Ware River Harvest Proposal WR-21-41-4

Proposal Update, May 2024:

This forestry proposal was originally approved through the public process in 2020. 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 the activities in this proposal align with EEA climate considerations developed from the recommendations in the CFC report. The proposal language and mapping below are preserved unchanged from that presented to the public in 2020 in ArcGIS Online Story Map format.

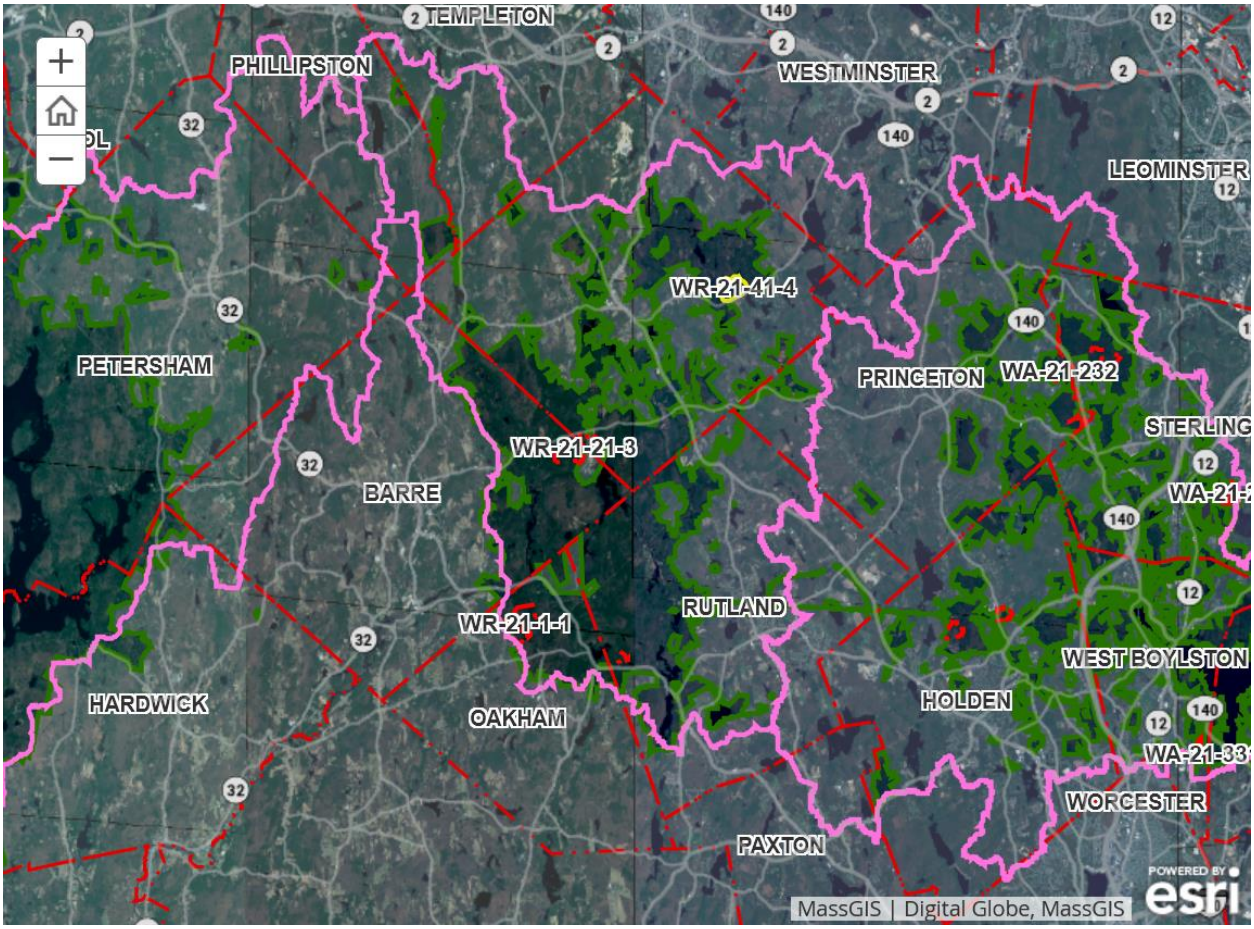
Proposal Goals

The goal for this proposal is to make the forest more diverse and resilient. It will reduce the amount of mature, old field white pine and replace it with patches of young forest of diverse species.

Proposal Location

This lot is located in Hubbardston, northwest of New Westminster Road. It is bound by New Westminster Road to the southeast, and by streams and wetlands in all other directions.

Total Acres: 140



General Description

	Overstory Type(s)	Acres
Dominant	Oak/hardwood	50
Secondary	White pine/hardwood	44
Other	White pine/hemlock	36

Secondary

	Understory Type(s)

