



## The Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA)

### The 5 Steps of the Forestry Reclamation Approach



**1** Create the best possible growth medium for reforestation purposes with materials on site. The growth medium should be no less than 4 feet deep and comprised of topsoil, weathered sandstone, and/or the best available material.



**2** Loosely grade the topsoil or topsoil substitutes selected in Step #1 to create a non-compacted growth medium.



**3** Select a tree compatible ground cover.



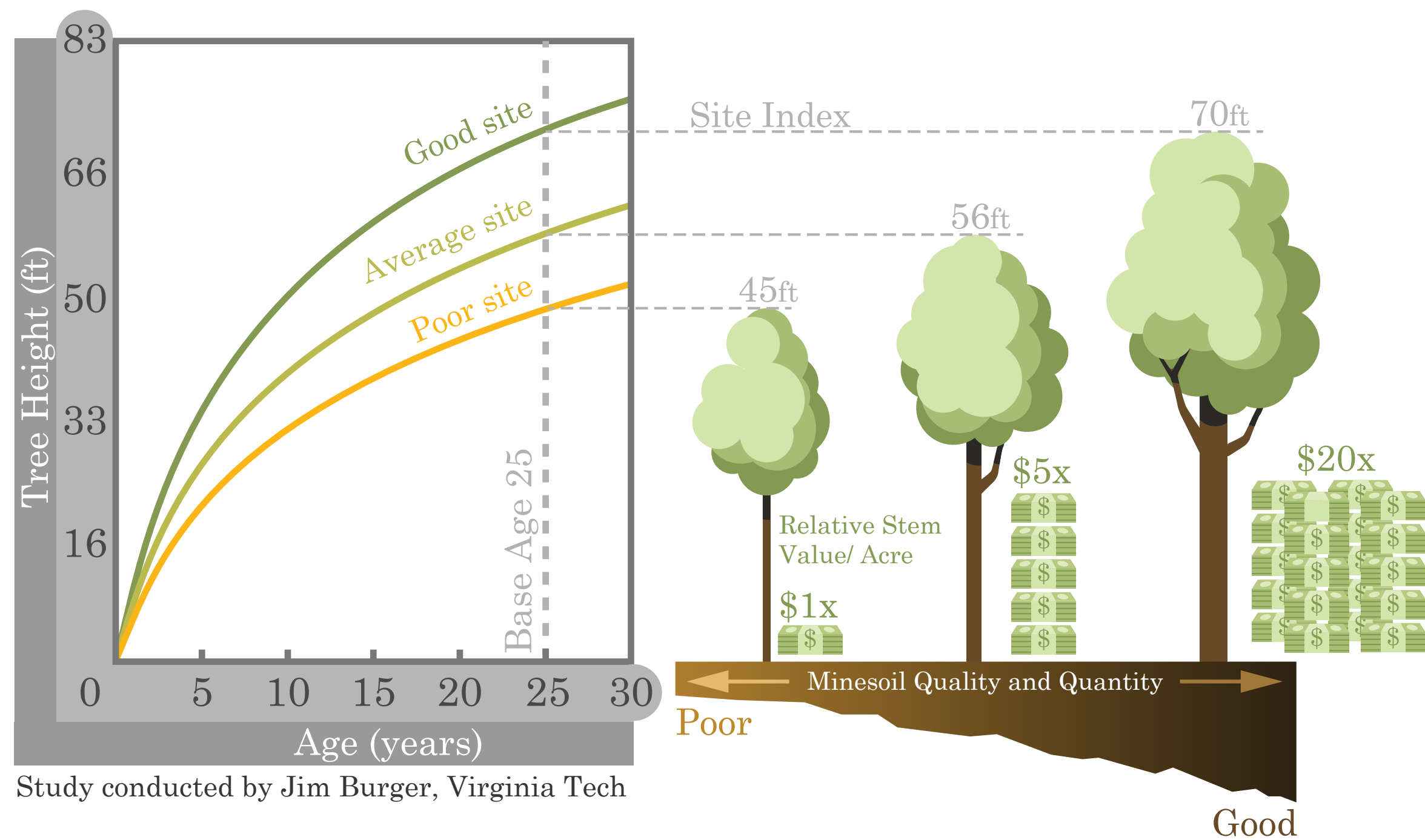
**4** Plant two types of trees: early succession species for wildfire and soil stability and commercially valuable crop trees.



**5** Use proper tree planting techniques.

### The Forestry Reclamation Approach provides:

- Native forest habitat/cover type restoration
- Biological diversity
- Watershed diversity
- Wildlife habitat/habitat for species of concern
- Carbon sequestration
- Recreational opportunities
- Pollinator habitat
- Aesthetics
- Educational opportunities
- Cost-effective regulatory compliance for the coal operator



Study conducted by Jim Burger, Virginia Tech



Mined land reforestation research conducted by the University of Kentucky.