

Lanark County Community Forest

Forest Operating Plan 2023 - 2027



Approved By:

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March 2024
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Date Prepared:

January 29, 2024

LANARK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOREST
FOREST OPERATING PLAN

Preparation

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FOREST OPERATING PLAN
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LANARK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOREST: FOREST OPERATING PLAN 2023 - 2027

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Lanark County Community Forest consists of 44 properties comprising 4,619 hectares (11,409 acres) in title owned by the corporation of Lanark County. Most properties were purchased by Lanark County between the years of 1938 and 1987 and consist of tracts of natural forest, treed plantations established in previous farmland, lakes and wetlands. A new property was donated to the County by the Conboy family in 2020. This is the first Community Forest property in the Geographic Township of Bathurst.

Strategic direction for the Community Forest is described in the Community Forests Vision Statement and Guiding Principles (2010). The Community Forest is managed in accordance with this long-term direction to accommodate a wide variety of values and uses.

The environmental management system (EMS) for the Community Forest is contained in a series of documents which are summarized in Appendix 1. The EMS provides a framework for the sustainable management of the Community Forest and the ongoing assessment of the health and ecological integrity of forest ecosystems and natural heritage values. Five-Year Forest Operating Plans are one of the planning documents defined in the EMS. The EMS is described in detail in the 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan, and is updated in each Operating Plan.

This 2023 – 2027 Forest Operating Plan reports on the past activities carried out by the Forest Manager, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVC) during the 2018-2022 Forest Operating Plan and provides a detailed five-year schedule of activities for the 2023-2027 period. The Five-Year Forest Operating Plan is the key document to ensure that forestry and property administration activities are carried out in an organized fashion.

1.1 Forest Certification and Operating Standards

As a participant in the Eastern Ontario Model Forest (EOMF) Certification Program, Lanark County follows a management system which is compliant with the standards of the Forest Certification Council (FSC). The management system provides standards for forest owners regarding protection of natural values, planning, implementation and monitoring of forest management activities, public consultation, indigenous peoples' rights and qualifications of forest managers and forest operators. Forest certification provides an independent verification of forest sustainability for the citizens of Lanark County. Activities on the Community Forest are subject to the annual EOMF - FSC independent forest audit, and were most recently part of a successful FSC audit in 2020.

The certification system is described in the Eastern Ontario Model Forest Information Report# 51 v.4, Forest Certification Program Policy and Procedures Manual (2022).

1.2: Review of Accomplishments of Memorandum of Understanding with Mississippi Valley Conservation

In 2006 A two-year pilot project was initiated between the County of Lanark and Mississippi Valley Conservation to provide forest management services. The arrangement has subsequently been renewed through five-year Memorandums of Understanding (MoU). The current MoU covers the period from 2018 to 2023. The purposes of the MoU are:

1. To establish a long-term partnership between the County of Lanark and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority to work together to sustainably manage the Lanark County Community Forest for a variety of uses; and
2. To establish roles and opportunities for partners to contribute to the ongoing management of the Community Forest.

Over the course of this partnership the Community Forest has been managed in a sustainable and cost-effective manner consistent with the goals of the MoU.

MVC developed and implemented the environmental management system (EMS) which supports Lanark County's participation in FSC forest certification. As part of the EMS, MVC developed and presented a 20-Year Forest Management Plan that was endorsed by Lanark County Council in 2011. The 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan incorporated a new digitized inventory including maps and aerial photos. This inventory is maintained by the Forest Manager as the basis for planning projects, including this Operating Plan.

Revenues generated from forest management support the diverse objectives of Community Forest management. For example, recreation trails and parking areas are maintained at the Baird (Lanark Township) and Conboy (Bathurst Township) properties. The identification and protection of ecological values is another critical objective: life science studies were commissioned prior to timber harvest at Darling 14 (Gamble) and the Lavant Main blocks. As part of ongoing regular operations, MVC staff continue to identify species at risk for protection and monitoring. MVC and Lanark County work with representatives of the Algonquin First Nation when suitable white birch trees for canoe making are identified.

