



# Forest Stewardship Plan

Service Forestry Case Record No. 05-1420  
Athens County, Ohio

## Purpose

A forest stewardship plan serves many purposes, chiefly to guide the management activities of the concerned landowner, someone who has accepted his or her role as a steward—rather than just an owner—of the land. This plan is designed to guide you in your forest management activities for at least five years and to meet the requirements of the Forest Stewardship Program, Ohio Forest Tax Law (OFTL), American Tree Farm, Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV), and/or other programs.

By signing, you are agreeing to implement your forest stewardship plan to the best of your ability. The service forester's signature indicates the commitment of the Ohio Division of Forestry to assist you and advise you in implementing this plan.

Prepared for  
**Larry D. Butcher**  
2002 East State Street  
Athens, OH 45701  
(740) 589-7122

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Originally prepared by  
**William Serbonich**, Service Forester  
for  
**David & Larry Butcher and Tom Sabo**  
and adapted by  
**Terence E. Hanley**, Service Forester  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry  
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(740) 589-9909

*Terence E. Hanley* July 30, 2007  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Date prepared  
**May 23, 2000**

Adaptation dated  
**July 30, 2007**

## **Location & Area**

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### **Athens County, Rome Township**

Section 21 (Fractional Section 18) & Section 15 (Fractional Section 36),

Township 6 North, Range 12 West

33.81 acres total—33.81 acres wooded (stewardship acres)

### **Parcel Identification Number**

K01-00100379-00

### **Local Address**

Located on State Route 329 between Stewart and Kilvert.

## LANDOWNER OBJECTIVES

1. To maintain and improve the productivity of this woodland.
2. To create interest and appreciation in the many intangible values such as songbirds, wild flowers, plants, mushrooms, nuts, and flowering shrubs which are all a part of the managed woodland.
3. To help conserve the soil from wind and water erosion.
4. To conserve the soil and water by installing and maintaining practices, which will reduce soil erosion. A properly managed stand of timber will hold more water and slow down flood waters better than any other crop.
5. To leave this woodland in a better condition for future generations whose need will probably be greater than yours.
6. To manage the property for all the attributes and opportunities that exist in a forest ecosystem of interest to the owner including recreation, wildlife management, soil and water management, forest protection, timber products management, and other compatible conservation uses.
7. To develop and maintain favorable food and cover conditions for game and other wildlife.
8. To select tree species best suited to the soil and site's capability.
9. To become eligible for the OFTL or CAUV Programs.
10. To grow trees which will provide products for sale.
11. To select tree species best suited to the soil and site's capability.

# FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

## DAVE & LARRY BUTCHER & TOM SABO

This forest stewardship management plan describes the forestlands upon the property and presents suggestions for managing the areas for long term growth and productivity.

**Area 1 – Approximately 33 Acres.** This is an interesting area consisting of reverting fields that contain well- stocked areas of small pole, sapling and brush species. Wildlife habitat abounds here with plenty of cover and feeding areas. Access is excellent and the roads and openings are being maintained by mowing. This is an excellent practice! Keeping the open areas and roads maintained would enhance access and encourage wildlife use and observation. You might consider mowing after the 15<sup>th</sup> of July to facilitate any nesting habitat on your open areas. Tree species observed were sycamore, black cherry, black walnut, tulip poplar, silver maple, black locust, sugar maple, red maple, and hickory. Towards the west boundary corner you have an opening and some native pine species. This adds a great component of diversity to this area and the opening should be maintained. The woodlands are somewhat of a hodgepodge with some areas exhibiting excellent stocking and potential and consisting of small pole sized trees. Other areas are heavy to brush and have an occasional coarse dominant large tree. As these areas develop these coarse dominants larger trees should be considered candidates for removal, as they are not well formed trees and will interfere with the forest developing from the smaller trees. This is not a major need at this time but will be a recommended practice in the future. Grapevines are a developing problem in this area and will need to be controlled if the forest trees are to meet full potential. Generally not much should be done here except maintaining the openings and access and allowing the forest to continue to develop with grapevine control being a need in a few years. The soils here are in the Omulga, Vandalia and Brookside series. These soils are capable of growing excellent trees with high site index capabilities. Much potential exists here for your future forest.

