Important Habitat Work in Progress

We’re cutting trees so that shrubs and other plants will grow into a dense “young forest” to help over 50 declining species in Connecticut.

A fresh clearcut is the first step toward creating new young forest. In one growing season, grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and re-sprouting trees will fill in and attract wildlife.

In 3 to 5 years, wildflowers, shrubs and vines grow thick among the quickly growing trees, offering food and shelter to animals that require the dense cover of a young forest.

After 10 years, taller trees start shading out some of the ground plants, but the regrowing forest still provides important food and cover for young forest wildlife.

After about 20 years, the forest begins to lose the dense low growth required by young forest wildlife, and begins to attract animals that use mature woods.