

A Conservation Plan for  
The Sequoyah Council's  
Camp Davy Crockett

Submitted by  
Frank O. Lege

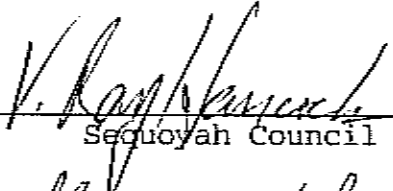
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
degree of Doctor of Commissioner Service

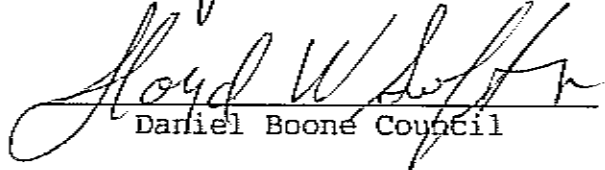
Appalachian - Piedmont  
College of Commissioner Service


June 4, 1995

Approved:

June 2, 1995

  
Sequoiah Council

  
Daniel Boone Council

Palmetto Council  
  
Great Smoky Mountain Council

  
Blue Ridge Council

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Abstract

The goal of this project was to produce a ten year Conservation Plan for Camp Davy Crockett. The Tennessee Division of Forestry refers to this plan as a Forest Stewardship Plan. Be aware, however, they are one and the same plan. This plan is supposed to be used as a guide in the management of the Camp's natural resources by the Sequoyah Council over the next 10 years.

I have been attending Camp Davy Crockett for nine years. During this time I have had discussions with numerous Scouters, including the Camp Ranger, Sarge Harbin. These discussions centered around the need for a new conservation plan for Camp Davy Crockett. The consensus was that the Sequoyah Council needed a current Conservation Plan that described where Camp stood environmentally now, and where it needed to go in the future.

Thus, my scouting problem was to develop a Conservation Plan for Camp Davy Crockett that would be comprehensive and also usable by Sequoyah Council management.

To accomplish this feat, I had a choice of doing all the work myself or of involving other specialists in the various resource fields. My choice was to involve other professionals in other resource fields.

The first item I felt important to establish was how much land was involved in Camp Davy Crockett Boundary. I discussed this matter with Council Executive Ron Garland and Camp Ranger Sarge Harbin. Both these individuals told me the Sequoyah Council owned about 1800 acres at Camp Davy Crockett. To check this out, I made a personal trip to Hamblen and Hawkins Counties

(counties in which Camp Davy Crockett lies). At these two counties, I obtained copies of deeds for all land owned by Camp Davy Crockett (Sequoyah Council). Summing acreages on these deeds led me to believe Sequoyah Council only owned about 1250 acres in these two counties. I wrote a letter to Ron Garland expressing my concern and what I found (Appendix - Item A) (October 17, 1992).

The next item I took care of was to get a Request for Development of Stewardship Plan and Pledge of Intent to Follow Stewardship Plan signed by Council Executive Ron Garland. In this document (Appendix Item B) is a Management Statement of Goal agreed upon by the Council Executive Board and the Council Executive, Ron Garland.

After receiving approval for beginning the full work on the Conservation Plan from the Council Executive Board and the Council Executive, I began planning the actual field work and the resources that would be studied. We could not study all resources because of time and other constraints.

At this point I recruited professionals with whom I was familiar from agencies outside the Boy Scout organization to assist me. Each of us is a specialist in one of the areas of:

1. Outdoor Recreation
2. Trails
3. Timber Management
4. Soil and Water
5. Wildlife

At my invitation, each volunteered to study the current status of his or her resource at the camp and to project where that resource needed to be within the next ten years.

Working through the Tennessee Division of Forestrys' Area Forester, the information was compiled by the individual specialists, including myself, and sent to the Area Forester. He wrote and organized the report and had it signed by each specialist. At this point the whole process had taken approximately fifteen months. A copy of the plan that was developed is included as part of the Appendix of this dissertation.

The ten year Conservation Plan/Stewardship Plan was given to me and submitted to the Sequoyah Council during the summer of 1994. The Sequoyah Council approved and accepted the plan (Ron Garland). Also, the full Council Executive Board accepted the plan.

Since the plan was accepted, two hiking trails have been built at Camp Davy Crockett. One is a short nature

trail. The other is a 3-1/2 mile Botanical Trail. In addition to this, plans for a walkway over water have been presented and approved by Council Executive Board.

