

A wide-angle landscape photograph of a mountain range. The central focus is a large, rugged mountain peak with significant snow cover and patches of exposed rock. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. In the foreground, the terrain is rocky and brownish, suggesting a high-altitude or alpine environment. The overall scene is dramatic and scenic.

Industry Perspective on Lowland Timber Harvest and Availability

(Charlie's Perspective)



Lowland Timber Harvest

A Key Component of Michigan's Forest Industry

Why?

- Significant number of acres of lowland forests in Michigan.
 - Approx. 38% of land we manage in east half of U.P. is lowland forest. (much less in western U.P.)
- Significant volume / value of wood in these lowland forests.
 - Stumpage volume and value per acre is highly variable.







Lowland Timber Harvest

A Key Component of Michigan's Forest Industry

Example

| | Cords / Acre by Product | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| | TK Pulp | Cedar Pulp | Cedar Posts | Cedar Bolt | Total |
| Cords / Acre | 21.4 | 9.0 | 9.6 | 1.8 | 41.8 |
| Value/Acre | \$ 428.00 | \$ 135.00 | \$ 355.20 | \$ 144.00 | \$1,062 |



Lowland Timber Harvest

A Key Component of Michigan's Forest Industry

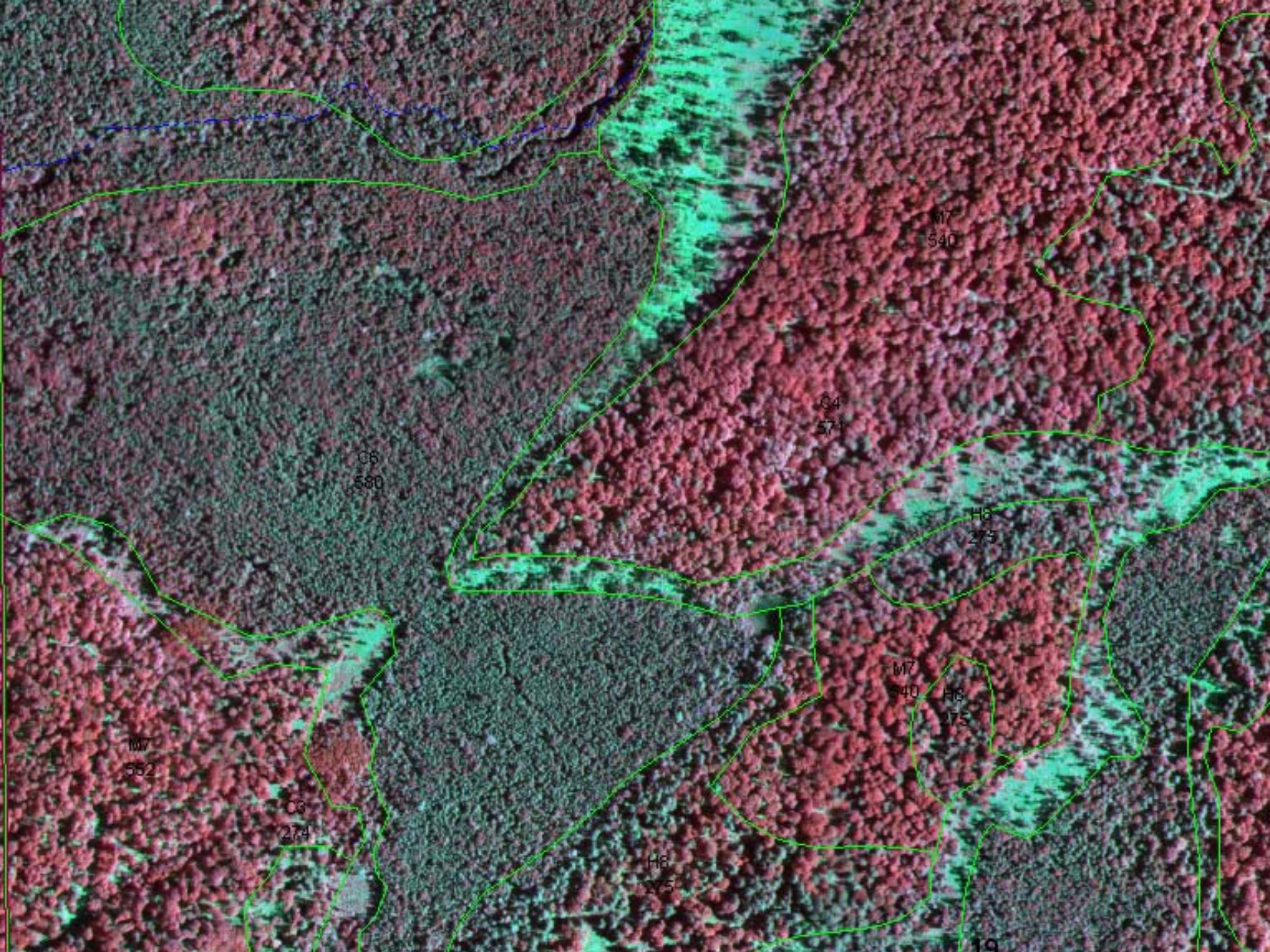
Why?

