# Ware River Harvest Proposal WR-20-8-2 *****CANCELLED*****

***Proposal Update, May 2024:***

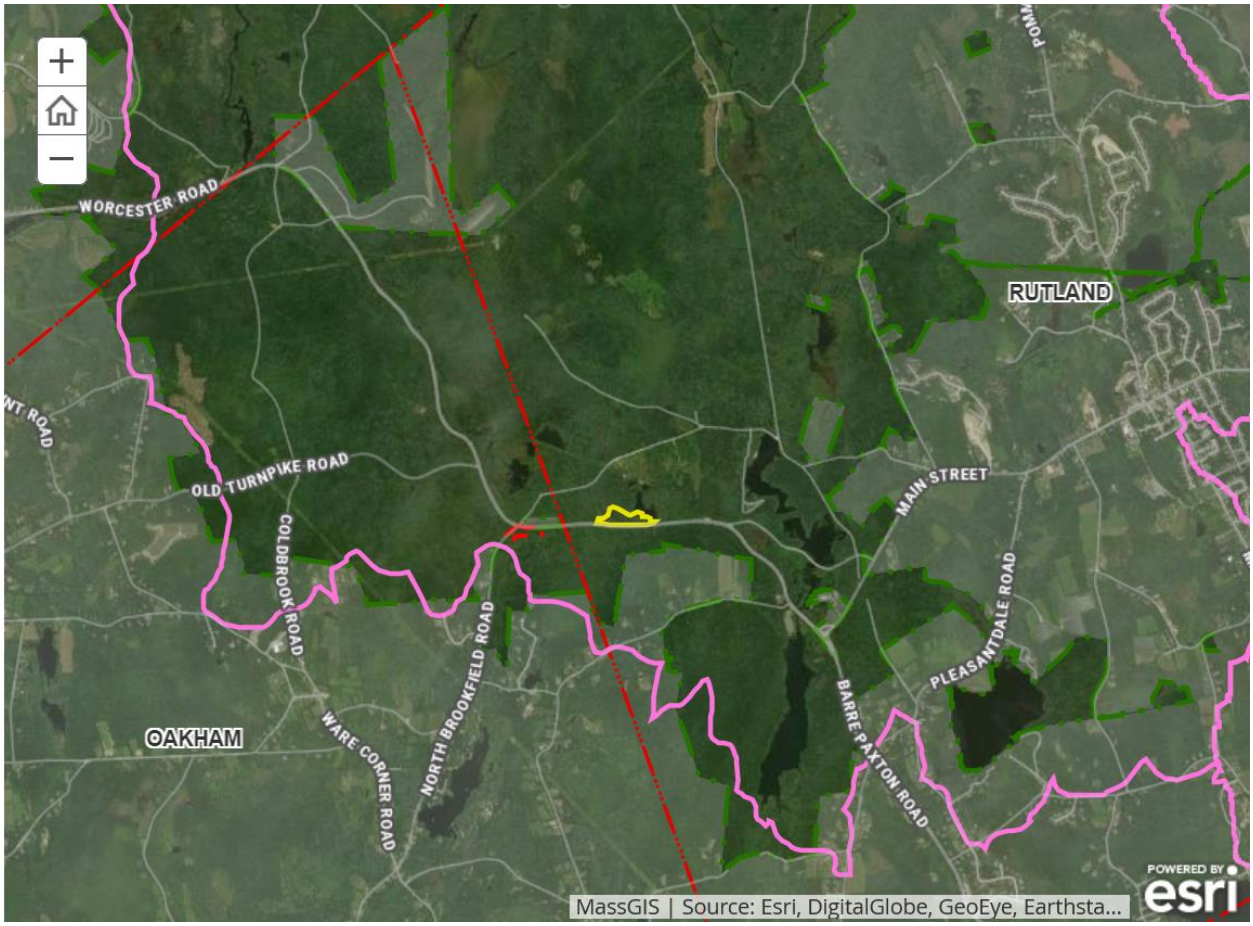
*This forestry proposal was originally approved through the public process in 2019. The project was 'paused' along with most other state lands forestry projects as part of the EEA Forests as Climate Solutions Initiative. Following the close of the work of the Climate Forestry Committee, DWSP determined that this project will not move forward for reasons unrelated to the FACS process (dead trees decayed beyond suitability for harvest). The proposal language and mapping below are preserved unchanged from that presented to the public in 2019 in ArcGIS Online story map format.*

## Proposal Goals

## Proposal Location

The southern boundary of the lot is Rt 122. The northern, western, and eastern boundaries are Parker Brook and associated wetlands.

## **Total Acres:** 11




# General Description

| | Overstory Type(s) | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| **Dominant** | Red Pine | 4 |
| **Secondary** | White pine/hardwood | 7 |

| | Understory Type(s) |
|---|---|
| **Dominant** | Tree seedlings/saplings dominate site |
| **Secondary** | Dry site - blueberry/huckleberry |

