

Centennial Watershed State Forest Aspetuck-Hemlock Reservoir Block

Management Plan

Forest Diversity



Even- and uneven-aged forest management techniques, invasive plant control, and promoting softwood and hardwood stands will be used to create a more diverse, multi-aged, and climate resilient forest with diverse structure and species composition.

Climate Change Mitigation



The forests of the Aspetuck-Hemlock Reservoir Block can help mitigate climate change by sequestering and storing carbon in vegetation above and below ground, and as durable wood products used locally and beyond. Promoting forest health and balancing higher sequestration rates with diverse forest structure featuring high carbon storage is essential.

Economic Benefits



Sustainably harvesting forest products like timber, firewood, witch-hazel, and maple syrup from Connecticut's State Forests provide jobs and goods that are sold in the local economy. The State Forests are a model for private forest landowners to consider when managing their own properties

Forest Health and Protection



Managing Connecticut's State Forests helps reduce susceptibility to threats such as invasive plants and insects, allowing them to remain healthy and productive. In this Block, we are actively controlling invasive plants such as Japanese barberry, multiflora rose, Asiatic bittersweet, and stiltgrass.

Wildlife Habitat



Many of Connecticut's wildlife species, both common and rare, use a wide variety of forested habitats. It is important to provide many kinds of forested habitats for animals that have different needs. Bald eagles, black bears, bobcats, and other wildlife are found here.

Recreational/Health Benefits



There are about 19 miles of the Blue-Blazed Hiking Trail system running through this Block. Other outdoors activities such as fishing and hunting are permitted in designated areas.

High Quality Drinking Water & Environmental Protection



Connecticut's State Forests provide environmental benefits such as cleaning the air, protecting water quality, and contributing to soil health. Additionally, the Aspetuck-Hemlock Reservoir Block filters drinking water that hundreds of thousands of Fairfield County residents drink. It is vital that this forest be maintained so it can continue to provide this service.

Managed Forests
Are Resilient Forests