Be aware, the last known Conservation Plan written for Camp Davy Crockett was in 1976. There was a dire need for a new, updated, thoroughly researched Conservation Plan.

This new Plan formulates a plan of action for Camp Davy Crockett with the natural resources for the next ten years.

The greatest benefit of this research is that the Sequoyah Council now has a handle on what natural resources currently exist at Camp Davy Crockett and how these resources can be managed over the next ten years for the greatest good of the young Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers in the Council. I recommend the approach I have taken to plan, organize, coordinate, and write this plan to be given to other Councils for their use. After all, everything in this plan (research, etc.) was accomplished free of charge by volunteers. This work is extremely valuable to assist Council Management with the direction of its Boy Scout Camp. It will be used primarily at the local level, however, the process can be used anywhere.



APPENDIX

October 17, 1992

Mr. Ron Garland  
Council Executive  
Sequoyah Council  
Boy Scouts of America

Dear Ron,

Recently I started working on the Camp Davy Crockett Conservation plan. During the process, I tried to come up with an accurate acreage figure for Camp Davy Crockett. I have in my possession copies of what I think are deeds covering all BSA, Sequoyah lands in Hamblin and Hawkins counties. Looking at the legal descriptions in the deeds, I come up with approximately 1250 acres, more or less.

Also in my possession are countytax maps covering all BSA, Sequoyah land in Hamblin and Hawkins counties. They cover approximately 1447 acres, more or less.

In talking to you and Sarge, I was told Camp Davy Crockett covered 1800 acres, more or less.

As you can see, there appears to be a discrepancy in acreage. This is not an immediate problem, but it is something that sooner or later will need to be addressed. I mention this to you for your information only.

Yours in scouting,

Frank Lege

REQUEST FOR DEVELOPMENT OF STEWARDSHIP PLAN  
AND  
PLEDGE OF INTENT TO FOLLOW STEWARDSHIP PLAN

This is to request assistance for development of a FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN for the management of my (our) forest and closely associated lands. It is my intent to manage my lands for a variety of uses and values which include the following:

Providing facilities in such a manner as to serve BSA's  
members (youth, adult, charter partner) in a manner which  
will promote the growth, identity, and acceptance of the  
Scouting program. Events and activities include educational,  
developmental and recreational opportunities. (Environmental education is  
one of the key elements.)

I (we) pledge to manage my (our) lands according to stewardship standards by following the technical recommendations and specifications provided by resource management professionals in my (our) stewardship plan in order to reach my (our) management objectives.

It is understood that although I (we) am not obligated to carry out in detail all the recommendations provided in the stewardship plan, I (we) will be expected to meet the spirit of the plan in managing my (our) lands, which will involve utilizing technically proper practices and protecting environmental values.

It is also understood that this formal application and request qualifies me (us) to apply to the USDA, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) for federal Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) cost-share funds to implement forestation and forest improvement practices outlined in my stewardship plan that will help me (us) achieve my (our) objectives for management.

It is further understood that after I (we) have made sufficient progress in demonstrating good stewardship through implementation of the plan, my (our) lands may be considered for certification as a TENNESSEE STEWARDSHIP FOREST.

Ronald W. Garland  
(landowner's signature)

2/25/93  
(date)

Scout Executive  
Sequoyah Council, BSA

## FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

This forest stewardship plan was prepared for Camp Davy Crockett (CDC) at the request of Ronald W. Garland, Scout Executive, Sequoyah Council, Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Planning assistance was requested for the property located in Hawkins and Hamblen Counties as shown and described on the attached map. An inspection of CDC was made by the undersigned representatives of the Tennessee Division of Forestry, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the United States Forest Service during the summer of 1993. The following objectives for ownership and management were discussed.

### Objectives for Ownership of the Land:

To provide a place that offers outdoor recreational experiences that complement the education and development of youngsters participating in the Boy Scouts of America.

### Objectives for Management:

To provide hands-on study areas in which to teach conservation of natural resources and awareness of the natural environment.

To produce forest products and provide periodic income for operation of camp.

To provide opportunities for outdoor recreational activities such as camping, hiking, wildlife observation, etc.

### Description of the Property:

CDC is approximately 1800 acres in size and is located at the lower end of Lee Valley Road about 5 miles southwest of Rogersville.

