

What methods do you use for monitoring your forest?

Anonymous

High Tec I am not - Photographs no, journal no, activity YES. The battle with Holly and Himalayan Blackberry is constant, planting trees to shade the creek is ongoing, thinning for forest health is ongoing. Shovel, polaski, [Extractigator](#), chainsaw, garden cart and gloves are well worn. Thinning produces firewood for neighbors and wildlife habitat via brush piles. I am old and slow and persistent.

Howard Langeveld

I bought this property and set up 23 monitor plots a few months later. That was 17 months ago. I did 1:40 acre plots and recorded everything in those plots on my 166 acres. The views, the snags were incredible. There were birds everywhere and all I could see in the acres of 4-year-old douglas-fir was the fire weed.



Photo by Howard Langeveld, of his forest.

Two parcels, monitored two ways. For one of them the prime thing I'm trying to accomplish is removal of excess maple, so I take aerial photos every fall, usually several sets, trying to get one where the fall colors are most visible. Other than that, I just make sure the roads stay in good shape and there's not much to do on that one except wait. It's not on the NNRG certificate, so nothing is required anyway. The one on the certificate I update my FMP every 5 years or so after getting an evaluation by a forester. I also take aerial photos, but not looking for anything in particular. I do take some photos, but not on a consistent basis.

Martha Konicek

Monitoring my 20-acre forest: Journal where I keep all data on number of trees planted, location, frequency of care/watering. I have a separate rain and soil moisture journal. I have an aerial photo of the parcel with subdivided areas that are numbered. This way I can document where work sites are and keep updated forest plan. I have named the internal roads within for easy reference on location. I take photos from set sites to monitor changes.

