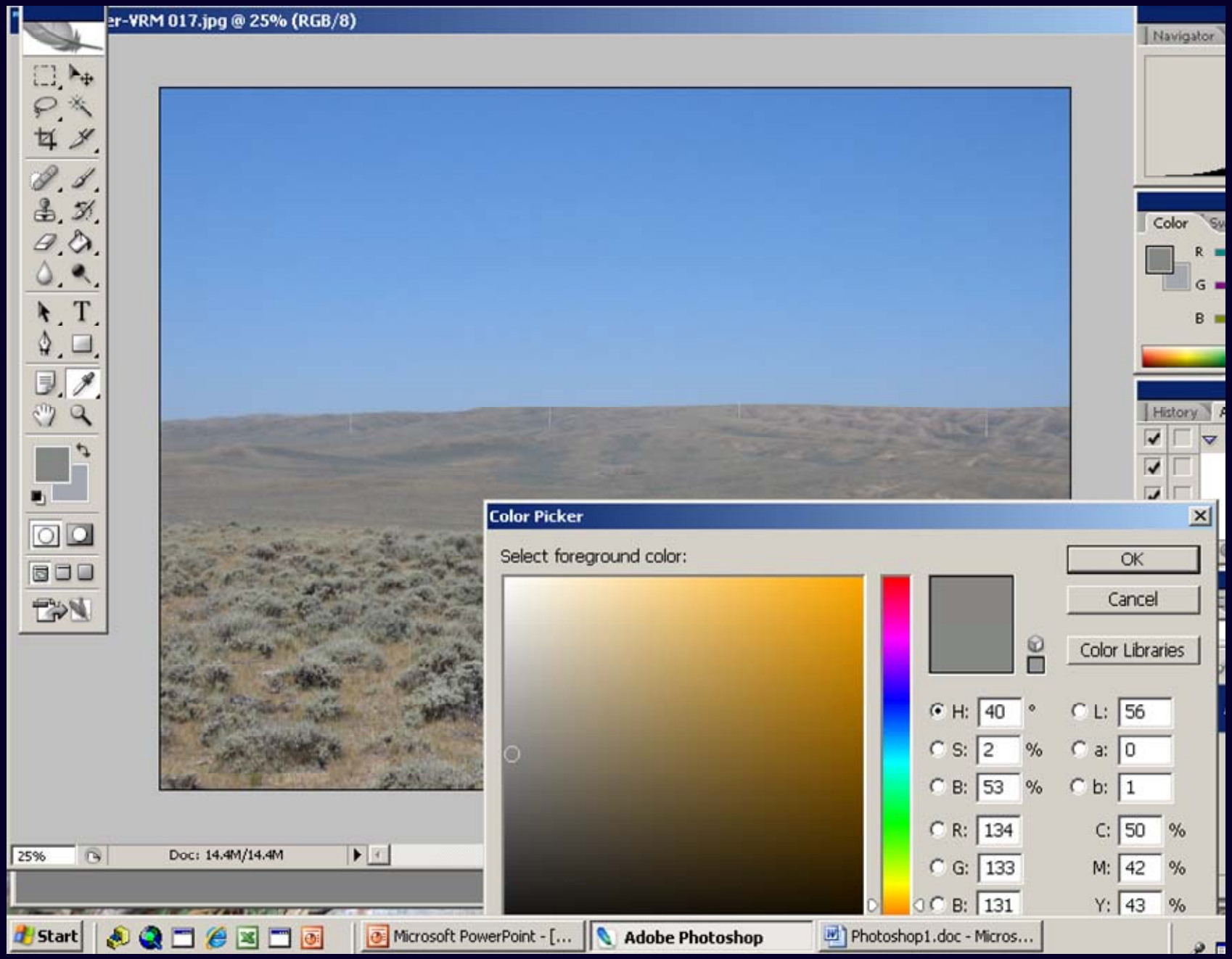
Possible colors in Ponderosa Pine

Selecting Color

The darkest color is the best choice



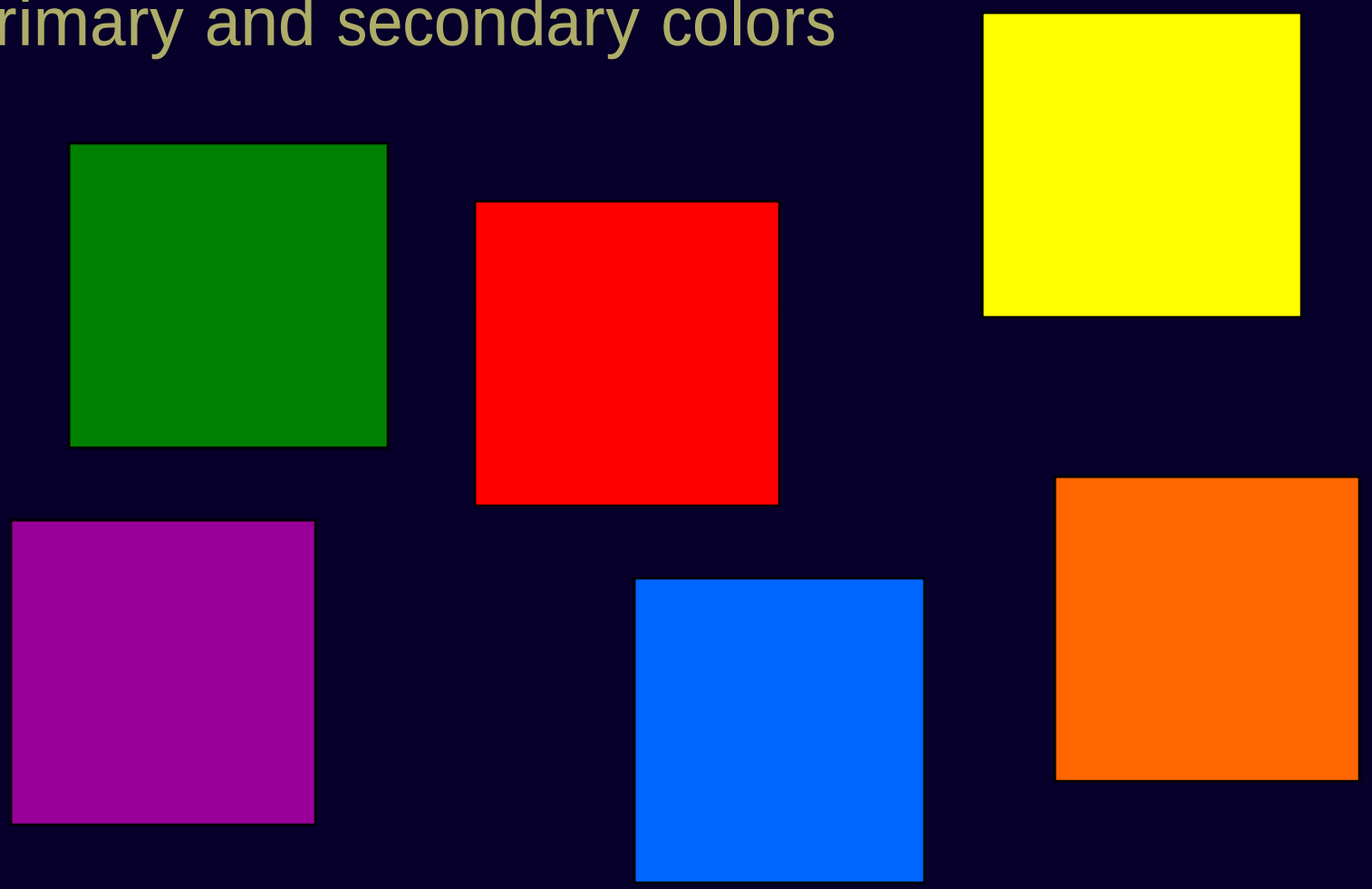
UNIT 7 –Design Strategies



UNIT 7 –Design Strategies

Selecting Color

Primary and secondary colors



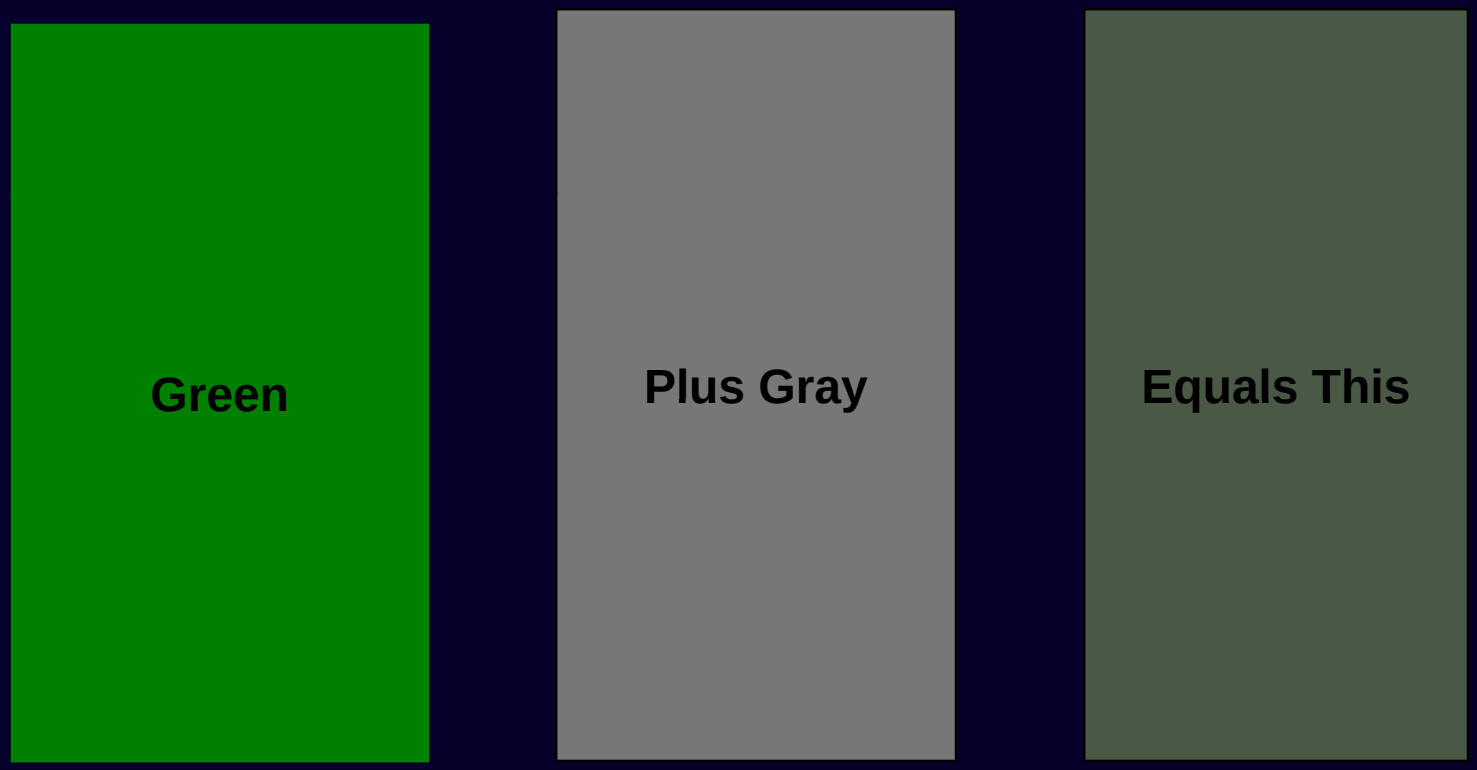
Selecting Color

Several varieties of green

Green	Dirty Green	Real Dirty Green

Selecting Color

The color **Gray** heavily influences western landscapes.



