

Forest Stewardship Plan

Owner: Mike and Jane Broeker
 (Jane Ellery Dopkins)
Address: 3670 Old State Route 56
 New Marshfield, OH 45766
Phone: (740) 664-3258 **Case Record No.:** 05-_____
Cell: (513) 324-3774 **Email Address:** broeker_m@yahoo.com

County: Athens County **Township/Village/City:** Waterloo Township

Parcel ID N010090302400—8.81 acres (In Lot 184)
 N010090302600—12.80 acres (In Lot 192)
Number(s): N010090302700—1.240 acres (In Lot 192)
Total—22.85 acres

Location: Section 15 (In Lots 184 & 192; also described as being located within Fractions 1 & 6), Township 11 North, Range 15 West

Forest Stewardship Acreage:	3.0 acres (Stand 3)	Non-forest Stewardship Acreage*:	10.6 acres (Stand 4)
Total Property Acreage:	22.85 acres	* Non-forest acres for which stewardship recommendations are made.	

This plan has been prepared to qualify the landowner's forestland for the programs checked below:
 Ohio Forest Tax Law American Tree Farm Program
 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Other (CAUV)

Property coordinates (Location of house):
Latitude: 39.3239° North **Longitude:** 82.2250° West

Watershed:
 Mud Lick Run→Factory Creek→Margaret Creek→Hocking River

Road location:
 Located at 3670 Old State Route 56 (County Road 6), just west of New Marshfield in western Athens County

General Description

The Broeker property consists of three relatively small (though contiguous) parcels located along Old State Route 56 just west of New Marshfield in Athens County. This was once part of a larger farm that was probably used for pasture and/or to grow hay and perhaps other crops. Most of the Broeker property is made up of old fields, some of which are planted into trees and some of which will remain open, perhaps to be converted to prairie plantings. Service forester Bill Serbonich prepared a forest stewardship plan for the property in 2004 (attached). The schedule of management activities in that plan is up this year (2014). This plan is an update to the previous plan. The original plan and this update should be used in conjunction with each other.

The Broeker home is located close to Old State Route 56 (County Road 6), on the southern end of the property. There are a few tree plantings around the house, some of which are well advanced in age. You will also find a barn and a small shed in the area of the house. Open fields and plantings of young trees extend well to the north and east. In the far northeast corner of the property you will find a small stand of native hardwoods. In his plan of 2004, Bill Serbonich laid out four areas. I will stick with his system and his general descriptions, though I have used the word *stands* instead of *areas*.

Stand 1 (Area 1) (3.9 acres)—Residential area

Stand 2 (Area 2) (5.4 acres)—Open fields

Stand 3 (Area 3) (3.0 acres)—Native woods

Stand 4 (Area 4) (10.6 acres)—Planted fields

The configuration and acreage for each of these stands is different here than in Bill's plan and are likely to change as time goes by. Please keep in mind that the stand boundaries and stand acreages shown here are approximations and should not be considered definitive.

The Broeker property is situated on sloping and rolling ground. The high elevation, located in the field north of the house and close to the northwest corner, is about 880 feet above sea level. The low elevation, located where the main stream meets the road on the south end of the property, is about 800 feet above sea level. There is, then, about 80 feet of local relief. The land lies mostly facing to the east and is dissected by a few dips and a main stream that drains to the south. According to the website of the custom soil survey, that stream is called Mud Lick Run. The name Mud Lick Run does not appear in the soil survey book of Athens County or on the U.S.G.S. topographic map. In any case, the stream then flows to the east, eventually into Factory Creek, thence into Margaret Creek, thence into the Hocking River.

Soils are Guernsey, Licking, Orrville, Wellston, and Westmoreland series. (The Licking soil is an insignificant component on the Broeker property because of its very small area.) These are typical soils for uplands in southeastern Ohio. The exception is the Orville soil, which is a bottomland or riparian soil type. Found along the main stream through the property, it is a deep, productive, but somewhat poorly drained soil. For more information on soils, see the attached custom soil survey and soil productivity sheet.

Because the Orrville soil is somewhat poorly drained, all or part of the acreage covered by that soil could be considered a **wetland**. You will find black willow and possibly other riparian or hydric plants (i.e., plants adapted to very moist or wet soils) in that area.

There aren't any known **rare, threatened, or endangered species** found on the property, nor are there any known **cultural, historical, or archaeological resources**.

