

VERMONT FOREST CLEARCUTTING

Dramatically increased clearcutting of Vermont's forests is occurring and more is being planned, as well as tree-fueled polluting biomass energy, both of which will increase carbon emissions and damage the biodiversity, undisturbed wildlife habitat, scenic beauty, spiritual refuge, recreation, and air and water quality in Vermont's "Golden Goose" forests.

*"The [logging] controversy is occurring as logging and preservation interests increasingly collide in the Northeast's forests, most of which were once abandoned farmland. **The trees are maturing and becoming more economically valuable** at a time when increasing numbers of people treasure the woods for walking, hiking, and recreation."* http://archive.boston.com/lifestyle/green/articles/2010/03/04/a_clear_cut_controversy/

The new clearcutting is rubber-stamped and sold with pleasant sounding euphemisms to confuse the public. See these stories and report:

www.timesargus.com/opinion/commentary/say-goodbye-to-some-of-vermont-s-most-intact-forests/article_c4128052-6e1a-56ea-b8ad-deafd458827e.html

www.maforests.org/VERMONTLOGGING.pdf

www.maforests.org/TS.pdf

Below is a partial list of plans for drastically increased logging and clearcutting of Green Mountain National Forest.

1. **South of Route 9:** 6,812 acres of logging, ~3600 acres of clearcutting in all but name <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=43088>
2. **Early Successional:** 15,000 acres of logging, 15,000 acres of clearcutting in all but name <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53629>
3. **Robinson:** 9,360 acres of logging, ~5,000 acres of clearcutting in all but name <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48884>
4. **Somerset:** 8,767 acres of logging, ~ 7,000 acres of clearcutting in all but name <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53706>
5. **Telephone Gap:** ~ 11,000 acres of logging <https://thereportervt.wordpress.com/2021/07/28/gmnf-to-hold-use-hearings-on-telephone-gaps-72k-acres/>

(Green Mountain Forest Plan Here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/gmfl/landmanagement/planning>)

For a view of what the GMNF logging will look like, see identical "vegetation treatments" in White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire.

Note, fragmented patchworks of 2-3 acre clearcuts are called "group selection" in USFS timberspeak <http://www.maforests.org/WMNF.pdf>

Recent GMNF logging drone video here: https://photos.google.com/share/AFtQipP1EmPxWijHG5JfrWcN4O_wvmXSDSyrwblwIDKoRVT7yxsHTl2PG5ShuJvF5o_nXw?key=MWYtVnlDZFEMUulwZXFkYVBNUy1VZHdfclhFejhB

ANR has proposed to more than triple the logging at the iconic Camel's Hump State Park. See pages 49 and 81

https://fpr.vermont.gov/sites/fpr/files/State_Lands_Administration/Lands_Management_Planning/Library/CHMU_DRAFT_LRMP.pdf

This report from UVM shows how different logging regimes affect forest carbon storage including accounting for C storage in wood products. No logging (no management) is the best option, clearcutting is the worst. See figs. 2 and 3 www.maforests.org/UVM.pdf

On the following pages, please see:

1. Recent Clearcutting of Green Mountain National Forest
2. "Before" and "After" Google Earth images of Other Vermont Forest Clearcutting

**Clearcutting Green Mountain National Forest
Robinson “Project”, Rt 73 and FR 45, November 2020**



Clearcutting Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont

Route 73 and Forest Road (FR) 45, September 2020



Clearcutting Green Mountain National Forest Route 73 and Forest Road (FR) 45, September 2020



Clearcutting Green Mountain National Forest

Route 73 and Forest Road (FR) 45, September 2020



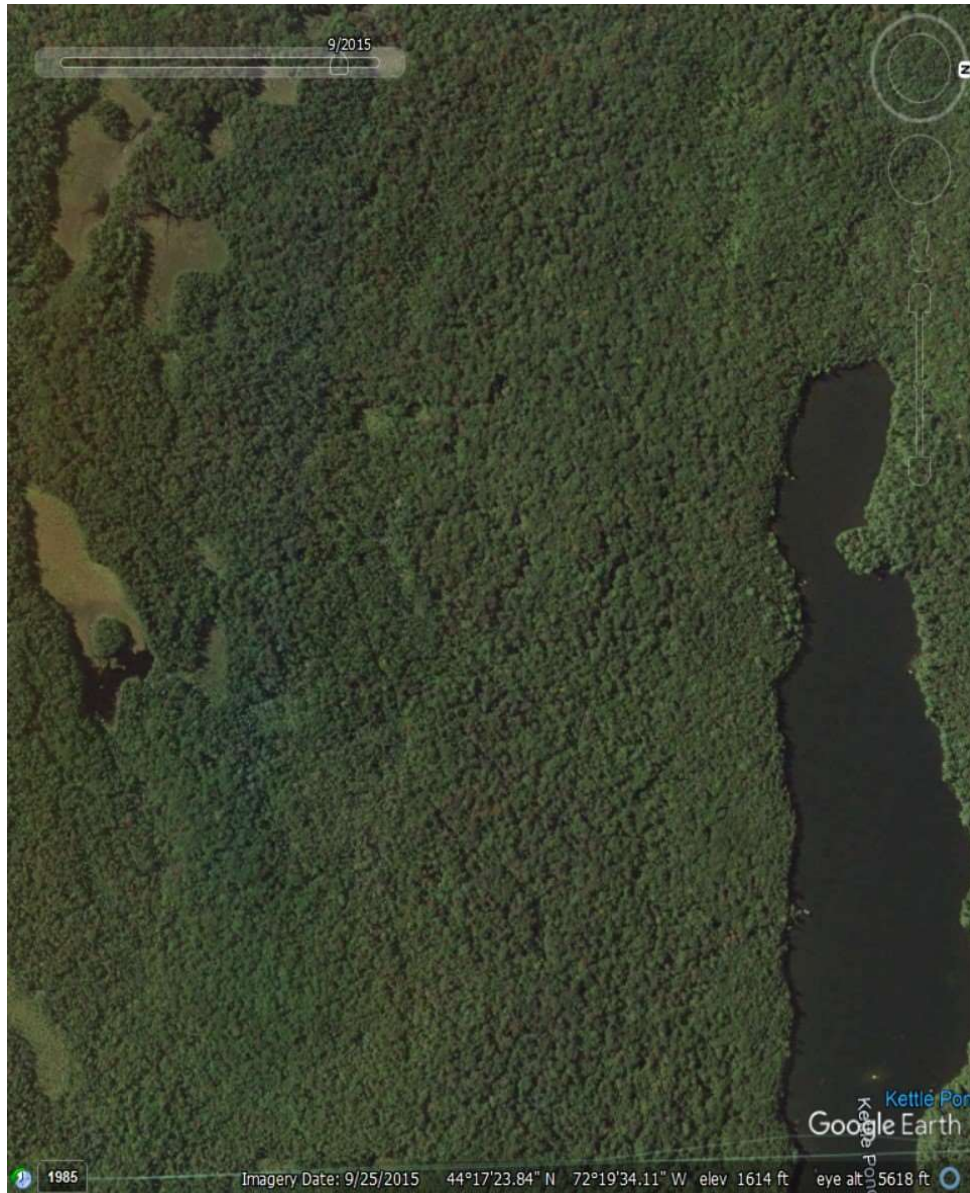
Clearcutting Green Mountain National Forest Route 73 and Forest Road (FR) 45, September 2020