Dominant	Tree seedlings/saplings dominate site

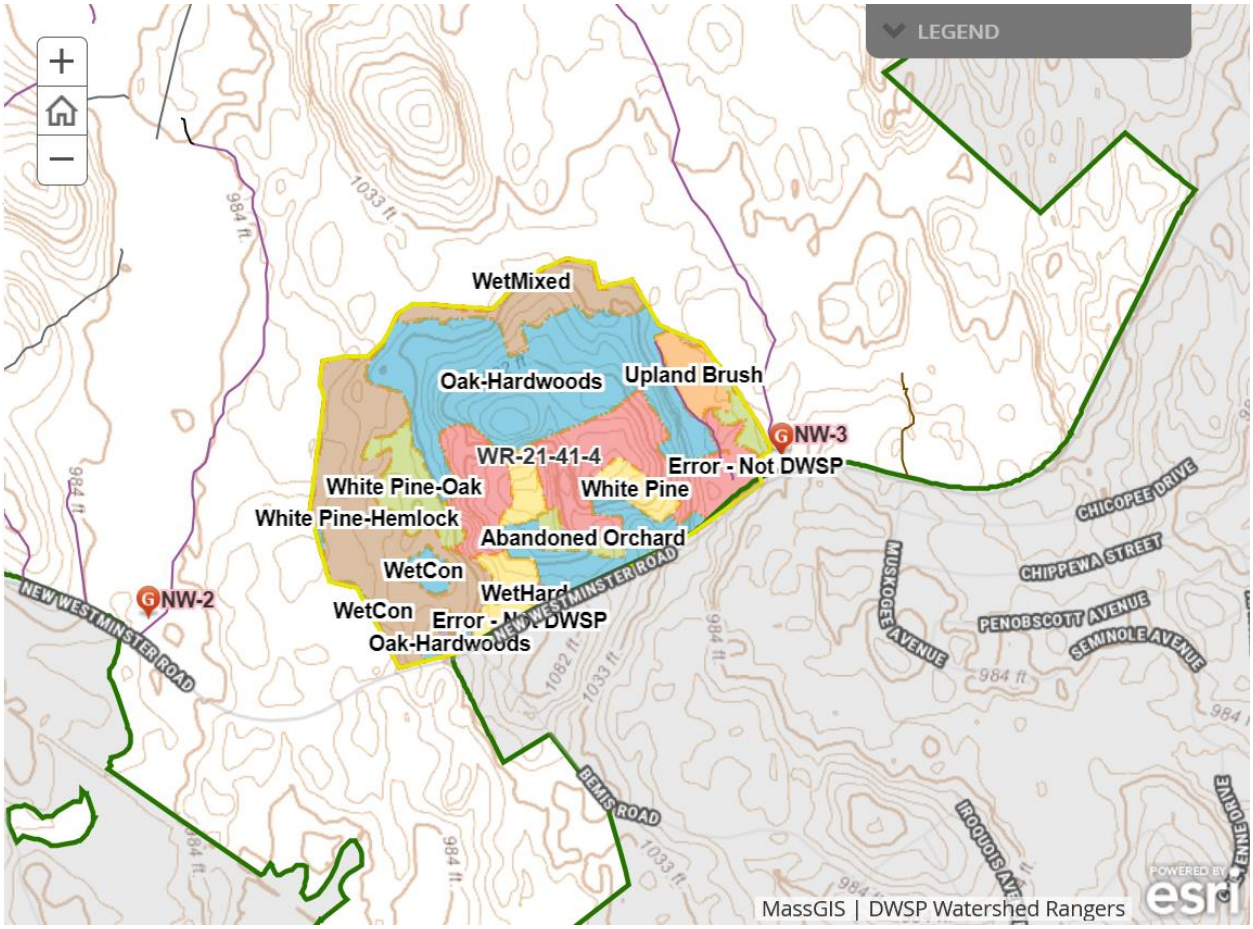
Description of forest composition/condition:

Oak/hardwood stand - This stand is dominated by red, black, and white oak. Red oak quality is good in some areas. There is approximately 110 square feet of basal area per acre of sawlog size trees. Red maple, black cherry, black birch, white pine, paper birch, white ash, hemlock, and American beech are also found in the overstory. Regeneration is present, though it can be spotty. Some areas have a heavy component of Eastern hophornbeam and beech in the midstory, and mountain laurel patches are present. Regeneration consists of red maple, black birch, American beech, hemlock, yellow birch, red oak, white pine, and white oak.

White pine/hardwood and white pine/hemlock stands - These stands are dominated by low to medium quality white pine. Low quality hemlock, red maple, black cherry, red oak, paper birch and white ash are also found in the overstory. There is approximately 150 square feet of basal area per acre of sawlog size trees. Regeneration is spotty, particularly under the very low quality white pine stands right behind the landing and on top of the hill. Regeneration species include red maple, American beech, white pine, black cherry, hemlock, white ash, and red oak.

Assessment of Terrestrial Invasive Species:

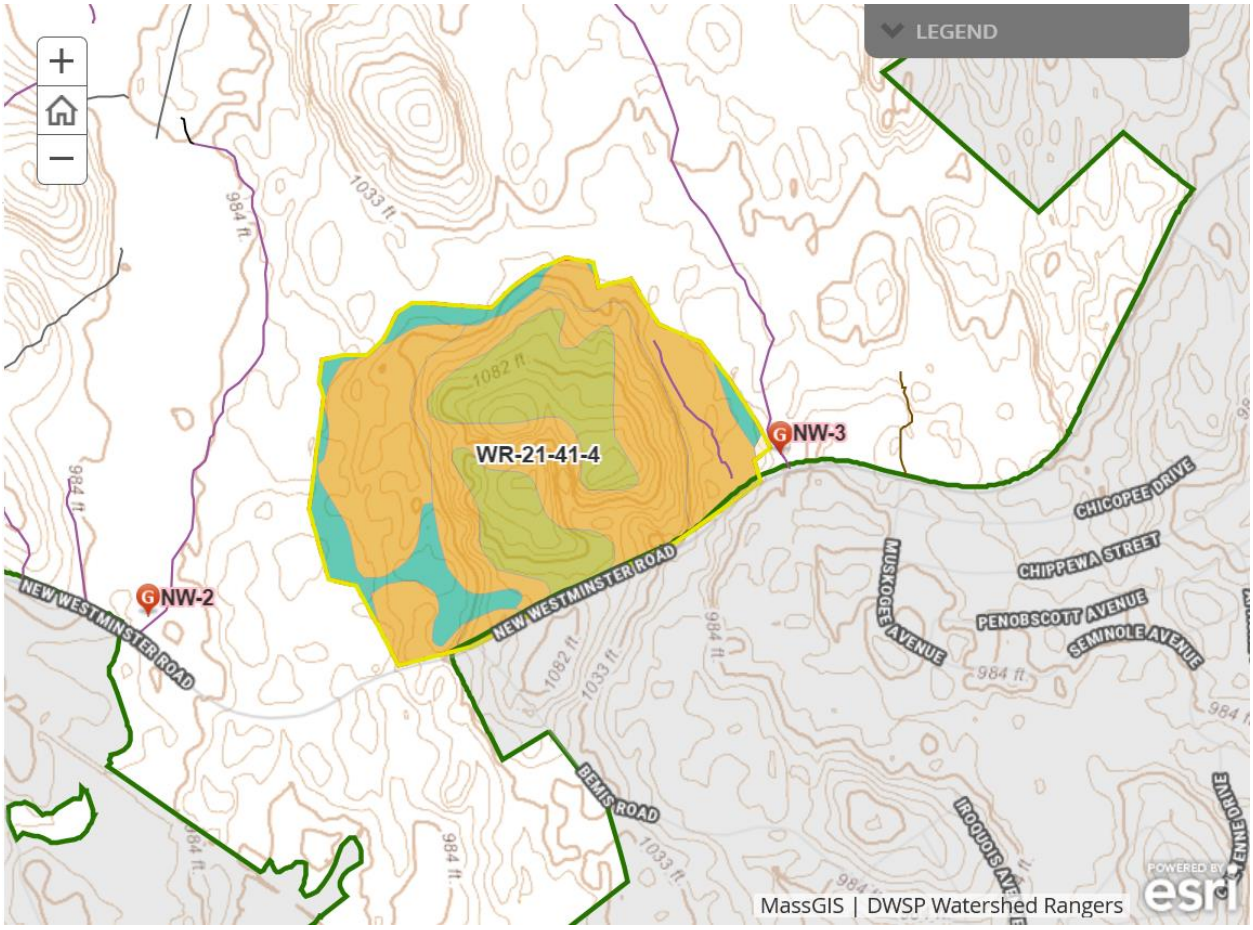
Buckthorn, barberry, Norway maple, and burning bush were all observed on the lot. Invasives are particularly abundant close to New Westminster Road.



