

PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
MASS TRACT SMALL WOODLOT DEMONSTRATION FORTY (1973)
(SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 23, T50N-R38W)

by James A. Johnson

The Mass Tract Forty was acquired from the U. S. Forest Service in exchange for the Pori Summer Camp property, whose operation was discontinued by the University.

The tract was selected for the purpose of establishing, in Ontonagon County, a Small Woodlot Demonstration Area similar to the one being managed at the Center. The acceptance of small woodlot management is a continuing problem. By the demonstration of sound forest management principles, to the small woodlot owner, it is hoped that he will be encouraged to adopt them for his own use. A record of costs and earnings will be maintained for the purpose of supporting the economic benefits accruing to the land owner from good management practices.

The stand lacks the uniformity of species, size and density that is characteristic of the 55 acre Woodlot Demonstration tract established in 1958 at the Center. This difference will necessitate some modification of silvicultural practices and harvesting intervals. The northern hardwood timber type is equally distributed between the pole size and small sawlog size classes. Within the hardwood type are patches of aspen, spruce-fir, and cedar type. The aspen type is transitional and will eventually convert to the predominate hardwood composition. The conifer-hardwood mixture will be maintained, alternating in dominance as they reach maturity and are harvested. In all probability the spruce-fir will be subjected to even-aged management, while the hemlock and cedar will be selectively harvested with the hardwood.

Being that the stand is made up of diverse types and size classes time will be needed to develop a more uneven-aged distribution of size classes capable of sustaining an annual harvest. To begin with a combination of annual and periodic harvests will be established, until the stand attains a better distribution of size classes. A rigid adherence to a compartment by compartment harvest will not be maintained. Due to the lack of adequate size classes in a particular compartment it may be necessary to pass it over in favor of another that has adequate size distribution to provide a merchantable harvest.

The forty will be divided initially into four ten acre compartments (see map in appendix). Ten one-fifth acre plots will be established in each compartment. At a future time, if conditions warrant, the tract can again be equally divided into eight compartments of five acres each. This will then allow for an annual harvest on an eight year cutting cycle. The permanent plot records will provide the necessary growth and size class records for the establishment of a sustained yield forest. Present establishment plans call for an annual harvest for four years. At the end of the four years the growth and stocking will be analyzed and a decision made as to whether a four year waiting period will be maintained or harvesting will proceed on five acre compartments on an annual basis.

POST MARKING INFORMATION MASS TRACT
SMALL WOODLOT DEMONSTRATION FORTY
(SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 23, T50N-R38W)

The NW 1/4 of the Mass Tract forty (Study No. 84) was selected for the initial harvest. Ten permanent study plots were established during the fall of 1973 and marking completed in anticipation of a 1974 spring and summer harvest.

All merchantable aspen was marked for harvest and the hardwood portion was selectively marked in both the pole size and sawlog component of the stand. The following estimated volumes were marked for harvest: Sawlogs 2,280 b.f.; Hardwood pulpwood 23.7 tons and aspen pulpwood 36 cords.

Anticipating
~~Considering~~ that the stumpage value of products would not exceed \$300 and only a limited number of persons would be interested in bidding on this sale the normal newspaper advertising was eliminated in favor of a personal contact with adjacent landowners. Mr. William Ahola and Mr. Ernest Toivonen of Mass, Michigan were contacted with only Mr. Toivonen showing interest and submitting the attached bid.

Box 163
Mass, MI 49948
May 29, 1974

Ford Forestry Center
Michigan Tech University
L'Anse, Michigan

Attention: Mr. Jim Johnson

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I would like to submit the following bids on the timber you have for sale in Greenland Township of Ontonagon County:

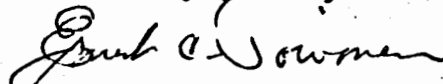
Aspen Pulpwood	\$ 3.50 per cd.
Hardwood Pulpwood	.35 per ton
Mixed Hardwood Sawlogs	50.00 per M

In regard to our conversation concerning aspen (peeled), it is true that mills are paying \$40.00 per cd. but rough aspen pulpwood is only \$25.00. I would be willing to pay an additional 10 % for peeled aspen pulpwood.

If my conversion from cords to tons on hardwood is correct, I'd be paying \$.88 per cord which is above anything the Forest Service would charge.

• Having lived in the locality all of my life would also be an asset in regard to obtaining permission to cross private property to get the timber out.

