

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDE

Compartment: 1
County: Martin

Tract: 3
Section: 3

Acreage: 25
Township: 4N

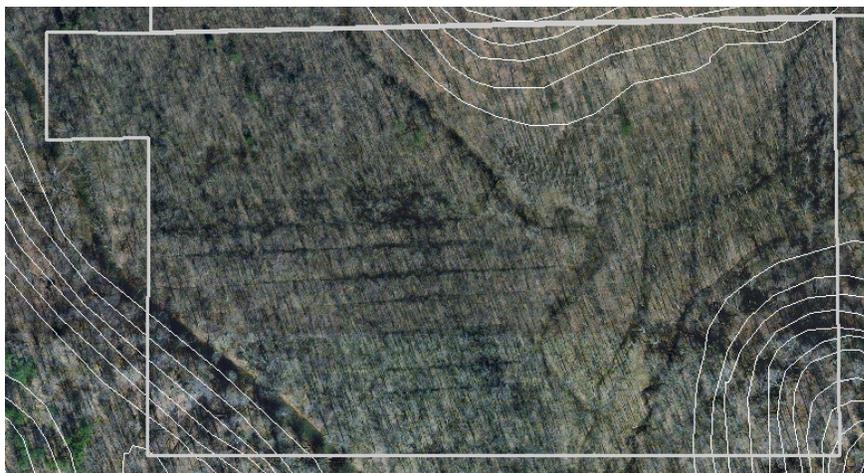
Range: 3W

FORESTER'S NARRATIVE

By: Abe Bear

ROADS AND BOUNDARIES:

This tract touches no public roads and has very restricted access. The tract boundaries are poorly marked. The east line is marked by a mostly downed fence and heavy cable embedded in trees. A fence intersection marks the northeast corner. This is the only corner with any hard evidence. The south line is unmarked as is the west line. The north line is an internal boundary. Tract 13 lies to the north. No stones were found during the inventory. Possible locations would be at the northeast corner (1/4 section line), and along the north line at the 1/4 Quarter. Due to the frequency of flooding in this area, any stones set long ago are most likely buried.

**TRACT DESCRIPTION:**

The bulk of this tract is a flat wet bottomland. Linear furrows and young timber indicate a history of agriculture. Some uplands are present on the fringes of the tract. Overall timber value is low. Common species include sycamore, red maple, sweetgum, and tulip poplar. Most trees are of small to medium sawtimber size. Spacing is tight and stocking levels are high. Areas in the center and west end of the tract have been planted to sweetgum, probably in the 1960s. Survivorship was good and trees are now 12-18 inches in diameter. Timber harvesting is unlikely due to the poor access, very wet soil, and low timber value. For specific species distributions, refer to TM901.

SOILS:

The majority of this tract is composed of Wirt fine sandy loam. This is a level, well drained bottomland soil which is frequently flooded. The agricultural history on this site may have contributed to soil compaction which is restricting drainage. Wirt fine sandy loam is poorly suited for road building and log yards due to the frequency of flooding.

HISTORY:

Resource Management

This was part of a purchase by the federal government in 1937. The land was previously owned by Mary and Joseph Inman. The state of Indiana later acquired the land from the U.S. Forest Service.

A 1972 recon by Martin State Forest staff indicated the area was a wet brushy floodplain. No merchantable timber was recorded. Total tract volume at the time was only 15,994 board feet. No other work had been performed on this tract prior to the 2010 inventory.

Cultural Resources

No evidence of any cultural resources was observed on this tract.

RECREATION AND WILDLIFE:

This tract is well suited to wetland wildlife given the proximity to Sulpher Creek and the presence of ephemeral pools. During the inventory, many frogs were heard calling. Turkey, deer, and ruffed grouse were also observed. The isolated nature of this tract makes it a sanctuary for game, as it receives very little hunting pressure.

A wildlife Habitat Feature inventory was conducted to assess the structural wildlife habitat. Legacy trees, Snags, and Cavity trees were recorded. The tract was lacking in number of 20"+ DBH legacy trees, 9"+ DBH and 19"+ DBH snags. Cavity trees were adequate in all size classes.

A review of the Natural Heritage Database revealed no database elements within one mile of the tract.

WATERSHED:

Water from this area flows into Sulpher Creek, Sulpher Creek flows south to join with Indian Creek and eventually drains into the East Fork of the White River.

SILVICULTURAL PRESCRIPTION

By: Abe Bear

Due to the poor access and low value timber, no timber harvesting is foreseeable future on this tract. The current stocking level is high, but trees are of small diameter. This timber is best left to grow and develop on its own.

The property lines are poorly marked on this tract. The south and west lines are unclear. State forest land lies to the north, so that area is of no concern. The shapefile on record was incorrect, but has since been corrected based on measurements from the deed. No field recon has been conducted using the updated shapefile as a guide. It is unlikely any stones will be found on the south or west lines.

The area should be re-inventoried in 2020.

To submit a comment on this document, click on the following link:

http://www.in.gov/surveytool/public/survey.php?name=dnr_forestry

You **must** indicate State Forest Name, Compartment Number and Tract Number in the "Subject or file reference" line to ensure that your comment receives appropriate consideration. Comments received within 30 days of posting will be considered.

TM 903

Date: 3-25-10

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Specific Practices For Accomplishment

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Year Planned	Practice	Year Accomplished
2010	Use updated shapefile as a guide to find south and west property lines	
2020	Re-inventory	