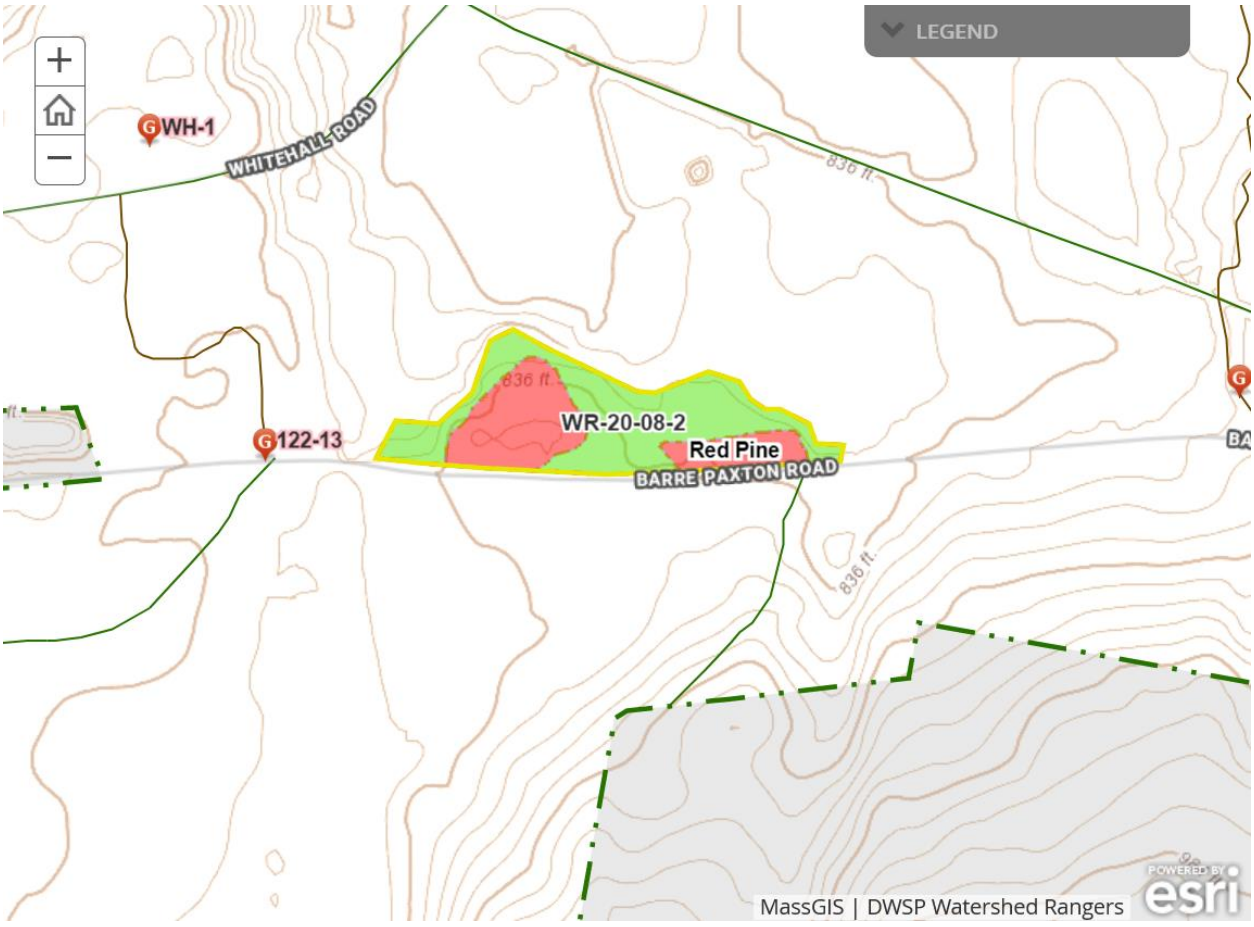
**Description of forest composition/condition:**

The red pine acreage is comprised of 2 stands that are 1.4 and 2.7 acres. The stands average 135 square feet per acre of basal area of good quality, sawlog size red pine. Mortality is present. The red pine stands were part of lot 175A, a shelterwood harvest completed in 1992. The 2.7 acre stand to the west has fewer stems per acre due to heavier past harvesting and heavier mortality, but larger average diameter stems. The regeneration is considerably more advanced as well.

The white pine stand has sawlog and pole sized, low to mid quality white pine and low quality hardwood. White pine, red oak, red maple, black cherry, hemlock, white oak, Scots pine, and pitch pine are present. Heavy beaver activity from the adjacent beaver pond/wetland is affecting the hardwood overstory trees and regeneration.

