



Interim Forest Management Plan

Property Identifiers

Property Name and Designation (multiple small properties can be grouped): **Hartman Creek State Park**

County(ies): **Portage, Waupaca**

Property Acreage: **1468 acres**

Forestry Property Code(s): **6964**

Master Plan Date (if property has one): **1984**

Part 1: Property Assessment (1-2 pages maximum)

The following items should be considered during the property assessment. Not all sections may be relevant for all properties.

General Property Description

- Landscape and regional context
- History of land use and past management

Hartman Creek State Park is located in two ecological landscapes, Central Sand Hills and Forest Transition, and in two Landtype Associations, 222Kb03 Wild Rose-Wautoma Moraine Complex and 212Ta13 Amherst-Waupaca Moraine complex. Hartman Creek SP is neither within a Conservation Opportunity Area nor an Important Bird Area.

The property began as farmland with hops, row crops, and apple orchards being grown at one time or another. Four lakes were created as part of a fish hatchery. The Department began to acquire the property in 1939. In 1960, after use as a fish hatchery was discontinued, the property was conveyed to the State Parks program.

Oaks dominate many acres, and there are several stands of natural origin pine. Approximately 25% of the state park was planted to conifer plantations, consisting primarily of red and white pine. These plantations were established over a number of years, starting in the 1930's and ending in the late 1970s. Grasslands are common within the Park, with several field acres still being cropped.

Site Specifics

- Current forest types, percent of property acreage, age class, and size class
 - Oak (33%) - 480 acres consisting mostly of black, pin, and white oak. 97% of the oak resource is between 100 and 140 years old with origins between 1872 and 1912. Generally accepted rotation age for oak on these sites is between 90 and 110 years. The majority of oak is 15+ inches in diameter.
 - Red Pine (21%) – 305 acres planted in plantation form between 1937 and 1977. Nearly 47% of the red pine is 66 years old and older and planted prior to 1946. Generally accepted rotation age of red pine on these sites is between 90 and 110 years. The majority of red pine is between 9 and 15 inches in diameter.



Interim Forest Management Plan

- White Pine (6%) – 90 acres total, 69% of which was planted in plantation form between 1933 and 1958. Tree diameters within the plantations are between 9 and 15 inches. The remaining 31% of white pine are natural stands with origins prior to 1890. Generally accepted rotation age of white pine on these sites is between 150 and 200 years. Diameters in the natural origin stands are generally greater than 15 inches.
- Other, minor forest types:
 - Aspen (2%) 27 acres, 1 stand (5 acres) originated in 2012, a second stand (22 acres) originated in 1990. Generally accepted rotation age is 50 years.
 - Red maple (2%) 31 acres; 2 stands: 18 acres that originated in 2000, 13 acres that originated in 1933. Generally accepted rotation age is 80-100 years.
 - Central hardwoods (0.3%) 4 acres that originated in 1990 and is primarily locust. Generally accepted rotation age is 60 years.
 - Bottomland hardwoods (1%) in the 11-15 inch size class
 - Tamarack (0.7%) 10 acres that originated in 1934. Generally accepted rotation age is 60-90 years.
- State Natural Area designations
 - Emmons Creek Barrens (45 acres-partly on Emmons Creek Fishery Area)
 - Pope Lake (80 acres)
- High Value Conservation Forests (HCVF) or other resources/natural community types limited in the landscape
 - Natural origin white pine stands
 - Potential old growth oak stands
- Biotic Inventory status: No completed or planned inventory
- Deferral/consultation area designations (refer to the following website): No draft or final sites
- Rare species: Northern cricket frog (END), Barn Owl (END), Red-shouldered Hawk (THR), Blanding's turtle (THR), Wood turtle (THR), marsh valerian (THR), Karner blue butterfly (SC, Fed END), Bina flower moth (SC/N), Seaside grasshopper (SC/N)
- Invasive species: Include garlic mustard, bush honeysuckles, common buckthorn, spotted knapweed, Japanese hedge parsley, winged burning bush
- Soils: sandy loams, loamy sands, sands, muck

Cultural and Recreational Considerations

- Cultural and archeological sites (including tribal sites)
Archaeological and historical sites present

Part 2: IFMP Components (1-2 pages maximum)

Management Objectives (Outline primary forest management objectives):

1. Conifer plantations
 - a. Promote the health, vigor, and growth of pine resource.
 - b. Enhance, maintain, and protect recreational opportunities within plantations.
 - c. Provide for Park visitor safety.
 - d. Limit introduction and spread of invasive species.
 - e. Protect water quality of associated lakes, streams, and wetlands.
 - f. Promote conversion to deciduous species where applicable.
2. Hardwood stands



Interim Forest Management Plan

- a. Enhance, maintain, and protect recreational opportunities.
- b. Provide for Park visitor safety in developed areas.
3. Whispering Pines and other natural origin pine stands
 - a. Enhance, maintain, and protect recreational opportunities.
 - b. Promote large diameter trees.
 - c. Provide for Park visitor safety.

Property Prescriptions (Identify specific and pertinent prescriptions by area or forest type, including passive management areas, extended rotation, and other information that will help achieve the objectives):

1. Conifer plantations:
 - a. Manage according to standard silvicultural practices outlined in DNR silvicultural handbook.
 - b. Adhere to Park's "Timber Harvest Guidance" when establishing timber sales.
 - c. Maintain the use of timber sales as an option in wide spread hazard tree management.
 - d. Follow BMP's for invasive species
 - e. Follow BMP's for water quality.
 - f. Look for opportunities to release deciduous regeneration. Continue to maintain existing deciduous trees for seed production.
2. Hardwood Stands
 - a. In general, passive management – allow natural succession to take place. Future cover types will likely consist of white pine and red maple.
 - b. When feasible, utilize timber sales to address hazard tree removal and widespread hazard tree management within developed recreational areas (campground, etc.)
3. Whispering Pines and other natural origin pine stands
 - a. Recognize natural origin stands as high conservation forest.
 - b. Management will utilize big tree silviculture per DNR silviculture handbook.
 - c. When feasible, utilize timber sales to address hazard tree removal and widespread hazard tree management within developed recreational areas (picnic area, etc.)

Approvals:

District Ecologist Date

Forester Date

Property Manager Date

Area/Team Supervisor Date