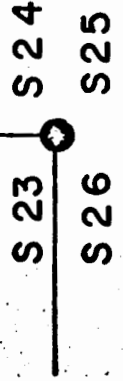
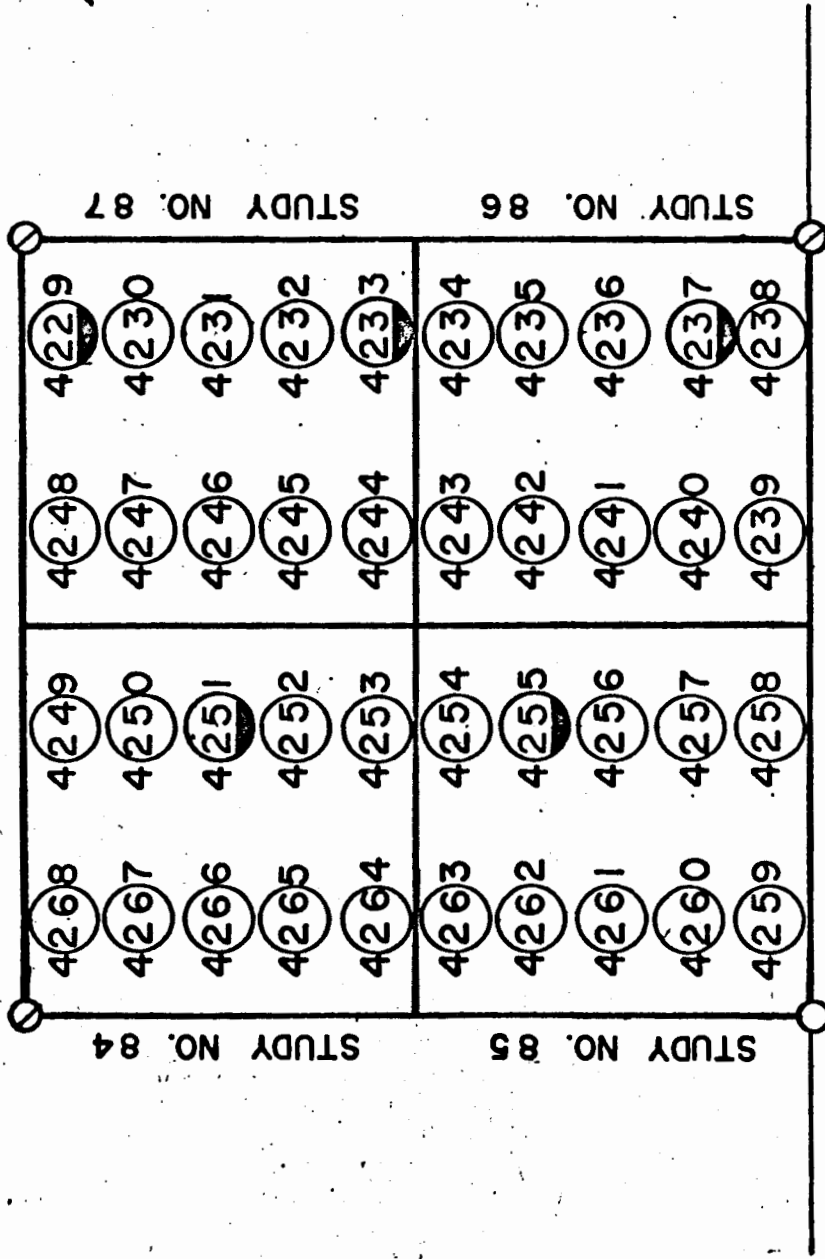
Sincerely yours,



Ernest C. Toivonen

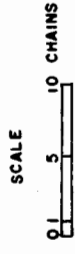
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Mass Tract
 SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 23
 T50N - R38W



FORD FORESTRY CENTER
MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Section 23 T 50N R 36W

