

Block management overview:

Thompson Farm, West Foss Farm, East Foss Farm, MacDonald Lot

This block overview is meant to supplement current management plans (authored 2004) on these properties as well as recent operations and project plans written for the West Foss Farm, MacDonald and Thompson farm properties. The summary provided here is meant to address general wildlife management goals and specifically to those elements relevant to Woodcock. Other goals discussed below help to shape implementation of wildlife management operations.

Covering nearly 700 acres this area is managed to support the educational and research mission of the University and as a working forest for timber production and wildlife habitat management. The size of this piece, its proximity to campus and its juxtaposition to suburban Durham make it a unique and important resource. These properties are located both in the Lamprey and Oyster River watersheds and are the origin for many brooks and smaller watercourses (Woodman, Laroche, and Beaudette) that feed these important rivers.

Other parcels of land immediately adjacent to this property that can be lumped into “conservation pieces” include:

- The Beaudette parcel (132 acres managed by New Hampshire Fish and Game) sandwiched between East Foss Farm and Bennett Road.

- The Fogg Farm, which is 115 acres, west of West Foss Farm and currently under conservation easement.

Parcels not immediately adjacent to but within a 1 mile radius of the core properties include UNH’s College Woods, Longmarsh Road and Doe Farm property (Town of Durham), and the Lamprey River preserve.

Current cover breakdown of UNH Block:

- 100 acres or 15% is forested wetland.

- Operable mature woodland accounts for 500 acres or 71% of total cover.

- Openings that will be permanently maintained (agricultural fields, old fields, meadows, power right of ways), account for about 70 acres or 10% of total cover.

- There are about 15 acres of woodland in early successional stages (2% of total); the majority of these will be allowed to progress to thicket stage. 26 acres of this type will be added over the next 5 years (for a total of 41 acres or 7%).

- 15 acres of young woodland is in the 15-30 yr age bracket.

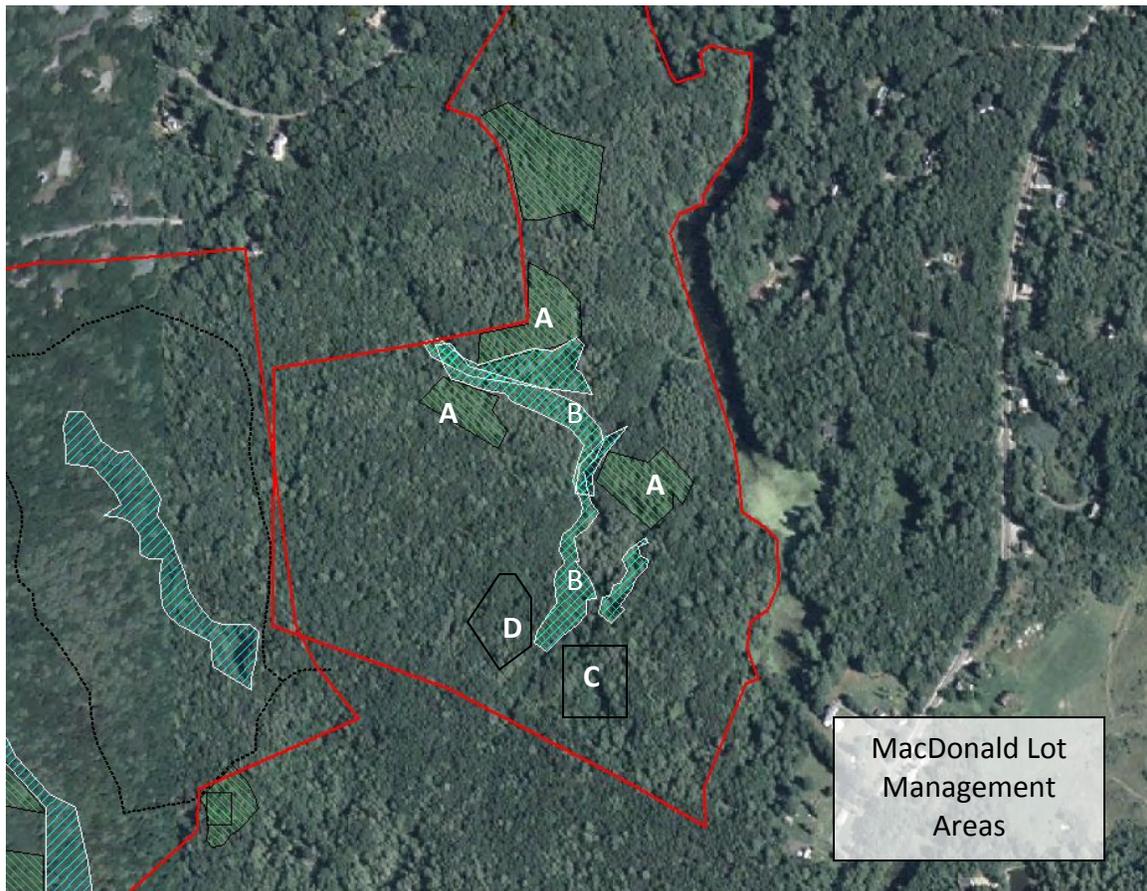
Proposed projects for the next 3-5 years seek to create new woodland openings, some of which will be allowed to progress to thicket while some will be maintained in the very early successional stages. A list of planned projects and how they benefit woodcock are as follows:

MacDonald Lot (see MacDonald Lot Operations plan)

(areas of shaded green are forested wetlands)

A harvest that will clearcut 3 acres of white pine (“A”) is planned for the winter of 2008-2009. These clearcuts are placed in immediate proximity to several areas of alder (“B”)(approx. 2 acres) that will be regenerated through mechanical mowing techniques. These clearcuts will be allowed to progress naturally to thicket stage. In 20-25 years clearcuts will be made in stands immediately adjacent to these allowing continuity in available cover.

Within 1000’ of these clearcuts a 2 acre woodland opening (“C”) will be created that will be maintained as a meadow. Adjacent to this is a 1 acre stand of young aspen and small old field area. The aspen will be mowed every 5-10 years while the old field section will be mowed every year or every other year (in conjunction with the new 2 acre meadow). Since woodcock have been located here new, new clearcuts and field (creation and maintenance) will create singing grounds and areas to nest/roost in. Newly regenerating areas of alder will continue to offer quality feeding opportunities.



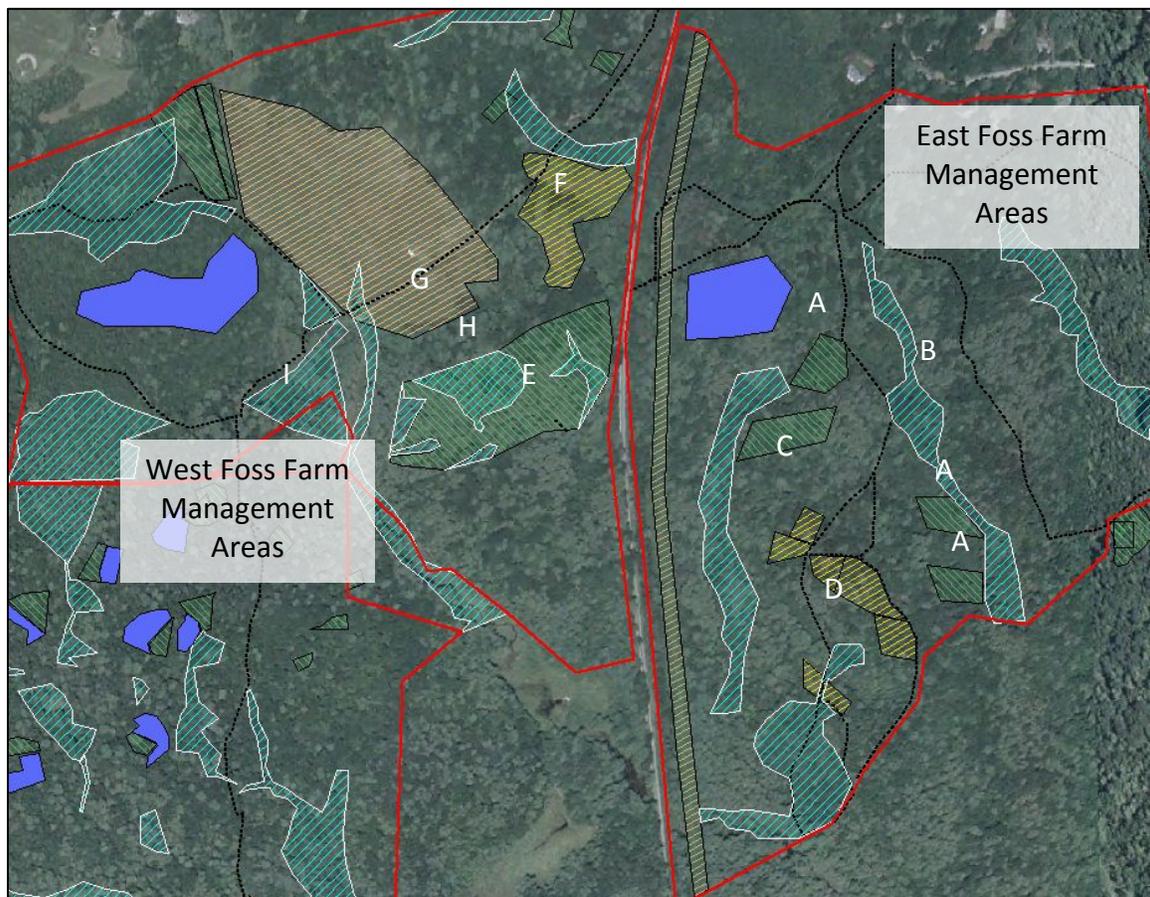
East Foss Farm

(Newly proposed)

Immediate focus at East Foss farm will be on the unique 5-10 acre area of young woodland (15-30 years) .To maintain this as useful wildlife cover several large

swaths("A") will be mowed over the next five years running down/perpendicular to the adjacent wetland ("B"). The remainder of this cover type will be regenerated in approximately 5-10 years. Alternate leave sections will maintain escape cover for animals that use this area and will allow them to comfortably access the browse in the new openings . In addition to this we will harvest a one acre section of old field pine ("C") that abuts wetland on one side and section of the young woodland discussed above.