MVC representatives provide professional expertise to Lanark County Council, Community Development Committee, Community Forest Working Group, and the Lanark County Trails Corporation. For example, MVC supported Lanark County to develop a Forest Conservation By-law. MVC participates on behalf of Lanark County on external working groups including EOMF Certification, Eastern Ontario First Nations, and Eastern Ontario Community Forest Managers. The partnership also brings other resources of the Conservation Authority to the table including knowledge and expertise in forest health, fish and wildlife management, water crossing construction, and information management.

2.0 REPORT OF PAST OPERATIONS 2018 - 2022

2.1: Harvesting Summary

Table 1 summarizes the timber sales that have been issued on the Lanark County Community Forest from 2018 - 2022. Maps showing the tendered compartments are included as Appendix 2. Activities are also described in MVC's State of the Forest reports.

Red pine markets remained solid, providing a stable source of revenue for Lanark County. Red pine is primarily utilized by two Renfrew County sawmills: Laverne Heideman and Sons and Ben Hokum and Sons Lumber Company. Many of the red pine plantations include a small volume of white spruce and other species. Red pine harvest tenders typically include several properties which are in close proximity for logistical purposes.

The level of hardwood harvest has substantially increased from past Operating Plans. In addition to the completion of the hardwood thinning in the maple tapping operation at Dalhousie 11, two timber sales were awarded and harvested by J.B. Forest Products, a Lanark County company. Prior to tendering, Lanark County commissioned ecological inventories of these properties to identify significant values for protection.

Three compartments that were allocated in the 2018-2022 Operating Plan will be carried over into this Operating Plan. The shaded area in table 1 identifies the red pine forest tendered in December 2022 at Dalhousie Compartment 1. The tender has been awarded to Laverne Heideman and Sons Ltd. Two hardwood harvest areas from the last Operating Plan will be tendered in 2023. Tree marking at Lavant 29 (Bickerstaff) is complete. Tree marking at Darling 8-9-10 (James) is well underway, and additional area identified for harvest in this Compartment has been added as a new allocation in this Operating Plan.

Lanark County is blessed to have a diversity of forest products to offer for sale because timber markets can be cyclical. Maintaining a balance of hardwood and softwood timber sales and maple tapping operations is the best means Lanark County has to stabilize its long-term revenues and to maintain local employment opportunities.

Table 1: Summary of Harvest Tenders 2018-2022

Compartment	Plantation		Natural Forest			YEAR
	Area (Ha)	Volume (GMT)	Area (Ha)	Sawlogs (fbm)	Pulp/ Fuelwood (M3)	
Hardwood: Dalhousie 11 (Carryover from previous plan)			30.6	702	92.0	2015
Red Pine: Lanark 2, 3, 4, 5/6 (Carryover from previous plan)	45.0	4297.9				2017
Red Pine: Lanark 7, 8/9	23.6	1182.0				2018
Red Pine: Dalhousie 5, 9, 10	42.2	2340.9				2019
Hardwood: Darling 14 (Tender Reissue)			14.4	21 201	537.2	2020
Hardwood: Lavant Main (Tender Reissue)			43.5	106 674	2014.1	2020
Red Pine: Dalhousie 1*						2022
Totals	110.8	7820.8	88.5	128 577	2643.3	

* Tender awarded in December 2022.

2.2 Financial Summary

Table 2 summarizes the costs and revenues of the 2018 – 2022 Operating Plan. For the 2018-2022 period, Lanark County's annual net income after expenses was \$34,039.81. MVC Operating Expenses include all costs associated with managing the forest including management planning, tree marking, timber sales, monitoring of forest operations, life science surveys, property inspections and general administration. Forest certification costs are reduced by participation in the group certification program with other local community forests through the EOMF.

