

Notes on parcels/stands:

The oldest parcels are B, D, and F shown on the map in green. Parcel B was open fields, no longer in cultivation, that were machine planted by your parents over a period of several years. Only part of that was thinned, in 2009 with Parcels D and F. These parcels are young enough for a second thinning in the next couple of years. Another option is to clearcut these stands in the next few years and reforest. Local markets for pulpwood and "chips" is resulting in shorter rotations and harvesting smaller pines at younger ages. A consulting forester can appraise the pines and give you specific information on prices for thinning vs. clearcutting.

Parcels H, J, K and L, shown in orange, are younger stands ready for a first thinning. Thinning will maintain the growth rate and increase tree vigor, helping to keep the trees insect and disease resistant. The main objective of thinning is to give the remaining trees enough room to grow. In addition, you want to have the smallest, poorest quality trees removed so that the increased growth is concentrated on the best trees.

One small part of L, adjacent to D and F is difficult to access and should be harvested with the larger parcels.

The remaining parcels, M, N, and O are growing well, but not quite ready for thinning yet. They should be reevaluated in the next 2-3 years. Parcel N has a lot of natural pine seedlings mixed with the planted pine in spots, so it is not as uniform as the other parcels and may be difficult to thin.

I have enclosed a second map, showing Parcel E, a separate area near what was a tenant or rental house. I believe the house burned, but I'm not sure what year that was. This stand is similar to Parcel B, the pine area was open fields planted around 1992 and thinned once. It is surrounded by the Graybill property. It could be clearcut, but it is not practical to reforest a small, separate area like this.

The remaining acres are hardwood, a fairly large block of upland hardwood in the north center of the tract and the rest riparian areas along the streams, drainages, and near the reservoir. The streamside hardwoods should be protected from harvesting to serve as wildlife corridors and protect water quality. The large block of hardwood could be clearcut and converted to pine plantation, but with so much in pine already you may want to keep this hardwood for diversity and for the wildlife habitat value.

Tract Activity Summary 2016
 Watson Estate
 LUN93027 –Red Field Road

PARCEL	DATE	ACTIVITY	ACRES	Comments and Recommendations
B	1990	Planted with loblolly pine	58	Open fields planted in different years; clearcut with adjacent stands
	2009	Thinned (lower block)	25	
D	1993	Planted with loblolly pine	68	Second thinning or clearcut
	1994	Released	68	
	2009	Thinned	68	
F	1994	Planted with loblolly pine	61	Second thinning or clearcut
	1995	Released	61	
	2009	Thinned	61	
H	1996	Planted with loblolly pine	10	Ready for thinning
	1999	Released	10	
J	1999	Planted with loblolly pine	30	Ready for thinning
	2001	Released	30	
K	2000	Planted with loblolly pine	45	Ready for thinning.
	2001	Released	45	
L(3 blocks)	2001	Planted with loblolly pine	35	Larger parcels could be thinned; small "L" should be clearcut with D or F
L1	2003	Released	13	
M	2002	Planted with loblolly pine	38	Thin in 1-2 years
	2003	Released	38	
N	2003	Planted with loblolly pine	26	Thin in 2-3 years; some areas loaded with natural pine seedlings
	2006	Released	26	
O	2004	Planted with loblolly pine	31	Thin in 2-3 years
	2006	Released	31	