Schedule of Management Activities

Year	Stand	Area (Acres)	Recommendations
2014-2016	All	22.85	Locate and mark your property boundary lines using paint applied to trees and fence posts along the perimeter; use a brightly colored, brush-type, oil-based (or equivalent) paint specifically made for marking boundary lines; place your marks no more than 50 or 60 feet apart
2014→	Wherever needed	Wherever needed	Continue to cut and control non-native, invasive species, with a goal of eradicating them on your property
2014→	4	10.6	Continue to plant trees and shrubs with the goal of increasing the level of stocking so that there are at least 300 to 400 trees per acre of commercial timber species (oak, hickory, walnut, cherry, poplar, maple, pine, etc.); volunteers of desirable species can be considered part of the required level of stocking; shrubs and non-timber trees are acceptable in your planting but cannot count toward the minimum number of trees
2014-2024	3	3.0	Undertake timber stand improvement (TSI), to include: 1) Control of non-native, invasive species; 2) Weeding (to discriminate against undesirable non-native species); 3) Grapevine control; and 4) Thinning and crop tree release, all with the advice and assistance of a professional forester
2014-2049	4	10.6	Continue to remove weed species from your plantings; these would include non-native, invasive species, as well as undesirable native species, such as boxelder, elm, red maple, etc.; once tree seedlings are well established, begin training and corrective pruning so as to promote good timber form and value; training and pruning may be economically feasible only with the most valuable species, namely black walnut
2020-2049	4	10.6	Once your tree seedlings have reached 3 or 4 inches in diameter and/or are 10 to 20 feet tall AND the canopy has closed above your head, begin thinning and crop tree release with the advice and assistance of a professional forester; be sure to favor desired species, especially oak, hickory, walnut, persimmon, and other trees that bear large fruit

Trees and Shrubs NOT To Plant

Boxelder and silver maple

Any and all non-native and/or invasive species, including but not limited to: ailanthus or tree-of-heaven, Austree, buckthorn, Lombardy poplar, Norway maple, princess-tree or royal paulownia, silver poplar, white mulberry

Notes on Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) and the Ohio Forest Tax Law (OFTL)

Landowners in Ohio who wish to save money on their property taxes on forestland have two options, Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) and the Ohio Forest Tax Law (OFTL). The purpose of both programs is to give an incentive to landowners to keep their land intact and undeveloped. In exchange for devoting their land to the production of timber and allied forest products, landowners receive a break on their property taxes. You can be in one or the other program, but not both on the same acreage.

The minimum acreage for eligibility under both programs is 10 acres of forestland. For CAUV, that acreage need not be contiguous; its configuration doesn't matter. For OFTL, the acreage must be contiguous, or if there is a break for a road, power line, etc., the break cannot be more than 120 feet wide. Likewise, forestland cannot be narrower than 120 feet wide. Native woods and tree plantings can qualify under each program. CAUV does not require a minimum number of trees per acre to qualify as forestland, but if we use the standards of other programs, a minimum of 300 to 400 trees per acre is necessary for designation as forestland. Those 300 to 400 trees must be commercial timber species, i.e., oak, hickory, walnut, cherry, poplar, maple, ash, pine, etc.

Your land is subject to inspection under both programs. The inspector for CAUV is likely to be from the soil and water conservation district (SWCD). The inspector for OFTL is the service forester with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. The service forester is also the administrator of OFTL. He or she will make many of the decisions on what will be required of you as an owner of forestland under OFTL.

You can apply for CAUV during the annual application period, which runs from the first week in January to the first week in March. The application fee is \$25. If you are approved for the program, you will complete a report to the county auditor's office every year. The inspection period is about every three years, but that may vary. The application period for OFTL is year 'round, but if you want to be enrolled by the end of September so that you will receive a break on the first tax bill of the following year, you should apply before July 1, if not earlier. You can get an application for CAUV from the county auditor's office and an application for OFTL from the service forester. Under both programs, you must do your best to adhere to your forest management plan. Inspectors under both programs will expect to see progress in the management of your forestland. You can of course alter your management plan as conditions and goals change, but certain parts of your plan must remain in place. In any case, I would urge you to contact the administrators of both programs at your earliest opportunity.

If desired	2	5.4	Establish prairie plantings as desired; consult with a wildlife biologist if necessary
At harvest time	3	3.0	At harvest time, be sure to consult with a professional forester; by all means, avoid high-grading your woods
<p>Please note: Your status under the Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) program for forestland may be contingent upon your success at establishing and maintaining an acceptable level of stocking of commercial timber species on at least 7 acres of open ground (7 acres of plantings plus 3 acres of native woods equals 10 acres, the minimum acreage required for CAUV). If you want to remain in CAUV, be sure to manage your land towards the goal of 10 or more acres of forestland devoted to commercial timber production.</p>			

Before harvesting or selling timber or engaging in other intensive forest management activities, be sure to consult with a professional forester.