



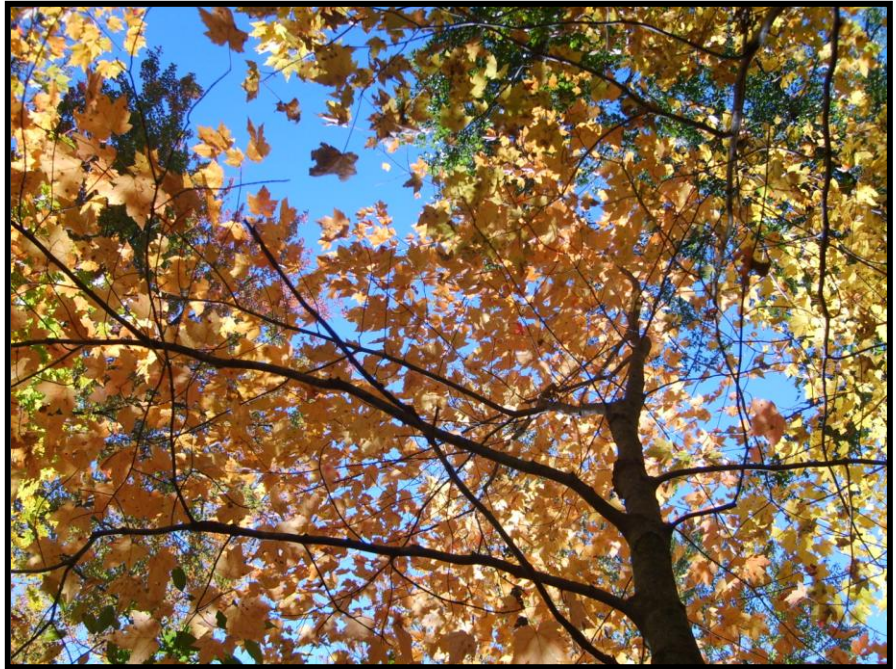
## FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

Prepared for: James Pribble  
1644 S Rabb School Rd  
Covington, IN 47932  
765-294-8029

Date of this inspection:  
1-19-2015

Green Certification  
Status: To Be  
Determined

Type of Ownership:  
Private Landowner



### Mission Statement

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forestlands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for present and future generations.

Section 29, T19N, R8W, Wabash Township, Fountain  
County

Approximately 18.5 Wooded Acres

Prepared by:  
**Allen Royer, District Forester**  
14619 West State Road 48  
Jasonville, Indiana 47438  
[aroyer@dnr.in.gov](mailto:aroyer@dnr.in.gov)

**The stewardship goals for this property are:**

- To improve timber production
- To improve wildlife habitat
- To provide firewood production

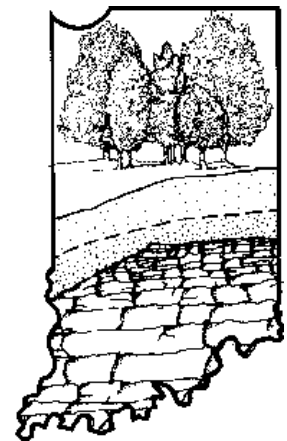
## **PROPERTY OVERVIEW**

**PROPERTY ACCESS AND BOUNDARY MARKINGS:** Access is on Rabb School Road off of Highway 32. Go north to the 1644 mailbox and turn west toward house.

Lines are well defined by county road on the east and fence on the north, west and south lines.

**TOPOGRAPHY:** Your property has hilly with ravines terrain with a few steep slopes. The maximum elevation change is 60 feet.

**SOILS:** Forest soils are named based upon geographic and topographic location. Each forest soil has various attributes; one of these is the site index. The site index is simply how tall a tree grows within fifty years in feet, given maximum sunlight, nutrients, and water. A highly productive forest soil is one that has a site index of 80 and above for oak and/or a site index of 90 and above for tulip poplar. The primary soil types include – (*See attached soils map for soil locations*)



Along the Ridgetops:

***Russell silt loam***

Along the Slopes:

***Strawn loam***, 25-70% slopes

Along the Creeks:

***Genesee soils***

These soils have the potential for growing high quality hardwood trees. The site limitations are steepness. Any trail or road construction on steep slopes should include the establishment of permanent water diversion structures and a permanent vegetative cover to help prevent future erosion problems.

