
Forest values

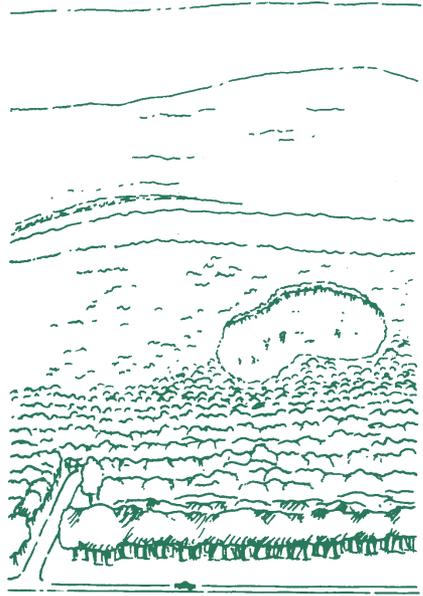
AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS

Objective: To minimize the adverse visual effects from harvesting and other forest management activities.

Issue: Much of the opposition to forest management activities, particularly harvesting, is due to the changed physical appearance of the area.

Considerations and Concerns:

1. Most landowners are concerned about the appearance of their property.
2. Acceptance of forest management activities by the general public is increased by having the job look good.



BMPs:

1. Cut all broken trees, *leaners*, and badly scarred trees except where they are being retained for a specific purpose.
2. Locate landings away from public view.
3. Protect and release from competition trees with unusual shapes and colors.
4. Design cutting areas to take advantage of natural contours; avoid straight lines when possible.
5. Lop tops of harvested trees near public roads, frequently used trails, recreational areas, and residential sites. (Note: This might increase the adverse impacts of deer on regeneration, because intact tree tops left behind help protect young growth.)
6. Use as much of the harvested wood as possible to minimize debris. (Note: This might reduce habitat for small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and beneficial insects.)
7. Clean up all *refuse* daily.
8. Regrade and seed landings, using native grasses wherever possible.
9. Keep mud off public roads and out of streams.
10. Consider leaving a visual buffer along traveled roads.

For Additional Information:

Jones, Geoff. 1993. *A Guide to Logging Aesthetics: Practical Tips for Loggers, Foresters, and Landowners*. NRAES-60. University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, Northeast Forestry Resource Extension Council Series, Northeast Regional Agriculture Engineering Service, Ithaca, N.Y.

Jones, Geoff and Douglas Weisman. 1994. *The Careful Timber Harvest: A Video Guide to Logging Aesthetics*. Weisman Video Productions, Watertown, Mass. (Sponsored by the Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests; cosponsored by the New Hampshire Division of Forest and Lands and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension.)

Kendra, Angelina and Ellen M. O'Donnell. *Forest Stewardship Bulletin No. 8: Planning for Beauty and Enjoyment*. DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Harrisburg, Pa.

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UNDERSTANDING WILDLIFE HABITATS

Objective: To consider the impacts of forest management activities on wildlife resources and understand the trade-offs necessary to accomplish landowner goals and objectives.

Issue: Forest management activities have positive and negative effects on wildlife resources.



Considerations and Concerns:

1. Wildlife is important to landowners and the general public.
2. The effects of forest management activities on wildlife are often overlooked.

BMPs:

1. Inventory habitat features on the property, and be aware of their relationship to surrounding lands.
2. Protect sensitive habitats, such as spring seeps, vernal ponds, riparian zones, cliffs, caves, and *rubble land*.
3. Develop missing special habitats, such as evergreen cover, grape arbors, and herbaceous openings, through planting, cutting, or other manipulations.
4. Protect cavity trees, snags, and food-producing shrubs and vines.
5. Maintain overhead shade along cold-water streams.
6. Use forest management activities to develop habitats required by species desired by the landowner.

For Additional Information:

Brooks, Robert P., Daniel A. Devlin, and Jerry Hassinger. 1994. *Wetlands and Wildlife*. College of Agricultural Sciences Penn State Cooperative Extension, University Park, Pa.

DeGraaf, Richard M. and Alex L. Shigo. 1985. *Managing Cavity Trees for Wildlife in the Northeast*. Gen. Tech. Rep. NE-101. USDA Forest Service Northeast Forest Experiment Station, Radnor, Pa.

DeGraaf, Richard M., Mariko Yamasaki, William B. Leak, and John W. Lanier. 1992. *New England Wildlife Management of Forested Habitats*. Gen. Tech. Rep. NE-144. USDA Forest Service Northeast Forest Experiment Station, Radnor, Pa.