TM 902 Date: 7-3-09

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDE

Compartment: 1 Tract: 9
County: Martin Section: 35 Township: 5N Range: 3W

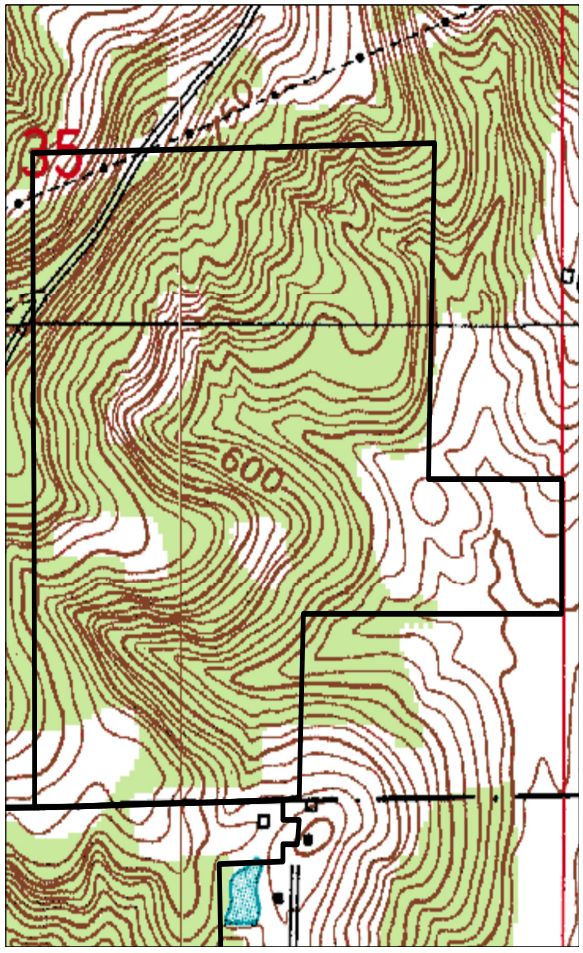
FORESTER'S NARRATIVE

By: Jeremy Herman

(Describe the area / timber / wildlife - Present stand, soils, regeneration potential, condition, timber types, private boundaries, forest protection, etc.)

ROADS AND BOUNDARIES:

This tract is in the SE ¼, Sec 35, T 5N R 3W. The tract in surrounded by private landowners but there is access from Graded Road which goes through the northwest corner of this tract. Also in the northwest corner, is a private driveway that cuts through the tract. There is a firelane that comes off of Graded Road and extends to the eastern border. The eastern boundary has posted signs, fence, and forested fence lines that make up the boundary. The southern boundary connects with Compartment 1 Track 10. The west and north boundaries had remnants of fence. The whole tract except for the southern boundary has been flagged. There is access through the firelane off of Graded Road as well as from a right-of-way at the end of Wade Lane.



TRACT DESCRIPTION:

Compartment 1 Tract 9 is a beautiful stand of mature timber. Sugar maple seedlings were the most abundant seedlings found in this tract. There were multiple areas of thick patches of American beech as well as patches of pawpaw. The topography slopes mainly from the northwest to the southeast. The eastern point, the lowest spot on the tract, is relatively flat and appears to be an over grown field. The piece northwest of graded road slopes steeply down to the corner post. A deep ravine in the southern portion of the tract contains a spring and a rocky outcropping. This area will be avoided during any timber harvesting operations.

Overall timber quality is good on the tract with some areas of excellent quality white oak. Past timber management has improved the stand, and future harvests will continue to improve the timber quality in most areas. In some cases, the timber is declining and in need of regeneration. In these areas, openings will be created to allow regeneration of intolerant species and improve the diversity of wildlife habitat. Some areas of the tract have been farmed in the past and are in the process of naturally reverting to hardwood forest. These old field areas contain sassafras, dogwood, cherry, poplar and other early successional species.

The average basal area for this tract was 90 sq. ft. with 62 sq. ft. of basal area having a DBH greater than 14 inches. There were a total of 911,140 board feet of sawtimber (7,593 bf/ac) in this tract; 477,430 board feet of which was harvestable sawtimber (3,979 bf/ac) and 433,710 board feet of sawtimber leave (3,614 bf/ac). The most common species found were White, red, and black oak, bitternut and shagbark hickory, sugar maple, and yellow poplar. This harvest volume estimate is somewhat high. Actual harvest volume after marking will likely be closer to 3,000 bf/ac.

The Oak/Hickory timber type was the largest timber type composing of 71 acres and 59 percent of the tract acreage. There were a total of 637,000 board feet of sawtimber (8,972 bf/ac) in this timber type; 319,290 board feet of which was harvestable sawtimber (4,497 bf/ac) and 317,710 board feet of sawtimber leave (4,475 bf/ac). White, black, and northern red oak, bitternut and shagbark hickory, and yellow poplar were the most common species in this timber type.

