

# **POWDER SPRING FOREST**

This Central Vermont timber investment opportunity features productive hardwood stands, multiple access points, and opportunities for homestead or camp development.



515.84 Tax Acres Topsham, Orange County, Vermont

Price: \$830,115

# **PROPERTY OVERVIEW**



The property features opportunities to take over an attractive, long-term investment, which has been well-managed over time for high-quality northern hardwood timber. Potential building sites can also be easily found throughout the land.

Notable highlights include:

- Managed timber resource, well -positioned for future volume and value growth;
- Sugar maple-dominated timber resource worth around \$579,300;
- Sugarbush management and development potential, owing to 40% stocking of sugar maple and excellent slopes;
- Developed internal forest road access;
- Desirable location in central Vermont, close to population centers such as Barre and Montpelier, and close to Interstate 91.

### LOCATION

Powder Spring Forest is located in north Topsham, Vermont, a rural town in Orange County mostly consisting of forested acreage, farms, and small homesteads. The town is situated just east of the Green Mountains and west of the Connecticut River Valley, characterized by rolling hillslopes and many rivers, including the Waits, which drains east into the Connecticut River, and the Powder Spring brook, from which this forest gets its name.





While Topsham exemplifies the character of rural Vermont, with its peaceful ambiance and quaint rural character, the town and the subject property are easily connected to local population centers and amenities. Vermont Route 25 and U.S. Route 302 serve to connect Topsham with Barre to the northwest (25 miles away), Bradford (12 miles away to the southeast), and St. Johnsbury (31 miles northeast). In Bradford, there is access to Interstate 91, a major travel corridor connecting Vermont to Massachusetts and Canada, and in Barre, there is access to Interstate 89, connecting to major cities and cultural centers of Burlington, VT, and Manchester, NH. Boston, MA, and Hartford, CT, are a 3-hour drive south.



# ACCESS

Legal access to Powder Springs Forest is provided by several modes, including Town Class 3 & 4 roads and private access points.

<u>Powder Spring Road</u> provides a point of access to an old woods road that parallels the brook. This former roadway provides sufficient access to the land's extreme eastern slopes as they tilt to the brook. This small region of the forest supports an attractive 35 to 45-year-old sugar maple stand.

<u>Sanborn Road</u> offers frontage for a driveway point permitting access to another small section of the forest which slopes to the east.

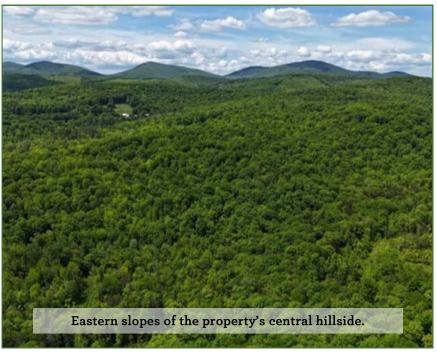


<u>Currier Road</u> is the primary access point to the forest, which leads to a 1,600' section of class 4 road before entering the southern section of the property. Once on the property, a developed internal road runs 2,600' to a log landing which provides access to all of the property's western higher elevation. Another internal road runs nearly 3,600' to the east and then north, providing functional access to the land's entire eastern half. Both roads can be seen on the property photo maps.

<u>Frost Road</u> provides legal Class 4 access to a small section of the northern end of the property. However, this area has traditionally been accessed from the established roads that originate on the southern side of the forest.

### SITE DESCRIPTION

The property has been shaped by its former uses, including an intensive period of farming and homesteading going as far back as the late 1700s. Field evidence, such as barn and house stone foundations, stone walls ,and wire fences, covers the property's landscape, indicating that nearly all of the land was formally used for some form of agricultural activity. Following abandonment in the late 1800s, as the country grew



more industrialized, the farmlands were steadily abandoned and allowed to grow back to forest.

The property is situated in a generally high-elevation region of Vermont. The land is characterized by several hills, ravines, and drainages which offer aspects in all directions. The southern and eastern-facing hillsides especially would benefit from tree clearing in order to maximize potential views, which would offer vistas of the White Mountains to the east. Elevation ranges from around 1,500' near Powder Springs Road, where the land rises up a prominent hillside (1,900') before falling again to the west, where flatter land contains wetlands and low-lying creeks. Headwater streams of Powder Springs Brook are found here, running through the property heading south.

