

Red Oak

Project Subject/Title: Sawyer County Compartment 94 Stand 36

Contact Person: Sawyer County Liaison

Abstract: A 36 acre red oak stand located in Northwest Sawyer County was set up for the first stage harvest in the shelterwood silvicultural method in 2010. Prior to the harvest, the stand was scarified in 2009. The goal of the scarification treatment was to provide the oak with an ideal seed bed that is desirable for regenerating. Besides creating an ideal seed bed for the red oak, scarifying the stand was intended to discourage competing vegetation that would inhibit red oak regeneration and growth. It is important to have adequate regeneration potential for the red oak so that the stand will be a red oak dominated stand once the overstory is removed.

Trial Location:

County: Sawyer

Township: 42N **Range:** 08W **Section:** 30

GPS Coordinates: Lat: 46°5'29" **Long:** -91°24'49"

Property Name: Sawyer County Forest

Baseline Stand Data

- *Cover Type:* Red Oak
- *Acres:* 36 acres
- *Habitat Type:*
- *Soil Type:* Keweenaw-Sayner-Vilas Complex 6-15% slopes, stony
- *Year of Origin:* 1915
- *Total Height:*
- *Site Index Species and Site Index:* 57
- *Mean Stand Diameter:*
- *Total Basal Area per Acre:*
- *Other stand Condition:* Overstory Removal in 2020

Prescription and Methods:

- *Type of Prescription:* Pre-Sale Scarified/Shelterwood
- *Year Initiated:* 2009
- *Establishment Methods:*

In 2009 the stand was set up to be scarified. After the stand was scarified it was harvested using the shelterwood silvicultural prescription in 2010.

- *Data Collection Methods:*

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The stand was revisited in September of 2014. Fifteen mil-acre plots were established throughout the stand. Regeneration was counted, competition was noted and the overall condition of the stand was assessed.

Results: The total amount of all regeneration was 6,267 stems per acre. Red oak was the most numerous species found throughout the stand and had 2,733 stems per acre. Red maple, sugar maple, and white birch represented the rest of the regeneration found within the stand. Other than the species besides oak that were present, blackberry provided the most competition to the oak.

Discussion/Recommendations: Throughout the stand there was a consistent amount of blackberry present. In some areas the blackberry was overwhelming the regeneration. Although red oak was the dominant regenerating species, only about 40% of the plots were considered to be stocked. The majority of the oak fell into the 1.1 to 2.0 foot height class. It would be a good idea to revisit the stand once more before the overstory removal to check if there is adequate regeneration potential for oak.