Soils

Drainage Class	%
Excessively Drained	0
Well Drained Thin	0
Well Drained Thick	64
Moderately Well Drained	24
Poorly to Very Poorly Drained	12

901E - Berkshire-Marlow association - Well drained thick - 42 acres
905C - Peru-Marlow association - Moderately well drained - 33 acres
908C - Becket-Skerry association - Well drained thick - 29 acres
281B - Allagash fine sandy loam - Well drained thick - 17 acres
917B - Pillsbury-Peacham associaiton - Poorly to very poorly drained - 8 acres - associated with wetlands along the edges of the proposal and in the southwest corner of the proposal. These soils will be avoided.

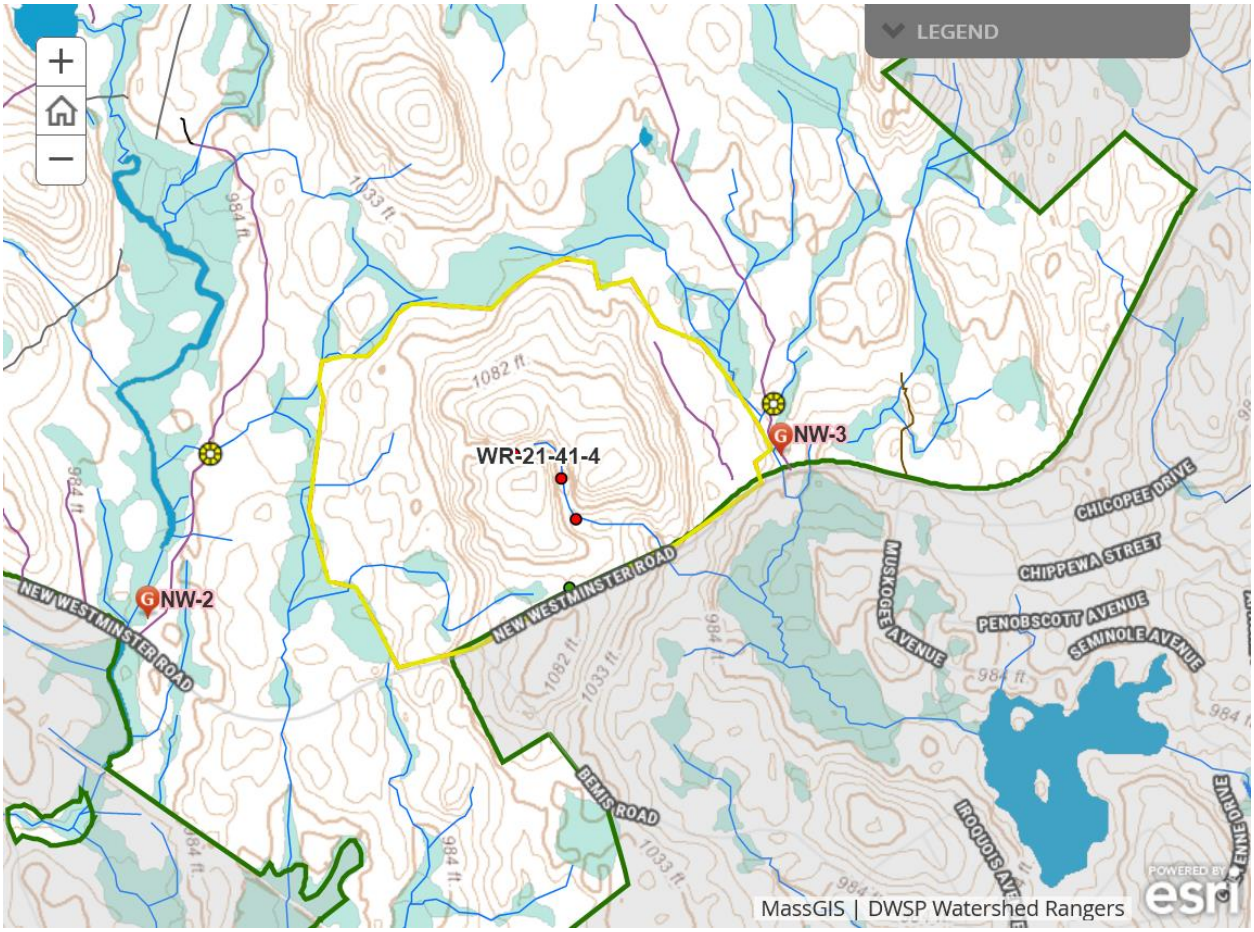


Wetlands

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

Wetlands present along the north, west, and east edge of the proposal, and in the southwest corner of the proposal.

