

Location and Description

This property is owned by Anthony Day, 14426 NW 83rd Lane, Alachua, FL 32615. The property is located in Section 18, Township 1 North, Range 6 East, in eastern Jefferson County, and covers 52.47 acres. Go east on highway 90 from Monticello, and turn south on Lonnie Road, just before the Madison County line, to gain access to the property. The majority of the property is in cypress swamp, with some mixed hardwood uplands and a small stand of planted pines. There are six mobile home sites on the west side of the property.

Management Objectives

Timber management is the primary objective of the landowner, but he would also like to improve wildlife management activities on the property as well. Using proper forest management practices for site preparation and planting can easily improve wildlife habitat and production on the property as well.

Summary of Management Recommendations

Timber

The landowner's primary objective is timber management, but there is limited pine timber on the property. About seven acres of pines were planted on the west side of the property. There are currently five mobile home sites adjacent to the planted pines, presenting considerable timber management challenges. Any forestry operations to be performed should be done in accordance with the *Silvicultural Best Management Practices* manual for the state of Florida.

Wildlife

The owner's secondary objective is wildlife management. Expanding some of the current open areas and establishing permanent food plots could increase and improve wildlife habitat considerably. The landowner should also consider establishing one or two ground blinds for wildlife observation.

Soils

A variety of soil types occur on this property ranging from somewhat poorly drained to very poorly drained. A list of soil types is provided in the table below. Currently, no significant soil erosion problems occur on the property.

Soil type and number	Vegetative Community	Site Index	Species	Drainage
Surrency fine sand (4)	Cypress and gum swamp	75	Cypress	Very poorly drained
Albany sand (20)	Pine and hardwood	95	Loblolly	Somewhat poorly drained
Pelham fine sand (23)	Pine and hardwood	91	Loblolly	Poorly drained
Sapelo fine sand (26)	Pine and oak	77	Loblolly or slash	Poorly drained
Leefield fine sand (33)	Pine and oak	84	Loblolly or slash	Somewhat poorly drained
Rutledge fine sand (35)	Cypress and gum swamp	75	Cypress	Very poorly drained

* Site Index is defined as the average height of the dominant and co-dominant trees within an even-aged stand of the selected species at age 50 years. This information was acquired from the *Soil Survey of Jefferson County, Florida*, issued in February 1989.

Recreation

Hunting may be somewhat restricted due to the close proximity of the mobile homes. However there are three small ponds on this tract that may be used for recreational fishing. There are some overgrown woods roads that could be “rehabbed” and opened up to foot and automobile traffic, improving access to the ponds. Maintaining these access roads will improve the opportunities for bird watching and wildlife viewing as well.

Aesthetics

Aesthetic values on the Day property are somewhat lacking at present. Establishing and maintaining access to the ponds will immediately improve aesthetic appeal of the tract. Reestablishing and maintaining the woods roads and any trails will help, too. “Limbing” the lower branches on trees along these roads and trails will increase wildlife viewing opportunities into adjacent areas will also add to the aesthetic appeal.

Stand Specific Recommendations

Stand 1-Cypress Swamp (32.9 acres)

This stand is composed almost completely of bald cypress in the over story. There are a few scattered black gum in the upper canopy as well. The mid story is made up of black gum, red maple, bald cypress, sweetbay, sweetgum, and some black cherry. This area is flooded most of the year. A sparse understory is composed of wax myrtle, willow, smilax and sweetgum.

No timber harvesting activity is anticipated in this area. Cypress forests can take up to a hundred years or more to mature. There is some aesthetic appeal to this area and it should be left untouched for future generations to enjoy. In drier times the perimeter of this stand can be accessed on foot for bird watching and wildlife observation.

Stand 2-Mixed hardwood and pine (11.4 acres)

This stand is made up of water oak, laurel oak, red maple, slash pine, loblolly pine and sweetgum in the over story, and red bud and wax myrtle in the midstory and understory. Ground cover includes smilax, wax myrtle, sweetgum and oak sprouts, as well as various ferns.

This area should be completely mechanically site prepped and planted to slash pine. Complete site preparation will include shearing and raking all standing trees into round piles to be burned. Once shearing and raking are completed, the entire area should be harrowed with a 10-ton Rome-type harrow. The harrowed should be left to settle for at least six weeks before planting. Planting should take place between December 1 and February 28. Rust-resistant slash pine should be planted on a 6' x 12' spacing pattern (605 trees per acre). Order 7,000 seedlings for reforestation.

The landowner should consider band spraying an appropriate herbicide over the top of the rows of planted seedlings to control competition and increase survival of the pines during the first year.