Several purchases over a period of years were consolidated to make up the property. Agricultural and forestry practices of previous owners were typical of those in use on small farms in this region during the 1950's and 1960's. Timber was harvested by previous owners as the need or opportunity arose with little application of scientific forest management principles.

The property lines are hard to determine. The boundaries are not fenced or clearly marked.

Forest covers approximately 82% of the property. Land use is indicated in the following table:

TABLE OF LAND USES

<u>Existing Land Use</u>	<u>No. Acres</u>
Forestland	1173
Camping and Recreation Land (basically all forested land between the main access road and the power line including all campsites and recreational areas)	287
Agricultural Land	266
TVA Power Line Right-of-Way	<u>46</u>
TOTAL ACREAGE	1772

Forest Management Prescriptions: Separate descriptions of individual areas of forest stands, and recommendations for management of timber and other resources during the next 10-year period, are presented below. A Stand Data and Management Prescription Summary, which summarizes information and provides prescriptions for all forest stands during the 10-year management cycle 1994 - 2004, is also attached.

STAND NO. 1

30 ACRES

Description of Stand: This stand covers a small knob on the southwest part of the property. It has mostly sawtimber-sized, mixed, upland hardwoods of good quality. Species composition includes red and white oak, yellow poplar, hickory, ash and maple. The average age of the stand is 70 years.

Cattle have had access to the stand. There is evidence of tree damage and soil compaction.

Forest Management Prescription: Conduct an improvement cut to remove unwanted and overmature, deteriorating, or poorly formed trees. Maintain control of the operation by marking the trees to be cut with a paint gun. The state forestry division can assist with this activity. Periodically inspect the cutting operation to see that it is carried out as planned (cut only marked trees).

All known animal den trees should be identified and left in this stand.

Install drainage structures on all logging and skid trails to prevent erosion and, after logging has been completed, retire and seed logging roads as recommended in "Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Timber Harvesting in Tennessee." A copy of this publication is enclosed.

Fence the area to prevent cattle from damaging trees and compacting the soil.

STAND NO. 2

178 ACRES

Description of Stand: Species in this upland hardwood timber type include red oak, ash, maple, hickory, and chinkapin oak of fair to good quality. Maple is common in the understory. There is a small area of Virginia pine at the northeast tip of the area. Cattle have access to the area and there is evidence of past wildfires.

The stand faces to the northwest and has numerous rock outcrops at the top of the ridge.

Forest Management Prescription: Regenerate this unit as circumstances permit by implementing a cycle of harvest and regeneration cuttings known as "group selection." Group selection will provide a diversity of browse and fruit-bearing understory species for deer and ruffed grouse.

Identify and retain all den trees for wildlife benefits. Where adequate numbers of den trees do not exist, select den tree candidates and retain as components of future stands.

Immediately after each harvesting operation, perform site preparation work on harvested areas to promote natural regeneration of hardwoods. Cut down all remaining trees over 2 inches in diameter (NOT den trees) to allow unimpeded establishment and development of young trees and seedlings on the harvested area.

Rework fences to exclude cattle from this unit.

Consider the field between management units one and two for a wildlife observation post.

STAND NO. 3

287 ACRES

Description of Unit: Camping and recreation are the primary uses of this management unit. The stand consists of sawtimber-sized, mixed hardwoods. Species include hickory, beech, maple, Virginia pine, red oak, and chestnut oak. The trees, for the most part, are of good quality and the stocking level is high. The visual aspects of the forest (aesthetics), and safety of area users, are the major concerns here. Removal of high hazard trees, and applying cultural practices that promote forest health and individual tree vigor, are examples of practices that are permissible in this management unit.

Forest Management Prescription: Identify all hazard trees (those trees that pose a high risk for causing injury to people or property) in the camping and use areas and remove them as soon as possible. Explore the possibility of marketing those trees designated for cutting for sawlogs or firewood.

Equip campsites with lantern poles and fire rings. Hanging lanterns on living trees can cause damage and perhaps kill the tree. Fire rings are preventive measures that could prevent campfires from escaping and becoming forest fires.

Den trees within the campground that do not pose a hazard to campers should be kept for wildlife benefits.

The Black Bear campsite has been designated for handicapped campers. Construction of ramps, handrails, etc. to ease access and use of this area should be considered.

Delineate high impact areas within each campsite with "chad" to limit excessive erosion.