Mixing Gray With Green

Selecting Color

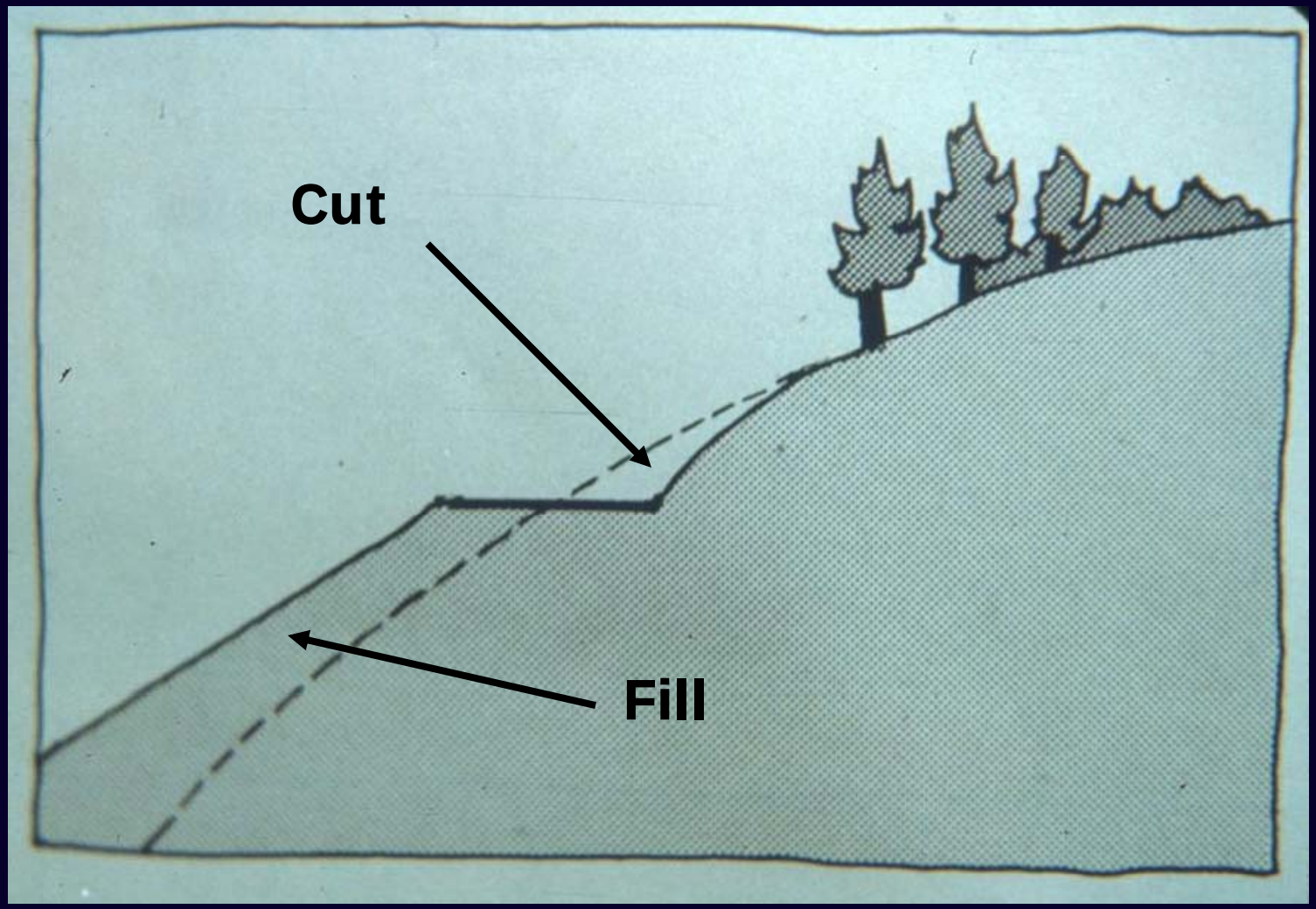
Typical “Green” Landscape

Selecting Color

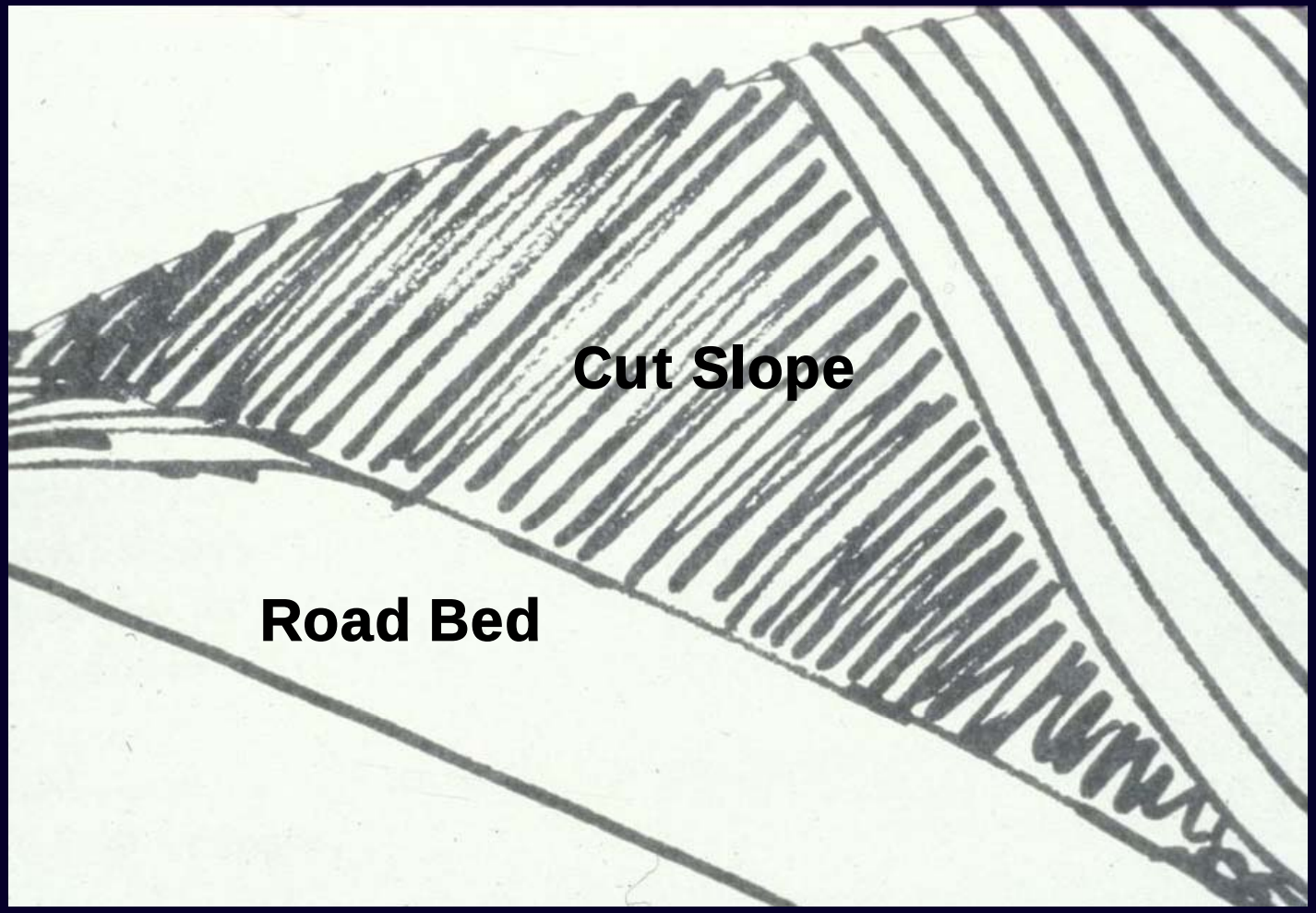
Earthwork

Avoid casting excavated material down slope.