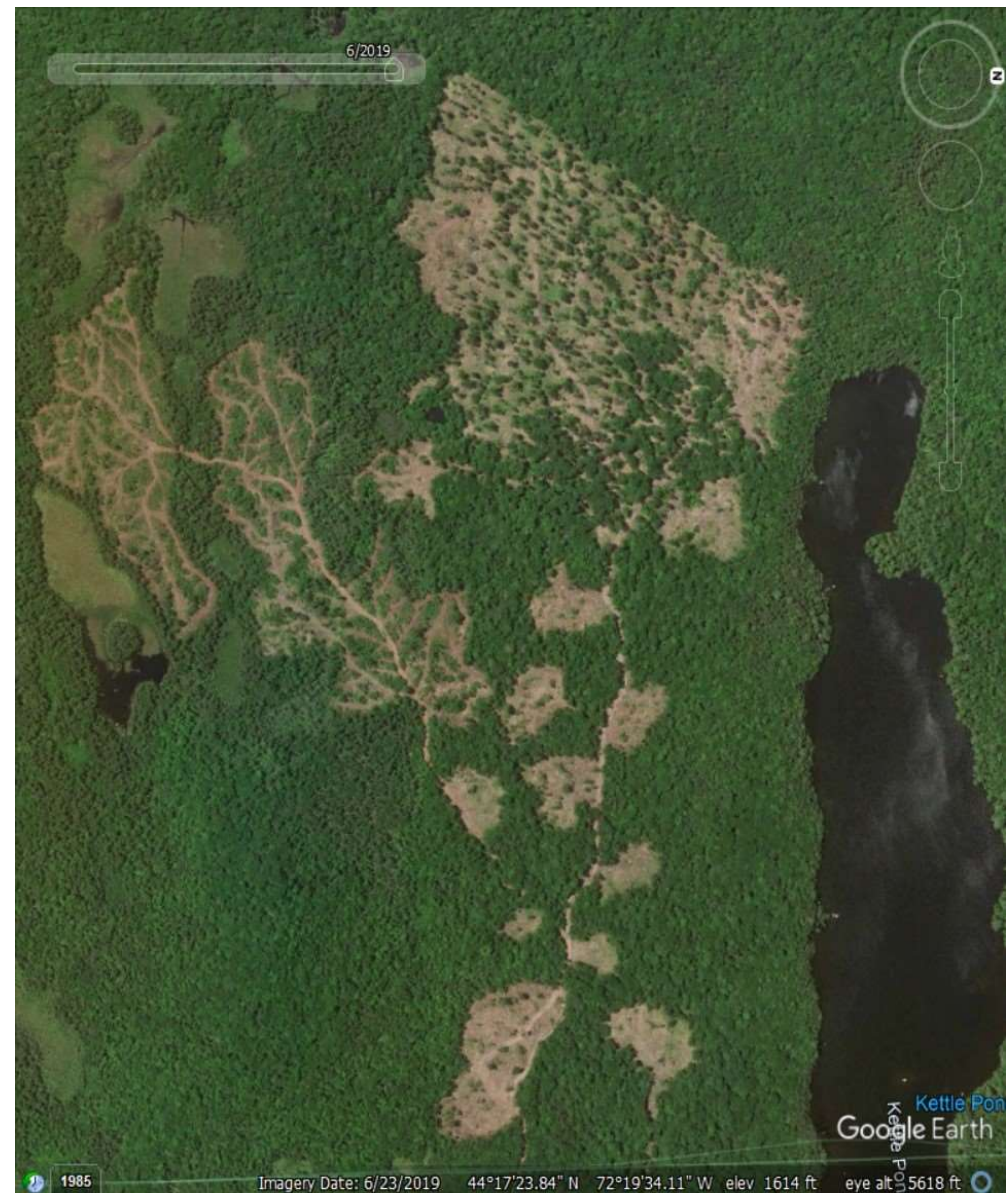
GROTON STATE FOREST

Near Kettle Pond N44.290463, W72.324771

