

NEETZ LOT

The Neetz Lot is in the Town of Grove. It is located on the west side of England Hill Road, across the road from the Helmer Lot. The Lot was purchased in 1951 and contains 60 acres.

This Lot was once part of a farm. Upon acquiring the Lot, the open land was planted to conifers. Two ponds were constructed for recreation, wildlife and fire control. Two wildlife shrubs, honeysuckle and multiflora rose were planted for food and cover for wildlife. These shrubs are spreading to parts of the Lot by the wildlife that is eating their seeds, if left unchecked; they will take over the understory and shade out the seedlings of the desirable timber species. This creates a serious problem when it is time to regenerate the stand.

On the southern boundary of the Lot, there is a line marked with blue-green markings. This line was put in as a result of an inaccurate survey and is not the true boundary line. The original boundary line was marked in vertical yellow strips, which are now faded and hard to find. The adjacent landowner, Stephen Rauber, had the line surveyed and is quite knowledgeable about the true location of the line. He lives in the Village of Ossian.

STAND #1: Conifers and Hardwoods – Poles and Small Sawtimber – 12 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Sawtimber	Scotch pine red pine aspen	
Poles & Saplings	red maple white ash	aspen beech shagbark hickory sugar maple black cherry red pine Scotch pine

Stand #1 is abandoned agricultural land planted to Scotch pine and red pine. There were more Scotch pine than red pine. The pines were planted off site, have poor crowns, and are experiencing heavy mortality. There are patches of large bigtooth aspen that seeded in the stand.

The stand is breaking up, allowing a lot of light in the stand. The stand is gradually reverting to hardwoods, with hardwood poles and saplings coming in the stand. Unfortunately heavy honeysuckle has also come in by the road. This will prevent the survival of any new seedlings coming in the stand, unless the honeysuckle is eradicated. It will halt the hardwood succession process before the stand becomes fully stocked. The result will be an understocked stand of hardwoods in the overstory with a pure honeysuckle understory. The conifers should be harvested and the honeysuckle eradicated.

STAND #2: Conifers and Hardwoods – Poles – 7 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	Scotch pine red pine red maple	shagbark hickory red oak white ash

Stand #2 was also abandoned agricultural land planted to Scotch pine and red pine. The pines were planted off site and have poor crowns. The stand is being taken over by hardwoods. The conversion to hardwoods is further advanced in this stand than in Stand #1. There are more hardwoods than conifers, and the overstory has closed in. The hardwoods are larger in diameter than in Stand #1. The conifers that are left are smaller in diameter than in Stand #1. There is honeysuckle in the understory, but not as dense as in Stand #1. It should be eradicated.

The conifers should be harvested and the remaining hardwoods thinned where needed. There will be enough hardwoods to provide a fully stocked stand with a honeysuckle understory, if the honeysuckle is not eradicated. There is a small clump of large hardwoods near the pond. It is too small an area to be a stand by itself.

STAND #3: Hardwoods – Small Sawtimber and Poles – 26 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Small Sawtimber & Poles	red oak	
Saplings	red maple white ash sugar maple beech ironwood	

Stand #3 is an even aged red oak stand with most of the trees being between 10 and 14 inches in diameter. This is a good stand with high potential.

The stand had a light timber harvest several years ago, probably 1999. This amounted to a commercial thinning. The crowns have not closed in completely yet, but a few more trees could be thinned out to promote better diameter growth on the better trees. The timber harvest promoted some chestnut sprouts, so we know there was American chestnut in the previous stand before the blight. There is also a little Striped maple in the understory. It should be eradicated before it becomes a problem. It acts a lot like the honeysuckle.

The saplings in the understory contain very little oak. There will be 2 or 3 more oak timber sales, depending on how conservative the cutting is, and the stand will be converted to hardwoods other than oak. Oaks in the new stand will be only a minor component. The stand should be checked in 10 years (2022) to see if it is ready for a commercial thinning by sawtimber harvest.