**Assessment of Terrestrial Invasive Species:**

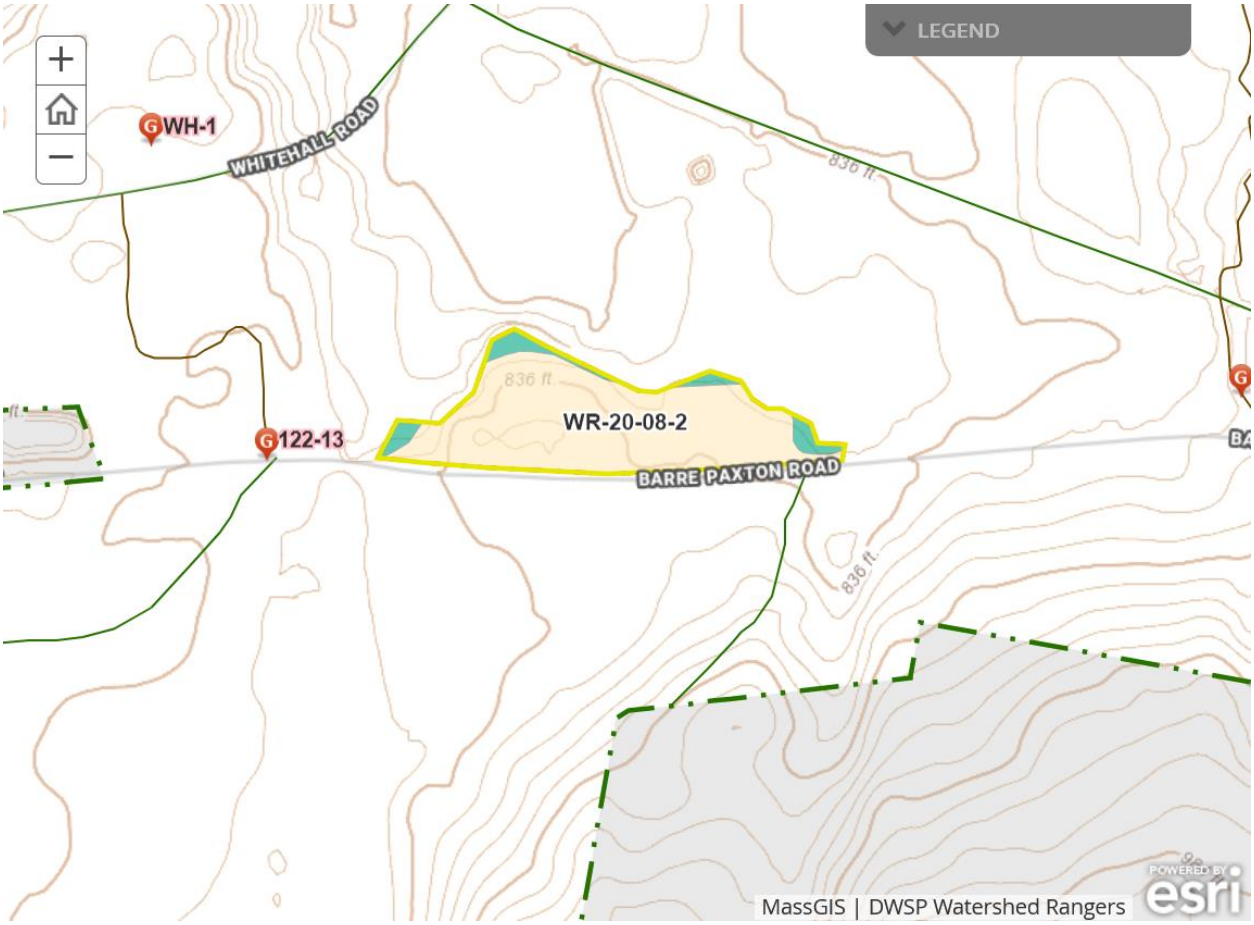
Gypsy moth eggs were present on red oak stems. No terrestrial invasive plant species noted.



# Soils

| Drainage Class | % |
|---|---|
| **Excessively Drained** | 100 |
| **Well Drained Thin** | 0 |
| **Well Drained Thick** | 0 |
| **Moderately Well Drained** | 0 |
| **Poorly to Very Poorly Drained** | 0 |

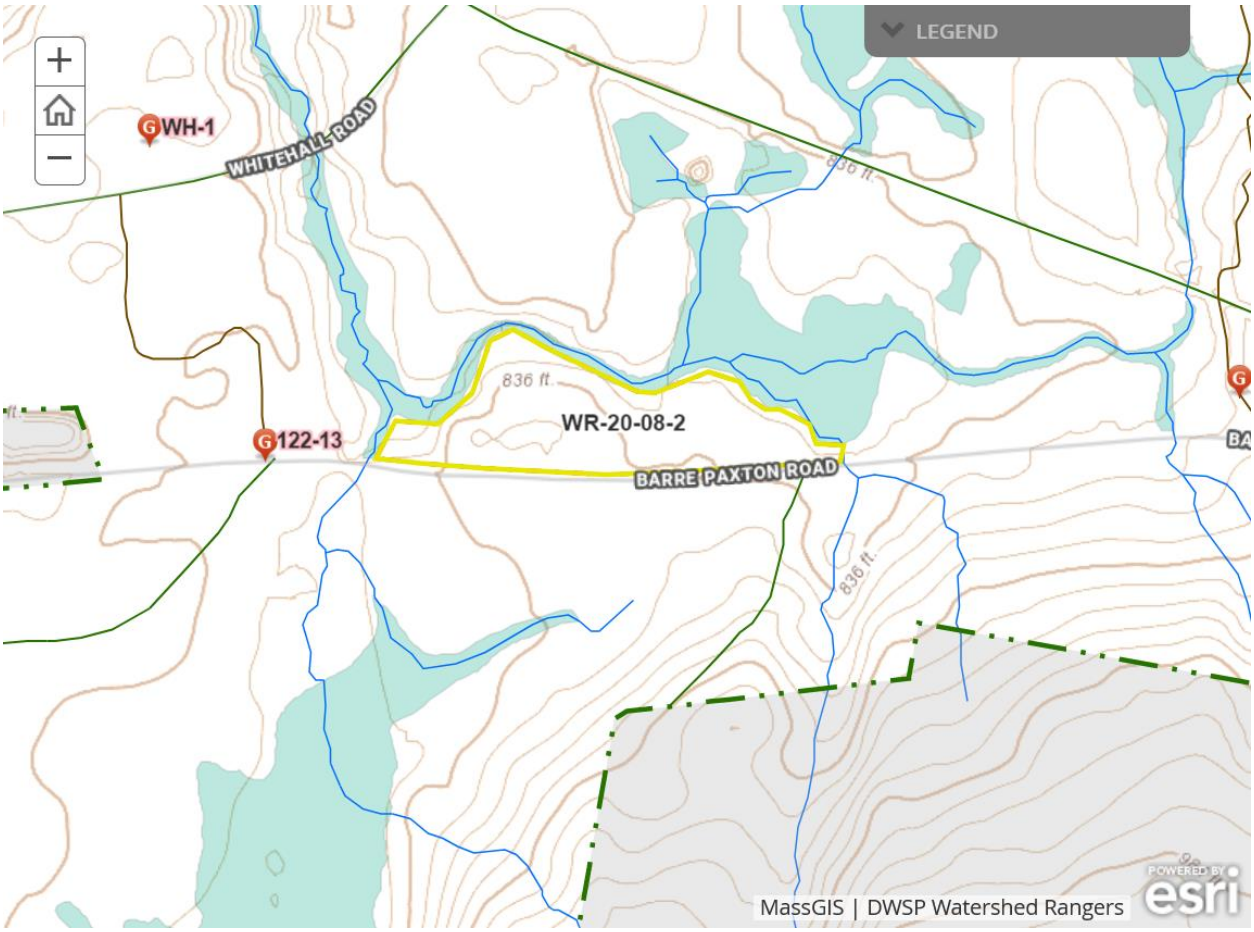
254B - Merrimac fine sandy loam, somewhat excessively drained.




