

Cherokee National Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative

Paint Creek Watershed Team

Site Assessment Survey

Site Number (date and chronological order)	4.10.12 Site 5
FS Veg Compartment and Stand Number	"site" include area along FSR 54 . 223-25 harvested 1996, 223-24 harvested 1977, 223-26 established 1885
Approximate Elevation	1,600 -1,800
Slope	Varying
Aspect	Generally South/South-West
What is the current Ecological system present at the site?	There were several different communities present at this site. There was regenerating Poplar below the road (see harvested stands listed above). Walking up the trail from the end of the road, there was predominately oak stand with a few yellow pine and some white pine mixed in on the east side of the ridge. On the south side of the ridge (facing the river), the canopy was more exposed and contained a lot more yellow pine in the structure. Then continuing up the trail, the canopy opened up on both sides of the trail and was in the process of regenerating due to fire and southern pine beetle kill. This area exhibited some yellow pine regeneration, but also had some white pine moving in as well.
What does FS Veg say is the current Forest Type?	Red Oak, white Oak Hickory
What did Steve Simon's model predict would be at the site?	Oak dominated Pine site
Is the site in a desired condition? Could it be improved? What S-Class or System would we like to move it toward?	We discussed maintaining and possibly moving this area toward an open condition. Above the road, there is some oak and remains of yellow pine. The lower east facing ridge might be managed as an open oak-yellow pine site (white pine removal, thin oaks and burn), the lower west facing slope open yellow-pine oak (predominantly burning) and the upper slope an open yellow pine-oak mix (burning, white pine control, midstory treatment).
What treatment options could be used to do that? How many entries?	Could move it back toward pine with harvest and burning.
How many of those treatments could be done commercially?	Possible Firewood Sale to remove some trees. Possible timber sale of 10-20K board feet of high quality white oak.
Would there be a need for additional funding to	Unknown

complete treatments at this site?	
Does this site provide an opportunity to demonstrate a restoration treatment or condition that is better than other locations in the watershed? On the north end of the Forest?	Might provide one of the best opportunities for favoring Open Low elevation pine in the watershed. Other areas may be too steep. This location is relatively flat and has good road access.
Additional Comments/Discussion Points or unanswered questions.	May want to look at soil maps of this area



