

Old-growth forest assessment and invasive species management with the 500-Year Forest Foundation

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The 500-Year Forest Foundation (500YFF) conserves mature forests and the biologically diverse species they nurture in partnership with private landowners to help ensure their forests are protected in the future. In 2019, we developed a baseline protocol and conducted forest inventories at three 500YFF forests. These inventories were designed for replication on a schedule to allow long-term forest assessment and maintenance by the 500YFF. In summer 2021, we will evaluate our inventory protocol, analyze a new monitoring protocol developed by The Nature Conservancy, and make modifications to our sampling methodology, retaining the goals of efficiency and affordability. We will conduct inventories at two to three 500YFF forests, in collaboration with our project consultants. We will also research invasive species management and eradication methods for mid-Atlantic forests, develop best-practice invasive species guidelines for 500YFF forest owners, compile forest reports for each inventory, and create video overviews for each forest.

