



# Woodland Stewardship Management Plan

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## Owner's Information:

Owner: Cowan Road LLC (Chris Cooper)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ODNR Case Number (If applicable):

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## Preparer's Information:

Prepared by: Ben Robinson, CF

Signature: 

Ben Robinson  
Switchback Forestry and Ecosystem Management  
7165 Beechwood Dr., Apt. E  
Athens, OH 45701

Date: 7/30/23

This plan is valid for the period beginning 7/31/2023 and ending 7/31/2033

Plan Status: New

## Managed Conservation Acres

<b>Landowner:</b> Cowan Road LLC		<b>County:</b> Athens
<b>Total Property Acres:</b> 108.63ac	<b>Total Managed Conservation Acres:</b> 70.02ac	<b>Township:</b> Lodi
<b>Date:</b> 7/30/2023	<b>Map Source:</b> ESRI ArcPro	<b>Drawn By:</b> Ben Robinson

*See additional wildlife mgmt. plan for more detailed map of areas devoted to conservation. Recommendations will not be made on these areas within this forest management plan.*



## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

### **Stand # 1 – 4.74ac**

**Dominant Species:** Black oak, scarlet oak, white oak, ash (dead), shagbark hickory, elm, black locust, black cherry, persimmon, shingle oak

**Dominant Midstory/Understory species:** boxelder, elm, blackhaw viburnum, spicebush, pawpaw, coralberry

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Two-storied Medium sawtimber/sapling

**Stocking Level:** Fully stocked

**Stand History:** Grazing

**Topography:** Draws/Ravines

**Invasive plants or insects impacting this stand:** Privet, autumn-olive, multiflora rose, bush honeysuckle

**Stand Condition and Resource Concerns:** This is an oak-hickory dominated stand that had a strong ash component that has died from EAB. Even after the ash fallout, the stand is still fully-stocked with AGS (acceptable growing stock). The understory has a very dense shrub component dominated by spicebush, pawpaw, coralberry, multiflora rose and other non-native, invasive shrubs. Cattle were excluded from the stand about 30 years ago. The stand is located on relatively steep, eroded soils that lend themselves to oak management. The stand is two-storied, with a medium sawtimber overstory and a sapling cohort in the midstory. The sapling layer is dominated by mixed oak, hackberry, elm, hickory and other species. Medium sawtimber trees were present when the stand was grazed, and saplings established after cattle exclusion. Non-native, invasive species are present, mostly along the perimeter of the stand. Autumn-olive is the most prevalent. Grapevines are negatively impacting some of the overstory trees.

**Past management activities completed in this stand:** None

### ***Management Recommendations:***

Targeted grapevine control in AGS

Deaden non-native invasive shrubs with herbicide – low priority

**Is a timber harvest recommended?** No

**Comments:** The timber stand is still responding from the grazing history, and AGS quality saplings are filling in the gaps between the larger trees. Many of the medium sawtimber oaks are UGS quality, likely due to grazing damage and soil compaction issues. However, these older trees are providing hard mast and desirable seed stock for regeneration. Allow the stand's stocking level to continue to grow for the next decade. Grapevine control can improve the health and vigor of some of the better trees in the stand. Controlling non-native invasive shrubs is recommended, however it is a lower priority in this stand than others.

**Grapevines** are native vines that can negatively affect tree growth if growing unchecked. Grapevines should be cut and controlled in areas where growing timber for harvesting is one of the primary goals. Grapevines are beneficial to native wildlife, so they should not be totally eradicated in all cases. Grapevines should be cut when they are growing within or close to identified crop trees. Cut vines twice, once at eye level and again at ground level. Grapevines can re-sprout, but may die off in shaded areas. In full or partial sunlight, treat the stump with herbicide containing active ingredients triclopyr or glyphosate. Herbicide should always be used on cut vines in stands where any form of canopy disturbance is expected in the next 5 years (timber harvest, TSI, etc.). Vines can be cut year-round, but chemical treatment using glyphosate should be limited to times when the stumps are not bleeding sap (Most effective in dormant season). Always read the label when using herbicides!

**Non-native invasive species (NNIS)** compete with native grasses, forbs, shrubs and tree seedlings, and tend to create monocultures of themselves. Bush honeysuckle, tree of heaven, autumn-olive, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry, burning bush, and privet are just a few examples of those found in Ohio's woodlands. Most of these species were planted in landscaping or reclamation projects and have spread into Ohio's native forests. Ohio woodlands today often have a higher diversity of non-native shrubs than native shrubs. Controlling invasive shrubs is crucial to maintaining a diverse understory and allowing native trees to regenerate. NNIS can be controlled with a variety of herbicides and methods of application. Cut-stump, basal bark, hack&quirt (aka

## Management Activity Schedule

Mgmt. Unit	Priority	Required Task?	Acres	Recommendations
All	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-	Mark property boundary (North and east lines) with oil-based paint. Make 3 spots on the corners, and one spot along the line-of-sight on the property edge. Mark every 100 feet along the property perimeter minimum – so that you can see from one mark to the next in the summer foliage. See attached fact sheet on boundary marking for more info.
4	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.75	Deaden invasive shrubs with herbicide
3	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	~10	Deaden invasive shrubs with herbicide. Prioritize northwest half of stand
5	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.35	Deaden invasive shrubs with herbicide
4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.75	Midstory removal – target 20-30 sqft. basal area of shade-tolerant midstory to remove
3	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	~10	Midstory removal in northwest half of stand – target 20-30 sqft. basal area of shade-tolerant midstory to remove
5	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.35	Midstory removal – target 20-30 sqft. basal area of shade-tolerant midstory to remove
3,4,5	8	<input type="checkbox"/>	~20	Monitor oak regeneration after midstory removal. Re-evaluate if more light is needed. Use fire to manage competition if appropriate
1,2	9	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.65	Targeted grapevine control in AGS
1,2	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.65	Deaden invasive shrubs with herbicide
All	every 5 years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Next Site Visit</b> – Woodland reviews are recommended at least once every five years, and plan updates once every ten years, based upon the date of the last woodland evaluation conducted by your forester	

Before entering a timber sale agreement, or conducting other forestry work that is not listed in your activity schedule, contact your forester first to ensure compliance with your approved woodland stewardship management plan

## Addendums