

TIMBER HARVEST SCHEDULE 10-Year Cycle

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Harvest Area (Acres)</u>	<u>Harvest Volume (MBF)*</u>
A	#1 Route 22 North	40	80 (28%)
A	#5 Lower Ridge	50	170 (25%)
B	#6A Middle Ridge, North	40	90 (11%)
B	#7B Upper Ridge, South	50	120 (21%)
B	#9B Pine Lodge	18	60 (20%)
C	#2 Route 22, South	35	50 (16%)
C	#6A Middle Ridge, North	30	70 (8%)
C	#8 South Branch Tom's Run	38	100 (21%)
C	#7A Upper Ridge, North	40	60 (22%)
TOTALS =		341 acres	800 MBF (20%)

*** (%) indicates % of total timber volume from unit recommended for removal.**

The priorities above are set in a relative order of stand/unit silvicultural needs. They can be changed if economic conditions for forest products dictate. Storm events, disease outbreaks and park development may also alter the priorities. Forest recreation units should be inspected for any hazard or defective tree removal work to be done in conjunction with the above harvests.

A reasonable time period to implement the harvest would be over a 10-year cycle. At that time the stewardship plan should be updated.

The projected harvest is approximately 50% of the estimated 10-year net in-growth (timber volume increase minus decay and mortality).

Anticipated revenues will depend on the actual values at the time of sale. The *Tract Summary* provides current values. A professional forester with knowledge of economic conditions of the forest industry should be consulted prior to harvesting any unit.

Timber Harvest and Marking Procedures

Harvest Procedures

This plan recommends silvicultural treatments that include timber harvest operations for certain management units.

It is recommended that all timber harvested be selectively marked and a forester prepare the subsequent timber sale. The supervision of the harvest will be the responsibility of the forester. The timber harvest will require a publicly advertised sale with sealed bids. The County Commissioners, Park Advisory Board and Park Staff, with guidance from the forester, should set the terms and conditions of the sale.

It is necessary that an operating procedure be developed for the conduct of such harvest work to insure that the goals of this Plan are met. General rules for recommended timber harvests are as follows:

1. Primary consideration must be given to protecting the resources of Pine Ridge Park as set forth in this plan.
2. All access roads should be planned, constructed and maintained under the supervision of park personnel and the forester. Existing roads and trails should be used as much as possible.
3. Roads, trails, and landings should be installed and maintained using Best Management Practices. All harvested trees should be utilized to the maximum commercial (diameter) limit.
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5. Logging slash (tops) should be cut and lopped to lay within six feet of the ground so that soil moisture and fungi will hasten decomposition which will benefit the soil, while still offer protection from deer browsing. Slash should be cut lower in buffer areas.
6. All disturbed areas should be planted with a suitable grass and legume mixture.

7. Harvest work should be scheduled, when practical, during low park usage times and dry frozen soil conditions.

Marking Procedures

Proper marking and tree selection procedures are dependent upon individual site and stand conditions and should be based on recommendations of the forester, providing the recommendations are consistent with this plan in regard to tree selection, basal area, and stocking guidelines.

Tree selection should, where practical, attempt to meet wildlife requirements and consider sensitive plants, animals, and all parts of the ecosystem. Den trees and bee trees should be protected. Sufficient mast trees should be retained.

Buffer zones for little or no cut areas should be established for trails, roads, and high use areas. The Indiana County Parks & Trails Department should set the width and location of the buffer zones.

Glossary of Forestry Terms

Basal Area. A measure of stand density. It is represented in the average square feet per acre of the cross-sectional area of the trees growing on that area.

Board Foot. A unit of wood 1 inch thick, 12 inches long, and 12 inches wide. One board foot contains 144 cubic inches of wood.

Bole. The trunk or lower portion of the tree.

Crown. Top portion of the tree with leaves and branches.

Crown Class. An evaluation of an individual tree's crown in relation to its position in the canopy and the amount of sunlight it receives. The four crown categories are dominant, codominant, intermediate and overtopped or suppressed.

DBH. Diameter in inches at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground), usually written in small letters, dbh.

Den tree. A tree with cavities or holes in which birds, mammals, or insects such as bees may nest.

MBF. Refers to sawtimber volumes in "thousands" of board feet.

Pole Stand. A stand of trees with dbh ranging from 5 to 9 inches.

Sawlog or Sawtimber. A log large enough to yield lumber. Usually the small end of the log must be at least 10-12 inches in diameter for hardwoods.

Stocking. A qualitative reference to stand density that compares the existing number of trees and diameters to the number desired for optimum growth. Commonly referred to as *full*, *under* or *over* stocked.

Selection Cut. A regeneration cut designed to create and perpetuate an uneven-aged forest. Trees may be removed singly or in groups.

Shelterwood. A regeneration cut designed to stimulate reproduction by removing all overstory trees. This is achieved by a series of cuts over several years.

SILVAH. An inventory assessment tool. The USDA Forest Service developed it at Warren, PA. It is an acronym for Silviculture of Allegheny Hardwoods. It has been adapted for other forest types.

Slash. Branches, tops and cull trees left on the ground following a harvest. Some slash can be used for firewood or arranged in piles for wildlife cover. Left scattered slash can protect seedlings and sprouts from deer browsing and reduce soil erosion.

Species Richness. The number of tree species present in a forest community or area.

Stewardship. The wise management and use of forest resources to ensure the health and productivity of the forest for future generations.

Transition Hardwoods. A timber type cover that is usually associated with tulip poplar, red maple, and red oak. It often is established on an area in "transition" from farmland to forestland.

Variable Plot Cruise. A forest inventory method that uses a calibrated glass prism to determine "count" trees. Larger diameter trees are measured more than smaller trees by mathematical formula. For example, a 12inch dbh tree can be 33 feet from the plot center; a 24-inch tree, 66 feet.

Wolf Tree. A large, excessively branched tree that occupies more space in the forest than surrounding trees. Wolf trees have high aesthetic and wildlife value, but usually little timber value.