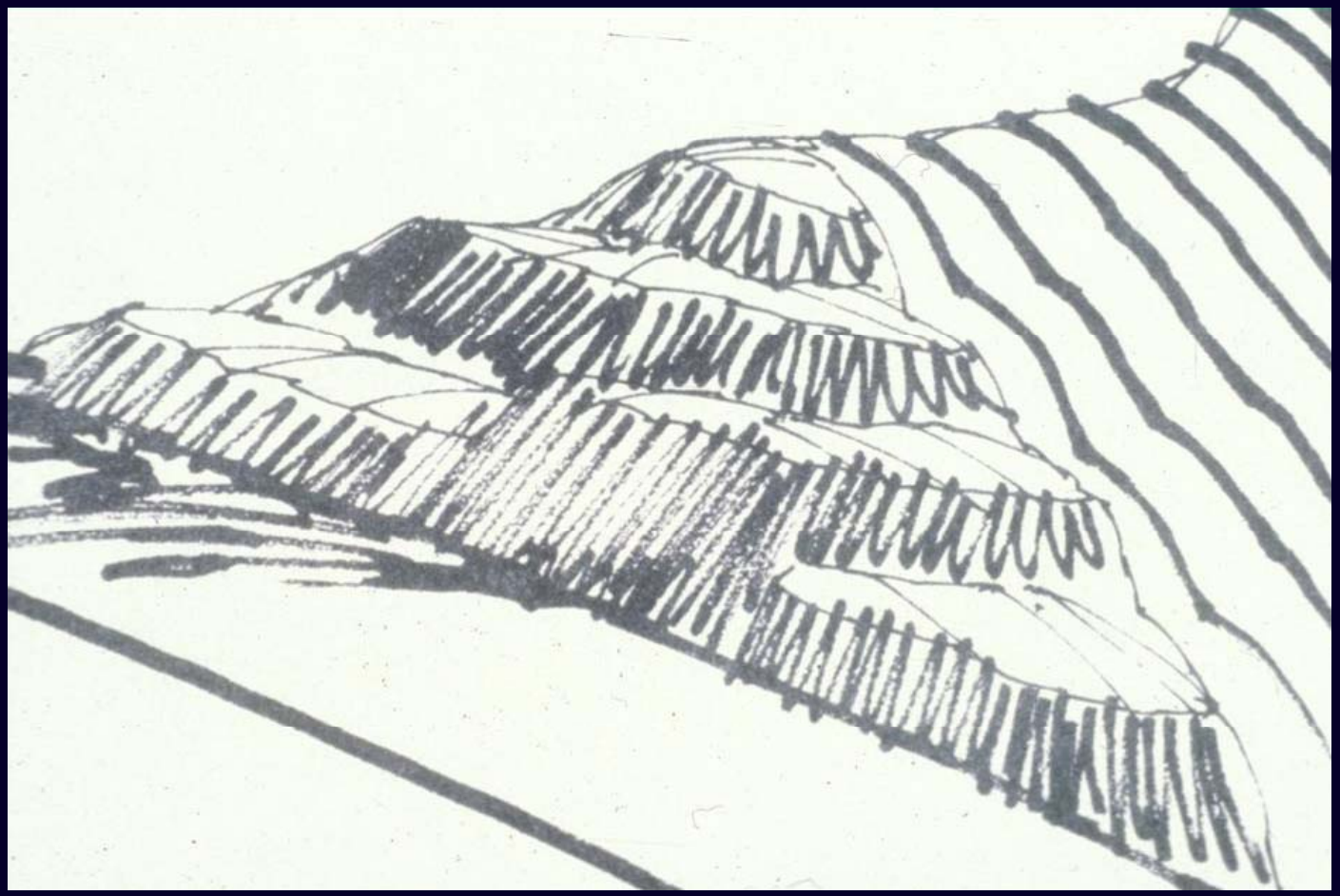
Earthwork



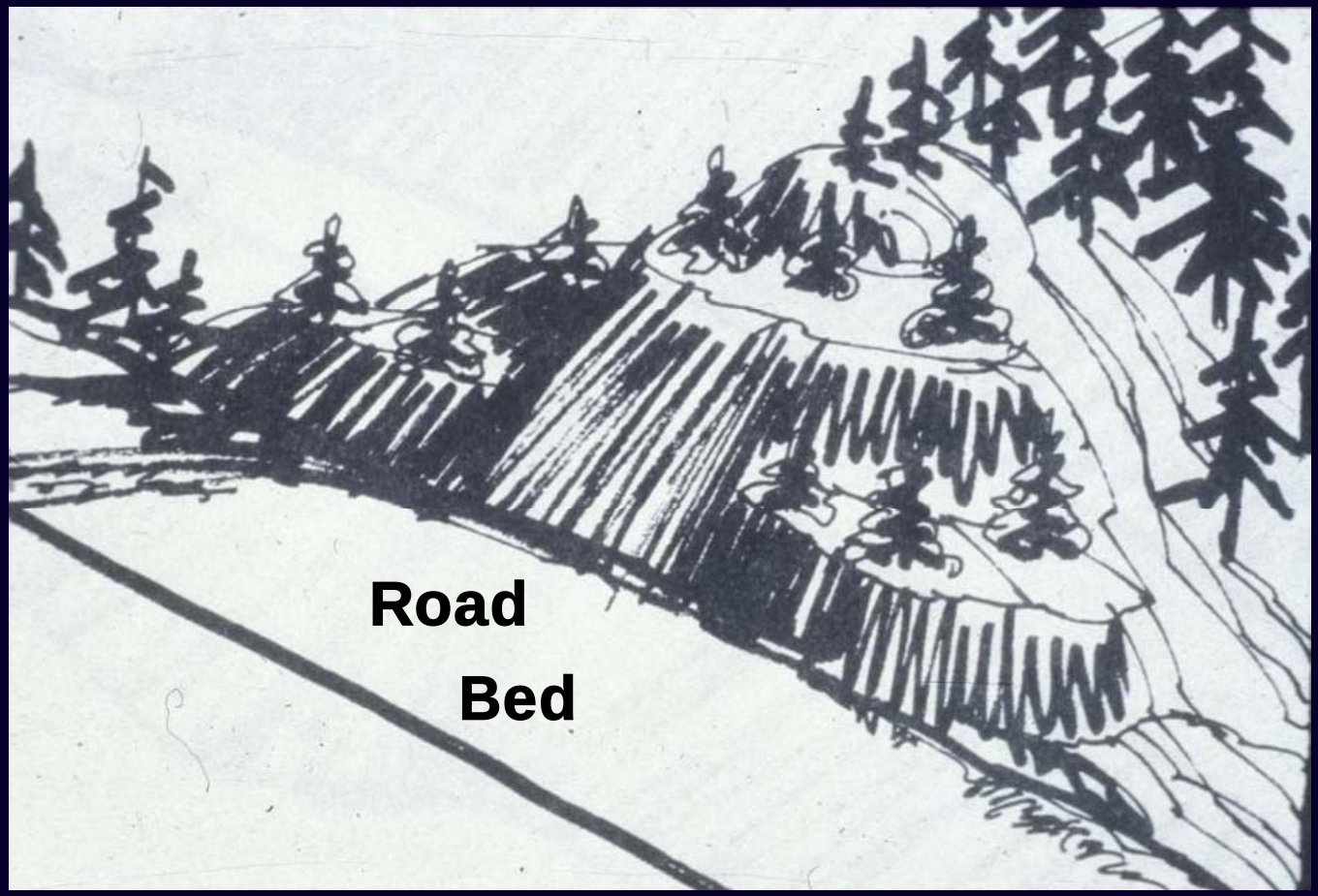
Earthwork



Earthwork



Earthwork



Earthwork

Earthwork

- Pitted surface facilitates entrapment of water, seed, and organic matter.
- Pitted surface often mimics surrounding texture in landscape.

