

This document can be made available in other accessible formats as soon as practicable and upon request

STAFF REPORT: RECREATION DEPARTMENT



REPORT TO: Infrastructure & Recreation Committee
MEETING DATE: October 23, 2012
REPORT NO.: DOR 12 42
SUBJECT: Swiss Meadows Property Forest Management Plan
PREPARED BY: Terry Green, Manager of Parks & Trails

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 12 42, "Swiss Meadows Property Forest Management Plan" for information purposes.

B. Background

The property is located in Swiss Meadows, Pt Lot 17, Concession 3, Roll #; 42 42 000 05 03200 0000 and the area is 4.25 acres in size.

At the request of Reg Russwurm, Director of Engineering the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority was asked to complete a long and short term management plan and make a recommendation report for the property. The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority has provided and recommended a short term and long term approach to staff for the property. It is recommended that we conduct a stand improvement operation on this forest property to remove trees with insect, disease or defect problems.

It is anticipated that this project will generate revenue in the sale of wood products cover all costs for the improvements to the forest.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Preserving and enhancing natural and environmental features, and cultural heritage of the community.

D. Environmental Impacts

This will make for a healthier forest and retain wildlife habitat.

E. Financial Impact

Funding of this project will be covered through the Parks Operational Budget

Grey Sauble tree marking service \$450.00 HST excluded

Any surplus funds from the sale of wood products are to be put into the tree planting account for future tree planting

F. In Consultation With

Shawn Everitt Director of Recreation
Reg Russwurm Director of Engineering
Anne Lennox Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
Ruth Prince Manager of Revenue

G. Attached

- 1) Report from Grey Sauble Conservation Authorities
- 2) Aerial Photo of property and copy of assessment map

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Green
Manager of Parks & Trails
519-599-1231
Fax: 519-599-7723
tgreen@thebluemountains.ca

Shawn Everitt, Director of Recreation



November 28, 2011

The Blue Mountains
P. O. Box 310, 32 Mill Street
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

237897 Inglis Falls Road, R.R.#4, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5N6
Telephone 519.376.3076 Fax 519.371.0437 Email admin@greysauble.on.ca
www.greysauble.on.ca

RECEIVED

DEC 05 2011

ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS
TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Attention: Mr. John Caswell, Manager of Water and Waste Water Services
Engineering & Public Works Department

Dear John,

Re: Site visit to The Blue Mountains Swiss Meadows Property – Hardwood Forest
Roll #: 42 42 000 005 03200 0000, Area: 4.25 acres

At the request of Reg Russwurm, I conducted a site visit with you at the above-noted property on July 13, 2011.

I have attached a report which summarizes the current condition of this forest and provides both short-term and long-term management recommendations. Please note that Grey Sauble Conservation would be available to assist The Blue Mountains with marking, tendering and monitoring a forest management operation. A copy of our Grey Bruce Forestry Service brochure has been enclosed which outlines the cost for our services.

If you have any questions about this information, do not hesitate to contact me at (519)-376-3076, ext. 232.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anne".

Anne Lennox
Forestry and Wildlife Coordinator

/AL
Enclosures

Member of



Watershed Municipalities

Arran-Elderslie, Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, Grey Highlands,
Meaford, Owen Sound, South Bruce Peninsula, Blue Mountains



Forest Management Report

Location:

Town of The Blue Mountains – Swiss Meadows Property
Pt Lot 17, Concession 3, The Blue Mountains (former Collingwood Twp), Grey County
Roll #: 42 42 000 005 03200 0000
Area: 4.25 acres

Current Forest Condition:

This upland hardwood forest is composed primarily of sugar maple with a small amount of American beech. The trees are approximately 20 m in height, and there are all size classes present – polewood & small-large sawlogs. At this point in time, this stand has a closed canopy which prevents light from reaching the forest floor. Therefore, there is very little natural regeneration occurring in this stand except around the edges where light is available.

The average basal area in this forest is approximately 34 m²/ha. Basal area is a tool used in forestry to determine the stocking of a stand. The average Basal Area for a well stocked hardwood stand in this area should be around 20m²/ha. Basal areas lower than 20 m²/ha indicate that a stand is under-stocked, and Basal areas higher than 20 m²/ha indicate that a stand is over-stocked. According to these guidelines, this forest is currently over-stocked.

There are also a fair number of health concerns in this stand – insect, disease and defect problems. Trees with these problems pose a safety risk because they are prone to breakage.

- Disease Problems – Eutypella Canker (Sugar Maple)
- Insect Problems – Wood Borer (Sugar Maple),
Scale insect (American Beech – precursor for Beech Bark Disease)
- Defects – Seams with black bark,
Broken tops & branches

Wildlife Habitat:

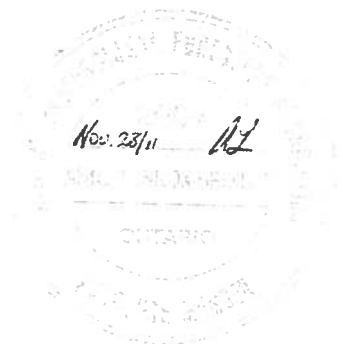
This forest also provides habitat for wildlife – several nesting, feeding and escape cavities were noted, and American beech is a mast species.

