

**Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Bureau of Fire Control and Forestry
Proposed Timber Harvest Summary
Name: PTSF Old Shaker Road Sale THS**

Date Posted: July 18, 2007

End of Comment Period: September 1, 2007

Region:	Western
Recreation District:	Central
Forest Management District:	North Berkshire
State Forest:	Pittsfield S. F.
Closest Road:	Lebanon Springs Rd., Hancock West Street, Pittsfield
Town	Hancock
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Stand Description:

The area is made up of two stands; one is northern hardwood large sawtimber type (stand 243) and the other is a northern hardwood small sawtimber type (stand 244). Stand 243 has been previously cut (1987) and contains sugar maple, ash, beech and some oak. Stand 244 contains the same mix but has much more beech in some areas. Ferns are a regeneration problem in some areas. The topography slopes northeast in a range of 12% to 20% with one short section around 38%. The stocking is high in both of these 90-100 year old stands. Stand 243 contains around 44 acres and 244 about 25 acres within the sale area.

Aesthetic, Recreation and Wildlife Considerations:

Aesthetic: There are two known abutters along the northern and eastern edge of the sale. The sale area also abuts the City of Pittsfield unused "rifle range" property across the road on the western edge. Standard trail buffers will be observed. The sale area may be apparent from a long distance view. Felling and slash lopping will be directed away from group cuts. There are no known archaeological sites within the sale area.

Recreation: There is an old road, now known as the CCC Trail that runs on the western edge of the sale area. The CCC Trail is a multi-use motorized trail and also used by 4WD vehicles. There is

also a hiking trail known as the Shaker Trail that partially abuts the sale on the southwest edge. There are no developed recreational facilities within or near the site.

Wildlife: According to the Massachusetts NHESP 2006 Atlas, there are no rare or endangered species polygons in or near the sale area. Lilly Brook forms the northern edge of the sale. Maintenance of a continuous high forest cover will benefit many of the interior forest birds and group openings may provide browse for deer.

Sale Layout:

The access will be from the West Street/Lebanon Springs Road side on the north. An existing landing area at the intersection of Lebanon Springs Road and the CCC Trail will be used. Within the sale area, existing skid trails will be re-used as often as possible. Skidders will use the CCC Trail as the main haul route to the landing.

Silviculture:

The silvicultural goal will continue to be maintenance of continuous forest cover using uneven-aged management. The method used will be primarily group selection with some light thinning between the groups. Group size will mostly be in the 1/5th to 3/4 acre range with some larger groups in the areas that are predominantly beech, or have oak or cherry trees. The extent of the fern regeneration problem will be examined in more detail and may require herbicide treatment.

Park Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Regional Director: _____

Date: _____

District Forester: _____

Date: _____

Attached: Topographic map showing location of Forest Products Sale Area

LOCUS MAP

Old Shaker Road Hardwood Sale
in Hancock, MA

PITTSFIELD STATE FOREST