**Area 2- Approximately 7 Acres.** This is the area on the riverside of SR 329. The Hocking River borders the open field along the road and creates your southeast boundary. A nice relatively mature tree zone exists between the river and your open fields. Some small patches of trees exist nearer the river in the field. Maintain the riparian corridor along the river in trees. This will offer great wildlife, water quality and erosion control benefits. Consider extending the riparian corridor out into the field to incorporate the larger patch of saplings that has established itself in the field. You may also want to consider planting your open field to suitable species of trees at some time in the future. If you should decide to do this contact the Division of Forestry and also explore programs and options you might have with the Athens County Soil and Water District. Tree species observed in this area were sycamore, boxelder, silver maple, black locust, and white ash. These are species that do well in areas with moist conditions and high water table soils. The soils here are in the Nolin series and have very high site potentials for trees. Keeping your open field mowed and maintained will preserve all management options until you decide a course of action to take with this part of your property. Some good travel corridors for wildlife as well as open habitat is located here and simply maintaining the area as you now have it will offer some excellent wildlife habitat and viewing opportunities.

**Area 3- Approximately 33 Acres.** This area is generally a south facing aspect with trees in the pole – small sawtimber size class. The topography is very diverse with multiple small drainages ridges and coves in the area. Tree species noted were white oak, black walnut, black cherry,

sugar maple, white ash, hickory, elm, red oak, sassafras, tulip poplar, scarlet oak and black oak. Stocking levels are medium to good meaning that trees here are growing well and need not require any immediate thinning or work at this time. Grapevines are a problem and should be controlled by cutting the vines that are growing up into the tree canopy level. Some light logging occurred near the ridge top. The soils here are in the Brookside, Vandalia and Westmoreland series. These are excellent woodland soils and the site is good with much potential. It is of concern that some of your access routes here are exhibiting erosion problems. Enclosed is a booklet entitled BMP's for Erosion Control on Logging Jobs in Ohio. This booklet contains excellent information on methods and strategies you can implement to assist you with erosion control. The section on seeding and water bars should be of particular interest regarding the problems in Area 3. You should make an effort to address and stabilize the erosion that is occurring on some of the trails here.

**Area 4- Approximately 18 Acres.** This area was lightly logged; however stocking levels are good indicating trees are fully utilizing the site but crowding and the need for thinning is not critical at this time. Grapevines are a problem here and treatment by cutting would be a high priority. The ridgetop and coves created by the drainages represent excellent growing sites for trees. This area is probably the best potential for tree growth you have thus time and effort expended here would be appropriate and yield the best results. Soils are in the Westmoreland, and Steinsburg series. The Westmoreland soils are not on the ridgetop and represent highly productive site potential while the Steinsburg on the ridgetop is medium in its ability to produce quality trees. The east and north facing aspects will ensure plenty of moisture for growing trees and yield potential for excellent quality trees. Species noted here were white oak, black oak, red oak, black cherry, scarlet oak, red maple, hickory, white ash, sugar maple, and tulip poplar. For the immediate future controlling grapevines would be most appropriate and allowing trees to grow for about ten years would create a situation whereby a commercial timber sale may be possible to think about on your property.

**Area 5 – Approximately 19 Acres.** This area is similar to area 3 however it is influenced by the bottomland stream effect as the drainage proceeds easterly to the Hocking River. I noticed one very large white oak tree here that adds much character to your property. There is also an old homesite located here. The stand is moderately stocked and trees are not overcrowded. Generally the size class is large poles – small sawlog. Species noted were black walnut, black locust, red oak, white oak, elm, white ash, sycamore and box elder. Grapevines are a problem here and should be cut as suggested in your other stands. The soil here is in the Vandalia series and this is listed as a highly erosive soil thus erosion potential is possible here. This is the soil that has the erosion problems upon it in area 3 also. The site is productive and much potential exists for growing excellent trees in this area.