There are 3 verified VP's (56, 57, and 679, all connected in high water) within the drainage channel through the middle of this lot. Two certified vernal pools also exist but were not visited; one of them is further down this channel near the road and unlikely to be impacted, the other is close to PVP 58 which was determined to be not a pool.



Silviculture

Acres in Intermediate cuts: **5**

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

Acres in Regeneration cuts: 21

Average regen opening size: **2**

Maximum regen opening size: **5**

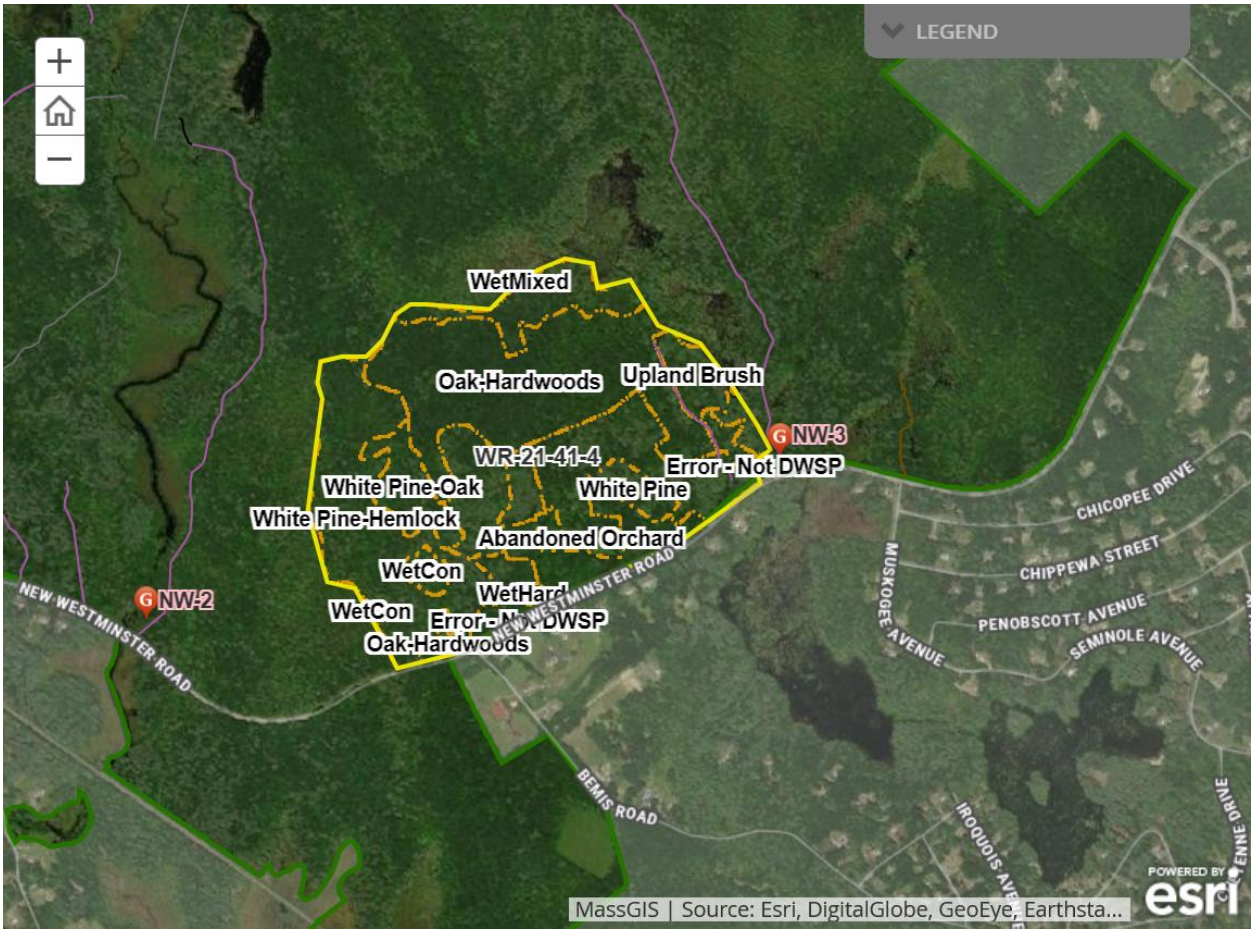
Description of advance regeneration in proposal area:

Regeneration consists of red maple, black birch, American beech, hemlock, yellow birch, red oak, white pine, and white oak. Moose and deer browse is moderate.

General comments on silviculture proposed:

