

Red Oak

Project Subject/Title: Sawyer County Compartment 89 Stand 16

Contact Person: Sawyer County Liaison

Abstract: A red oak stand in northwestern Sawyer County was harvested using the shelterwood silvicultural prescription in 2010. Prior to the harvest, the site was scarified by a dozer with a salmon blade in 2009. The goal of the scarification was to promote an adequate amount of oak regeneration before the next stage of the shelterwood. Because of the small size of the stand, seed sources from different tree species on the perimeter of the stand could potentially present themselves as competition to the oak regeneration.

Trial Location:

County: Sawyer

Township: 42N **Range:** 08W **Section:** 25

GPS Coordinates: Lat: 46°5'29" **Long:** -91°19'12"

Property Name: Sawyer County Forest

Baseline Stand Data

- *Cover Type:* Red Oak
- *Acres:* 8
- *Habitat Type:* AVb
- *Soil Type:* Keweenaw-Pence Complex
- *Year of Origin:* 1920
- *Total Height:*
- *Site Index Species and Site Index:* 55
- *Mean Stand Diameter:*
- *Total Basal Area per Acre:*
- *Other stand Condition:*

Prescription and Methods:

- *Type of Prescription:* Shelterwood and Scarification
- *Year Initiated:* 2009
- *Establishment Methods:*

The stand was set up for the first stage of a shelterwood cut. Prior to the shelterwood, the stand was scarified by a dozer and salmon blade.

- *Data Collection Methods:*

A regeneration survey was taken when the stand was revisited in August of 2014. There were 18, mil-acre plots taken throughout the entire stand. Apart from regeneration, crown cover, and competition were assessed.

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Results: The total amount of regeneration from all the species present was 11,000 stems/acre. White birch and red oak were the top two more numerous species in the survey with 3,167 stems/acre each. Other species included white pine, red maple, sugar maple, and aspen. Crown cover was estimated to be about 60%. There was a lot of competition from raspberry, blackberry and bracken fern.

Discussion/Recommendations: Although red oak had the highest regeneration numbers, the majority of the stems were under 1 foot in height and very few were taller than 2 feet. White birch was present throughout the stand and most abundant in areas where there were white birch trees on the perimeter of the stand. Browsing from deer wasn't much of an issue and was only seen in a few areas. The raspberry and blackberry was extremely thick throughout the stand. The remaining overstory oak looked healthy. There was an adjacent stand to the east that was clearcut in 2014. This will serve as a good comparison of differing silviculture practices.

