

**Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry
Proposed Timber Harvest Summary
Name: Ingraham Road Hardwood**

Date Posted: January 5, 2009
End of Comment Period: February 20, 2009

Region: Western
Recreation District: Berkshire Highlands
Forest Management District: North Berkshire
State Forest: Mount Greylock State Reservation
Closest Road: Ingraham Road
Town: New Ashford

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Stand Description:

Type: Northern Hardwoods
Acreage: 76.3
Structure: Uneven-aged / Medium and Large Sawtimber
Management History: No DCR-documented management.
Age: <100 years
Stocking: Fully stocked
Topography: Mild slopes with some small, steep benches.
Conditions: Sugar maple borer / Beech bark disease / Black knot (black cherry) / Ash decline

Aesthetic, Recreation, Environmental and Wildlife Considerations:

Aesthetic: Frontage along Ingraham Road provides woodland scenery, though much of the stand is shielded from view by topography that rises to the north and east. Hardwood slash will be contractually required to be lopped within 2 feet of the ground within a 100-foot visual buffer area adjacent to Ingraham Road. Stone walls exist within the proposed harvest area (PHA) and will be protected from damage due to timber harvesting activities.

Recreation: No recreational trails exist within the PHA. An old skid road remains and may be used by hikers, however motorized vehicles (except snowmobiles) are prohibited. The portion of

this trail that runs adjacent to the eastern brook will be unaffected by the proposed harvest activity. This area is popular with hunters.

Environmental: The PHA is located approximately 400-600 feet west of a 210-acre designated forest reserve located on Mount Sugarloaf and its associated Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) designated Priority Habitat. NHESP will determine if the PHA falls within or near any high conservation value forests. The nearest designated scenic byway is the Mount Greylock Scenic Byway that is located well to the east at higher elevations.

Wildlife: The PHA is not located in any NHESP-designated priority habitat areas. No certified vernal pools are currently located within the PHA, however two likely vernal pools are located within the PHA and will be investigated by NHESP staff prior to harvesting activities. No rare plants or animals have been observed within or near the PHA to date though the area will be investigated by NHESP. Ample opportunity exists to protect current or potential cavity trees, snags, and coarse woody debris for wildlife.

Sale Layout:

An existing road head is located on the north line of Ingraham Road approximately 1100 feet southeast of the field. A landing may be located here or to the north within the harvest area. Skid roads will be laid out using existing trails where appropriate. A 100-foot visual buffer will be located along Ingraham Road; harvesting within this area will be implemented to meet goals for uneven-aged management and to minimize aesthetic impact to Ingraham Road. Harvesting will not occur during mud season (March 15 – May 15).

Silviculture:

This silvicultural treatment will be designed to create uneven-aged stand structure. Small group selection (3-4 trees) will be used to release desirable advanced regeneration (sugar maple). Group selection (minimum of 3-4 trees, maximum of ½-acre in size) will be used to regenerate new shade tolerant trees (sugar maple) and moderately shade tolerant trees (yellow birch, young white ash) as well as to release desirable seedlings, saplings, and poletimber. Areas of the stand not selected for regeneration will be thinned where appropriate to maintain or improve growth rates and quality in the desirable stock. In the short term, the unregenerated portions of the stand will benefit from less competition for sunlight, water, and nutrients, and the regenerated portions of the stand will undergo a period of new tree growth from seed and from vegetative regeneration (sprouting) to form a new age class. Over the long term, this stand will be maintained in its present species composition with at least three distinct age classes. It may be reentered on a periodic basis to regenerate new areas and thin for existing desirable growing stock. This stand will be managed on a 150-year extended rotation as described in the North Berkshire Forest Resource Management Plan. Reentries may be made on an approximately 30-year cycle or as deemed most appropriate by the District Management Forester.

Park Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Regional Director: _____

Date: _____

District Forester: _____

Date: _____

Attached: Topographic map showing location of Forest Products Sale Area

Ingraham Road Hardwood - Mount Greylock State Reserve - New Ashford