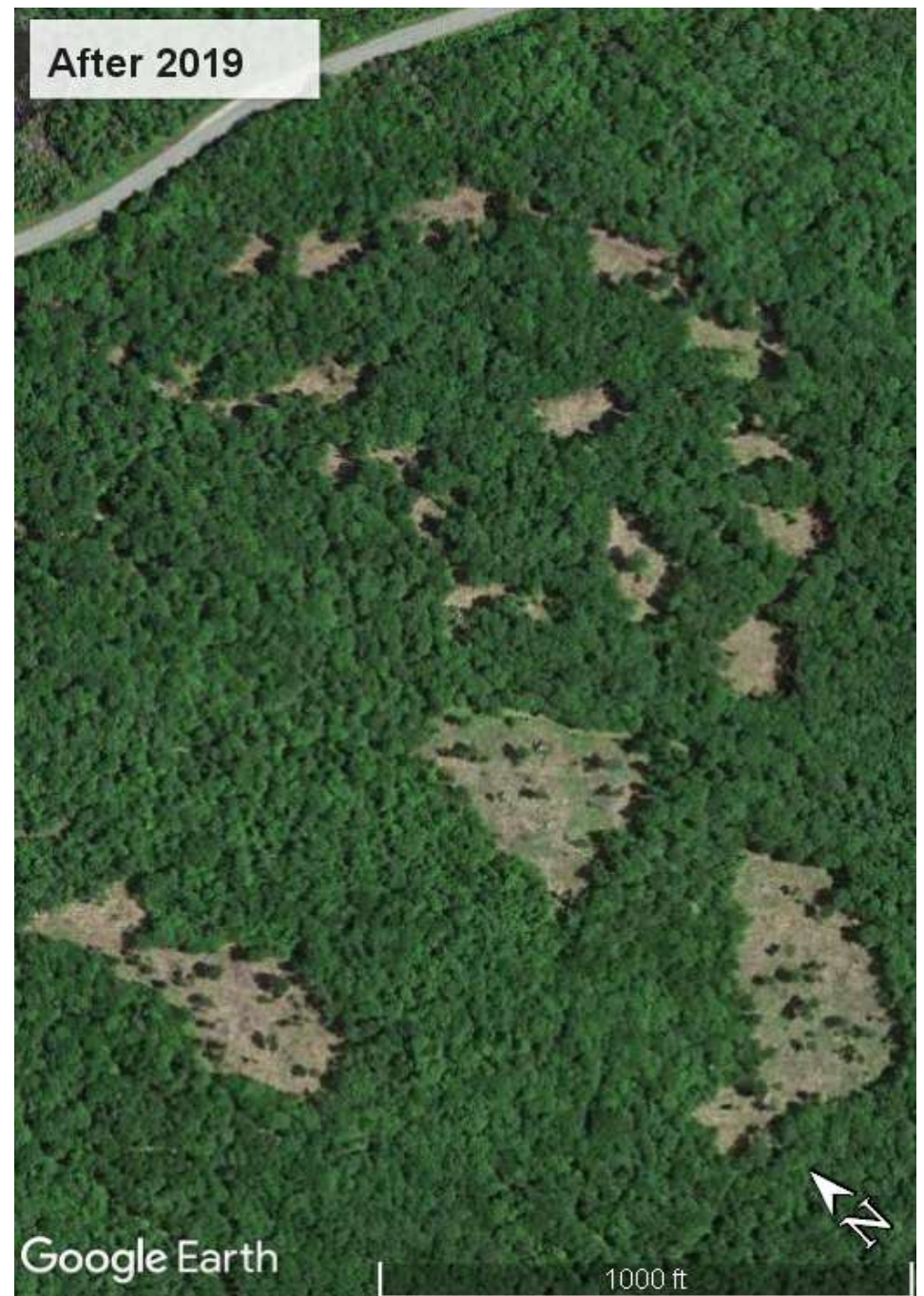
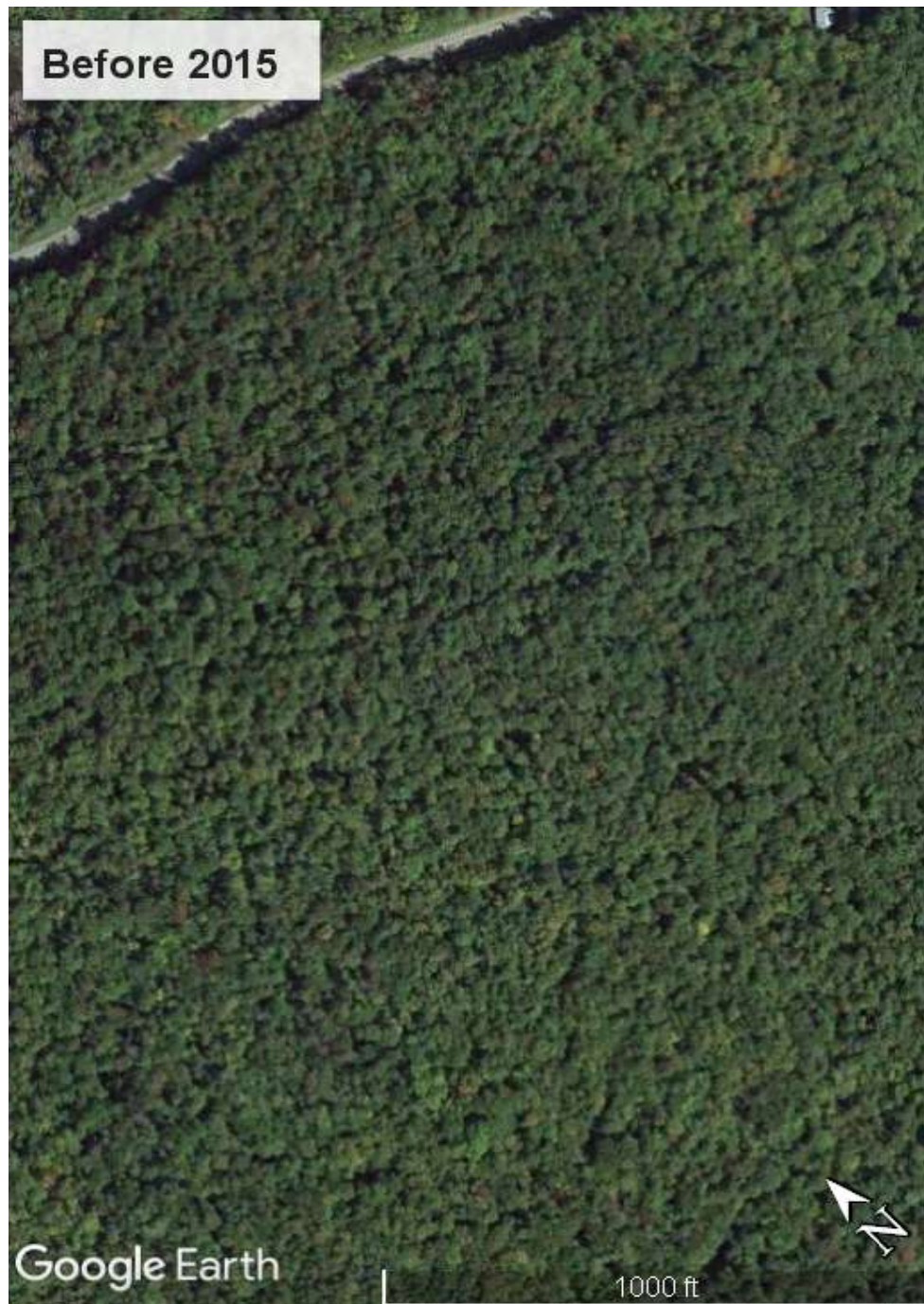
BEFORE 2015