Slope conditions on the property are rolling and moderate overall, and the terrain is easily accessible by foot or via logging equipment during forest management.

# TIMBER RESOURCE

Timber data in this report are based on a timber inventory conducted in December 2022, with the purpose of establishing Capital Timber Value (CTV) by F&W Forestry Services, the owner's forest manager. 91 inventory points were sampled (1 plot per 5.4 acres), covering a 486' X 486' grid using a 15-factor prism. Sampling statistics are ±13.4% standard error for sawlog products and +/-7% for all products combined at the 95% confidence interval. Upon applying growth for 1 season at regional FIA data growth rates, the timber data reveal a total sawlog volume of 2,243 MBF (Intl' ¼" scale) (4.4 MBF/acre), with 6,435 pulpwood cords (13.0 cords/acre). Combined total commercial per acre volume is 18 cords, a figure about average for the region. Stumpage values were assigned to the volumes in May of 2024, producing a property-wide Capital Timber Value (CTV) of \$566,100 (\$1,143/acre). See the Timber Valuation in this report for details.

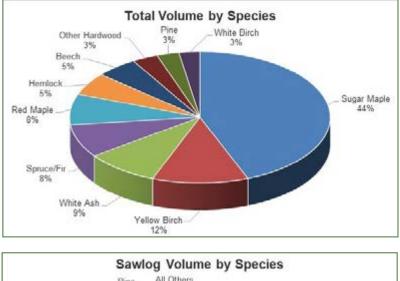
### **Species Composition:**

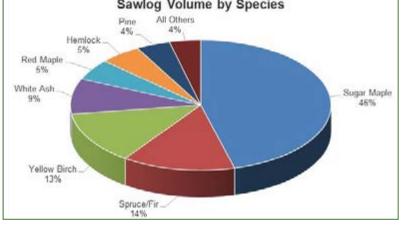
The species composition is 84% hardwoods and 16% softwoods. Species composition for all products combined is led by sugar maple (44%), followed by yellow birch (12%), white ash (9%), and red maple (8%). Softwood volume mainly consists of spruce/fir (8%) and pine (3%). Scattered red pine is also found in some areas of the forest. The sawlog volume breakdown is led by sugar maple (46%), followed by spruce/fir (14%), and yellow birch (13%), along with small levels of various common associates. The primary species all have benefited from strong historical (and current) markets for their various end products, ensuring the likelihood of robust asset appreciation from stumpage price arowth.

### Stocking and Stem Quality:

Stocking is variable due to past timber harvesting, which has targeted various areas of the property. Much of the property is found as mature, even-aged forest, while other acreage has been harvested and is now a less dense overstory growing atop a dense







understory. Basal areas in the stands range from 40-120 ft²/ac, and show 69% Acceptable Growing Stock.

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# TIMBER RESOURCE (continued)

#### Sawlog Value/ Management History:

Sawlog value is dominated by sugar maple (46%) followed by spruce/fir (14%) and yellow birch (13%), with the small balance held by red maple, white ash, and others.

The 2023 forest management plan identifies fifteen forest stands. Most stands have been harvested in the past two decades using a combination of shelterwood, group selection, and overstory removal harvesting. The most recent harvesting on the property occurred in 2018.

#### **Diameter Distribution:**

The diameter distribution indicates a wide range, with strong representation from advanced saplings established during harvesting over the years. Poletimber in the 6-10" diameter range is also well-represented. The diameter distribution clearly shows the results of a managed forestland, with the bulk of the stocking being found in small logs and large poletimber nearing sawlog size.

### TAXES & TITLE

Municipal property taxes in 2023 were \$2,004. The property IS enrolled in the State of Vermont's Use Value Appraisal (UVA) program (plan date 2023). The ownership is TimberVest Partners III Vermont, LLC, whose deed is recorded in Book 77, Pages 560-569 of the Topsham Land Records.

