

FOREST RESEARCH REPORT



Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
Forest Management Planning

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No. 98

Selection Harvest Survey: 8 Year Post-Harvest Results

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Introduction

Selection harvesting is a method of regenerating a forest stand and maintaining an uneven-aged structure by removing some trees in all size classes either singly or in small groups or strips (NFDPA 2016). This system provides shaded openings for species that prefer this kind of environment for regeneration. The trees that are less likely to survive to the next re-entry are taken first (diseased, broken crowns), thereby improving the quality of the stand, leaving the best trees as a seed source while capturing volume that might otherwise be lost to mortality. When attempting selection harvests there is the risk of degrading stands by removing the best and leaving low quality stems (high grade).

Historically, selection harvesting has made up a small proportion of the total harvest in Nova Scotia, but this is increasing (Figure 1). Over the period 2011-2015, the annual average proportion of selection harvest=6%, commercial thinning and shelterwood= 9%, and clearcuts =85% (by area).

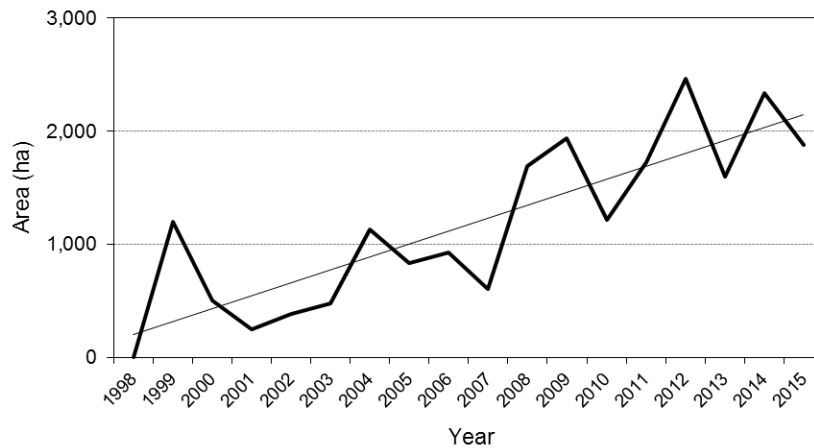


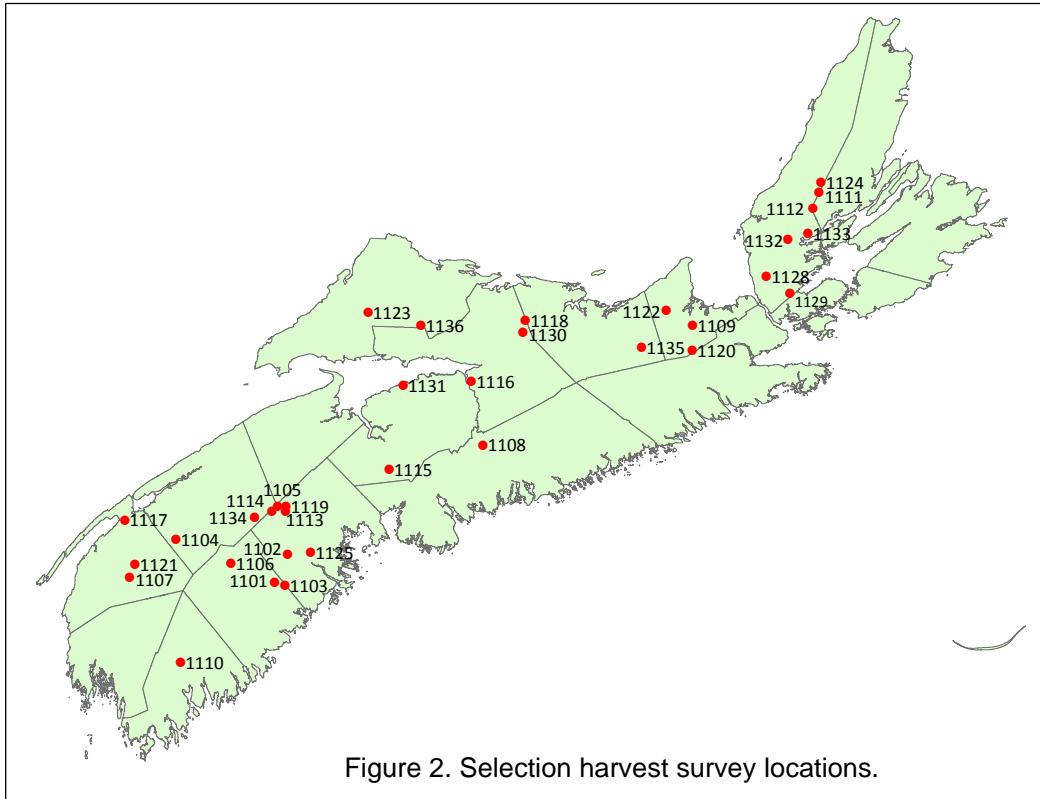
Figure 1. Selection harvest (ha) in Nova Scotia 1998-2015.

The Nova Scotia Natural Resources Strategy aims to implement ecosystem based management and reduce clearcutting (NSDNR 2011). Non-clearcutting harvest methods such as selection harvesting must be increased to meet this goal. The objective of the survey was to identify issues relating to the successful implementation of selection harvesting, including the impact of the treatment on growth response, wind throw severity, harvest damage, and removal rates.

Methods

Sample

There were 34 selection harvest sites surveyed throughout the province (Figure 2). These sites were randomly chosen from selection harvest operations performed in 2004, 2005, and 2006 (1705ha). The sample was stratified by year, ownership, company, and job to ensure representivity. Stands less than 2ha were excluded. Selected sites were assessed between 2011 and 2013, 7-9 years after harvest. The survey sampled 24% (402ha/1705ha) of the area that was selection harvested during this period.



Field Methods

A sampling intensity of 1 plot/ha was used with a minimum of 5 plots and a maximum of 25 plots per stand. Plots were established in a uniform grid pattern to provide full coverage of each site (Figure 3). Within the circular sample plots (radius=7.98m or 1/50 of a hectare), all living, dead, and cut trees were tallied. The crop potential of all living trees was assessed (acceptable growing stock or unacceptable growing stock) (McGrath *et al.* 2015). Soil and vegetation types were determined using the forest ecosystem classification (Neily *et al.* 2013). Two regeneration plots (radius=1.36m) were established within each larger 7.98m radius plot. A regeneration plot size of 1.36m radius enables stocking to be calculated at tree spacings of 2.4m (1736 stems/ha). Regeneration plots were established 4m from the plot centre in the north and south direction. The condition of the regeneration plots was described (i.e. selection

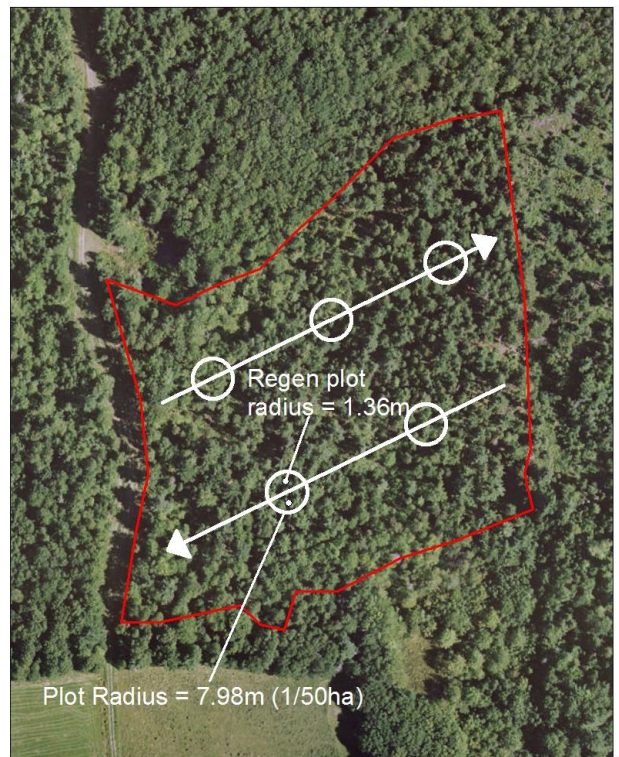


Figure 3. Example of plot layout.

harvested, unthinned, on trail, in patch opening). All trees by species were counted within the regeneration plots. The dominant height for each species present was recorded.

One tree per 7.98m radius plot (average tree of average release) was selected to be cored for analysis. Three hundred and four cores were examined for release response (diameter increment) to the selection harvest using the WinDENDRO™ system.¹ Increment cores were used to establish the diameter at breast height (dbh) of the trees at the time of the selection harvest. A stump and dbh relationship based on regression from site measurements was used to estimate the dbh of the cut trees for each individual site. This was done so that stand conditions could be estimated at the time of the selection harvest.

Summary of Sites

Figure 4 shows a summary of the sites that were surveyed. There was representation across all regions, ownership classes, year harvested, and pre-harvest stand types². Of the sites selected, 65% were less than 10ha in size. The smallest site was 3ha and the largest 41ha. The stands harvested ranged in age from 33 to 117 years old, with 35% between the 71-90 year age range (Figure 4 and Appendix 1).

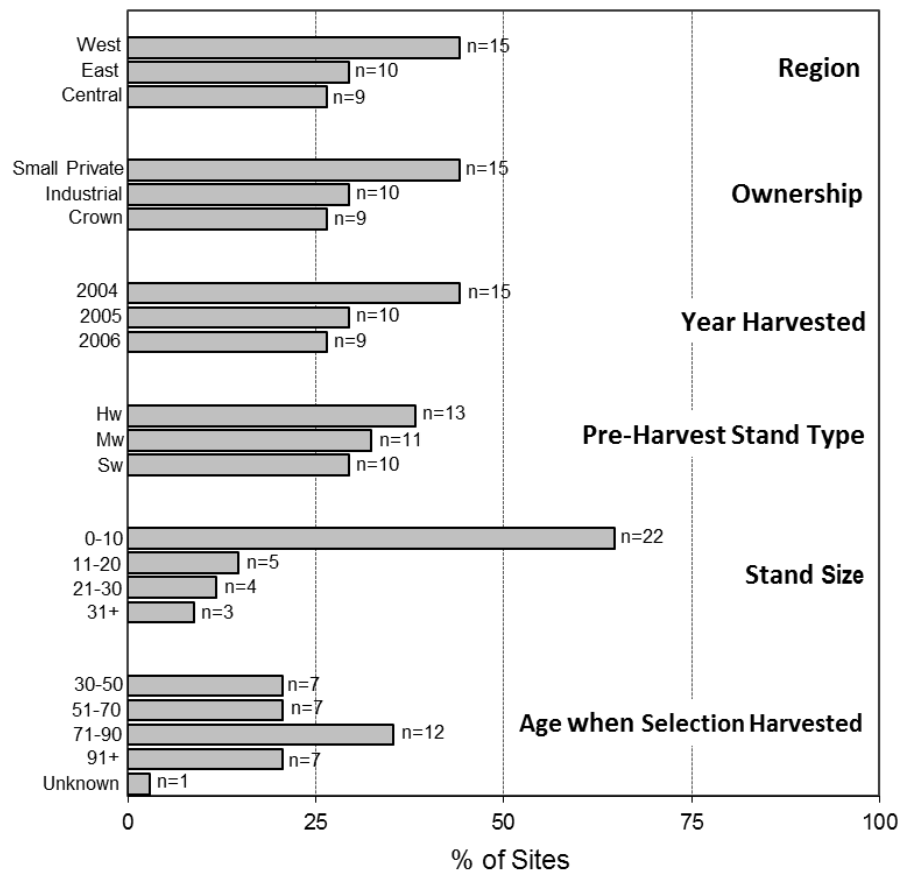


Figure 4. Summary of surveyed selection harvest sites (n= # of sites). Age when selection harvested: one site is unknown because it was clearcut before it was surveyed.

¹WinDENDRO™ – Registered trademark of Regent Systems Inc.

²Stands were assigned a pre-harvest stand type as follows; Hardwood (Hw): 75% or greater hardwood species in the overstory; Softwood (Sw): 75% or greater softwood species in the overstory; Mixedwood (Mw): all other stands (Neily *et al.* 2013).

Results

Harvest Types

Figure 5 shows examples of some of the different harvest types encountered during the survey.

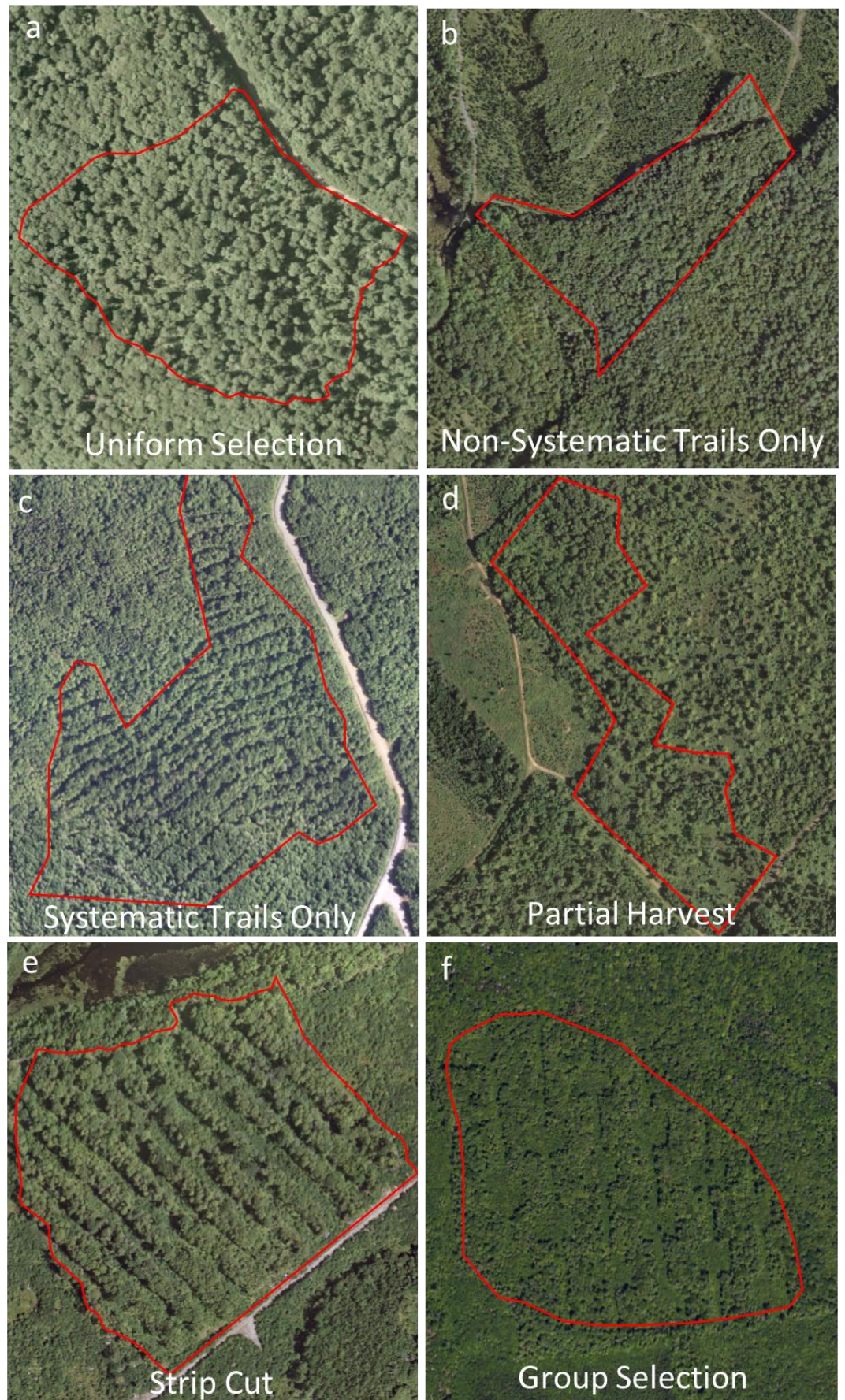


Figure 5. Aerial photos of the different harvest types encountered during the selection harvest survey. a: uniform selection (site 1111), b: non-systematic trails only (site 1102), c: systematic trails only (site 1128), d: partial harvest (site 1113), e: strip cut (site 1121), f: group selection (site 1130).

