

# Section 3

## Examples (indoors and in the field)



Workshop participants, Natural Resources Trust of Easton





# Examples (indoors and in the field)

Use your Flow Charts and Keys to identify the most correct Community Type

Remember to focus on Hydrology, Structure, and Species



# Example 1

**Topography: level**

**Water stained leaves present**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**50-75% red maple, 25-50% black gum**

**0-25% swamp white oak**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% red maple**

**Shrub layer: Intermediate and clumped**

**25-50% high bush blueberry, 25-50% black gum**

**25-50% greenbrier**

**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**



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**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**

**Palustrine (System)**



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**25-50% greenbrier**

**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**

**Palustrine (System)  
Forested (Sub-system)**



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**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**

**Palustrine (System)  
Forested (Sub-system)**

**Hardwood Dominated  
(Community Group)**



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**25-50% greenbrier**

**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**

**Palustrine (System)  
Forested (Sub-system)**

**Hardwood Dominated  
(Community Group)**

**Red maple dominant or  
co-dominant**



# Example 1

## Red Maple Swamp Community Type

**Topography: level**

**Water stained leaves present**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**50-75% red maple, 25-50% black gum**

**0-25% swamp white oak**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% red maple**

**Shrub layer: Intermediate and clumped**

**25-50% high bush blueberry, 25-50% black gum**

**25-50% greenbrier**

**Ground Cover: No sphagnum**

**Palustrine (System)  
Forested (Sub-system)**

**Hardwood Dominated  
(Community Group)**

**Red maple dominant**





# Identifying Natural Communities

## Example 2 (a tricky example!)

**Topography: level**

**No indicators of water**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% red maple**



# Identifying Natural Communities

## Example 2

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Topography: level**

**No indicators of water**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% red maple**

# Identifying Natural Communities

## Example 2

Topography: level

No indicators of water

Canopy closure: 75-100%

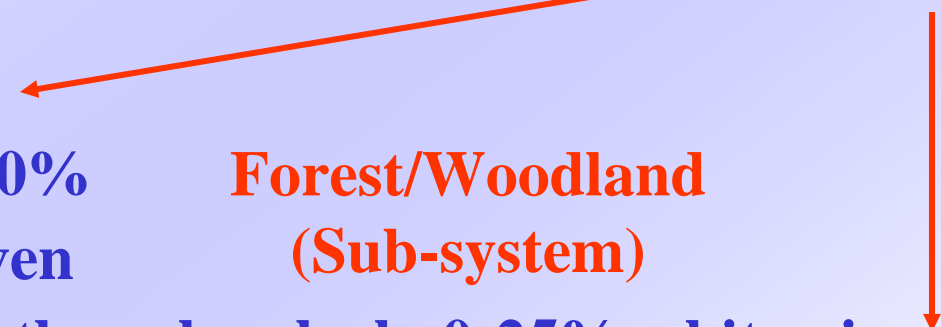
Canopy: Dense and even

75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech

Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped

75-100% hemlock, 0-25% red maple

**Terrestrial (System)**



**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**

# Identifying Natural Communities

## Example 2

Topography: level

No indicators of water

Canopy closure: 75-100%

Canopy: Dense and even

75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech

Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped

75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% red maple

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**