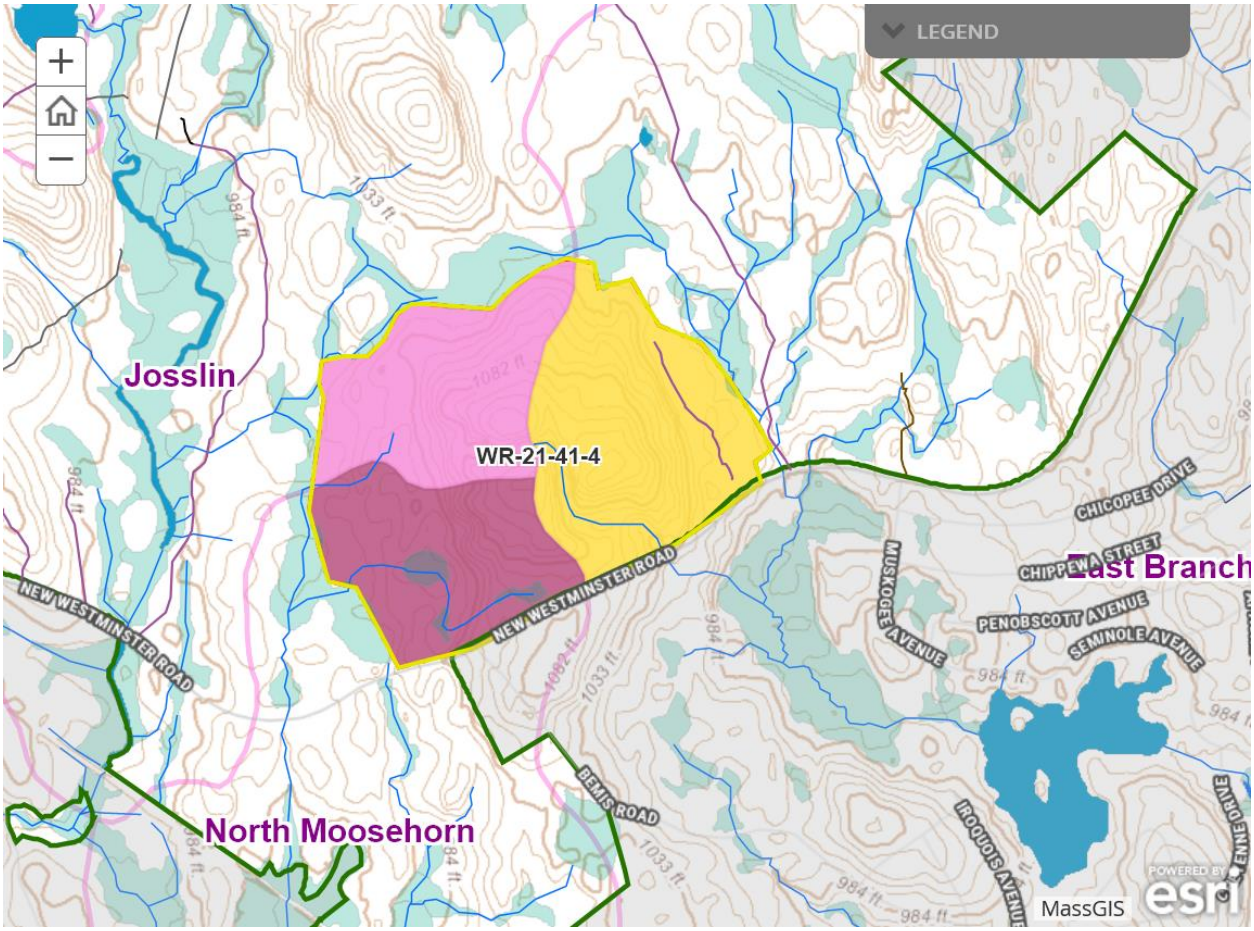
White pine stands - Regeneration openings will be established, targeting the lowest quality patches of white pine. There are several patches close to the landing, near New Westminster Road. Openings of different sizes and shapes will be established, generally ranging in size from 1 to 5 acres. At least one group, possibly two groups, of 2 to 5 acres will be established. The average opening size will be approximately 2 acres. Approximately 20% of the stand area will be in openings. In all groups snags will be retained wherever possible and 5 to 10 square feet of basal area per acre of live trees will also be left. Live retention trees will either have unique wildlife characteristics, such as large cavities, or will be well formed and vigorous white pine or hardwood.

Oak/hardwood stand - Establish up to five groups 1/2 to 2 acres in size with total acreage at 5 acres. Groups will be targeted to the areas with the poorest quality stems. Some improvement cutting will be done along skid trails that access groups.



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
8006 (East Branch Ware River)	7086	0	1764	56
8027 (Josslin Brook)	1162	0	291	42
8030 (North Moosehorn Brook)	291	0	73	42