Revenues substantially exceeded expenses because of ongoing demand for red pine timber, and recent improvements in hardwood timber markets. The maple tapping operation on Dalhousie 11 is being carried out under long-term contract with Wheelers Pancake House, providing a stable annual revenue source.

Forest management focusses on the removal of lower quality trees with the objective of increasing forest growth and quality and future revenues for Lanark County. Of note, the red pine thinning at Dalhousie 9 and 10 was the final first thinning on the Community Forest. Future red pine harvests will produce higher quality sawlog and pole products.

Table 2: Lanark County Community Forest Costs and Revenues

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018-2022	Annual
Management Expenses							
MVC Operating Expenses	-\$ 12,496.70	-\$ 11,587.40	-\$ 8,413.98	10,744.47	-\$ 8,728.05	51,970.60	\$ (10,394.12)
Forest Certification	-\$ 4,391.83	-\$ 4,514.80	-\$ 4,605.10	4,766.28	-\$ 4,909.27	23,187.28	\$ (4,637.46)
All Expenses	-\$ 16,888.53	-\$ 16,102.20	-\$ 13,019.08	15,510.75	-\$ 13,637.32	75,157.88	\$ (15,031.58)
REVENUES							
Timber Sales							
Red Pine: Lanark 2, 3, 4 and 5/6		\$ 103,167.52	\$ 22,273.31			103,167.52	
Red Pine: Lanark 7, 8/9				42,290.26		22,273.31	
Red Pine: Dalhousie 5, 9, 10				7,028.95		42,290.26	
Darling 14 (Hardwood)				28,019.90		7,028.95	
Lavant Main (Hardwood)		\$ 697.92	\$ 1,066.65			28,019.90	
Dalhousie 11 (Firewood)	\$ 7,422.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 7,418.00	8,844.00	\$ 9,728.40	1,764.57	
Dalhousie 11 (Maple Tapping)						40,812.40	
Red Pine: Dalhousie 1*							
All Revenues	\$ 7,422.00	\$ 111,265.44	\$ 30,757.96	\$ 86,183.11	\$ 9,728.40	\$ 245,356.91	\$ 49,071.38
Balance	-\$ 9,466.53	\$ 95,163.24	\$ 17,738.88	\$ 70,672.36	-\$ 3,908.92	\$ 170,199.03	\$ 34,039.81

* Tender marked and sold in December 2022. To be harvested and reported in 2023 - 2027 operating period.

2.3 Property Inspections and Inventory

MVC carries out regular property inspections to ensure that the properties are in good condition for recreation users, to address uses that are inconsistent with the policies of Lanark County, and to cooperate with neighbouring landowners on issues of joint interest and concern. Property inspections were carried out as per the schedule of annual property inspections in the 2018-2022 Operating Plan, as a result of a complaint or request, or as part of the ongoing forest management and property administration activities.

Table 3: Summary of Property Inspections and Inventories 2018-2022

PROPERTY	EXPLANATION
<u>Annual Property Inspections</u>	
Darling 4/5	Bowes Property road and creek access point
Darling 6	Pioneer cemetery, gravel pit
Lanark 1	Abandoned gravel pit
Lanark 2	Baird Property recreation trail
Lavant Main	Dixon Lake road and access point, gravel pit
Montague 1	Frequent noise and garbage complaints
<u>Property Administration</u>	
Bathurst 1 (Conboy)	Inventory/ map development (new property)
Lanark 7 (Ireton)	Map update (boundary adjustment due to title review)
Lavant 29 (Bickerstaff)	Relocation of blazed lines around north end of property
Lavant Main	Review of potential Bottle Lake access trail, relocation of blazed line near existing access point
<u>Management Planning</u>	
Dalhousie 9, 10 Darling 4-5, 8-9-10, 11-12 Lanark 1 Lavant Main N Sherbrooke 1	Update 20 Year Harvest Schedule
<u>Forest and Natural Heritage Inventories</u>	
Darling 8-9-10 Lavant 29	Pre-harvest Life Science Inventories
Dalhousie 1, 5, 9, 10, 11 Darling 8-9-10, 11-12, 14 Lanark 2, 3, 4, 5/6, 7, 8/9 Lavant Main	Forest operations prescriptions/ Tree marking/ Harvest inspections
S Sherbrooke 2 (Conboy)	Regular property inspection