**General comments.** It was a pleasure to meet with you and view your property. In summation you have a very nice parcel of land with the potential to grow and manage your trees to satisfy your desire to have good wildlife habitat but still yield income and value from your woodlands. Grapevines should be brought under control, and following this, a harvest removing coarse dominants and crowding of trees might be possible in areas, 3, 4 & 5 in about 10 years. Consider the options you may want to pursue in the open areas of area 2 and also determine if you would like to follow-up with eligibility for the Ohio Forest Tax Law or the Current Agricultural Use Valuation. I noticed that some of your property lines were marked and the method utilized was good. It was tough to see if you had marked your entire boundary this way but to be eligible for the OFTL all of your boundary must be marked and the Stewardship Plan will need to be implemented. This is a process that takes time and effort however you have moved yourselves well along with this process. If you complete your boundary line marking and begin grapevine

control in area 4 we should get together regarding application for the OFTL if you decide you would like to pursue that option. Please note the enclosed fifteen -year management plan for your woodlands.

No specific endangered species were noted on your property but if you are interested in pursuing information on threatened or endangered species contact the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves directly as the Division of Forestry does not have access to the Natural Heritage data base.

## **LARRY & DAVID BUTCHER & TOM SABO**

### **15 YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- Mark boundary lines and corners where appropriate. 2000
- Stabilize erosion on trails in Area 3. 2000
- Control grapevines in Area 4. 2000
- Control grapevines in Area 3. 2001
- Control grapevines in Area 5. 2002
- Remark boundary lines. 2005
- Control grapevines in Areas 4,3, & 5. 2006
- Mow and maintain access roads and openings after July 15<sup>th</sup> annually. ongoing
- Control grapevines in Area 1. 2008
- Review plans goals and objectives for your property. 2009
- Control grapevines in Area 1. 2010
- Remark boundary lines. 2010
- Evaluate Areas 3,4,5 for a harvest removing unacceptable growing stock. 2010
- Remark boundary lines. 2015
- Complete a new Stewardship Management Plan 2015

