

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR:
MORRISTOWN TOWN FOREST
SULHAM - STRUTHERS - SMITH LOT

Should be updated!

JUNE 1988

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Morristown Town Forest

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MORRISTOWN TOWN FOREST

SULHAM - STRUTHERS - SMITH LOT

Historical

The Morristown Town Forest consists of two parcels of land; the Sulham-Struthers-Smith Lot consisting of 393 acres and Lot 31 containing 133 acres. Lot 31 is located below Madonna Peak and south of Beaver Meadows. In 1958 and 1959 the Town acquired 87 acres from Wells-Struthers, 173 acres from Robert Sulham and 133 acres from Jerome Smith for a total of 393 acres.

The Sulham-Struthers-Smith Lot is bordered on the north by State Forest at the Johnson-Morristown town line. The forest consists of Lots 27, 28, 50 and the east half of Lot 49 in the old town of Sterling.

There is a town road (#43) that bisects the lot and another road (#42) that branches off road #43 but is passable only by 4-wheel drive vehicles. In June 1984, flooding in the area washed out 2 culverts on road #43 making it impassable.

The entire parcel is about 90% forested. The only openings are scattered throughout softwood plantations where the trees did not survive. When the land was purchased it was in varying stages of forest, saplings and open land. Under the Federal Soil Bank and Agricultural Conservation Programs about 30 acres of open land were planted or replanted to white and red pine and Norway spruce between 1958 and 1961.

In past years a total of 25 MBF and 50 cords of timber were harvested in timber sales. In the late 1970's most of the acreage along the roads were thinned by selling 5-cord firewood lots to individual cutters.

General Description

Sulham-Struthers-Smith:

The elevation of the forest ranges from 1340 feet to 1820 feet. The drainage flows southeast into Mud Brook and eventually to the Lamoille River.

The soil types range from Lyman-Tunbridge soils to Berkshire-Marlow soils. The Lyman-Tunbridge type is found on the steeper slopes and tend to be shallow to bedrock, while the Berkshire-Marlow soils are found on the flat, low elevation sites and are somewhat poorly drained.

In 1974, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation state lands crew in District IV cleared 11,000 feet of old roads. This connected State land with the Town Forest for use by snowmachines, hikers and cross-country skiers.

The Morrystown Town Forest is also home for many species of wildlife. On the south side of road 43 there is notable snowshoe hare activity.

Lot 31:

The elevations of Lot 31 range from 2300 feet to 2800 feet. Approximately 3/4 of the area lies above 2500 feet in elevation and would therefore require an Act 250 permit for any logging activities. The estimated volume of timber that could be removed from the lot is 50,000 board feet of low quality logs. This together with the steep terrain and long skidding distance makes harvesting economically marginal.

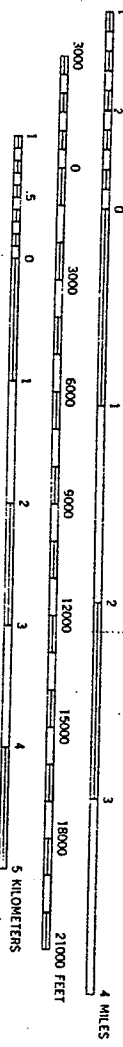
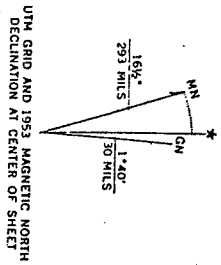
If at some point in time the adjacent landowner were logging in that area it would become feasible to sell the town owned stumpage.

(Carroll's Hunt)

JEFFERSONVILLE 13 MI.
SMUGGLERS NOTCH 4.9 MI.

Topographic projection, 1927 North American datum
1000-foot grid based on Vermont coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
WEST BRANCH 2.6 MI.
STOWE 4.7 MI.