Earthwork

Six Months Later

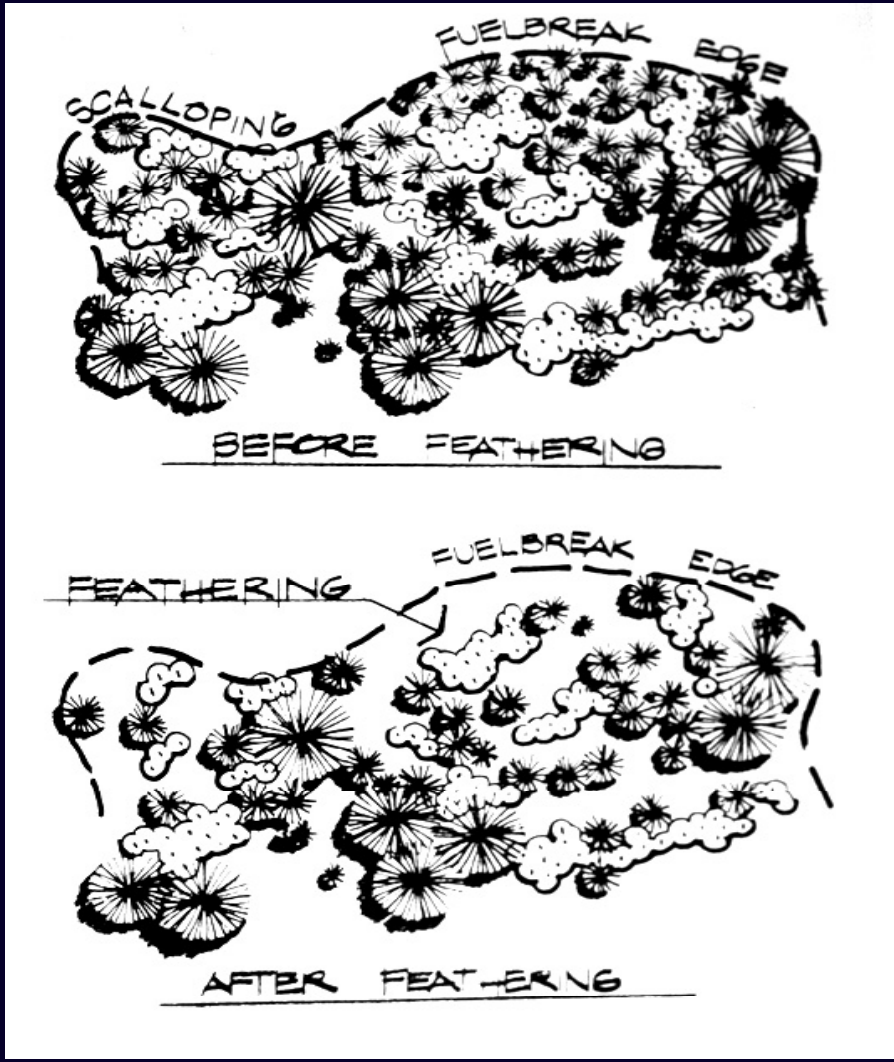
One Year Later

Vegetative Manipulation

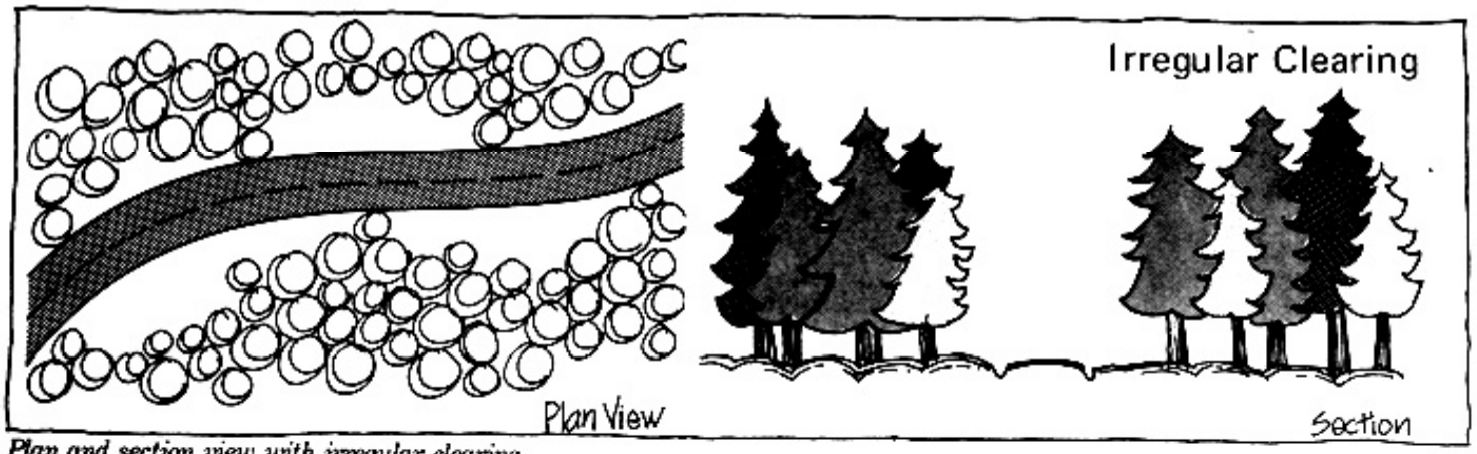
Vegetative Manipulation

Vegetative Manipulation

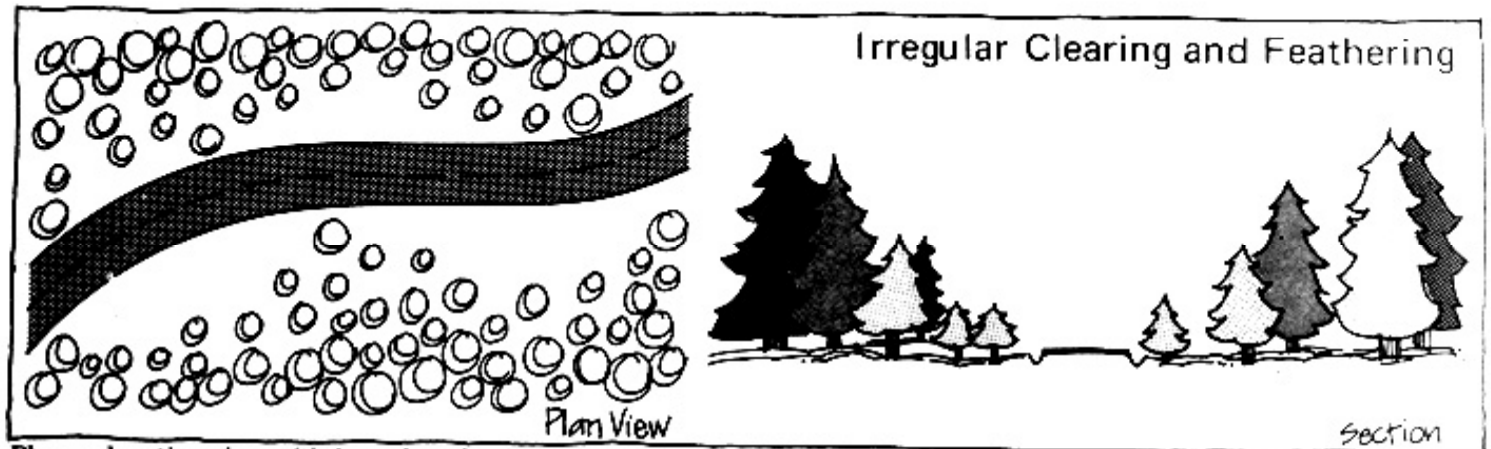
Feathering edges along Rights-of-way



Vegetative Manipulation



Plan and section view with irregular clearing



Plan and section view with irregular clearing and feathering

Vegetative Manipulation

A more gradual transition from forest to meadow

Designing & Locating Structures