**LAND USE HISTORY:** The last timber harvest was in the early 1980's prior to the owner's possession of the property. Some firewood harvesting is done yearly. No other forest management has been done.

**PREHISTORIC & HISTORIC FEATURES:** Most land parcels within the State of Indiana may be environmentally suitable to contain archaeological deposits but have not been investigated in order to verify the presence or absence of cultural deposits. Indiana

Code 14-21-1 provides protection to archaeological sites and cemeteries on both private and public land by prohibiting digging anywhere with the intent to recover artifacts and disturbing the ground within 100 ft. of a cemetery without an approved plan from the IDNR – Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. In addition, if archaeological artifacts (an object made or modified prior to 1870), features (non-portable evidence of human occupations, such as a well), or human remains are uncovered during ground disturbing activities, state law requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. Landowners who need to report archaeological sites or who are interested in learning more about cultural sites should contact the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology at 402 W. Washington St., Rm. W274, Indianapolis, IN 46204, 317-232-1646, [dhpa@dnr.in.gov](mailto:dhpa@dnr.in.gov), or at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/index.htm>.

**UNIQUE ANIMALS, PLANTS, & HABITATS:** The DNR Natural Heritage Database was researched and no recorded rare plants or wildlife features were found on or in the immediate vicinity of your property. This does not eliminate the possibility of species of concern existing on your property. Often, features on private lands, in particular, are missing from the database. The Division of Nature Preserves can give you more information on this subject. You can contact your Regional Ecologist, Tom Swinford, at (317) 233-4849 or at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve/4730.htm>

**PROPERTY SETTING AND REGIONAL CONSERVATION CONCERNS:** The woods lie 6 miles southwest of Veedersburg, a small town of 5,000 people. This property is rolling to steep and has a small creek called Mud Creek in the northwest corner of the woods. It is surrounded by other small woodlots and large crop fields.

## **AREA DESCRIPTION AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**AREA NAME:** James Pribble Woods

**RESOURCE DESCRIPTION:** This stand is an 18.5 acre upland hardwood forest. The dominant species include: White Ash, Basswood, American Beech, Black Cherry, American Elm, Red Elm, Bitternut Hickory, Pignut Hickory, Shagbark Hickory, Sugar Maple, Chinkapin Oak, Red Oak, White Oak, Sassafras and Tuliptree along with Hackberry, Hawthorn, Sycamore and Black Walnut, which are present but only compose a minor component of the stand. This stand is slightly overstocked in the larger diameter classes (*20 inches and greater dbh*) and properly stocked in the smaller diameters (*6 – 18 inches dbh*). The overall quality of the stand is excellent quality timber. Grapevines are a minor problem with 5 vines per acre.

**PRIMARY REGENERATION:** Hickory, Cherry, Beech, Elm, Ash, Sugar Maple, Red Oak and Tuliptree

**DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION:** The owner wants beautiful and healthy woods containing large diameter trees. Harvesting timber is a low priority. He does cut defective and dead trees for firewood. The woods are used for hunting and personal enjoyment. Wildlife viewing is also an objective important to the owner.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES TO ACHIEVE AREA OBJECTIVE:** The woods are in excellent health and large diameter trees are abundant. Try to cut some (not all) of the large vines in your oaks, walnut and cherry trees. There is not much regeneration due to the larger trees preventing sunlight from hitting the small trees and plants on the ground.

In the future if you do have a harvest, create small openings of ¼ to ½ acre where new regeneration can begin; concentrate on leaving mast producing trees like oaks, walnuts and hickory trees.

## PROPERTY WIDE CONSIDERATIONS

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**FOREST ROADS & TRAILS:** A trail system often increases property enjoyment and improves access for resource management, fire control, and recreation use. This may be as simple as an access road to edge of the woods, a looping trail for small vehicle access, or as complex as small bridges, stream crossings and hillside roads. Whatever system is utilized, it is important to layout, construct, and maintain the road/trail system to drain naturally, avoid the buildup of water, and to follow other “Best Management Practices” to conserve natural resources.

**WATERSHED PROTECTION:** The woods have a small creek in the northwest corner. Drainages flow toward the northwest. The larger watershed is the Middle Wabash River basin.

Woodlands and other natural areas are extremely effective at filtering pollutants and minimizing erosion as water moves across the landscape. You can maintain this effectiveness by using BMP's during any management activities.

