

GENERAL FORESTRY COMMENTS AND RESPONSES – Winter Proposals 2018

Individual or Organization	Public Comment Summary	BOF Response
Robert and Anne Stevens	<p align="center"><u>October Mountain State Forest - Sykes Mountain Lot</u></p> <p>Appreciate the value of using forest management for disease control and wildlife habitat improvement. As a neighbor who owns forest property, supportive of this timber harvest as a means to healthy and valuable woods.</p>	The DCR Bureau of Forestry (DCR – BOF) appreciates the support and also believes strongly that responsible, sustainable forest management practices can provide multiple benefits to the property, the area surrounding it and to society as a whole.
Paul Lyons	<p align="center"><u>Shutesbury State Forest – Shutesbury State Forest North</u></p> <p>Found the harvest proposal well written and justifications sound and logical. Noted a discrepancy in acres on the website and in the proposal document that needs clarification. Also noted that access to the project area is not specific.</p>	The DCR-BOF appreciates the supportive comments about the proposal documents and the proposed activity. The acreage discrepancy has been corrected; the project area is approximately 253 acres. Access to the project area will be through the DCR – Division of Water Supply Protection property from the North.
R. Pabahtanume Cachat-Schilling, J. Namatassis Schilling Cachat, Miles Tardie, Mary Lou Ferro Conca, Michael Suter, Beth Adams, Chris Matera, Gian Di Donna, Laurel Facey, Henry Gedes	<p>Object to the proposed forest management project because:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The description of historical resources is incomplete inaccurate and misleading. 2. The description of the cut is incomplete, inaccurate and misleading particularly in regard to forest cover and critical habitat. 3. Discussion of species rarity status is incomplete, inaccurate and misleading. 4. Description of potential downstream impacts is incomplete, inaccurate and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to finalizing and posting the Forest Management Proposal the DCR – BOF followed established protocol by consulting with the DCR Archeologist about historical resources. As the project progresses the DCR-BOF will conduct a “stand exam” or site level forest inventory at which time historical and cultural resources not previously known will be documented with global positioning system (GPS) and subsequently will be reviewed and cataloged by the DCR Archeologist and protected per <i>Bureau of Forestry Cultural Resource Management Protection Standards and Guidelines</i>.

	<p data-bbox="548 197 683 226">misleading.</p> <p data-bbox="500 302 911 506">5. Intimates that the Shutesbury State Forest – North forest Management Proposal proposed activities will contribute to forest loss in the Town of Shutesbury.</p>	<p data-bbox="992 239 1442 1157">2. The DCR – BOF disagrees with this statement. The Forest Management Proposal is in fact a proposal and is complete in its intent which is to provide a summary description of the area and proposed activity. Again, the proposal will be followed by a field inventory and additional review. The forested cover is described using current forestry mapping standards and tempered for the scope of this document. The Shutesbury SF – North Forest Management proposal area was given a pre-filing review by the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and there was no Priority Habitat found in the project area. Additionally, the final Forest Cutting Plan will receive a second review for endangered species and habitat by the NHESP prior to it being allowed to proceed.</p> <p data-bbox="992 1205 1442 1661">3. As stated above, the Shutesbury SF – North Forest Management proposal area was given a pre-filing review by the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) and there was no Priority Habitat found in the project area. Additionally, the final Forest Cutting Plan will receive a second review for endangered species and habitat by the NHESP prior to it being allowed to proceed.</p> <p data-bbox="992 1709 1442 1881">4. Forestry in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is conducted under some of the most stringent regulations in the United States. One of the primary intentions of</p>
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<p>Clarissa Spawn</p>	<p>Object to the proposed forest management project because:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concerns over the spread of invasive species. 2. Concern about forestry activity near the New England Trail (NET). 3. Concerned about the protection of water resources 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DCR-BOF shares the concern of the spread of invasive plant species. The DCR carefully regulates and monitors harvesting operations through strict contract provisions and well trained foresters. Per contract provisions, logging equipment is cleaned and inspected by

	<p>in the project area.</p> <p>4. Suggests that the forest may have undocumented historic and sacred sites that could be benefited by further research.</p>	<p>foresters before entering state land. Post-harvest monitoring for forest regeneration and invasive species is carried out by DCR foresters.</p> <p>2. The DCR has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) who oversees the management of the NET. The MOA provides guidelines for forest management conducted by DCR within close proximity to the NET. DCR and AMC have been coordinating on the Shutesbury SF - North proposed project and will continue to coordinate as the project moves forward.</p> <p>3. Please see the response to #4 above.</p> <p>4. Please see the answer to #1 above.</p>
<p>Dr. Curtis Hoffman</p>	<p>Recommends that DCR conduct a survey of stone structures as indicated in the proposal document and avoid disturbing said structures.</p>	<p>As noted above, as the project progresses the DCR-BOF will conduct a “stand exam” or site level forest inventory at which time historical and cultural resources not previously known will be documented with global positioning system (GPS) and subsequently will be reviewed and cataloged by the DCR Archeologist and protected per <i>Bureau of Forestry Cultural Resource Management Protection Standards and Guidelines</i>.</p>
<p>Conway Historical Commission</p>	<p><u>Conway State Forest – Cricket Hill</u> <u>2018</u></p> <p>Concerned that logging may disturb currently unknown items of unknown historical and cultural significance that require protection.</p>	<p>As noted immediately above, as the project progresses the DCR-BOF will conduct a “stand exam” or site level forest inventory at which time historical and cultural resources not previously known will be documented with global positioning system (GPS) and subsequently will be reviewed and cataloged by the DCR Archeologist and protected per <i>Bureau of Forestry Cultural Resource Management Protection Standards and Guidelines</i>.</p>