



Vermont Natural Communities Worksheet

Identify the tree species and then match each forest type description to Vermont's natural community types.

Descriptions of each natural community type are linked on the following webpage:

<https://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/conservation/conservation-planning/natural-community-inventory/natural-community-fact-sheets> (or search for 'Vermont Natural Community Fact Sheets'). This worksheet only includes natural community types listed under 'Upland Forests' and 'Woodlands and Forested Wetlands.'

1. **Forest Location:** steep south facing slope along the Winooski River Valley

Tree and Plant Species: *Tree 1* dominates the forest, with an occasional *Tree 2* and *Tree 3*. In the understory, you can find blueberries, bracken fern, blue-stemmed goldenrod, and panicked hawkweed.

Wildlife: red squirrel, deer, Nashville warblers, and pine warblers

Natural Community Type: _____

Tree 1: _____ Tree 2: _____

Tree 3: _____



2. **Forest Location:** Champlain Valley, ground is hummocky with hollows that remain wet into the summer

Tree and Plant Species: green ash, *Tree 4*, *Tree 5*, and swamp white oak, with some *Tree 6*. Shrubs and herbaceous plants include winterberry holly, arrowwood, highbush blueberry, ferns and sedges are abundant in wet hollows and goldtread and canada mayflower are found on the hummocks

Wildlife: frogs, veery, and crested flycatchers

Forest Type: _____

Tree 4: _____ Tree 5: _____

Tree 6: _____



3. **Forest Location:** slope in Southern Vermont

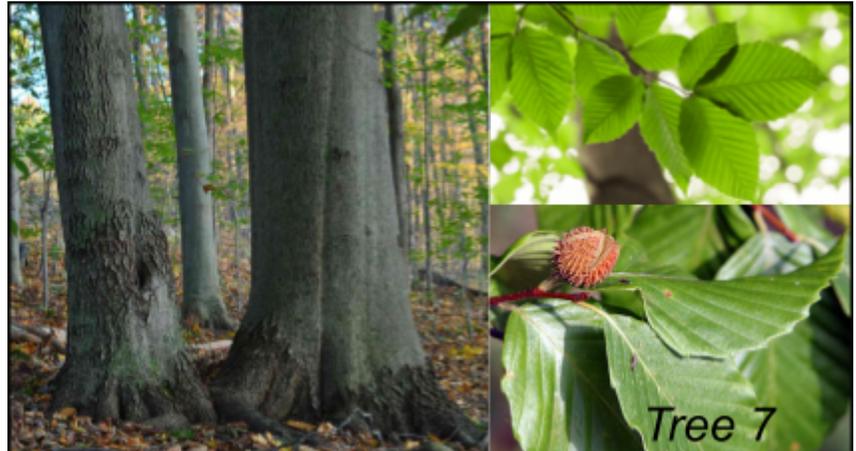
Tree and Plant Species: *Tree 7* and *Tree 5*, *Tree 8*. Shrubs include *Tree 9*, hobblebush, and shad bush, spring perennials including trout lily, spring beauty, and trillium

Wildlife: blue jays, flying squirrels, hermit thrush, ovenbird

Forest Type: _____

Tree 7: _____ Tree 8: _____

Tree 9: _____



4. **Forest Location:** Along the Third Branch of the White River (higher gradient river) outside of the town of Randolph.

Tree and Plant Species: *Tree 8*, occasional *Tree 10* and *Tree 11*. Herbaceous layer includes ostrich fern, white snakeroot, and sedges

Wildlife: mink, otter, and wood turtle along the stream corridor

Forest Type: _____

Tree 10: _____ Tree 11: _____



5. **Forest Location:** on the slopes of Mount Abraham in central Vermont around 2,400 ft in elevation. Patches of bed rock are visible
Tree and Plant Species: *Tree 5* and *Tree 12*, some balsam fir. Small amounts of hobblebush, *Tree 9*, and mountain maple in the understory with patches of wood fern, twin flowers bluebead lily, and canada mayflower
Wildlife: blackburnian warbler, Swainson's thrush, blue-headed vireo

Forest Type: _____

Tree 12: _____ Tree 13: _____



6. **Forest Location:** in a low swamp basin located in Groton Forest in Northern Vermont, ground is covered in low hummocks and shallow hollows
Tree and Plant Species: black spruce and/or *Tree 12*, *Tree 13*, and *Tree 14* dominate the canopy. Typically, there is a thick shrub layer of Mountain holly and wild raisin. Mosses carpet the forest floor.
Wildlife: white-tailed deer in winter, rare American marten, boreal chickadee and spruce grouse

Forest Type: _____

Tree 14: _____



7. **Forest Location:** Ridgetop near Bolton Notch in Central Vermont. This forest type is a small patch within a larger forested landscape. The ground is rocky with shallow soils.
Tree and Plant Species: Canopy is dominated by Red Pine. Blueberries, huckleberries, and wintergreen are found throughout the understory. Exposed rocky outcrops are covered in mosses and lichen.
Wildlife: In the summer, black bear, coyote, and red fox; northern saw-whet owls and red breasted nuthatches

Forest Type: _____

Tree 15: _____