The following are descriptions of the harvest types sampled during the selection harvest survey;

Uniform selection/single-tree selection: A method of regenerating uneven-aged stands in which individual trees of any size are removed uniformly throughout the stand (NFDP 2016).

Non-systematic trails only: Removals were done using trails laid out in no pattern resulting in large areas not treated. Trees on trail edges were released, but the remainder is left untreated. In these sites, 19% of area was in trails and the rest (81%) was not thinned.

Systematic trails only: Removals were done using trails that were laid out uniformly resulting in full site coverage. Trees on trail edges were released, but leave strips between trails were left untreated (average trail width=8m, average leave strip width between trails=18m, % of stand in trails=31%).

Partial harvests: Any cutting in which only part of the stand is harvested (NFDP 2016). In Nova Scotia, the softwood component is typically removed; leaving unwanted lower quality hardwoods.

Strip cut: Removal of the trees in strips in more than one operation, generally for encouraging natural regeneration (NFDP 2016). Strip cut is like the systematic trails only system but the cleared strips were wider. Typically, in a strip cut, the cleared trails were as wide as the average height of the trees (average cleared strip width=18m, average leave strip width=29m, % of stand in cleared strips=38%).

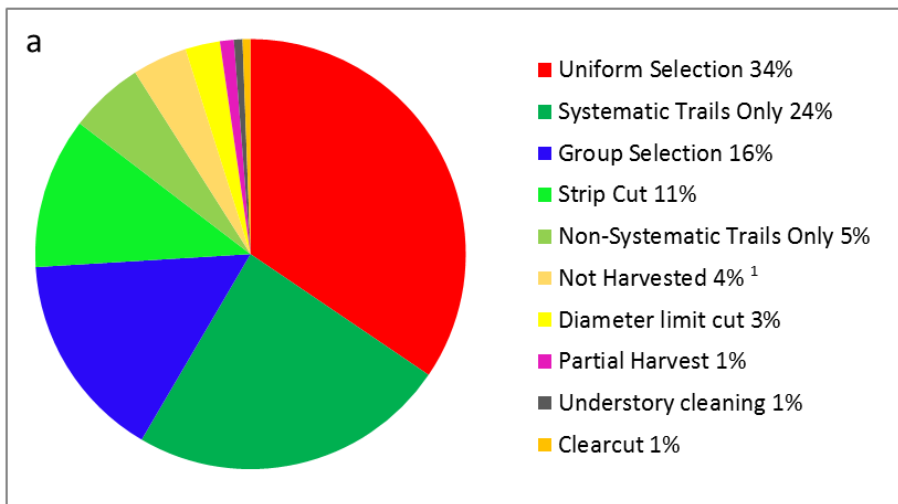
Group selection: A method of regenerating and maintaining uneven-aged stands in which trees are removed in small groups (NFDP 2016).

Diameter limit cut: The bigger dominant and co-dominant trees were removed leaving the lower quality suppressed trees.

Understory cleaning: Few trees of merchantable size were removed. Mostly smaller suppressed unmerchantable trees (<9cmdbh) were cut and left on site.

Figure 6 shows the abundance and frequency of the different harvest types encountered during the survey. Figure 6a is based on area and Figure 6b is based on the number of sites. Uniform selections are the most abundant (34%) and frequently (56%) used selection harvest type. Systematic trails only (24%), group selections (16%), and strip cuts (11%) are the next most abundant and tended to be used on larger Crown and Industrial sites. Five percent was harvested using non-systematic trails only. Three percent was a diameter limit cut. Partial harvests occurred on small sites on small private ownership amounting to 1% of the area surveyed. One percent was an understory cleaning. One percent of the area was clearcut at the time of the selection harvest. One site was selection harvested using the strip cut method, but 6 years later it was clearcut. This site was large (37ha) and accounted for 9% of the area surveyed.

Abundance



Frequency

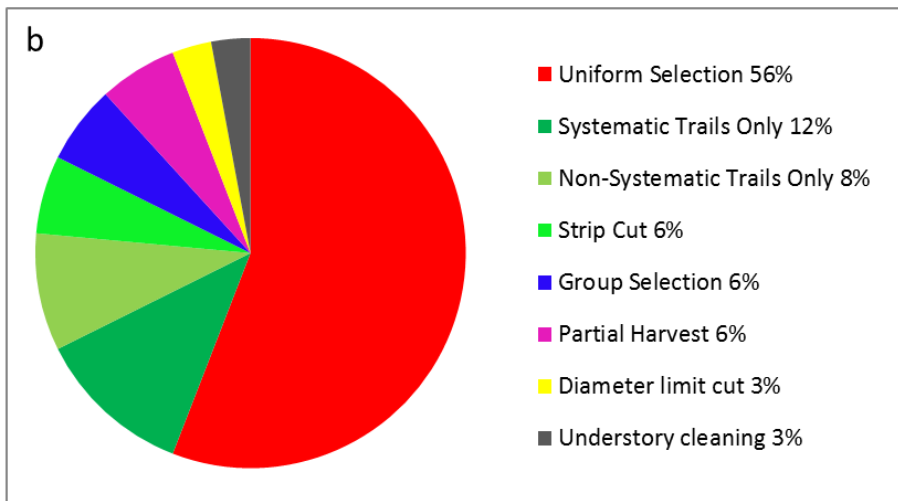


Figure 6. The abundance and frequency of the different harvest types.

a) Abundance: based on area (larger sites have more weighting).

b) Frequency: based on the main harvest type per site (each site has equal weighting).

¹Not harvested: Portions of a stand in which no treatment was done. The non-harvested portions of group selections, strips cuts, systematic trails only, and non-systematic trails only are not included in this number as it is implied by the name that these types of harvests will have unharvested portions as part of the treatment.

Figure 7 shows basal area removal by harvest type. Partial harvests show the largest removal at 62%. Uniform selections, group selections, diameter limit cuts, strip cuts, and systematic trails only all range between 31%-42% basal area removal. Sites which employed non-systematic trails only had an average basal area removal of 19% and the understory cleaning was 12%.

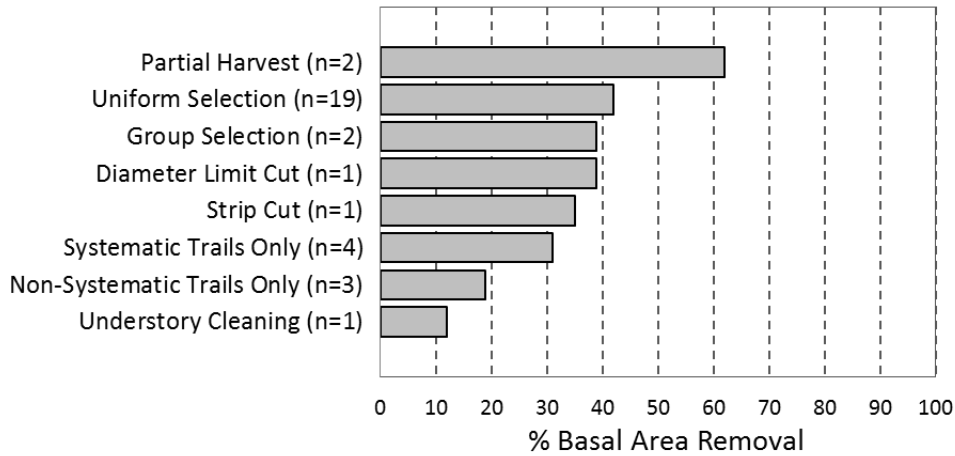


Figure 7. Basal area removals associated with the different harvest types (main harvest type per site).

Indicators of Job Quality

In this study, a selection harvest must adhere to the following principals in order to be deemed successful;

- Produce desirable regeneration
- Minimize blowdown
- Stand Improvement

Desirable regeneration: A selection harvest should promote the establishment of tolerant, long-lived species (red spruce, hemlock, sugar maple, white pine, yellow birch, red oak and white ash). This is accomplished by leaving mature tolerant long-lived species on site after selection harvest, thereby providing a seed source and shade for the next cohort. The stand should be of seed bearing age (biologically mature) to increase the chance of successful regeneration.

Standards used for evaluation of success:

- **Leave 10m²/ha of tolerant long-lived species.**
- **Age of stand \geq Age of maturity (full seed production) for the main tolerant long-lived species (McGrath *et al.* 2015, p17).**

Minimize blowdown: Every precaution should be taken to minimize the amount of blowdown associated with selection harvesting. The trees must stand after harvest to realize any return on the investment made by the selection harvest. By choosing appropriate stands for selection harvest

(appropriate species, soils, and exposure) and maintaining a minimum amount of basal area post-harvest the risk of blowdown is reduced. The more that is removed the less windfirm a stand becomes.

Standards used for evaluation of success:

- **Basal area removed (%BAR) \leq 50%.**
- **Minimum post-harvest basal area: Hw \geq 14m²/ha, Mw \geq 16m²/ha, Sw \geq 18m²/ha.**
- **No selection harvesting in softwood and mixedwood stands with a high windthrow hazard rating¹**

Stand Improvement: Prior to harvest a stand should have above a minimum amount of quality trees, enough to warrant the investment of a selection harvest, and those trees should be able to stand and respond to a release from selection harvest. It is desirable to continually improve a stand in terms of quality and species with each successive harvest. This is done by taking the worst and leaving the best trees as a seed source for the next cohort. Also, the amount of damage to the residual trees should be kept to a minimum.

Standards used for evaluation of success:

- **Acceptable growing stock² post-harvest: Hw \geq 4m²/ha, Mw \geq 8m²/ha, Sw \geq 12m²/ha.**
- **Harvest Damage \leq 10% of residual basal area.**

For the purposes of this report the previously mentioned standards (see bullets in bold typeset) were used to provide a standard with which to measure success. Figure 8 shows the surveyed sites in relation to these standards, 60% of the area did not meet these standards. The sites were sourced from different programs and ownerships and may have been subject to different standards. The random sample resulted in 46% of the area being selected from the Wood Acquisition program (WAP), 27% from Crown, 24% from Industry outside of the WAP program, and 3% from the Association for Sustainable Forestry (ASF) program. These sites cover the period between 2004-2006 prior to the introduction of the pre-treatment assessments (PTA) and Nova Scotia forest management guides (McGrath 2007, 2010, McGrath *et al.* 2015, Neily *et al.* 2015).

¹Windthrow hazard rating: Taken from the tolerant softwood and mixedwood guide and the forest ecosystem classification soil type guide book (McGrath 2010, Neily *et al.* 2013).

²Acceptable growing stock (AGS) (McGrath *et al.* 2015): Trees are acceptable growing stock (AGS) when they are healthy with potential to produce high value stems suitable to meet sawlog or studwood specifications in the future and the ability to thrive after thinning until the time of the next harvest.

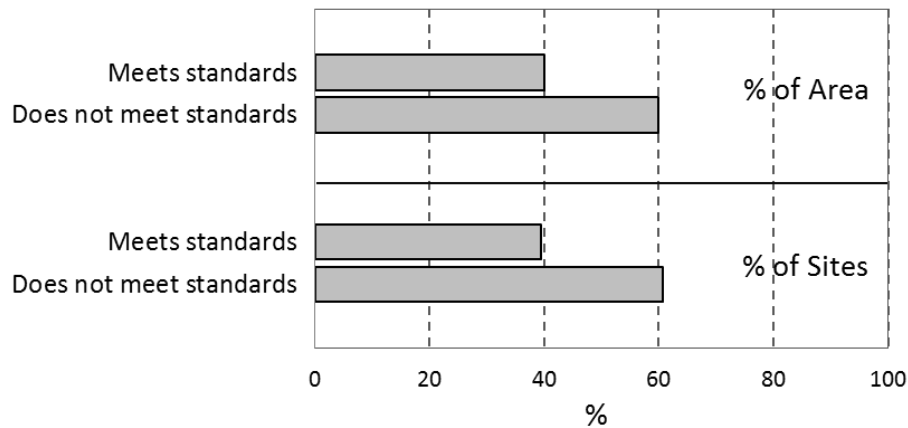


Figure 8 . The proportion of the selection harvest survey that meet the standards used for the evaluation of success (expressed in both % of area and % of sites).

Table 1 shows a summary of the sites that did not meet the standards used for the evaluation of success and provides reasons for the shortfall.

- Two sites (1116, 1128) had post-harvest basal areas and/or tolerant long-lived species basal areas slightly less than the minimum. Their pre-harvest basal areas were low (23-24 m²/ha) and even though removal rates were reasonable (37-41%); the resulting post-harvest basal areas were less than the standard. Also, 1116 had greater than 10% harvest damage.
- 1118 was a poorly stocked hardwood stand. Low initial basal area did not allow reasonable removals while staying within the minimum post-harvest basal area standard (pre-harvest=17m²/ha, cut=5m²/ha, post-harvest=12m²/ha).
- Sites 1101, 1102, and 1134 were too young (39 years, 33 years, 39 years respectively) and inappropriate for selection harvest.
- Site 1136 was 70 years old at the time of selection harvest which is slightly less than the age of maturity (full seed production) for sugar maple (McGrath *et al.* 2015).
- At sites 1106, 1108, 1110 and 1114 high removal rates resulted in below standard post-harvest basal areas and/or percent basal area removals.
- Several sites had the wrong species mix for a selection harvest (1104, 1107, 1120, 1121, 1123, 1105, 1113). These sites were dominated by balsam fir, black spruce, red maple, and white spruce. In addition, sites 1105 and 1113 fell short of the post-harvest basal area and percent basal area removal standards due to excessive harvesting.
- Several softwood and mixedwood sites (1107, 1108, 1113, 1117, 1129, 1134) had a high windthrow hazard.

Table 1. Summary of sites that did not meet the standards used for the evaluation of success (red font denotes that it is below the minimum level).

Reason	Stand ID	Age	High Windthrow Hazard.	Basal Area						Species Composition	Pre-Treatment Assessment		
				Pre-Harvest (m ² /ha)	Cut (m ² /ha)	Post-Harvest (m ² /ha)	% BAR	Tol./LL ¹ Post-Harvest (m ² /ha)	AGS (m ² /ha)		% Harvest Damage	Before Harvest (Top 3 species) ²	Stand Type
Marginal Pre-Harv. Basal Area	1116	90		24	10	14	41%	8	9	11%	RM ³¹ RS ²⁷ YB ²³	Mw	N
	1128	97		23	9	15	37%	6	5	3%	YB ³⁴ RM ²⁷ BE ²⁵	Hw	N
Low Pre-Harv. Basal Area	1118	79		17	5	12	27%	10	7	1%	SM ⁷⁶ YB ¹⁰ BE ⁷	Hw	N
Too Young	1101	39		22	3	19	12%	15	16	1%	RS ⁷³ LTA ⁹ WP ⁷	Sw	N
	1102	33		16	2	14	11%	7	10	2%	RS ³² RM ²⁹ RO ¹³	Mw	N
	1134	39	Y	17	7	10	41%	6	8	2%	RS ⁶⁰ RM ²⁹ BF ⁸	Mw	N
	1136	70		26	10	16	39%	15	8	1%	SM ⁹² RM ³ YB ³	Hw	Y
Too Much Removed	1106	52		25	12	14	46%	12	13	1%	RS ⁴⁷ HE ²⁴ WP ¹⁴	Sw	N
	1108	72	Y	40	23	17	57%	13	15	1%	RS ²⁵ HE ²² RM ²¹	Mw	N
	1110	60		39	21	18	54%	13	12	2%	WP ⁵⁹ RM ¹⁶ HE ¹³	Sw	N
	1114	47		34	28	6	81%	4	3	3%	WP ³³ BF ³³ HE ¹⁷	Sw	Y
Wrong species Mix	1104	78		31	11	20	35%	8	12	6%	RM ⁵³ YB ³³ RS ⁸	Hw	N
	1107	56	Y	36	6	30	18%	5	15	0%	WS ³⁷ BF ²⁸ RM ¹⁶	Sw	N
	1120	56		27	9	17	35%	4	9	0%	RM ⁴³ YB ²⁴ BF ²³	Mw	N
	1121	69		27	9	18	35%	6	6	4%	RM ⁷⁴ YB ¹⁰ SM ¹⁰	Hw	N
	1123	79		21	4	17	21%	0	14	2%	BS ⁸⁵ BF ⁹ WP ²	Sw	N
Wrong Species Mix/ Too Much Removed	1105	46		29	16	13	54%	2	7	0%	BF ⁵⁴ RM ³⁰ RS ¹⁰	Mw	N
1113	45	Y	25	18	7	71%	0	3	9%	RM ⁵³ BF ¹⁹ BS ¹⁷	Mw	N	
High Windthrow Hazard	1117	71	Y	40	20	20	51%	9	12	6%	RS ⁴⁹ WS ²⁹ RM ⁶	Sw	N
	1129	111	Y	34	13	20	40%	13	10	2%	YB ⁴¹ RM ²⁵ WS ¹²	Mw	N

¹Tolerant (Tol.) and long lived (LL) species: red spruce, hemlock, sugar maple, white pine, yellow birch, red oak and white ash.

