

Silvicultural systems

DEFINITION: A silvicultural system is a planned program or system of management treatments scheduled throughout the life of a tree stand

Harvesting, thinning pruning and planting activities can all be considered silvicultural treatments that may be used to influence the development of a forest stand over time.

Your management objectives for the stand

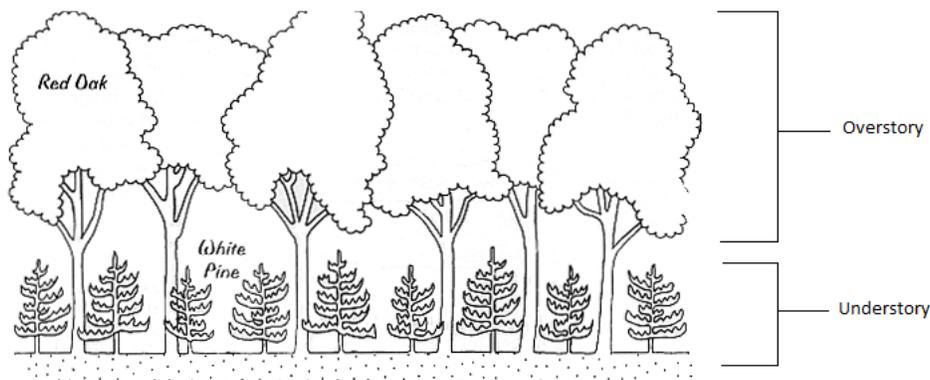
To establish management objectives, it is important that you answer the following questions:

- 1) what would you like to get from the stand NOW?
- 2) What would you like to get from the stand in the SHORT TERM?
- 3) what would you like to get from the stand in the LONG TERM?

Management options

The options you have for management are determined by the type of:

- forest growing in the OVERSTORY - different types of forest require different methods for management
- regeneration coming up in the UNDERSTORY - trees in the understory will eventually grow and become the future overstory



It is important to understand that every stand CAN have a number of alternatives for its future management direction.

Your choice of treatment should in part be based on the capability of this site (***is it a good site for the type of forest growing on it, or in the understory?***)

The following chart introduces three types of management systems that apply to various woodlots.

| Management system | Description | Usage | Forest type | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Selection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvesting individual trees or small groups of trees. - most of the trees and a variety of ages classes (Uneven-aged) left to grow and regenerate naturally. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promote high-value hardwood - managing a sugar bush - enhancing environmental values | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shade tolerant species (Sugar maple, Beech) - Shade tolerant conifers (Hemlock) |  |
| Shelterwood **See attached document for a detailed description | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gradual removal of the entire stand in a series of two, three or four partial cuts. - Natural regeneration encouraged in the shelter and shade of the remaining trees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Growing high value hardwoods and conifers - Renewing degrading stands. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mid tolerant hardwoods (Red Oaks, White Ash, Hickory, Yellow Birch, Basswood, Red Maple, White Pine) |  |
| Clearcut | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - removal of the entire overstory in one cut. - Regenerates poor quality stands (plant with seedlings or leave to regenerate naturally) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regenerating shade intolerant species (Poplar, Birch) - Regenerating species that can reproduce vegetatively. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early successional, shade intolerant species (Poplar, Birch, Cedar) |  |

Shelterwood Management System

a detail description