AFTER 2019



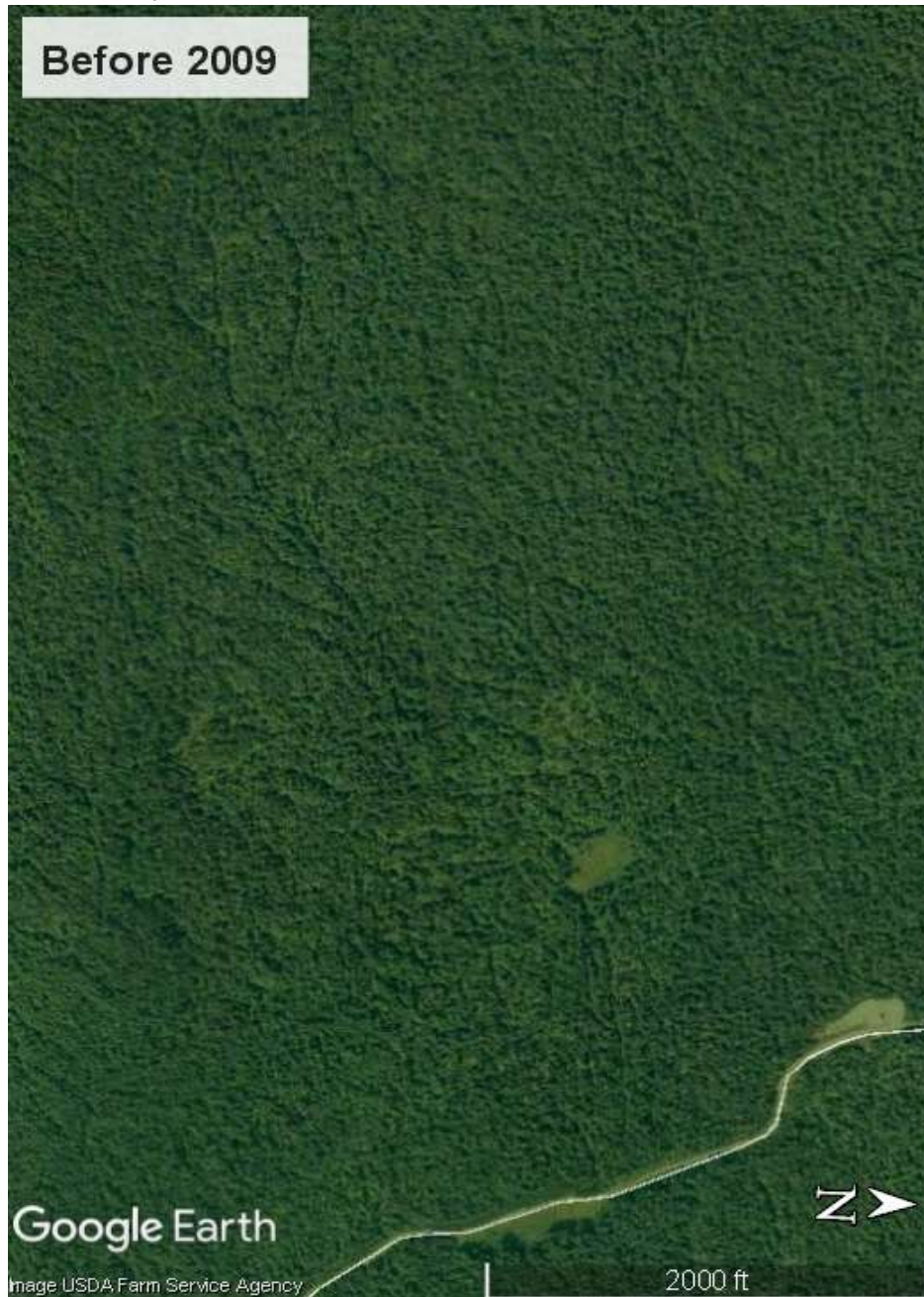
WILLOUGHBY STATE FOREST, Near Lake Willoughby N44.705724, W72.020218



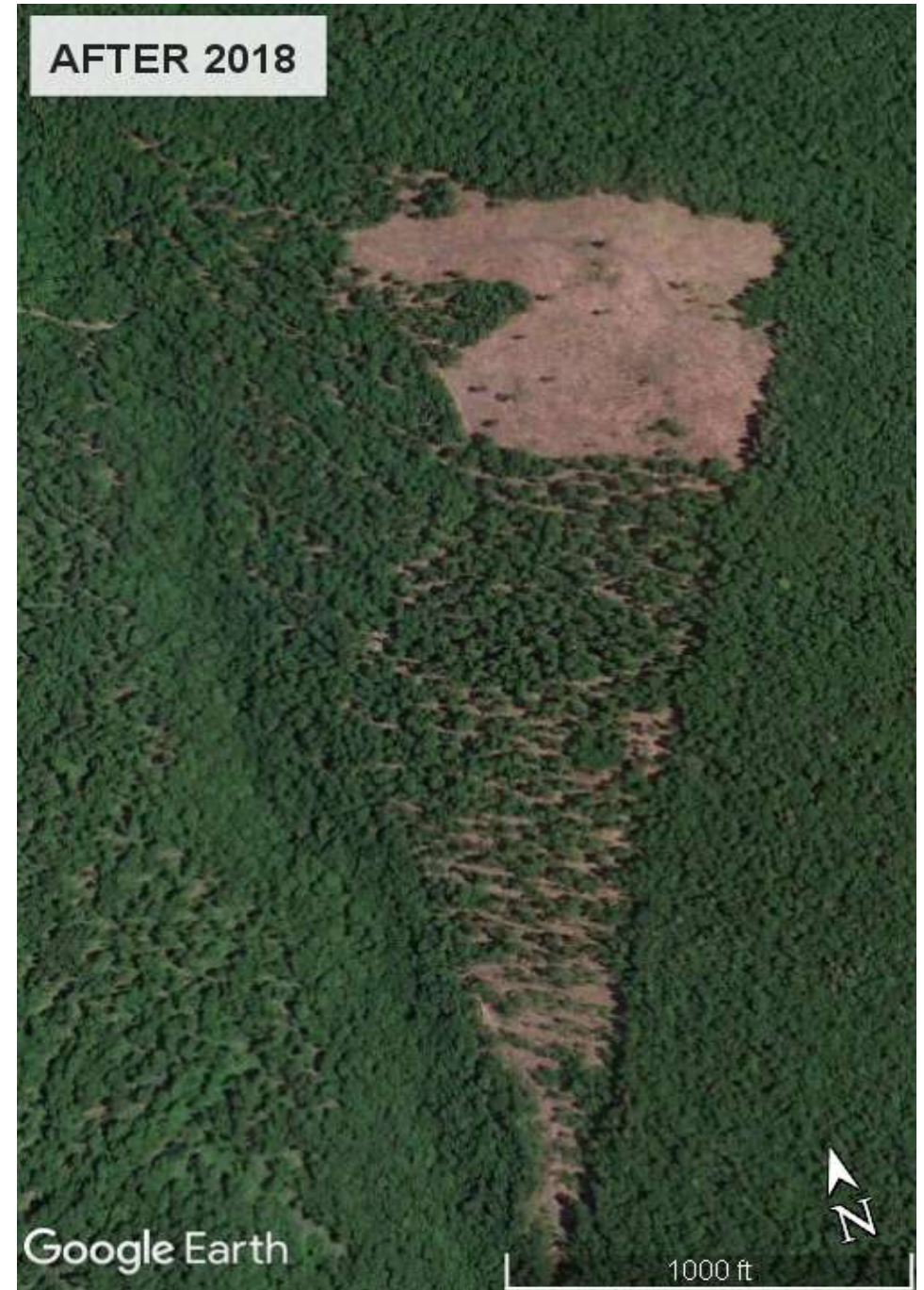
“Before” and “After” Google Earth images of Other Vermont Forest Clearcutting

(Land ownership has not been determined)