- **Markets have developed over time that depend on wood from lowland forests.**
 - **Pulp mills (> 50%)**
 - **Softwood bolt mills**
 - **Hardwood Pallet mills / Hardwood sawmills**
 - **Cedar mills (posts, bolts, mulch)**



Issues of Availability

- **Lowland forests have variety of species and many are relatively short- lived.**
 - **If you don't actively manage them, you will lose them. (Lowland forests no different than other forests in this way).**
 - **One reason why industry folks concerned over lack of lowland harvest on public lands (lots of wood and its falling down).**



M7
540

C8
571

C8
580

H8
275

M7
552

C8
274

M7
540

H8
175

H8
275

19



Issues of Availability

- **In general, lowland timber stumpage is easier to get vs. upland stumpage.**
 - **Harvesting usually limited to 10 - 12 wks of winter (occasional dry summer opportunities).**
 - **So in case of eastern U.P. - we have 22% of time to cut 38% of the acres.**



Ecological Importance of Lowland Forests

- **Most all larger players in the forest products industry (including large timberland owner) adhere to SFI or FSC.**
 - **Responsibility to manage for water quality and wildlife.**
- **We also understand that lowland forests and varying age classes within them add diversity to the landscape.**
- **We recognize that concerns exist in some parts of Michigan over the harvest of cedar and its impact on white- tailed deer.**



Lowland Harvest of Cedar Types

Few Observations

- **Some large landowners do not harvest stands heavy to cedar.**
- **Overall, number of acres of cedar harvested annually is small relative to acres available.**
- **Demand for cedar is limited .**
 - **Pulp mills don't want it.**
 - **Post, bolt and mulch markets relatively small operations.**
- **Cedar stands do regenerate, but relative species mix does change depending on success of cedar regen.**