# Wetlands

- Wetlands present? - **Yes**
- Streams present? - **Yes**
- Vernal pools present? - **None known**
- Seeps present? - **None known**
- Are stream crossings required? - **No**
- Are wetland crossings required? - **No**
- Is logging in filter strips planned? - **Yes** **(Riparian Zone Mgt)**
- Is logging in wetlands planned? - **No**

A variable filter strip will be applied to the stream/wetland to the north per DWSP policy.




## Silviculture

Acres in Intermediate cuts: **4**

Acres in prep/establishment cuts: **0**

Acres in Regeneration cuts: **4.1**

Average regen opening size: **2**

Maximum regen opening size: **2.7**

**Description of advance regeneration in proposal area:**

Good quality white pine, red maple, hemlock, red oak, and black birch seedling are present. Heavy beaver activity is reducing the amount of hardwood regeneration.

## General comments on silviculture proposed:

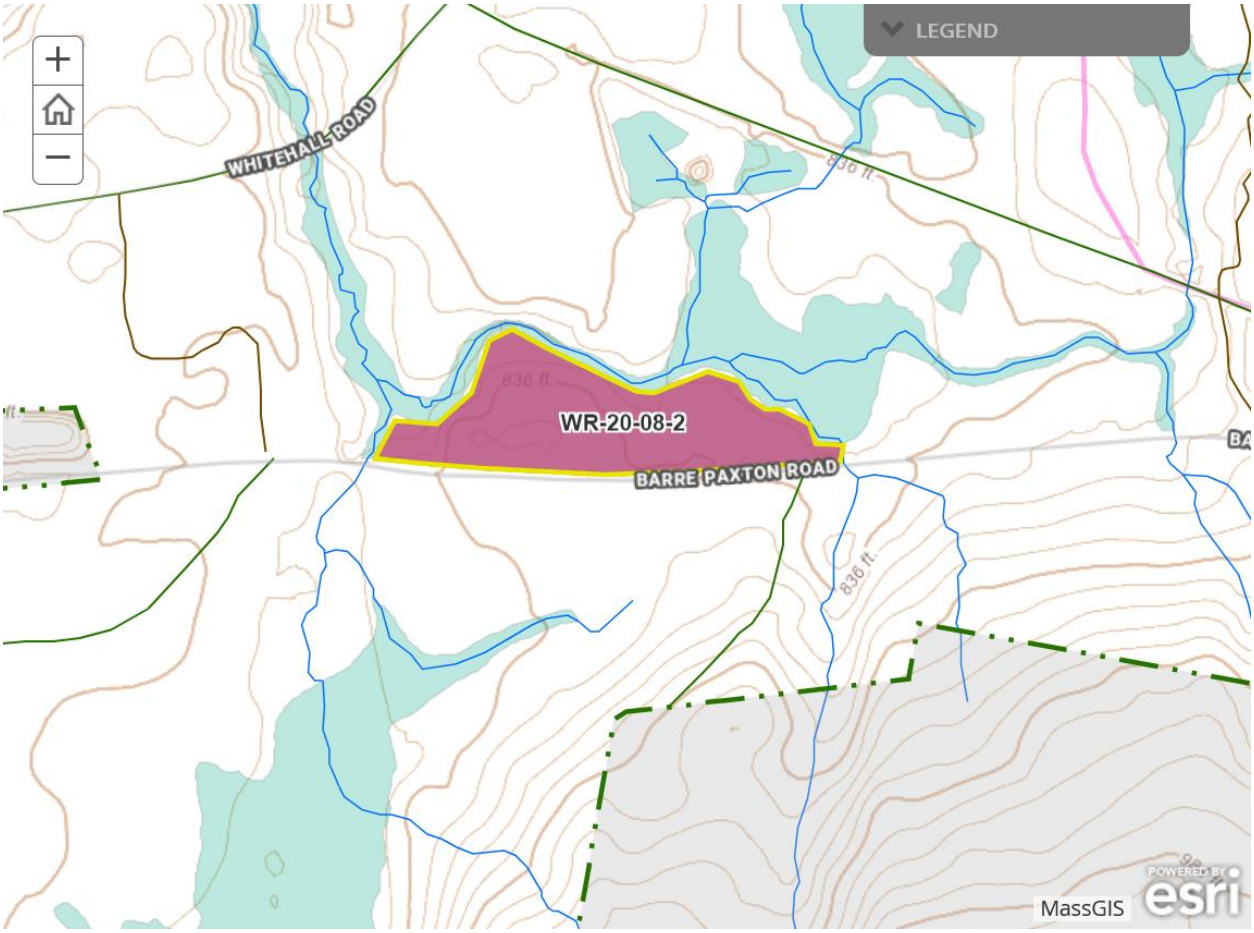
The red pine stands will be removed. The goal will be to remove all the remaining overstory red pine, which will require permission to exceed the visual buffer threshold along Route 122, particularly in the smaller red pine stand which is located directly adjacent to Route 122. Power lines and vehicle traffic also may lead to some roadside stems being left.