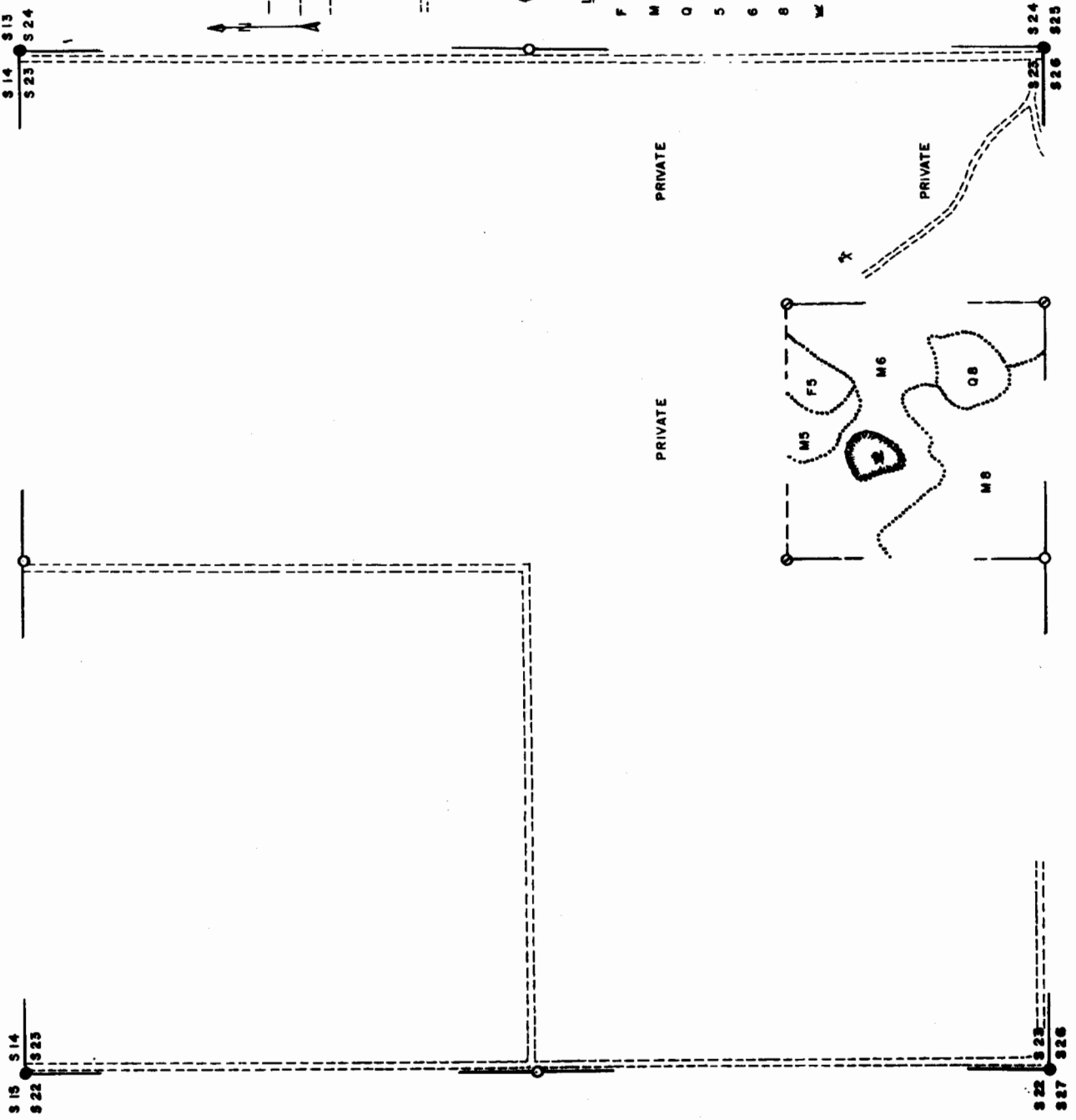


LEGEND

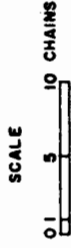
- Section Line
- - - Quarter Section Line
- - - - Forty Line
- Section Corner
- Quarter Section Corner
- - - - Forest Road
- ⊙ Sixteenth Section Corner
- ✕ Gravel Pit
- ⊞ Swamp Land

LAND CLASSIFICATION

- F Upland Spruce - Fir
- M Northern Hardwoods
- Q Cedar and Mixed Conifers
- 5 Poles Medium 40-70 %
- 6 Poles Good 70 % and up
- 8 Sawtimber Adequate 40-70 %
- W Swamp Land



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 Section 23 T50N R36W



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CODE	SOIL TYPE
906	Sims Sandy Loam
6124	(6124)
M040	Willette
N111	(N111)
	% SLOPE
A	0-2
B	2-6
C	6-12
D	12-18
E	18-25
F	25-35

EROSION
 0- No Apparent Erosion
 1- Slightly Eroded

