A statewide inventory of clear cuts was conducted by Complex Systems Research Center in 1994-1995. For the purposes of the inventory, clear cuts were defined as landings sized to meet silvicultural objectives (including wildlife management purposes), or timber liquidation purposes, and meeting the following criteria:

- minimum size of 3 acres
- residual basal area per acre of less than 20 square feet
- harvested within the last 10-15 years

The inventory was developed based on two primary data sources: LANDSAT Thematic Mapper (TM) imagery, acquired over the interval 1988 to 1990, and SPOT panchromatic imagery, acquired in the spring of 1993.

The project yielded data on three classes of clear cuts:

- cuts identified from the TM data, and therefore visible in 1988-1990
- cuts identified from the 1993 SPOT imagery, but adjacent to and/or extensions of pre-existing cuts
- new clear cuts identified from the 1993 imagery

Funding for the clear cut inventory was provided by the USDA Forest Service, the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands, and the NH Office of State Planning.

Once completed, the inventory was integrated into the statewide land cover gridded data set (LANDSAT TM - LAND COVER23). The layer described here was created by isolating the clear cuts from the land cover data, and vectorizing the resulting subset.