

GRIFFIN LOT

The Griffin Lot is in the Town of Birdsall. It is located on the south side of the Klipnocky Road. The eastern boundary line is the Birdsall – Almond Town line. The property contains 44.5 acres, and was purchased in 1952.

A small portion of the Lot adjacent to the Klipnocky Road was cleared for agriculture. The County planted it to conifers when it acquired the property. The beaver have dammed up a stream, creating a wetland in the middle of the property.

STAND #1: Hardwoods – Poles and Saplings – 1 acre

	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	aspen	white ash sugar maple red maple
Seedling – Sapling	blue beech white ash sugar maple red maple	

Stand #1 is abandoned agricultural land seeded into hardwoods. This is a narrow strip along the Klipnocky Road. There are poles, mostly aspen, in the stand. The aspen should be removed where red and sugar maple poles and saplings can be favored. This should be done pre-commercially. There is honeysuckle in the stand that should be eradicated before it becomes a problem.

STAND #2: Red Pine – Poles – 0.5 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	red pine	
Seedling – Saplings	white ash blue beech ironwood	

Stand #2 is abandoned agricultural land planted to red pine at 4 foot by 4 foot spacing. The pine has small crowns and it has reached its full potential. It should be harvested and the stand converted to hardwoods.

STAND #3: Norway Spruce – Poles and Small Sawtimber – 0.5 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Small Sawtimber & Poles	Norway spruce aspen red maple	white ash

Stand #3 is abandoned agricultural land planted to Norway spruce at close spacing. Some hardwoods also seeded in the stand. Most of the trees are poles, but a few have reached small sawtimber size. The stand is overstocked and needs a pre-commercial thinning. The good hardwoods have more potential

value than the spruce, and should be favored in the thinning. The red maple clumps should be thinned and the poor quality hardwoods removed. Harvest the aspen along with the red pine in Stand #2.

STAND #4: Hardwoods – Poles and Small Sawtimber – 1 acre

	Major Species	Minor Species
Poles	aspen	red oak sugar maple red maple white ash
Small Sawtimber	red oak	aspen

Stand #4 is a long narrow strip of former agricultural land, between the conifers and the existing hardwoods. It seeded into hardwoods that are now mostly poles, with a few small sawtimber size trees. There are red oaks with the potential to produce high quality timber, mixed in with trees of other species.

The stand is overstocked and needs a thinning to favor the oaks. The aspen could be removed with the red pine in Stand #2, when it is harvested. The rest of the thinning can be done pre-commercially or in a small fuelwood sale.

STAND #5: Hardwoods – Sawtimber, Poles and Seedling – Sapling – 6 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Sawtimber	red oak white ash	
Poles	sugar maple red maple basswood white ash	
Seedling – Sapling	blue beech	white ash sugar maple red oak

Stand #5 originally a mostly red oak stand with large sawtimber. The stand had a timber harvest in 2003, when the largest oaks were harvested. There are still a few large red oak and white ash sawtimber trees left. There are also poles of other species. The oaks that were harvested had large crowns, so a high percentage of the overstory was removed. This has allowed enough light to the forest floor to reproduce the stand. The next generation of trees will be hardwoods, but red oak will only be a minor component.

The understory is filling in slowly, and there is a lot of blue beech coming in. The blue beech is quite heavy in one part of the stand. The timber size oaks should be left until the stand is completely reproduced, in order to get as much oak in the next stand as possible. There are a few poor quality oaks that should be left for wildlife. Honeysuckle and multiflora rose are starting to come in and should be eradicated.

STAND #6: Hardwoods – Small Sawtimber, Poles and Seedling – Sapling – 24 acres

	Major Species	Minor Species
Small Sawtimber	sugar maple	black cherry basswood beech white ash red oak
Poles	sugar maple	basswood
Seedling – Sapling	sugar maple	white ash black cherry ironwood blue beech beech red oak Cucumber Elderberry

Stand #6 was an even aged stand of mature sugar maple. It is being harvested and regenerated by the Shelterwood Method. This method is where the overstory is removed in a series of cuts, to make sure there are enough seedlings to completely fill in the understory. The last cut is not made until successful regeneration is guaranteed.

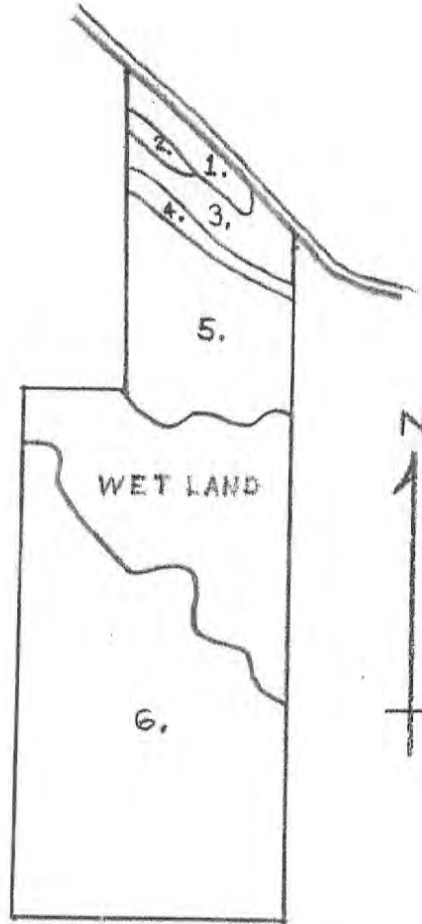
The first harvest cut was in 2003. Enough large trees were harvested to get the reproduction started. There are still sawtimber and pole sized trees in the overstory. There are enough seedlings and saplings of the high value species coming in, to make the next stand a high quality stand. The next cut should occur in about 17 years (2029).

