

WRWAC

Ware River Watershed Advisory Committee
Contact: Jeff Schaaf at (413) 477-6646
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 13, 2010

Members (members in BOLD were present)

Massachusetts Council of Sportsmen: Robert Carey, William Label

Alternate: Clark Abysalh

Worcester County League of Sportsmen: Dave Papale

Alternate: (Paul Thompson)

Trout Unlimited: **Jeffrey Schaaf, Co-chairman**

Alternate: (empty)

A Rod and Gun Club: **Chris Duggan**

Alternate: (Brian Waterman)

Barre Selectboard: **Martha Varnot**

Alternate: Edward Yaglou

Hubbardston Selectboard: Thomas Bratko

Alternate: (empty)

Oakham Selectmen: Thomas Hughes

Alternate: Henry Stone

Rutland Selectmen: **Charles R. Williams**

Alternate: (empty)

Barre Historical Society: **Burt Frost**

Alternate: Peg Frost

Hubbardston Historical Society: (empty)

Alternate: (empty)

Oakham Historical Society: **Wes Dwelly**

Alternate: Bill Mucha

Rutland Historical Society: **Helen Viner**

Alternate: **Tim Nahrwold**

Massachusetts Wildlife Federation: **Bill Westaway, Co-chairman**

Alternate: Thomas Berube

Massachusetts Audubon Society: Charles Delaney

Alternate: (empty)

Sierra Club: Matt Hopkinson

Alternate: (empty)

Upper Ware River Watershed Association: **Donald Rich**

Alternate: **Edward Yaglou**

General Public: Mark DuBois

Alternate: (empty)

Visitors

DCR DWSP Representative(s): Dave Small, assistant Regional Director;
Herm Eck, scribe

Agenda

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the March 25, 2010 WRWAC meeting. This motion passed without comments.

Forestry Update

Dave Small gave an update of current forestry issues at the Ware River. He explained a DCR DWSP proposal to tweak harvest plans in a way that will increase the amount of visual softening. These changes are needed to address some recent public concerns over cutting on state lands. DCR will attempt to incorporate these changes into sold lots first. No new lots will be put out for sale until a review of the current management plan is conducted by a scientific advisory committee and a public process. The WRWAC will be an integral part of this public process.

The WRWAC members ask Jeff Schaaf to send a letter to Commissioner Rick Sullivan expressing their concerns which included wildlife habitat impacts, the amount of watershed land already in reserves, and economic impacts. A motion was made to have Jeff draft a letter to the DCR recommending they continue with the lots that have already been sold. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a lot of spirited support of the current forest management program at the Ware River. Creating a more detailed report of their concerns over changing the current forest management approach was suggested. A meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2010 to discuss this report.

Future Meeting Date

Thursday June 10, 2010 at 7:00 at the Old Town Hall in Barre on Exchange Street

Proposed Agenda

- Process for reviewing possible modifications to Ware River Watershed Land Management Plan, review of current Ware River Watershed forestry lots
- Aquatic invasive species Update: 2010 boating Season, Boat ramp monitors
- Members' Issues
- Schedule Field trip Meeting