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FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

Property Owner(s): Gloucester Land Trust

Mailing address: 1145 Putnam Pike, PO Box B
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Phone:

Property Location: Thompson Tract, Cooper &
Eddy Roads

Town (s): Gloucester

RECORDS

Assessor's map No.	Lot/Parcel No.	Deed Book	Deed Page	Total acres	Excluded acres	Acres to be certified
16	32*			113.66		113.66
16	83			3.14		3.14
16	35			9.40		9.40
			TOTALS	126.2		126.2

Excluded Area Description

*Lot 33 was subdivided (22.6 acres excluded to be retained by Marcus Thompson) and the remainder combined with lot 32.

HISTORY

Year Acquired: 2004

Year Management began: 2004

Is subdivision plan on file with municipality?

Yes, some lots subdivided other combined

Are boundaries blazed/painted? No, plastic flagging

Previous management practices (last 10 years): Commercial timber harvest 2002(Hull Forest Products, Pomfret, CT).

PROPERTY OVERVIEW

1. LOCAL PATTERN OF LAND USE

Although much of the road frontage in the area has been subdivided and is in residential use, a large portion of the land in this area is forestland. Some of the forestland, notably the properties within a ¼ mile to the south and northeast have been under some form of forest management in the past. Other than the border of fields and fields reverting to forest on parcels adjacent to the east and south, little of the forest in the area is less than 20 years old.

The adjacent parcel on the east (Seldom Seen Farm) is in agricultural use (pasture and hay). Other properties within a mile on the northeast and south are used for pasture. Due to the rocky and infertile nature of the soil in the area little, if any, land in the surrounding landscape is tilled.

2. WATERSHED ISSUES

This property is in the western portion of the Blackstone River Watershed. The parcel extends south into the Woonasquatucket River Watershed. Runoff from the property flows south into Shincott Brook, continues into Waterman Reservoir, eventually reaching the Woonasquatucket River.

The western part of the property (adjacent to Cooper Road) is in a wellhead protection area.

3. ADJACENT & NEARBY LANDS WITH LONG-TERM PROTECTION

There are no adjacent parcels under permanent protection. Nearby (1/4 to the southeast) is a parcel owned by Rhode Island Audubon Society.

LANDOWNER GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of a this forest management plan is to guide the Land Trust in maintaining the property for the conditions for which it was purchased including passive recreation, wildlife habitat, forest health and the sustainable production of forest products.

LONG-TERM STEWARDSHIP CONSIDERATIONS. (How the integrity of the following forest values will be conserved in the future for the property as a whole)

1. THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES
2. RIPARIAN & WETLANDS
3. SOIL & WATER QUALITY
4. FOREST HEALTH
5. FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT
6. FOREST PRODUCTS
7. RECREATION & AESTHETICS

THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES:

There are no known rare or endangered plant or animal species on the property. Prior to any harvests the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program will be contacted regarding the status of the property as critical habitat for endangered species. If present, the recommendations of Natural Heritage Program to mitigate impact will be followed.

RIPARIAN & WETLANDS:

Wetlands on the property consist of a stream and the wetland complex associated with it. This includes a shrub swamp along the southern property boundary and forested wetlands adjacent to the stream. Both Stand 1 and 2 may also be considered wetlands because of the high water table and the dominance of wetland vegetation.

The entire property was recently harvested and several wetland areas impacted by the harvest should be monitored over the next two or three years and remedial action taken if needed. These areas include the location where the stream was crossed, and the riparian buffer along the stream east of the landing.

No further harvests are recommended here for at least the next ten years but future harvests should take the sensitive nature of wetlands on the property into consideration. Best Management Practices (BMP's), like retaining high tree densities and carefully planning harvest trails, should always be used to reduce the negative impact of harvests. Additional guidelines are published in *Best Management Practices for Rhode Island, Water Quality Protection and Forest Management Guidelines*, 1996.

SOIL & WATER QUALITY:

The main impact of forest management on soil and water occurs when harvests disturb the forest floor by creating roads for removing logs, which could lead to erosion. The recent harvest has resulted in some erosion particularly where the skid trail leaves the landing. Hay bales should be placed on the trail to slow the velocity of runoff and the trail seeded to *Conservation Mix* to stabilize the soil.

To protect water quality, BMP's should be followed during future all harvests as stated above in wetland considerations. Particular recommendations applicable to management in wetlands on the property (Stands 1,2, and 3) would be to leave uncut buffer strips adjacent to seasonal streams, limiting harvesting to the driest time of the year or when the ground is frozen, and to establish vegetative cover on trails created by harvests to prevent erosion. Additional technical guidance provided by the *Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook*, 1989 may be used to prevent soil erosion and control sedimentation.

FOREST HEALTH:

Much of the property was harvested within the last several years and there is only moderate competition between the trees for growing space. The trees are expected to grow quickly be resistant to attack from insects and disease. Re-evaluation is recommended in ten years but, barring some destructive weather event or introduced pest, the forest is expected to remain healthy.