Maintain and/or improve the Frank Bowman Trail, Botanical Trail, and the Nature Trail as the need arises. Consider new areas for trail development to more fully utilize the reservation.

STAND NO. 4

208 ACRES

Description of Stand: This unit borders Cherokee Lake and is the property boundary for the west and northwest sections of the reservation. This is extremely steep land with slopes averaging 60%. Some sections approach or exceed 100%. The trees are generally sawtimber-sized, mixed upland hardwoods of fair to good quality. Species include chestnut oak, hickory, beech, and maple. The stocking level is medium.

Forest Management Prescription: Steepness restricts management options. The wildlife value of this area in its present condition is primarily for remote escape cover and mast production.

STAND NO. 5

157 ACRES

Description of Stand: This stand consists of mixed pole- and sawtimber-sized, upland hardwoods of fair quality. The stand has an average age of 70-80 years. Species include chestnut and red oak, maple, sassafras, and yellow poplar. There are several large sassafras in this stand.

This unit faces to the south and southeast. The access road for the power line, which follows the ridgeline, is located on this unit. An old logging road beginning at Bingham Hollow Road and leading into Reed Hollow cuts through the northeastern part of the unit.

Forest Management Prescription: Defer timber harvesting for next 10 years.

STAND NO. 6

248 ACRES

Description of Stand: This unit has sawtimber-sized, mixed upland hardwoods with an average age of 50 to 60 years. Species include chestnut and red oak, beech, yellow poplar, Virginia pine and maple. The stocking is medium and the trees are of good quality.

This unit faces north to northwest and includes several deep hollows where the better trees can be found.

This unit includes all of Reed Hollow and the area of the camp known as the "Outpost".

Forest Management Prescription: Develop a 4-5 acre permanent wildlife plot where Reed Hollow joins the backwater of Cherokee Lake. This area lies between the old road on the south side of the hollow and the stream running from the north side.

After clearing the site, maintain the opening in herbaceous vegetation. This fulfills seasonal habitat requirements for a variety of wildlife species including ruffed grouse, deer, wild turkey, rabbits, foxes, songbirds, coyotes, raptors, and small



mammals such as voles and mice. The most practical way to accomplish this is to mow the area every 2 to 3 years. Liming and fertilization can be valuable in providing a "boost" to growth of vegetation. Soil tests should be done prior to liming and/or fertilization.

Improve the road from Bingham Hollow. Some sections will have to be relocated to provide access to this unit.

Defer timber cutting for next 10 years.

STAND NO. 7

116 ACRES

Description of Stand: This unit has a mixture of good quality, pole- and sawtimber-sized trees. Species include chestnut and red oak, yellow poplar, hickory, maple, and basswood. The best timber is located along the east side of the old road coming from Bingham Hollow Road. On top of Rogers High Point there is a unique area of approximately 1/4 acre in size that has a large number of blue ash seedlings (Fraxinus quadrangulata), a seldom seen species. The site faces northeast and has fairly steep, gravely slopes.

Forest Management Prescription: Protect the blue ash as a special feature of this unit. Defer timber harvesting for next 10 years.

STAND NO. 8

236 ACRES

Description of Stand: This unit was harvested approximately 10 years ago. The stand is in the process of naturally regenerating itself. Species include maple, yellow poplar, hickory, and assorted oak species. Some erosion and off-site movement of sediment was observed on some of the old logging roads and skid trails.

Forest Management Prescription: Defer all timber cutting for next 10 years. Utilize suitable roads in this unit for the development of all terrain vehicle (ATV) trails. Prohibit use of ATV's during wet weather.

Stabilize eroding areas and revegetate by seeding with wildlife food and cover mixes. (See Appendix 1) If the use of ATV's will cause soil erosion and sedimentation of waterways, retire those roads causing the problems.

TVA POWER LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY

46 ACRES

Description of Stand: TVA's maintenance program has eliminated woody vegetation from the power line right-of-way. There is an abundance of sumac, blackberry, and other soft browse that is utilized by wildlife during the summer months. Most of the area is too steep to bushhog which limits the creation of permanent wildlife food plots. Access is limited to the TVA right-of-way road which is quite steep in some places. There are some areas where soil is washing and gullies are forming.

Recommendations: Construct wing ditches and broad based dips to prevent erosion.

Consider installation of a wildlife observation station at the westernmost power line tower that overlooks Cherokee Lake.

