Woodlawn Museum, Black House, Ellsworth

Open to the public since 1929, historic house museum, gardens, and public park including hiking trails. Popular place to hike, ski, snowshoe, view plants and wildlife in Ellsworth.
Condition of the trails was a concern. 
- blowdowns blocking trails 
- hazard trees 
- fire hazard 
- like walking through a tunnel, couldn’t see into the forest
Prentiss & Carlisle contracted to design and implement a customized harvest plan to meet the following objectives

- Preserve trails
- Reduce fire hazard
- Improve forest health
- Enhance aesthetics
- Diversify forest (age & plants)
- Protect/diversify wildlife
- Maintain water quality
- Use low impact logging
- Minimized trail crossings
- Layed out access trails to run parallel to hiking trails
- Located and avoided sensitive areas (wetlands, ponds, buffers)
- Yarded wood to neighboring property, to protect roads and museum grounds on property
- Left un-cut control area
Trail Crossings
Harvest Operation

Thinning from below, harvest removed hazard trees along the trail, low grade stems, suppressed stems, and trees showing maturity and stress.

Forester onsite during the harvest to oversee the harvest and answer questions and concerns from trail users.
Un-Cut Control Area

- Educational opportunity for trail users, see prior harvest forest conditions
- ~50% Stems dead
- Fire hazard, trail maintenance issues
Harvest focused on diversifying the forest

Retained some large old trees

Created conditions for new regeneration

Released established regeneration
Enhanced Wildlife Opportunities

Browse

Protected Den Trees

Protected mast species and riparian buffers
Next Steps & Recommendations from Joshua Torrence

- More light harvesting will be planned to meet Woodlawn Museums objectives
- Have a forest management plan prepared prior to harvesting.
- Find professionals you trust and you have a good working relationship with to work with.

Questions or Comments?