

Forest Management Plan Summary

Contributed by Bambi Gauthier
Wednesday, 07 November 2007

We've received our Forest Management Plan for the Current Use program from our foresters, Don and Nina Huffer. It's a large report so I've scanned the planning summary and the detail map.

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS, FAERIE CAMP DESTINY

TOWNS OF GRAFTON AND CHESTER

STAND: 1

ACRES: 72.5 (25)

PERIOD: 1

PLANNING MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

This stand falls under Act 250 jurisdiction, as it is within the area mapped by Fish and Wildlife biologists as winter habitat. Approval by Fish and Wildlife biologists will be needed prior to doing management work. In areas where the hemlock stocking is 120 square feet of basal area or higher, those sections can have single tree selection done; this should produce a volume of about 3 MBF/ac. of sawtimber. Where the hemlock stocking is 50 square feet of stocking or lower, group selection cutting can be done; in these areas, the volume harvested will be closer to 4 to 5 MBF/ac. of sawtimber. Hard

most trees should be left, especially the red oak, and the healthy beech. Retain and release higher quality and healthier trees. Maintain an even stocking of hemlock where possible. Leave a riparian buffer along the streams and wet areas. Logging will likely have to be done in summer, to meet the Act 250 requirements, of not plowing the access road in winter.

STAND: 2

ACRES: 41.0 (30)

PERIOD: 1

PLANNING MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Part of this stand falls under Act 250 jurisdiction, as it is within the area mapped by Fish and Wildlife biologists as winter habitat. In those sections, approval by F & W will be needed prior to doing management work. Do some non-commercial crop tree release work, by girdling or felling the lower quality trees that are competing with the good quality sugar maple, white ash, red oak, yellow birch and black cherry. As this stand has trees suitable for sugarbush development, as well as for timber production, a variety of crop trees can be selected for growth, and released from competing trees. Sugar maples for sugarbush use should be more fully released, to allow better crown development. Sugarbush management principles should be used, including careful thinning, maintaining tree health, using health taps, and using caution when tapping, to avoid damaging the trees. Cost-sharing funds may be applied for to help defray the release work costs.

STAND: 2ACRES: 41.0 (27)

PERIOD: 3

PLANNING MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Do a selection cut in the overstocked and accessible sections of the stand, getting prior approval from the Fish and Wildlife biologists, for the areas mapped as part of the deer winter habitat. Reduce the stocking by about 50 sq. ft. of basal area where the stocking is 120 sq. ft. or more. The selection cutting should produce about 2.5 MBF/ac. of sawtimber and 5 cords/ac. of fuelwood and/or fiberwood. Retain and release the higher quality trees; harvest at-risk and lower quality trees, especially those competing with the crop trees.

STAND:3

ACRES: 7.4

PLANNING PERIOD: --

PLANNING MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

This stand is non-productive forest land, and needs no management work. If any cutting is done, it must be to improve wildlife habitat, by releasing mast trees, or by cutting to promote good tree regeneration; the work would need to be approved by the Fish and Wildlife biologists, prior to doing the management. The trails can be maintained for foot use.

STAND: 4

ACRES: 3.5

PERIOD: --

PLANNING MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

This stand is non-productive forest land, and needs no management work. If any cutting is done, it must be to improve wildlife habitat, by releasing mast trees, or by cutting to promote good tree regeneration; the work would need to be approved by the Fish and Wildlife biologists, prior to doing the management. The trails can be maintained for foot use.

The following area is excluded from Use Value Appraisal:

STAND: 5 ACRES: 25.5 Camp area; excluded from Use Value.

STAND: 6 ACRES: 16.4 Chester land; excluded from Use Value.

Planning period dates:

Planning Period 1: 2008-2012 Planning Period 2: 2013-2017

Planning Period 3: 2018-2022 Planning Period 4: 2023-2027

Please Note: Stand acreages often have two figures listed. The first figure is the total stand acreage; the acres in parentheses refer to the acres out of the total stand area that will be treated. Due to variations in stand stocking, or the need to observe protective buffers, or perhaps due to inaccessible terrain, often the entire stand acreage is not treated