STAND #4: Hardwoods – Small Sawtimber and Poles – 7 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Small Sawtimber & Poles	red oak white oak	aspen
Saplings	red maple pignut hickory white oak red oak ironwood	

Stand #4 had a timber harvest 10 to 15 years ago, probably 1999. There were large oaks with big crowns taken out of the stand, especially in the southwest corner. The stocking varies considerably throughout the stand. The stand is quite open in places. There are red and white oak and aspen in the overstory. The most common diameter of the trees left is 14 inches. The reproduction is mostly red maple saplings. It varies from light to heavy throughout the stand. No work is needed in the stand.

STAND #5: Conifers and Hardwoods – Poles and Saplings – 3 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	Scotch pine larch	red maple
Saplings	red maple	aspen red oak

Stand #5 is abandoned agricultural land planted to Scotch pine and larch. The larch and pine were planted off site at close spacing. Some trees are only 4 feet apart. The stand was never thinned, and the crowns of the conifers are small. There are hardwood saplings and a few small poles, mostly red maple, that have seeded in the stand. The larch and Scotch pine have reached their full potential and should be harvested. The hardwood saplings will be damaged in the harvest operation, but will sprout vigorously and develop into a good stand of hardwoods, mostly red maple.

STAND #6: Conifers and Hardwoods – Poles and Saplings – 4 acres

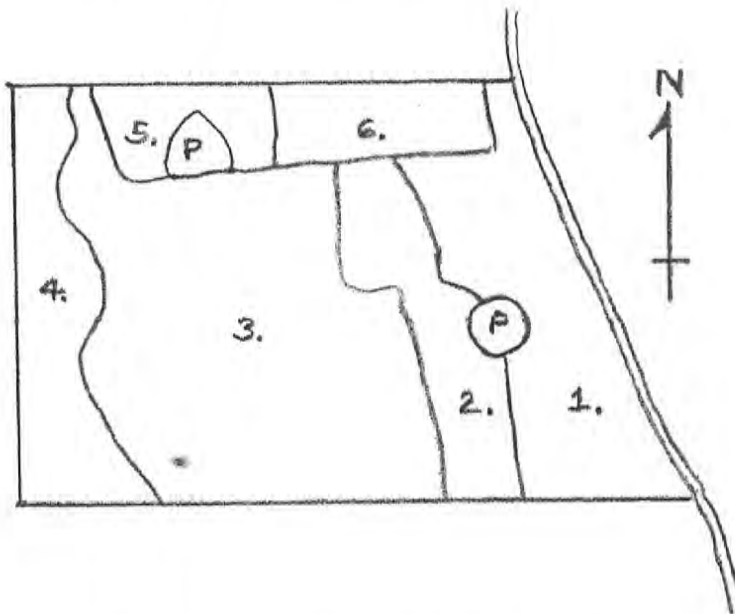
	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	larch	red maple
Saplings	red maple	aspen red oak

Stand #6 is the same as #5 except #6 is all larch. After the conifers are harvested, Stands #5 and 6 should be combined.