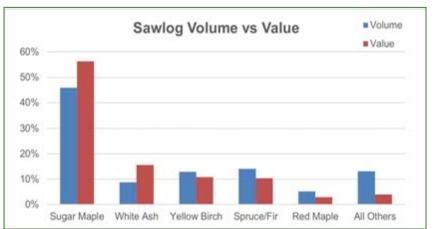
### SUGARBUSH OPTION

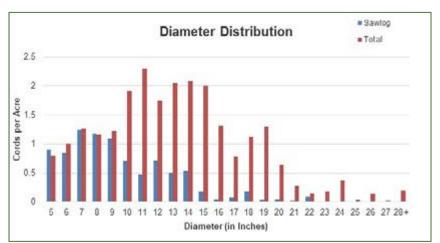
The timber data indicates a total of 16,400 potential maple taps from the 9" and greater size classes, with 84% of the taps from sugar maple and the balance red maple. Tap density per acre is variable, ranging from around 20 per acre in previously harvested areas to 60-70 in more dense hardwood stands. Sugaring use would be an excellent additional income source if portions of the property were given over to taps. Electrical

slopes offer a diverse aspects for multiple setup options.

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power is available a short distance from the property on Currier Road or on the Powder Spring Road, and









### TIMBER VALUATION



# **Powder Springs Tract**

### **Timber Valuation**

Prepared By

F&WFORESTRY SERVICES INCORPORATED

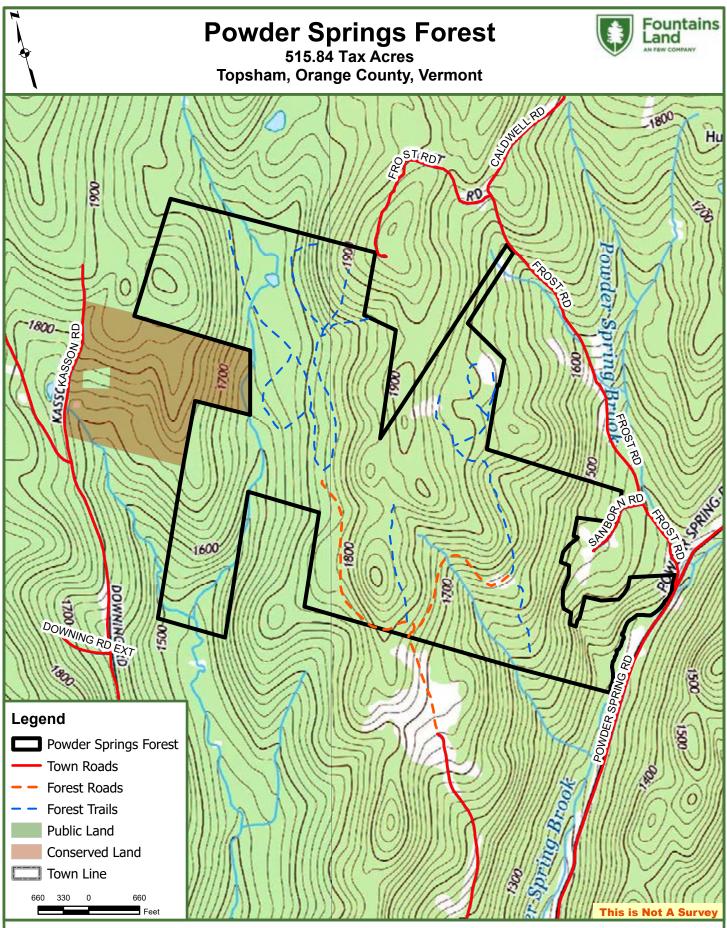
Topsham, Orange County, Vermont July 2024