**TIMBER HARVESTING:** Indiana grows some of the finest timber in the world which is in much demand. Timber may be the most valuable and manageable asset on the property and one worth giving due attention. No timber harvest should be undertaken without serious consideration. This plan helps guide your forest to a desired future condition that will meet your ownership objectives and the capabilities of the resource. The plan identifies the recommended type of harvest. ‘High grading’ and ‘diameter limit harvests’ are never preferred systems. It is highly recommended to use a professional forester and qualified logger when undertaking a timber sale and harvest. (See literature on ‘Timber Marking’, ‘Timber Marketing’, and ‘After a Harvest’)

**In the case of storm, fire, pest outbreak, or other widespread damage, consult with your forester to adjust harvest recommendations and management activities to put the woodland back on track to meet goals.**

**WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT:** The current stocking of trees, many of which produce nuts or seeds, provide sufficient habitat for the wildlife of the area. Timber management of your woodlands goes hand in hand with wildlife habitat management, and a healthy forest will have healthy wildlife.

Please refer to the brochure entitled “Working Trees for Wildlife” to learn about wildlife needs on specific trees and their structure in the woodland.

The owner hunts deer and squirrels on his property. An abundant food and water supply is available on or near this property.

**EXOTIC AND INVASIVE SPECIES CONCERNS:** Currently there are no exotic or invasive species present on this property. Concerns to be aware of are the invasion of bush honeysuckle or autumn olive. Control of these is easiest in the early stages of their establishment on the property. At this time none were seen during my inspection.

**CLASSIFIED FOREST & WILDLANDS PROGRAM:** The area on the property map which is outlined in yellow is eligible for the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program. Under the program you receive a significantly lowered property tax assessment, a periodic forester inspection, and an option to participate in and sell forest products as being ‘green certified’. In return, you agree to care for the land and its resources according to program standards and the approved plan tailored to your objectives and property resources. There are approximately 18.5 acres within this property can be classified at this time. If you are interested in enrolling your woodlands in the program, please sign the enclosed “Acknowledgements” sheet and send it back to me in the enclosed envelope, and follow the instructions provided with your Classified Forest and Wildlands application form. Your home site, garage, mowed yard and mowed woods do not qualify for this program. That area is noted on the enclosed area photo.

**GREEN CERTIFICATION:** While enrolled in the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program, your land may be eligible to become a Certified Sustainable Forest, if you wish to participate. This is a voluntary option, and if you change your mind in the future you will have the opportunity to enter or leave the certified group as you wish. Please indicate on the “Acknowledgements” page your decision on this matter, and feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns.

**PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGISTS:** This plan offers general guidelines to manage your natural resources and some specific or required action to take. The use of professional foresters is encouraged as you undertake significant or unfamiliar land management actions. This is especially true with timber resources, where missteps can have consequences lasting decades.

Professional foresters may include government foresters, private consultant foresters, and industry foresters. A list of consultant foresters and industry foresters is available at <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/fnr/Documents/ForestersDirectory.pdf>

Wildlife biologist can help refine plans and provide detailed guidance where needed for specific wildlife issues and habitats of interest. The state District Wildlife Biologist for this county is Dean Zimmerman and can be reached at (765) 567-2152.

## MANAGEMENT PROJECT SUMMARY

SCHEDULED YEAR	AREA NAME or NUMBER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ACRES	Importance
2015	Pribble Woods	Enter approximately 18.5 acres in the classified forest program	18.5	Medium
2015	Pribble Woods	Cut large vines on oaks, cherry and walnut trees. There are not many	5	High
2020- On	Pribble Woods	Consider harvesting over mature and dying trees. Watch the health of the ash trees which may have Emerald Ash Bore attack them in the future.	18.5	Medium
				N/A
				N/A

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I have reviewed the attached Stewardship Plan dated January 23, 2015, and agree with its recommendations for reaching my management objectives. If enrolled in the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program, I agree to follow this plan as written, unless circumstances arise that amendments need to be made to meet ownership and program objectives. The administrating State District Forester must agree upon the plan amendments.

I also elect to have the eligible woodlands, which are enrolled in the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program, included in the program's '*Green Certification Group*'.

\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_No

Landowner's Name: James Pribble

County: Fountain

Landowner's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

District Forester: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed: 1/23/2015

Please sign this page and return it to:

**James Potthoff, District Forester**

**15508 W 700 N**

**Medaryville, IN 47957**