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USCIBGS



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A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



VT

SUMMARY

CUTTING SCHEDULE WORKSHEET

<u>Stand #</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Cut In</u>
1	25	Improvement cut	high	1989
2	3	No Treatment		
3	10	Improvement cut	high	1989
4	55	No Treatment		
5	49	No Treatment		
6	55	Thinning	high	1990
7	96	Strip cut 12 acres	low	1994
8	62	Thinning	low	1996

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN - TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

SULHAM - STRUTHERS - SMITH LOT

STAND #1

Acres: 25

Stand Condition

Stand #1 consists of four separate plantations of pole-size white pine. The trees were planted in 1959 and quality is good. Accessibility for a small operator is good.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=14ac, II=11ac.
Access Distance: 0.5 miles
Total BA/Ac.: 124 sq. ft.
Mean Stand Dia.: 7.9 in.

Determined by: Soils
Age Structure: Evenaged
Trees/Acre: 368
Stocking Level: Poletimber, well

Management Objective

The main objective of this area should be to grow high quality white pine sawlogs. Recreation and wildlife concerns should be reviewed before harvesting operations are conducted in the area.

Prescription

Conduct a timber stand improvement cut in this area by removing individual trees or by removing every third row. Work should be completed 1988-1990. The volume to be cut will be in pulp.

STAND #2

Acres: 3

Stand Condition

A stand of pole-size red pine adjacent to one of the white pine plantations. This area was also planted in 1959, survival was fair. Quality is fair to good

Stand Data

Site Class: II
Access Distance: 0.5 miles
Total BA/Ac.: 70 sq.ft.
Mean Stand Dia.: 7.0 in.

Determined by: Soils
Age Structure: Evenaged
Trees/Acre: 262
Stocking Level: Poletimber, well

Management Objective

The short term objective should be to grow high quality red pine sawlogs. Eventually this area will convert to northern hardwood and red spruce.

Prescription

Leave this area alone and reevaluate in 1995. Future treatment should be in conjunction with Stand #1.

STAND #3

Acres: 10

Stand Condition

Stand #3 is over stocked, pole-sized Norway spruce which was planted in 1959 and 1960. Stand quality is good to excellent. Accessibility for a small operator is good.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=1ac, II=9ac.
Access Distance: 1.0 miles
Total BA/Ac.: 205 sq.ft.
Mean Stand Dia.: 6.2 in.

Determined by: Soils
Age Structure: Evenaged
Trees/Acres: 982
Stocking Level: Poltimber, well

Management Objective

The main objective of this area should be to grow high quality Norway spruce sawlogs. Recreation and wildlife concerns should be reviewed before harvesting operations are conducted.

Prescription

Thin this stand by removing every third row. Work should be completed 1988-1990. All volume removed will be pulp.

STAND #4

Acres: 55

Stand Condition

Stand #4 is comprised of mostly pole-sized red spruce and white birch. Quality is fair to good and the accessibility is good.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=14ac, II=41ac.
Access Distance: 1.0 miles
Total BA/Ac.: 83 sq.ft.
Mean Stand Dia.: 7.3 in.

Determined by: Soils
Age Structure: Evenaged
Trees/Acres: 284
Stocking Level: Poletimber, well

Management Objective

The main objective is to grow high quality red spruce. This type occurs along the main brook through the parcel. A 100' buffer strip will be maintained along the brook. The only harvesting within the buffer strip will be by single tree selection. Wildlife concerns will be reviewed before harvesting operations are conducted.

Prescription

Leave alone for the immediate future. Reevaluate in 1995.

STAND #5

Acres: 49

Stand Condition

This is a nice stand of northern hardwood pole-sized timber. Quality is good and accessibility for a small operator is good.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=29ac, II=20ac.	Determined by: Soils
Access Distance: 0.5 miles	Age Structure: Evenaged
Total BA/Ac.: 100 sq.ft.	Trees/Acre: 460
Mean Stand Dia.: 6.3 in.	Stocking Level: Poltimber, well

Management Objective

To grow high quality northern hardwood sawlogs.

Prescription

Leave alone for the next 10 years and reevaluate in 1996. This stand is young and does not need immediate attention, but if an operator with a small tractor needed some firewood this would be a place to put him.