495 GIS Acres 456 Commercial Acres

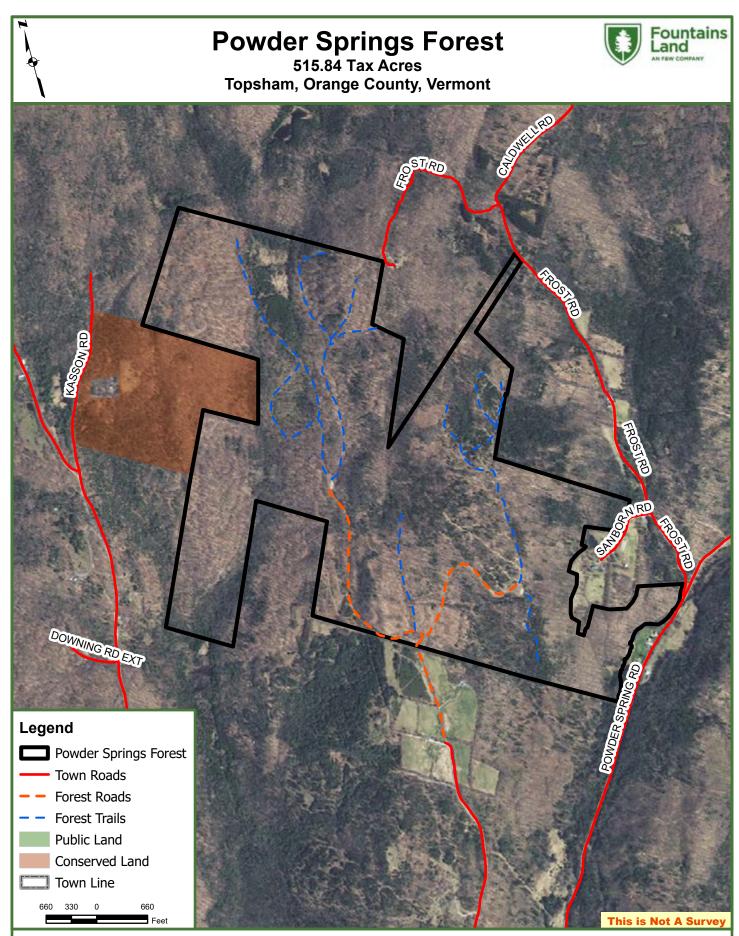
Species	Volume MBF/CD		Unit Price Range Low High Likely			Total Value
Sawtimber - MBF (Inter	national	1/4")				
Sugar Maple	496		325.00	450.00	400.00	198,30
White Ash	188		325.00	425.00	400.00	75,20
Spruce/Fir	315		120.00	175.00	160.00	50,40
Yellow Birch	152		250.00	350.00	300.00	45,50
Sugar Maple Pallet	507		50.00	100.00	85.00	43,10
Sugar Maple Veneer	26		1,000.00	1,400.00	1,200.00	30,80
Red Maple	46		150.00	275.00	225.00	10,40
Yellow Birch Pallet	138		30.00	60.00	50.00	6,90
Red Pine	78		60.00	100.00	75.00	5,90
Hemlock	116		30.00	60.00	50.00	5,80
Red Maple Pallet	71		30.00	70.00	50.00	3,50
Hardwood Pallet / Grade 3	61		30.00	50.00	40.00	2,40
White Birch	15		50.00	150.00	125.00	1,90
White Birch Veneer	2		600.00	800.00	700.00	1,50
White Pine	7		140.00	180.00	165.00	1,10
Black Cherry	3		175.00	250.00	225.00	60
Beech	12		25.00	40.00	30.00	40
White Pine Pallet	9		15.00	30.00	20.00	20
Aspen	2		20.00	40.00	30.00	10
Pulpwood - Cords	-		20.00		00.00	
Hardwoods	5,761		12.00	18.00	16.00	92,20
Hemlock	385		3.00	6.00	4.00	92,20
Spruce/Fir	271		2.00	5.00	4.00	1,50
Pine	117		2.00	5.00	4.00	50
Totals						
SawtimberTotal	2,243	MBF				\$484,00
Sawtimber Per Acre	4.527	1				\$97
Sawtimber Per Comm. Acre	4.923					\$1,06
Cordwood Total Cordwood Per Acre	6,535	Cords				\$95,30 \$19
Cordwood Per Comm. Acre		Cords				\$19
Coldwood Per Collini. Acre	14.3	Colas	т	otal Per Acre		۶20 \$1,16
						φ1,10
<b>T</b> - ( - 1) ( - 1			Low	High		Likely
Total Value		\$513 300	\$617,800		\$579,30	
			ψ010,000	φ017,000		ψ01 <b>3</b> ,00
BASED ON DECEM	MBER 2022 TIM	BER INVEN	TORY CONDUCTED	BY F&W FORE	STRY SERVICES	, INC.
			on 91 points using a		05% 053	
Statistical Results: ±13.4% Volumes were grown forward o	21					
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Prices are averages for the area and are adjusted to reflect, access, quality and operability of the site.