Swampy and wet areas at the edges of the new openings and young woodland area (A,B,C) will provide roosting/nesting, singing grounds and feeding areas all in close proximity to each other. Permanently maintained old field habitat ("D") complements these improvements.



### West Foss Farm

Areas of the New England Cottontail project ("E") will be completed in 2008 and 2009. Some of the larger clearcut area will be mowed as part of an invasive control project but the remainder will be allowed to immediately develop to thicket. Old Field areas ("F") will be maintained as grassy/shrubby openings through selective mowing. The wet meadow ("G") and old fields provide good permanent openings for woodcock to use as singing grounds, while wet edges in the meadows ("H") and in and around

Laroche brook ("I") provide ample feeding and roosting/nesting areas. Thicket and shrubby areas in the cottontail clearcut and adjacent old fields provide excellent nesting/roosting cover.

### Thompson Farm

(also see Thompson Farm Operations plan)

A-3 acres of field recovery half of which will be allowed to develop to thicket; the other will be mowed every year or every other year. Aging alder on the fringes of this area will be regenerated through mechanical mowing.

B-4 acres of old field perpetually maintained as grassy/shrubby openings.

C-3+ acres of small woodland openings as part of the expanding gap project.

D-2+ acres of woodland openings that will be allowed to develop to thicket stage.

The efforts taken by others to permanently maintain the large openings ("E") allow us focus our attention on providing patchy and shrubby areas that will soon offer nesting and roosting opportunities; bordering this are considerable areas of Alder and similar wetland associated shrub species.