# Larry D. Butcher Property

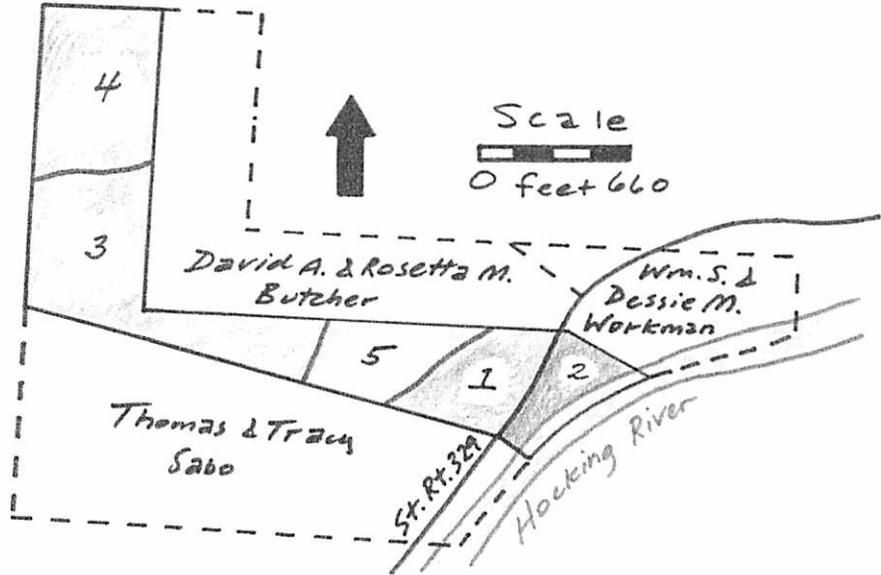
Athens County, Rome Township

Section 21 (Fractional Section 18) & Section 15 (Fractional Section 36),

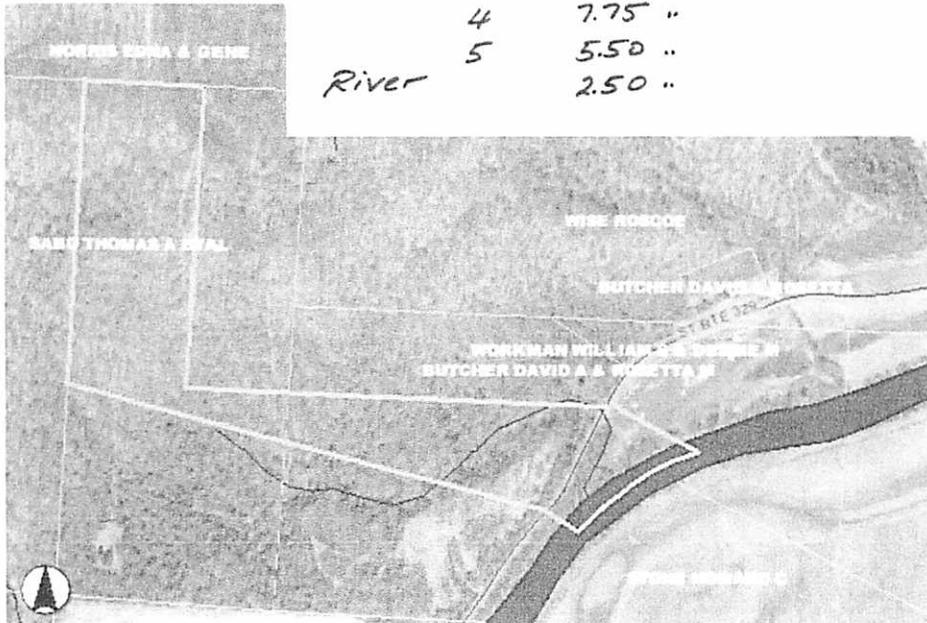
Township 6 North, Range 12 West

33.81 acres total—33.81 acres wooded

Parcel Identification Number: K01-00100379-00



Stand 1	4.75 Ac.
2	2.50 "
3	11.00 "
4	7.75 "
5	5.50 "
River	2.50 "



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Scale 1: 7920

Go



# Larry D. Butcher Property

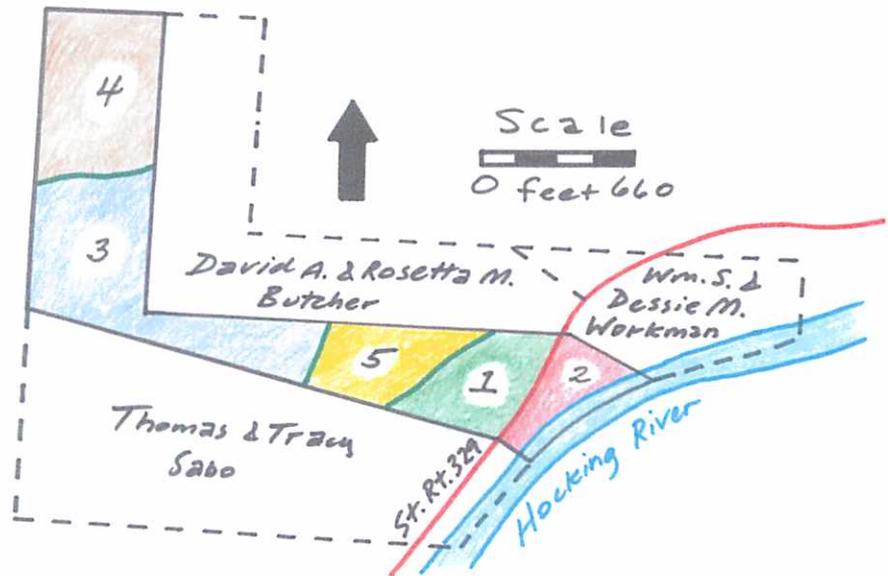
Athens County, Rome Township

Section 21 (Fractional Section 18) & Section 15 (Fractional Section 36),

Township 6 North, Range 12 West

33.81 acres total—33.81 acres wooded

Parcel Identification Number: K01-00100379-00



Stand 1	4.75 Ac.
2	2.50 "
3	11.00 "
4	7.75 "
5	5.50 "
River	2.50 "

