



WV Woods

Tucker-
Randolph

County

2011

At the “Cultivating Desirable Tree Species in WV Woodlands” walk and workshop, recently held on, Saturday; July 23, 2011, at the Kochenderfer property on the Tucker-Randolph County line, Jim and Jeff Kochenderfer explained and demonstrated to the 28 folks who attended, the importance of placing protective cages around stump sprouts, planted trees, and seed produced saplings of desired tree species, like red oak, for protection from deer browsing and bears (Picture 1). They also highlighted and gave a demonstration of how to conduct Croptree release, a tree thinning method, and its benefits in terms of both an improved acorn crop as a wildlife food source and tree seed; and better form, improved growth rate, and timber value of the trees being released (Picture 1.)

Additionally, Jim and Jeff took the group to various sites to explain the importance of properly laying out and constructing forest access roads, which includes the use of water drainage control devices like culverts, broad-base dips, and terrain steepness. The group also visited a site on the property where White pines had been planted, and Jim explained that he planted the pines for aesthetics (visual beauty) and wildlife habitat. After the event concluded, the group returned to the parking area for lunch and many of them stuck around to converse about what they had learned. All and all it was a fantastic day and even the weather cooperated! For more information about the workshop contact Jim Kochenderfer by e-mail at: jkochenderfer@frontiernet.net



Picture 1: Protective Wire Cages around Red Oak Sapling Stump Sprouts and increased growing space for the Sprouts accomplished using the Croptree Release tree thinning method.