FISH & WILDLIFE HABITAT:

The main recommendation to improve habitat is to restore the abandoned field in the center of the property and maintain it in grass and maintain the edges as early successional habitat (young forest). Open, grassy habitat and associated brushy edges is unique wildlife habitat that is uncommon on a statewide scale. Although adjacent property to the east (Seldom Seen Farm) has this habitat, creating more open grassland will increase the overall habitat value of this property and insure this habitat continues to exist regardless of possible land use changes on other ownerships.

Stand 1, is one of the few conifer stands in the surrounding landscape and provides cover (from weather and predators) for wildlife and should be maintained as such. As this stand ages, it will provide unique habitat needed by owls and hawks.

The recent harvests in Stands 2, 3, and 4 will promote the growth and acorn production of the oaks here. This will benefit a wide variety of species that feed on acorns such as deer, turkey, grouse, and squirrels. No activities are recommended in Stands 3 and 4 but these areas should be reevaluated in ten years.

Snags (standing dead trees) are scattered throughout the property. These should be retained since they provide feeding and nesting habitat for songbirds like chickadee, nuthatch, and woodpeckers. It is recommended additional large snags be created to Stands 2 and 3 to provide snags that can be used by more species of wildlife and remain standing after the existing snags have fallen.

Stand 2 has many mature trees with high wildlife value, especially white oak, well distributed through the area. The harvest also promoted the growth of shrubs (mostly sweet pepperbush) in the understory. This area should be reevaluated in five years to assess tree regeneration. If not adequate, site preparation for natural regeneration may be needed to insure a diverse mixture of tree seedlings is established.

FOREST PRODUCTS:

Stands 2 and 3 are productive sites and have high value trees scattered through them. It is in the Land Trust's best interest to refrain from harvesting any trees here unless they pose a public hazard since these mature trees provide a source of seed to form the next stand of trees. The understory plants in both these areas are thick because of the harvest. Maintaining a tree canopy will suppress the understory growth.

Stand 4 was harvested in association with the remainder of the property. Within ten years the trees here will have grown enough to begin competing intensely and the growing conditions should be re-evaluated at that time. Despite the recent harvest, the timber volume here is relatively high and a commercial sale may be possible.

RECREATION & AESTHETICS:

Although the primary management objective is Stand 1 is to provide cover for wildlife, the dense evergreen forest here is uncommon in the area, hence provides visual diversity for aesthetics.

The improved woods road to the landing provides good access through this area for recreation (walking, cross country skiing, or even horseback riding). Additional trails should be created through Stands 2, 4, and 5 to provide access to the entire property.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	STAND DESCRIPTION			VOLUME/AC	SITE INDEX
				SIZE CLASS	BA/AC	TREES/AC		
HAB, REC	1	OW	3.4	10.5"	85	143	MBF 6.2 CDS	60 BO

This is an oak-white pine forest type in the western part of the property adjacent to Cooper Road. Stonewalls and large "wolf trees" indicate this area was once used for pasture and when grazing ceased the area reverted to forest. Wolf trees are trees that obviously grew in the open since they have huge crowns, large side branches, and are much larger than surrounding trees. Black and scarlet oak are the dominant tree species, making up 29 percent of the basal area. White oak and white pine are the chief associates, comprising 18 percent of the basal area each. White pine tends to be concentrated in areas that were abandoned pastures since optimal conditions (for white pine) exist when grazing ceased, and enough pine seedlings get established to insure it is well represented in the forest at maturity. Eastern red cedar, a tree species common in old pastures, is scattered through the area.

The area adjacent to Cooper Road is elevated and slopes slightly to the east, the remainder of the stand is nearly level terrain and the presence of wetland shrubs is evidence the water table is close to the surface. The soil here varies from Canton and Charlton very stony fine sandy loam adjacent to Cooper Road to Woodbridge fine sandy loam on the remainder of the stand. Productivity ranges from moderate to moderately high with the high water table being the only hindrance to management. Best Management Practices (BMP's), such as retaining high tree densities to prevent windthrow and harvesting when the ground is frozen to minimize rutting, should be used when managing this area.

This area was harvested about two years ago with many large oaks removed. A un-harvested buffer was retained adjacent to Cooper Road. This harvest left openings where the large trees were removed and dense conditions where the trees were too small or of lower value species. The current conditions are slightly overstocked for hardwood but ideal for the growth of white pine, which is adapted to grow at high densities. White pine seedlings will also germinate under a canopy of pines and will tolerate growing in partial shade for a number of years. The soil here is productive and it would be difficult to establish pine (or any conifers other than hemlock) here under normal circumstances due to competition from hardwood trees and wetland shrubs.