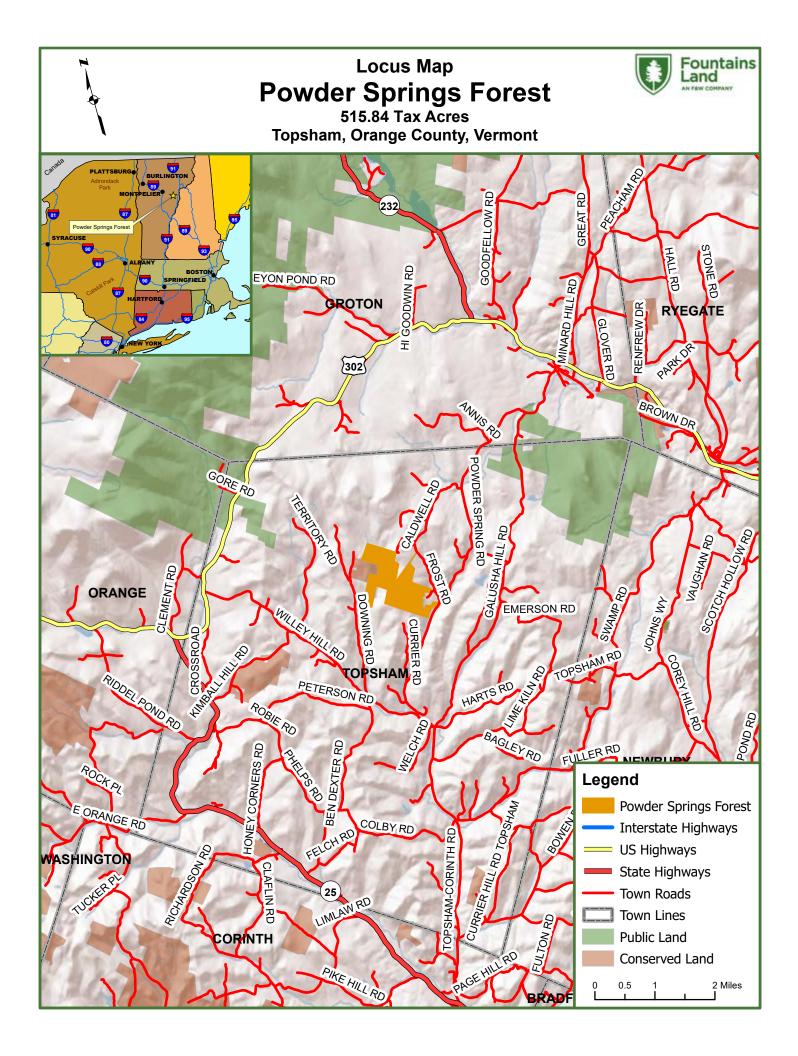
Fountains Land is the exclusive broker representing the seller's interest in the marketing, negotiating and sale of this property. Fountains has an ethical and legal obligation to show honesty and fairness to the buyer. The buyer may retain brokers to represent their interests. All measurements are given as a guide, and no liability can be accepted for any errors arising therefrom. No responsibility is taken for any other error, omission, or misstatement in these particulars, nor do they constitute an offer or a contract. We do not make or give, whether in these particulars, during negotiations or otherwise, any representation or warranty in relation to the property.

