

Test Property
Forest Management Plan
2020-01-07



This forest management plan is a blueprint for responsible land stewardship. It is the result of a planning process that incorporated an assessment of the history and current conditions on the property, consideration of the various courses of future development that the forest could follow, and discernment as to which outcomes best suit my particular objectives.

By signing below, I certify that I approve of—and agree to manage my forestland according to—the following management plan. I further certify that any of my forestland that is enrolled in Vermont’s Use Value Appraisal program is under active long-term forest management in accordance with the state’s minimum acceptable standards for forest management. These standards include following Acceptable Management Practices to maintain water quality on logging operations.

Prepared by

Neal F. Maker and John D. Foppert
Pekin Branch Forestry
1324 West County Road
Calais, VT 05648
(802) 229-9757

Owner

Nobody
PO Box 1
Calais, VT 05648

Property

7 acres and cabin
Calais, VT
SPAN 120-037-0000
Map delineation based on VMP
Photo(s) 1, 2

Effective date of plan

April 1, 2020

Landowner

Date

Landowner

Date

Landowner

Date

Landowner

Date

This forest management plan meets the standards promulgated by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation as required for eligibility in the Use Value Appraisal Program.

County Forester

Date

Introduction

This plan Covers the ten year period from 2020 to 2029. It lays out the near- and medium-term actions that should guide the development of the Test Forest. It also qualifies the property for Use Value Appraisal (UVA) and commensurate reduction in property taxes.¹ Owners participating in the Use Value Appraisal program are obliged to manage their property according to the plan and to make any reasonable investments for improvement that the plan recommends.² Its recommendations were developed in accordance with the principles and practices of scientifically sound forestry, as described in the relevant management guidelines, textbooks and academic journals.

¹ Further information about UVA and current valuations can be found at the Vermont Tax Department's website: <https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/current-use>.

² UVA management plan standards are determined by the Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation and are available at https://fpr.vermont.gov/forest/your_woods/use_value_appraisal or through a County Forester.

Property Description

Some 79 percent of the 7 acre Test property is productive forestland that will be managed according to this plan. Its elevations range from 100 to 300 feet above mean sea level. There is some water on the property. Like all parcels, there are boundaries. Soils, forest health, and other pertinent topics are discussed in the individual stand area descriptions that follow.

Principles, Goals & Strategies For Forest Management

Wood production and timber management

The forest should be able to sustainably provide a reliable supply of fuelwood, fencing and building materials, and valuable, high quality timber, either as sources of revenue or for consumption or utilization directly on the farm or in the community. Long-term value growth is provided by maintaining full site occupancy with healthy trees capable of producing high quality sawtimber and veneer. Tree species which yield sought-after, high-value wood shall be promoted within each stand or, when regenerating within a stand, attention shall be paid to providing the conditions which favor the establishment of those species. At a property-wide scale, a variety of species shall be maintained to provide opportunities to exploit future market opportunities and as a hedge against species-specific market depreciation. Among desired species, additional preference shall be given to individual trees of sufficient vigor and grade-potential for strong future value growth. Consideration of economic efficiency should inform the timing and coordination of infrastructure investments and stand maintenance, improvement and harvest operations.

Stand Descriptions & Management Recommendations

Presented below are detailed stand-by-stand descriptions of the forest, the long-term structural, compositional and functional goals for each stand, and the near-term silvicultural treatments or management activities that have been prescribed to advance each stand toward those goals. The data presented in the following pages was obtained from a field examination of the property in July of 2019. General conditions were assessed qualitatively in conjunction with quantitative sampling. Observational notes and sample summary statistics together provide the basis for the area descriptions and management recommendations. All sampling was done using a systematic sample and variable radius plots. In stands with uneven-aged structures, all trees 6" dbh and larger were measured in each plot. In stands with even-aged structures, all main-canopy trees were measured in each plot.

When contractors are used to implement silvicultural prescriptions, they should be highly skilled, properly equipped, fully insured, and closely supervised. A professional forester should prepare and administer commercial treatments, and logging operations should be timed to coincide with favorable weather conditions (working on wet soils only when they are frozen, for instance) and favorable timber markets. Use Value Appraisal program guidelines allow any management activities prescribed in this plan to be carried out up to three years before or after the date indicated. Landowners in the Use Value Appraisal program must file a Forest Management Activity Report with the County Forester by February 1st if any commercial logging occurred in the previous year.

The property should be reinventoried in 2029 and the findings brought to bear on a reassessment of the goals and strategies proposed in this plan, leading to a formal management plan update. At any point over the course of this management period, this plan may be updated to incorporate new information and to reflect any new thoughts, concerns or considerations on the part of the family or the foresters helping to manage their land.