Forest Health Inspections	
Dalhousie 5 (Wright)	Wind (derecho) damage - light
Dalhousie 11 (Thorne)	Wind (derecho) damage - light Annual DSV inspection and control
Darling 8-9-10 (James)	Assessment of spongy moth-caused mortality on red oak trees Wind (derecho) damage - light
Darling 13 (Gamble)	Assessment of spongy moth-caused mortality on red oak trees
Lanark 1 (Bulloch)	Wind (derecho) damage - light (some older wind damage)
Lanark 2 (Baird)	Wind (derecho) damage - light
Lavant 29 (Bickerstaff)	Wind (derecho) damage - light
Lavant Main (Bottle Lake Block)	Wind (derecho) damage - light

Note: The number of property inspections was greatly reduced during the period of the pandemic Covid-19, in particular during 2020 and 2021.

3.0 FIVE YEAR OPERATING PLAN

3.1 Thinning and Harvest Schedules

Sustainable timber harvesting provides substantial economic benefits to the community while allowing for cost-effective management of the Community Forest. Investments in forest management will increase the long-term revenues for Lanark County through improved timber quality and growth. Section 4 (following) summarizes the planned forest operations on the Community Forest.

To verify that harvest levels can be sustained over the longer term, twenty (20) year schedules of red pine thinning and twenty-five (25) year schedules of natural forest harvesting are prepared (appendices 3 and 4). These periods correspond to the cutting cycles (time period between thinning or harvest operations) of red pine and natural forest, respectively. They are based upon local knowledge and inspections by the Forest Manager, and grouping of nearby properties to facilitate operations. The schedules are updated every five years to maintain currency. Table 4 is a twenty-year summary of planned harvest.

Table 4: Summary of Harvest Area and Projected Revenue for 2023 – 2042

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>RED PINE</u>		<u>NATURAL FOREST</u>		<u>ANNUAL REVENUE</u>
	<u>AREA</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	
<u>2023-2027</u>	75.1	\$152,250	134.6	\$62,280	\$42,906
<u>2028-2032</u>	83.8	\$126,840	144.1	\$53,065	\$35,981
<u>2033-2037</u>	70.1	\$126,180	157.9	\$71,055	\$39,447
<u>2038-2042</u>	77.6	\$171,460	126.6	\$59,505	\$46,193

The average projected annual revenue for the 20-year period is \$41,132. Sustaining the balance of red pine and natural forest harvest enhances the stability of Lanark County revenues and provides more economic opportunities for local operators.

Harvest levels on the Community Forest are of extremely low intensity and impact. Thinning and harvest cuts focus on the removal of poor quality and diseased trees, and typically retain 70 % crown cover after harvest. **The annual harvest level planned over the twenty years from 2023-2042 of 43.5 hectares is 1.1 % of the total forested area.**

3.1.1 Red Pine Plantations

Appendix 3 provides a twenty-year schedule and estimate of revenue for the thinning of red plantations, and includes the operations carried out since 2006. Appendix 3 includes the operable red pine plantations which comprise 306.6 hectares, or 85.5% of the 358.5 hectares of red pine plantations identified in the 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan 2023 Amendment. It does not include stands which are inaccessible, or poorly stocked stands which cannot support a commercial harvest operation.

The plantations are generally growing on two ecosite types: stands growing on sandy loam soils suited to long-term succession to maple and other hardwood tree species, and stands growing on sand and gravel soils more suited to regeneration of white pine forests.