Near Jay Peak N44.898926, W72.481613



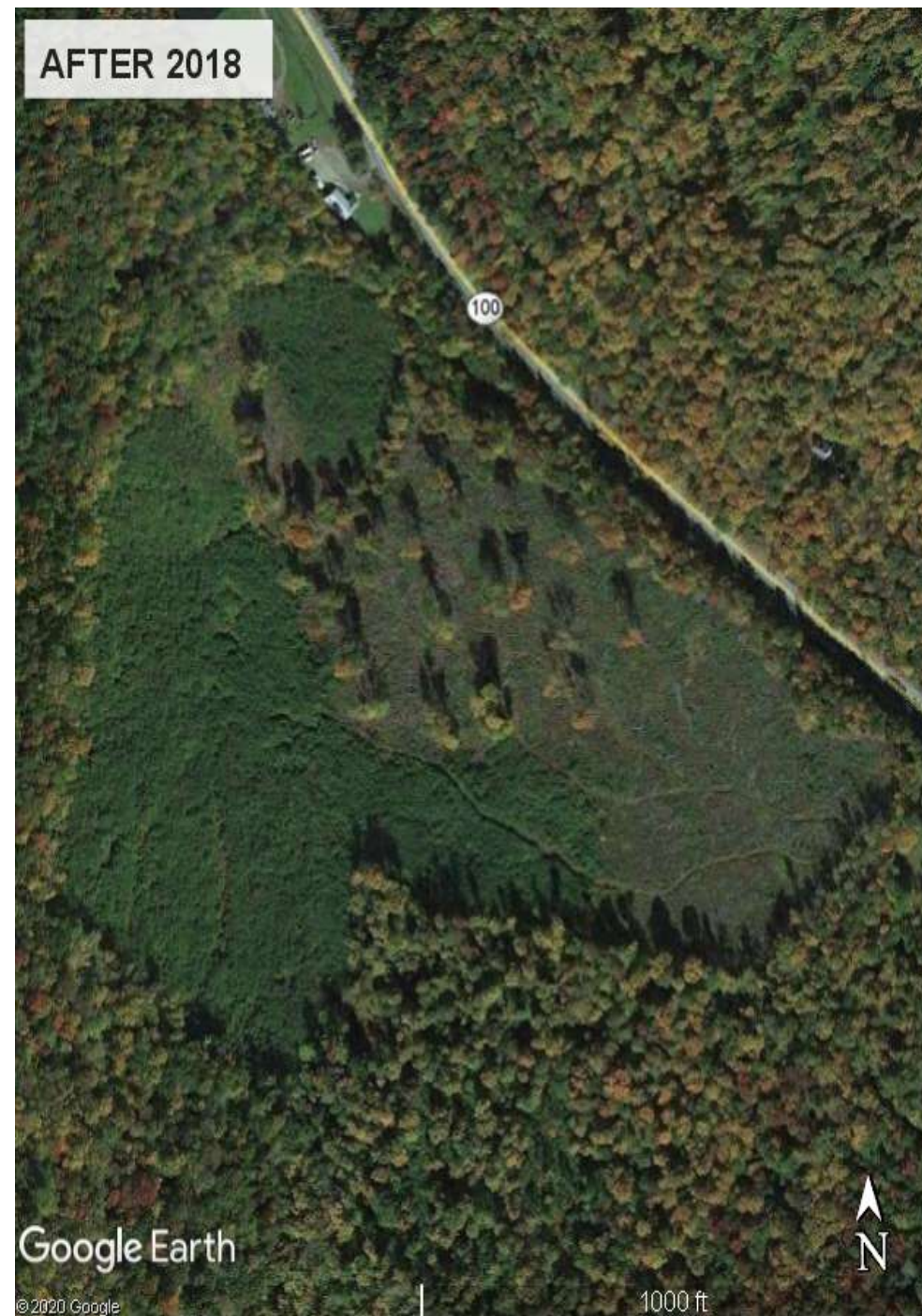
Bordering Mt. Mansfield State Forest N44.584833, W72.804028