²See appendix 1 for total species composition.

Nova Scotia’s pre-treatment assessment (PTA) system and forest management guides (FMG) were developed with the intent of implementing ecosystem-based management. Before a harvest operation is carried out, stand-level details such as vegetation type, soil type, ecosite, and windthrow hazard along with stand characteristics such as basal area, species, tree diameter, and quality must be collected. This information facilitates prescribing appropriate treatments specific to stand attributes. At the time of this survey the PTA and FMG system were not in place, but if a PTA had been performed and recommendations from the FMGs followed, 18 sites out of the 20 that failed to meet the job quality indicators would not have qualified for selection harvest (Table 1). Many inappropriate stands (poor quality or species composition, high windthrow hazard, too young) were selection harvested in this survey. By carrying out PTAs and using FMGs more appropriate stands are selected for selection harvest.

At Time of Selection Harvest

The average merchantable volume of all survey sites was 165 m³/ha before harvest, on average, 68 m³/ha was removed, and 97 m³/ha remained after harvest (Table 2, Appendix 2). This covers all area within the boundaries of the stands (i.e. untreated/treated portions, trails, openings). In terms of basal area, stands averaged 28 m²/ha before harvest, with 11 m²/ha removed, and 17 m²/ha remaining after harvest. On average 39% of the basal area was removed. The softwood sites tended to have more merchantable volume, basal area, and stems before and after harvest. The hardwood sites were older than the softwood and mixedwood sites when harvested. The hardwood sites had fewer stems that were larger in diameter and had less basal area to begin with.

Table 2. The merchantable volume, basal area, number of stems, diameter at breast height, height, and age of the survey stands before harvest, cut, and after harvest broken down by pre-harvest stand type (softwood, mixedwood, hardwood).

	Softwood Stand Type			Mixedwood Stand Type			Hardwood Stand Type			Total		
	Be-fore	Cut	After	Be-fore	Cut	After	Be-fore	Cut	After	Be-fore	Cut	After
Merch. Vol. (m ³ /ha)	202	85	117	149	70	79	150	53	97	165	68	97
Basal Area (m ² /ha)	33	13	19	27	12	15	25	8	17	28	11	17
% Basal Area		39%	61%		43%	57%		33%	67%		39%	61%
# Stems/ha	1,370	499	871	1,215	521	694	627	169	458	1,048	386	662
DBH (cm)	18	18	17	17	18	17	23	26	22	19	21	19
Height (m)	15	15	15	14	15	14	16	17	16	15	16	15
Age (years)			65			64			88			73

8 Years after Selection Harvest

Table 3 shows the growth since selection harvest (8 year post-harvest period). Merchantable volume net growth during that period was 20m³/ha (21%), and basal area net growth was 2m²/ha (12%) in that 8 year time period. The net periodic annual increment for merchantable volume after selection harvest was 2.5m³/ha/year. At this rate, it will take 27 years for the volume to grow back to pre-harvest levels. This only includes the growth of residual trees and does not account for the volume that may result from the ingrowth of regeneration.

Table 3. The growth of the surveyed stands 8 years after selection harvest by pre-harvest stand type (softwood, mixedwood, hardwood).									
	Merchantable Volume (m ³ /ha)				Basal Area (m ² /ha)				
	Sw Stand Type	Mw Stand Type	Hw Stand Type	Total	Sw Stand Type	Mw Stand Type	Hw Stand Type	Total	
Before	202	149	150	165	33	27	25	28	
Cut	85	70	53	68	13	12	8	11	
After	117	79	97	97	19	15	17	17	
8 Years Later (all living trees)	142	103	109	117	22	18	18	19	
Net Growth (over 8 Yrs.)	25	24	12	20	3	3	1	2	
Net Periodic Annual Increment	3.1	3	1.5	2.5	0.38	0.38	0.13	0.25	
Mortality	20	10	5	11	3	2	1	2	
Gross Growth (over 8 Yrs.)	45	34	17	31	6	5	2	4	
Gross Periodic Annual Increment	5.6	4.3	2.1	3.9	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.5	

Basal Area Class

Figure 9 shows the proportion of sites in each basal area class (before, percent removed, and after harvest). Three sites had less than 20m²/ha before harvest (Figure 9a). When initial basal area is this low, operable removal rates are not likely while still meeting a minimum residual basal area. Three sites only had 11-20% basal area removed. At another two sites, excessive removals occurred (>71% basal area removed) (Figure 9b). Eleven sites had less than 16m²/ha after harvest (Figure 9c).

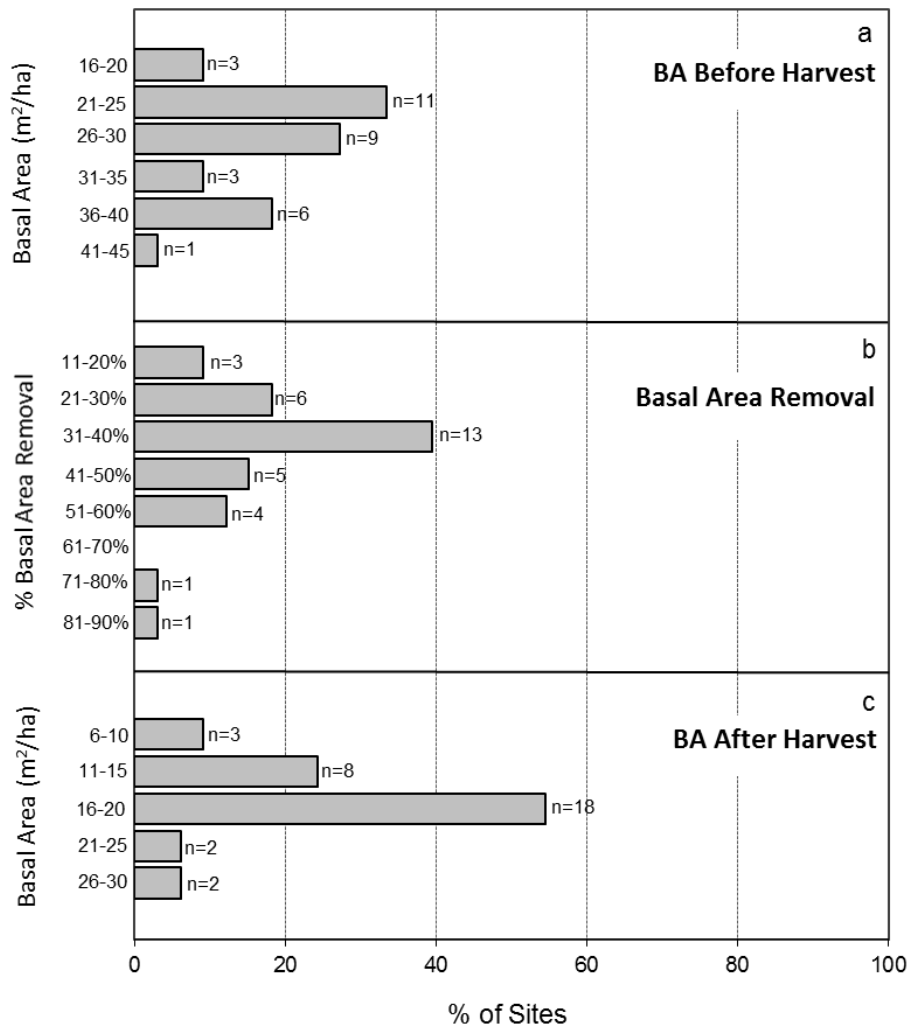


Figure 9. Summary of surveyed selection harvest sites in terms of basal area. The basal area before harvest (a), the % basal area removed (b), and the basal area after harvest (c) (n= # of sites).

Acceptable Growing Stock

Across all sites, the average amount of acceptable growing stock¹ after harvest is 10m²/ha and ranges between 3-25m²/ha (Figure 10a). The average percent of acceptable growing stock is 58% and ranges between 28-94% (Figure 10b).

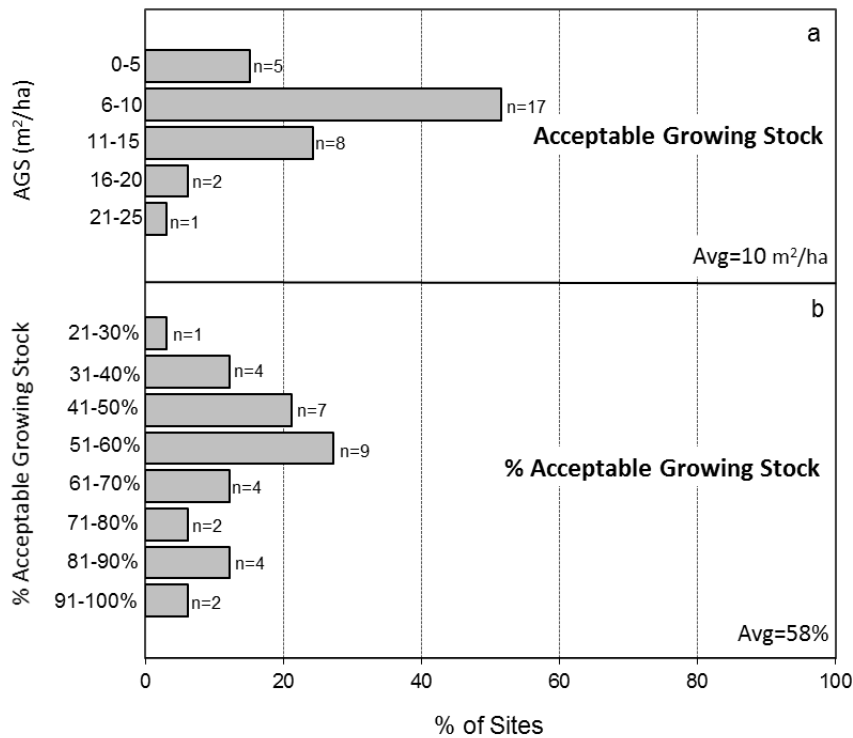


Figure 10 . The percent of sites in each acceptable growing stock category. The basal area of acceptable growing stock (a), the percent of the basal area that is acceptable growing stock (b). (n=# sites)

¹Acceptable growing stock (AGS) (McGrath *et al.* 2015): Trees are acceptable growing stock (AGS) when they are healthy with potential to produce high value stems suitable to meet sawlog or studwood specifications in the future and the ability to thrive after thinning until the time of the next harvest.

Softwood stand types had a greater proportion of acceptable growing stock (74%) after selection harvest followed by mixedwood stand types (58%) and hardwood stand types (45%) (Table 4).

Table 4. The AGS (acceptable growing stock) after selection harvest by pre-harvest stand type (softwood, mixedwood, hardwood).				
	Stand Type			Total
	Sw Stand Type	Mw Stand Type	Hw Stand Type	
% AGS (basal area)	74%	58%	45%	58%
AGS (basal area)	14	9	7	10

Harvest Damage

Harvest damage is defined as a tree that has an area of exposed wood due to mechanical damage from the selection harvest operation. Most sites (88%, n=29) had very little harvest damage ($\leq 5\%$ of the after-harvest volume damaged) (Figure 11). Nine percent of sites (n=3) had between 6-10% of the volume damaged, and 3% of sites (n=1) had between 11-15%. On average, across all sites the merchantable volume damaged by harvesting activities was 2% (appendix2).

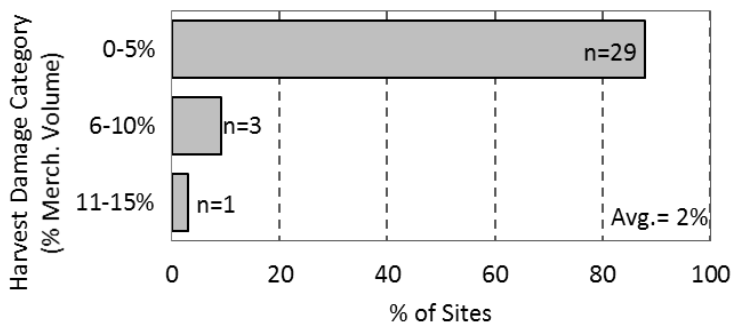


Figure 11 . The percent of sites in each harvest damage category. Harvest damage category = % of after harvest merchantable volume damaged by harvesting activities at each site. (n=# sites).

Selection Harvest Release Response

Figure 12 shows the response of different tree species to release from selection harvest. Figure 12 includes only trees that were released. The individual tree level response should not be extrapolated to the stand level as not all trees were released. White pine, hemlock, red spruce and yellow birch all showed a marked increase in diameter increment after selection harvest; while sugar maple and black spruce both showed lower response (Figure 12). Red maple did not show any growth response.

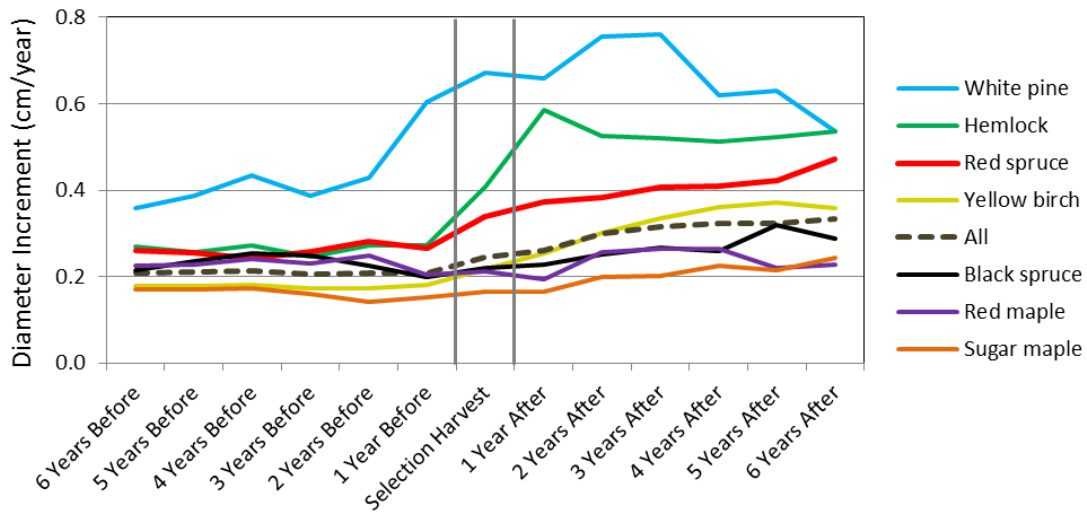


Figure 12 . The diameter increment of different tree species before and after selection harvest (193 cores were analyzed) (see Table 4 for sample size).