Harvesting Limitations

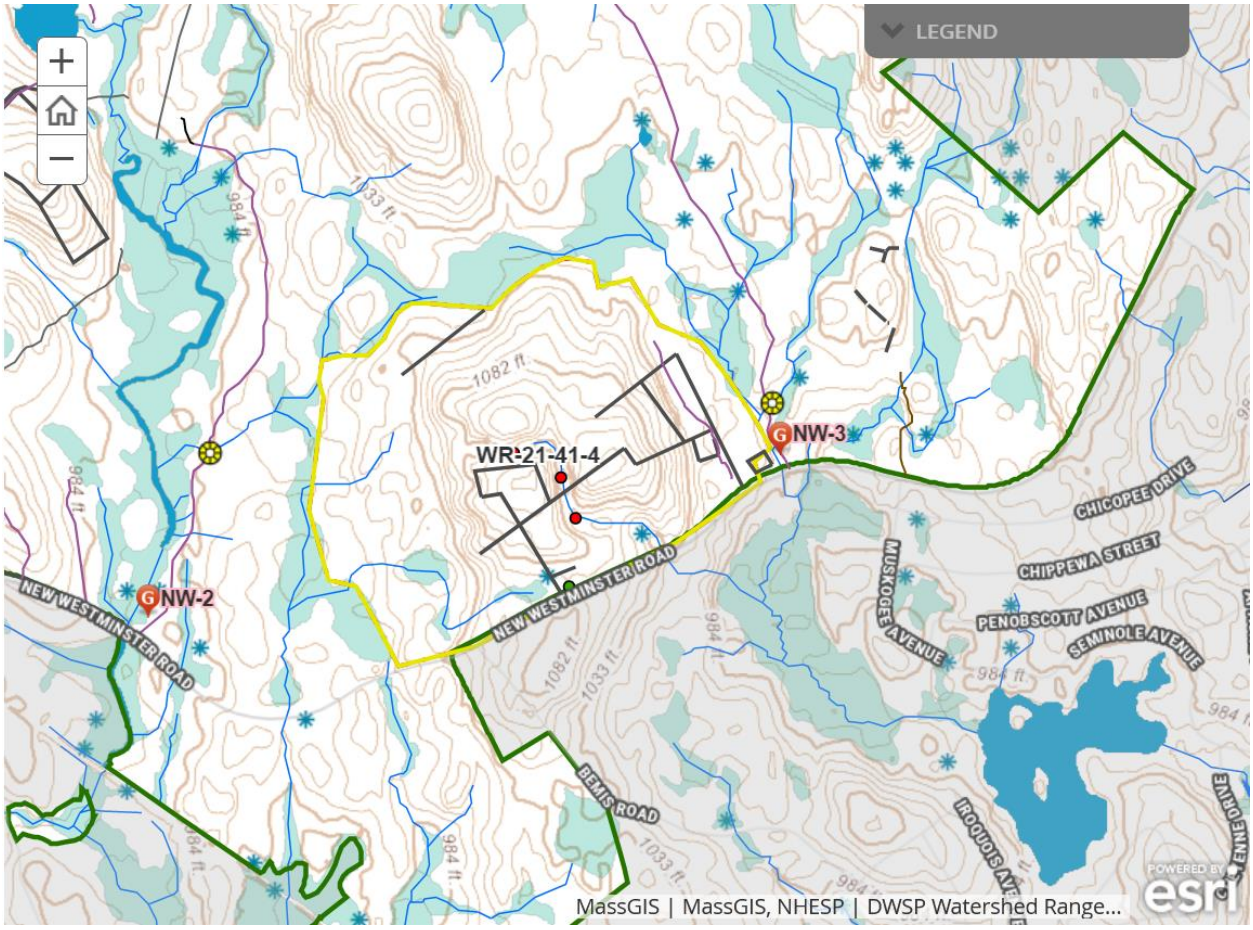
Forwarder required: **No**

Feller/processor required: **No**

Steep slopes present: **No**

Comments on harvesting limitations:

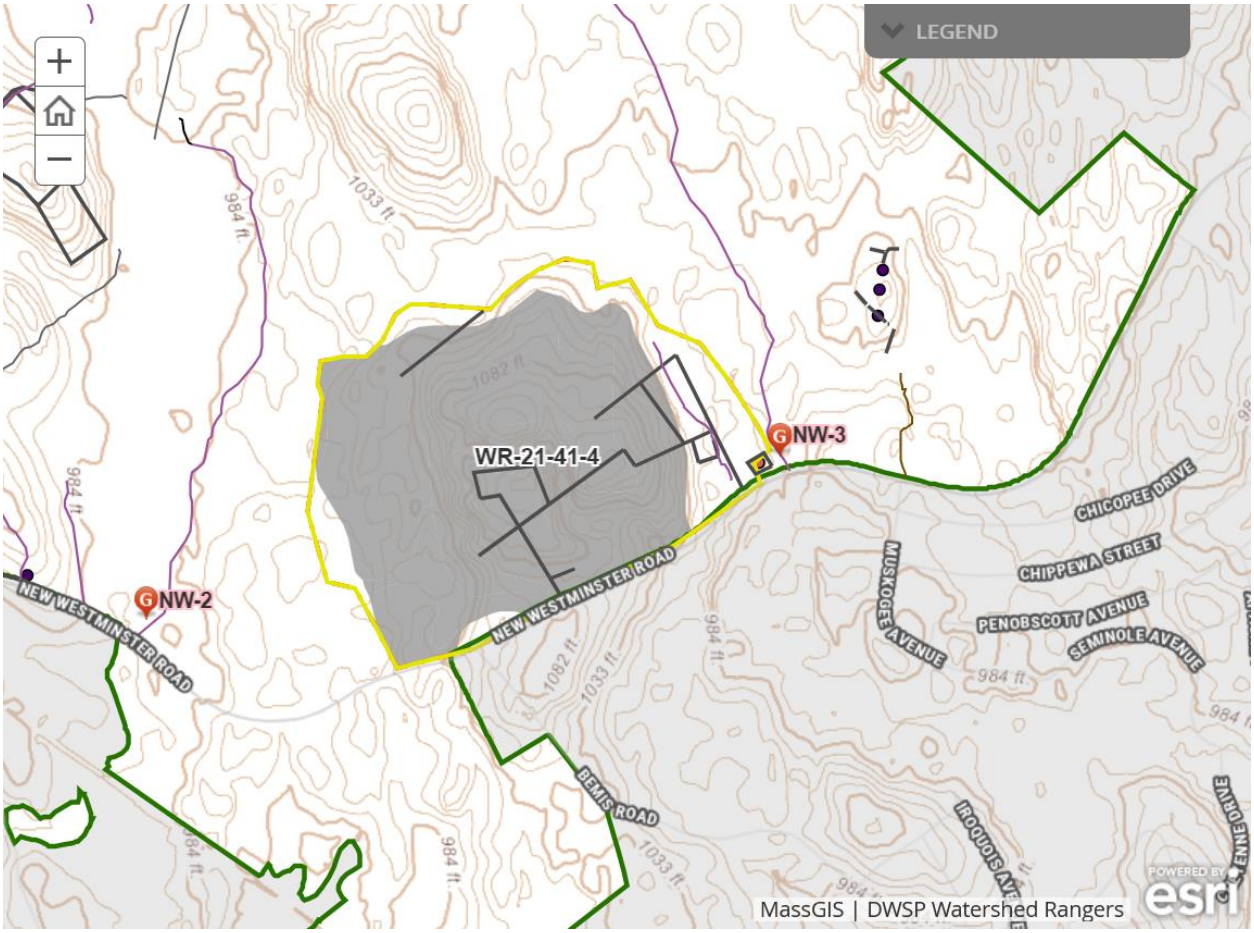
No restrictions on harvesting equipment are proposed for this lot.



Cultural Resources

Comments on Cultural Resources:

Stone walls will be protected as much as possible.



