

**Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation**  
**Bureau of Fire Control and Forestry**  
**Proposed Timber Harvest Summary**  
**Name: Monroe SF, North Road**

**Region:** Western District  
**Recreation District:** Berkshire Upper  
**Forest Management District:** Western Connecticut Valley  
**State Forest:** Monroe  
**Closest Road:** North Road

**Contact Information:** Tommy Byron  
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**Stand Description:**

This sale will consist of 5 stands and will total 115 acres. The first stand is an unthinned small sawtimber sized Norway spruce stand that is 15 acres. The second stand is a 60 acre small sawtimber sized red spruce stand. The third stand is a 28 acre medium sawtimber sized northern hardwood stand. The fourth stand is a 2 acre small sawtimber sized red pine stand. The final stand is a small sawtimber sized hemlock hardwood stand that is 10 acres.

**Silviculture:**

There are several objectives to this sale. The first is to start the regeneration process in the Norway spruce and red pine stands, which were planted back in the 1930's. The red pine will be cut utilizing the shelterwood system with roughly half of the basal area being removed. The Norway spruce stand will have the edges of it cut using the shelterwood system, with roughly half of the basal area being removed, and it will also have a patch cut harvested in the middle of it. This will be done to create a wildlife habitat opening. These two stands will eventually regenerate to mainly native northern hardwoods. The native red spruce stand will be thinned to favor the red spruce. Because we are converting some stands from softwood to hardwood, the objective in this stand will be to retain as large a component of softwoods as possible to provide diversity in this section of the forest. Primarily low quality hardwoods and some suppressed spruce will be removed. The hemlock hardwood stand will be thinned with the primary objective being retaining as much hemlock in the stand as possible. Hemlock does not have great timber value but provides many benefits to a healthy ecosystem, such as providing winter habitat for deer. The northern hardwood stand will be cut utilizing the shelterwood system, with low quality trees (based on health and species) being removed. Roughly fifty percent of the overstory will be removed. At some point in the future a final regeneration cut will be done in this stand and we will have a new stand that hopefully will be healthier than the one that is there now.

**Aesthetic, Recreation and Wildlife Considerations:**

North Road runs through the sale area. Cutting will be lighter along the road and plenty of big trees will be left. There is a wetland in the southern section of the sale area and this will be buffered. No equipment will be allowed to operate in this area. There are several streams that run through the sale area and appropriate no cut buffers will be left along these (at least 50 feet). Plenty of large trees with wildlife cavities will be left.

**Sale Layout:**

The sale area is in an isolated part of the state forest that is gated off. One landing will be put in north of North Road and a second landing will probably be put in south of North Road, depending on the operator's need and equipment. No skidding will be allowed on North road. Mechanized machinery will be required to cut the Norway spruce and red pine, with hand felling allowed in the other stands. If this lot is cut in the winter then it will be up to the successful bidder to make arrangements to plow the road.

**Park Supervisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

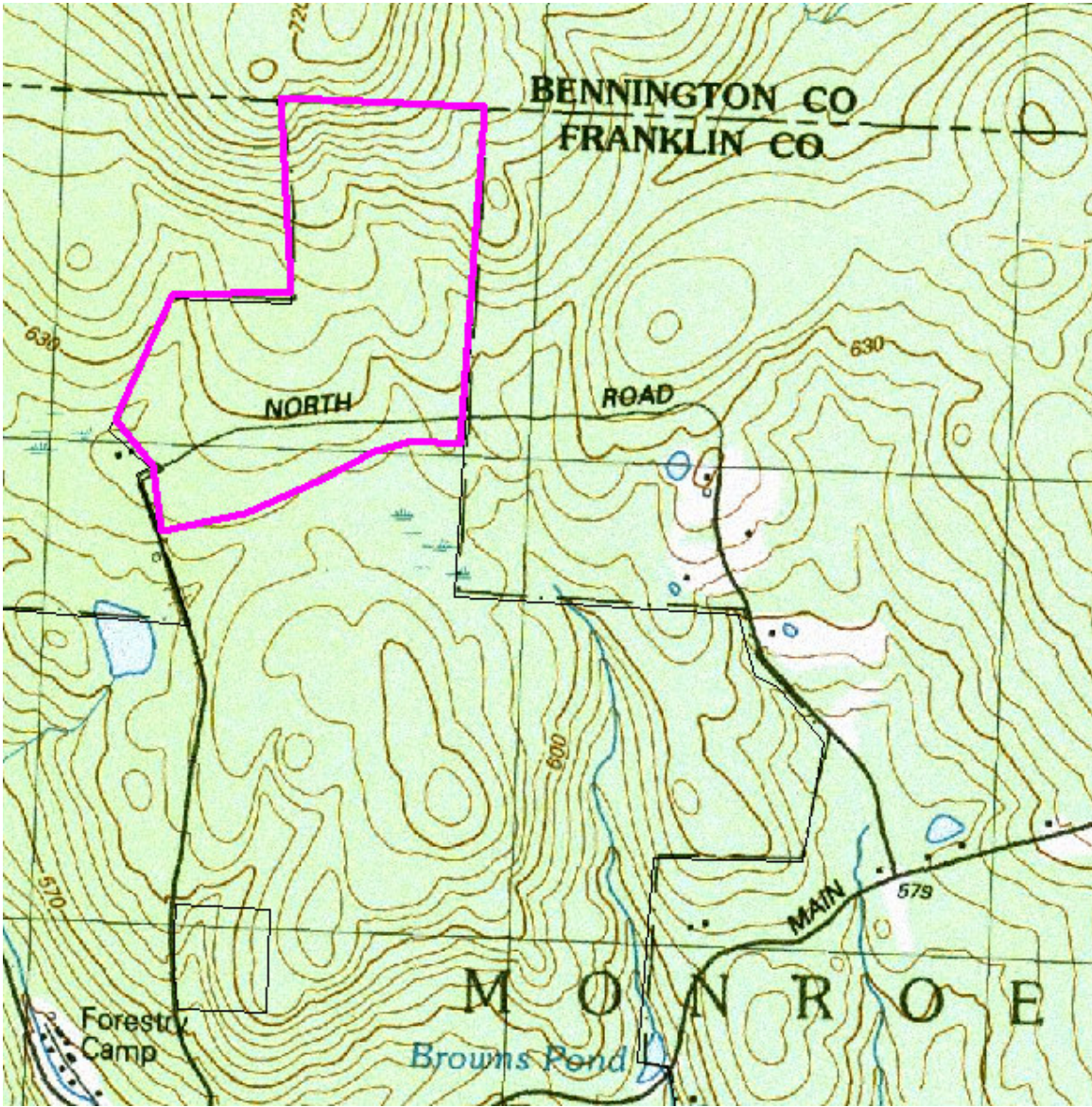
**Regional Director:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**District Forester:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Attached: Topographic map showing location of Forest Products Sale Area



Scale = 1:14000 sale area is in pink