OBJECTIVE CODE:

HAB= Wildlife Habitat REC= Recreation AES= Aesthetics S&W= Soil & Water Protection
 FP= Forest Products HTH= Forest health

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

To be done within the next 10 years

OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	REMOVED		TIMING
					BA	VOL	
HAB	1	OW	Reevaluate	3.4	NA		2014
REC	1	OW	Install Gate	3.4	NA		2004

While this stand in itself has low value for wildlife, it provides cover for wildlife that is lacking in the landscape surrounding this property. This area should be maintained as a dense pine forest to provide cover (shelter from weather and predators) for wildlife. As the trees grow larger it will provide habitat needed for species (like owls) that specialize in mature pine stands, No further harvesting is recommended except for hazardous trees adjacent to the trail through this area. The conditions should however be reevaluated in ten years.

There is good access through this area for recreation since a trail from Cooper Road to the area used as a landing for the recent timber harvest passes through this area. This was originally a cart path leading to a field. Unfortunately there has been dumping (mostly tires) along this road. It is difficult to monitor activity here because after a few hundred feet the trail is hidden from the Road. A gate to restrict access may have to be installed near Cooper Road. It would be possible to provide parking for three or four cars with minimal effort.

The recommended activities will enhance the property for your forest management objectives including:

Improve wildlife habitat by:

- Maintaining this stand at a high density will provide shelter from weather and predators ranging from deer and small mammals, songbirds, to hawks and owls.

Enhance recreation and aesthetics by:

- Installing a gate to restrict access and dumping.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	STAND DESCRIPTION			VOLUME/AC	SITE INDEX
				SIZE CLASS	BA/AC	TREES/AC		
HAB, FP, S & W	2	OH	38.9	9.8 "	85	162	3.7 MBF 9.2 cords	65 RO

This is an oak- mixed hardwood forest type on level to rolling terrain with slopes of 0 to 8 percent. This stand forms a transition between forested wetland adjacent to the stream and the better-drained forest on side slope and ridges. The western part of stand is nearly level (and poorly drained) while the remainder has moderate slopes. Drainage from this stand flows into stand three, eventually reaching the seasonal stream that flows through the property. Like most of the surrounding landscape, this area was cleared (for pasture or hay) at one time. There are remains of ditches and culverts near Cooper Road where past farmers attempted to drain this area. When active agriculture ceased, forest became established. Scarlet and black oaks are the dominant tree species comprising almost 33 percent of the basal area. White oak and red maple are the chief associates, each making up 21 percent of the basal area. Red oak is also common making up 8 percent of the basal area. The presence of wetland shrubs (mostly sweet pepperbush) indicates the water table is close to the surface.

Canton and Charlton fine sandy loam is the soil east of the stream where the sloping terrain promotes drainage. This is actually two soil types that are usually found in association and are grouped together since they have similar characteristics. This soil has moderate productivity for tree growth with few limitations toward forest management although rockiness could hinder management in some places. The slopes adjacent to the stream are a concern since runoff in these areas could carry sediment into the stream. Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam is the soil west of the stream. This is the most productive area of the property, as evidenced by the large size and good form of the trees, but has severe management limitations due to the high water table. Stones and boulders are common here (although difficult to see because of the dense understory) and could pose a management concern. Other concerns that could/should influence management decisions here are the high water table and slopes that could promote runoff into the stream.

Best management practices (BMP's) should always be used when harvesting in this area to protect the integrity of the site. These include: harvesting only when the ground is frozen or very dry, limiting the amount of trees harvested at one time, and seeding disturbed soil on trails to prevent erosion. Roads and trails through this area need careful planning to insure they are well drained during harvesting and won't cause erosion into adjacent areas. More detailed information on BMP's is available in *Best Management Practices for Rhode Island Water Quality Protection and Forest Management Guidelines*. This publication is available from DEM, Division of Forest Environment.

This area was selectively harvested two years ago, with large commercially valuable trees removed. Current stocking here is 75 percent; there is only moderate competition between the trees for growing space.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS							
To be done within the next 10 years							
OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	REMOVED		TIMING
					BA	VOL	
HAB, FP	2	OH	Re-evaluate	38.9	NA		2007
HAB	2	OH	Create snags	38.9	NA		2005-2008
S&W	2	OH	Install erosion control on trails	NA	NA		2004

The recent harvest reduced the density of trees here, creating favorable growing conditions for the remaining trees. At densities of 60 to 80 percent trees make maximum growth without wasting growing space, so tree growth here will be good for at least the next ten years. The good growing conditions will promote mast production from the mature oaks that remain in this area. Mast (acorns and nuts) is an important source of food for species of wildlife such as deer, turkey, grouse, squirrels, as well as many species of songbirds.

