

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Water Supply Protection, Office of Watershed Management
Forest Management Project Summary

Project Title: Gate 37 Spongy Moth Salvage

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: S12NQ
DWSP Proposal ID: PT-19-08-S and PT-17-10
DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 234-22574-20

Site Information

Watershed: Quabbin	Town(s): Petersham
Acres: 19.0	Nearest Road: Monson Turnpike
Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: Yes	Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes
Forest Types: white pine-oak, mixed oak	ACEC?: No
Soils: Montauk-Scituate-Canton association, extremely stony, 3-15% slopes, and Montauk -Canton association, extremely stony, 15-45% slopes	
Wetland Resources: none	
Vernal Pools: none	

Harvest Information

Harvest Start Date: 7/21/2020	Harvest End Date: 10/9/2020
Number of Wetland Crossings: none	Number of Stream Crossings: none

Best Management Practices Applied

Stream Crossings	none
Filter Strips	none
Wetland Crossings	none
Harvesting in Wetlands	none

DWSP Foresters supervising this harvest

Name	Helen Johnson
Forester License #	383
Phone #	617-733-2937
Email	Helen.Johnson@mass.gov

NARRATIVE

General Description/Forest Composition/History

Lot S12NQ is located at the intersection of three DCR access roads southeast of Quabbin Gate 37. The primary forest types in the harvest area are white pine-oak and mixed oak. Forest health is poor, with a large proportion of the oak dead or badly weakened by the recent spongy moth infestation.

Site Selection

This site was chosen because of its high concentration of mature oaks that died in the wake of the 2017-2019 spongy moth outbreak, and because the area is easily accessible from DCR access roads.

Oak, especially red oak, is one of the most economically valuable timber resources on DWSP lands. After trees die decay sets in quickly, wood boring insects begin to tunnel in, and wood value falls steeply. As part of its fiduciary responsibility to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, DWSP conducts salvage harvests of a portion of the most valuable dead and dying trees before their value is lost forever. Locations are prioritized based on ease of access, with preference given to areas that need few or no stream or wetland crossings and are on gentle to moderate terrain, thus presenting minimal risk to the water supply. This harvest is consistent with those criteria.

Silvicultural Objectives

The primary silvicultural objective of this harvest is to salvage dead and dying oaks.

Cultural Resources

A cellar hole is located between the DCR access roads.

Rare or Endangered Species

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has determined that state-listed sensitive species or habitats may exist within the harvest area. To protect them from unnecessary disturbance, detailed information regarding affected species and their locations is not included here. DWSP has coordinated with NHESP to gather recommendations to protect these species during the harvest. NHESP has reviewed the Forest Cutting Plan for this lot and determined that

“Based on details of the Plan, pre-file discussion, and information in our database, the Division [DFW] does not expect activities proposed in the Plan to negatively impact Estimated Habitat or result in Take (as defined in 321 CMR 10.02) of plant or animal species protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00).”

Figure 1: Forest Cutting Plan

Forest Cutting Plan

and Notice of Intent under M.G.L.
Chapter 132 – The Forest Cutting
Practices Act, 304 CMR 11.00
(Effective Date: 1/1/04)

For DCR Use Only:

File Number 234-22574-20 Case No. —
Date Rec'd 11.26.19 Nat. Hert. yes /
Earliest Start 12.12.19 Nat. Hert. Imp. no
River Basin Chicopee Pub. Dr. Wat. no
Gen. Obj. LT ACEC no

Site Information

Location

Town Petersham **Quabbin Lot S12NQ**
Road Monson Turnpike (Quabbin Gate 37)
Acres 19.0 Proposed Start Date TBD
Vol. MBF 38.8 Vol. Cds. 94 Vol. Tons 36

Plan Preparer

Name Helen Johnson
Address DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry
485 Ware Road
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone 617-733-2937
Type of Preparer LF
*Mass. Forester License # 383
*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

Landowner

Name DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry
Mailing Address 485 Ware Road
Helen.Johnson@mass.gov
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone 617-733-2937
Ch61 ☐ 61A ☐ 61B ☐ Stew ☐ *Case #
CR ☐ CR Holder

Licensed Timber Harvester**

Name
Address
Town, State, Zip
Phone
Mass. Lic. Harvester #
**This information may be supplied after the plan is approved, but before work begins.