Within the white pine-hardwood stand, some thinning may be appropriate to release better formed and more vigorous white pine and hardwood stems. Much of this stand will be subject to filter strip restrictions.

# Subwatershed Analysis

| Sub-watershed number | Total DCR-owned Acres | Acres Regenerated on DCR Land in the last 10 years | Acres Remaining for Regenerating Up to the 25% / 10 Year | Acres part of this proposal |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8061 (Parker Brook) | 2654 | 36 | 628 | 11 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

8061-Parker Brook- 35.9 acres regenerated on 69.9 acres worked. Lot 4391A, currently sold but not yet harvested, will add 10.6 regenerated acres. Proposal WR-20-4-1 contains an additional 7.4 acres in the subwatershed. Approved proposals WR-16-3-1 (5 acres) and WR-17-7-1 (45.5 acres) are also within the subwatershed and have not been marked yet.




## Harvesting Limitations

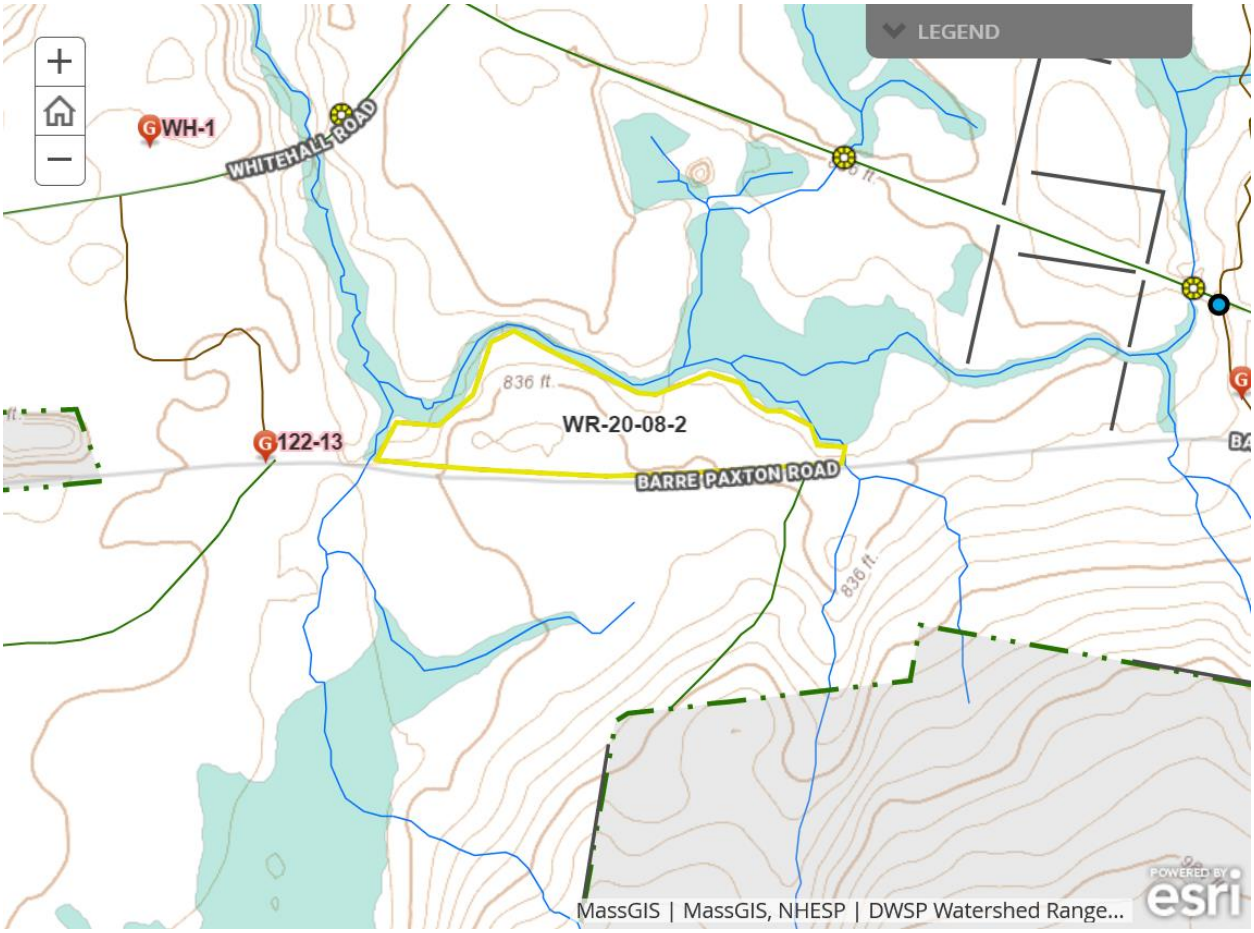
Forwarder required: **No**

Feller/processor required: **No**

Steep slopes present: **No**

**Comments on harvesting limitations:**

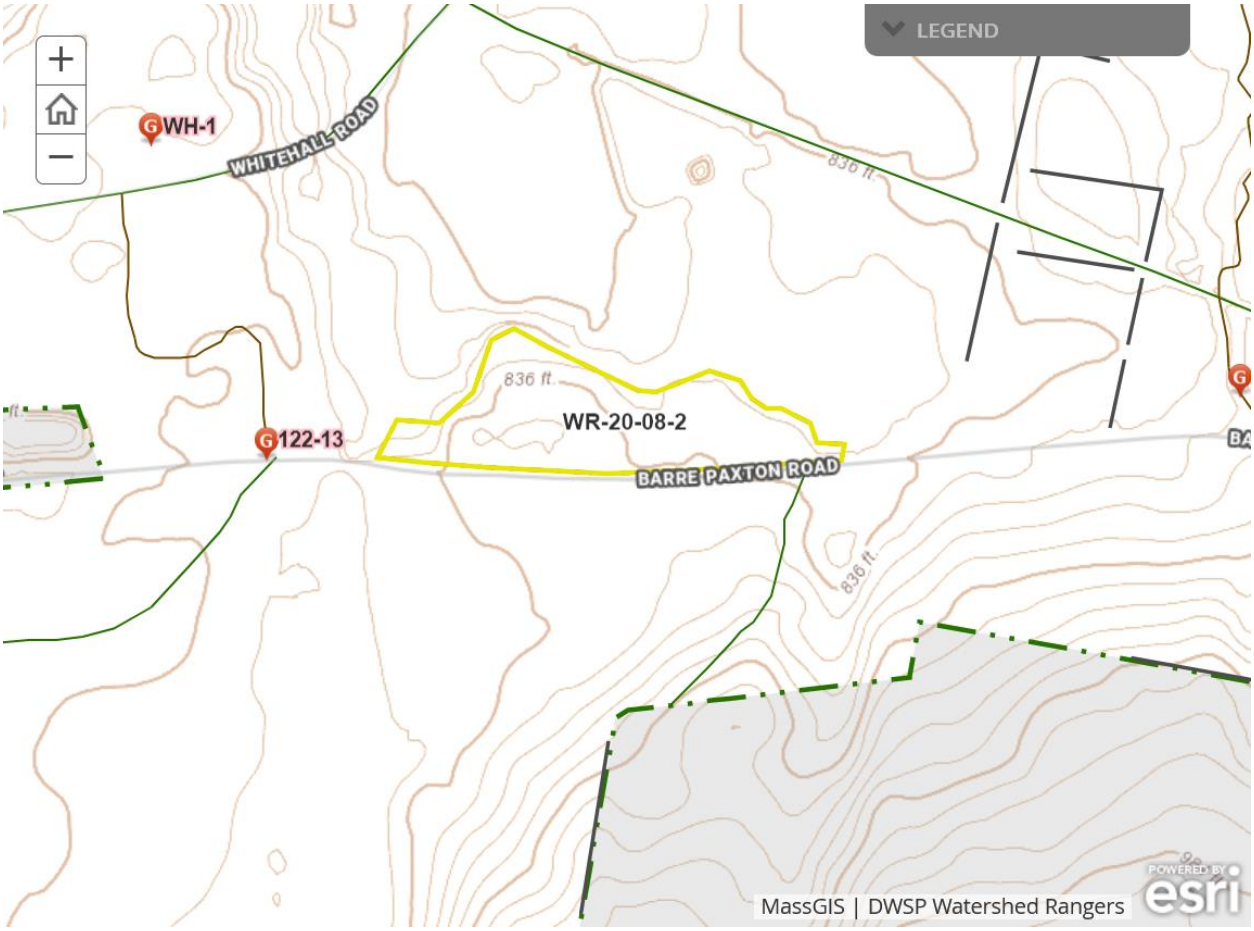
No limitations.




# Cultural Resources

**Comments on Cultural Resources:**

No known cultural resources on the site. If applicable DWSP will follow any additional recommendations from DCR's Archeologist regarding protection of sensitive sites.