There are currently about four snags (standing dead trees) per acre. Since these trees are over 12 inches DBH, they are large enough to provide essential nesting, feeding, and roosting sites for a variety of cavity nesting birds and animals. Large trees are more valuable because they can be used by more species of wildlife and remain standing longer. Some additional snags should be created by girdling trees with a goal of creating at least four more large (over 12 inches DBH) snags and about four as smaller snags scattered through the area. As a guideline, these snags would be about 66 feet apart.

The harvest allowed sunlight to reach the forest floor, promoting the growth of understory plants. This could pose a problem in areas with a high water table since the dense growth could prevent tree seedlings from becoming established. Sweet pepperbush and greenbrier are the dominant species so there is little habitat value for wildlife. This area should be re-evaluated in three to five years to assess the status of regeneration here. Saplings (trees four feet tall) should be scattered through to insure this area is fully

stocked with trees in the future. If not, measures like site preparation of natural regeneration or even planting trees may be needed. This may also be an opportunity to establish additional shrub species for aesthetics and to provide food for wildlife.

Another concern is erosion on the logging trails. This is confined to trails on slopes where runoff on disturbed soil has washed some away. This is most noticeable where the trail leaves the abandoned field used as a landing and on the steepest slopes in the northeastern part of the property. Hay bales should be placed across the trails as a temporary measure to slow the flow of water and trap soil and water bars constructed for permanent control. The trails on all slopes should also be seeded with Conservation Mix to establish vegetation to stabilize the soil. Guidelines are available in *Best Management Practices for Rhode Island Water Quality Protection and Forest Management Guidelines*.

The recommended treatment for this area will help you achieve your management objectives for the property by:

Providing habitat for wildlife by:

- Creating snags will provide feeding and nesting habitat for wildlife that use dead trees.

Protect soil and water quality by:

- Using hay bales and establishing vegetation on the skid trails to prevent erosion on the site.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	STAND DESCRIPTION			VOLUME/AC	SITE INDEX
				SIZE CLASS	BA/AC	TREES/AC		
S&W, HAB	3	RM	9.6	9.5 "	93	177	3.8 MBF 10.0 CDS	62 RO

This is a forested wetland forest type in a low-lying area adjacent to a stream. Runoff from the surrounding landscape collects here and flows northeast toward Evans Road. Drainage is slowest in the southern part of the Stand where the terrain is level. A shrub swamp as well as a wide riparian area is associated with the stream here since the water collects before eventually flowing northeast. In the eastern part of the property, the land slopes and the stream channel is better defined. Although this area may have been cleared at one time, trees now dominate it. Red maple is the dominant tree species, comprising 43 percent of the basal area. Maple is well adapted to grow on the wetland conditions here and out-competes other species. Oaks are common with white oak comprising 22 percent of the basal area and black, scarlet, and red oak together making up 27 percent of the basal area. Other species adapted to grow on poorly drained sites including yellow birch and black gum are scattered through the area.

Ridgebury, Whitman and Leicester extremely stony fine sandy loam is the soil adjacent to the stream. This soil is poorly drained with a high water table. The high water table forces tree roots to grow near the surface, making wind throw (trees toppled by the wind) a problem. Conditions are so wet that tree growth is reduced and management is severely restricted.

Fewer trees were harvested here than other parts of the property since the trees are smaller and access is difficult because of poor drainage. The current stocking level here is 80 percent; there is moderate competition between the trees for growing space. The high water table here promotes the growth of wetland plants and although relatively few trees were removed, enough sunlight reaches the forest floor to promote the uncontrolled growth of briars.

OBJECTIVE CODE:

HAB= Wildlife Habitat REC= Recreation AES= Aesthetics S&W= Soil & Water Protection
 FP= Forest Products HTH= Forest health

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

To be done within the next 10 years

OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	REMOVED		TIMING
					BA	VOL	
HAB	3	RM	Create snags	9.6	NA		2005-2008
S&W,HAB	3	RM	Re-evaluate	9.6	NA		2014
S&W	3	RM	Assess riparian buffer	0.5	NA		2004-2006
S&W	3	RM	Assess stream crossing	NA	NA		2004

At the current stocking level growth of the trees will be adequate to insure good health and production of acorns for wildlife for the near future. After about ten years growing conditions are expected to become more crowded. This area should be re-evaluated at that time. Although this is a wetland conservative tree harvesting if an acceptable tool to manage this area but BMP's must always be used.

Areas adjacent to the stream that were not harvested should be managed in a conservative manner, by girdling large unacceptable trees to reduce competition for growing space and create snags for habitat for wildlife. Since the girdled tree dies in place and remains standing for a number of years, this is an effective way to create snags as well as allowing adjacent trees receive more sunlight. There are now about 14 snags per acre here but none over 10 inches DBH. Larger trees are selected since they can be used by the most species of wildlife and remain standing longer. An additional two to six snags per acre should be created by girdling large (over 12 inches DBH) unacceptable trees.

