



# Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area Interim Forest Management Plan

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## Property Identifiers

Property Name and Designation: **Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area**

County: **Oneida**

Property Acreage: **3,994**

Forestry Property Code: **4405**

Master Plan Date: **None**

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## Part 1: Property Assessment

### General Property Description

Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area is located about ten miles west of Rhinelander in the Town of Woodboro. It consists of about 3,994 acres with a variety of upland forests with six small lakes. The forests are mostly aspen and white birch with areas of red oak, red maple and white pine.

The Roe Lake - Stag Lake Unit occurs about three miles south of the main Woodboro Wildlife Area. This 500-acre area contains about half the frontage on Roe and Stag Lakes. The habitat is young aspen forest. Hunting and trapping are allowed and the area is accessible via the Roe Lake Road and logging roads.

- **Landscape and regional context:** This property is located in the Northern Highland Ecological Landscape with 3 Land Type Associations (LTA): Oneida Sandy Moraines (212Xb07), Rhinelander Moraines (212Xb08), and the Vilas-Oneida Loamy Hills (212Xb05).
- **History of land use and past management:** The property was purchased from a paper company in 1999 as part of The Great Addition. The main feature is the group of undeveloped, small lakes with scattered areas of old pine and oak forest. Past wildlife management includes the maintenance of hunter walking trails and early successional habitat work to improve grouse and upland species game management.

### Site Specifics

- **Current forest types, size classes and successional stages**
  - 1900 acres of aspen
  - 524 Non-commercial acres (lakes, streams, marshes, roads, etc.)
  - 491 acres of red maple
  - 399 acres of red oak
  - 195 acres of white pine
  - 142 acres of red pine
  - 120 acres of tamarack
  - 103 acres of northern hardwood
  - 63 acres of black spruce
  - 18 acres of white birch
  - 17 acres of jack pine
  - 16 acres of cedar
  - 6 acres of fir-spruce



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- **State Natural Area designations:** None
- **High Value Conservation Forests (HCVF) or other resources/natural community types limited in the landscape:** No drafts or final designations.
- **Biotic Inventory status:** None
- **Deferral/consultation area designations (refer to the following website):** None
- **Rare species:** Protected species and high-quality examples of native communities have been documented on Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area. NHI screening will be conducted prior to all future management activities.
- **Invasive species:** if detected on state lands, invasive exotic plants will be controlled using appropriate and effective methods as approved by state BMP's while also taking consideration of any sensitive areas.
- **Soils:** Soils are predominantly well drained sandy loam over acid loamy sand till or outwash.

## Cultural and Recreational Considerations

- **Cultural and archeological sites (including tribal sites):** The Vilas County Archaeological and Historical Sites map (WDNR, 2012) indicates some Historical sites adjacent to these properties. All known sites are to be protected during forest management operations.
- **Recreational Use:** The lakes at Woodboro are small, shallow and contain no game fish. An extensive logging road network runs through the property but access is limited to high clearance and four-wheel drive vehicles (no ATVs are allowed).

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

### Management Objectives (Outline primary forest management objectives):

- Sustainably manage this property
- Manage each stand after consultation with the property manager to determine specific objectives for the particular area
- Incorporate landscape scale opportunities into management decisions to include:
  - (1) protecting kettle lakes
  - (2) restoring red and white pine types
  - (3) restoring hemlock-hardwood forests
  - (4) improving forest composition and structure.
  - (5) protecting rare and endangered species and habitats
- Naturally regenerate stands whenever possible
- Maintain aspen acreage, managing for increased age diversity for wildlife
- Maintain small jack pine component of the property for wildlife
- Passively manage wet and remote stands as deemed practical

### 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):



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- Manage aspen on an even-aged basis, using a coppice with standards silvicultural system. Pine, cedar, hemlock and oak will be favored as retention trees.
- Manage jack pine on an even-aged basis, using a clear cut silvicultural system followed by site preparation and planting as needed.
- Manage black spruce and tamarack on an even-aged basis using a strip clear cut silvicultural system in larger stands and a seed tree system in small stands.
- Manage red oak on an even-aged basis, with an extended rotation on dry- mesic/mesic sites, using the 2 or 3 step shelterwood regeneration method. Maintain the existing acreage of red oak (with white & red pine as associates)
  - There are burr oaks present that will be maintained.
  - Manage for extended rotations and old growth characteristics
  - Use a variety of site preparation techniques to develop red oak regeneration
  - Maintain 5 to 10 mature, full-canopied red oaks per acre as reserve trees
- Manage red maple as even-aged, regenerating by coppice, shelterwood, group selection or as otherwise defined in the WDNR Silvicultural Handbook.
- Manage red and white pine stands on an extended rotation, regenerating either by group selection, shelterwood or by clear cut and replanting. Manage for old growth characteristics. Maintain the existing acreage of white & red pine (with red oak as an associate). Passively manage small, scattered stands (swamp islands, lake shorelines, and very small stands).
- Manage northern hardwood on an all-aged basis, creating all age classes through the installation of canopy gaps and thinning.
- Use passive management in cedar and hemlock stands

Approvals:

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Regional Ecologist Date

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Forester Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Manager Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Area/Team Supervisor Date