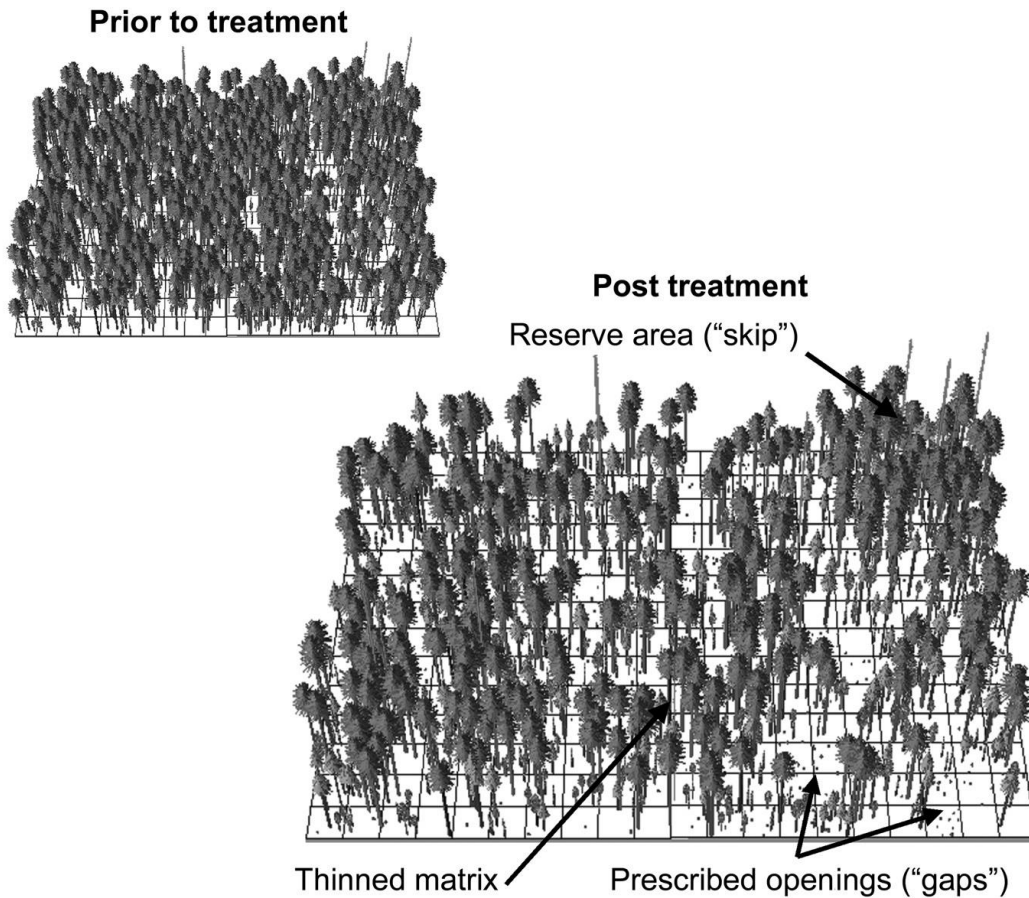


Variable-density thinning (VDT) silviculture. Top left photo shows an unthinned area (“reserve area” or “skip”), the photo next to it a canopy gap (“prescribed opening”). The bottom diagram illustrates an unthinned stand and how it might look after a couple of rounds of VDT, with at least one of the rounds including deliberate creation of canopy gaps.



Source: Mazza, R. 2009. Let’s mix it up! The benefits of variable-density thinning. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Science Findings 112, Portland, OR.