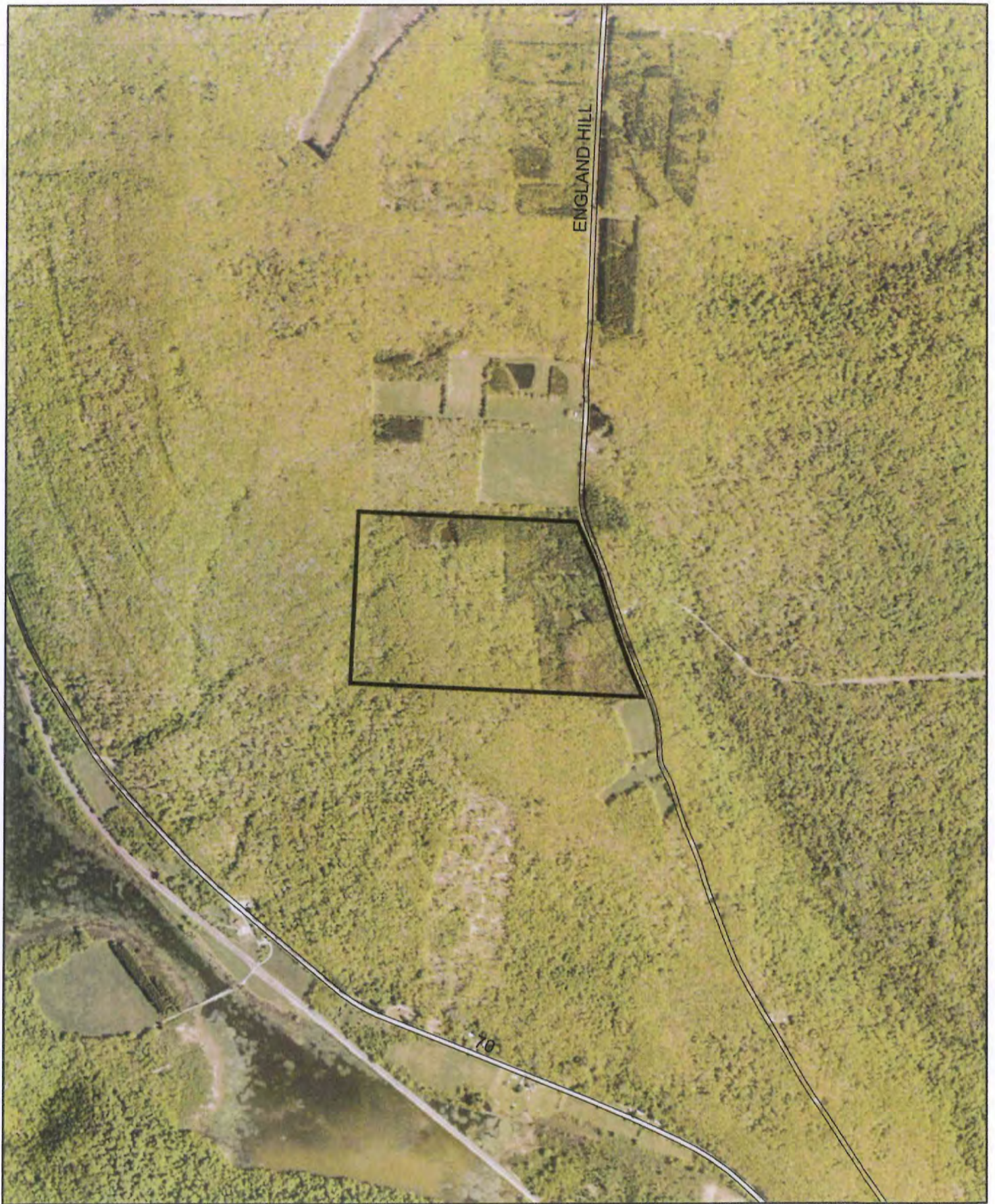
RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Harvest all conifers in Stands #1, 2, 5 and 6. Include Stand #2 on the Helmer Lot in the sale.
2. Do a pre-commercial thinning of the hardwoods in Stand #2 after the pines are harvested.
3. Do invasive species control in Stands #1 and 2. Eradicate Striped maple in Stand #3.
4. Check Stand #3 in year 2022 to see if it is ready for a commercial thinning by sawtimber sale.
5. Maintain boundary lines.