Best Management Practices

Stream Crossings No Crossings

Indicate location on map	SC-1	SC-2	SC-3	SC-4
Type of Crossing				
Existing Structure				
Type of Bottom				
Bank Height (ft)				
Stabilization				

Wetland Crossings No Crossings

Indicate location on map	WC-1	WC-2	WC-3	WC-4
Length of Crossing				
Mitigation				
Stabilization				

Filter Strips

Indicate location on map	FS-1	FS-2	FS-3	FS-4
Width (50', 100', or VA)	VA			

Harvesting in Wetlands None

Indicate location on map	HW-1	HW-2	HW-3	HW-4
Forest Type (see pg 2)				
Acres to be Harvested				
Resid. Basal Area (>50%)				

Service Forester Comments

★ See Attached Letter for Heritage - No Take AL

Codes

Type of Preparer	Type of Crossing	Stabilization	Mitigation	Type of Bottom
LF Mass. Lic. For.	CU Culvert	SE Seed	FR Frozen	LE Ledge
TH Lic. Tim. Har	BR Bridge	MU Mulch	DR Dry	ST Stony
TB Timber Buyer	FO Ford	CO Corduroy	OT Other	MU Mud
LO Landowner	PO Poled	ST Stone		GR Gravel
OT Other	OT Other	HB Hay Bales		OT Other
		OT Other		

Note:
Applicant must provide DCR with all relevant information before plan may be approved and cutting may begin.
Some forestry activities, such as prescribed burning and pesticide or fertilizer application may require additional permits. Consult MA Forestry BMP Manual for further information.

If Other (OT) is used in any category an explanation must be given on an attached narrative page

Products to be Harvested*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	7.7	Red Maple	0.5
Red Pine	4.3	Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	19.0
Hemlock		Black Oak	6.3
Spruce		White Oak	1.0
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash		Total Mbf	38.8
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	94
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	36
B & Y Birch		HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry		Chips (Tons)	

*Note: Volumes and values indicated in the Plan are as reported by the plan preparer and have not been independently verified by the service forester upon approval. Mbf = thousand board feet.

Cutting Standards

Indicate location on map	ST-1	ST-2	ST-3	ST-4
Forest Type	WO	OM		
Acres	12.8	6.2		
Landowner Objective	LT	LT		
Designation of Trees	CT	CT		
Type of Cut	SA	SE & SA		
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE	AD/SE		

Landowner Signature

The most important information on a cutting plan is the Landowner's objective, as this will determine which trees will be harvested and which will remain; this decision will also determine the future condition of the forest for decades to come. After having read the Massachusetts Forest Cutting Plan Information Sheet on page one, indicate your objective by checking the appropriate box below.



LT - Long-term Forest Management

Planned management of the forest to achieve one or more of the following objectives: produce immediate and maximize long-term income, enhance wildlife habitat, improve recreational opportunities, protect soil and water quality, or produce forest specialty products.



ST - Short-term Harvest

Harvest of trees with the main intention of producing short-term income with minimal consideration given to improving the future forest condition, which often results in a forest dominated by poor quality and low value species.

I (we) have read the Massachusetts Cutting Plan Information Sheet, and am aware of my (our) management options.

I (we) hereby certify that I (we) have the legal authority to carry out the operation described above.

I (we) certify that I (we) have notified the Conservation Commission in the town in which the operation is to take place and the abutters of record within two hundred feet of the area to be harvested.

I (we) understand that the volumes and values (Ch61 only) in this plan have not been independently verified by the service forester upon approval and will report final values and volumes to the Director or his/her agent if the final figures differ from those reported.



Signature of landowner(s)

Date

11-25-19

Determination and Status

Approved Disapproved Expires

Cutting Plan



11-26-21



Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

Date

12-23-19

Extension

1 ☐2 ☐

Expires

/

Ser. For. Ints.

/

Amendment

App 1

Dis 1

App 2

Dis 2

/

Final Report and Comments

I hereby certify that the afore described Forest Cutting Plan and all relevant statutes have been substantially complied with.