There is some multiflora rose and honeysuckle getting started. It should be eradicated. There is minor porcupine damage in the stand. Sugar maple is a preferred species of the porcupine. The stand should be checked periodically for porcupine damage.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Harvest the red pine in Stand #2 if a buyer can be found for a small sale.
2. Harvest the aspen in Stands #1, 3, and 4 along with the pine in Stand #2 if a willing buyer can be found.
3. Do a pre-commercial thinning in Stands #1 and 3.
4. Do a pre-commercial thinning or a commercial thinning through a fuelwood sale in Stand #4.
5. Do invasive species control in Stands #1, 5 and 6.
6. Make an annual check for porcupine damage in Stand #4.
7. Check Stand #4 for a sawtimber harvest in 2029.
8. Maintain the boundary lines.

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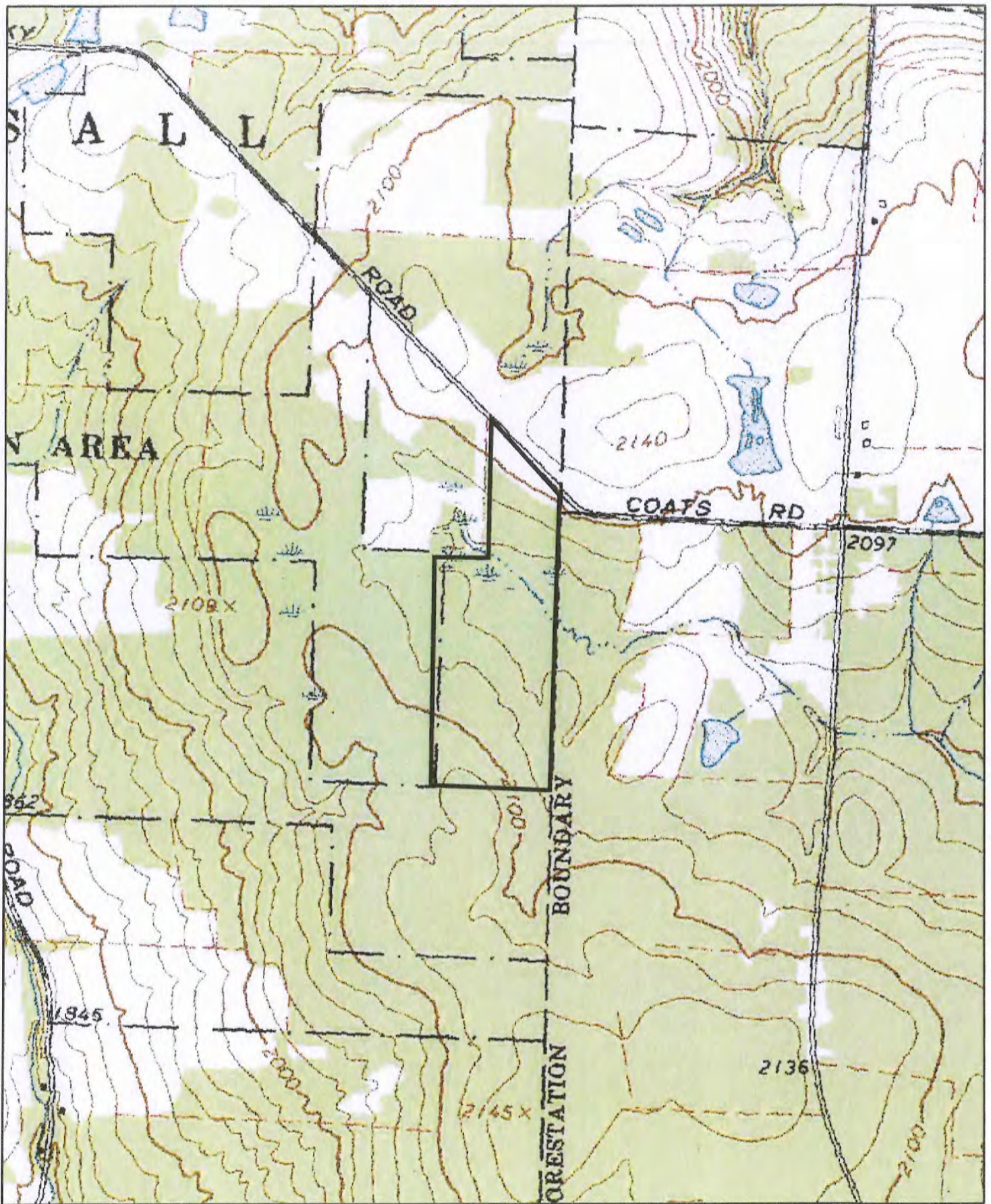
SCALE: 1" = 10 CHAINS (660')



Allegheny County Forest
Griffin Lot
Town of Birdsall
Map Updated: 2/7/2012

1 inch equals 1,000 feet





Allegheny County Forest
 Griffen Lot
 Town of Birdsall
 Map Updated: 2/7/2012

1 inch equals 1,000 feet

