

A form letter was prepared by members of several community organizations. The identical letter was signed and mailed by multiple individuals. A copy of the is attached with a list of the senders.

DCR Forest Futures Visioning Process Comments

c/o MODR University of MA Boston

100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627

Boston, MA 02125

Via: [MODRDRCFFVP@umb.edu](mailto:MODRDRCFFVP@umb.edu)

cc: [constituent.services@state.ma.us](mailto:constituent.services@state.ma.us), [info@devalpatrick.com](mailto:info@devalpatrick.com), [ian.bowles@state.ma.us](mailto:ian.bowles@state.ma.us),

[Rick.Sullivan@state.ma.us](mailto:Rick.Sullivan@state.ma.us)

Dear sir or madam,

I am writing to you regarding the Massachusetts Forest Futures Visioning Process.

Massachusetts currently controls the activities on about 550,000 acres of state publicly owned land, or 11% of its land area. At a time when the world is experiencing deforestation, loss of habitat for wildlife, soil erosion and global warming, I would like the land that is owned by the public to be managed and cared for in a way that contributes the most to doing our share of environmental protection.

A recent University of Vermont study suggests that the best way to maintain carbon sequestering on forested land is to refrain from any harvesting. Comments in the FSC report have concluded that the majority of Massachusetts residents overwhelmingly oppose commercial harvesting on state owned land. Also, as an opponent of biomass power plants, I am concerned about a study commissioned by the state which shows that 56% of likely wood supply available to be burned in these power plants would come from state forests if harvesting is to be continued.

The current recommendations of the Forest Future Vision Process would put aside only about 216,000 acres of Massachusetts land area of 5,000,000 acres in parks and reserves that would be off limits to commercial logging. This would amount to only 4% of the total land in the state. I am requesting that all 550,000 acres under State jurisdiction be set aside from commercial timber harvesting in order to preserve and protect wilderness areas, fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, clean air, tourism income, carbon sequestration, scenic beauty and recreational opportunities in the 3rd most densely populated state of 6,000,000 residents.

Protecting these 550,000 acres would amount to protection for only 11% of the total land area and only 17% of the forested land in Massachusetts which would still provide even less protection than neighboring New York State which has set aside 20% of all of their forestlands in parks and reserves where logging is prohibited. Additionally, considering that the timber program loses money, protecting all these state public lands would be the most prudent economic as well as ecological action.

It seems that at a time when we are asking third world countries to protect 25-50% of their forested land for global carbon sequestering, protecting state public lands would be a modest attempt of doing our fair share. After viewing the photos at [www.maforests.org](http://www.maforests.org), it is clear a major corrective response is needed now to protect these scarce state public lands for current and future generations.

Please protect all state public forests, watersheds and parks from commercial timber harvesting.

Sincerely yours,

## Signers of Massachusetts Forest Watch Form Letter

First Name	Last Name	City/Town	State	Zip
<b>Mailed as a packet - postmarked 2/19/10 from CCFC, P.O. Box 653, Greenfield, MA</b>				
Michelle	Dennis			
Karen	Bowler			
Illegible				
N.	Manning			
Clara	Viarengo			
Brett	Gueguen			
Kera	Vescovi			
James	Bowler			
Kathleen	Field			
Illegible				
J.R.	Maggiolina			
Timothy	Mologhen			
Geri	Sakovicz			
Nancy	Cody			
Doreen	Kennedy			
P.	Fitzpatrick			
Danyelle	Devino			
Lisa	Woods			
Stephen	Viarengo			
Russell	Bradbury			
Illegible				
James	Breson			
Christine	Kovalchick	Gill	MA	01354
Gloria	Kegeles	Wendell	MA	01370
Suzanne	Glick-Sois	Greenfield	MA	01301
Pamela	Lovell	Gill	MA	01354
Edwina	Kreps	Turners Falls	MA	01376
Patrick	Devlin	Greenfield	MA	01301
Elizabeth	Adams	Leverett	MA	01054
Sandra	Boston	Greenfield	MA	01301
John	Boleo	Greenfield	MA	01301
Marilyn	Zelwian	Greenfield	MA	01301
Richard	DiGeorge	Greenfield	MA	01301
Sandra	Kosterman	Greenfield	MA	01301
Robeta	Green		MA	
Michael	VanCamp	Greenfield	MA	01302
Charles	Kosterman	Greenfield	MA	01301
Donna	Mollard	Greenfield	MA	01301
Dale	Sluter	Greenfield	MA	01301
Iris	Sluter	Greenfield	MA	01301
Rory	Donahoe	Greenfield	MA	01301
Susan	Rikeirt	Greenfield	MA	01301
Gary	Maclenna	Greenfield	MA	01301
Illegible				
Jumena	Jacome	Greenfield	MA	01301

