

## FOREST AREA 8 Mixed Woods

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

**Inventory note:** 31 samples areas were laid out and measured using a 10-Basal Area Factor Prism. Inventory Date Fall 2013

**Area:** 182 acres Craftsbury Outdoor Center

**Forest Cover Type:** Mixed Woods: northern hardwoods, spruce-fir-cedar and occasional white pine

#### Stocking Level:

**Mean Stand Diameter:** 9.8

#### Basal Area:

**Total Growing Stock:** 112

**Acceptable Growing Stock:** 88

**Trees Per Acre:** 208

**Species Composition:** Balsam fir 13%, Spruces 8%, Cedar and hemlock 16%, White Pine 4%, Yellow Birch 9% and White Birch 3%, Sugar Maple 9%, Red Maple 6%, Aspen 1%, Black Cherry 2 %, and others Unacceptable Growing Stock for Sawtimber 22%

### PRESENT CONDITIONS

#### Stand History and Stand Structure:

This forest area, or stand, is diverse in species and sizes of trees. There has been logging done periodically over the past twenty years, often to harvest spruce and fir, and firewood. A mixed stand is one with 25 to 60 percent softwoods, and with about 40 percent, this stand meet the criteria. The structure is diverse, but most of the basal area is in pole and sawlog size trees, and over all contains two ages, or considered evenage.

The conditions can be seen as many intertwined mini stands; these areas too small to be a stand are lumped together into one large stand with a detailed silvicultural recommendation. These small mini stands can be seen as:

- Dense areas of nearly pure cedar
- Areas of up to 5 acres of spruce and fir, mixed with scattered hardwoods and white pine,
- Areas of nearly pure hardwoods: sugar maple, yellow birch, black cherry, white birch and red maple
- Seedling/saplings of balsam fir and spruce, regenerated
- Small areas of white pine mixed with spruce, fir and cedar
- And in some places nearly all species listed can be found along with black ash.

It is truly a mixture of species and conditions.

#### Regeneration and understory

The seedling/saplings understory is of scattered hardwoods: beech, and browsed ash, maple and other species, and more dense thickets of balsam fir of balsam fir and spruce, regenerated in

places of prior logging and salvage of windthrown fir. The predominance of fir and beech as understory species speaks to the heavy browsing of deer, as these species are much less desirable. Deer that have starved in winter have been found with their bellies full of balsam fir. Also it raising the question about the species composition of the future forest, and the use of small patch cuts to see if through the recommended silviculture for both Forest Area 8 and Forest Area 9, a lasting regeneration can be established, before committing to this procedure.

#### **Site Quality and Growing Conditions**

The soils and site classes on this property are: Vershire and Buckland Soil, Site I, Cabot and Glover soil on the wetter hillside slopes is Site II. Some is Wonsqueak Muck soil, Site IV, located in the nonproductive forest area along the stream, and where there is good cedar on Wonsqueak, the Site Class is Site III, productive forest. The cedar is included in Forest Area 8. Where the beaver flows, and alder beds are located on Wonsqueak, it is Site IV, nonproductive forest. Also there are areas of Nicholville and Roundabout soils near the stream, Site III.

#### **Forest Health**

Overall, no forest insect and disease problems were detected. The one exception is some trunk decay in a few balsam fir. There is some redness in spruce foliage, and ice damage on yellow birch.