

Perrin Road Town Owned Property Forest Management Plan and Proposed Timber Harvest Fact Sheet

Prepared by the Woodstock Conservation Commission 09/28/2017

Where is the property located? This landlocked 113 acre parcel is on the Woodstock/ Pomfret border. It was accessed via a now discontinued road that once connected Perrin Road in Woodstock to Swedetown Road in Pomfret. The road between Perrin Road and the town owned parcel has washed out. Currently, the access to the property is from Swedetown Road (which turns into Quarry Road in Woodstock.)

What is the history of this property? The parcel was acquired decades ago by the town through a property tax default. It is an undeveloped wooded parcel that drains north to Bosworth Brook. In 1999, the Conservation Commission (CC) hired a forester to develop a forest management plan (FMP) for this and another nearby parcel. After the FMP was completed, a timber harvest was conducted a year or two later, in accordance with the FMP.



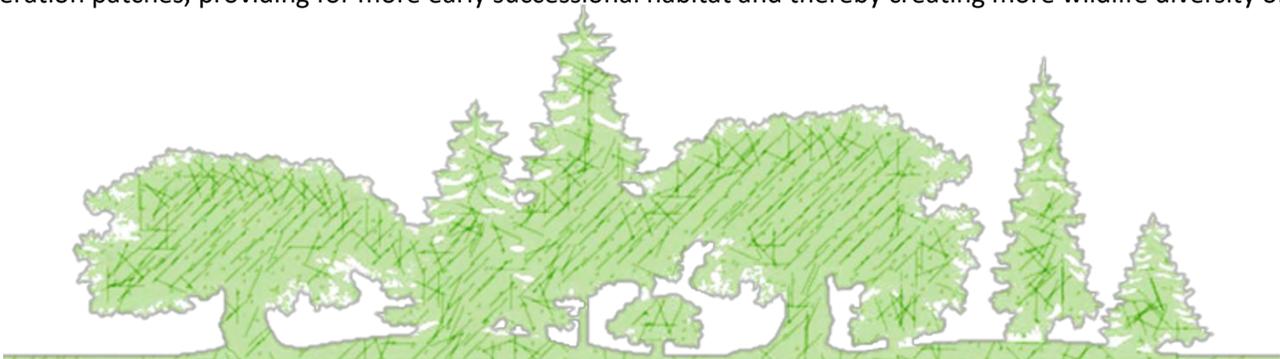
Recently, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) decided to pursue another timber harvest from this parcel. The CC was permitted to hire a forester to prepare an updated FMP. A proposed timber harvest is the subject of discussion and vote at the October 4, 2017 Town Meeting.

What are the goals of the timber harvest? The proposed timber harvest is compatible with the specific objectives of the forest management plan as set forth by the CC and the BOS. Those objectives are:

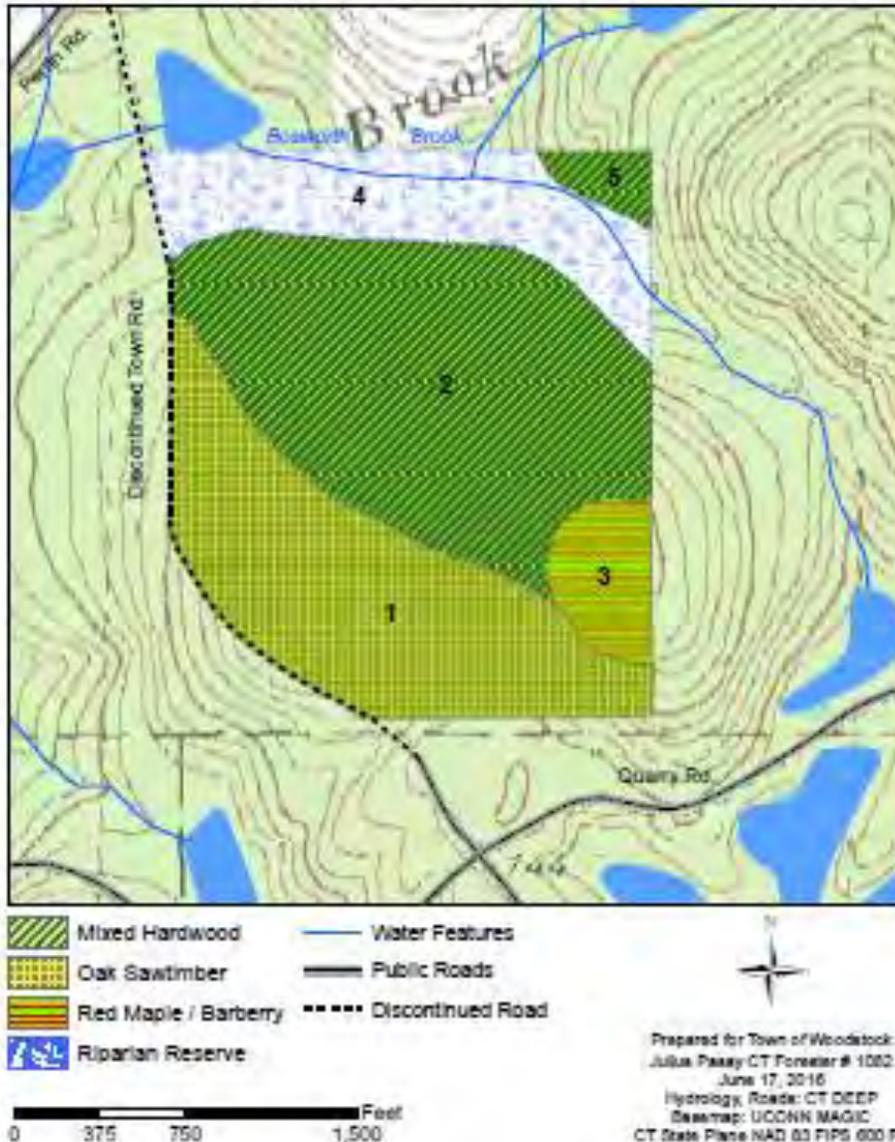
- A. **Maintain the Perrin/Quarry Road forest in a healthy, productive, and increasingly valuable condition.**
- B. Develop and implement stewardship recommendations to:
 - A. protect and preserve surface water resources, including off-site, downstream wetlands and watercourses,
 - B. protect and enhance significant wildlife habitat values,
 - C. control non-native plant species.
- C. **Conduct periodic commercial timber harvests designed to:**
 - A. maintain and sustain forest health and future harvest yields,
 - B. generate income while protecting all other ecosystems values.
- D. Use the forest as a model for private landowners in Woodstock to use for **sustainable practices.**

These objectives conform with one of the forestry goals in the Woodstock *A Plan of Open Space on Conservation* accepted by the town in 2001: *“Encourage Consideration of Forestry Management and Wildlife Habitat Preservation in the Land Use Decisions of Other Town Commissions and Boards.”*

By conducting a sustainable timber harvest pursuant to the FMP, the Town should be able to conduct another harvest in 10 years. This harvest should provide better opportunity for oak regeneration by opening up certain areas as regeneration patches, providing for more early successional habitat and thereby creating more wildlife diversity on the land.



Woodstock Town Property at Perrin and Quarry Roads Stand Cover Type



The FMP was prepared by Julius Pasay, CT Forester #: 1082 in August 2016. Below is a summary of the key points of the FMP. To download a full copy of the *Forest Management Plan Town of Woodstock Perrin Road/Quarry Road Property*, including timber harvest recommendations, please visit the CC website at <https://tinyurl.com/y7hylu9q>.

Management Recommendations

- Stands 1 and 2 should be managed for their timber resource.
- Stand 3 should be treated for the invasive Japanese barberry.
- Stands 4 and 5 are reserves and should not be managed except to treat for scattered invasive plants where present.
- The discontinued town road should be treated for Japanese stiltgrass. Scattered winged euonymus and multiflora rose should be treated.