Designing & Locating Structures

Tanks sky-lined at the edge of a huge pad (not a BLM well).

Designing & Locating Structures

Oil & Gas location screened by topography

Locating Linear Alignments

- Fit contour of landscape
- Repeat Landscape Character Elements
- Don’t over-built
- Co-locate with other facilities

Locating Linear Alignments

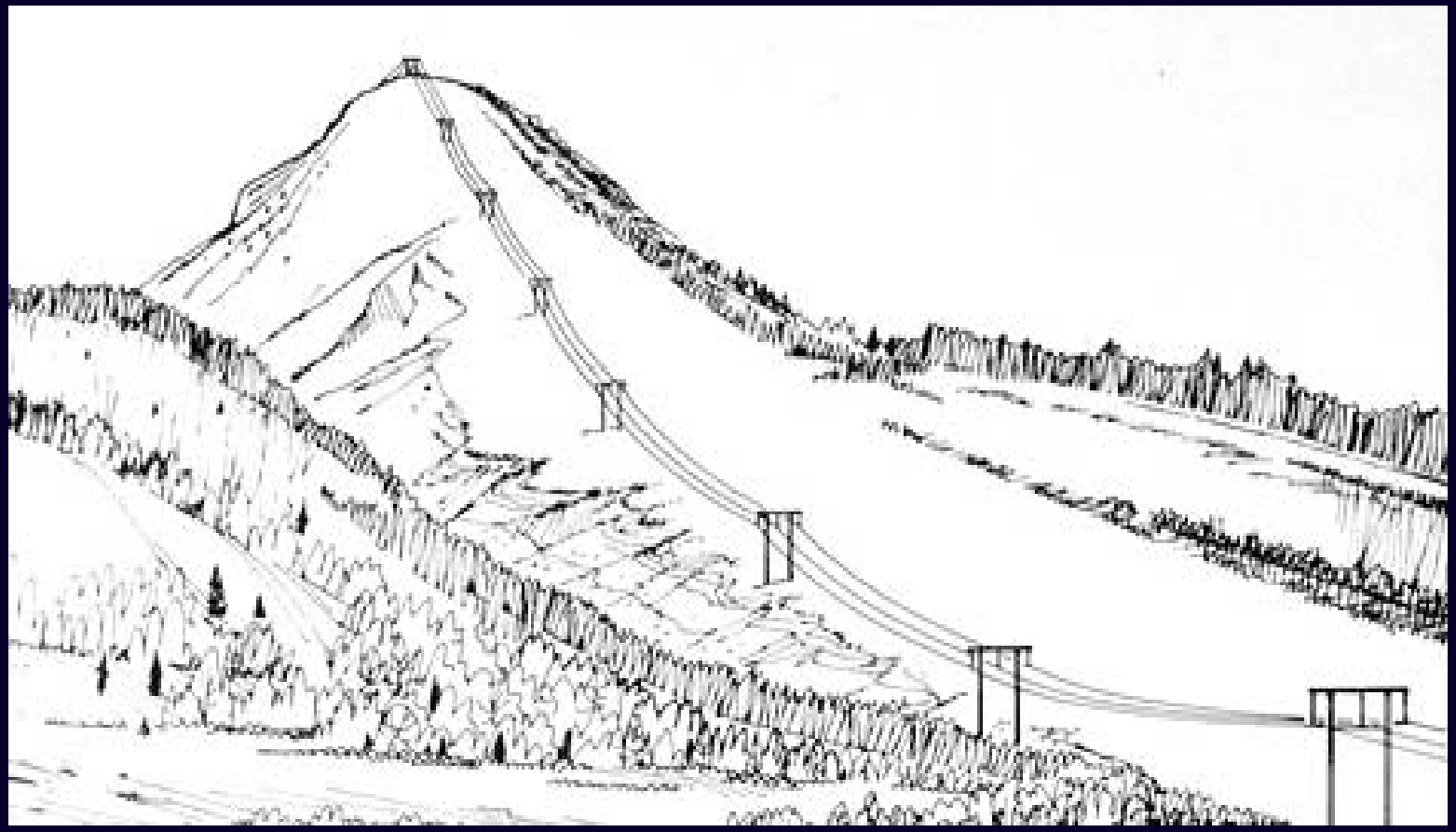
There are lots of poor examples out there

Locating Linear Alignments

Ski Area Development (not quite so bad)