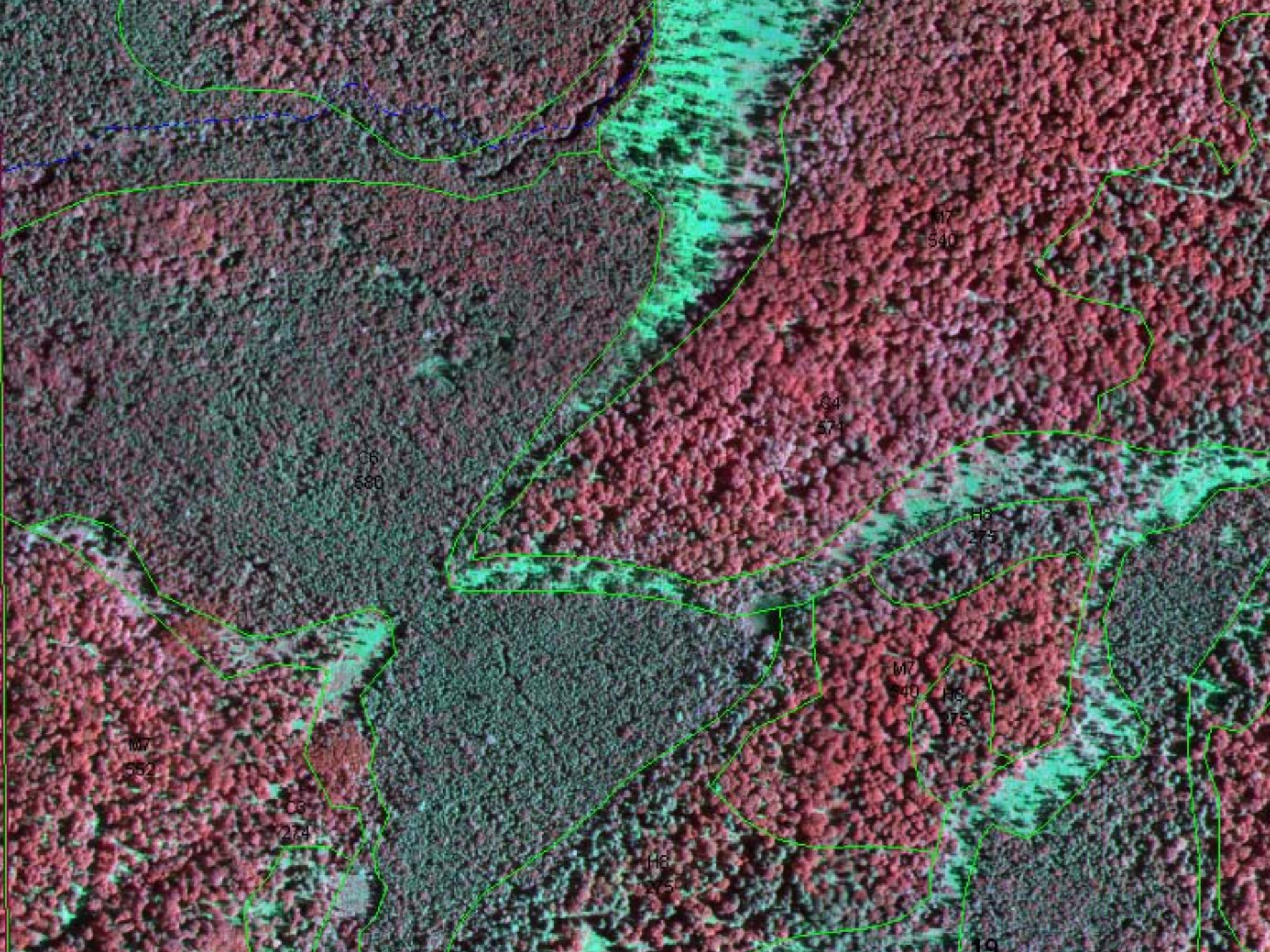


Thinsulate
INSULATION
100 GRAM



Other Observations Regarding Lowland Timber Harvesting

- **Harvest prescriptions vary (site dependent):**
 - **Clearcut** – aspen, balsam, spruce, tamarack
 - **Partial harvest** – maple, ash, cedar, balsam
- **Tendency to target short-lived species and higher-valued products (varies – based on landowner objectives).**
- **Natural regen is in general good, but slow (exception is cedar in certain areas).**
 - **Example shown earlier had > 3,000 stems/acre @ age 3.**
- **Common to harvest only portions of stands (fringe surrounding upland or pockets of wood).**



M7
540

C8
571

C8
580

H8
275

M7
540

H8
175

M7
552

C8
274

H8
275

19



Other Observations Regarding Lowland Timber Harvesting

- **With today's Cut- to- length logging equipment, soil disturbance is minimal on many sites.**
 - **Provides for additional dry- summer logging opportunities.**
 - **May at times be detrimental to regeneration.**
- **Natural regeneration is by far most common (minimize capital expenditures), but planting is an alternative.**







Management of lowland forests is really a matter of perspective.

Most important perspective is that lowland forests remain as productive forests in the future.