Establish two food plots in stand 2 that are about 1-acre in size each. The best time to establish these plots is after the site is harrowed and before new pines are planted. Measure out 1-acre sites and plant them between September 15 and October 15, 2010. The pines can then be planted around these areas as they should be up and running before tree planting time. The soils on this stand are Sapalo and Albany sands that are somewhat poorly to poorly drained. Sites like this are suitable for growing white clovers. The advantage of white clovers is that you can plant them in the fall and they will produce all the way through the next summer. A light disking the next fall will re-establish the clovers without having to replant. Probably the best choice for small plots simply because of its persistence and the fact that you can buy small quantities of Durana

white clover. You only need 5 pounds/acre, so 10 pounds would plant two 1-acre food plots. To plant these food plots, first plant a small amount of oats. Oats can be planted deeper than clover so plant them first. Plant 25 pounds/acre of oats at a depth of 1 inch. A 50 pound bag will plant both plots. Next, top sow the clover seed and either cultipack in or drag a piece of chain link fence over the top to lightly cover the seed. Make sure you either buy clover pre-inoculated or purchase the correct inoculant and apply to the seed before planting. Clovers like a soil with pH around 6.5 so you should take a soil sample and have it tested well ahead of planting. If lime is needed you will need to apply it at least 3 months ahead of planting to get any benefits.

Stand 3 Planted slash pine (6.7 acres)

This stand of planted slash pine is approximately nine years old. The pines are in good condition, exhibiting some, but not excessive amounts of fusiform rust. Prescribed burning will be a problem because of the close proximity of the mobile homes. Understory control in the planted pines will require gyrotrac work or using a Brown tree cutter.

Commercially harvesting this area will be difficult, but might be possible with careful planning. The landowner should locate nearby stands of pines about the same age that might be harvested in the future. Make contact with the landowners and try to coordinate simultaneous harvesting.

Stand 4 Ponds (1.47 acres)

There are five small ponds on the property ranging from 0.1 acres to 0.3 acres. Depending on rainfall, these ponds may provide ample opportunities for recreational fishing. Based on the size of these ponds it is recommended that they be stocked only with catfish. However, the owner should contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Regional fisheries biologist for a site specific recommendation on species and stocking levels. You can contact the Northwest Regional fisheries biologist in Panama City at (850) 265-3677. The ponds in stand 2a and 3b are close enough that the owner should consider joining them in the future. Permitting for such a project would need to come through the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Some of the ponds are readily accessible at present; others need to have access established. The owner should establish and maintain access to each of the ponds. They can provide excellent spots for bird watching, picnicking, and possibly fishing in the future.

Suggested management activities for the next five years

Year	Stand #	Recommendations
2010	1	Leave as is.
2011	1	Leave as is.
2012	1	Leave as is.
2013	1	Leave as is.
2014	1	Leave as is.
2010	2	Complete site prep in the summer, and plant to slash pine in winter. Establish permanent food plots at least one acre in size between stand 1c and 2a, and 1c and 2b. Establish a permanent fire line around 2a and 2b.
2011	2	Spray herbicide over the tops of planted pines before March 15. Do a survival check after the first frost in the fall of 2011.
2012	2	Maintain fire lines in the fall. Mow the middles of 1/3 of the planted pines in the fall.
2013	2	Maintain fire lines in the fall. Mow the middles of 1/3 of the planted pines in the fall.
2014	2	Maintain fire lines in the fall. Mow the middles of 1/3 of the planted pines in the fall.
2010	3	Mow the middles of 1/3 the planted pines in the fall.
2011	3	Mow the middles of 1/3 the planted pines in the fall.
2012	3	Mow the middles of 1/3 the planted pines in the fall.
2013	3	Mow the middles of 1/3 the planted pines in the fall.
2014	3	Mow the middles of 1/3 the planted pines in the fall.
2010	Ponds	Establish access where needed and maintain annually.
2011	“	Establish access where needed and maintain annually.
2012	“	Establish access where needed and maintain annually.
2013	“	Establish access where needed and maintain annually.
2014	“	Establish access where needed and maintain annually.

ANTHONY DAY

Stewardship Plan Map

Prepared By Michael Humphrey
Sr. Forester

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Stand 1a 4.3 ac.
Stand 1b 3.2 ac.
Stand 1c 22.2 ac.
Stand 1d 3.2 ac.

Stand 2a 6.6 ac.
Stand 2b 4.8 ac.
Stand 3a 2.1 ac.
Stand 3b 4.6 ac.