

The property on Interchange Drive, consisting of roughly 13 acres is a relatively poor site due to lack of natural resource management. The 13 acres is a mixed hardwood forest consisting of red maple (*Acer rubrum*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), American holly (*Ilex opaca*) tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), crabapple (*Malus spp.*), Virginia pine (*Pinus virginiana*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), and post oak (*Quercus stellata*). The forest understory is predominately dominated by the crabapples, leaving little to no available space for new understory species. There is also very little sawtimber on this property and not that much pulpwood either. Some of the trees that are present have bad form and become undesirable as sawtimber and would be utilized as the less profitable pulpwood.

Based on a timber cruise conducted by myself, I was able to estimate the amount of volume and value of the forest with a 95% confidence interval. Sawtimber has an average of 32,177.60 (-29,991.50, 94,346.70) board feet valued at \$6,739.20 (-\$7,613.65, \$21,092.05). The pulpwood has an average of 175.77 (9.99, 341.55) cords valued at \$2894.19 (\$199.12, \$5,589.26).

Clearcutting this property would be acceptable, but I don't think companies would put a bid in for something with such little value. Another thing to be aware of when removing this many trees, with there being a body of water nearby, the reduction in trees might result in a rise in the water levels and possible flooding during rain events.

If you are wanting to just clear-cut for profit of the trees themselves, I would recommend management of the property first to increase profits in the future. I would say a selective thinning followed by a prescribed burn would really help this property out. It would remove the poor formed trees and competing trees, and open up the forest floor for new growth besides crabapple.

Seth Harrison
Urban Forester