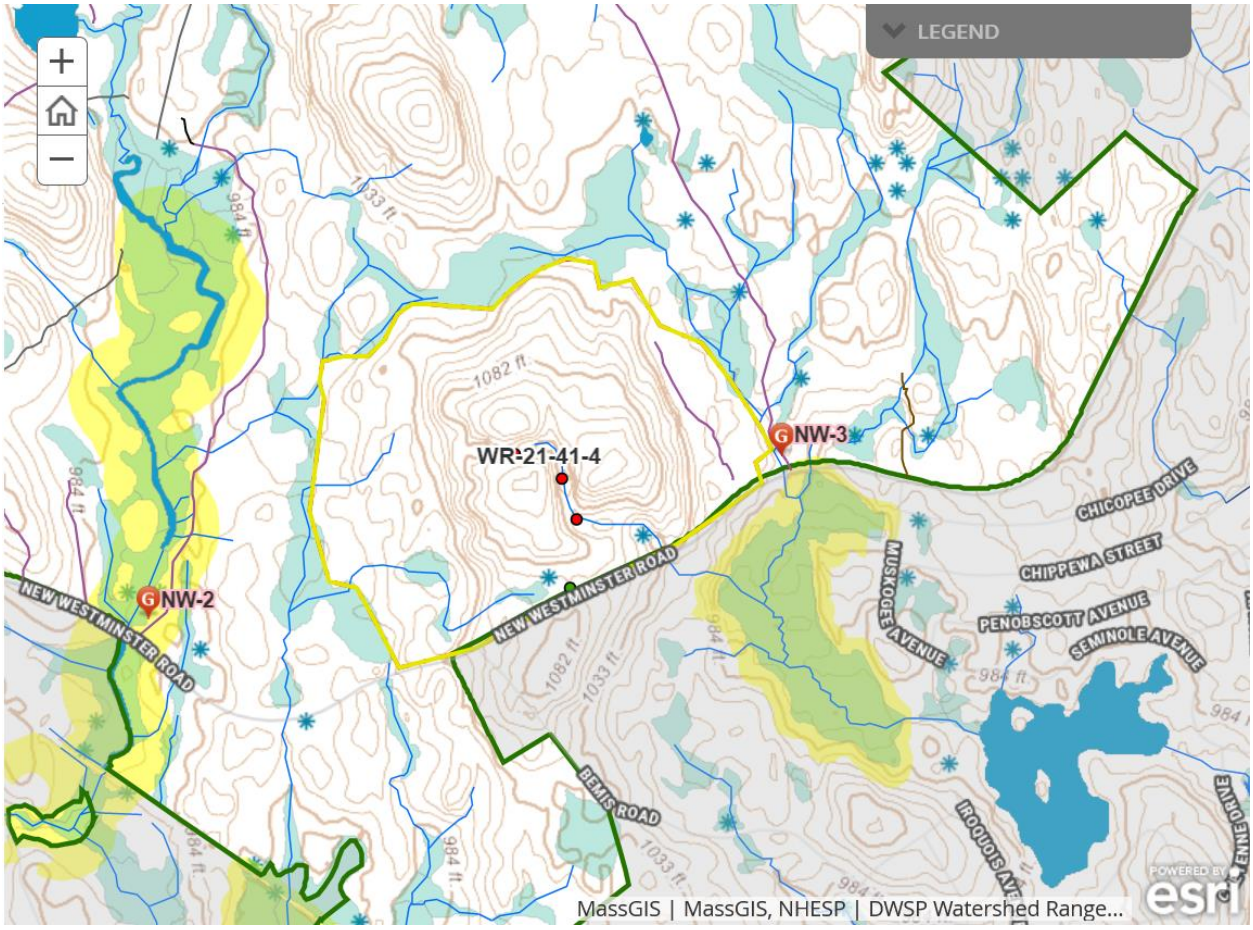
Wildlife Resources & Rare and Endangered Species

General Wildlife Comments:

No specific comments.

Comments on Rare Species/Habitats:

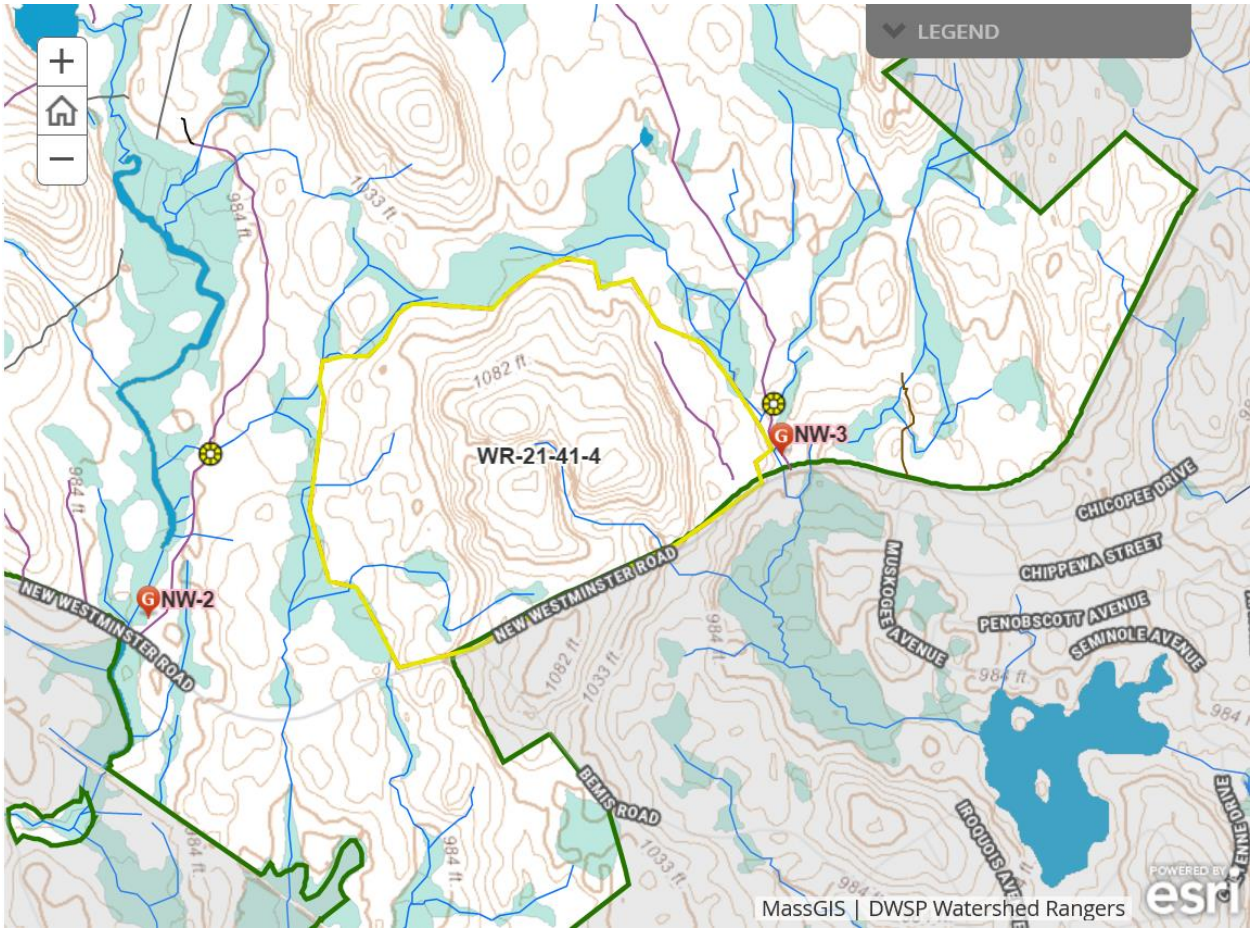
None known within the lot proposal area.