Table 5 lists the species in decreasing order from greatest gains to least, comparing the 6 years prior to selection harvest relative to the first 6 years afterwards. The diameter increment of released hemlock increased by 104% over pre-treatment levels, and yellow birch by 83%. Red spruce showed a 58% increase over pre-treatment levels. The response of white pine was 53% over pre-treatment levels, these trees were young (54 years) and growing well before the selection harvest. Sugar maple showed a moderate response to selection harvest at 31%.

Table 5. The results of the analysis of increment cores taken from trees released after selection harvest. The cores were taken from released trees (the average tree of average release).

Increment Cores						
	# Cores	# Sites	Avg. Age of Cores (years)	Avg. annual diameter increment in the 6 years prior to selection harvest (cm)	Avg. annual diameter increment in the 6 years after selection harvest (cm)	Change in diameter increment after selection harvest (%)
Hemlock	*5	2	89	0.26	0.53	104%
Yellow birch	52	14	103	0.18	0.33	83%
Red spruce	37	8	62	0.26	0.41	58%
White pine	*6	3	54	0.43	0.66	53%
Sugar maple	55	11	96	0.16	0.21	31%
Black spruce	*7	2	72	0.23	0.27	17%
Red maple	31	13	67	0.23	0.24	4%
All	193	29	84	0.21	0.31	48%

*Very few samples and sites represented so results should be treated with caution.

Figure 13 shows the diameter increment of released yellow birch, sugar maple, red maple, and red spruce by age class before and after selection harvest. For yellow birch, all age classes responded to release, even trees more than 126 years; however, trees between 76-125 years showed the greatest increase relative to growth prior to selection harvest. Compared to yellow birch the growth response of sugar maple was less, however, sugar maple trees more than 100 years showed a response to release. For red maple, trees greater than 50 years of age showed no response to release, where trees 25-50 years showed minimal response. All red spruce, even trees more than 75 years responded favorably to selection harvest.

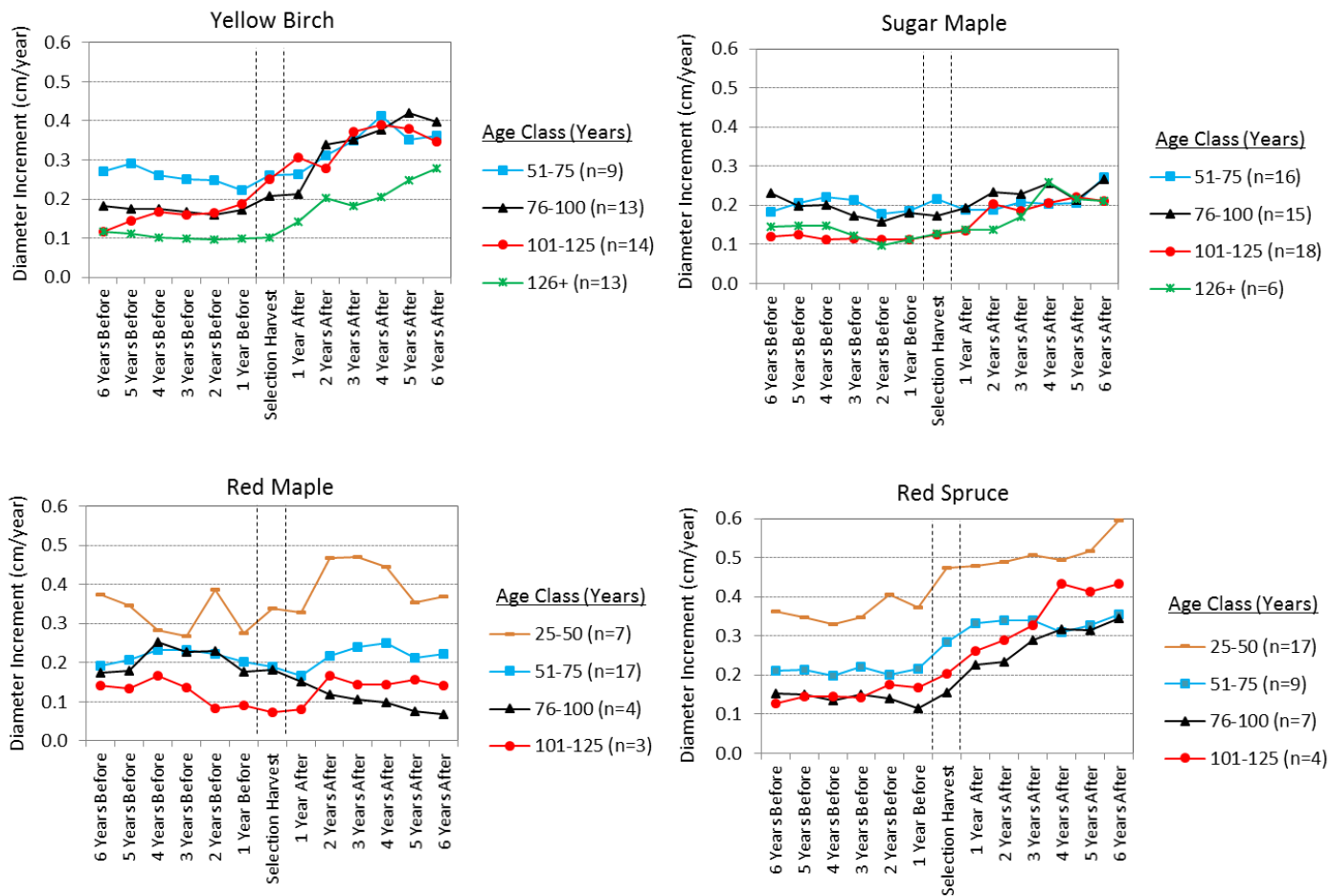


Figure 13 . The diameter increment of released yellow birch, sugar maple, red maple, and red spruce by age class before and after selection harvest (n=# cores).

Wind Damage

Wind damage is classed into one of two categories;

- 1) **blowdown** is the uprooting of trees.
- 2) **broken tops** is the snapping off of the stem.

After selection harvest, the merchantable volume lost to wind damage of residuals averaged 8% (4% blowdown and 4% broken tops) (Table 6 and appendix 3). The most wind damage occurred in softwood stand types (12%), followed by mixedwood stand types (9%), and much less occurred in hardwood stand types (3%). The proportion of broken tops was more in softwood stand types compared to the others (softwood stand types=8%, mixedwood stand types=2%, hardwood stand types=2%).

Table 6. The amount of blowdown, broken tops, and total wind damage that occurred after selection harvest (at 7-9 years post-selection harvest). The data is presented by pre-harvest stand type; softwood, mixedwood, hardwood, and total.

7-9 Years Post-Harvest	Wind Damage											
	Softwood Stand Type			Mixedwood Stand Type			Hardwood Stand Type			Total		
	Blow-down	Bro-ken Tops	Total	Blow-down	Bro-ken Tops	Total	Blow-down	Bro-ken Tops	Total	Blow-down	Bro-ken Tops	Total
Merch. Vol. (%)	4%	8%	12%	6%	2%	9%	1%	2%	3%	4%	4%	8%
Merch. Vol. (m ³ /ha)	5	7	12	5	2	7	1	2	3	4	4	7
Basal Area (%)	4%	6%	10%	5%	2%	8%	1%	2%	3%	3%	4%	7%
Basal Area (m ² /ha)	0.8	1.1	1.9	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2
Stems (#/ha)	31	39	70	23	18	40	3	11	14	18	21	40
DBH (cm)	17	22		17	16		25	19				

Species Susceptibility to Wind Damage

Table 7 shows the susceptibility of the different species to wind damage regardless of stand type. Balsam fir was the most susceptible to wind damage (24%), particularly broken tops (19%). The spruces and hemlock were also susceptible to wind damage (black spruce 19%, white spruce 15%, hemlock 12%, red spruce 8%). Overall, softwood species were more likely to be affected by wind damage (softwood species=13% merch. volume lost to wind damage; hardwood species=3%).

Table 7. The susceptibility of different species to wind damage after selection harvest.
 Example: $\frac{\text{Volume lost due to wind damage (species 1)}}{\text{Total Volume (Species 1)}} = \text{Species Susceptibility (Species 1)}$

	Sample Size	Species Susceptibility to Wind Damage (% of Merchantable Volume)		
		Blowdown	Broken Tops	Total
Balsam fir	1,076	5%	19%	24%
Black spruce	213	11%	8%	19%
White spruce	218	11%	4%	15%
Hemlock	146	6%	6%	12%
Red spruce	1,380	5%	3%	8%
White pine	122	0%	3%	3%
Eastern larch	13	2%	1%	3%
Softwood species	3,168	6%	7%	13%
White birch	109	5%	1%	6%
Red maple	1,256	1%	2%	3%
Sugar maple	1,118	1%	1%	3%
Yellow birch	555	0%	2%	3%
Beech	296	1%	2%	3%
White ash	26	2%	0%	2%
Hardwood species	3,360	1%	2%	3%

Reasons for Blowdown

Figure 14 shows the proportion of blowdown by windthrow hazard rating¹ categories (low risk, moderate risk, high risk) broken down by pre-harvest stand types. Windthrow hazard rating categories are based on a combination of soil type and wind exposure. A high rating is assigned when the soil and exposure conditions are predicted to result in a higher risk of blowdown. Softwood and mixedwood stand types showed higher blowdown in stands considered high risk (softwood stand type: low risk=0%, moderate risk=4%, high risk=11%) (mixedwood stand type: low risk=2%, moderate risk=2%, high risk=14%). Hardwood stands show little blowdown even in high risk stands. Hardwood stands are not as prone to blowdown because they typically have deep root systems growing on deep soils. Presently, Nova Scotia has implemented a system to avoid prescribing selection harvest in high wind-throw risk stands through the application of its forest management guides (McGrath 2010, Neily *et al.* 2013) (Note: stands surveyed were selection harvested before these guides were available).

¹Windthrow hazard rating: Taken from the tolerant softwood and mixedwood guide and the forest ecosystem classification soil type guide book (McGrath 2010, Neily *et al.* 2013)

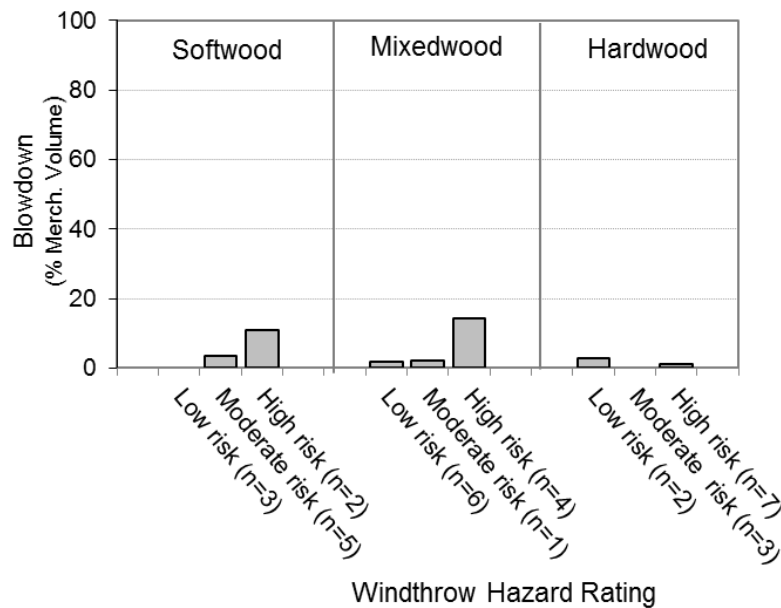


Figure 14. The amount of blowdown (expressed as a proportion of after harvest merchantable volume) in different stand types and windthrow hazard rating categories.

There was more blowdown in softwood and mixedwood stands that contained shallow and imperfectly drained soils (shallow and imperfect=19%, shallow=11%, imperfect=5%, None=1%) (Figure 15). These soil characteristics are known to be risk factors for blowdown and are incorporated into the hazard rating system used in the forest management guides. S-phase¹ soils which have shown to be a risk factor in the past (Kent *et al.* 2012) did not show any conclusive trends, but this characteristic was sometimes found in combination with one of the other risk factors (shallow, imperfect drainage) making it difficult to isolate. Hardwood stands are less susceptible to blowdown so were removed for this analysis.

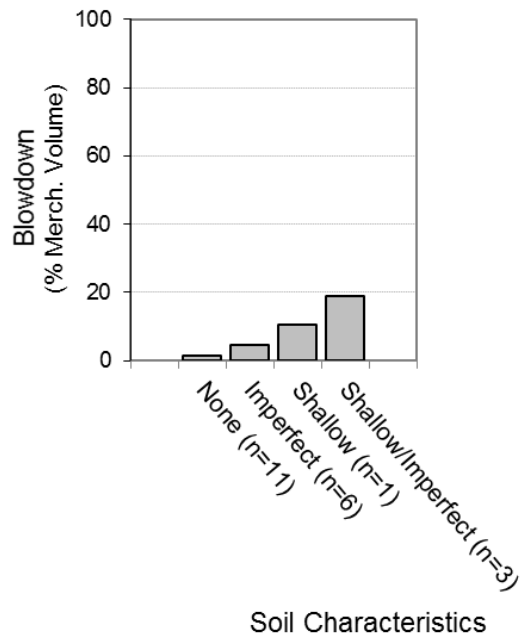


Figure 15. The amount of blowdown (expressed as a proportion of after harvest merchantable volume) in imperfectly drained soil types, shallow soil types, and soil types that are both imperfectly drained and shallow (includes softwood and mixedwood stand types).

¹S-phase soils have 60% or more cobbles, stones, and/or boulders in the upper 30 cm of mineral soil such that rooting is restricted (Neily *et al.* 2013).

Regeneration

Figure 16 shows the stocking (at 1.36m radius or 2.4m spacing) of the dominant trees following uniform selection harvest by stand type (softwood, mixedwood, and hardwood) (Appendix 4). This represents the likely species composition of the regenerating stand in the absence of further intervention. In softwood stands balsam fir is the dominant regenerating species at 30%, followed by red maple at 23%, hemlock at 18%, and red spruce at 14%. In mixedwood stands, red maple (29%) and balsam fir (28%) are the most dominant regenerating species. In hardwood stands there is even representation of sugar maple (23%) and yellow birch (23%), followed by mountain maple (12%), balsam fir (11%), and striped maple (10%).

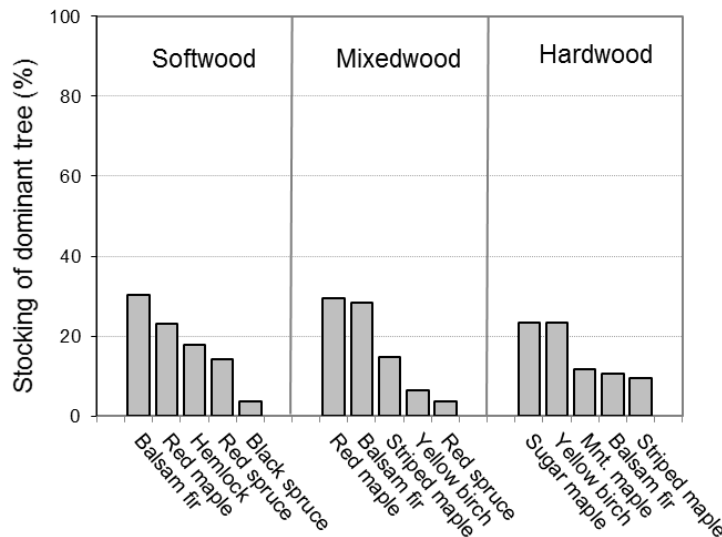


Figure 16. The stocking of dominant regeneration following uniform selection harvest by pre-harvest stand type (based on dominant tree per plot). The top five species are shown in decreasing order of abundance.