Plantations have been allocated for thinning based on the following principles:

- 1) Ensure regular thinning to maintain stocking for optimal growth,
- 2) Commence timely first thinning in young plantations,
- 3) Minimum average annual revenue of \$25 000,
- 4) Balanced harvest area to provide stable harvest opportunities for loggers, and to facilitate tree marking workload and regeneration efforts, and
- 5) Group properties which are close together into single tenders.

The sustainable harvest level for the twenty-year period from 2023 - 2042 is 15.3 hectares per year. This harvest level will ensure that the plantations continue to grow to produce high value products, and to be managed for long term succession to either tolerant hardwood or white pine forests. Annual stumpage revenues for 2023-2042 are projected at \$28,836, reflecting the fact that red pine markets continue to be both stable and profitable. Revenues from plantation thinning are projected to increase with time as the size and quality of trees in well- managed plantations increases, resulting in more sawlog and pole products. The last first thinning on the Community Forest was completed in 2021.

3.1.2 Natural Forests

Appendix 4 provides a twenty-five (25) year schedule for the future harvest of natural forests, and includes the operations carried out since 2006. Appendix 4 only includes currently operable or available natural forest stands on the Community Forest which comprise 711.8 hectares. This represents only 19.7% of the total 3603.1 hectares of natural forests. Many forests are not currently available for commercial harvest because of a variety of conditions:

- 1) Forests that are of previous agricultural origin, and have a history of disturbance including fuelwood and sawlog harvest, grazing and land clearing,
- 2) Oak and pine forests growing on shallow rocky soils,
- 3) Cedar or lowland hardwood forests growing on low, wet soils,
- 4) Productive forests with access restrictions due to lakes, swamps and rock,
- 5) Small forest stands that occur in isolated portions of the compartments, and
- 6) Properties designated by Lanark County for primarily recreational use.

Over time and with good forest management, the heavily disturbed post-agriculture stands will recover, and the operable area of natural forests will increase. These forests will benefit from an improvement cut to remove the lower quality trees and release the better quality growing stock. However substantial areas of forest will continue to have limited use for forestry operations in the long-term. However, they will continue to provide important benefits for recreation and wildlife habitat.

Natural forests have been allocated for harvest based on the following principles:

- 1) Stands with sufficient merchantable volume to justify commercial harvesting,
- 2) Minimum average annual revenue of \$10,000 for the twenty-five year period, and
- 3) Balanced harvest area to provide stable harvest opportunities for loggers, and to facilitate tree marking work load and regeneration efforts.

The sustainable harvest level for natural forests is 28.5 hectares per year. Annual stumpage revenues for 2023-2048 are projected at \$12,295. Limited short term increases in revenue

are projected despite the improvement in timber quality that will occur in managed stands. The closure of hardwood pulp mills in Cornwall, Thurso and Portage du Fort and many small sawmills throughout eastern Ontario continues to make hardwood markets challenging and to warrant conservative future revenue projections. Future harvest levels and revenue will also be impacted by ongoing tree mortality caused by beech bark disease (BBD), spongy moth and the emerald ash borer (EAB).

3.2 Five Year Harvest Operations 2023-2027

Table 5 identifies the compartments scheduled for harvest in this 2023-2027 Operating Plan. Maps of the harvest areas are included in Appendix 5. The properties will be grouped to sell three red pine tenders and three hardwood/ cedar tenders. There are two hardwood areas and one red pine areas being carried over from the previous Operating Plan. The red pine thinning operations include the first plantations thinned as part of the 2006-2008 pilot project between the County of Lanark and Mississippi Valley Conservation.

Stands are not scheduled for individual years to permit flexibility to adapt to markets and timber demand and to meet the revenue objectives of Lanark County. The 20 Year Harvest Schedule provides flexibility to amend the Forest Operating Plan as required by switching harvest areas of similar size and forest type as conditions warrant. Operational harvest boundaries (eg trails, rocky or wet areas, creeks) will be determined when the harvest operations are laid out on the ground.

