



TOWN OF FALMOUTH

ORDER NO 55-2013

ADOPT A FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

BE IT HEREBY ORDERED THIS 10th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012, BY THE FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL, FALMOUTH MAINE, IN TOWN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED:

To adopt a forest harvesting operations plan for Town owned properties known as Blackstrap Hill Forest, Community Park, and Pine Grove Park, such plan to include the following:

1. Blackstrap Hill Forest

A “worst first” harvesting operation will be conducted this winter to thin out the forest in the area west of the utility corridor. Over mature, weak, damaged and diseased trees will be removed to improve the overall health and vigor of the forest and to allow for regeneration. The perimeter of the existing hayfield and utility corridor will be more heavily cut to create the kind of early successional forest habitat needed by the endangered New England cottontail rabbit and other wildlife species that thrive in this forest type.

2. Community Park

A 15-20 acre area in the northern part of the Park will be clear-cut to remove the dead, diseased and otherwise unhealthy pine trees that currently occupy the site now. The area also contains a dense understory of invasive plants, primarily honeysuckle and buckthorn, that we will be managed after the cut. The area will be left to grow into early successional stage forest to provide habitat for the endangered New England cottontail rabbit and other wildlife species that thrive in this forest type. This operation will take place when there is adequate access to the cut area.

3. Pine Grove Park

A “worst first” harvesting operation will be conducted this winter to thin out the forest. Over mature, weak, damaged and diseased trees will be removed to improve public safety and the overall health and vigor of the forest to allow for regeneration.

Attest: _____

Ellen Planer

Town Clerk