## Signers of Massachusetts Forest Watch Form Letter

First Name	Last Name	City/Town	State	Zip
David	Jacome	Greenfield	MA	01301
Mark	Kayama	Greenfield	MA	01301
Lynne	Ballard	Greenfield	MA	01301
Gregg	Crawford	Greenfield	MA	01301
Claire	Chang	Gill	MA	01354
Karl	Meyer	Greenfield	MA	01301
John	Ward	Gill	MA	01354
Dona	Farisher	Greenfield	MA	01301
Alfred	Siano	Greenfield	MA	01301
Susan	Miller-King	Greenfield	MA	01301
W.	Kech	Greenfield	MA	01301
Thomas	Garey	Greenfield	MA	01301
Michael	Hall	Bernardston	MA	
R.	Fish	Greenfield	MA	01301
Marcia	Bloomberg	Greenfield	MA	01301
Bonley	O'Sullivan	Greenfield	MA	01301
Kathleen	LaPointe	Montague	MA	01351
Suzanne	Carlson	Greenfield	MA	01301
Mailed as a packet postmarked 2/19/10 from T. Neilson, Greenfield, MA 01301				
Tom	Neilson	Greenfield	MA	01301
Nancy	Thorne-Thomsen	Greenfield	MA	01301
Zoe	Kantor	Northampton	MA	01060
Melissa	Spielman	Northampton	MA	01060
Jennifer	Hydefrost	Greenfield	MA	01301
Brian	Hydefrost	Greenfield	MA	01301
Jacob	Neilson-Phillips	Greenfield	MA	01301
Rebecca	Hawes-Sivitz	Conway	MA	01341
Kim	Scammon	Greenfield	MA	01301
Mailed as a packet postmarked 2/20/10 from S. & C. Kosterman, Greenfield, MA 01301				
Robert	Wendeleski		MA	
Sally	LeBrun		MA	
Shane	Kosterman	Bernardston	MA	01337
John	Topler	Greenfield	MA	01301
Brenda	Harmon	Greenfield	MA	01301
Rory	Ely		MA	
Charles	Kosterman	Greenfield	MA	01301
Nola	Snyder	Greenfield	MA	01301
Harris	Snyder		MA	01301
Theresa	James	Greenfield	MA	01301
Sandra	Kosterman	Greenfield	MA	01301
Rebecca	Kingsley	Greenfield	MA	01302
Annette	Kilminster	Greenfield	MA	01301
Carol	DiGeorge		MA	

## Signers of Massachusetts Forest Watch Form Letter

First Name	Last Name	City/Town	State	Zip
Mark	Garmalo		MA	
Emily	Garmalo	Greenfield	MA	01302
Individual Letters Received				
Brent	Pitcher	Greenfield	MA	01301
Norman	Hirschfeld	Greenfield	MA	01301
Barbara Jane	Foster	Gill	MA	01354
Cynthia	Nims	Greenfield	MA	01301
Judith	Harper	Greenfield	MA	01301
Brenda	O'Neil	Springfield	MA	01109
Mike	Brezsnyak	Florence	MA	01062
Katherine	Allen	Florence	MA	01062
Joyce	Vande Kreft	Shelburne Falls	MA	01370
Patrick	Falvey	Greenfield	MA	01302
Patricia	Smythe	Wendell	MA	01379
Yoshi	Kogo	Montague	MA	01351
Peter	Jopp	Shelburne	MA	01370
Janet	Sinclair	Shelburne Falls	MA	01370