



This self-guided Forest Stewardship Demonstration Tour on Birdseye Hollow and Moss Hill State Forests has six stops which show different stages of forest growth; from young seedling/sapling stands, less than ten years old, to mature forests approaching 100 years of age. It is designed to show how forests change over time. It also demonstrates how forest management helps to maintain ecological diversity which provides a variety of benefits.

A stand is an area of the forest which has uniform characteristics, such as size and species composition. A large forest may contain many different stands.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) manages about 770,000 acres of state forest land in New York State, approximately 751,000 acres of conservation easements, and over 223,000 acres of wildlife management areas across the state of New York.

A major goal in management on State Forests is to maintain a diversity of living organisms. Ecological diversity is enhanced by maintaining a balance of different vegetative types and stages. Each vegetative type and stage contains animal populations which require a

specific type of plant community for their survival. The ruffed grouse, for example, requires young stands of trees, whereas the pileated woodpecker requires older stands of trees.

As you tour the demonstration area, observe the different animal and bird populations that occupy the various stages of forest growth. Also notice how the character of the forest changes with age.

As custodians of State Forests, we have a responsibility to manage the land with proper regard to present and future generations of New Yorkers. A balanced resource base makes this “stewardship” concept possible.

In January 2008 NYS DEC was awarded dual certification by NSF-International and Scientific Certification Systems. Forest products derived from wood harvested off State Forests from this point forward could now be labeled as “green certified” through chain-of-custody certificates. Green Certified labeling on wood products may assure consumers that the raw material was harvested from well-managed forests.

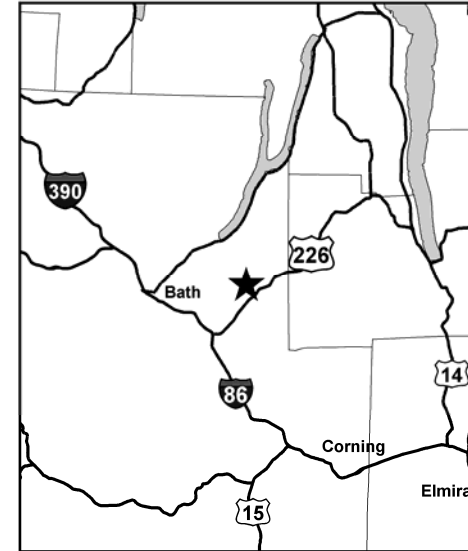


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Forest Stewardship Council



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE #NSF-SFIS-61741

MANAGED BY NYS DEC PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS.



Questions and comments about this tour may be directed to:

NYS DEC
7291 Coon Rd.
Bath, NY 14810
Phone: 607-776-2165

FOREST STEWARDSHIP DEMONSTRATION TOUR

Map and Guide



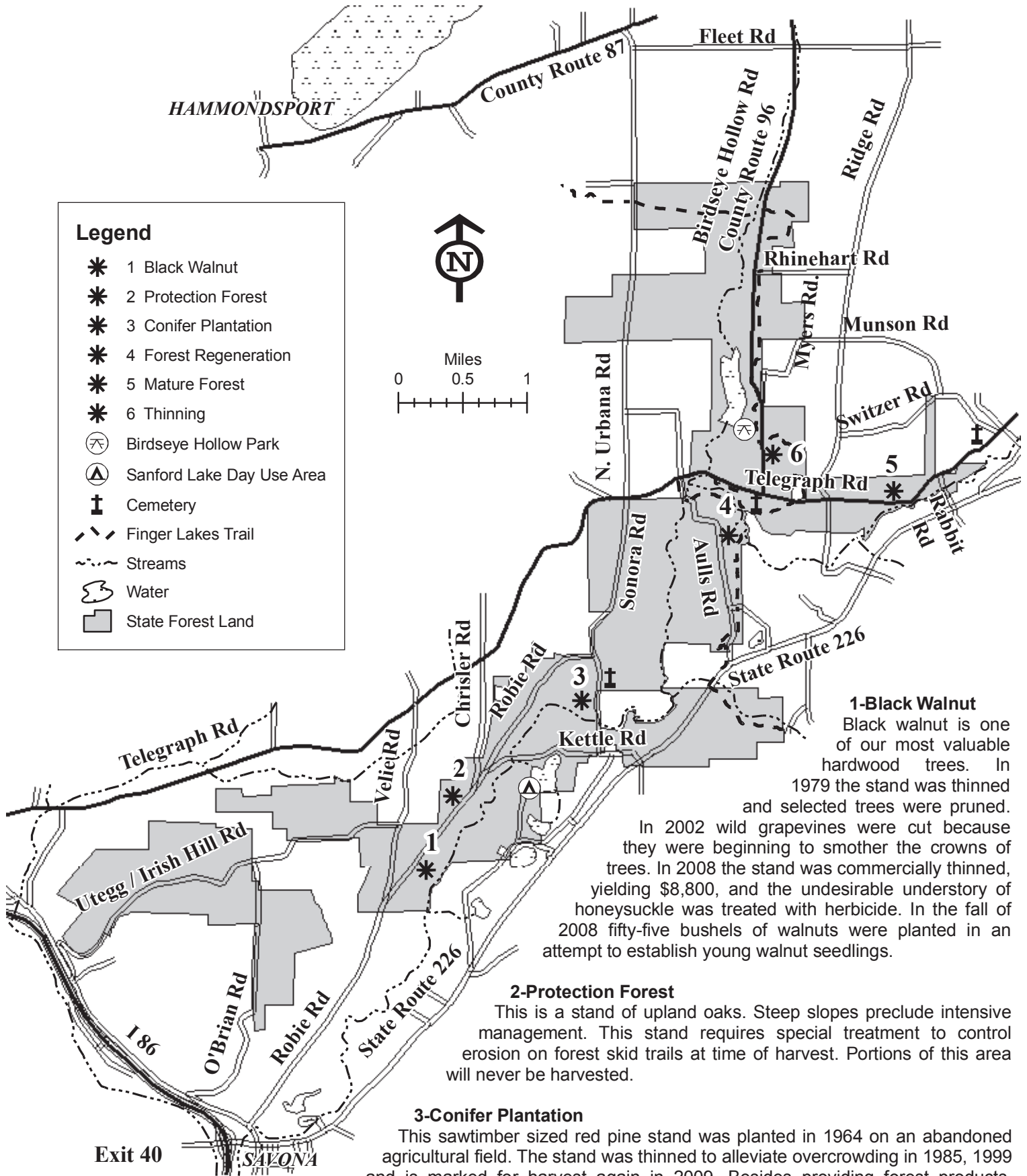
Located on
BIRDSEYE HOLLOW
and
MOSS HILL
STATE FORESTS