STAND #6

Acres: 55

Stand Condition

This is a stand of pole and small sawlog sized hardwoods. Species composition is white birch, aspen and sugar maple. Over half of the basal area is in low quality or cull trees.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=45ac, II=10ac.	Determined by: Soils
Access Distance: 1.0 miles	Age Structure: Evenaged
Total BA/Ac.: 125 sq.ft.	Trees/Acre: 315
Mean Stand Dia.: 8.5 in.	Stocking Level: Poletimber, well

Management Objective

To grow high quality hardwood sawlogs.

Prescription

This is a high priority area. What good quality white birch and aspen present should be salvaged before it is lost. The low quality timber should be removed to release the better quality trees. Treat stand in 1990.

STAND #7

Acres: 96

Stand Condition

This is a stand of pioneer hardwood which grew in from old fields. More than half of the basal area is in low quality and cull timber. Much of the regeneration in this stand is red spruce and balsam fir.

Stand Data

Site Class: I=36ac, II=60ac.	Determined by: Soils
Access Distance: 0.5 miles	Age Structure: Evenaged
Total BA/Ac.: 85 sq.ft.	Trees/Acre: 214
Mean Stand Dia.: 8.5 in.	Stocking Level: Poletimber, well

Management Objective

This area is highly utilized by snowshoe hare because of the spruce-fir regeneration growing in the area. The main objective should be to manage this area as hare habitat. There would be 4- 20 acre management units.

Prescription

To manage this area as a snowshoe hare management unit the spruce-fir should be placed on an 80-year rotation. Every 10 years 1/8 of the stand would be regenerated to provide browse for feeding and young spruce-fir for cover. Regeneration cuts should be accomplished through progressive strip cuts 30 feet wide, oriented east-west. By keeping the strips narrow there will be enough shade to discourage the pioneer hardwoods, thereby allowing the spruce and fir to become established.

Because the existing overstory is low quality and cull red maple and white birch it may be hard to sell during the first 2 or 3 cuts. Arrangements could be made with a local wood cutter to trade work for the wood.

STAND #8

Acres: 62

Stand Condition

This is a good quality sawtimber stand of northern hardwoods. Accessibility is good.

Stand Data

Site Class: I	Determined by: Soils
Access Distance: 1.0 miles	Age Structure: Evenaged
Total BA/Ac.: 104 sq.ft.	Trees/Acre: 176
Mean Stand Dia.: 10.4 in.	Stocking Level: Sawtimber, well

Management Objective

To grow high quality northern hardwood sawlogs and provide other products along the way.

Prescription

Thin by bid fuelwood sale to remove culls and release better quality timber.