AGRICULTURAL LANDS

266 ACRES

This unit includes the areas of the camp where crops are grown and cattle raising take place. There are areas within this unit where water quality in streams is being degraded due to steep, eroding banks, accumulations of trash and indiscriminate cattle grazing. The two ponds in the pasture are filling with sediment and water quality is poor. The dam on the larger pond is rutted.

Wildlife Recommendations: Maintain fence rows in their present overgrown form. This offers protection and food sources for small wildlife species and birds. Follow instructions in Appendix 2 and 3 for managing field borders and mixing of land use. Consider leaving 2-3 rows of grain crops standing as additional wildlife food plots. For bobwhite quail management, the use of reseeding annuals as recommended in Appendix 1 should be considered around field edges and for tractor turn rows near fences.

Water Quality Recommendations: Dry Branch -- exclude cows from the stream and ponds with fencing or take the entire area out of pasture.

Stabilize the dam and spillway with grass or riprap.

Plant native trees which will stabilize banks and provide shade to lower water temperature.

Plant trees and grasses on eroding areas to protect water and provide food and cover for wildlife.

Water Quality Recommendations: Bingham Branch -- The water quality is good but some of the banks along the shoreline are steep and eroding. Use one of the bank protection practices (tree and brush revetments, soil bioengineering) as described in the enclosed publication "Stream Erosion and Riparian Zones."

Recommendations: Lake Shoreline -- Develop a wetlands nature trail to feature plants and animals associated with water wetlands.

#### ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Possible projects that may help with the completion of merit badge requirements are in bold letters and underlined.

Owl Campground: Just below the campground, the road has a culvert that needs to be cleaned out. There is a second culvert off the main road at this location which could be removed.

Raccoon Campground: A dry channel has formed next to the large mowed field. This channel is likely a gully and is actively eroding. A 10-15 foot buffer strip along the stream on the side of the mowed field could be established by allowing vegetation to grow up. Trees could also be planted here.

On the opposite side of the stream, next to the forested area, move the foot trail back from the stream bank. This will prevent soil compaction and devegetation along the edge of the stream.

Place check dams in the gully. Put in a row of stout stakes across the stream channel and lay logs behind the stakes to a depth of a couple of feet. Three or four should be placed along the deep stretch of the channel.

Near the pool, this same dry channel passes under the main road. The culvert is clogged with debris and needs to be cleaned out.

A mudhole has formed in the channel between the pool and the trading post. Add gravel to this crossing or build a boardwalk.

The channel finally is diverted into the trail where old tires have been deposited. To return the water to its original channel, remove the tires and use large rocks to divert water out of the trail. Some digging may be necessary to get the water to flow in the old channel.

TVA Power Line Right-of-Way: Near sign 7, the culvert is clogged and needs to be cleaned out. Next to this culvert is a parking area located in the dry stream channel. This should be closed and revegetated if not needed. About 100 feet downstream, there is a muddy ford that crosses the ephemeral stream. Armor this crossing with large gravel to prevent soil movement.

OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS  
PROPOSED BY CDC OFFICIALS

- 1) Canoe Trail
- 2) Wildland Area
- 3) Mountain Bike Trail
- 4) Bird Boxes (bluebird, wood duck, owl, etc.) See Appendix 4
- 5) Fishing Piers (2)
- 6) Pioneering Yard
- 7) Knife and Axe Yard
- 8) Shotgun Shooting Range
- 9) Black Powder Shooting Range
- 10) Basketball Court
- 11) Additional Volleyball Courts
- 12) Star Gazing Area
- 13) Farm Pond (fishing)

Stewardship Plan Update: This forest stewardship plan should be updated in 2004.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN PREPARED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Richard A. Van Inwegen