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

Date

Forest Types				Designation of Trees	Type of Cut	Intermediate Harvests:	Source of Regeneration
WP White Pine	HK Hemlock	OM Mixed Oak	CT Cut Tree	SH Shelterwood	ST Seed Tree	CT Commercial Thin	AD Advanced
WK WP/Hem.	HH Hem/Hdwd	RM Red Maple	LT Leave Tree	ST Seed Tree	CC Clear Cut	NT Non Com Thin	SE Natural Seed
WH WP/Hdwd	BC Blck Cherry	BE Beech	SB Stand Boundary	CC Clear Cut	SE Selection		PL Plant
WO WP/Oak	BB Bee/Bir/Map	SF Spruce/Fir	OT Other	SA Salvage	DL Diameter Limit*		CO Coppice
RP Red Pine	OH Oak/Hdwd	SM Sugar Maple	Landowner Objective	SN Sanitation	OT Other*		DS Direct Seed
SR Red Spruce	OR N Red Oak	PP Pitch Pine	LT Long-term Mgt.				OT Other
			ST Short-term Har.				

*If Other (OT) or a non-standard system is used an explanation must be given on attached narrative page

pg 4 of 5

Forest Cutting Plan

Narrative Page (Effective Date: 1/1/04)

Use this page to provide further explanation or if Other (OT) was used in any category on pages 3 or 4.

Landowner DCR-DWSP Quabbin

Town Petersham

File Number _____

BMPs

Use this Section to provide further explanation or if Other (OT) was used in any category in the Best Management Practices Section on Page 3.

OBJECTIVES: salvage dead and dying trees (oak d/t gypsy moth, red pine d/t RP scale) and remove trees at risk of falling on roads.

Designation of Trees

Use this Section to describe the types of trees to be harvested and/or retained if Other (OT) was used for "Designation of Trees" in the Stand Treatment Section on page 4. Additional narrative description may be added on a separate page.

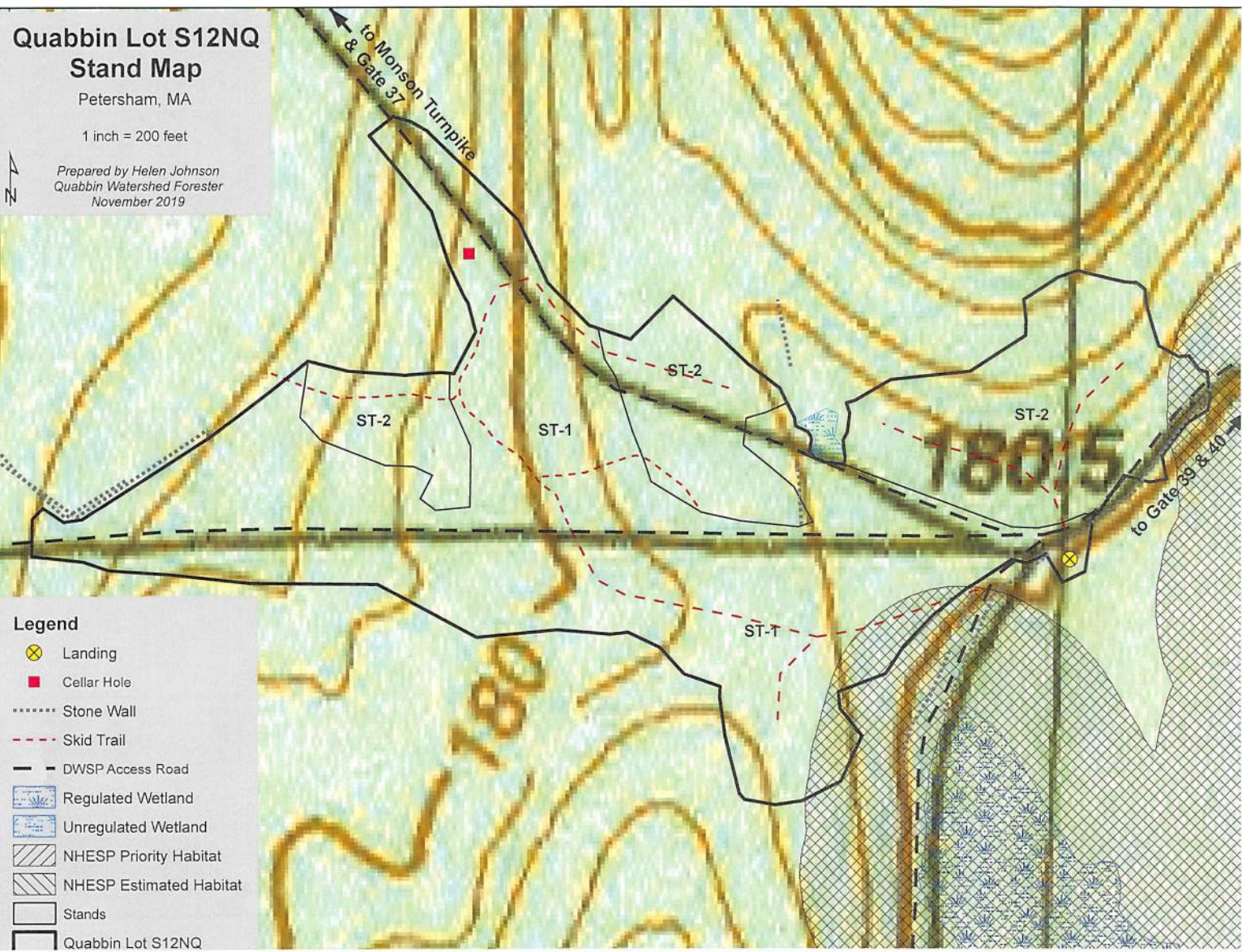
Stand No.	Describe Trees to be Cut			Describe Trees to be Left			% BA/AC	
	Species	Size	Quality	Species	Size	Quality	Cut	Left