The trees to girdle should be based on species and the effect on adjacent trees. For example, girdling a large red maple that is growing next to a white oak will allow the crown of the oak to receive more sunlight, increasing its growth rate and acorn production. Since white oak acorns are a preferred food source for many species of wildlife, this activity will provide food for species like deer, turkey, grouse, and squirrel and feeding and nesting habitat for birds like woodpeckers, nuthatch and chickadee.

Other than limited tree girdling to improve wildlife habitat disturbance should be minimized here to protect the integrity of the site. Lingering issues from the previous harvest are removal of the buffer along the stream and logs left in the stream at a location used as a crossing. Trees adjacent to the stream (the riparian buffer) shade the stream and filter nutrients. In two locations in east of the landing trees were harvested close to the banks of the stream. These areas should be monitored. If natural regeneration isn't established within a year or two, planting may be needed. Since the disturbed area is small this would only involve planting one or two rows of trees within 15 feet of the stream and a row of wetland shrubs on the outside perimeter of the disturbed area.

Logs were placed in the stream, parallel to the flow, to protect the stream bottom at an area used as a crossing. This was meant as a temporary measure and these logs should now be removed to allow the stream to flow in its natural channel.

The recommended treatments for this area will help you achieve your management objectives for the property by:

Providing habitat for wildlife by:

- Creating snags will provide feeding and nesting habitat for wildlife the use dead trees.

Protect soil and water quality by:

- Periodically (once a year) evaluating areas where the riparian buffer was disturbed by the harvest. Planting trees and shrubs may be needed if natural regeneration is inadequate.
- Restoring the natural flow of water in the stream by removing logs in the area the stream was crossed.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	STAND DESCRIPTION			VOLUME/AC	SITE INDEX
				SIZE CLASS	BA/AC	TREES/AC		
FP, REC	4	OM	56.4	8.1 "	92	254	3.6 MBF 8.1 CDS	55 SO

This is a mixed oak forest type on the crest and side slopes of a hill. Black and scarlet oak are the dominant tree species, comprising 69 percent of the basal area. White oak is the most common associate, making up 9 percent of the basal area. Most of the trees here are 8 to 14 inches DBH although larger trees are scattered through the area. Smaller trees, mostly black birch and red maple, are concentrated together since they've become established in openings created when oaks died. There are few white pines here although it will grow well on the soil type here. Obviously conditions here weren't suitable for white pine when this area was reverting to forest and it's too dry for maple, so oaks dominate.

Canton and Charlton fine sandy loam is the soil here. This soil type is actually a complex of two soils that are typed together because they have no major differences in use and management. This soil is sandy, droughty, and stony but has few other limitations and is well suited to forest management. Potential productivity for tree growth is moderate to low. This is reflected in lower plant diversity; oaks dominate the forest canopy and low-bush blueberry and huckleberry are the most common shrubs. The trees here are smaller than other areas of the property, although they are nearly the same age, due to the infertile soil. The soil here is not homogenous because of the rolling topography and there are small areas within the stand with better growing conditions, hence larger and healthier trees.

This area was harvested several years ago in association with the remainder of the property. The harvest was not uniform- some areas were cut heavily and others left untouched. The current stocking is 85 percent, which indicates moderate to high competition between the trees for growing space.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS						
To be done within the next 10 years						
OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	REMOVED BA VOL	TIMING
FP	4	OM	Re-evaluate	56.4	NA	2114
REC	4	OM	Create recreation trail	56.4	NA	2005-2006

Within ten years the trees will have grown enough to begin competing intensely and the growing conditions here should be re-evaluated at that time. Some type of harvest may be warranted. Despite the recent harvest, the timber volume here is relatively high and a commercial sale may be possible.

Much of this stand is inaccessible and the highest priority is to increase access for recreation by constructing interconnecting trails. This will allow entry for fire control and conducting forestry activities as well as recreation. The trail should be at least 10 feet wide to facilitate access as well as to increase its value as a firebreak.

The location of the trail is flexible since there are few obstacles, except for some large rocks and a small wetland. The construction of the trail will proceed more quickly if it's marked (with plastic flagging) ahead of time. Once the final location is established, and the trail constructed, paint or trail markers can be used as permanent markers.

Clear large trees and stumps first. Be careful to remove snags that may fall onto the trail. Next cut smaller shrubs and brush. Using a tractor to haul firewood over the trail will knock down the smallest brush and compact the soil. A York rake may have to be used to establish a final grade and smooth the soil. Planting grass or wildflowers is only needed on slopes or areas that are wider than you intend to use for a travel lane. The trail can be constructed in stages, with several hundred feet created as an area is harvested. Using the trail will keep most vegetation from growing and minimize maintenance.

The recommended treatments for this area will help you achieve your management objectives for the property by:

- Promote the growth of forest products since the density is low enough to allow good growth of the trees for at least the next ten years without further harvests.

