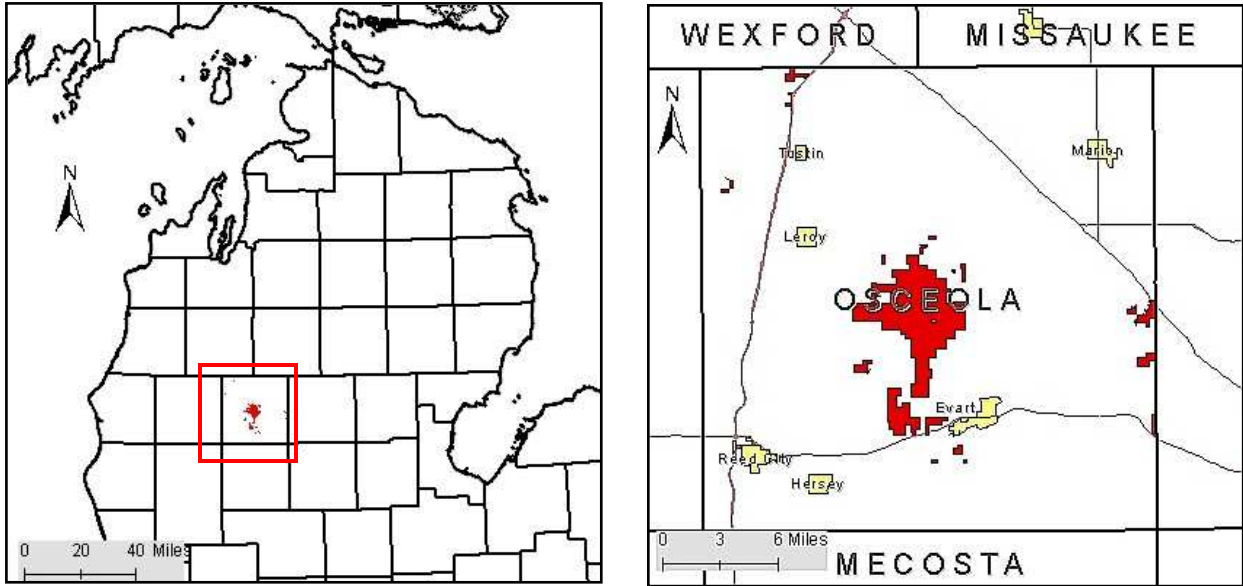


Evart Block Management Area



Attributes

The Evart Block Management Area is located in Osceola County and has approximately 17,000 acres of fairly isolated but contiguous State Forest land. The primary attributes which were important in identifying this MA include:

- Ecological Classification - The MA falls within the Cadillac sub-region of the NLP Ecoregion as classified by Albert (1994).
- Cover Types - Historically, most of this MA was covered with pine, hemlock, beech, and sugar maple. The current vegetation composition is primarily aspen and oak. This MA has a history of large timber sales (up to 300 acres), though they have been reduced in size in recent years. Seven percent of the state forest land in this MA is in relatively inaccessible lowland cover types.
- Landforms – A hilly landscape with large well-drained sand ridges and outwash channels of thick till. This area is in the transition zone between the southern forest and the northern forest and has naturally growing hickory and other central hardwoods.
- Ownership size and connectivity – The state land is in one fairly contiguous block and other scattered compartments in an area relatively isolated from other State Forest land.
- Social and Economic – This MA is a very popular area for game hunting, hiking, mushroom hunting, and other activities the nearby communities of Cadillac, Evart, Harrison and Clare. Historically, this area was a sheep ranch before it became part of the State Forest system.

Major Cover Types

- Aspen – Ninety-three percent of the 10,000 aspen acres are in the 0-49 year age classes, with slight age class spikes in the 20-39 year age classes.
- Oak – Eighty-three percent of the 3,400 acres of oak is in the 70–100+ year age classes. Oak regeneration has been an ongoing problem. Harvested stands have regenerated with heavy

red maple and cherry understory growth. Various regeneration tactics (seed tree harvests, shelterwood harvests, prescribed burns, patch cuts, and strip cuts) have been tried with less than optimal results.

- Red Pine – Most of the 600 acres were planted in small stands for wildlife thermal cover and due to their small size may not be economically feasible for harvest. Some stands have a hardwood component.
- Northern Hardwoods/Upland Hardwoods - Hardwoods including some central hardwoods are a relatively minor component. Some hardwood areas have been historically typed according to anticipated management objectives and may be reclassified at next inventory cycle.
- Upland Brush/Grass – Grass and upland brush totals approximately 700 acres. This is a result of the past management practices or natural processes of fire, frost or other disturbances which create openings in the forest canopy along with maintenance treatments to keep areas open.
- Red Maple – Typed as swamp hardwoods, these stands have actually regenerated to upland red maple.

Evert Block			Age Class (Years)											Uneven Aged
Cover Type	Acres	%	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	100+	
Aspen	10,246	60%	452	1,827	2,565	3,668	1,017	229	36	132	320	0	0	0
Oak	3,401	20%	19	213	0	77	0	7	110	841	1,341	578	67	148
Upland Hardwoods	582	3%	0	0	13	0	25	0	44	111	127	58	0	204
Red Pine	570	3%	0	65	12	28	301	82	0	0	50	11	0	21
Red Maple	549	3%	0	0	102	8	5	12	93	44	205	0	0	80
Grass	713	4%												
Water	258	2%												
Upland Brush	15	0%												
Other Types	833	5%												
Total			17,167											

Other Types include: Lowland Brush, Mixed Swamp Conifers, Bog, Marsh, Jack Pine, Lowland Poplar, Tamarack, Cedar, Spruce-Fir, and White Birch.

Concepts of Management

- Aspen (60% of the MA) – Balance the 0-59 year age classes by targeting the 30-39 year age class for harvests. Use treatments to diversify age class structure of large stands.
- Oak (20% of the MA) – Conduct stand replacement harvests (shelterwood or clearcutting) in older stands, especially the 80-89 year age class. Introduce red and white pine to achieve a mixed oak-pine-red maple type.
- Red Pine (3% of the MA) – Final harvest stands at age fifty and replant to red pine.
- Northern Hardwoods/Upland Hardwoods (3% of the MA) – Manage hardwoods for an uneven age class distribution.
- Red Maple (3% of the MA) – If accessible, continue to manage as an even aged system with an emphasis on regenerating older age classes through harvests.
- Upland Brush/Grass (4% of the MA) – There will be little management of these areas due to rocky ground conditions and frost influences.