

Copy #2

GOURDNICK STATE GAME AREA

Planting Number 1

Planted Spring 1942

This planting was made for the purpose of improving an area of submarginal agricultural land for wildlife. Strip and clump plantings of conifers were made to break up large open fields and provide travel lanes and cover patches throughout the open areas. Other strip plantings, mostly of conifer stock, were made around the borders of wood lots and on the margin of marshes. Fruit and nut producing trees and shrubs were scattered through the plantings to provide food, but the bulk of the planting was of conifer stock planted to establish evergreen cover.

These plantings, if successful, will make a considerably larger percentage of the total area inhabitable by wildlife. Cottontail rabbits will probably benefit more than any other single species, but pheasants, quail, and squirrels, as well as many non-game species should also benefit from the plantings.

Descriptions and Acreage Planted on Each

SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW frl. $\frac{1}{4}$ (except N $2\frac{1}{2}$ Acres)	Sec. 3	T 4 S	R 11 W	5 Acres
E frl. $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ (south of creek)	Sec. 4	T 4 S	R 11 W	19 "
N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ (north of road)	Sec. 9	T 4 S	R 11 W	2 "
Total Acreage Planted				26 Acres

Species, Size and Quantity of Stock Planted

Red pine (transplants)	12,000
White pine (transplants)	4,000
Jack pine (seedlings)	4,000
White cedar (10")	5,000
White spruce (6")	5,000
Butternut (7")	200
Red osier dogwood (9")	1,000
Junberry (12")	500
Mountain ash (9")	200

Total Trees and Shrubs Planted 31,900

The pine stock used in this project was obtained from the Higgins Lake State Forest Nursery. The balance was produced in the Hardwood State Forest Nursery. All of the stock was delivered to the planting area by state truck, and was in good condition when received and planted.

The planting was made with local labor paid at the rate of 60 cents per hour for common labor and 69 cents per hour for the foreman.

The soil was prepared for planting by scalping where the ground cover was heavy enough to make soil preparation necessary. However, over most of the planting area, soil preparation was unnecessary.

The small stock was planted with planting bars, but the root systems on some of the larger stock were so well developed that shovel planting was necessary.

The plants were spaced approximately 6' x 6' or planted at the rate of about 1,200 to the acre. The butternut was scattered throughout the planting with no regular spacing.

The principal soil types on the planting area are Fox sandy loam and Fox loam. On some of the marshy sites, the soil graded into muck.

The weather conditions during and following the planting season were favorable for plantings. Frequent rains made soil moisture conditions satisfactory, and a high rate of survival should result.

Planting started on May 20 and was completed on June 2.

No check plots were established but, since practically all of the planting was done in open areas, the results should be easily checkable.

Planting Costs:

Not including time and travel of Lansing office personnel other than Game Area Manager, or the cost of the planting stock.

From funds other than Game Division *

Labor	\$210.15
Supervision	49.94
Sub-Total	<u>\$260.09</u>

From Game Division Funds

Labor	\$ 70.05
Supervision (est)	111.65
Sub-Total	<u>\$181.70</u>

Total Cost of Project	\$441.79
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Cost Per Acre Planted	\$ 16.99
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Cost Per Thousand Trees and Shrubs Planted	\$ 13.85
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* This project was carried on as a Pittman-Robertson development project in which 75% of the cost is paid from Federal funds and 25% is paid from State funds.