

Mattatuck State Forest

Northfield Block

Management Plan

Forest Health and Diversity



The Northfield Block contains healthy and diverse ecosystems, including red maple lowlands and oak-hickory forests, that provide highly functional, valuable, and resilient habitats for plants and animals.

Climate Change Mitigation



Climate change is an important global issue. The management of the Northfield Block provides the opportunity to sequester and store carbon, through sustainable forest management, in vegetation and long-lived wood products.

Economic Benefits



The plan outlines timber harvesting activity on 62 acres. There is also a sugarbush which provides locally produced maple syrup. These sustainably harvested forest products provide jobs and raw materials for a locally sourced, forest-based, green economy. "Growing What We Need, Where We Live".

Forest Protection



This plan addresses threats such as exotic invasive plants, insects, and pathogens. It makes recommendations to mitigate these damaging agents. The plan recognizes that forests are dynamic and that weather events, insect or disease outbreaks, or other unforeseen conditions may require changes in the recommendations.

Wildlife Habitat



Three State Endangered species and one Species of Special Concern are known to utilize the area in and around this forest Block. Forest management practices will protect critical habitat features required by these species.

Recreational/Health Benefits



The Northfield Block contains many old roads and is open to hiking and hunting, offering the public recreational opportunities and a place to explore in a healthy and active way. Trails provide hiking access from Humaston Brook State Park Scenic Reserve.

Environmental Protection



The plan recommends silvicultural treatments that will create a more diverse mix of tree species and age classes. The plan will increase the amount of young forest while also designating three stands, totaling 61 acres (8% of the total acreage), as Old Forestland Management Sites. Diverse forests are resilient forests.