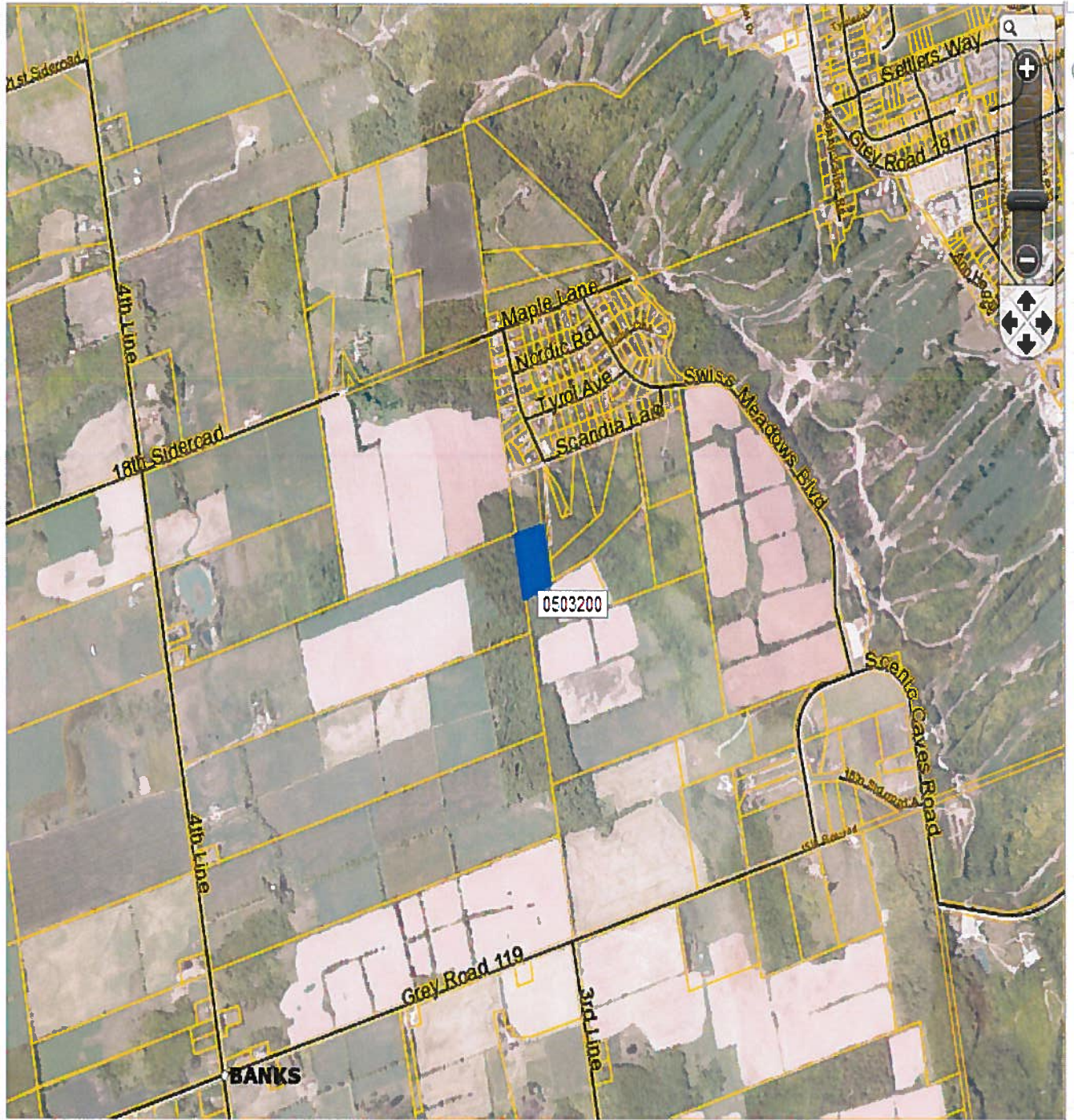
Long-term Management Recommendation

Manage this forest as an uneven-aged forest using the selection silvicultural system which will produce high quality wood products at regular intervals, usually every 15-20 years. Encourage more species diversity and retain wildlife habitat features such as cavity trees and mast trees in this forest.

Short-term Management Recommendation:

Conduct a stand improvement operation in this forest to remove trees with insect, disease or defect problems. Have this stand marked by Certified Tree Markers according to a prescription prepared by a member of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA). Sell the wood products to a reputable operator under a signed contract which outlines the terms and conditions of the sale.





etre) 1 feature selected 1: 20000.00 2.47 x 2.06 (mi) Powered by MARMAC