Table 5: Summary of Harvest Operations 2023-2027

<u>COMPARTMENT</u>	<u>RED PINE (HA)</u>	<u>NATURAL FOREST (HA)</u>
Carry-Over Areas		
Dalhousie 1	16.5	
Darling 8-9-10		49.0
Lavant 29		24.0
New Allocations		
Dalhousie 9		46.8
Darling 4-5	33.0	
Darling 8-9-10-11-12	25.6	65.2
Lanark 1	16.5	22.6
Total New Allocations	75.1	134.6

3.3 Forest Health

The Forest Manager monitors for forest health issues on the Community Forest. An informal survey after the wind storm of 2022 revealed minor damage to the Forests. However, spongy moth, beech bark disease (BBD) and emerald ash borer (EAB) are serious non-native forest health threats to the forests of Lanark County.

Spongy moth was a major pest in Lanark County in the late 1980s. Some mortality on previously healthy red oak trees has been noted in Darling Geographic Township after a recent spongy moth infestation. However, it appears that the overall mortality from the recent infestation was fairly limited. To identify recently killed red oak trees for removal, tree marking is currently being scheduled during leaf-on conditions at the James property (Darling 8-9-10).

Beech bark disease is an insect/disease complex that infects and kills beech trees and has recently been identified in Lanark County. Emerald ash borer is an insect which has caused significant mortality of ash trees in southern Lanark County. Beech and ash trees represent a relatively small percentage of the trees in the Community Forest. However, when present in higher quantities the rapid death of many stems creates large canopy gaps and affects the forests' species composition, wildlife habitat and overall health for many years.

Areas of mature beech killed by BBD often have dense understories of beech root suckers which can preclude regeneration of more desirable species. Vegetation control or tree planting may be warranted in these situations. A harvest prior to significant mortality can reduce the percentage of beech and the resulting root suckers. Natural forests containing 20% or more beech are being monitored for BBD infestations and to determine whether a harvest cut would be beneficial. Table 6 is a preliminary list of stands in the Forest Resource Inventory which meet these criteria, but is not a complete list of all areas with concentrations of beech. For example, areas of dense beech root suckers have been noted in some recently harvested areas of the Lavant Main tract.

Table 6: Forest Stands with at least 20% Beech

Geographic Township	Compartment	Stand	Hectares	Species Composition
DALHOUSIE	4	DAL00527	5.5	MH 6BE 3BD 1
DALHOUSIE	11	DAL05336	3.0	BE 2BW 2MH 2BD 1BY 1IW 1PO 1
DARLING	1/2	DAR02245	9.0	BE 3MH 3BD 1BW 1OR 1PO 1
DARLING	1/2	DAR02526	1.7	MH 5BE 2CE 1PO 1SW 1
DARLING	1/2	DAR02648	8.6	MH 5BE 2CE 1PO 1SW 1
DARLING	8/9/10	DAR04040	10.1	MH 3OR 3BE 2BD 1PW 1
DARLING	11/12	DAR03497	3.0	PW 4BE 3MH 2BD 1
DARLING	11/12	DAR03587	6.2	OR 4 MH3 BE2 BD1
DARLING	11/12	DAR03639	13.8	OR 4 MH3 BE2 BD1
LANARK	2	LAN03255	2.4	MH 7BE 2HE 1
LANARK	2	LAN03258	0.9	HE 3MH 3BE 2CE 1PW 1
LANARK	2	LAN03310	4.5	MH 6BE 2BD 1HE 1
LANARK	5/6	LAN01929	1.2	BE 4MH 4HE 2
LANARK	7	LAN02105	3.0	MH 6BE 3HE 1
LAVANT	26/27	LAV05109	5.5	MH 5BE 2CE 1OR 1PW 1
LAVANT	26/27	LAV05289	1.8	OR5 BE2 MR2 MH1
LAVANT	29	LAV03861	0.9	MH 7BE 2BD 1
LAVANT	29	LAV03956	5.2	MH 6BE 3BD 1
NORTH SHERBROOKE	1	NSH01101	13.8	MH 5BE 2BF 1BD 1PW 1
NORTH SHERBROOKE	1	NSH01158	2.3	OR 4 MH3 BE2 IW1
Total Area			102.4	