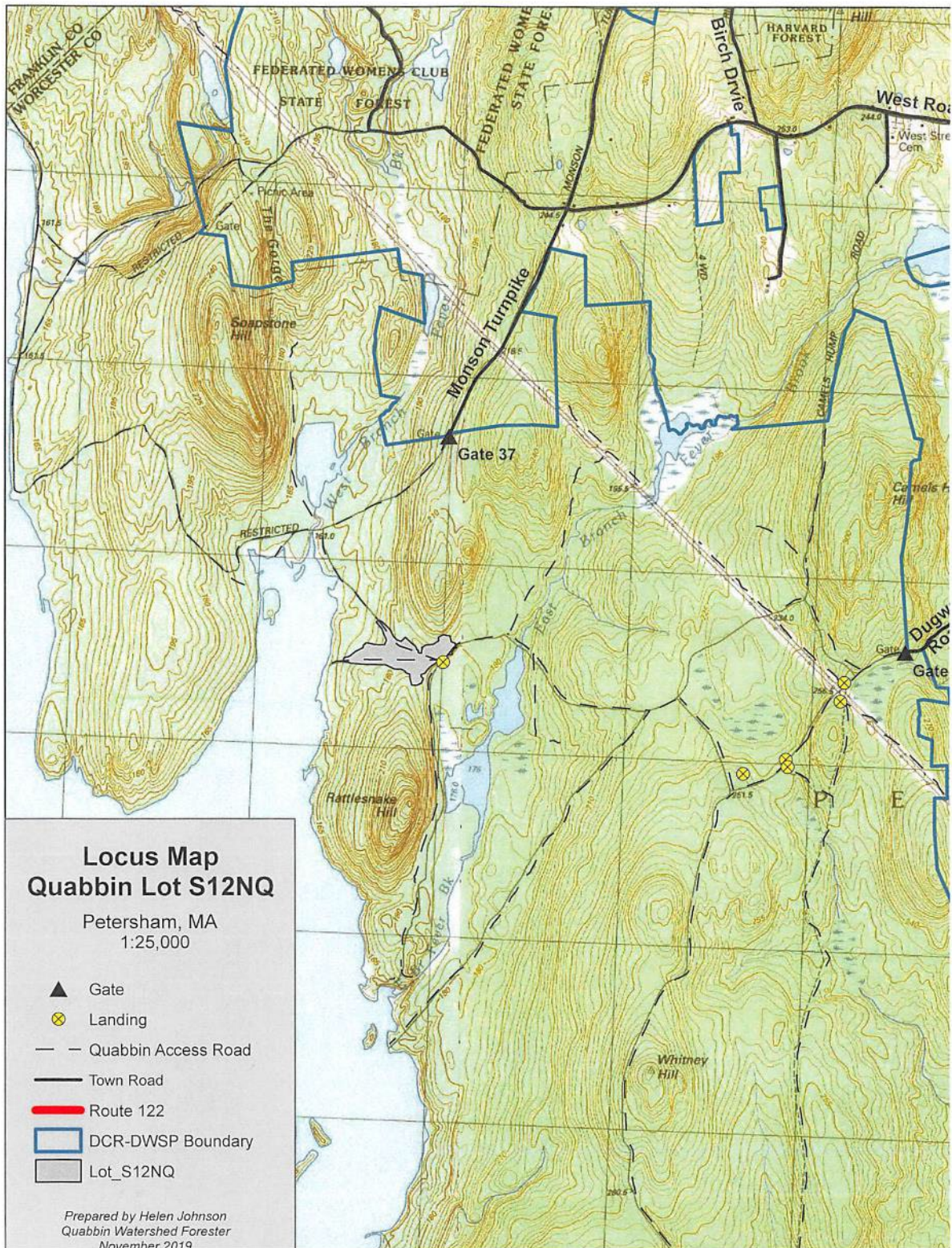
Regeneration & Future Condition

Use this Section to describe how Chapter 132 requirements will be met if a non standard system (HG, DL, or OT) was used for the "Type of Cut" in the Cutting Standards Section on page 4.

Stand No.	Source of Regeneration (ex. AD, SE)	How will Regeneration be obtained/protected?
		If using AD - Describe the species present and how the regeneration will be protected If using SE - Describe the source of the seed and the number of seed trees/acre

Stand No. **Desired Future Condition**
Describe what the stand is expected to look like five years from the harvest, including the condition of the overstory & understory







**DIVISION OF
FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581
p: (508) 389-6300 | f: (508) 389-7890
MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE

Andrew Rawcliffe
40 Cold Storage Drive
P.O. Box 484
Amherst, MA 01004

Cutting Plan No.	234-22574-20
NHESP Tracking No.	05-19004
Town	Petersham
Road	Gate 37 Road, Quabbin
Landowner	DCR-DWSP Quabbin
Preparer	Helen Johnson
Date	December 19, 2019

Dear Andrew,

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife ("the Division") has reviewed the above-referenced Forest Cutting Plan ("the Plan") pursuant to the special approval procedures of the Forest Cutting Practices Regulations (304 CMR 11.04(6)).

During a pre-file consultation discussion with Quabbin Watershed Forester Helen Johnson, the purpose of the timber harvest was identified as salvage of oak and red pine trees harmed by gypsy moth and red pine scale respectively. Trees harvested are to be standing dead and dying trees, marked prior to the start of harvest, that do not contribute to the canopy cover of the area. Harvesting any trees other than those marked for salvage will require additional consultation with the Division.