Figure 17 shows the total stocking of each species regardless of height dominance (Appendix 5). This is the maximum potential stocking that each species could attain. After selection harvest in softwood stands, balsam fir (66%) was the most abundant in terms of stocking followed by red spruce (41%), hemlock (39%), and red maple (36%). Although red spruce stocking exceeds 40%, red maple is on average taller (151cm) and would likely overtop red spruce (70cm) when growing in close proximity (Figure 18) (Appendix 6). In mixedwood stands, balsam fir stocking was 78%, followed by red maple (64%), and yellow birch (37%) (Figure 17). In mixedwood stands the hardwood species are taller than the softwood species (Figure 18). In hardwood stands, stocking of sugar maple is 69% (Figure 17), however in terms of height it is the shortest at 117cm (Figure 18). Yellow birch stocking is 48% and is relatively tall at 172cm. Striped maple was the tallest at 187cm.

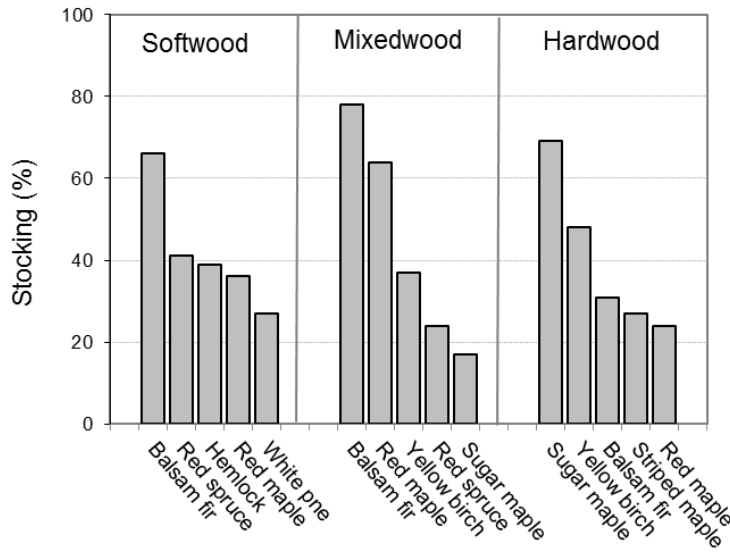


Figure 17. The stocking of tree species (regardless of height dominance) following uniform selection harvest by pre-harvest stand type. The top 5 species are shown in order of decreasing abundance.

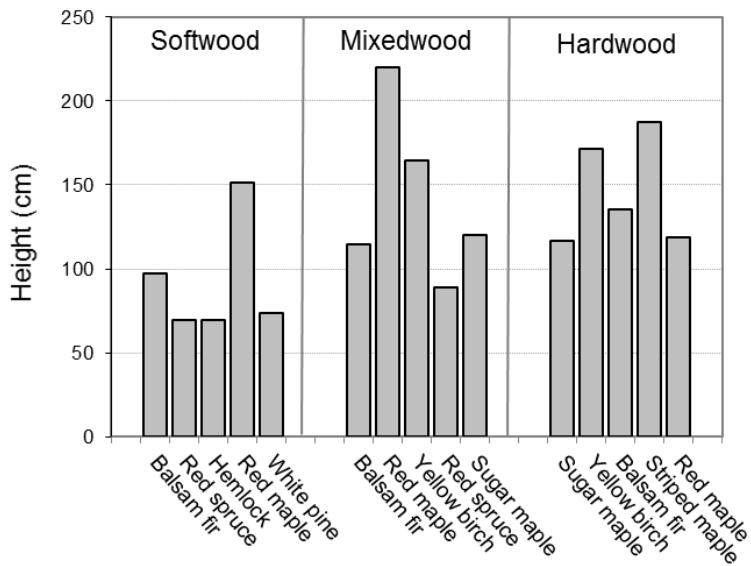


Figure 18. The average dominant height of regeneration following uniform selection harvest by pre-harvest stand type.

Figure 19 compares the regeneration, specifically sugar maple and yellow birch, that occurred following different selection harvest techniques used in the surveyed hardwood stands. Sugar maple regeneration was higher in uniform selections and all derived from seed source. Trails and group selections had a greater proportion of coppice sourced sugar maple regeneration compared to uniform selections. Yellow birch regeneration was higher in trails and group selections (Figure 19, Appendices 5, 6, 7). For regeneration results for individual stands see appendices 8 and 9.

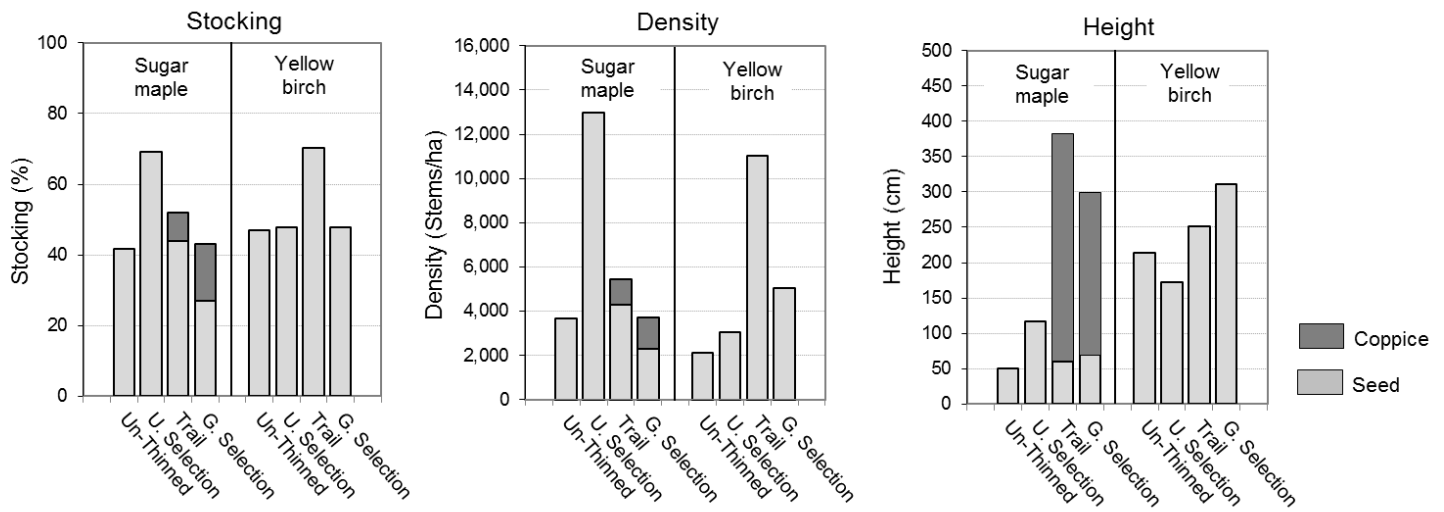


Figure 19. Comparing un-thinned (n=134), uniform selections (n=94), trails (n=64), and group selection patches (n=44) in tolerant hardwood stands in terms of sugar maple and yellow birch regeneration stocking, density, and height 7-9 years after selection harvest. Coppice or seed was assigned based on dominance.

Summary

Harvest Types (p7)

- **Abundance (area):** 34% uniform selection, 24% systematic trails only, 16% group selection, 11% strip cut, 5% non-systematic trails only, 4% not harvested, 3% diameter limit cut, 1% partial harvests, 1% understory cleaning, and 1% clearcut.
- **Frequency (# of sites):** 56% uniform selection, 12% systematic trails only, 8% non-systematic trails only, 6% strip cut, 6% group selections, 6% partial harvest, 3% diameter limit cut, and 3% understory cleaning.

Indicators of job quality (p10)

- 60% of the area failed to meet the standards used for the evaluation of success.
- Using the pre-treatment assessment (PTA) including the use of forest management guides (the PTA system was not available at the time this survey was done), 18 out of the 20 sites that failed to meet the job quality indicators would not have qualified for selection harvest.

Avg. Merchantable Volume (p12)

- All: 165 m³/ha before harvest, 68 m³/ha removed, and 97 m³/ha left after harvest.
- Sw stand types: 202 m³/ha before harvest, 85 m³/ha removed, and 117 m³/ha left after harvest.
- Mw stand types: 149 m³/ha before harvest, 70 m³/ha removed, and 79 m³/ha left after harvest.
- Hw stand types: 150 m³/ha before harvest, 53 m³/ha removed, and 97 m³/ha left after harvest.

Avg. Basal Area (p12)

- All: 28 m²/ha before harvest, 11 m²/ha was removed, and 17 m²/ha left after harvest.
- Sw stand types: 33 m²/ha before harvest, 13 m²/ha removed, and 19 m²/ha left after harvest.
- Mw stand types: 27 m²/ha before harvest, 12 m²/ha removed, and 15 m²/ha left after harvest.
- Hw stand types: 25 m²/ha before harvest, 8 m²/ha removed, and 17 m²/ha left after harvest.

% Basal Area Removed (p12)

- All=39%, Sw stand types=39%, Mw stand types=43%, Hw stand types=33%

8 Years after Selection Harvest (p13)

- Merchantable volume net growth after selection harvest (8 year post-harvest period) was 2.5 m³/ha/year. At this rate, it will take 27 years for the volume to grow back to pre-harvest levels.

Acceptable Growing Stock (p15)

- Across all sites, the average amount of acceptable growing stock after harvest is 10m²/ha and ranges between 3-25m²/ha. The average percent of acceptable growing stock is 58% and ranges between 28-94%.

Harvest Damage (p16)

- 88% of sites had low-levels of harvest damage (\leq 5% volume damaged).
- On average, across all sites the volume damaged by selection harvesting was 2%.

Release Response (p17)

- Hemlock (104%), yellow birch (83%), red spruce (58%), white pine (53%), sugar maple (31%), and black spruce (17%) all benefited from release from selection harvest in terms of increased diameter growth in the 6 years following harvest relative to the 6 years prior.
- Yellow birch, red spruce, and sugar maple showed response to release even with advanced age.
- Red maple showed little response to release from selection harvest (4% increase in diameter increment).

Wind Damage (p20)

- Across all stand types, the merchantable volume losses due to wind damage was 8% (7m³/ha) after selection harvest. (Sw stand types=12%, Mw stand types=9%, Hw stand types=3%).

Species Susceptibility to Wind Damage (P21)

- Balsam fir was the most susceptible to wind damage (24%), and particularly broken tops (19%).
- The spruces and hemlock were also susceptible to wind damage (black spruce 19%, white spruce 15%, hemlock 12%, red spruce 8%).
- Overall, softwood species were more likely to be affected by wind damage (softwood species=13% merch. volume losses to wind damage; hardwood species=3%).

Reasons for Blowdown (P22)

- Softwood and mixedwood stand types show more blowdown in stands considered high risk (low risk=1% merchantable volume losses, moderate risk=3%, high risk=13%).
- Hardwood stand types show little blowdown.
- There was more blowdown in softwood and mixedwood stand types that contained shallow and imperfectly drained soils (shallow and imperfect=19% merchantable volume losses, shallow=11%, imperfect=5%, None=1%).

Regeneration - Stocking of dominant regeneration in uniform selections (top 5 species) (p23,33)

- All: 22% balsam fir, 19% red maple, 11% yellow birch, 10% sugar maple, 10% striped maple.
- Sw stand types: 30% balsam fir, 23% red maple, 18% hemlock, 14% red spruce, 4% black spruce.
- Mw stand types: 29% red maple, 28% balsam fir, 15% striped maple, 6% yellow birch, 4% red spruce.
- Hw stand types: 23% sugar maple, 23% yellow birch, 12% mountain maple, 11% balsam fir, 10% striped maple.

Regeneration – Stocking (all dominance classes) in uniform selections (top 5 species) (p24,34)

- All: 58% balsam fir, 44% red maple, 33% yellow birch, 32% sugar maple, 22% striped maple.
- Sw stand types: 66% balsam fir, 41% red spruce, 39% hemlock, 36% red maple, 27% white pine.
- Mw stand types: 78% balsam fir, 64% red maple, 37% yellow birch, 24% red spruce, 17% sugar maple.
- Hw stand types: 69% sugar maple, 48% yellow birch, 31% balsam fir, 27% striped maple, 24% red maple.

Regeneration - Comparing selection harvest methods in tolerant hardwood stand types (p25,34,36)

- Sugar maple regeneration stocking and density was higher in uniform selections;
Stocking: unthinned=42%, uniform selection=69%, trails=52%, group selection=43%.
Density: unthinned=3,660stems/ha, uniform selection=12,975stems/ha, trails=5,456stems/ha, group selection=3,691 stems/ha.
- Yellow birch regeneration was higher in trails and group selections;
Stocking: unthinned=47%, uniform selection=48%, trails=70%, group selection=48%
- Density: unthinned=2,109stems/ha, uniform selection=3,058stems/ha, trails=11,038stems/ha, group selection=5,020 stems/ha.
- All sugar maple in thinned portions of uniform selections is derived from seed, as opposed to some coppice in trails and group selections.

Management Recommendations

Yellow birch and red spruce showed a marked increase in diameter increment after selection harvest and demonstrated response to release even at advanced age. Therefore, yellow birch and red spruce make desirable candidates for selection harvest. Sugar maple exhibited a moderate response to release from selection harvest. The red maple in this survey did not respond to release, therefore this species may not be a desirable candidate for selection harvest.

This survey highlights the value of using the pre-treatment assessment (PTA), forest management guides (FMG), and forest ecosystem classification (FEC) to ensure appropriate stands are chosen for selection harvest. Sixty percent of the area surveyed failed to meet the job quality standards used in this report. Furthermore, several stands (n=6, 18% of area) with soils that put them at high risk for wind damage were selection harvested (low risk soils =1% merchantable volume losses due to blowdown, moderate risk soils =3%, high risk soils =13%).

Many of these issues were caused by choosing inappropriate stands for selection harvest; either because of the wrong soil conditions, species composition, pre-harvest basal area or the stands were too young. It should be noted that these sites were selection harvested (2004-2006) before Nova Scotia introduced many of the tools used today to help with proper implementation of selection harvesting. If the below mentioned publications had been available at the time of the survey, many of the sites would not have qualified as candidates for selection harvest.

- Forest Management Guides (FMG)
 - Tolerant Softwood & Mixedwood Management Guide (McGrath 2010)
 - Tolerant Hardwood Management Guide (McGrath 2007)
 - Intolerant Hardwood Management Guide (McGrath *et al.* 2015)
 - Spruce-Pine Management Guide (Neily *et al.* 2015)
- Forest Ecosystem Classification (FEC) (Neily *et al.* 2013)

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http://novascotia.ca/natr/strategy/pdf/Strategy_Strategy.pdf

Appendix 1: Summary of selection harvest survey by stand in terms of harvest description and species composition.