4.0 Forest Operations

4.1 Harvest Plans (Prescriptions) and Tree Marking

Consistent with the requirements of the EOMF Certification Program, the Forest Manager ensures that all activities are carried out by fully trained and certified individuals. For each harvest area, a site-specific harvest plan is prepared by a member of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA). This harvest plan outlines the forest operations prescription, access requirements, harvest boundaries and prescriptions for protecting natural and cultural heritage values. Prior to harvest, trees to be cut are marked with paint by tree markers certified by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

4.2 Natural Heritage and Cultural Values

Natural heritage and cultural values are an important part of the Community Forest's legacy and are given special consideration for protection when planning and implementing forestry operations. Section 10 of the 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan provides a detailed description of this process. Updated information in values and/ or management guidelines are incorporated through the Harvest Plans.

4.3 Silviculture

The 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan for the Lanark County Community Forest outlines options for silviculture treatments such as tree planting and tending, thinning, stand improvement, and pruning. Most harvest operations on the Community Forest result in abundant natural regeneration of hardwood species such as sugar maple and basswood without any additional treatments. However, where forest operations prescriptions call for regeneration of red oak or white pine, or where beech root suckers are preventing other species from regenerating, additional treatments may be required. When a prescription identifies the need for these treatments, it will be included and budgeted for in the Annual

Work Plan and budget for the Community Forest. Table 7 lists the forest areas that may require regeneration treatments in the coming five years.

Table 7: Schedule of Potential Regeneration Treatments 2023-2027

<u>COMPARTMENT</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>CURRENT FOREST</u>	<u>PLANNED FOREST</u>	<u>TREATMENT</u>
Dalhousie 1	16.5	Red Pine	White Pine	Tree planting and tending
Darling 4/5	33.0	Red Pine	White Pine	Tree planting and tending
Lanark 1	16.5	Red Pine	White Pine	Tree planting and tending
Darling 11-12 (Maple-beech areas)	23.0	Maple-beech-basswood	Maple-basswood-red spruce	Tree planting and tending in areas of dense beech suckers
Lavant Main (Maple-beech areas)	10.2	Maple-beech-basswood	Maple-basswood-red spruce	Tree planting and tending in areas of dense beech suckers

4.4 Roads and Forest Operations

The Standard Operating Procedures in the EOMF Policy and Procedures Manual and the 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan describe best management practices for building and maintaining roads and water crossings, logging, skidding and trucking operations. Harvest operations which are carried out according to these guidelines result in minimal impacts to the forest ecosystem. All operations carried out on the Community Forest are monitored regularly by the Forest Manager and assessed according to the detailed standards provided in the EOMF Manual.

5.0 Administration

5.1 Property Inspections and Inventory

Ongoing property inspections are required to ensure that the properties, roads and sites of cultural and recreational significance are maintained in good condition, to address uses of the properties that are inconsistent with the policies of Lanark County, and to cooperate with neighbouring landowners on issues of joint interest. The property inspection program is described in Section 11.0 of the 2011-2030 Forest Management Plan.

Table 8 lists six properties where annual inspections are currently required due to the occurrence of sites of recreational or cultural significance, roads and gravel pits, or past noise and garbage complaints.

Table 8: Annual Property Inspection Schedule

PROPERTY	REASON
Darling 4/5	Bowes Property road and creek access point
Darling 6	Pioneer cemetery, gravel pit
Lanark 1	Abandoned gravel pit
Lanark 2	Baird Property recreation trail
Lavant Main	Dixon Lake road and access point, gravel pit
Montague 1	Frequent noise and garbage complaints

Many additional inspections occur as part of regular forestry operations. Forest inventories and tree marking are carried out on harvest and thinning areas, and prior to harvesting of natural forests a life science inventory of natural heritage features is carried out.

