



Forest Stewardship Plan

David Johnson, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Fueling the Future:

The Role of Woody Biomass for Energy Workshop

March 26, 2009

Ponsford

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FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

by

David P. Johnson

March 26, 2009

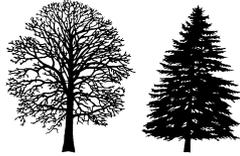
WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP PLAN



Forest Treasures • Ours to Use, Care For & Enjoy

“A well informed landowner
makes better decisions!”

Stewardship plans make you
eligible for cost-share and tax
programs



WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP PLAN

LANDOWNER:

Pat Dugas

233 Morton Avenue NW
Elk River, Minnesota 55330
Phone: 763-241-1026

PROPERTY LOCATION:

Part of the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 27,
Township 46 N., Range 29 W. (Irondale Township),
Crow Wing County

PREPARED BY:

Dean Makey

DNR – Area Forestry
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401
Phone: 218-828-2565

This woodland stewardship plan was designed in February of 2006 to help guide the management activities of the natural resources on your property. The plan is based on your goals in harmony with the environment around you. Project recommendations are for your consideration.

**THE GOALS YOU IDENTIFIED FOR MANAGING
THE PROPERTY ARE:**

- ? To improve the habitat for wildlife, especially deer and grouse.
- ? To know the value of the timber, and consider removing the large trees (mature timber) by logging contractors.
- ? To keep the forest healthy.

Minnesota
Forest
Stewardship
Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

DNR - Area Forestry Office
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401
Phone: 218-828-2565

WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP PLAN JOHN WALLIN

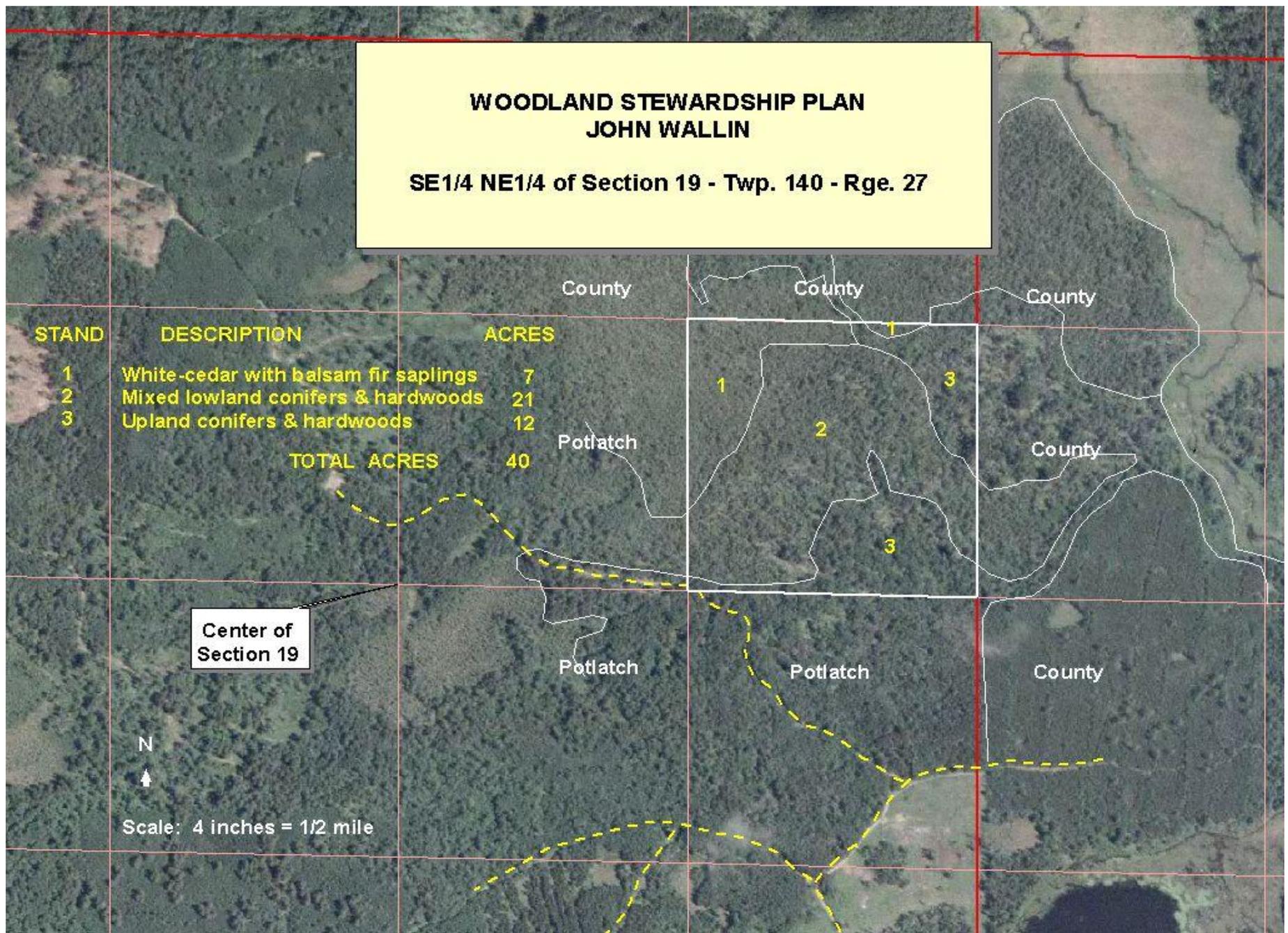
SE1/4 NE1/4 of Section 19 - Twp. 140 - Rge. 27

STAND	DESCRIPTION	ACRES
1	White-cedar with balsam fir saplings	7
2	Mixed lowland conifers & hardwoods	21
3	Upland conifers & hardwoods	12
TOTAL ACRES		40

Center of
Section 19

N
↑

Scale: 4 inches = 1/2 mile



Property Description

STEWARDSHIP ACRES: 35

TOTAL ACRES: 35

This property is located approximately 5 miles south of Crosby, Minnesota. Access to the property is good as a gravel road runs through the south portion. A driveway runs through the middle of the property.

