

Scenario #1:

Property Overview:

The Stanley property consist of 100 acres of which roughly 75 are forested. The forested acres are comprised of a mix of eastern white pine and Eastern hemlock along with associated northern hardwoods including yellow birch, sugar maple, paper birch and red maple. In addition to the forested acreage, there is a 20-acre field that was once used to pasture cows that the landowners continue to mow annually. The landowner's main objectives are to increase sawtimber quantity, quality and volume increment. In addition to these objectives, the Stanley's have shown interest in implementing forest management that would improve forest breeding bird habitat on their property.

Landscape Context:

The property adjacent to the Stanley's is industrial timberland that has seen active harvesting over the past 10 years. This has resulted in 4% of the landscape being in the young forest (0-10 years old) age class.

Stand Description:

The stand you're looking to manage is around 40 years old and remains in the stem exclusion phase. The stand has seem some natural disturbance from ice damage, which has released areas of desirable advance regeneration through single-tree canopy gaps. However, a number of commercial species in the understory have been heavily browsed by deer. Both large diameter trees (>20" DBH) and coarse woody material (>3' in length and 10" in diameter) are lacking. Some snags exist but generally in low densities and at smaller diameters (<16" DBH). Overall, acceptable growing stock is over 60% throughout the stand. There are roughly 240 trees per acre with a mean stand diameter of 8.5" DBH.

Addressing landscape and stand-level habitat considerations as well as other landowner objectives, please draft a mock silvicultural prescription for this stand:

How does your mock prescription for this stand meet landowner objectives and benefit forest breeding bird species? Please list several forest birds that may benefit from the management you are proposing.