5.2 Annual Work Plans and Reporting

The Forest Manager provides an Annual Work Plan and budget to Lanark County for review by the Community Forest Working Group. This Annual Work Plan outlines forestry operations such as boundary layout, tree marking, thinning and harvesting, and provides a schedule of property inspections planned for the year. The Annual Work Plan also

identifies (where available) opportunities for cooperation with partners on Community Forest projects such as trail enhancements.

The Forest Manager submits an annual State of the Forest Report to Lanark County to document the activities which have been carried out on the Community Forest each year and report on financial results. These reports are summarized to report on past operations in each Five-Year Operating Plan.

APPENDICES

Lanark County Community Forest

**Forest Operating Plan
(2023 - 2027)**

Appendix 1
Environmental Management System Documents
Lanark County Community Forest

<u>DOCUMENT</u>	<u>CONTENTS SUMMARY</u>	<u>KEY REFERENCES</u>
Strategic Documents		
Community Forests. Vision Statement and Guiding Principles. (July 20, 2010)	Vision statement, guiding principles, and objectives for the Community Forest. Community Forest Working Group management structure	Lanark County. 2006. Business Plan for the Lanark County Community Forests 2006 to 2010.
Recreational Use Policy (Aug 25 2009)	Objectives, recommendations and permitted uses for recreation on the Community Forest	
Community Forest Planning Documents		
Forest Management Plan (FMP) (January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2030) and Amendment 1: 2023	Community Forest History and Description Forest Type Description and Silviculture Natural Heritage and Cultural Values. Description Guidelines for Areas of Concern for Protection of Natural Heritage and Cultural Values Monitoring and Assessment Forest Resource Inventory Maps	-OMNR 1998a: A Silvicultural Guide For the Tolerant Hardwood Forest in Ontario, -OMNR 1998b: A Silvicultural Guide For the Great-Lakes-St. Lawrence Conifer Forest in Ontario -OMNR 2000: A Silvicultural Guide To Managing Southern Ontario Forests -OMNR 2010: Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales. -OMNRF 2015: Forest Management Guide to Silviculture in the Great-Lakes St Lawrence and Boreal Forests of Ontario.
Five-Year Forest Operating Plan (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027)	Report on Past Operations Assessment of levels of sustainable harvest, thinning and revenue Five year harvest and thinning allocations Operating Standards Property Inspections	Eastern Ontario Model Forest. 2022. Forest Certification Policies and Procedures Manual (Information Report 51 Version 4).

EOMF Forest Certification Program Policy and Procedures Manual (Information Report 51 Version 4 2022)	Policies for certified forest owners Specific qualification requirements for activities (eg certified tree markers) Standard operating procedures for forest operations including tree marking, road construction, water crossings, and harvesting.	
Annual Work Plan and Budget	Proposed operations and budget to be carried out by the Forest Manager on the Community Forest Planning function under the Five Year Operating Plan	
Annual State of the Forest Reports	Annual summary of operations completed by the Forest Manager on the Community Forest Reporting function under the Five Year Operating Plan	
Site Specific Planning and Implementation Documents		
Harvest plans/ prescriptions	Forest and site specific silviculture prescription and map Directions for tree marking, logging and establishment of areas of concern.	-OPFA 2010: Practice Bulletin 10: Minimum Content For Prescriptions For Partial Harvesting on Private Land in Ontario. -OMNR 2004: Ontario Tree Marking Guide. Version 1.1.
Stumpage Sale Agreements	Requirements for wood measurement and payment, contractor qualifications and forest operating standards.	
Forest Operations Inspection Reports	Documentation of assessments of harvest operations carried out by Forest Manager to ensure compliance with standards.	
Community Forest Inspection Form	Documentation of findings and recommendations of property inspections carried out by Forest Manager.	