Tennessee Division of Forestry

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Mr. Doug Scott

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Mr. Frank Lege

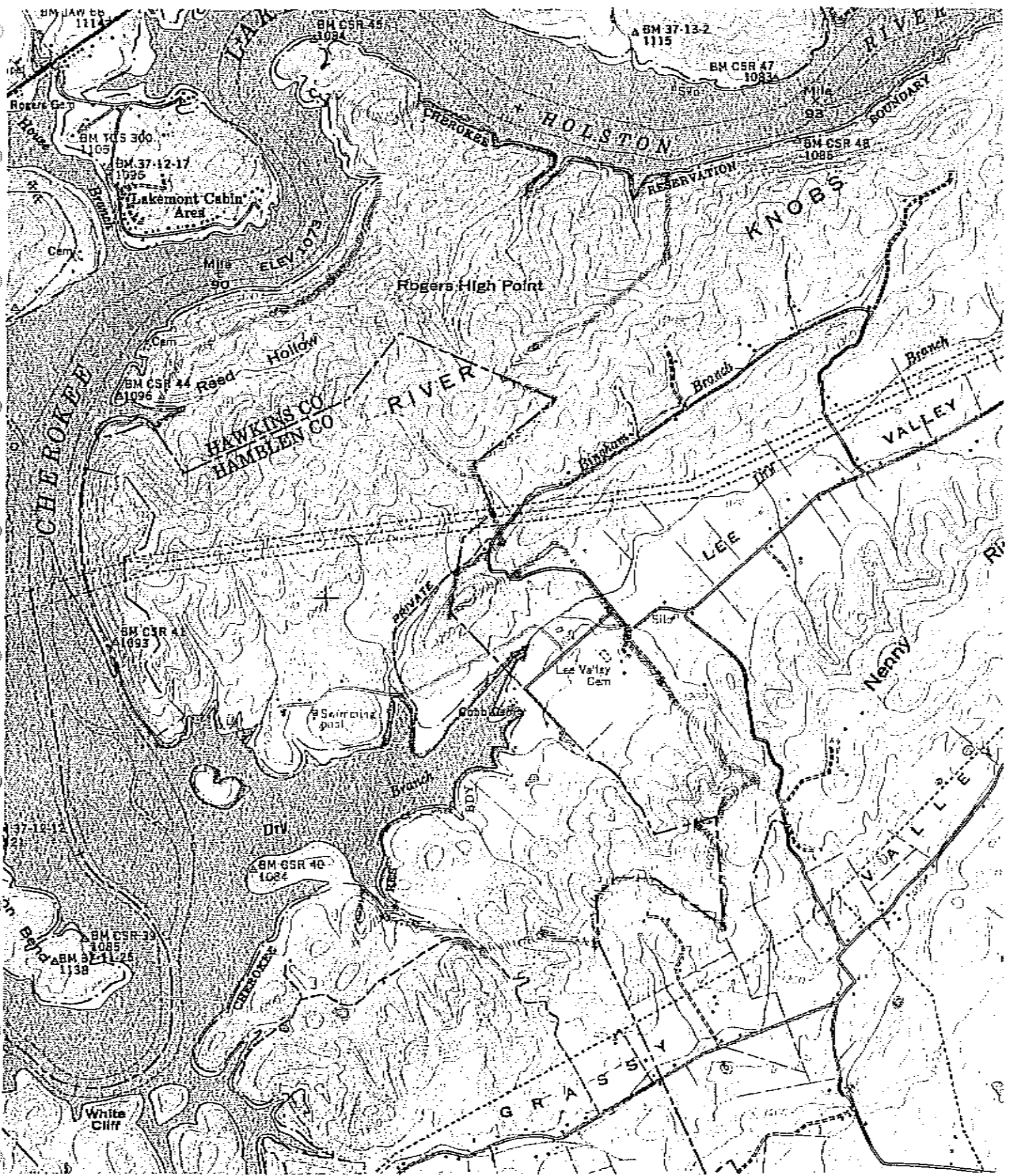
United States Forest Service

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(Date)