**Conifer Forest/Woodland (Community Group)**

# Identifying Natural Communities

## Hemlock Ravine

### Example 2

Topography: level

No indicators of water

Canopy closure: 75-100%

Canopy: Dense and even

75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech

Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped

75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% red maple

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**

**Conifer Forest/Woodland (Community Group)**

# Identifying Natural Communities

**Cannot be a  
Hemlock Ravine!**



## Example 2

**Topography: level**

**No indicators of water**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

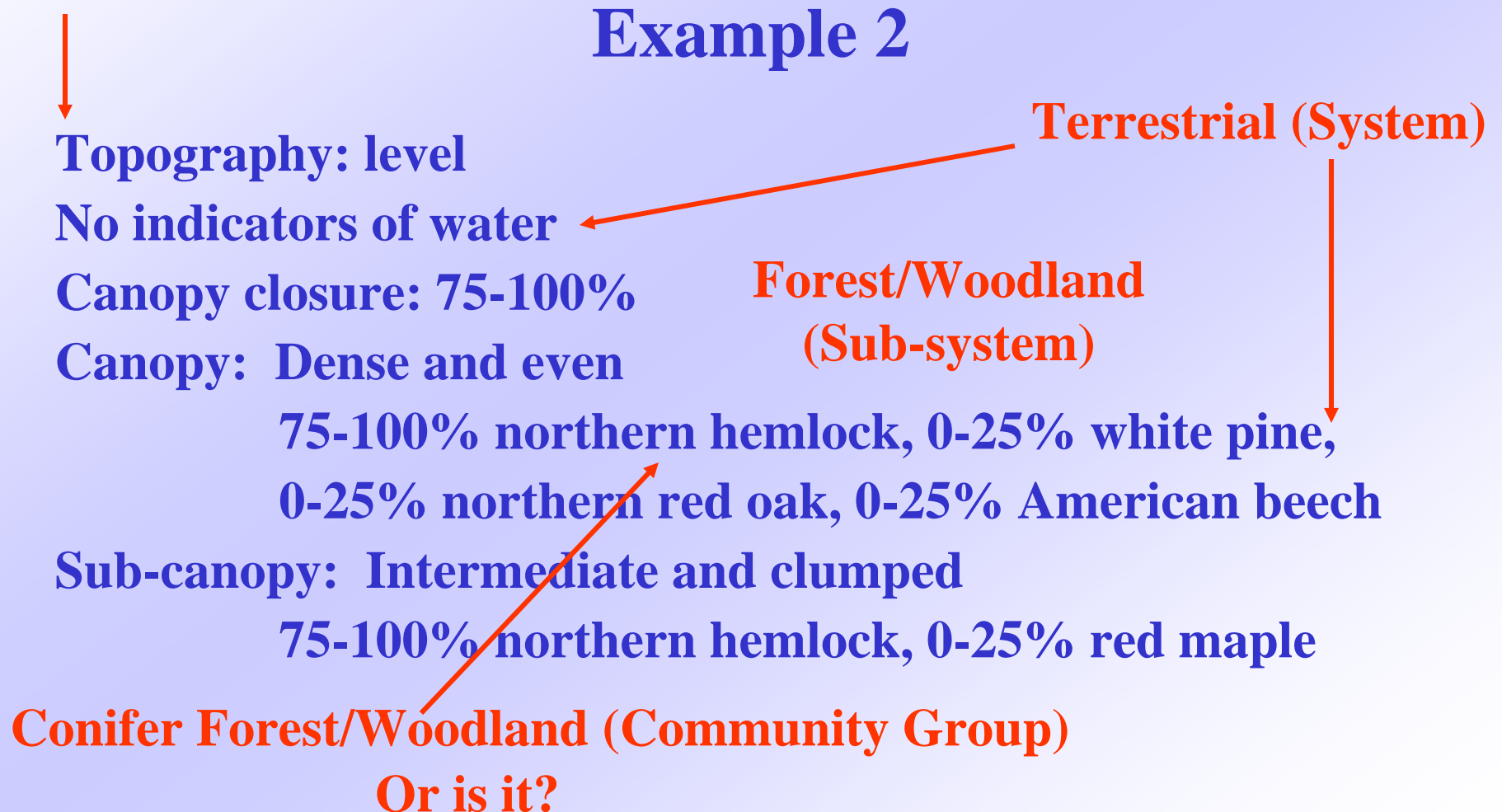
**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% red maple**

**Conifer Forest/Woodland (Community Group)**

**Or is it?**

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**



# Identifying Natural Communities

**Cannot be a  
Hemlock Ravine!**



## Example 2

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Topography: level**

**No indicators of water**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% hemlock, 0-25% red maple**

**Conifer Forest/Woodland (Community Group)**

**Or is it? What if this is really 70%?**

# Identifying Natural Communities

**Cannot be a Hemlock Ravine!**

**Oak-Hemlock-White Pine (Community Type)**

**Topography: level**

**No indicators of water**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**75-100% northern hemlock, 0-25% white pine,  
0-25% northern red oak, 0-25% American beech**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**75-100% hemlock, 0-25% red maple**

**Mixed Coniferous-Deciduous Forest/Woodland  
(Community Group) – if actually 70%**

**Terrestrial (System)**

**Forest/Woodland  
(Sub-system)**



# Support Conservation In Massachusetts



Support MET through the purchase of designated license plates



Support the NH&ESP through the tax check-off and donations



Support Manomet through membership and donations

**Support your local land trust and watershed association!**



**Please be sure to turn in your evaluation form before leaving for the day.**

**Thank you!**



**Into the Field!**

# Example 3

**Topography: mid-slope; north-facing slope**

**No signs of hydrology**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**25-50% white pine, 0-25% red oak**

**0-25% chestnut oak, 0-25% black birch**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and even**

**0-25% red maple, 0-25% white pine**

**0-25% chestnut oak, 0-25% American chestnut**

**Shrub Layer: Intermediate and even**

**25-50% white pine, 0-25% black birch**

**0-25% highbush blueberry**

**Ground Cover: Intermediate and even**

**0-25% low bush blueberry, 25-50% wintergreen**



**Sutton, Mass.**



# Example 4

**Topography: mid-slope; south-facing slope**

**No signs of hydrology**

**Canopy closure: 75-100%**

**Canopy: Dense and even**

**25-50% white oak, 25-50% hickory spp.**

**0-25% eastern red cedar**

**Sub-canopy: Intermediate and clumped**

**25-50% hickory spp., 0-25% eastern red cedar**

**0-25% red maple, 0-25% sassafras**

**Shrub Layer: Dense and even**

**25-50% green brier, 0-25% northern arrow-wood**

**0-25% sassafras**

**Ground Cover: Sparse and even**

**0-25% PA sedge, 25-50% VA creeper**