

MIXED WOOD FOREST TYPES

SPECIES LIST

Asterisk denotes Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Hyperlinks take you to recommendations specific to the species.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Northern ringneck snake

Birds

[Alder flycatcher](#)*

American goldfinch

American redstart

[American woodcock](#)*

Barred owl

[Bay-breasted warbler](#)

[Black-and-white warbler](#)*

Blackburnian warbler

Black-capped chickadee

Blackpoll warbler

[Black-throated blue warbler](#)*

Black-throated green warbler

Blue jay

[Canada warbler](#)*

Cedar waxwing

Common yellowthroat

Dark-eyed junco

Downy woodpecker

Evening grosbeak

Golden-crowned kinglet

Great horned owl

Hairy woodpecker

Hermit thrush

Least flycatcher

[Mourning warbler](#)*

Nashville warbler

[Northern goshawk](#)*

Northern parula

Northern saw-whet owl

[Northern waterthrush](#)*

[Olive-sided flycatcher](#)*

Ovenbird

Pileated woodpecker

[Purple finch](#)*

Red-breasted nuthatch

[Rose-breasted grosbeak](#)*

Ruby-throated hummingbird

[Scarlet tanager](#)*

[Sharp-shinned hawk](#)*

Swainson's thrush

Tennessee warbler

Tree swallow

[Veery](#)*

Winter wren

[Wood thrush](#)*

Yellow warbler

Yellow-rumped warbler

Mammals

Black bear

[Bobcat](#)*

Deer Mouse

Fisher

Gray fox

[Indiana bat](#)*

[Canada Lynx](#)*

Northern flying squirrel

Porcupine

Red fox

Red squirrel

Smoky shrew

Snowshoe hare

Southern red-backed vole

White-footed mouse

Woodland jumping mouse

White-tailed deer

[Moose](#)*

RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations are designed to optimize wildlife habitat conditions within this forest type. Other silvicultural options may apply, but they won't necessarily optimize potential habitat conditions for the full range of wildlife species that can occupy this type.

Mixed wood forest types include stands with either softwood or hardwood component representing at least twenty-five percent of the stand and no more than sixty-five percent. (Silvicultural Guide for Northern Hardwoods in the Northeast (Leak, Yamasaki and Holleran, 2014))

Mixed wood forests generally support the greatest diversity of habitats. Retaining this type is generally the best course of action. However, consider this type from a landscape perspective. If there is an abundance of mixed wood type and a corresponding shortage of hardwood, softwood or early-succession types, it may be preferable to move some of the mixed wood stands toward another composition depending on which type is in short supply on the landscape. Options to address landscape level diversity follow:

Option 1: Retain existing species composition.

- Even-aged or uneven-aged management designed to maintain current species composition. Age class diversity should be established and maintained through area regulation in even-aged scenarios.
- Groups can range from one tenth acre to three acres in size
- Either whole tree harvest or cut-to length can be used although cut-to-length leaves more material out on the ground and may be more beneficial to wildlife in these stands.
- Use 100-year rotation age with entries every fifteen to twenty years.
- Let five to ten percent of the stand go to 120 years before rotating.
- Favor yellow birch where possible.
- Avoid entry during the nesting season – April to late June.

Option 2: Move the stand composition toward more hardwood

- Select less-wet soils to push toward hardwood.
- Even-aged or uneven-aged management designed to maintain current species composition. Age class diversity should be established and maintained through area regulation in even-aged scenarios.
- Use patch cuts ranging from two to five acres in size.
- Whole tree harvest or cut-to- length, again cut-to-length might be a better option
- Use a 100 year rotation with entries every ten to fifteen years
- Retain five to ten percent of the treated area to age 120 before rotating
- Favor yellow birch where possible
- Avoid entry during the nesting season – April through late June.

RECOMMENDATIONS (continued)

Option 3: Move the stand composition toward more softwood

- Select wetter soils to push toward softwood.
- Even-aged or uneven-aged management designed to maintain current species composition. Age class diversity should be established and maintained through area regulation in even-aged scenarios.
- Use uneven-age management with small groups. Less than 2 acres.
- Cut-to-length is preferred
- Use a 90-year rotation age with entries every twenty years
- Let ten percent of the stand area go to 120 years before harvesting
- Favor yellow birch when feasible
- Avoid entry during the nesting period – April through late June.

Option 4: In concert with one or more of the above three options

- Clearcut patches ranging from 5 to 30 acres to establish early successional habitat. These patches will be viable for 7 to 10 years.
- Maintain habitat by repeating clearcuts every 7 to 10 years or develop an area regulation pattern as described in species list recommendations for aspen forest type
- Avoid entry during nesting season—April to June.
- Whole-tree harvest is preferred.