

Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Division of Forestry

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDE

Yellowwood State Forest Compartment **3** Tract **25**
Tract acreage: 90 acres (Commercial Forest 88 acres, Nature Preserve 2 acre)
Forester : H. Kaina (inventory 2005) L. Burgess (Recon 2006)
Date: 8/9/07

Location

Located in section 22 Township 8N, Range 2E of Brown County. The tract is located off Miller Ridge (a firetrail and section of Brown County State Park Horse trail D). This is the eastern boundary of the tract and provides access into the tract. The tract is surrounded by state forest land.

History

Formerly Tract 16 until 1984. One acre of the tract was included with the Crooked Creek Nature Preserve in 1981. Past management includes 1989 inventory; 1990 harvest volume 95,053 bf in 437 trees; 1991 tree planting of Autumn olive and European black alder around the three log yards. Road improvements to Miller Ridge firetrail 2005-2007.

Topography, Geology and Hydrology

The tract contains areas of steep slopes (35%+). Over half of the tract is ridgetop acreage. Portions of the ridgetop were planted in WHP, REP and VIP. Remaining tract acreage ranges from moderate to steep slopes. Drainage from the tract enters into a blue-line stream and lies within the Lake Monroe – Crooked Creek watershed.

Soils

Berks-Trevlac-Wellston complex (BgF) 20 – 70 percent slope. Severe limitations noted for logging due to slope. Comprises 40% of tract acreage.
Tilsit silt loam (TIB) 2 – 6 percent slope. Gently sloping, deep, moderately well drained. Slight limitations. Comprises 40% of tract acreage.
Wellston-Berks-Trevlac complex (WaD) 6 – 20 percent slope. Slight to moderate limitations.

Access

This tract has good vehicle access from Miller Ridge (off Crooked Creek Road). Road improvements include re-doing out drainage and spreading 9 loads of stone (Nov. 2005). The horsetrail limited the stone type to #4 along the trail. #2 stone was used on portions of firetrail. A firetrail extends along the tract's northern and western boundary. This trail is in fair condition and is quite passable in dry conditions.

Boundary

Boundary marking is up-to-date for this tract.

Wildlife

Wildlife resources in this tract are abundant. Common species which are present include: Squirrels, white tailed deer, turkey, various small furbearing animals, and a variety of songbirds. An official wildlife review was completed on the tract. This review focuses on wildlife habitat, looking at what is present in the tract and what can be created through management activities. Snags, commonly known as dead, standing trees, were inventoried as well. This snag information was used to complete a bat management guideline form.

Communities

A Heritage database review was submitted for this tract August 2005. This tract does contain yellowwood trees. The establishment of the Nature Preserve, of which one acre is located in the tract, was due to this species. As this species is intolerant it will likely favor disturbance – while no harvest operations will occur within the preserve boundary, potentially there could yellowwood trees within the commercial portion of the tract. Release of yellowwood trees will be beneficial as they are a shade intolerant species.

Exotics

No exotic species were noted at time of inventory. However, Autumn olive was planted in 1991 around log yards. Any invasive, exotic species discovered will be documented and an effort made to eradicate them from the site.

Recreation

This tract is used for hunting due to good access. Miller Ridge is a dedicated Handicap Hunter ATV access trail. Horsetrail D from Brown County State Park runs along the eastern boundary.

Cultural

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.

Tract Prescription and Proposed Activities

As mentioned in the 1989 mgmt. guide, the 15 acres of WHP is a healthy stand providing nice aesthetics from the horsetrail and offering diversity for wildlife. Two small stands of remnant Virginia and Pitch pine are on the central and eastern ridges, these stands are succeeding into hardwoods of YEP, REM, LAA and SAS.(Note: the pine stands were not included in the inventory which was conducted by Forester H. Kaina).

One regeneration opening of 0.6 acres created in the 1989 harvest may be considered for TSI. This may be assigned with neighboring Tract 26 which is scheduled for TSI 2007-08.

The northwest area is not commercial forest acreage and provides unique early successional acreage for wildlife.

The hardwood acreage (about 50 acres) is largely comprised of mix oak timber type. CHO makes up the largest percentage of basal area in both pole and sawtimber (harvest and leave) size classes.

BLG and DOG are the most numerous species in pole trees per acre.

CHO, BLO and WHO are the most numerous species in sawtimber trees per acre.

Harvest Volume est. 1,743 bd.ft./acre.
Leave Volume est. 6,232 bd.ft./acre
Total tract volume est. 7,975 bd.ft./acre.

A brief recon of the tract revealed only scattered harvest stems and noted many stands with small sawtimber size stems.

Proposed Activities Listing

2010-2011: Portions of the tract will be marked for a timber sale in conjunction with Compartment 3 Tract 32. This decision was based on the logistics of accessing the area for planned marking and harvesting of Tract 32 based on 2010 inventory results. The volume estimates for combining Tracts 25 and 32 warrant the manpower hours needed and roadwork improvements put toward a harvest in Tract 25.

2025: Tract inventory

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You **must** indicate the State Forest Name, Compartment Number and Tract Number in the “Subject or file reference” line to ensure that your comment receives appropriate consideration. Comments received within 30 days of posting will be considered.