Management Schedule

2022

- Area 1: Group selection harvest

2029

- Reinventory property

Area 1

Mixedwood

5.50 legal acres | 5.00 measured acres

Site-specific information

- **Soils:**
Glover-Vershire complex (shallow to moderately deep, excessively drained to well drained, loose, very rocky glacial tills on summits, shoulders, and backslopes)
- **Site Class:**
II (determined from soil mapping and field assessment)
- **Access:**
Less than 1 mile
- **Stand history:**
invented

Current forest information

- **Age Class Structure:**
Uneven-aged
- **Species (% stocking):**
hard maple (50%), hemlock (50%)
- **Regeneration:**
none
- **Forest health:**
awesome
- **Size class structure (%BA):**
6-10": 0% | 11-16": 50% | 17-22": 50% | 23"+ : 0%

Inventory information

- 1 points, 10 BAF, July, 2019

	Total	Acceptable
Basal area (sqft/ac)	120	60
QSD (in)	6	6
Stems/ac	528	264

Diameter distributions for common species

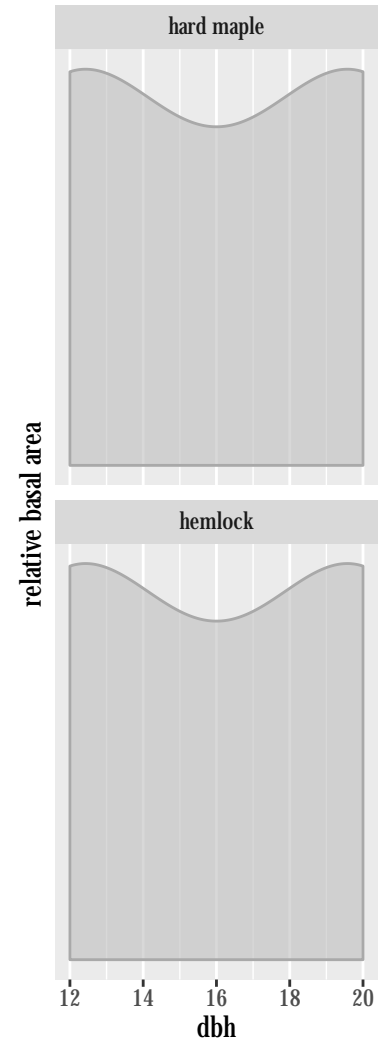


Figure 1: Distributions are approximated with kernel density estimation. Common species are those that account for at least 8 percent of the total stocking and areas under each curve represent species basal areas.

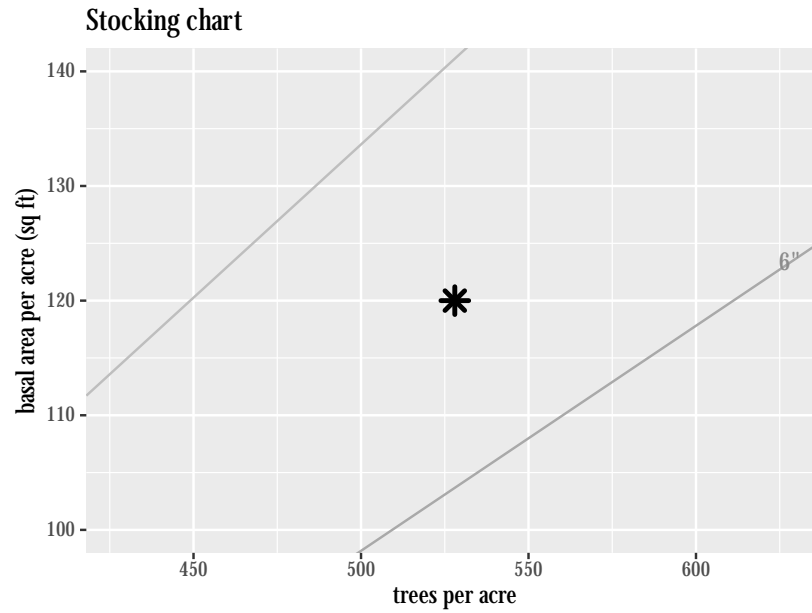


Figure 2: Points represent individual plots. Asterisk represents stand average. Radial lines are quadratic stand diameters.

Long-term management system

Even-aged management³

Silvicultural prescription

Shelterwood establishment⁴

Year: 2022

³ Leak, W.B., M.Yamasaki, and R. Holleran. 2014. Silvicultural Guide for Northern Hardwoods in the Northeast. USDA For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-132.

⁴ Leak, W.B., M.Yamasaki, and R. Holleran. 2014. Silvicultural Guide for Northern Hardwoods in the Northeast. USDA For. Serv. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-132.