Environmental Quality Engineering

Comments on EQ Issues:

No stream crossings or EQ comments.



Forest Access Engineering

Gravel needed: No

Landing work needed: Yes

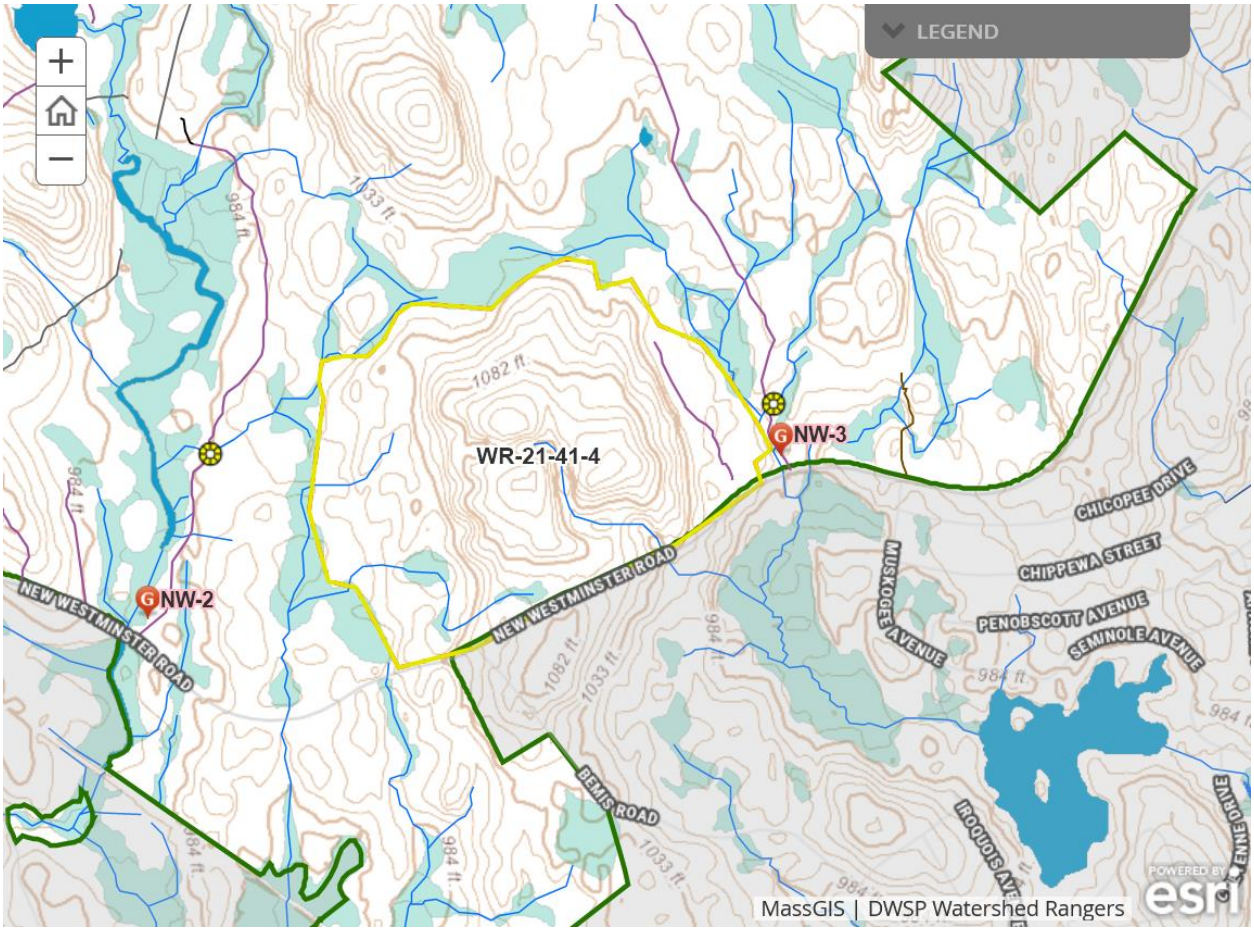
Culverts needed: No

Work needed on permanent bridges: No

Beaver issue: No

Further comment on access needs:

The entrance to the landing area off of New Westminster Road may need to be widened to allow access. The neighbor across the street recently installed their mailbox right on the edge of the opening. The mailbox will need to be relocated.


LEGEND
WR-21-41-4
NW-2
NW-3
NEW WESTMINSTER ROAD
BEMIS ROAD
CHICOPEE DRIVE
CHIPPEWA STREET
PENOBSCOTT AVENUE
SEMINOLE AVENUE
MUSKOGEE AVENUE
IROQUOIS AVE
1082 ft
1033 ft
984 ft
MassGIS | DWSP Watershed Rangers
esri

DWSP FY 2021 Forestry Proposals – Master Legend for story maps