

Continuing discussion of creating a Forest Management plan on Raymond's Town Forest
by Gregory Foster

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I planned on doing the field work on the Files property, of the Egypt Road, this past spring before the leaves came out. Unfortunately, I was unable to do this, due to poor weather and other commitments, and began the timber cruise on June 6th. After completing the eighth plot, I dropped the prism used to determine which trees are in the sample plot, and was unable to find it. Several days later, I picked up where I left off and completed the timber cruise toward the end of June.

On this 75 acre parcel, I planned on getting 61 plots, or one plot per 1.2 acres, but was only able to locate 53 plots. A fairly recently created beaver dam has created standing water where there once was forest, explaining in part why 61 plots were not taken. Two forest types have been identified on this lot. Sample plot data in these two types has been combined and processed to represent timber volume and other statistics by stand type.

A lot of history appears on this forest property. A significant portion of it was excavated many years ago, probably for gravel to build roads, driveways, and other things. Large boulders pushed aside remain, as a result of this work. Toward the Farwell bog end of the property, this excavation has resulted in seasonally flooded ground with many alders and is now a vegetated wetland.

By counting annual growth rings and noting the growth rate on stumps, it appears that timber harvesting happened in the 1940's. By counting the whorls of branches of regenerated white pine seedlings, it is likely the most recent timber sale occurred around the year 2000.



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