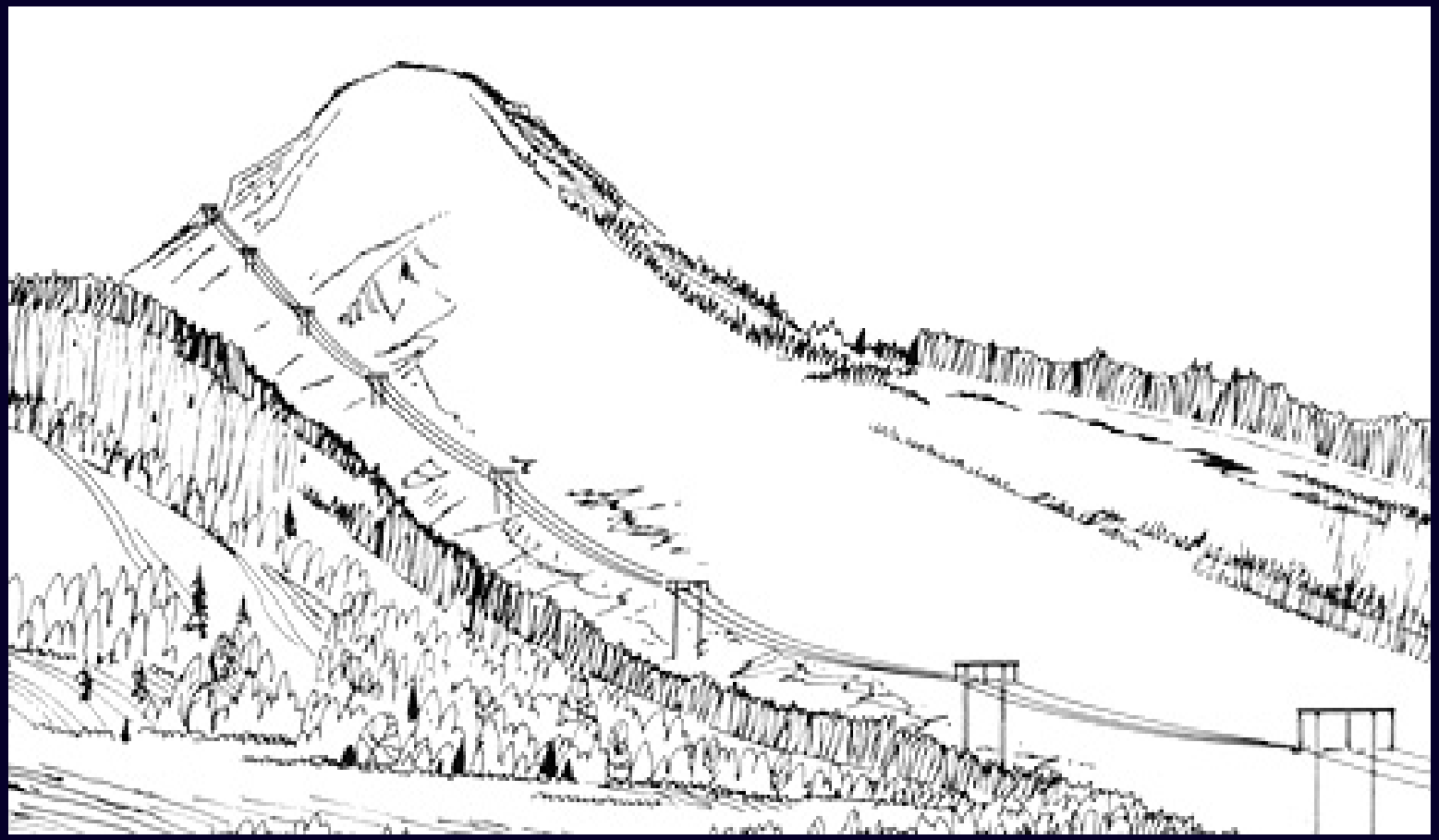
Locating Linear Alignments

Improper Location of Rights-of-way



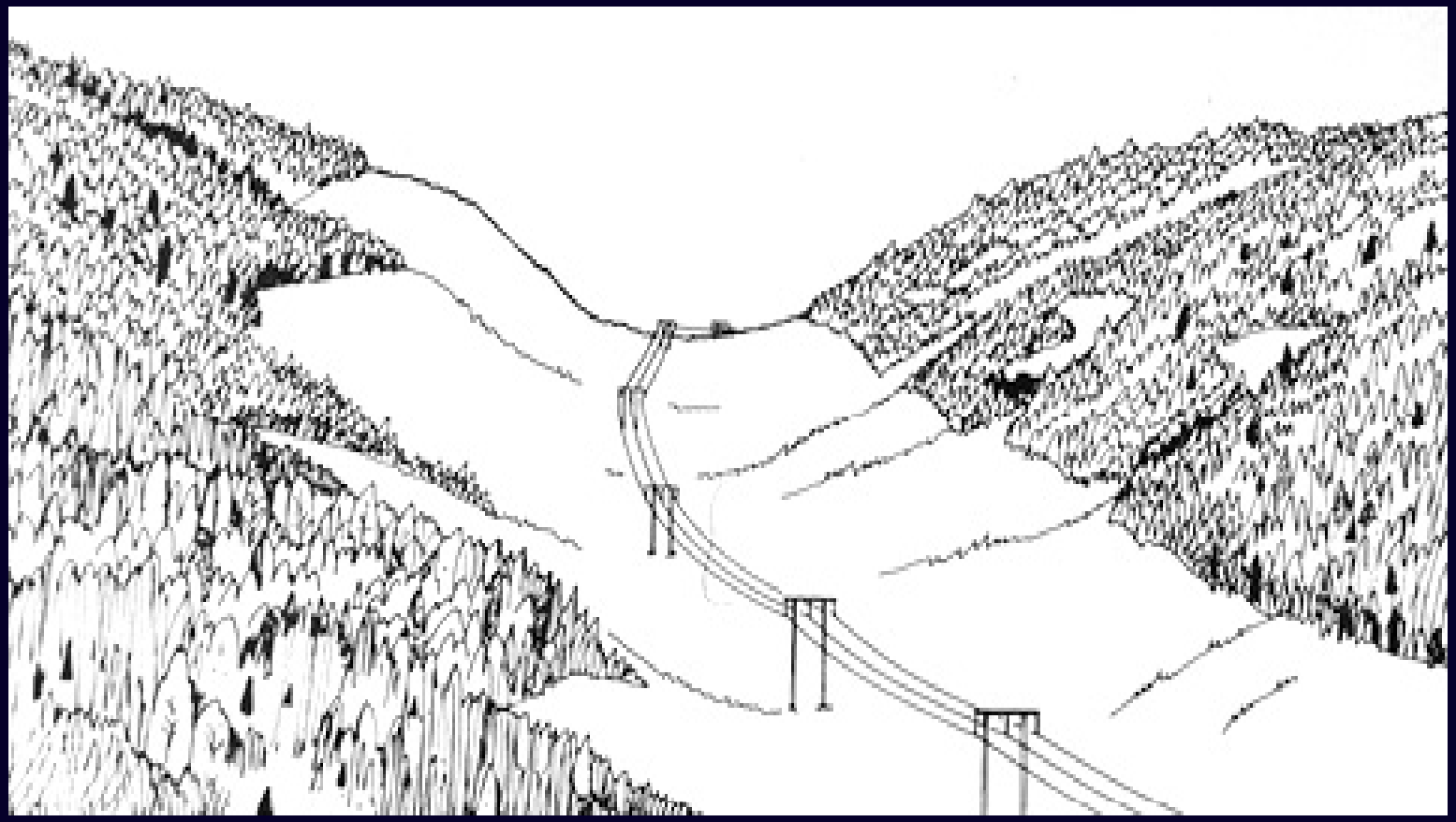
Locating Linear Alignments

Power line located below ridge; repeats elements



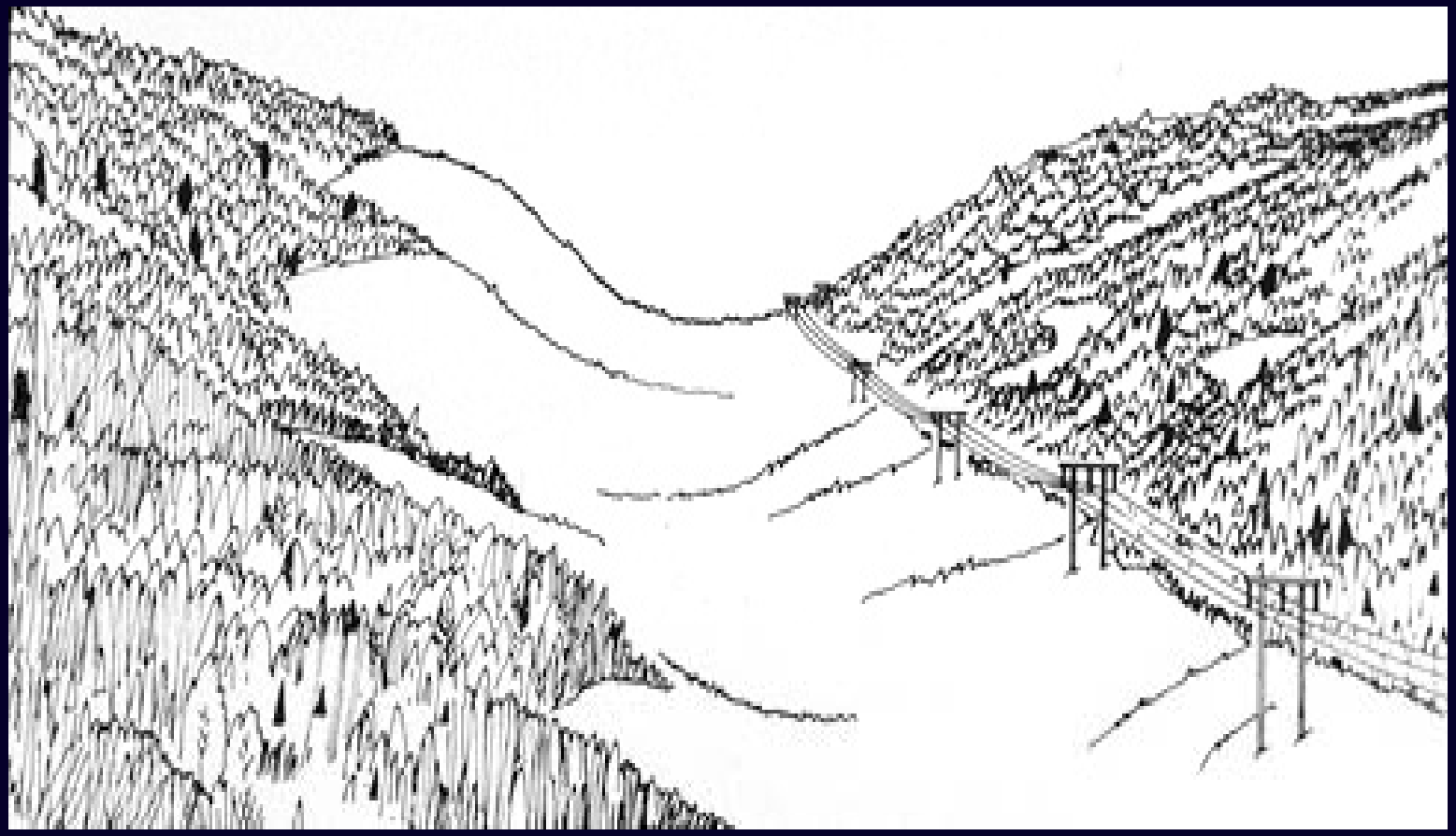