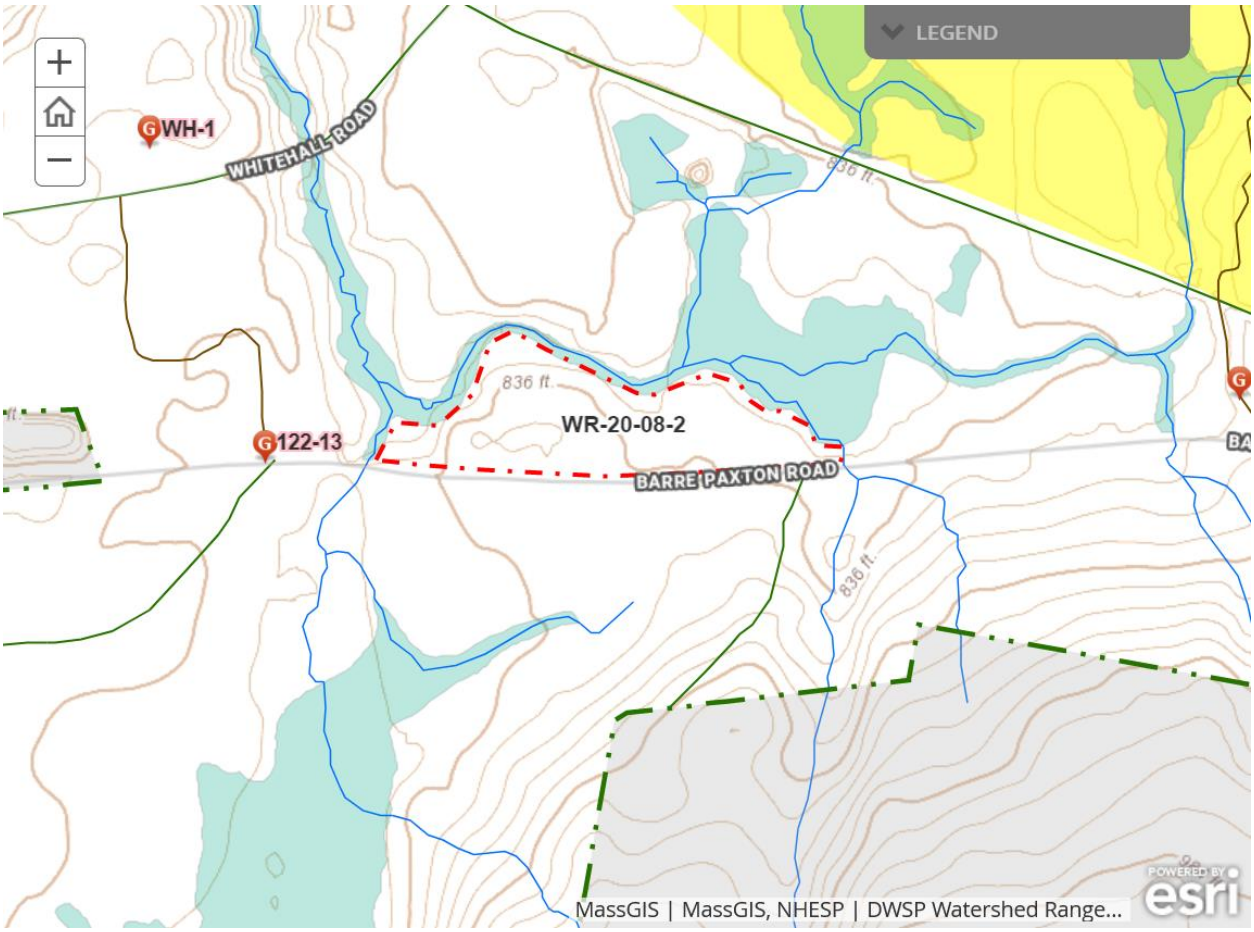

## Wildlife Resources & Rare and Endangered Species

**General Wildlife Comments:**

Heavy beaver activity in past years, though no fresh sign within lot. No vernal pools.

**Comments on Rare Species/Habitats:**

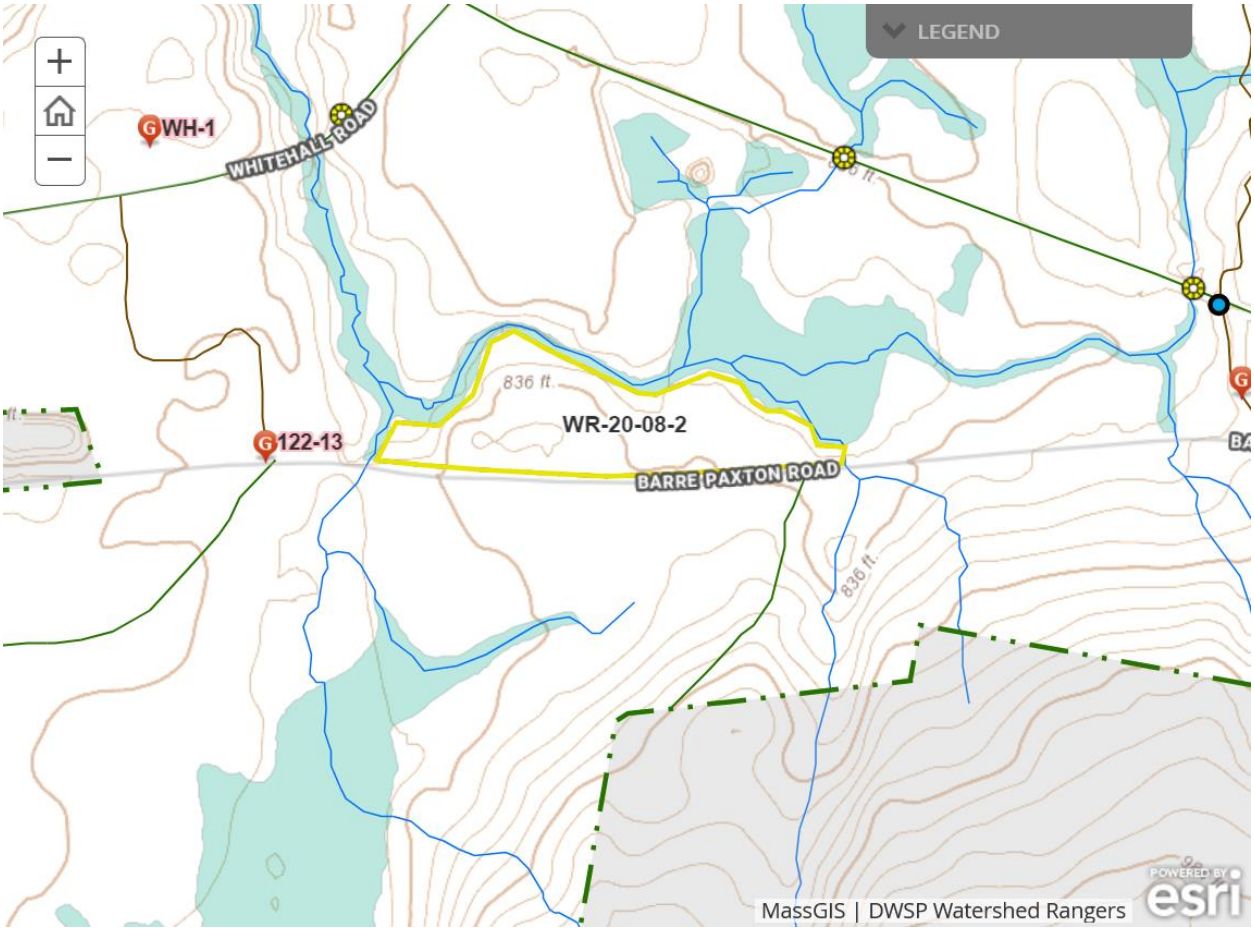
No rare species or priority habitats on site.