WILDLIFE OBJECTIVES

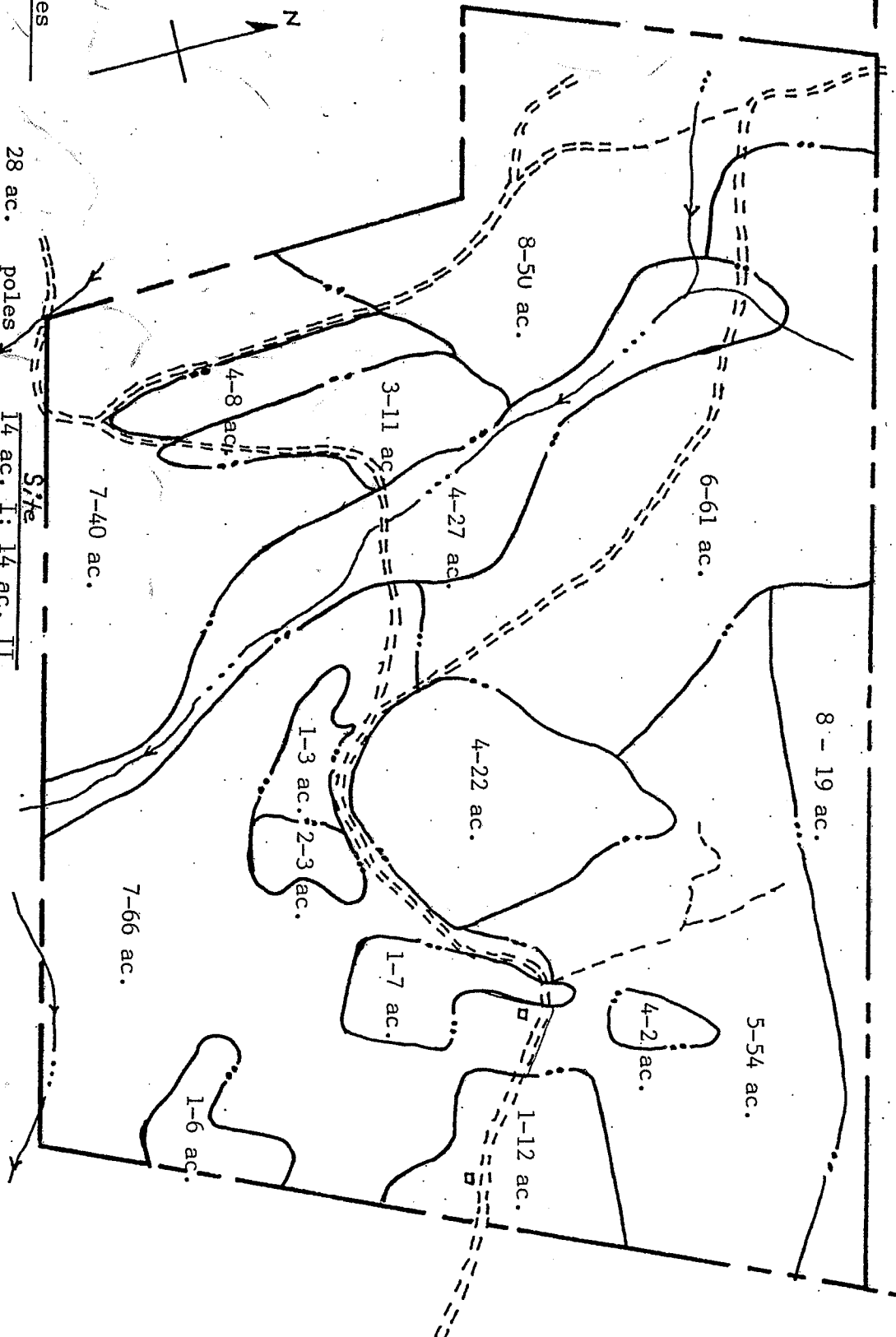
Along with the intensive management practices on the snowshoe hare habitat unit the remaining acreage should also be managed to provide habitat for non-game animals while simultaneously producing timber products. This will entail leaving designated snag and den trees.

More detailed information can be found in the "Model Habitat Management Guidelines" for snowshoe hare and non-game wildlife written and published by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

STATE OF VERMONT

Johnson
Morristown

Johnson
Morristown



- Forest Types
- 1) White Pine 28 ac.
 - 2) Red Pine 3 ac.
 - 3) Norway Spruce 11 ac.
 - 4) Spruce/ White Birch 61 ac.
 - 5) Northern Hardwoods 5 1/2 ac.
 - 6) Aspen/ Northern Hardwoods 61 ac.
 - 7) Red Maple/pioneer Hardwood 106 ac.
 - 8) Northern Hardwood 69 ac.

poles	14 ac. I;	14 ac. II
poles	2 ac. I;	3 ac. III
poles	17 ac. I;	9 ac. III
poles	31 ac. I;	44 ac. III
poles	47 ac. I;	23 ac. III
poles	36 ac. I;	14 ac. III
poles	54 ac. I;	70 ac. III
saw	15 ac. III	
Total	201 ac. I;	192 ac. III