NEETZ LOT



SCALE: 1" = 10 CHAINS (660')



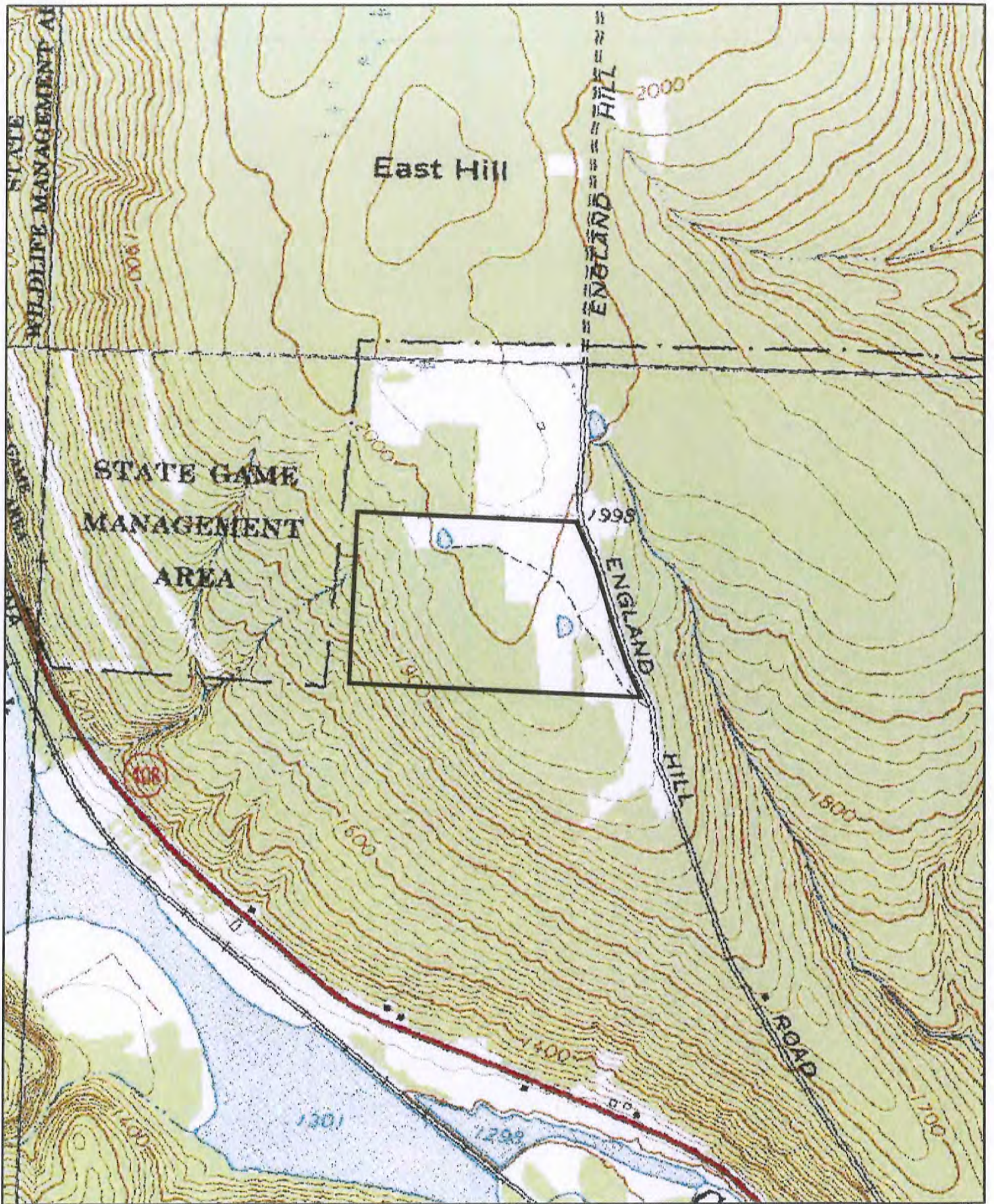
ENGLAND HILL

70

Allegany County Forest
Neetz Lot
Town of Grove
Map Updated: 2/7/2012

1 inch equals 1,000 feet





Allegheny County Forest
 Neetz Lot
 Town of Grove
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1 inch equals 1,000 feet