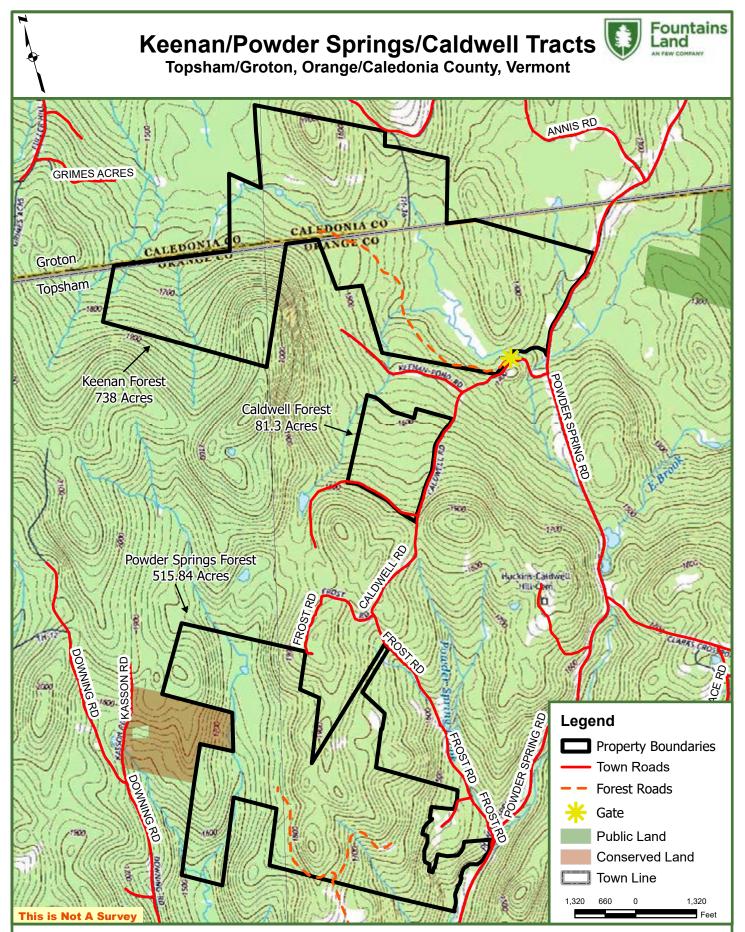


Map produced from the best available information including VCGI town tax maps polygon, hand held GPS data, aerial photography and reference information obtained from publicly available GIS sources. Boundary lines portrayed on this map are approximate and could be different than the actual location of boundaries found in the field. Map is not a survey.



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# Vermont Real Estate Commission Mandatory Consumer Disclosure



[This document is not a contract.]

This disclosure must be given to a consumer at the first reasonable opportunity and

before discussing confidential information; entering into a brokerage service agreement; or showing a property.

### **RIGHT NOW YOU ARE NOT A CLIENT**

The real estate agent you have contacted is not obligated to keep information you share confidential. You should not reveal any confidential information that could harm your bargaining position.

Vermont law requires all real estate agents to perform basic duties when dealing with a buyer or seller who is not a client. All real estate agents shall:

- Disclose all material facts known to the agent about a property;
- Treat both the buyer and seller honestly and not knowingly give false or misleading information;
- Account for all money and property received from or on behalf of a buyer or seller; and
- Comply with all state and federal laws related to the practice of real estate.

#### You May Become a Client

You may become a client by entering into a written brokerage service agreement with a real estate brokerage firm. Clients receive the full services of an agent, including:

- Confidentiality, including of bargaining information;
- Promotion of the client's best interests within the limits of the law;
- Advice and counsel; and
- Assistance in negotiations.

You are not required to hire a brokerage firm for the purchase or sale of Vermont real estate. You may represent yourself.

If you engage a brokerage firm, you are responsible for compensating the firm according to the terms of your brokerage service agreement.

Before you hire a brokerage firm, ask for an explanation of the firm's compensation and conflict of interest policies.

#### Brokerage Firms May Offer NON-DESIGNATED AGENCY or DESIGNATED AGENCY

- **Non-designated agency** brokerage firms owe a duty of loyalty to a client, which is shared by all agents of the firm. No member of the firm may represent a buyer or seller whose interests conflict with yours.
- **Designated agency** brokerage firms appoint a particular agent(s) who owe a duty of loyalty to a client. Your designated agent(s) must keep your confidences and act always according to your interests and lawful instructions; however, other agents of the firm may represent a buyer or seller whose interests conflict with yours.

#### THE BROKERAGE FIRM NAMED BELOW PRACTICES NON-DESIGNATED AGENCY

I / We Acknowledge Receipt of This Disclosure

Printed Name of Consumer

Signature of Consumer

Date

[ ] Declined to sign

Printed Name of Consumer

This form has been presented to you by:

Fountains Land

Printed Name of Real Estate Brokerage Firm

Zachary Jaminet

Printed Name of Agent Signing Below

eleg Jonint

Signature of Agent of the Brokerage Firm

Date

Signature of Consumer

Date

[ ] Declined to sign