Stand ID	Area (ha)	Stand Type ¹	Ownership ²	Region ³	Stump Age when Harv.	DBH Age when Harv.	Year Harv.	Harvest Description					Species Composition ⁶ (% of Basal Area)					
								% Treat	Treatment ⁴	% Stand not treated	Clear cut after wards	Trail/ Patch Size (ha)	Trail/ Cut Strip (m)	% Leave strip in Trails	1st Sp	LC ⁵	Before Harvest	After Harvest
1101	2.6	Sw	IN	WE	39	33	2004	100%	Understory cleaning						rS	5.0	RS ⁷³ LTA ³ WP ⁷ RM ⁷ BF ⁴	RS ⁷³ WP ⁸ RM ⁸ LTA ⁷ BF ⁴
1102	3.1	Mw	SP	WE	33	27	2004	80%	Non-Systematic Trails Only	20%					rM	5.9	RS ³² RM ²⁹ RO ¹³ WP ⁹ LTA ⁵ GB ⁴ BF ⁴ WB ² LA ¹	RM ³³ RS ²⁸ RO ¹⁵ WP ¹⁰ LTA ⁶ GB ⁵ WB ² BF ¹ LA ¹
1103	3.3	Sw	SP	WE	117	111	2006	100%	U. Selection						He	4.3	HE ⁴⁹ RS ⁴⁰ YB ⁴ WB ³ RM ³ BF ¹	HE ⁵¹ RS ⁴³ WB ³ YB ³
1104	3.8	Hw	IN	WE	78	72	2004	95%	U. Selection	5%					rM	2.8	RM ⁵³ YB ³³ RS ⁸ SM ⁵ BF ¹ StM ¹	RM ⁵⁸ YB ²⁵ RS ⁷ SM ⁷ BF ² StM ¹
1105	3.9	Mw	SP	WE	46	40	2004	95%	Partial Harvest	5%					rM	2.4	BF ⁵⁴ RM ³⁰ RS ¹⁰ WB ⁴ WP ²	RM ⁶³ BF ¹³ RS ¹¹ WB ⁸ WP ⁵
1106	3.9	Sw	SP	WE	52	46	2004	100%	U. Selection						rS	7.0	RS ⁴⁷ HE ²⁴ WP ¹⁴ RM ⁸ YB ³ RO ² BF ² WB ¹	RS ⁴⁶ WP ²³ HE ¹⁷ RM ¹⁰ RO ⁴ WB ¹
1107	3.9	Sw	IN	WE	56	50	2004	100%	Non-Systematic Trails Only		11	58	16%	wS	5.4	WS ³⁷ BF ²⁸ RM ¹⁶ RS ¹⁴ BS ⁴	WS ³³ BF ²⁵ RM ¹⁸ RS ¹⁷ BS ⁵ PC ¹	
1108	4.0	Mw	CR	CE	72	66	2005	100%	U. Selection						rM	3.9	RS ²⁵ HE ²² RM ²¹ BF ¹⁷ YB ¹³ SM ² WA ¹	HE ²⁸ RS ²³ RM ²³ YB ¹⁷ SM ³ BF ³ WA ² BS ¹
1109	4.5	Mw	SP	EA	71	65	2004	100%	U. Selection						rM	2.6	WS ²⁸ RM ²⁵ WA ¹⁷ YB ¹² BF ¹¹ HE ³ SM ² IR ¹	RM ³⁹ WA ²⁷ YB ²¹ HE ⁶ SM ⁴ IR ¹ WS ¹
1110	4.5	Sw	SP	WE	60	54	2006	100%	U. Selection						wP	7.4	WP ⁵⁹ RM ¹⁶ HE ¹³ BF ⁵ BS ⁴ RO ⁴	WP ⁵⁴ RM ²³ HE ¹⁵ BS ⁶ RO ² BF ¹
1111	4.5	Hw	CR	EA	79	73	2004	90%	U. Selection	10%					sM	2.4	SM ⁷⁶ YB ²⁰ WS ³ BE ¹	SM ⁷⁷ YB ¹⁹ WS ⁴
1112	4.7	Hw	CR	EA	107	101	2006	75%	U. Selection	25%					sM	2.5	SM ⁷⁰ BF ¹³ RM ¹⁰ YB ⁶ WS ¹	SM ⁶⁷ RM ¹⁴ BF ¹⁰ YB ⁸ WS ¹
1113	5.2	Mw	SP	WE	45	39	2006	80%/20%	Partial Harvest/Clearcut						rM	2.8	RM ⁵³ BF ¹⁹ BS ¹⁷ WB ¹⁰ YB ¹	RM ⁶⁹ WB ¹⁸ BS ¹⁴
1114	5.5	Sw	SP	WE	47	41	2005	100%	U. Selection						wP	8.9	WP ³³ BF ³³ HE ¹⁷ RS ¹¹ RM ⁴ WB ¹ BS ¹ RO ¹	WP ³⁴ HE ²⁹ RM ¹⁴ BF ¹¹ WB ⁷ RS ² RO ²
1115	6.0	Mw	IN	CE	72	66	2004	75%/25%	U. Selection/Systematic Trails Only						yB	2.4	YB ³² SM ²³ RS ²⁰ RM ¹⁹ BF ⁷	YB ³⁶ SM ²⁵ RM ²⁰ RS ¹⁶ BF ³
1116	6.4	Mw	SP	CE	90	84	2005	90%	U. Selection	10%					rM	2.4	RM ³¹ RS ²⁷ YB ²³ BF ¹⁵ WB ² SM ¹ WA ¹	RM ³⁹ YB ³² RS ²⁰ WB ⁴ BF ³ SM ² WA ¹
1117	6.6	Sw	IN	WE	71	65	2006	65%/15%	U. Selection/Plantation	20%					rS	5.7	RS ⁴⁹ WS ²⁹ RM ⁶ LA ⁴ BF ³ YB ² LTA ² BS ¹ WA ¹ GB ¹	RS ³⁶ WS ²³ RM ¹² LA ⁹ YB ⁵ BF ⁵ LTA ⁴ BS ² WA ² GB ²
1118	7.7	Hw	SP	CE	79	73	2006	100%	Non-Systematic Trails Only		7	34	17%		sM	2.8	SM ⁷⁶ YB ¹⁰ BE ⁷ BF ⁴ WB ³ StM ¹ RM ¹	SM ⁶⁶ YB ¹³ BE ⁹ BF ⁶ WB ⁴ StM ¹ RM ¹
1119	8.2	Mw	SP	WE	65	59	2004	100%	U. Selection						rS	5.5	RS ³⁸ RM ²⁷ BF ¹⁷ YB ¹⁴ WA ² WP ¹ WB ¹	RS ³⁴ RM ³¹ YB ²¹ BF ⁷ WA ² WP ¹ WB ¹
1120	8.9	Mw	CR	EA	56	50	2005	75%/15%	U. Selection/Clearcut	10%					rM	2.7	RM ⁴³ YB ²⁴ BF ²³ RS ⁶ WB ³ WS ²	RM ⁵² YB ²⁰ BF ¹⁸ WB ⁴ RS ⁴ WS ³
1121	9.1	Hw	IN	WE	69	63	2004	100%	Strip Cut		15	17	47%		rM	3.1	RM ⁷⁴ YB ¹⁰ SM ¹⁰ RS ⁷	RM ⁶⁹ SM ¹² YB ¹¹ RS ⁸
1122	10.2	Hw	SP	EA	85	79	2006	100%	U. Selection						sM	3.0	SM ⁶⁶ YB ²⁵ RS ⁴ BF ² RM ²	SM ⁵⁹ YB ²⁹ RS ⁵ BF ⁴ RM ³ StM ¹
1123	11.7	Sw	IN	CE	79	73	2005	70%/30%	U. Selection/Systematic Trails Only						bS	5.3	BS ⁸⁵ BF ⁹ WP ² RM ² RP ¹	BS ⁸⁴ BF ⁹ WP ³ RM ² RP ²
1124	12.9	Hw	CR	EA	98	92	2005	100%	U. Selection						yB	2.1	YB ⁷² SM ¹² BF ¹⁰ RM ⁴ RS ¹ WB ¹ WS ¹	YB ⁸² SM ¹⁰ RM ⁴ RS ² WB ¹ BF ¹
1125	13.1	Sw	SP	WE	83	77	2004	80%	Diameter limit cut	20%					rS	4.6	RS ⁶⁸ BF ¹² RM ⁵ WP ⁴ HE ⁴ LA ³ RO ² WA ¹ YB ¹ WB ¹	RS ⁵² BF ¹⁷ RM ⁹ WP ⁶ HE ⁶ LA ⁵ WA ² YB ² RO ¹ WB ¹
1128	18.6	Hw	CR	EA	97	91	2006	100%	Systematic Trails Only		7	17	29%		yB	2.1	YB ³⁴ RM ²⁷ BE ²⁵ SM ⁸ WB ³ BF ² WS ²	RM ²⁹ YB ²⁸ BE ²⁵ SM ¹⁰ WB ⁵ BF ³
1129	20.3	Mw	IN	EA	111	105	2004	100%	U. Selection						yB	2.0	YB ⁴¹ RM ²⁵ WS ¹² BF ⁸ SM ⁸ WP ³ BE ¹ HE ¹ StM ¹ WB ¹	YB ⁴⁶ RM ²⁶ SM ¹⁰ WP ⁵ WS ⁵ BF ⁴ HE ² StM ¹ BE ¹
1130	21.2	Hw	CR	CE	87	81	2004	100%	Group Selection		0.2				sM	2.8	SM ⁶⁴ YB ²⁵ BE ⁷ RM ⁴	SM ⁶² YB ³⁰ BE ⁶ RM ¹
1131	21.5	Sw	SP	CE	47	41	2005	100%	Systematic Trails Only			9	32	22%	rS	7.6	RS ⁵² BF ³³ RM ¹³ WB ¹ YB ¹	RS ⁴⁶ BF ³⁵ RM ¹⁶ WB ²
1132	23.6	Hw	CR	EA	102	96	2005	100%	Systematic Trails Only			8	20	29%	sM	2.1	SM ⁴¹ YB ³¹ BE ¹⁶ RM ⁸ BF ³ WB ¹	SM ³⁸ YB ³⁴ BE ¹⁹ RM ⁷ BF ² WB ¹
1133	27.4	Hw	IN	EA	107	101	2005	100%	Systematic Trails Only			8	16	33%	sM	2.5	YB ⁴⁰ SM ³⁹ RM ⁸ BE ⁶ BF ⁶ WS ¹	SM ⁴⁵ YB ³⁴ RM ¹⁰ BF ⁵ BE ⁵ WS ¹
1134	33.6	Mw	SP	WE	39	33	2004	50%/25%	U. Selection/Non-Systematic Trails Only	25%					rS	6.5	RS ⁶⁰ RM ²⁹ BF ⁸ WB ³ BS ¹	RS ⁵⁵ RM ³⁰ BF ⁹ WB ⁵ BS ¹ WP ¹
1135	36.5	Hw	IN	CE			2005	100%	Strip cut		Yes	20	40	33%				
1136	41.4	Hw	CR	CE	70	64	2006	100%	Group Selection			0.2			sM	2.5	SM ⁹² RM ³ YB ³ RS ¹ BF ¹	SM ⁹⁰ YB ⁵ RM ² RS ² BF ¹

402.3

¹Stand Type: Hw=Hardwood, Mw=Mixedwood, Sw=Softwood. Hardwood: 75% or greater hardwood species in the overstory; Softwood: 75% or greater softwood species in the overstory; Mixedwood: all other stands (Neily *et al.* 2013).

²Ownership: CR=Crown, IN=Industrial, SP=Small Private

³Region:EA=East (Antigonish, Cape Breton, Guysborough, Inverness, Richmond, Victoria); CE=Central (Colchester, Cumberland, Halifax, Hants, Pictou); WE=West (Annapolis, Digby, Kings, Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth)

⁴Treatment: for definitions see page 6

⁵LC= Land capability is a measure of site productivity and is explained in the Nova Scotia Forestry Field Handbook (NSDNR 1993), LC is based on the dominant species in the stand.

⁶Species Composition = Species %; BE=beech, BF=balsam fir, BS=black spruce, GB=grey birch, HE=hemlock, IR=ironwood, LA=larch, LTA=large tooth aspen, PC=pin cherry, RM=red maple, RO=red oak, RP=red pine, RS=red spruce, SM=sugar maple, StM=striped maple, WA=white ash, WB=white birch, WP=white pine, WS=white spruce, YB=yellow birch

Appendix 2: Summary of selection harvest survey by stand at the time of the harvest (before selection harvest, removals, and afterwards).

Stand ID	Owner ship	WAP/ ASF ¹	Stand Type	Age @ PTA	Volume (Merchantable) (m ³ /ha)					Basal Area (m ² /ha)								Frequency (# Stems/ha)			Avg. Diameter at Breast Height (cm)			Avg. Height (m)			Harvest Damage			
					Harv.	Before	Cut	After	Mor- tality	7-9 Yrs later	Before	Cut	After	Mor- tality	7-9 Yrs later	BAR	Tol. Sp. After ²	AGS ³	% AGS	Before	Cut	After	Before	Cut	After	Before	Cut	After	% trees	Merch. Volume
1101	IN	WAP	Sw	39	97	8	89	11	137	22	3	19	1.8	25	12%	15	16	82%	1,500	290	1,210	14	10	14	11	10	12	1%	0%	
1102	SP	WAP	Mw	Fail	33	63	9	54	2	85	16	2	14	0.4	19	11%	7	10	71%	1,260	100	1,160	13	15	13	11	12	11	1%	3%
1103	SP	WAP	Sw	117	315	113	202	7	238	42	15	27	0.9	30	36%	26	25	94%	1,020	370	650	23	23	23	18	18	18	2%	0%	
1104	IN		Hw	78	198	75	122	6	136	31	11	20	1.1	22	35%	8	12	58%	890	190	700	21	27	19	18	19	17	9%	5%	
1105	SP	WAP	Mw	Fail	46	156	93	63	1	100	29	16	13	0.2	19	54%	2	7	54%	1,210	500	710	17	20	15	14	15	13	1%	0%
1106	SP	WAP	Sw	Fail	52	169	75	94	33	113	25	12	14	4.1	16	46%	12	13	91%	930	490	440	19	17	20	16	16	16	2%	0%
1107	IN		Sw	Fail	56	204	36	168	69	183	36	6	30	11.5	29	18%	5	15	51%	2,140	380	1,760	15	15	15	15	15	15	0%	0%
1108	CR		Mw	72	213	122	91	51	101	40	23	17	7.5	18	57%	13	15	86%	1,500	820	680	18	19	18	14	14	13	3%	0%	
1109	SP	WAP	Mw	71	245	127	118	0	154	38	19	19	0.0	24	49%	11	9	46%	1,280	650	630	19	19	20	18	18	17	0%	0%	
1110	SP	WAP	Sw	60	266	142	124	4	173	39	21	18	0.6	24	54%	13	12	68%	1,340	790	550	19	19	20	17	17	17	5%	1%	
1111	CR		Hw	Fail	79	127	45	82	4	97	22	7	15	0.6	17	34%	14	5	34%	460	90	370	25	33	22	16	16	15	0%	0%
1112	CR		Hw	107	145	38	106	1	122	22	6	17	0.2	19	25%	13	8	47%	460	70	390	25	32	23	18	19	17	3%	3%	
1113	SP	WAP	Mw	Fail	45	115	82	33	7	42	25	18	7	1.2	9	71%	0	3	39%	1,490	1,060	430	15	15	15	13	13	13	12%	8%
1114	SP	WAP	Sw	Fail	47	183	154	29	1	63	34	28	6	0.3	11	81%	4	3	55%	1,630	1,210	420	16	17	14	13	14	12	5%	2%
1115	IN		Mw	72	123	36	87	6	107	23	7	16	1.1	18	31%	12	8	48%	1,008	416	591	17	15	18	15	14	15	0%	0%	
1116	SP	ASF	Mw	Fail	90	142	57	85	16	100	24	10	14	2.2	16	41%	8	9	64%	1,216	608	608	16	14	17	16	16	16	8%	11%
1117	IN		Sw	71	251	142	109	15	121	40	20	20	2.4	21	50%	9	12	63%	1,164	393	771	21	26	18	15	16	14	3%	8%	
1118	SP	WAP	Hw	Fail	79	95	28	67	6	80	17	5	12	0.9	14	27%	10	7	53%	650	112	537	18	23	17	16	17	15	1%	1%
1119	SP	WAP	Mw	65	148	62	86	3	141	27	12	16	0.6	22	42%	9	8	52%	1,550	687	862	15	15	15	14	14	15	7%	9%	
1120	CR		Mw	56	143	54	89	14	90	27	9	17	3.0	17	35%	4	9	54%	1,062	328	734	18	19	17	14	15	14	1%	0%	
1121	IN		Hw	69	173	61	112	0	126	27	9	18	0.0	20	35%	6	6	36%	667	183	484	23	25	22	18	18	17	3%	4%	
1122	SP	WAP	Hw	85	180	65	115	13	124	27	10	17	1.7	18	37%	16	9	55%	610	265	345	24	22	25	18	18	19	3%	1%	
1123	IN		Sw	Fail	79	126	23	103	20	96	21	4	17	3.3	15	21%	0	14	85%	846	229	617	18	16	19	15	14	16	3%	2%
1124	CR		Hw	98	156	55	101	4	119	28	10	19	0.7	22	34%	18	5	28%	435	115	320	29	32	27	15	15	14	10%	5%	
1125	SP	WAP	Sw	83	257	107	150	10	161	36	14	22	1.7	23	39%	15	18	81%	1,132	354	778	20	22	19	17	18	17	2%	4%	
1128	CR		Hw	Fail	97	110	43	67	4	72	23	9	15	1.0	15	37%	6	5	33%	689	210	479	21	23	20	12	13	12	3%	3%
1129	IN		Mw	111	206	84	121	9	140	34	13	20	1.6	22	40%	13	10	49%	857	327	530	22	23	22	17	17	17	3%	2%	
1130	CR		Hw	Fail	87	154	61	92	8	96	24	10	15	1.2	15	40%	14	7	46%	600	243	357	23	23	23	18	18	18	0%	0%
1131	SP	WAP	Sw	47	150	48	102	31	128	30	9	22	5.8	23	29%	10	15	67%	1,993	479	1,514	14	15	14	13	13	12	0%	0%	
1132	CR		Hw	102	166	53	113	5	125	28	8	20	0.8	21	30%	14	9	47%	651	113	538	23	31	22	16	17	16	1%	1%	
1133	IN		Hw	107	142	43	99	8	104	25	7	17	1.5	18	30%	14	8	44%	518	136	382	25	26	24	16	16	15	1%	0%	
1134	SP	WAP	Mw	Fail	39	83	40	43	2	77	17	7	10	0.4	15	41%	6	8	79%	928	231	697	15	20	14	12	13	11	2%	2%
1136	CR		Hw	70	155	62	93	1	103	26	10	16	0.2	17	39%	15	8	53%	896	304	592	19	21	19	17	17	16	1%	1%	
				73	165	68	97	11	117	28	11	17	2	19	39%	10	10	58%	1,048	386	662	19	21	19	15	16	15	3%	2%	

¹WAP= Wood Acquisition Plan; ASF=Association of Sustainable Forestry

²Tolerant species after selection harvest : must contain at least 5 m²/ha of the following tolerant species (red spruce, white pine, eastern hemlock, eastern cedar, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash).