Based on details of the Plan, pre-file discussion, and information in our database, the Division does not expect activities proposed in the Plan to negatively impact Estimated Habitat or result in **Take** (as defined in 321 CMR 10.02) of plant or animal species protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) (M.G.L. c. 131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00). Therefore, the Division does not require that the Plan be modified at this time.

Please copy the Division on any proposed amendment, extension and on the approved Plan for the site. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Rebekah Zimmerer at (508) 389-6354 or Rebekah.zimmerer@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

Everose Schlüter, Ph.D.
Assistant Director

Cc: Petersham Conservation Commission

MASSWILDLIFE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of State Parks and Recreation

FILE # 234-22574-20

W

FOREST CUTTING PLAN CERTIFICATE

Post this in a conspicuous place within the area in which the harvesting operation is to take place.

This certifies that DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry 485 Ware Rd, in accordance with the
(Name of Owner) (Address) Belchertown, MA 01007

provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section 40-46, filed in Amherst F.O. with the Dept. of Conservation
and Recreation, Division of State Parks and Recreation, a Notice of Intent to cut forest products upon the

S12NQ lot, Petersham, MA
Quabbin

Approval Date 12/23/19

Director's Agent Andrew Rawcliffe

DCR Phone No. 617-549-1677

ISSUED BY:

Priscilla E. Geigis, Director
Division of State Parks and Recreation