Locating Linear Alignments

Power line located in opening; creates new line



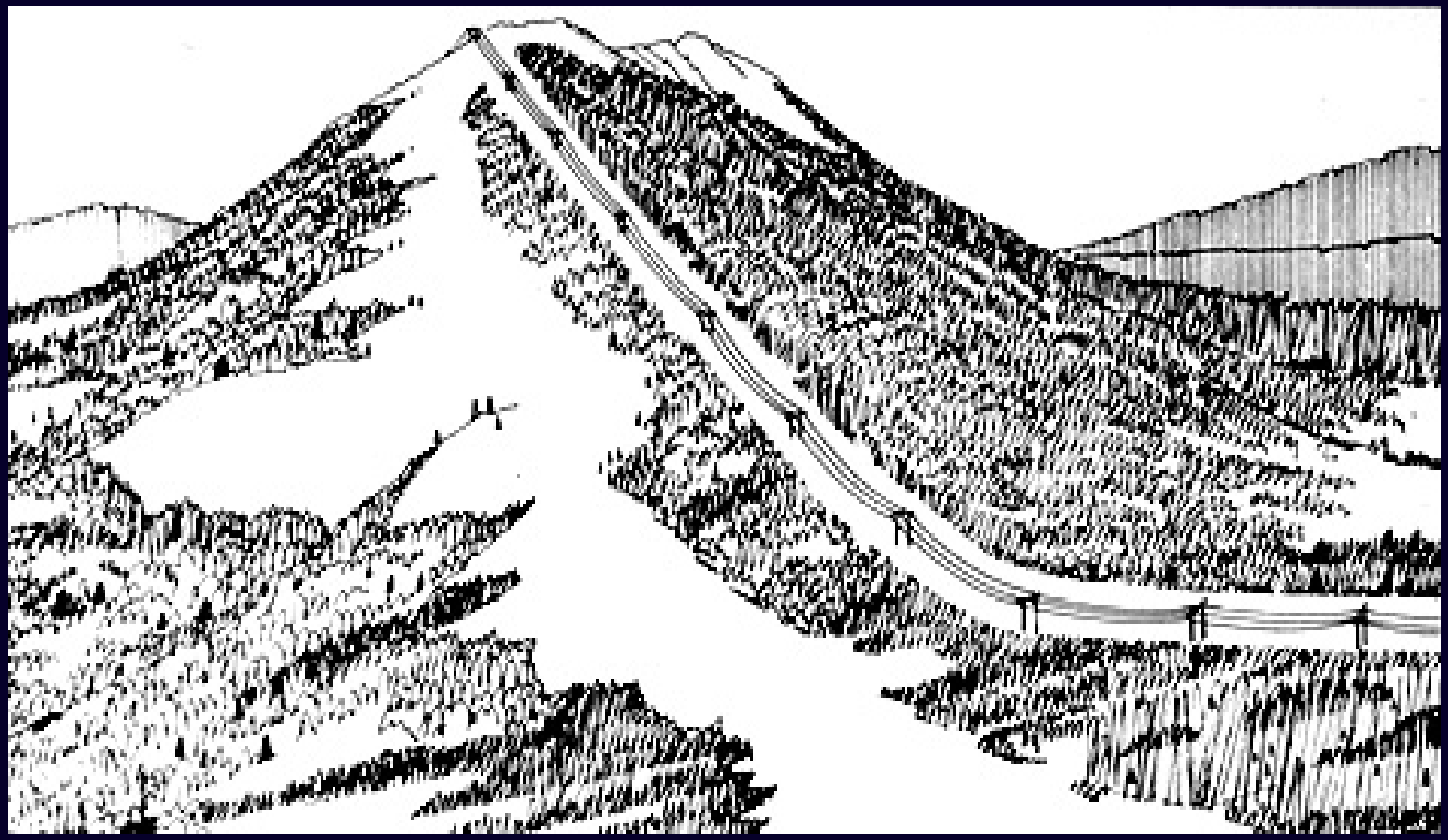
Locating Linear Alignments

Relocate ROW to edge of opening; repeat linear element



Locating Linear Alignments

Design Considerations?