³AGS=Acceptable growing stock (McGrath *et al.* 2015): Trees are acceptable growing stock when they are healthy with potential to produce high value stems suitable to meet sawlog or studwood specifications in the future and the ability to thrive after thinning until the time of the next harvest.

Appendix 3: Summary of wind damage which occurred at the selection harvest survey sites (total wind damage= blowdown+broken tops)

Wind Damage																												
Stand ID	Stand Type	Elevation (m)	Forest Ecosystem Classification					Height/Diameter Ratio			Volume (merchantable) (m ³ /ha)						Basal Area (m ² /ha)						Frequency (# stems/ha)			DBH (cm)		
			Exposure ¹	Soil Type ²	Veg Type ³	Shallow (<30cm)	Imperfect Drainage	Windthrow Hazard ⁴	Before Harv.	Cut Trees	Wind Damaged Trees	Blow-down (m ³ /ha)	Broken Tops (m ³ /ha)	Total (m ³ /ha)	Blow-down (%)	Broken Tops (%)	Total (%)	Blow-down (m ² /ha)	Broken Tops (m ² /ha)	Total (m ² /ha)	Blow-down (%)	Broken Tops (%)	Total (%)	Blow-down (#/ha)	Broken Tops (#/ha)	Total (#/ha)	Blow-down (cm)	Broken Tops (cm)
1101	Sw	114	M	ST2L ¹⁰⁰	SH5			Low	0.76	0.80	0.72	-	8	8	0%	9%	9%	0	1	1	0%	7%	8%	10	50	60	8	19
1102	Mw	99	M	ST2L ¹⁰⁰	MW2			Low	0.77	0.75	0.77	-	1	1	0%	2%	2%	0	0	0	0%	1%	1%	-	10	10	-	16
1103	Sw	82	M	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	SH3,1			Low	0.77	0.77	0.71	-	4	4	0%	2%	2%	0	1	1	0%	2%	2%	-	10	10	-	26
1104	Hw	178	M	ST2S ¹⁰⁰	TH8			Mod.	0.87	0.77	0.92	-	4	4	0%	3%	3%	0	1	1	0%	3%	3%	-	30	30	-	16
1105	Mw	161	M	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	MW4			Low	0.83	0.77	0.97	-	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	1%	1%	-	10	10	-	10
1106	Sw	128	M	ST3L ⁸⁰ /ST6 ²⁰	SH3		Yes	Mod.	0.85	0.88	0.67	6	12	18	6%	13%	19%	1	1	2	6%	10%	16%	20	10	30	23	42
1107	Sw	115	M	ST3GS ⁵⁰ /ST2GS ⁴⁰	SH7		Yes	High	1.03	1.03	0.99	19	15	34	11%	9%	20%	3	2	6	11%	8%	19%	170	120	290	16	16
1108	Mw	85	M	ST2L ⁴⁰ /ST15L ²⁰ / ST16L ²⁰ (ST4 ²⁰)	MW3,2,1	Yes	Yes	High	0.64	0.64	0.62	37	3	40	41%	3%	44%	5	1	6	32%	4%	35%	120	30	150	24	17
1109	Mw	44	MS	ST8 ⁵ /ST9 ⁴	MW1		Yes	Low	0.97	0.97	-	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-
1110	Sw	60	M	ST2S ⁸⁰ /ST2 ²⁰	SH2,SP9			Mod.	0.89	0.91	-	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-
1111	Hw	334	E	ST2L ¹⁰⁰	TH1			High	0.65	0.56	-	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-
1112	Hw	300	E	ST2L ¹⁰⁰	TH1			High	0.72	0.61	-	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-
1113	Mw	158	M	ST2 ⁴⁰ /ST3 ²⁰ / ST16 ²⁰ (ST4 ²⁰)	MW4,1H6,SH9	Yes	Yes	High	0.83	0.83	0.77	5	0	5	16%	0%	16%	1	0	1	13%	0%	13%	40	-	40	18	-
1114	Sw	123	M	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	SH2,SP4			Low	0.76	0.74	0.56	0	7	7	0%	22%	22%	0	1	1	-	13%	13%	-	10	10	-	33
1115	Mw	169	M	ST2S ⁵⁰ /ST8 ⁵⁰	TH1,MW1			Mod.	0.91	0.96	0.93	2	1	3	2%	1%	3%	0	0	1	2%	1%	3%	25	8	33	13	16
1116	Mw	102	M	ST2L ¹⁰⁰	TH8			Low	1.01	1.05	0.91	7	5	12	9%	6%	14%	1	1	2	8%	5%	12%	42	25	67	18	19
1117	Sw	89	M	ST16 ⁶⁰ /ST8 ²⁰ (ST4 ²⁰)	SH7,MW4,SP7	Yes		High	0.64	0.60	0.65	12	1	12	11%	0%	11%	2	0	2	9%	1%	10%	50	21	71	21	11
1118	Hw	218	M	ST2 ⁹⁰ (ST2S ¹⁰)	TH1			Low	0.86	0.76	0.80	0	4	4	0%	6%	6%	0	1	1	0%	5%	5%	-	19	19	-	21
1119	Mw	170	M	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH8,MW2,1,SH4			Low	0.84	0.84	0.86	1	1	1	1%	1%	2%	0	0	0	1%	1%	2%	12	19	31	13	11
1120	Mw	172	M	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH8,SH8			Low	0.87	0.86	0.88	1	5	6	1%	6%	7%	0	1	1	1%	6%	7%	6	56	61	22	15
1121	Hw	166	M	ST2S ⁶⁰ /ST2 ³⁰ (ST3 ¹⁰)	TH8			Mod.	0.87	0.79	0.82	0	13	13	0%	11%	11%	0	2	2	0%	11%	11%	-	39	39	-	25
1122	Hw	246	E	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH1,1b			High	0.84	0.88	0.59	7	0	7	6%	0%	6%	1	0	1	5%	0%	5%	10	-	10	33	-
1123	Sw	67	M	ST3 ⁶⁰ /ST2 ³⁰ (ST4 ¹⁰)	SP5,7		Yes	Mod.	0.76	0.77	0.77	10	11	20	9%	10%	20%	2	2	3	9%	11%	20%	46	71	117	20	18
1124	Hw	355	E	ST2 ⁹⁰ (ST3 ¹⁰)	TH1b			High	0.52	0.47	-	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	-	-	-	-	-
1125	Sw	78	M	ST3 ⁵⁰ /ST2 ⁵⁰	SH4,6		Yes	Mod.	0.81	0.78	0.87	0	3	3	0%	2%	2%	0	1	1	0%	2%	3%	8	31	38	12	15
1128	Hw	261	E	ST2L ⁷⁰ /ST2LS ³⁰	TH1,1a,8			High	0.61	0.58	0.68	1	0	1	1%	0%	1%	0	0	0	1%	0%	1%	3	5	8	24	10
1129	Mw	86	ME-M	ST2L ⁸⁰ /ST3L ²⁰	TH8,MW1		Yes	High	0.76	0.75	0.78	1	8	9	1%	6%	7%	0	1	1	1%	6%	7%	10	30	40	15	23
1130	Hw	197	MS	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH1,1a			Low	0.82	0.82	0.83	5	2	7	5%	3%	8%	1	0	1	5%	3%	8%	10	17	26	31	18
1131	Sw	71	M	ST6 ¹⁰⁰	SH6		Yes	Mod.	0.87	0.85	0.80	2	9	11	2%	9%	11%	0	2	2	1%	8%	9%	18	68	86	15	18
1132	Hw	266	E-ME	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH1a,1,1b,2,7,8			High	0.73	0.61	0.77	1	1	2	1%	1%	2%	0	0	0	1%	1%	2%	7	11	17	18	17
1133	Hw	253	E-ME	ST2 ¹⁰⁰	TH1a,1,2			High	0.61	0.59	0.65	1	1	3	1%	1%	3%	0	0	1	2%	2%	3%	10	10	20	18	19
1134	Mw	215	M	ST2S ²⁰ /ST15GS ²⁰ / ST16 ¹⁰ /ST15 ¹⁰ / ST3S ¹⁰ /ST15S ⁵ / ST2 ⁵ (ST4S ¹⁵ /ST4 ⁵)	SH5,MW2,1H7, SH6 (WC1,5)	Yes	Yes	High	0.74	0.67	0.70	0	1	1	0%	2%	2%	0	0	0	0%	1%	2%	3	5	8	12	19
1136	Hw	225	ME	ST2L ⁹⁰ (ST2LS ¹⁰)	TH1			Mod.	0.91	0.87	0.64	0	1	1	0%	1%	1%	0	0	0	0%	1%	1%	-	2	2	-	29
									0.80	0.77	0.77	4	4	7	4%	4%	8%	1	1	1	3%	3%	7%	19	22	40	19	19

¹Exposure: S=Sheltered, MS=Moderately Sheltered, M=Moderate, ME=Moderately Exposed, E=Exposed (Neily *et al.* 2013)

²Soil Type (Neily *et al.* 2013)

³Vegetation Type (Neily *et al.* 2013)

⁴Windthrow hazard (Neily *et al.* 2013)

Appendix 4. Stocking (%) of dominant regeneration by species, pre-harvest stand type, and location of plot.

Species	Stocking of Dominant Trees													
	Softwood			Mixedwood			Hardwood				Total			
	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection
Balsam fir	44%	30%	31%	39%	28%	18%	15%	11%	8%	11%	27%	22%	16%	11%
Red spruce	16%	14%	25%	13%	4%	-	1%	2%	-	5%	7%	5%	7%	5%
Hemlock	-	18%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4%	-	-
Black Spruce	6%	4%	6%	-	1%	-	-	-	-	-	2%	1%	2%	-
White pine	-	2%	-	-	-	5%	-	-	-	-	-	0.4%	1%	-
White spruce	-	-	-	3%	4%	-	1%	1%	-	-	1%	2%	-	-
Softwood Total	66%	68%	63%	55%	37%	23%	17%	14%	8%	16%	36%	35%	25%	16%
Yellow birch	2%	-	-	11%	6%	5%	22%	23%	38%	20%	15%	11%	21%	20%
Red maple (seed)	22%	16%	6%	3%	10%	18%	10%	3%	8%	14%	12%	9%	9%	14%
Red maple (coppice)	2%	7%	3%	3%	19%	18%	-	2%	5%	9%	1%	10%	7%	9%
Red maple	23%	23%	9%	5%	29%	36%	10%	5%	13%	23%	13%	19%	16%	23%
Sugar maple (seed)	-	-	-	8%	3%	-	6%	23%	-	-	5%	10%	-	-
Sugar maple (coppice)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5%	9%	-	-	3%	9%
Sugar maple	-	-	-	8%	3%	-	6%	23%	5%	9%	5%	10%	3%	9%
White ash	-	-	-	-	2%	9%	-	-	-	-	-	1%	2%	-
Red oak	2%	4%	-	-	-	5%	-	-	-	-	0.4%	1%	1%	-
Large tooth aspen	-	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4%	-	-
white birch	-	2%	6%	3%	-	-	-	-	2%	-	0.4%	0.4%	3%	-
Hardwood Total	27%	30%	16%	26%	40%	55%	38%	52%	56%	52%	33%	42%	45%	52%
Softwood and Hardwood Total	92%	98%	78%	82%	77%	77%	55%	66%	64%	68%	69%	78%	70%	68%
Long Lived Species ¹	19%	38%	25%	32%	15%	23%	30%	49%	42%	34%	27%	32%	34%	34%
Tolerant Species ²	16%	32%	25%	21%	6%	-	7%	26%	5%	14%	12%	19%	9%	14%
Striped maple	-	-	-	3%	15%	9%	20%	10%	17%	16%	12%	10%	11%	16%
Beech	-	-	-	-	1%	-	19%	7%	13%	11%	11%	3%	7%	11%
Mountain maple	3%	-	-	5%	3%	-	3%	12%	5%	-	3%	5%	3%	-
Pincherry	-	-	-	-	-	5%	-	1%	-	2%	-	0.4%	1%	2%
Grey Birch	-	-	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%	-
Other ³	-	-	6%	-	1%	-	-	1%	-	-	-	1%	2%	-
Non-commercial Total	3%	-	9%	8%	19%	14%	42%	31%	34%	30%	26%	19%	24%	30%
Not stocked	5%	2%	13%	11%	4%	9%	3%	3%	2%	2%	5%	3%	6%	2%
Number of plots	64	56	32	38	109	22	134	94	64	44	236	259	118	44

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry and alder.

Appendix 5. Stocking (%) of regeneration by species, pre-harvest stand type, and plot location.