# Environmental Quality Engineering

**Comments on EQ Issues:**

No issues or comments. No crossings.




## Forest Access Engineering

**Gravel needed:** No

**Landing work needed:** No

**Culverts needed:** No

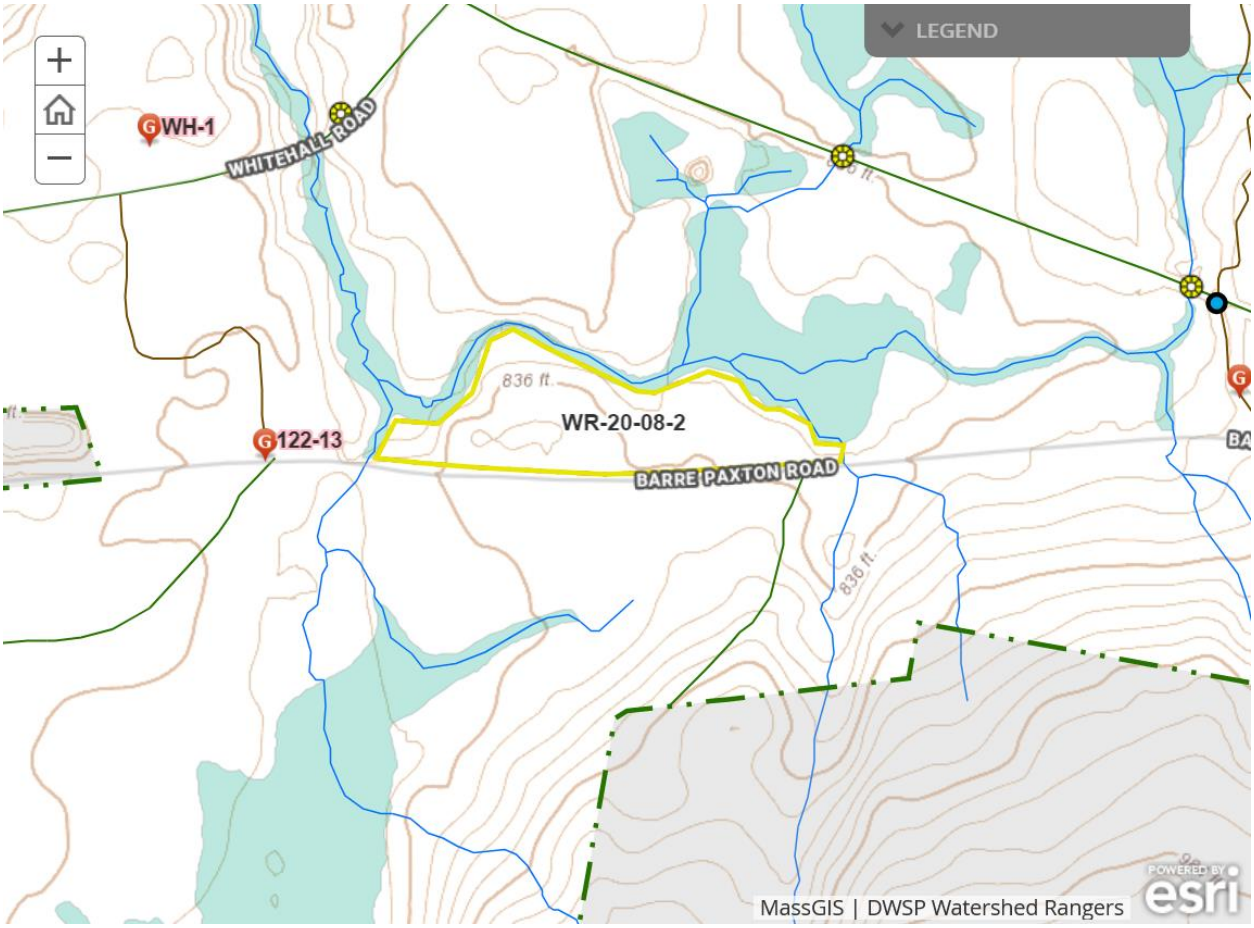
**Work needed on permanent bridges:** No

**Beaver issue:** No

**Further comment on access needs:**

The landing was last used for lot #175 in 1992. The access to the landing is shown as an old road on the taking sheets that crossed the stream/wetland to the north. There is a rotted log still in

place that was used to block the access after the last harvest. MassDOT has recently redone this stretch of 122 and paved the entrance apron to this access road/landing.



# DWSP FY 2020 Forestry Proposals – Master Legend for story maps