Locating Linear Alignments

Repeating the element “LINE”

Locating Linear Alignments

Co-locate roads & pipelines

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Visual Reclamation/Restoration means:

Restoration of Form, Line, Color & Texture of Landforms & Vegetation

Reclamation & Land Restoration

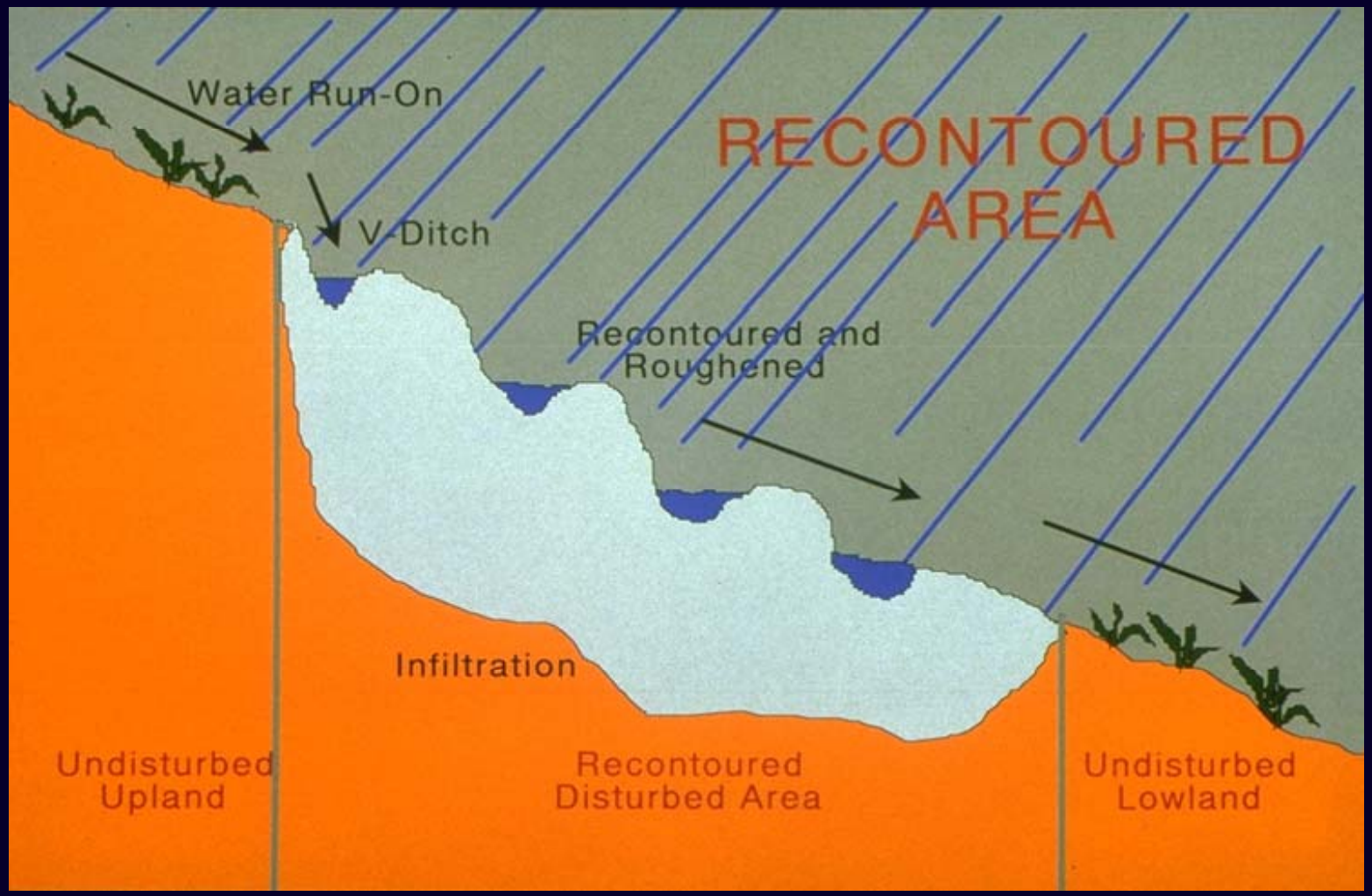
Reclamation Should

ALWAYS

Have

A Visual Objective

Reclamation & Land Restoration



Reclamation & Land Restoration

Road closing and rehabilitation

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Completed road rehab project

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Completed road rehab project

Reclamation & Land Restoration

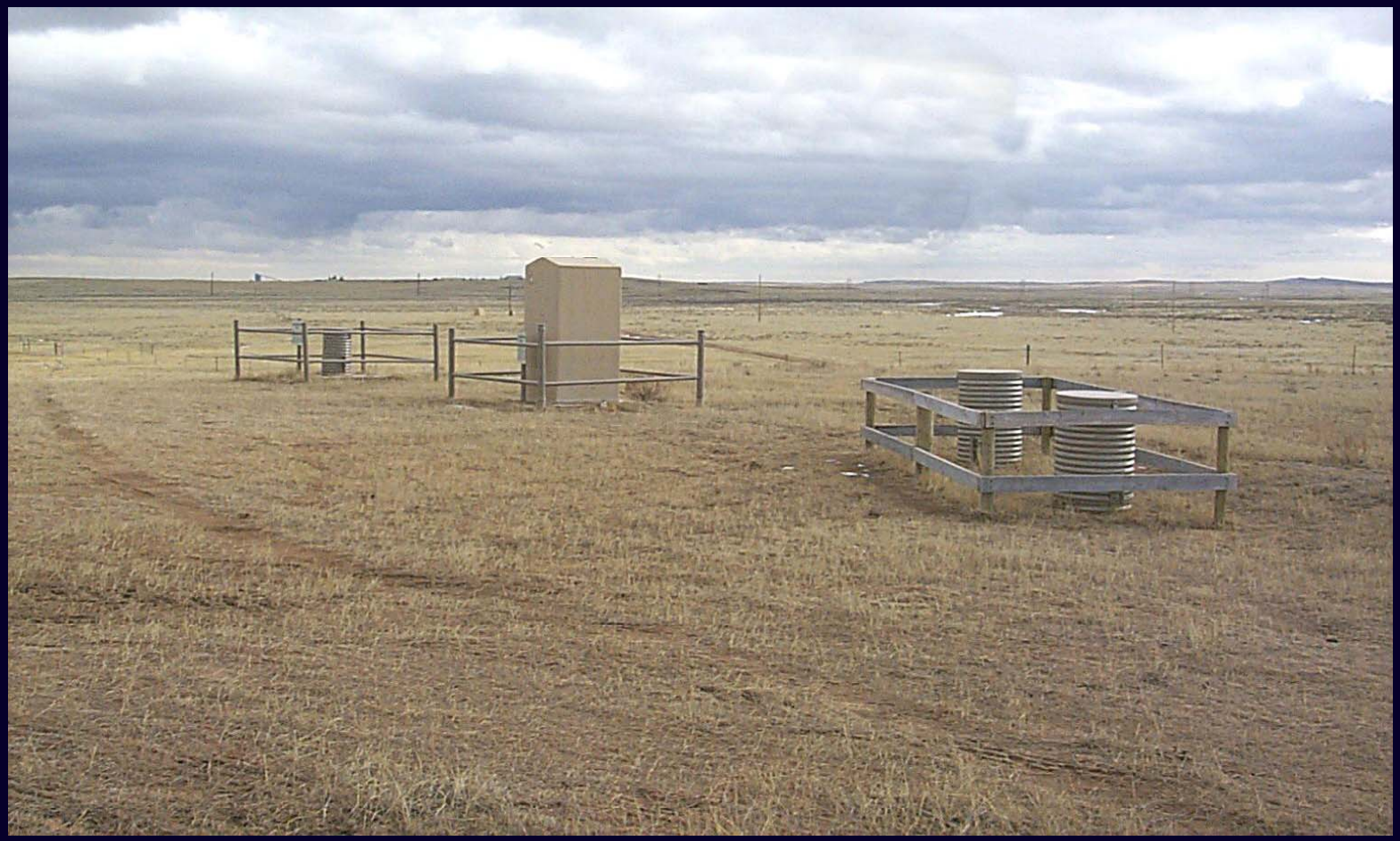
Pipeline construction

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Completed pipeline project

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Re-establish vegetation on the location



Reclamation & Land Restoration

Reclamation that restored Form, Color, & Texture

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Has the visual character of this area been successfully restored?

Reclamation & Land Restoration

Inadequate reclamation & land restoration results

- **Hastened erosion of disturbed soils**
- **Loss of forage productivity**
- **Loss of wildlife habitat**
- **Spread of weeds**
- **Negative visual impacts**