Species	Stocking (all dominance classes)													
	Softwood			Mixedwood			Hardwood				Total			
	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection
Balsam fir	72%	66%	56%	63%	78%	55%	47%	31%	44%	32%	56%	58%	49%	32%
Red spruce	34%	41%	53%	34%	24%	23%	11%	5%	2%	25%	21%	21%	19%	25%
Hemlock	-	39%	6%	3%	4%	-	-	3%	-	-	-	11%	2%	-
Black Spruce	14%	14%	9%	-	2%	-	-	-	-	-	4%	4%	3%	-
White pine	6%	27%	6%	3%	1%	5%	1%	4%	-	-	3%	8%	3%	-
White spruce	2%	2%	3%	3%	7%	-	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%
Larch	2%	2%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%	-
Softwood Total	89%	93%	81%	66%	83%	59%	51%	36%	47%	50%	64%	68%	58%	50%
Yellow birch	3%	2%	3%	21%	37%	9%	47%	48%	70%	48%	31%	33%	41%	48%
Red maple (seed)	67%	30%	53%	32%	51%	45%	41%	22%	41%	36%	47%	36%	45%	36%
Red maple (coppice)	3%	7%	3%	3%	20%	18%	-	2%	5%	9%	1%	11%	7%	9%
Red maple	69%	36%	53%	34%	64%	64%	41%	24%	45%	45%	47%	44%	51%	45%
Sugar maple (seed)	-	-	-	16%	17%	-	42%	69%	52%	32%	26%	32%	28%	32%
Sugar maple (coppice)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%	16%	-	-	4%	16%
Sugar maple	-	-	-	16%	17%	-	42%	69%	52%	43%	26%	32%	28%	43%
White ash	-	-	3%	13%	7%	9%	-	-	-	-	2%	3%	3%	-
Red oak	5%	14%	6%	3%	2%	5%	-	-	-	-	2%	4%	3%	-
Trembling aspen	-	2%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%	-
Large tooth aspen	-	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
white birch	-	5%	25%	3%	4%	5%	-	1%	3%	5%	-	3%	9%	5%
Hardwood Total	72%	48%	63%	50%	74%	73%	78%	88%	91%	84%	72%	74%	80%	84%
Softwood and Hardwood Total	95%	98%	88%	94%	98%	86%	88%	90%	95%	95%	91%	95%	92%	95%
Long Lived Species ¹	41%	68%	56%	68%	63%	36%	75%	88%	86%	84%	64%	73%	69%	84%
Tolerant Species ²	34%	55%	53%	50%	43%	23%	51%	76%	53%	59%	46%	58%	47%	59%
Striped maple	5%	-	6%	11%	29%	9%	46%	27%	50%	41%	29%	22%	31%	41%
Beech	-	-	-	-	2%	-	24%	13%	41%	32%	14%	5%	22%	32%
Mountain maple	3%	-	3%	8%	6%	-	12%	26%	16%	-	9%	12%	9%	-
Pincherry	-	-	-	-	1%	5%	-	1%	-	7%	-	1%	1%	7%
Grey Birch	-	2%	6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2%	-
Other ³			9%		2%			5%		2%		3%	9%	2%
Non-commercial Total	6%	2%	25%	16%	39%	14%	62%	57%	75%	66%	39%	38%	50%	66%
Not stocked	5%	2%	13%	11%	4%	9%	3%	3%	2%	2%	5%	3%	6%	2%
Number of plots	64	56	32	38	109	22	134	94	64	44	236	259	118	44

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry, chokecherry, alder, willow.

Appendix 6. Height (cm) of regeneration by species, pre-harvest stand type, and plot location.

Species	Height (cm)													
	Softwood			Mixedwood			Hardwood				Total			
	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection
Balsam fir	61	97	113	116	115	111	156	136	172	221	116	114	141	221
Red spruce	36	70	70	72	89	46	92	95	30	243	62	81	63	243
Hemlock		69	50	135	124			57			135	76	50	
Black Spruce	117	81	143		194						117	104	143	
White pine	49	74	60	100	70	200	90	93			64	78	107	
White spruce	15	25	75	370	130		100	177	90	150	137	124	85	150
Larch	200	60	45								200	60	45	
Softwood Total	71	101	102	141	126	112	149	135	165	215	118	120	131	215
Yellow birch	20	20	50	226	164	70	214	172	251	310	210	167	239	310
Red maple (seed)	28	104	34	37	120	42	87	99	181	190	58	113	107	190
Red maple (coppice)	210	320	410	150	421	338		320	290	495	190	400	329	495
Red maple	37	151	57	46	220	126	87	118	192	251	62	187	138	251
Sugar maple (seed)				65	120		51	117	61	69	52	117	61	69
Sugar maple (coppice)									383	299			383	299
Sugar maple				65	120		51	117	114	151	52	117	114	151
White ash			10	104	189	115					104	189	80	
Red oak	10	141	13	25	13	300					14	116	108	
Trembling aspen		80	20									80	20	
Large tooth aspen		200										200		
white birch		97	74	60	166	10		80	285	300	60	129	106	300
Hardwood Total	36	156	74	135	258	146	163	161	264	300	126	202	204	300
Softwood and Hardwood Total	78	130	122	162	247	155	179	176	270	310	148	196	212	310
Long Lived Species ¹	38	100	69	127	157	98	158	154	241	282	132	144	189	282
Tolerant Species ²	36	87	71	70	106	46	61	114	112	192	58	106	93	192
Striped maple	12		55	136	251	383	185	187	211	286	175	223	212	286
Beech					290		281	254	245	295	281	259	245	295
Mountain maple	80		120	227	290		110	178	169		123	203	165	
Pincherry					450	200		410		377		430	200	377
Grey Birch		40	145									40	145	
Other ³			150		175			138		170		149	150	170
Non-commercial Total	48	40	121	200	256	322	229	199	243	300	220	222	230	300
Number of plots	64	56	32	38	109	22	134	94	64	44	236	259	118	44

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry, chokecherry, alder, willow.

Appendix 7. The density (# stems/ha) of regeneration by species, pre-harvest stand type, and plot location.

Species	Density													
	Softwood			Mixedwood			Hardwood				Total			
	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection	Un-thinned	Uniform Selection	Trail	Group Selection
Balsam fir	13,068	5,452	7,663	10,257	11,473	5,832	2,278	1,313	1,700	1,070	6,489	6,484	4,088	1,070
Red spruce	2,106	4,031	5,075	940	700	738	315	207	51	480	901	1,242	1,541	480
Hemlock	-	2,610	355	43	134	-	-	52	-	-	7	640	96	-
Black Spruce	1,066	1,247	406	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	289	282	110	-
White pine	152	1,044	152	43	15	74	12	69	-	-	55	257	55	-
White spruce	25	29	51	43	149	-	48	17	102	37	41	75	69	37
Larch	127	29	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	6	14	-
Softwood Total	16,545	14,442	13,754	11,325	12,501	6,644	2,654	1,659	1,852	1,587	7,817	8,985	5,973	1,587
Yellow birch	51	29	51	1,026	2,175	664	2,109	3,058	11,038	5,020	1,376	2,032	6,125	5,020
Red maple (seed)	14,439	1,479	5,481	4,274	11,502	4,872	3,696	829	2,588	1,735	6,703	5,462	3,799	1,735
Red maple (coppice)	51	493	203	85	2,548	2,879	-	86	203	886	28	1,210	702	886
Red maple	14,489	1,972	5,684	4,359	14,050	7,751	3,696	916	2,791	2,621	6,730	6,672	4,500	2,621
Sugar maple (seed)	-	-	-	983	2,086	-	3,660	12,975	4,288	2,288	2,236	5,587	2,326	2,288
Sugar maple (coppice)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,167	1,403	-	-	633	1,403
Sugar maple	-	-	-	983	2,086	-	3,660	12,975	5,456	3,691	2,236	5,587	2,959	3,691
White ash	-	-	51	598	760	148	-	-	-	-	96	320	41	-
Red oak	102	551	203	256	30	74	-	-	-	-	69	132	69	-
Trembling aspen	-	29	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	14	-
Large tooth aspen	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
white birch	-	522	660	43	149	74	-	17	203	74	7	182	303	74
Hardwood Total	14,642	3,132	6,699	7,265	19,250	8,711	9,465	16,966	19,488	11,405	10,515	14,936	14,011	11,405
Softwood and Hardwood Total	31,186	17,574	20,453	18,591	31,751	15,354	12,120	18,625	21,341	12,992	18,332	23,922	19,984	12,992
Long Lived Species ¹	2,411	8,265	5,887	3,889	5,900	1,698	6,096	16,361	16,545	9,191	4,741	10,208	10,887	9,191
Tolerant Species ²	2,106	6,641	5,430	1,966	2,920	738	3,975	13,234	5,506	4,171	3,145	7,468	4,597	4,171
Striped maple	279	-	305	556	1,788	369	1,673	950	1,700	1,809	1,115	1,097	1,074	1,809
Beech	-	-	-	-	45	-	970	466	2,563	3,396	551	188	1,390	3,396
Mountain maple	102	-	102	598	462	-	436	1,002	508	-	372	558	303	-
Pincherry	-	-	-	-	15	74	-	52	-	148	-	25	14	148
Grey birch	-	145	254	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	69	-
Other ³	-	-	152	-	30	-	-	259	-	37	-	107	41	37
Non-commercial Total	381	145	812	1,154	2,339	443	3,078	2,730	4,771	5,389	2,037	2,007	2,890	5,389
Number of plots	64	56	32	38	109	22	134	94	64	44	236	259	118	44

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry, chokecherry, alder, willow.

Appendix 8. Regeneration by individual stand ID: % stocking. Only the regeneration in the treated portions of the stand are included.

Species	Stocking (all dominance classes)																																
	Stand ID																																
	1102*	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107*	1108	1109	1110	1111*	1112*	1113*	1114	1115*	1116	1117	1118*	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1136	
Balsam fir	100%		30%	89%	80%	100%	67%	80%	90%	33%		100%	80%	100%	40%	50%	40%	81%	57%		40%	50%	23%	70%	84%	65%	5%	69%	28%	38%	88%	64%	
Red spruce	100%	80%	50%	44%	90%		67%					25%	20%		10%	50%		44%	14%	33%			60%			5%	69%			42%	32%		
Hemlock		90%	30%		50%		44%		60%				20%											20%									
Black Spruce									30%			25%											67%			3%							
White pine		20%	40%	11%	50%				40%				30%										8%		20%							4%	
White spruce				11%										100%		13%				8%	5%			10%	11%	15%							
Larch																							17%										
Softwood Total	100%	90%	80%	89%	100%	100%	89%	80%	100%	33%	0%	100%	80%	100%	40%	88%	40%	88%	57%	42%	45%	83%	23%	80%	89%	71%	10%	88%	28%	38%	96%	73%	
Yellow birch			70%	22%			56%	33%		100%	33%					40%	25%	71%	42%	70%		50%		84%	62%	76%	13%	50%	32%		41%		
Red maple (seed)	100%			11%	30%		78%	33%	20%				50%	100%	80%			25%	86%		30%	67%	38%	40%	58%	88%	33%	75%	33%	35%	8%	45%	
Red maple (coppice)			30%	22%	20%			20%	20%			25%						31%	43%	25%					11%	12%	5%	6%			33%		
Red maple	100%		30%	33%	50%		78%	53%	30%			25%	50%	100%	80%			38%	86%	25%	30%	67%	38%	40%	68%	94%	38%	75%	33%	35%	42%	45%	
Sugar maple (seed)			10%					20%			67%	83%					80%	6%	14%		100%		54%		47%	41%	71%		56%	70%		18%	
Sugar maple (coppice)																											19%		8%			23%	
Sugar maple			10%					20%			67%	83%				80%	6%	14%		100%		54%			47%	41%	71%		56%	70%		41%	
White ash								53%							10%			6%															
Red oak				30%					40%				20%											10%									13%
Trembling aspen													20%																				
Large tooth aspen													10%																				
white birch	100%				20%							10%			38%		6%	29%	8%			8%	4%		11%	3%		25%				5%	
Hardwood Total	100%		80%	44%	60%		89%	80%	60%	100%	83%	25%	70%	100%	80%	38%	80%	56%	100%	67%	100%	67%	92%	40%	95%	97%	95%	81%	89%	84%	46%	82%	
Softwood and Hardwood Total	100%	90%	90%	89%	100%	100%	89%	93%	100%	100%	83%	100%	90%	100%	90%	100%	80%	94%	100%	83%	100%	100%	96%	90%	100%	97%	100%	88%	94%	86%	96%	95%	
Long Lived Species ¹	100%	90%	90%	56%	100%		89%	67%	90%	100%	83%	25%	40%		20%	50%	80%	63%	71%	67%	100%	8%	85%	60%	89%	71%	95%	81%	83%	81%	46%	86%	
Tolerant Species ²	100%	90%	70%	44%	100%		89%	20%	60%	67%	83%	25%	20%		10%	50%	80%	50%	29%	33%	100%		54%	60%	47%	41%	76%	69%	56%	70%	42%	55%	
Striped maple			40%	11%			56%					50%			50%		100%	19%	14%	42%	35%		12%		42%	50%	33%	13%	67%	46%		32%	
Beech																	20%			8%	20%				58%	6%	76%		50%	27%			
Mountain maple								47%		33%					13%	20%					30%		58%		5%		5%		22%	11%			
Pincherry								7%												17%						3%			3%				5%
Grey Birch																							25%										
Other ³								13%					10%								8%	20%							13%				5%
Non-commercial Total			40%	11%			56%	67%		33%		50%	10%		50%	13%	100%	19%	14%	67%	75%	25%	65%		74%	56%	86%	25%	78%	70%		36%	
Not stocked		10%	10%	11%			11%				17%		10%		10%			6%						10%		3%		13%		5%	4%		5%
Number of plots	1*	10	10	9	10	2*	9	15	10	6*	6*	4*	10	2*	10	8	5*	16	7	12	20	12	26	10	19	34	21	16	18	37	24	22	

* Small sample size (see number of plots at bottom of table): Results for these stands should be treated with caution.

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry, chokecherry, alder, willow.

Appendix 9. Regeneration by individual stand ID: average of dominant heights. Only the regeneration in the treated portions of the stand are included.

Species	Average of Dominant Heights (cm)																																
	Stand ID																																
	1102*	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107*	1108	1109	1110	1111*	1112*	1113*	1114	1115*	1116	1117	1118*	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1136	
Balsam fir	60		140	90	104	201	87	83	97	59		158	98	40	198	105	145	115	200		150	123	68	108	185	108	150	75	140	187	126	213	
Red spruce	20	49	94	73	103		90					140	40		180	35		64	100	203				116			190	51			82	244	
Hemlock		76	57		42		124		97				45											30									
Black Spruce																										88							
White pine		88	93	70	66				83				40										93									200	
White spruce				40										65		25					150	177											
Larch																							53										
Softwood Total	40	66	95	80	85	201	97	83	96	59		178	71	53	194	65	145	97	180	192	153	98	68	99	174	119	170	63	140	187	115	223	
Yellow birch			147	75			153	174		246	220						365	103	160	436	186		103		249	177	292	35	308	199		212	
Red maple (seed)	10			170	75		64	38	25				79	20	24			23	128		88	128	79	86	193	169	118	26	183	214	85	167	
Red maple (coppice)			310	495	275			350	365				600					428	270	510					290	520	450	410			369		
Red maple	10		310	387	155		64	155	250				600	79	20	24			360	203	510	88	128	79	86	208	218	159	58	183	214	312	167
Sugar maple (seed)			80					250		119	90						80	80	270				137		129		64	85	57		82	83	70
Sugar maple (coppice)																																	276
Sugar maple			80					250		119	90						80	80	270				137		129		64	85	184		82	97	184
White ash								208							30			48															
Red oak					30				258				15																				108
Trembling aspen													50																				
Large tooth aspen													200																				
white birch	10			90												180		170	177	390			60	80			285	140		23		210	
Hardwood Total	10		185	262	105		101	188	254	195	127	600	67	20	25	180	175	221	189	455	147	121	106	60	196	177	223	48	187	151	265	188	
Softwood and Hardwood Total	25	66	133	128	90	201	99	153	134	172	127	239	69	42	85	94	168	146	187	361	148	106	101	89	189	160	221	56	180	159	158	203	
Long Lived Species ¹	20	66	106	73	71		120	205	139	195	127	140	36		105	35	175	76	167	332	157	75	116	81	182	140	238	49	189	130	96	211	
Tolerant Species ²	20	63	80	73	81		104	250	97	119	90	140	43		180	35	80	66	185	203	137		129	94	64	85	185	51	82	97	82	210	
Striped maple			163	70			168					155			302		336	227	130	320	240		53		216	309	326	55	198	155		253	
Beech																	200				260	268			238	290	304		256	222			
Mountain maple								290		150					120	250					128		179		80		150		258	173			
Pincherry								200												420					450				410			290	
Grey Birch																							110										
Other ³								175				300								210	120							75				170	
Non-commercial Total			163	70			168	258		150		155	300		302	120	304	227	130	323	190	110	158		222	314	304	65	228	186		248	
Number of plots	1*	10	10	9	10	2*	9	15	10	6*	6*	4*	10	2*	10	8	5*	16	7	12	20	12	26	10	19	34	21	16	18	37	24	22	

* Small sample size (see number of plots at bottom of table): Results for these stands should be treated with caution.

¹Long Lived species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple, yellow birch, red oak, and white ash.

²Tolerant species include red spruce, eastern hemlock, and sugar maple.

³Other non-commercial includes serviceberry, chokecherry, alder, willow.