Sheffield N44.662821, W72.157243



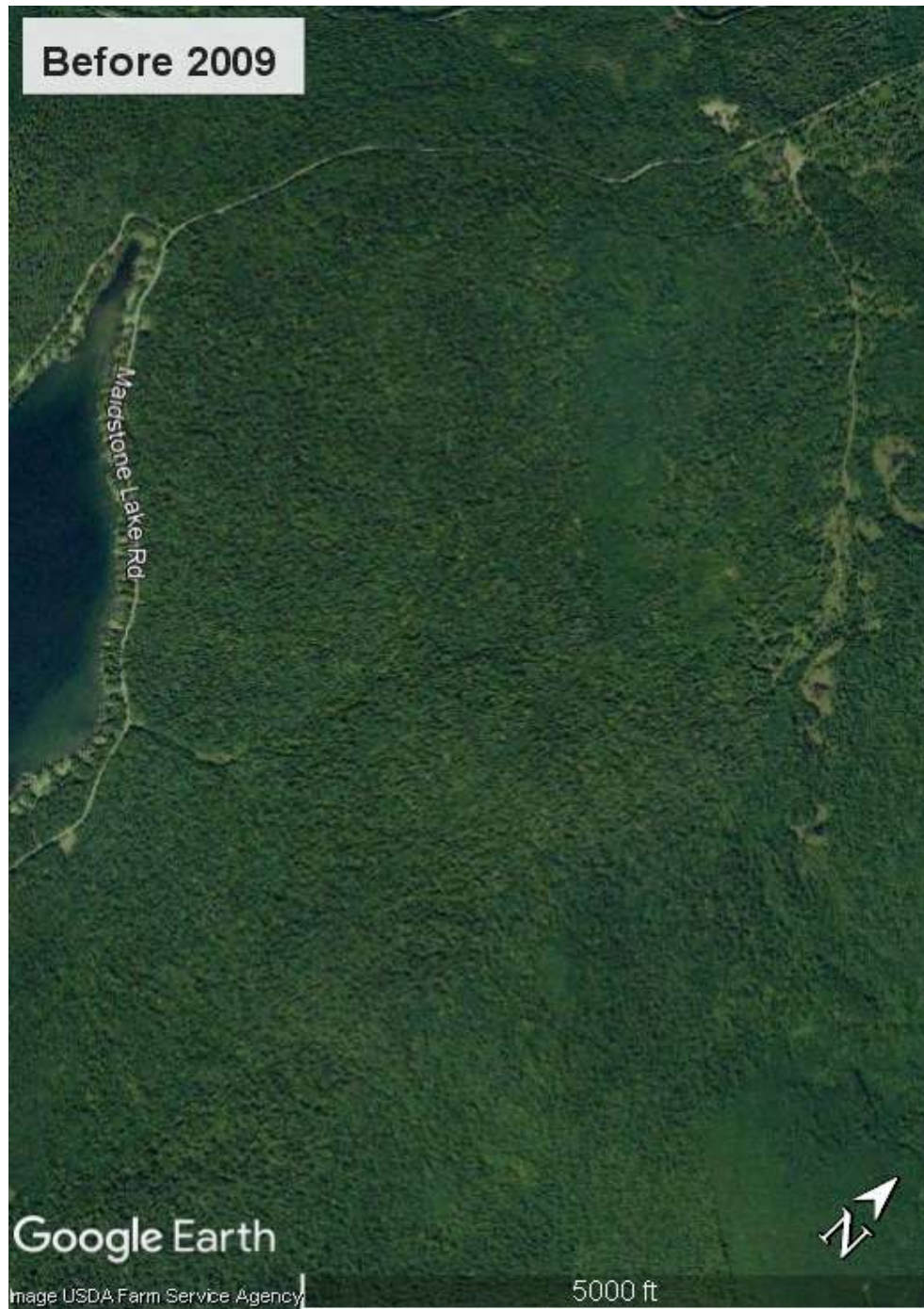
Whitingham N42.818141, W72.855507



Bristol N44.066749, W73.032121



Near Maidstone Lake N44.663130, W71.633010

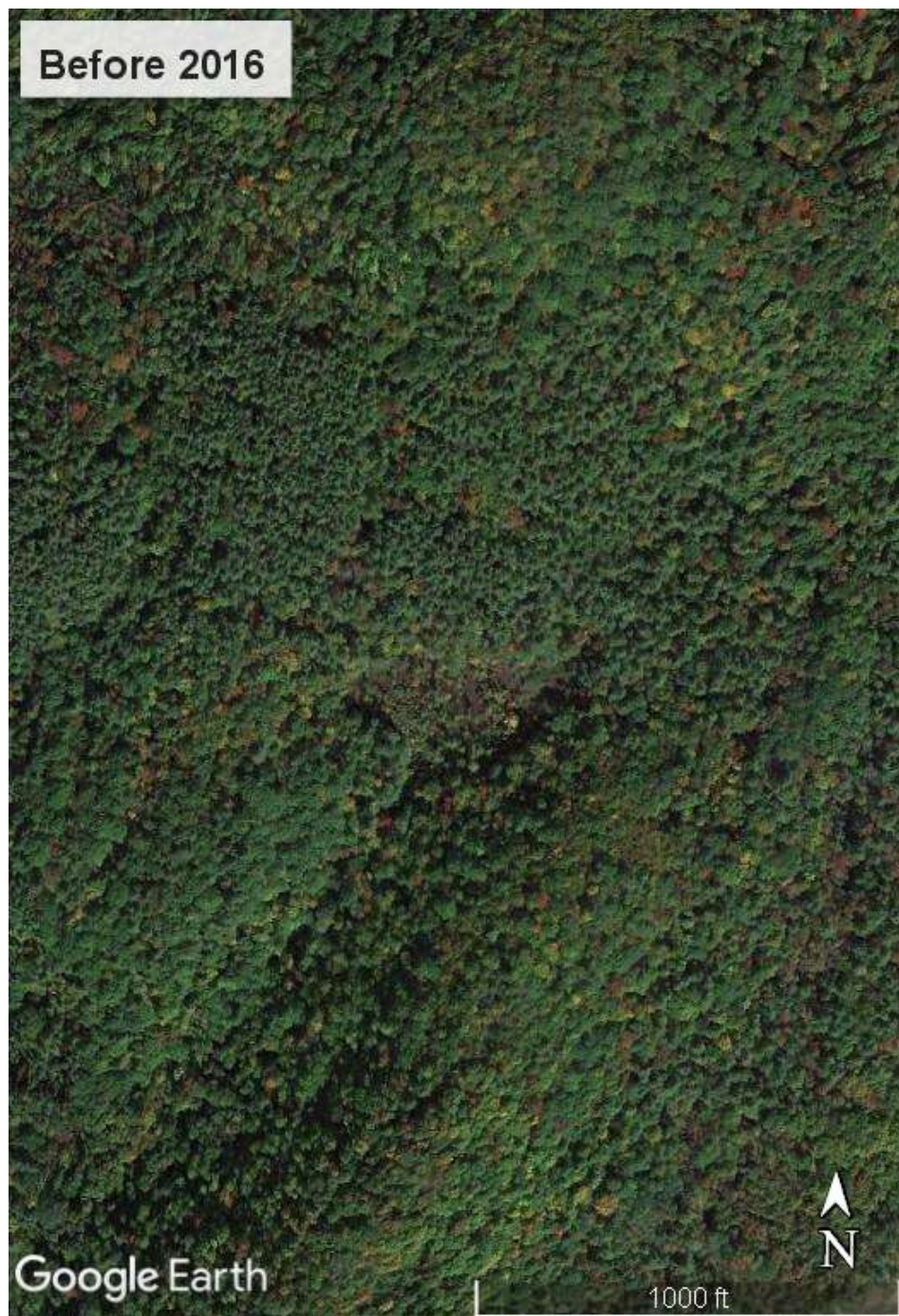


Lincoln N44.039539, W72.962577



Poultney N43.531229, W73.143842

Before 2016



After 2018



Duxbury N44.296506, W72.817068

Before 2012

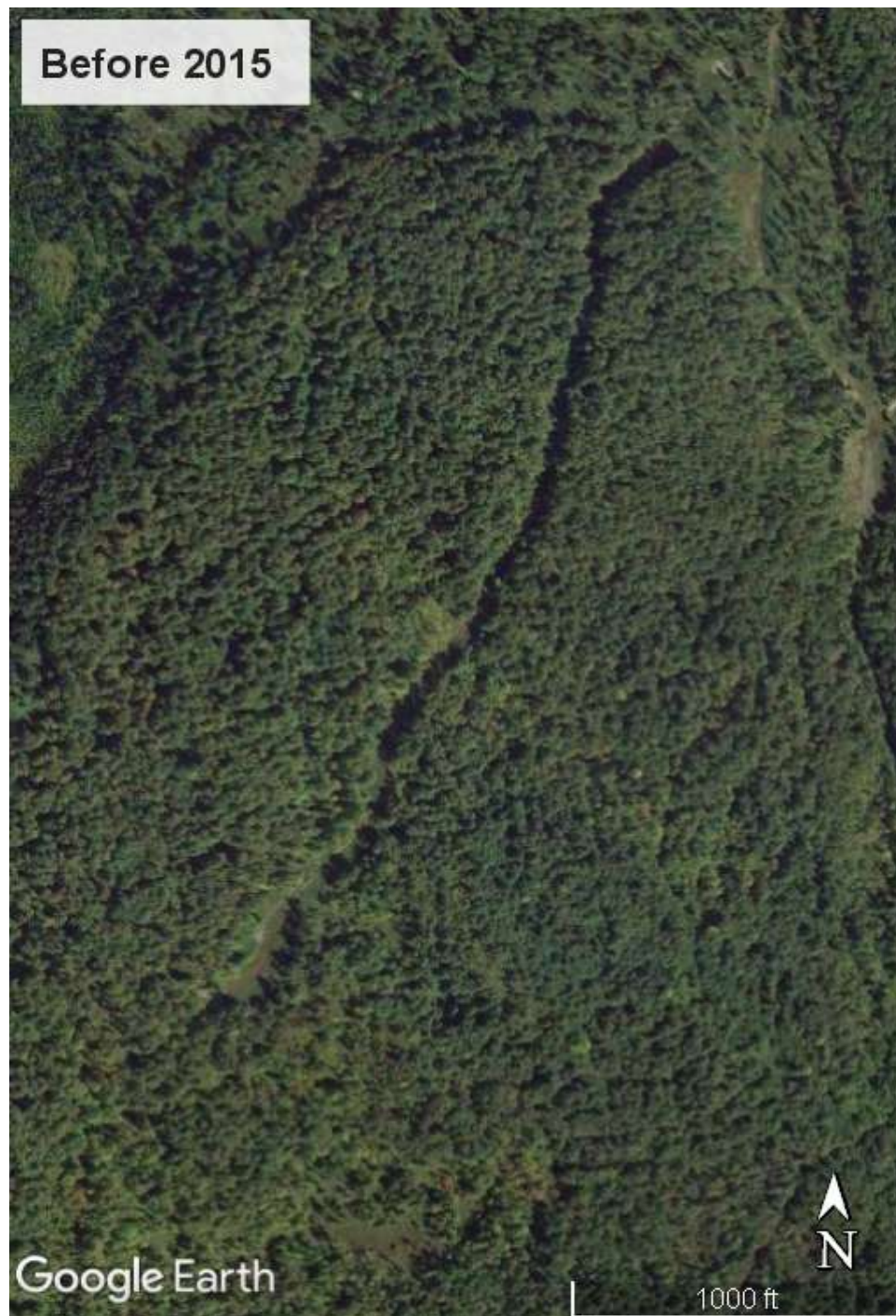


After 2018



Lemington N44.876798, W71.630723

Before 2015



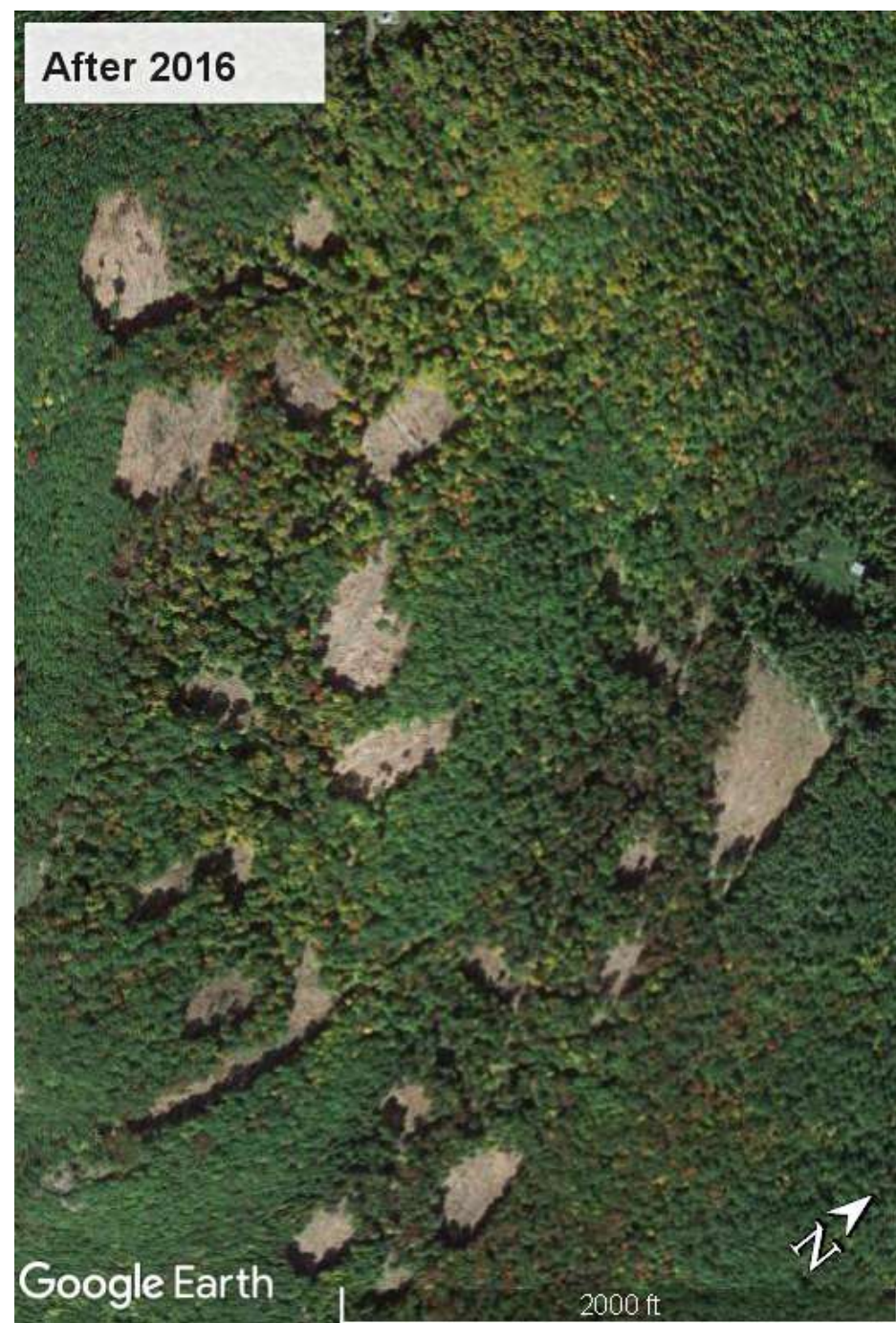
After 2019