- Enhance recreation potential for this area by creating a recreation trail to improve access for recreation and nature viewing.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	STAND DESCRIPTION			VOLUME/AC	SITE INDEX
				SIZE CLASS	BA/AC	TREES/AC		
HAB, REC	5	OM	9.4	9.7"	80	155	3.4 MBF 6.5 cords	55 SO

This is a mixed oak forest type. This parcel abuts property owned by the Thompson's but is not contiguous with the rest of the tract purchased by the Land Trust. Black and scarlet oak are the dominant tree species, making up 65 percent of the basal area. White oak is the most common associate, comprising 13 percent of the basal area. White pine is well established here; trees 4 to 10 inches DBH make up 9 percent of the basal area. The land use history here is probably the same as stand 5 since the species composition and size of the trees is similar.

Canton and Charlton very stony fine sandy loam is the soil here. This area has a steep west-facing slope. The soil here has low to moderate productivity for growing trees with the steep slope and numerous stones and boulders being the main hindrances to forest management.

Like the rest of the property, this stand was recently harvested. Unlike Stand 5, where areas were left uncut, the harvest here was uniform with a moderate intensity of tree removal throughout the area. Some openings were created in the canopy where large trees were removed, but for the most part well-formed trees are well distributed throughout this area. The stocking here is 70 percent, slightly overstocked for optimal tree growth but ideal for an area that has never been thinned before.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

To be done within the next 10 years

OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	REMOVED		TIMING
					BA	VOL	
HAB, REC	5	OM	Re-evaluate	9.4	NA		2014
REC	5	OM	Improve trail				2004

As a result of the recent harvest, there is enough room in the canopy for the crowns of the remaining trees to expand there is little competition among the trees for growing space, Stocking is within the range to provide good growing conditions for trees for at least ten years. This area should be reevaluated at that time.

The landing area used for the harvest could provide parking for two to three vehicles with minimal improvement. The main skid trail created by the harvest provides good access into this area with potential views of ponds and fields to the west. Slash (tops and branches) from the harvest, in and adjacent to the trail, make walking difficult in some places and may be viewed as an eyesore by visitors.

The recommended treatments for this area will help you achieve your management objectives for the property by:

- Enhance recreation potential for this area by creating a recreation trail to improve access for recreation and nature viewing.

GOAL	STAND	TYPE	ACRES	SIZE CLASS	SITE INDEX
HAB, REC	AF	AF	3.8	0-4 "	55 SO

This is an abandoned field reverting to forest. Some grasses still exist but trees are beginning to dominate the site. It is in an early successional stage with tree species like black cherry, red maple, and white pine most common. A small grove of aspen exists on the northern edge of this area. A few eastern red cedar as well as some oaks are scattered through the area. This habitat type exists in a relatively level spot surrounded by rolling terrain. It is obvious that this area remained in agricultural use (pasture or hay) longer than adjacent land because it was level. Honeysuckle is the dominant shrub. This area was used as a landing for the recent harvest so the central portion is exposed mineral soil.

Canton and Charlton fine sandy loam is the soil here. This soil has low to moderate productivity for growing trees but is well drained with few management limitations. There is good access into this area via an improved woods road from Cooper Road. Residue from the harvest (chunks of wood) and debris from dumping (mostly car tires) could interfere with use and management of this area.

This area is valuable for wildlife since it provides an uncommon and declining vegetation type. Grassland and young forest provide important habitat for varieties of birds not found in the forest and increases the overall habitat value of this area by providing edge habitat for other species.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

To be done within the next 10 years

OBJECTIVE	STAND	TYPE	TREATMENT	ACRES	TIMING
HAB	AF	AF	Create & maintain field and young forest	3.8	2004-2014

This area should be maintained as a mosaic of grassland and young forest. The main field (near the access road) should be planted and maintained in warm season grasses. Vary the size and shape of the field by allowing "fingers" of tall grass and weeds to grow along the edge of the field (this area is mowed every two to three years).

Mow the area closest to the forest every five to ten years, to allow tall shrubs and saplings to get established. These "brushy" areas that haven't been mowed for several years provide plants like raspberry and grape that don't grow in the forest. Try to save specimens of trees, like eastern red cedar, black cherry, and aspen, which provide food and cover for wildlife. This will also create another canopy layer of small trees between the tall trees in the forest and the grasses and low growth in the field. Establishing this vertical diversity will create habitat for more species of birds than found in either type alone.

The recommended activities will enhance the property for your forest management objectives including:

Enhance aesthetics by:

- Increasing the visual diversity by creating an open area in a landscape dominated by forest.

Improve wildlife habitat by:

- Creating grassland habitat and forest edge.