New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation

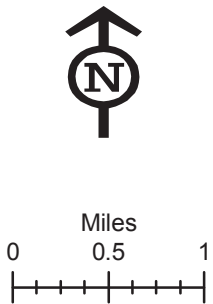
www.dec.ny.gov

Forest Stewardship Demonstration Tour



Legend

- * 1 Black Walnut
- * 2 Protection Forest
- * 3 Conifer Plantation
- * 4 Forest Regeneration
- * 5 Mature Forest
- * 6 Thinning
- ⊗ Birdseye Hollow Park
- ⊙ Sanford Lake Day Use Area
- ⊥ Cemetery
- - - Finger Lakes Trail
- ~ ~ ~ Streams
- ☪ Water
- State Forest Land



1-Black Walnut
 Black walnut is one of our most valuable hardwood trees. In 1979 the stand was thinned and selected trees were pruned. In 2002 wild grapevines were cut because they were beginning to smother the crowns of trees. In 2008 the stand was commercially thinned, yielding \$8,800, and the undesirable understory of honeysuckle was treated with herbicide. In the fall of 2008 fifty-five bushels of walnuts were planted in an attempt to establish young walnut seedlings.

2-Protection Forest
 This is a stand of upland oaks. Steep slopes preclude intensive management. This stand requires special treatment to control erosion on forest skid trails at time of harvest. Portions of this area will never be harvested.

3-Conifer Plantation
 This sawtimber sized red pine stand was planted in 1964 on an abandoned agricultural field. The stand was thinned to alleviate overcrowding in 1985, 1999 and is marked for harvest again in 2009. Besides providing forest products, conifer stands provide habitat for a diversity of wildlife species such as pine siskin and red squirrels. Conifer stands also provide winter cover for white-tail deer.

4-Forest Regeneration
 This stand began its life cycle with a clearcut harvest in 1985. Clearcutting encourages tree species like oak and aspen which require full sunlight as seedlings. These stands provide habitat for “early stage” wildlife species including ruffed grouse, scarlet tanager, and cottontail rabbits. Soon this stand will be too old to provide good habitat for these species. Immediately to the north is a similar stand harvested in 2001 and directly opposite the sign is a stand to be clearcut in 2009. In many cases, clearcutting is seen in a negative light. However, when properly applied, it is often the best management option.

5-Mature Forest
 This stand is approaching maturity at approximately 100 years of age. This stand has reached the end of its life cycle and will soon be regenerated. A harvest was completed here in 2007 to get sunlight on the ground to promote the establishment of tree seedlings. Stands in this stage are valuable for cavity nesting birds, grey squirrels, and woodpeckers. A diverse, well balanced forest contains equal acreages of stands in all age classes. Seedling/sapling (0-6 inches diameter), poletimber (6-12 inches diameter), and sawtimber (12 inches + diameter).

6-Thinning
 This stand originated from a clearcut done in the 1930’s. Half of the poletimber stand has been thinned and half left uncut. Net growth on the unthinned portion has now reached zero. This means some trees must die in order for others to get larger. Individual tree growth is very slow. The thinned portion was harvested in 1985, 1998, and is scheduled to be thinned again in 2009. Trees to be harvested are selected based on poor form or health, and the spacing required for good growth of the residual stand. On the thinned portion, individual tree growth is maximized; average tree diameter is larger and number of trees fewer.