The Mixed Hardwoods timber type was the second most common timber type composing of 45 acres and 37 percent of the tract acreage. There were a total of 267,660 board feet of sawtimber (5,948 bf/ac) in this timber type; 153,300 board feet of which was harvestable sawtimber (3,407 bf/ac) and 114,360 board feet of sawtimber leave (2,541 bf/ac). Sugar maple, white ash, northern red oak, bitternut hickory, and yellow poplar were the most common species in this timber type.

The Beech/Maple timber type composed of 2 acres and 2 percent of the tract acreage. There were a total of 4,840 board feet of sawtimber (2420 bf/ac) in this timber type; 4,840 board feet of which was harvestable sawtimber (2420 bf/ac) and 0 board feet of sawtimber leave (0 bf/ac). Red maple and yellow poplar were the most common sawtimber size species found in this timber type with a lot of sugar maple and American beech poles. Only one inventory point fell into this stratum. The silvicultural recommendation for this area was to create a regeneration opening. This resulted in all trees in this stratum to be recorded as harvest. In reality, there are small pockets of Beech/Maple timber type scattered across the tract, not all of which will be harvested.

The Open Area composed of 2 acres and 2 percent of the tract acreage. There were a total of 1,640 board feet of sawtimber (820 bf/ac) in this timber type; 0 board feet of which was harvestable sawtimber (0 bf/ac) and 1,640 board feet of sawtimber leave (820 bf/ac). Black cherry was the only sawtimber size species found in this area with numerous red cedar and yellow poplar seedlings. The black cherry was of medium quality.

SOILS:

The main soil type, approximately sixty percent for this tract, is a Wellston-Tipsaw-Adyeville complex. This soil type is located on side slopes. Slopes typically associated with this soil type include 18-70 percent slopes and are highly erodible. The remainder forty percent of this tract, a combination of Ebal-Wellston silt loams and a Gatchel Loam, is contains slopes from 1 to 18 percent. These soils are found on side slopes and ridge tops. The site index for Yellow Poplar is 90 on average for this tract.

HISTORY:

On November 1, 1971, Delbert C. Rhodes, a widower, of Wild Rose Ranch, Prairie Creek, Indiana 47869, sold a piece of property to the USDA Forest Service for a sum of $12,019.20. This piece of property now makes up Compartment 1 Tracts 9 and 10. The first time this tract was reconed by the DNR was November 1, 1982, by Janet Eger and Ben Hubbard. The Martin County State Forest then acquired this piece August 19, 1985. For a period of time, late 80s early 90s, Charles Crane, neighbor to the east, used to plant crops for wildlife, in the open field (approximately 2 acres) on the eastern finger of the property, for the DNR. In 1991, the firelane was put in for the harvest in 1992. The harvest was done by DMI Furniture Inc. There was a total of 46 acres harvested consisting of 53,490 bd. ft. Doyle Tree Scale for a net revenue of $13,896.55. The log yard used during this harvest will be opened and re-used for a future harvest. Several old skid trails are still visible and will be reused.

CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Cultural resources may be present on the tract but their location is protected. Adverse impacts to significant cultural resources will be avoided during any management or construction projects.

RECREATION AND WILDLIFE:

Being a stand of mature timber, Compartment 1 Tract 9 is aesthetically pleasing. Hiking under the continuous canopy is very pleasant. There are no fishing opportunities in this tract. Hunting, wildlife viewing, trapping, photography, and mushroom picking are all recreational activities that could be done on this tract. Common species include white-tailed deer, wild turkey, coyote, red and gray fox, raccoon, squirrels, rabbits, song birds, snakes, amphibians, and reptiles. As for wildlife habitat features this tract is deficient in 9"+ DBH snags. Snags will be increased during the post harvest timber stand improvement. During this operation, many trees in this size class will be killed to remove damaged stems and release crop trees.

WATERSHED:

The entire tract drains to the southeast where it then enters Indian Creek approximately one mile away. Indian Creek flows into the East Fork of the White River in the NE ¼, Sec. 5, T 3N R 3W.

SILVICULTURAL PRESCRIPTION

By: Jeremy Herman

Timber in the majority of this tract is mature and ready for some form of harvest. Most areas will benefit from single tree selection to remove poor quality and suppressed stems while giving the best quality trees more room to grow. A few areas contain declining timber and are in need of regeneration. These stands are currently stocked with low quality American beech, sugar maple, yellow poplar, and black oak. A regeneration opening will produce a more vigorous stand benefiting wildlife and timber values. One area of high quality white oak just south of the old yard will be a good site for a shelterwood harvest. With the midstory removed and leaf litter reduced via prescribed fire, oak seedlings should become established. Harvesting will be followed with post harvest T.S.I. to remove any damaged trees and release future crop trees. Grapevine T.S.I. was completed in 2009. Vines determined to be a problem during the post harvest T.S.I. operation will also be killed.

Year	Practice
2010-11	Harvest approximately 360,000 board feet. This harvest will coincide with a C1 T10 harvest
2012	Post harvest TSI
2020	Re-inventory

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