Morrisset Forest

Sulham - Struthers - Winslow Lot

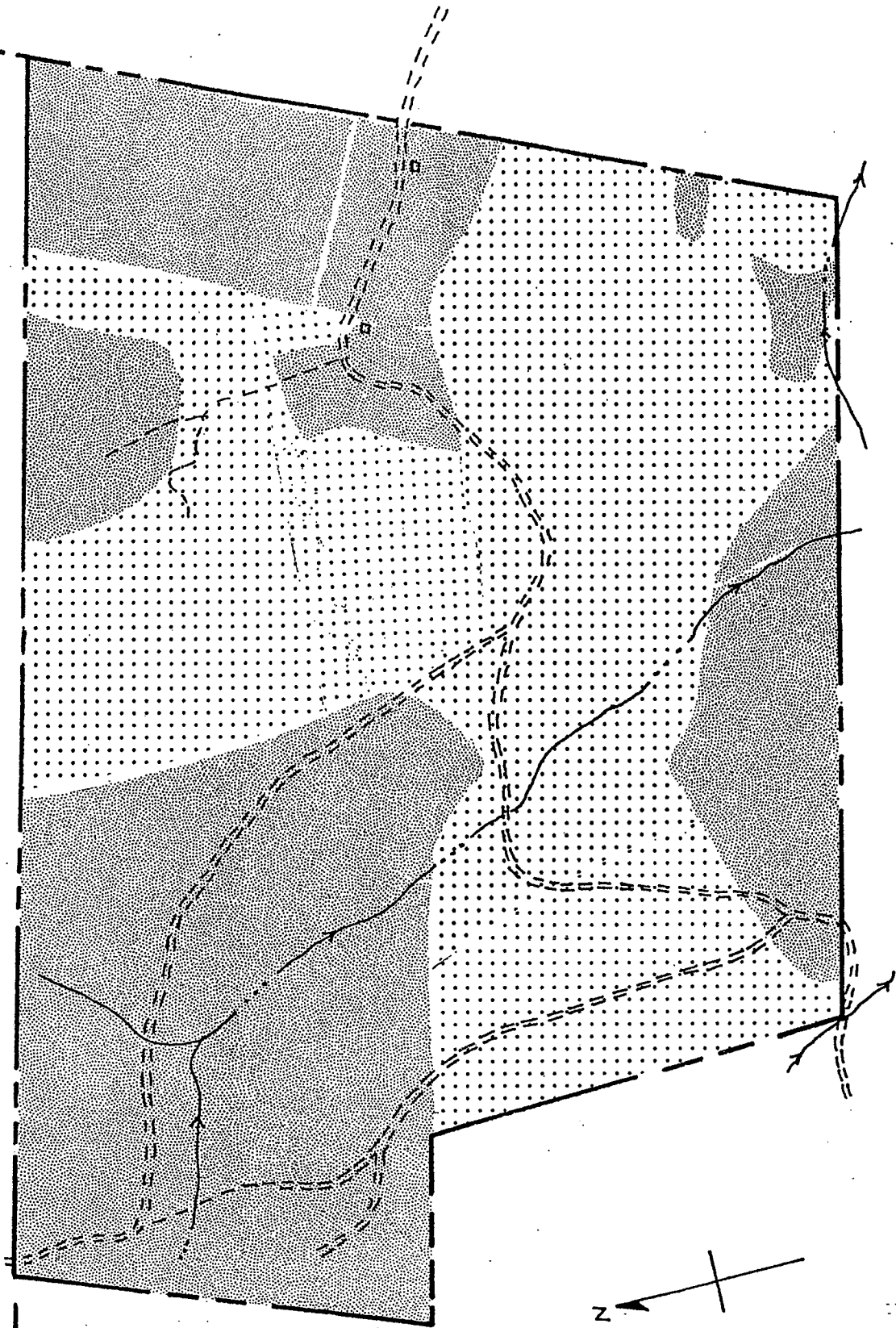
393 Acres

Scale: 1 inch = 10 chains

STATE OF VERMONT

Johnson
Morristown

Johnson
Morristown



Site Quality

- I 201 acres
- II 192 acres

Morristown Town Forest

Sulham - Struthers - Winslow Lot

393 Acres

Scale: 1 inch = 10 chains