



AGENDA ITEM # 3.1

REPORT TO PARK COMMISSION

Date: April 22, 2024

Subject: Keith Simar Presentation

Report: Woodland Stewardship Cover Types Presentation. Materials attached.

After presentation meeting will move to picnic shelter.

Commission Action Requested: No Action Required.

Woodland Stewardship Cover Types

Type # 1: Mixed red and white pine sawlogs and pole timber

Stand Acres: 8

Age: Mixed ages 10 to 115 years

Native Plant Community

FDc34 Central Dry-Mesic Pine-Hardwood Forest

Cover Type Description: This mixed pine stand contains mostly red pine with minor amounts of white birch, bur oak, red maple, and red oak. The sparse shrub layer is a mixture of American hazelnut, dogwood, bush honeysuckle, and June berry.

STAND ASSESMENT	
Site Quality:	Red pine Site Index = 65
Average Pine Tree Diameter:	14 inches
Total Volume:	40 Cords Per Acre.
Stand Age:	Approximately 10 to 115 years old
Second species	Aspen, red oak, white birch, red maple
*Volume should not be used for purpose of selling timber.	

Desired Future Condition: Old growth red pine and white pine

Stewardship Objective:

- Increase white pine
- Recreational trails

Alternative Management Scenario #1: To release the white pine that are suppressed by competing hardwoods and to create dead snags for nesting of flying squirrels, pileated woodpeckers, red squirrels, fisher, and other wildlife, selected competing hardwoods could be removed.

Remove red oak or aspen that compete with red pine and white pine saplings. Thin and prune white pine saplings that are too crowded leaving the best formed, vigorous saplings to grow without so much competition.

White pine blister rust can kill white pine saplings. Remove infected branches as soon as needles start turning brown to prevent mortality.

Tip weevil is an insect that deforms white pine saplings that grow in full sunlight. Corrective pruning can improve tree form.

White pine seedlings and saplings are ladder fuels that allow a surface fire to expand into the tops of larger mature trees. Removing lower branches prevents wildfire from advancing into tree crowns.

Red and white pine trees have a life expectancy of 200+ years.

Alternative Management Scenario #2: Do nothing. In the absence of any fire or wind storm, the species that will seed naturally will be shade tolerant white pine. Large red pine and white pine trees will continue to be the super canopy species and will provide seed for new seedlings. These large trees have a life expectancy of at least another one hundred years. The younger white pine will outlive competing hardwoods and will fill the canopy.

Alternative Management Scenario #3: Sign the north and south property boundaries to welcome trail users and identify ownership boundary. Improve the foot path that is adjacent to the lake edge. Place some educational signs identifying tree species, etc.

Alternative Management Scenario #4: Monitor potential erosion sites. Fill or stabilize old gullies on steep hillside.

Alternative Management Scenario #5: Place wood duck nesting boxes along the shore of Sibley Lake.

Woodland Stewardship Plan Binder Reference

Topic	Chapter
Jack pine	Chapter 6 Pages 73
Red Pine	Chapter 6: Page 80
Woodland Improvement Practices	Chapter 5: Page 45-53
Eastern white pine	Chapter 6: Page 69

Proposed Ten Year Activity Summary

SIBLEY PARK PROPERTY

Cover type	Project	Timeframe
# 1 Mixed pine saw timber and pole timber	Remove red oak or aspen trees that compete with red pine and white pine saplings. Thin and prune white pine saplings that are too crowded leaving the best formed, vigorous saplings to grow without so much competition.	2023 - 2032
	White pine blister rust can kill white pine saplings. Remove infected branches as soon as needles start turning brown to prevent mortality.	Annual inspection Mid-summer or fall
	Tip weevil is an insect that deforms white pine saplings that grow in full sunlight. Corrective pruning can improve tree form.	Annual inspection Mid-summer or fall
	White pine seedlings and saplings are ladder fuels that allow a surface fire to expand into the tops of larger mature trees. Removing lower branches prevents wildfire from advancing into tree crowns.	Annual inspection. Potential boy scout pruning project with supervision. Fall or winter project.
	Wood duck nesting boxes	Install and annually clean out old nesting material.