Granby N44.593832, W71.806501



West Rutland N43.620419, W73.080066



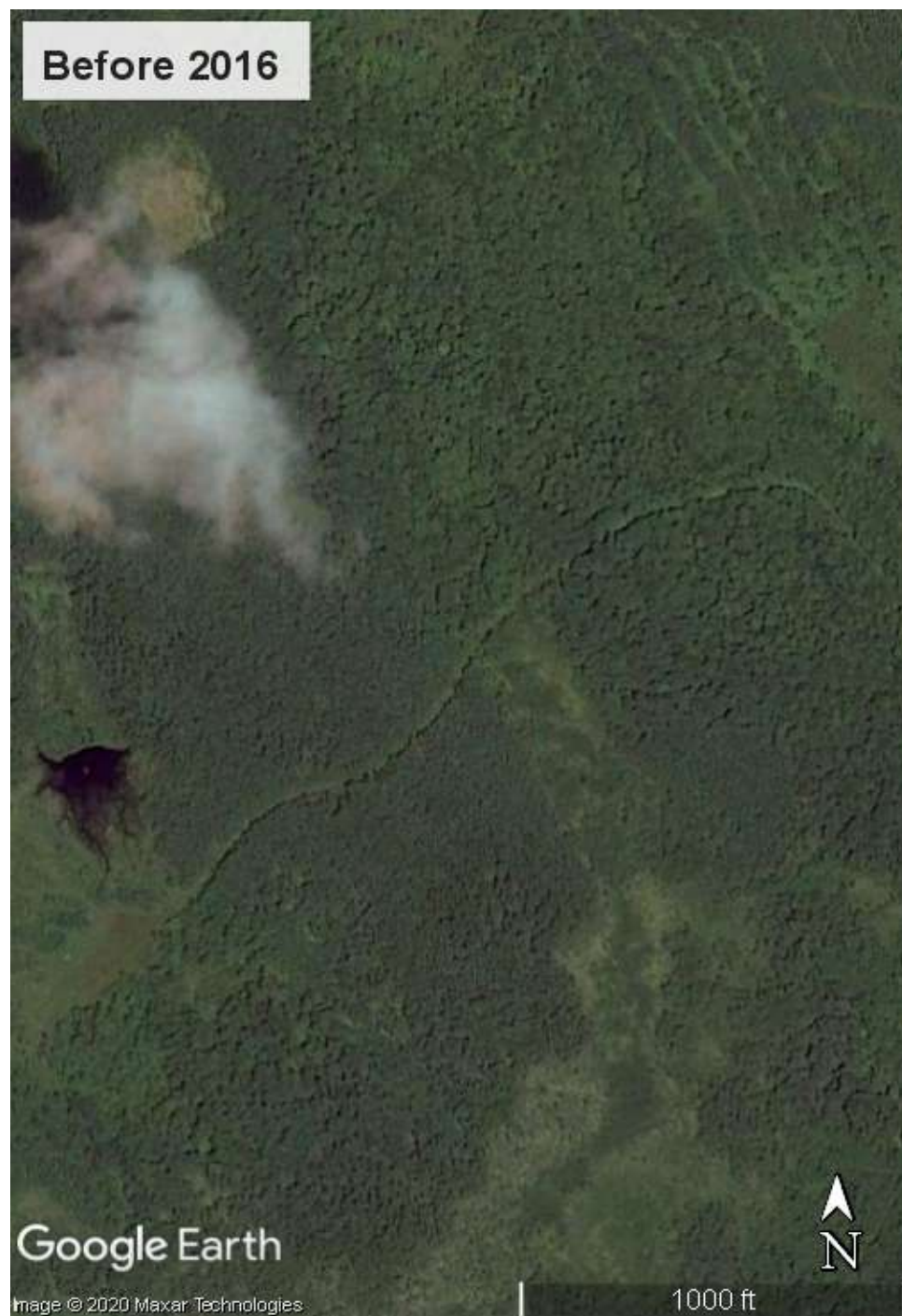
Willoughby State Forest (1), Near Lake Willoughby N44.708678, W72.037620



Newark N44.685966, W71.909459



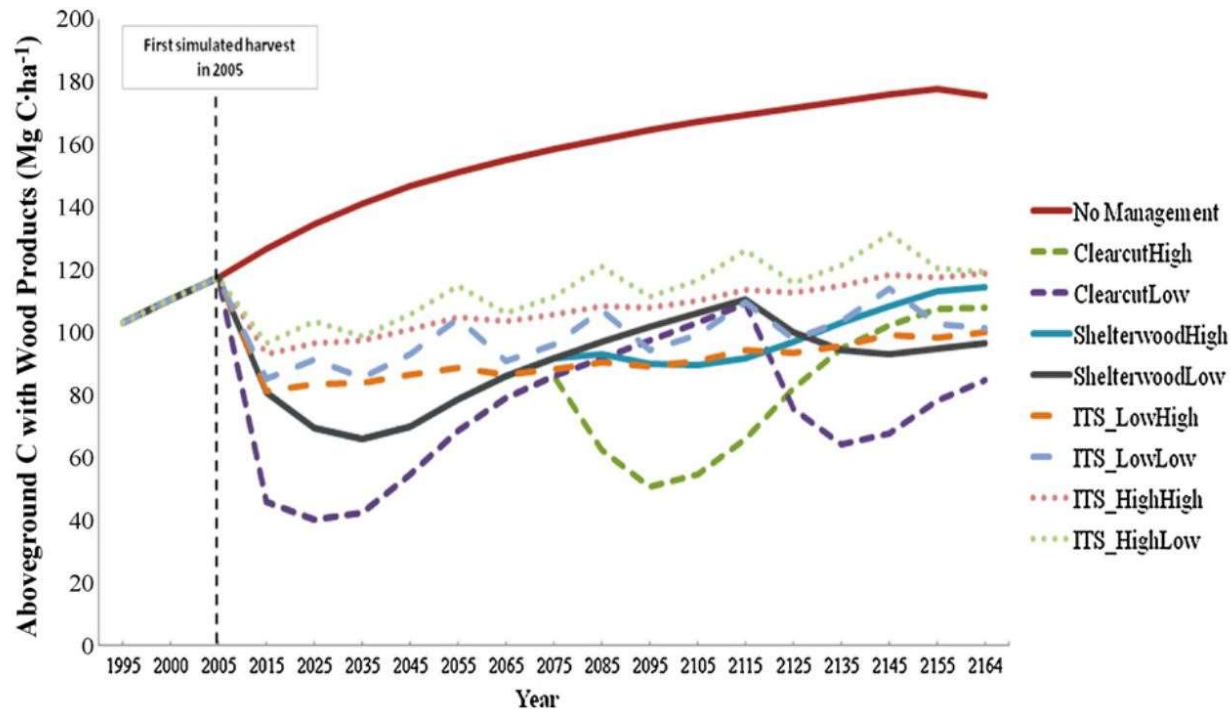
Norton N45.002058, W71.895824



We have known since 2009 that burning trees for energy is even worse than burning fossil fuels for carbon impacts, and that “no logging” is better than any logging scenario for forest carbon capture and storage. The graph on the following page from an important report at the University of Vermont shows that *carbon stored in unlogged forests (no management) is 39 to 118% higher than in logged forests*, with either selective, shelterwood or clearcut logging methods. Carbon stored in wood products is included. www.maforests.org/Keeton.pdf

Forest Carbon Storage in the Northeast United States Comparison of Logging vs. No Logging (No Management)

J.S. Nunery, W.S. Keeton/Forest Ecology and Management xxx (2010) xxx–xxx



Stumps Don't Lie

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