

LENNOX-ADDINGTON COUNTY FOREST

ANNUAL WORK REPORT

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Year 19 of the 2003-2022 Forest Management Plan

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021



Prepared by:

David Puttock, Ph.D., R.P.F.

Silv-Econ Ltd.

913 Southwind Ct.

Newmarket, ON L3Y 6J1

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1.0 Introduction

This Annual Work Report has been prepared to track the progress of the Forest Management Plan for the Lennox-Addington County Forest (LACF), 2003-2022. Domtar Forest Resources-Trenton was the original agent retained to assist the County to develop and implement the forest management plan in 2003. Domtar discontinued its forest management program in the spring of 2005. Silv-Econ Ltd. was engaged to implement the forest management plan beginning in 2005. The management activities are described below. Table 1 provides details of the work program in the LACF during 2021.

2.0 Planning

The 2003-2022 Forest Management Plan for the LACF includes sequential 5-year Operating Plans that guide the forest management activities for the specified period. The current Operating Plan covers the period 2019-2023.

3.0 Forest Certification

The LACF is certified under Silv-Econ Ltd.'s Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) / NEPcon (formerly Smartwood) group manager certificate NC-FM/COC-001769. Forest certification involves adherence to FSC Principles and Criteria for sustainable forest management. Compliance is monitored through annual third-party audits conducted by NEPcon. Foresters from Silv-Econ participate in the audits. Silv-Econ's five-year renewal audit was conducted in October 2021 and included 2 stops in the County Forest. Timber produced from certified forests can be marketed as such and sold to mills that have FSC chain-of-custody arrangements.

4.0 Silviculture

Forest management embodies a suite of activities designed to maintain and enhance the health of the forest. These include silvicultural management such as stand improvement thinning, tree planting in areas where natural regeneration is absent, tending to remove undesirable competing vegetation, and activities to protect the forest from natural and human-induced disturbances where possible.

Stand improvement thinning occurred in compartments 1, 2 and 5 in September/October 2021. A row of mature pine trees along both sides of the Upper Finton Road at compartment 6 were also harvested to admit more sunlight on the road surface at the request of the township. Harvest inspections were carried out by Silv-Econ staff.

5.0 Monitoring and Assessment

Regular monitoring of the health of the forest is an important component of sustainable forest management. Monitoring is typically accomplished through surveys and assessments in pre-selected stands. Monitoring in 2020 focused on surveys to estimate the potential threat from *Lymantria dispar dispar* (LDD), commonly known as the gypsy moth, in the County Forest. The surveys involved counting the number of LDD moth egg masses in several fixed area sample plots within stands that were most likely to be affected by the moth. The same stands were visually inspected in fall 2021 for egg masses. The number of egg masses appears to be equal to or less than

noted in the 2020 survey, suggesting that populations of LDD moth in the region may have peaked in 2021.

Monitoring in 2021 also included inspections for the presence of two invasive plants, Pale swallowwort, a.k.a. Dog strangling vine and Garlic mustard. Both species can quickly occupy and overtake a site, affecting biodiversity by excluding native vegetation. Fortunately, neither of these species was observed in the County Forest.

A colony of Japanese knotweed was observed at the side of the road in compartment 2. The site was subsequently cleared to make room for a log landing. The site will be assessed in 2022 to determine if the plant re-emerges and if further action is required to control it. Monitoring for invasive plants is done annually and also whenever forest managers are on site for other activities, such as forest inventory, tree marking, harvest monitoring, and tree planting. The locations of invasive plants are mapped, and control measures are implemented where possible.

6.0 Cycling Trails

The County has established a network of cycling trails in compartment 3 (Flinton). The trails appear to be well used.

7.0 Underplanting to Restore Regeneration

No underplanting was scheduled for 2021

8.0 Infrastructure

Selection thinning in compartments 1, 2 and 5 resulted in clearing brush that was encroaching along the forest access roads in those compartments.

9.0 Other Management Activities

No other management activities were conducted in 2021.

Table 1, Report of management activities in the Lennox & Addington County Forest 2021

Activity	Comp	Area (Ha)	Expenses (\$)	Revenues (\$)	Notes
Planning Annual work planning and reporting	All		850		
Forest Certification Annual certification program expense County share of annual auditor's fees	All 1,2,5	455.65	3,518 2,316		
Silviculture Silvicultural prescriptions and tree marking Harvest inspections	1,2,5,6	27.2	5,010 3,500	102,150 Excl. HST	1
Monitoring & Assessment 1. Visual inspection for LDD moth egg masses & monitoring for invasive plants was done while forest managers were on site for other work.	3,5,6		0		
Infrastructure Improvements Clearing vegetation along access roads in compartments 1,2,5 during harvesting operations by harvesting contractor			0		
Other Activities No other activities					
Total			15,194	102,150	

Notes

1. Timber sold by tender to Herb Shaw & Sons, Pembroke. Harvesting carried out in September-October 2021.