Ms. Gretchen Lugthart

United States Forest Service



BM LAW 66  
1114

BM CSR 45  
1084

BM 37-13-2  
1115

BM CSR 47  
1083

BM TOS 300  
1105

BM 37-12-17  
1095

BM CSR 48  
1086

Mills  
90

Rogers High Point

BM CSR 44  
1096

HAWKINS CO  
HAMBLEN CO

CHEROKEE RIVER

KNOB

BM CSR 4  
1093

LEE

Swimming pool

Lee Valley Cam

Nenny

37-10-12

BM CSR 40  
1084

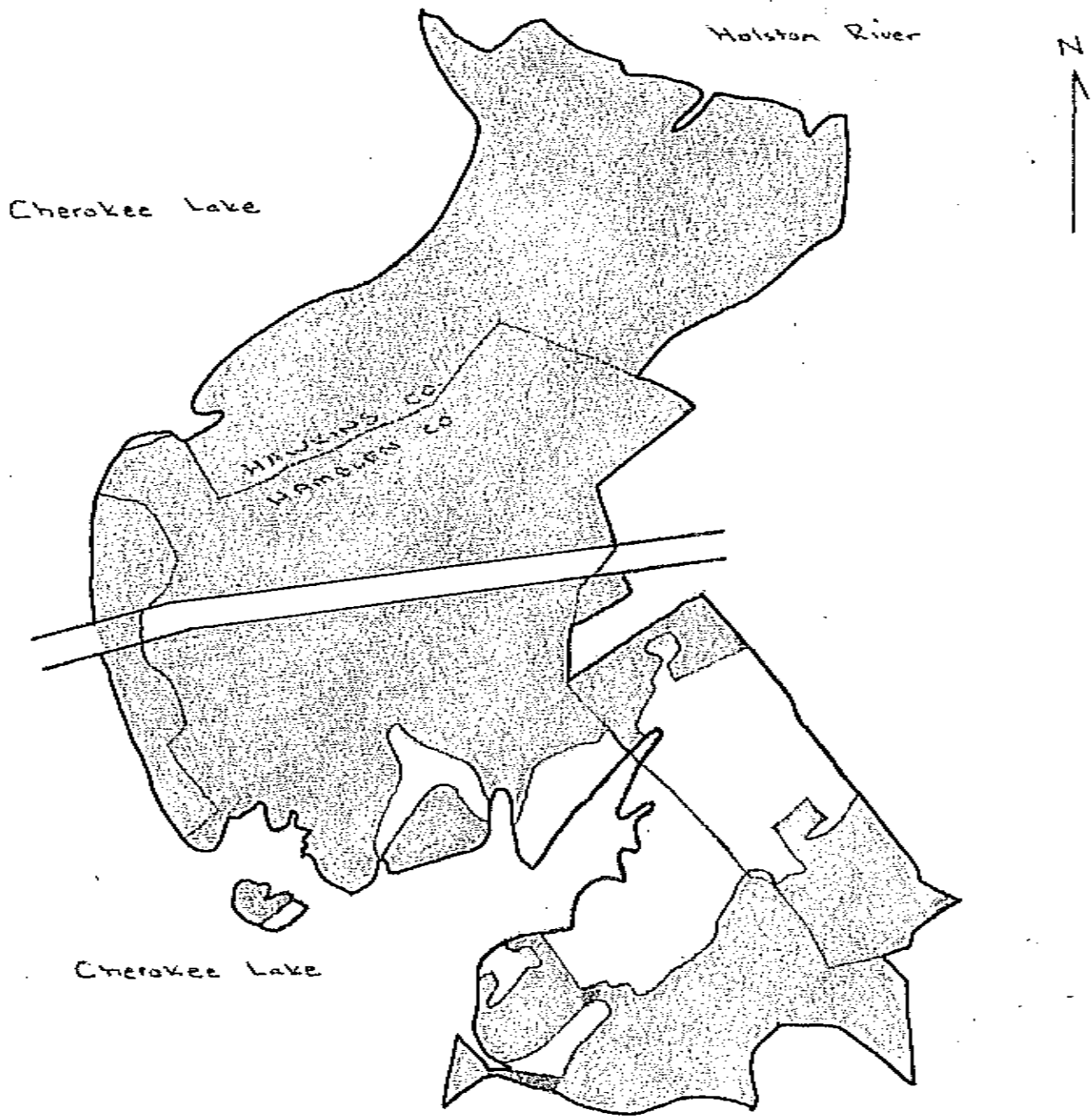
LEE



VALLEY

BM CSR 33  
1085  
BM 37-11-25  
1138

GRASSY

White  
Cliff

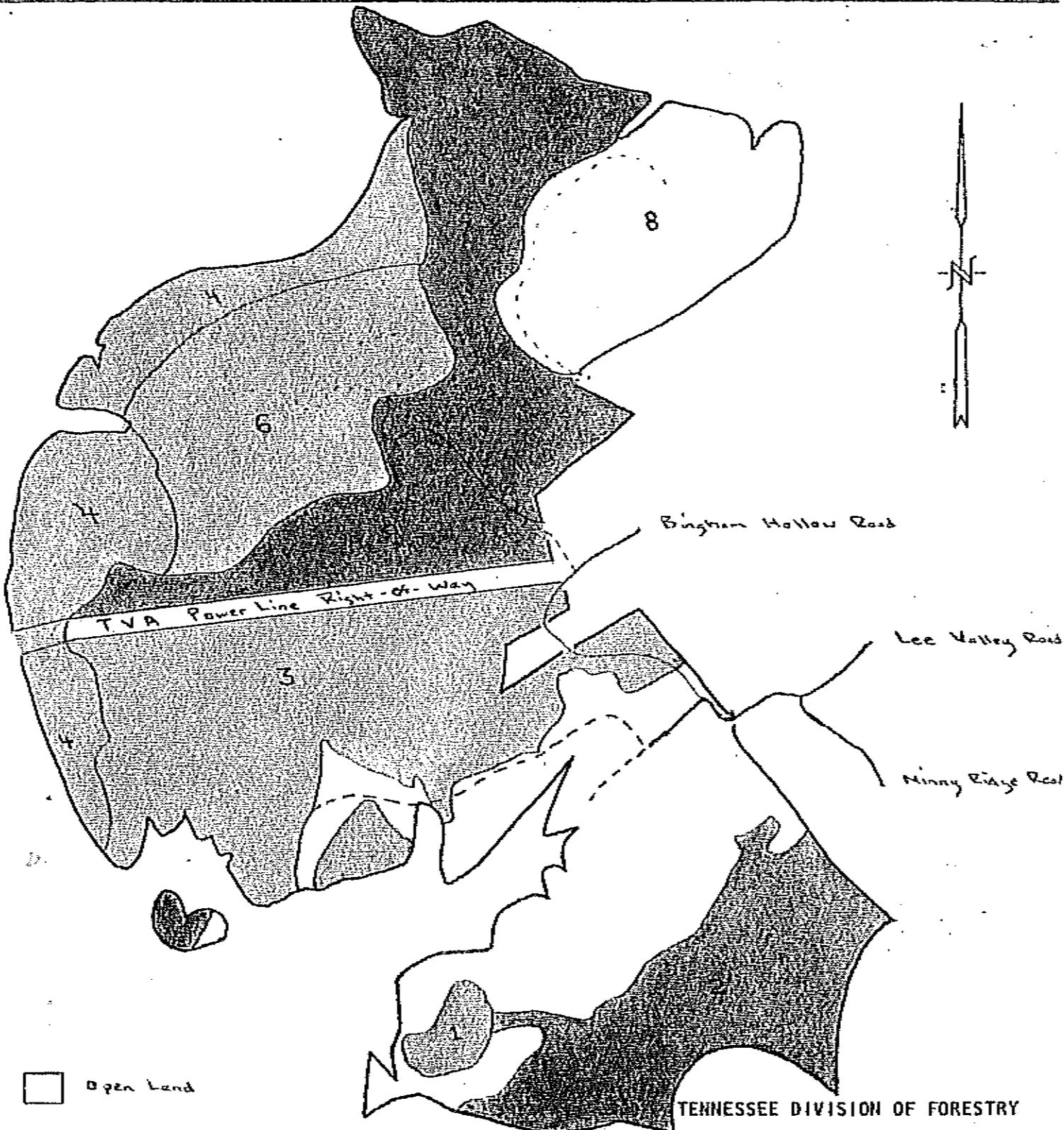


 Forested Land  
 Open Land

TENNESSEE DIVISION OF FORESTRY

OWNER Boy Scouts of America  
 NAME OF TRACT Camp Davy Crockett  
 COUNTY/CITY Hawkins-Hamblen Counties, TN  
 DRAWN BY R. A. Van Inwegen  
 DATE 4/94  
 AERIAL PHOTO NO. N/A  
 SCALE 1" = 2000'  
 TOTAL FOREST ACREAGE 1460 ±

ACREAGE DATA AND BOUNDARIES ARE APPROXIMATE.



- Open Land
- Seedling & Sapling
- Poletimber / Sawtimber
- Sawtimber

OWNER Boy Scouts of America  
 NAME OF TRACT Camp Davy Crockett  
 COUNTY/CITY Hawkins-Hambleton Counties, TN  
 DRAWN BY RA Van Swayen  
 DATE 4/44  
 AERIAL PHOTO NO. 41A  
 SCALE 1" = 1650'  
 TOTAL FOREST ACREAGE 1460 ±

ACREAGE DATA AND BOUNDARIES ARE APPROXIMATE.