Topography of the property is rolling.

Most of the property is upland and wooded. There are a couple of lowland areas. The soils on the upland are of the Brainerd-Chetek Association. These are sandy loam soils. Native vegetation consists mainly of red oak and aspen with some jack pine. The lowland areas have soils in the Warman-Halder-Peat Association. These are poorly drained soils, which are too wet to support many trees. Vegetation is mainly willow and alder with some sedges and cattails. More detailed soils information may be found in the Crow Wing County Soil Survey.

The landscape around this property is a mixture of upland wooded areas, wetlands, and some agricultural fields. A 33-acre lake, Crato Lake, is located just to the northeast. It is surrounded by wetlands, which border this property. Much of the land immediately surrounding this property is privately owned. There are tracts of public land in the township.

LANDSCAPE REGIONS: Mille Lacs Uplands

The enclosed Minnesota map shows our ecological landscape regions (or subsections). The actual boundaries are not as sharp as the lines might imply. In fact, there can be islands of one landscape region inside another. However, there are basic ecological differences between the units.

Your land is primarily within the Mille Lacs Uplands subsection. Gently rolling till plains and drumlin fields are the dominant landforms in this ecoregion. Brown and red till forms the parent material. In the southern portion, upland hardwoods consisting of red oak, sugar maple, basswood, and aspen-birch were common before settlement.

Presently, forestry, recreation, and some agriculture are the most common land uses. The jewel of this region is Mille Lacs Lake, well known for walleye fishing.

Woodland Stewardship Cover Types

Oak with Mixed Hardwoods

Stand Number: 1

Stand Acres: 19

Site Quality – Very Good (red oak SI = 72) Tree Density – Good (basal area = 120 sq. ft. per acre) Total Timber Volume* - 30 cords + 500 bd. ft. per acre Stand Age – 67 years *volume should not be used for purposes of selling timber
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Stand Description: This stand covers the most area on the property and consists mainly of immature red oak pole timber. The red oak averages 11 inches dbh. The red oak is mixed with a fair amount of aspen and paper birch. There are smaller amounts of red maple, basswood, and bur oak mixed also. A few large Norway and white pine saw timber trees were observed scattered throughout this stand. This stand has a good density of trees. This site produces good quality oak.

The oak here are mostly healthy. Some of the trees have heart rot and some have died, but the percentage is low, less than 5 percent. The aspen and birch found here are mature. The aspen is showing signs of rot. The birch is declining with some mortality showing up.

The understory consists of a moderate density of ironwood, hazel, and red osier dogwood shrubs. There is a small amount of hardwood seedlings and saplings mixed with the shrubs, mainly red oak, red maple, basswood, and green ash. The ground is covered with grasses, ferns, and forbs.

There have been some white spruce planted in the understory in parts of this stand. These general areas are labeled “ws” on the map. These white spruce are several years old.

A small area of Norway pine is located on the south edge of the pipeline. These trees also appear to have been planted about 15 years ago and are now 30 feet tall. They were planted at a 6 ft. X 6 ft. spacing and now number about 800 trees per acre. Some of the pine are shorter around the edges of this area where they have not received full sunlight. A few natural birch saplings are growing with the pine.

Stewardship Objective: To improve the wildlife habitat. To know the value of the timber. To keep the forest healthy.

Recommended Management Activities:

This stand produces good quality oak and should be managed for this species. The stand could be thinned to improve the growing conditions for the oak. Remove mature and low value species, deformed trees, and thin dense areas. Extreme care needs to be taken not to damage residual trees during the removal. This selective harvest could be done as a commercial timber sale. Your forester is able to help prepare and market the sale.

In the areas where the white spruce were planted, release them from the overtopping hardwoods. Accomplish this by cutting the hardwoods and removing them. This could be accomplished as a commercial timber sale.

Another method would be to girdle the overtopping trees to kill them and let them deteriorate and fall down over time. This method would probably cause less damage to the spruce, but would incur a cost.

Management Alternative:

If left untreated, this stand will live mainly as it is for many years. The aspen and birch will die first. This will give the oak and other hardwoods more room to grow. It will accomplish the thinning as described above, but you will not generate any income as if they were sold and harvested.

As time goes on and the oak die, they will be replaced by the shade tolerant maple and basswood in the understory. The stand will succeed to a maple-basswood forest from an oak forest.

SFIA TAX PROGRAM

- MN Dept of Revenue program
 - Requires a “Stewardship Plan” within the last 10 years.
 - Has a “easement” placed on affected acres that restricts housing development.
 - CRP, farmland not eligible!
 - Initial sign-up for 8 years.
 - Annual card system
 - Payments based on statewide land values
 - (2008-\$7.18/ac)

2C tax program

- New in 2008
- Must have current Stewardship Plan
- No Easement, annual application to assessor
- Must have 20 contiguous eligible acres
- Reduces taxes from 1% to .65% timberlands
- Must take out 10 acres for houses over 300 sq feet.

PRESENTERS

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