

# James L. Goodwin State Forest Forest Resource Management Plan

## Forest Health and Diversity



The James L. Goodwin State Forest supports a diversity of forest types and age-classes reflecting a long history of active forest management dating back to the early 1900's. Management efforts focus on forest health and resilience to both natural and anthropogenic disturbance.

## Climate Change Mitigation



Management of the James L. Goodwin State Forest will promote climate resilience, carbon sequestration and carbon storage. Sustainable forest management can maintain or enhance forest carbon sinks by sequestering CO<sup>2</sup> from the atmosphere and storing carbon in wood products which replace more carbon intensive materials such as concrete and steel.

## Economic Benefits



This management plan prescribes 425-acres of commercial timber harvesting intended to achieve the broader goals identified in the plan. These sustainably harvested forest products provide jobs and raw material for a locally sourced, forest-based, green economy.

## Forest Protection



Management planning incorporates strategies to mitigate forest damage associated with invasive plants, non-native insects, and wildland fire. Boundary marking additionally protects the forest from trespass and timber theft. Concepts of adaptive management provide a framework for changing strategies as needed to address changing conditions and protect the forest from unforeseen threats.

## Wildlife Habitat



Supporting nearly all of Connecticut's common woodland wildlife, and plant species, the James L. Goodwin State Forest also hosts occurrences of State-listed species and communities including: a State Special Concern reptile, several invertebrates, many listed herbaceous plants, and the Acidic Atlantic White Cedar Swamp Natural Community.

## Recreational/Health Benefits



With over 19-miles of authorized trails and 27-miles of combined trails and cart roads, the James L. Goodwin State Forest provides ample recreational opportunities for a diverse suite of user groups. DEEP, Friends of Goodwin Forest and CFPA collaborate on trail management and improvement projects to maintain the recreational resource.

## Environmental Protection



Forested watersheds filter water before it enters rivers, lakes, and streams to ensure clean inputs into the hydrologic system. Utilizing Best Management Practices (BMPs) to preserve water quality while harvesting forest products further protects surface waters, enabling high quality fish habitat in tributaries and major river systems like the Natchaug River.



Managed Forests

Are Resilient Forests