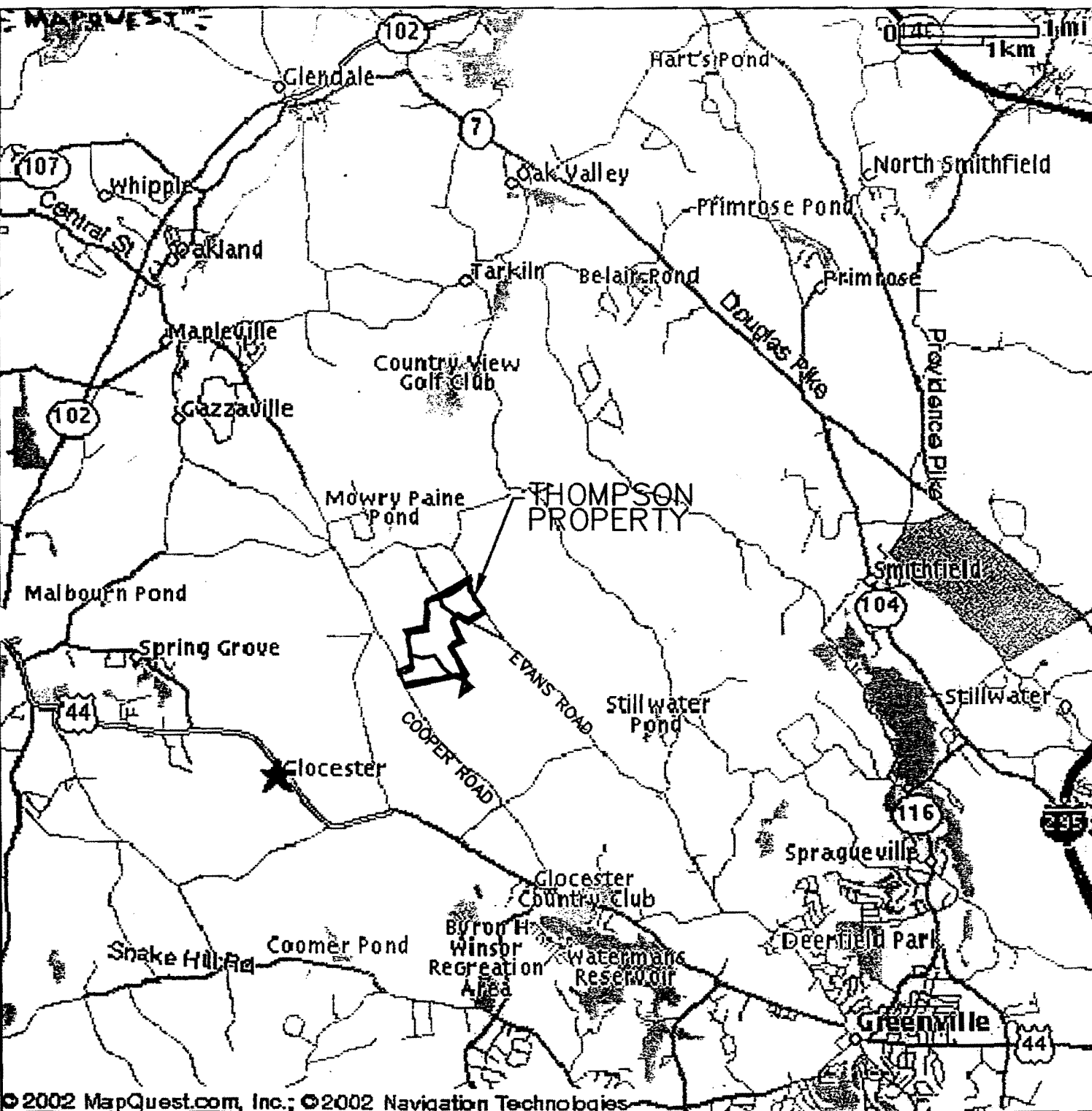
Implementation Schedule
(to be done within the next ten years)

STAND	OBJECTIVES	TREATMENT	ACRES	VOLUME REMOVED/ACRE BA VOL	YEAR
1	OW	Reevaluate	3.4	NA	2014
1	OW	Install Gate	3.4	NA	2004
2	OH	Re-evaluate	38.9	NA	2007
2	OH	Create snags	38.9	NA	2005-2008
2	OH	Install erosion control on trails	NA	NA	2004
3	RM	Create snags	9.6	NA	2005-2008
3	RM	Re-evaluate	9.6	NA	2014
3	RM	Assess riparian buffer	0.5	NA	2004-2006
3	RM	Assess stream crossing	NA	NA	2004
4	OM	Re-evaluate	56.4	NA	2114
4	OM	Create recreation trail	56.4	NA	2005-2006
5	OM	Re-evaluate	9.4	NA	2014
5	OM	Improve trail	NA	NA	2004
AF	AF	Create & maintain field and young forest	3.8	2004-2014	2004-2014
All		Locate and mark property boundaries	126.2	NA	2004-2005

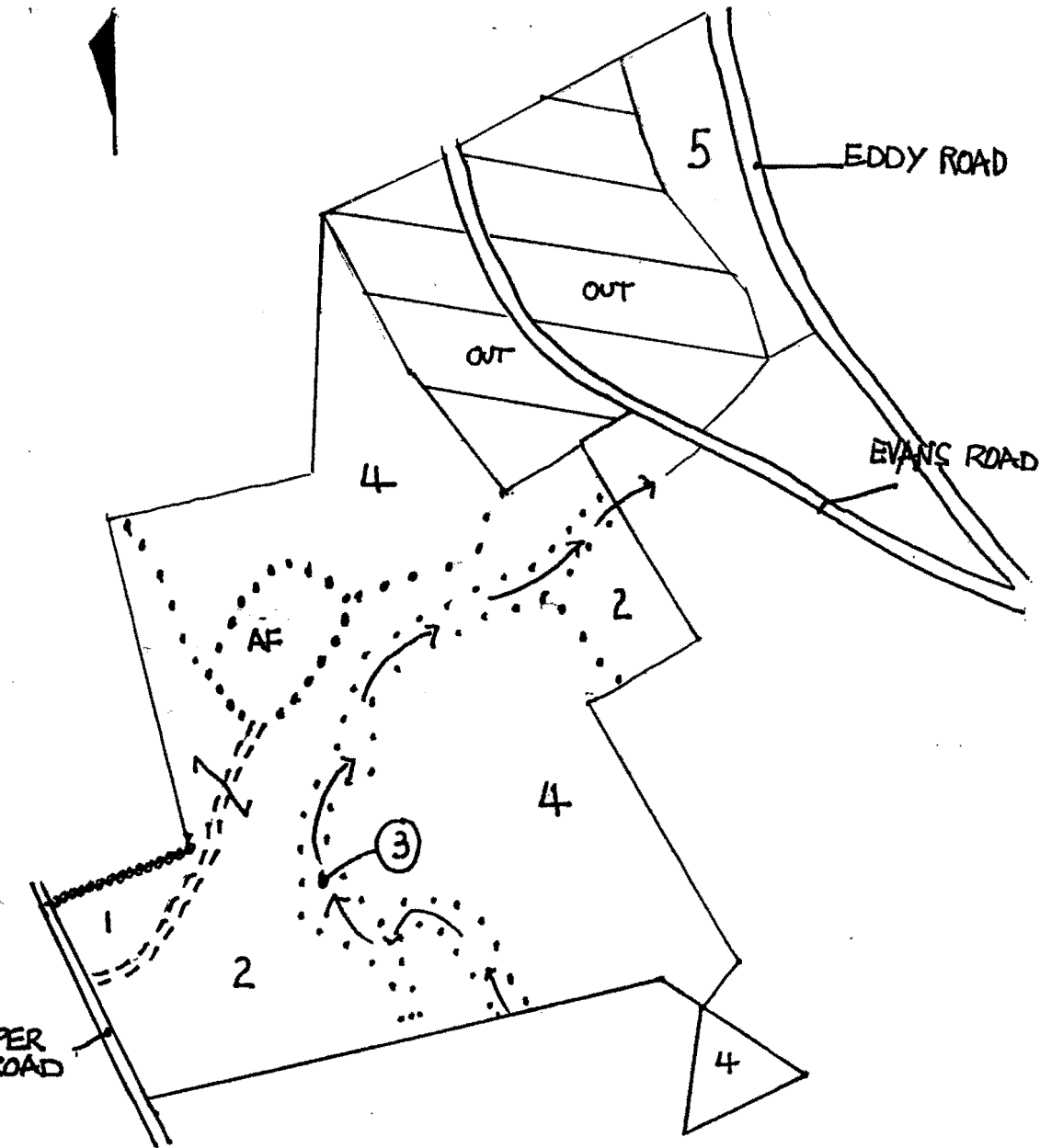
STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE & SIGNATURES.

This Forest Stewardship Plan is compatible with the goals and objectives for our land, and we agree to abide by the management provisions of this plan for a period of at least ten (10) years.

Owner(s)	Date
Plan Preparer: Gregg J. Cassidy <i>Consultant Forester</i> 420 East Avenue Harrisville, RI 02830	Date (401) 568-3247 forestguy@aol.com
Approved, Service Forester	Date



LOCATION MAP
 THOMPSON PROPERTY
 COOPER, EVANS AND EDDY ROADS



Forest Type Map For The Property of
 Gloucester Land-Trust
 Gloucester, RI

	Stand	Forest Type	Acreage
Forest Type Boundary	1	Oak-White Pine	3.6
Stone wall	2	Oak Hardwoods	38.8
Woods Road	3	Red maple	11.5
Stream	4	Mixed Oak	59.1
	5	Mixed Oak	9.4
	AF	Abandoned Field	3.8
	Total		126.2

1 inch = 660 feet

Prepared by Gregg J. Cassidy, Consultant Forester. March 2004