

# Ware River Harvest Proposal WR-23-26-3

## *Proposal Update, May 2024:*

*This forestry proposal was originally approved through the public process in 2022. 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 2022 in ArcGIS Online Story Map format.*

## Proposal Goals

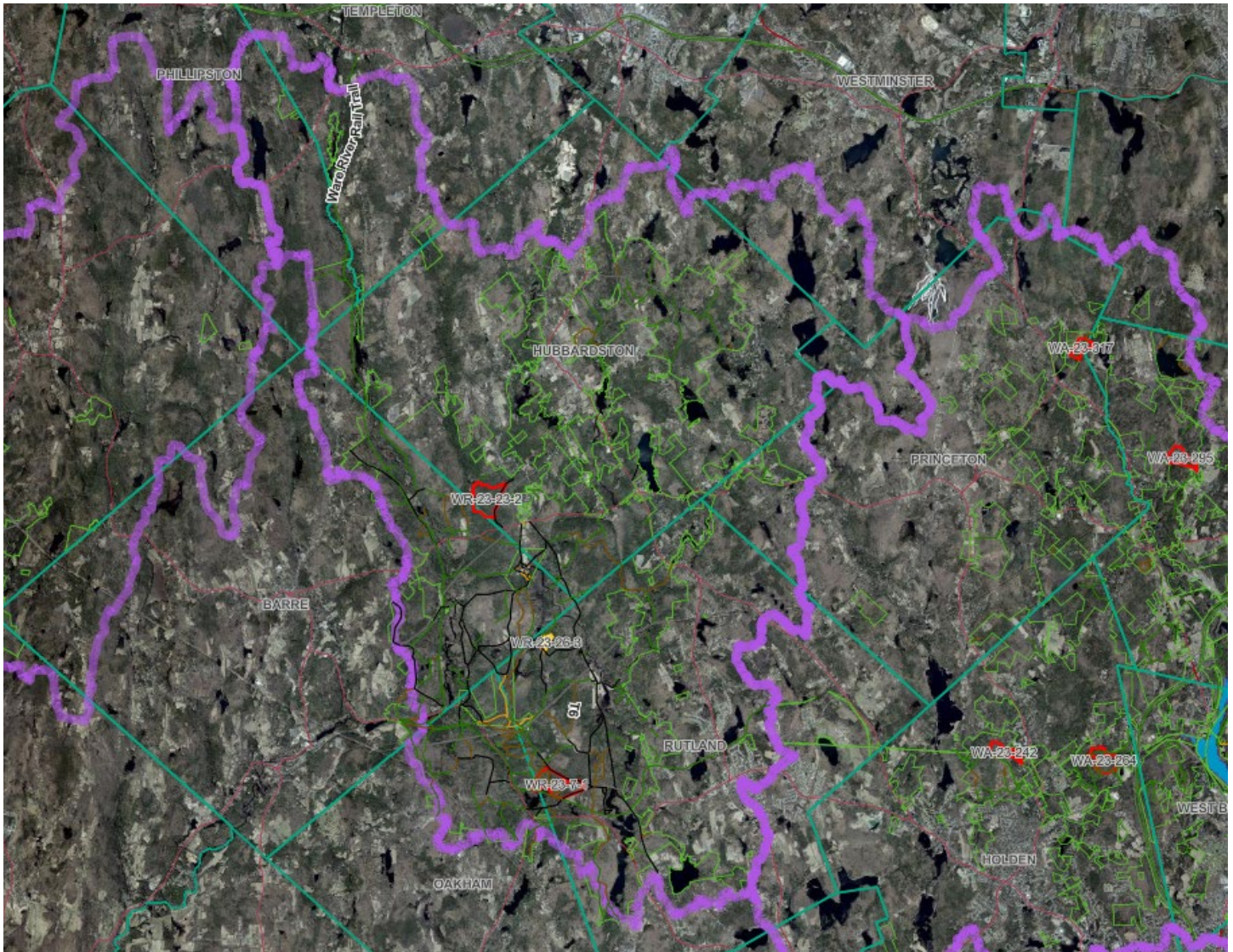
The goal of this proposal is to release the young trees that were established after the previous harvest.

## Proposal Location

(Yellow highlighted polygon in the map) This lot is in the town of Rutland on Reuben Walker Road. It is bordered to the southwest by Reuben Walker Road and on all other sides by wetlands.

**Total Acres: 15**

Figure 1. Watershed Locus, WR-23-26-3.



## General Description

Overstory Type(s)	Acres
White pine - oak	15
	Understory Type(s)
Dominant	Tree seedlings/saplings dominate site
Secondary	

### Description of forest composition/condition:

The 1938 aerial photos show this area was young forest at that time. The lot is generally flat. Approximately 2 acres of the center of the lot was part of harvest lot 4292, a 9-acre shelterwood prep cut completed in 2000. The entire lot was part of proposal WR-13-22-3 which became harvest lot 4383. The portion of lot 4383 that contains this proposal was a 15-acre shelterwood prep cut with three openings, each of which were approximately 1/3 acre in size.

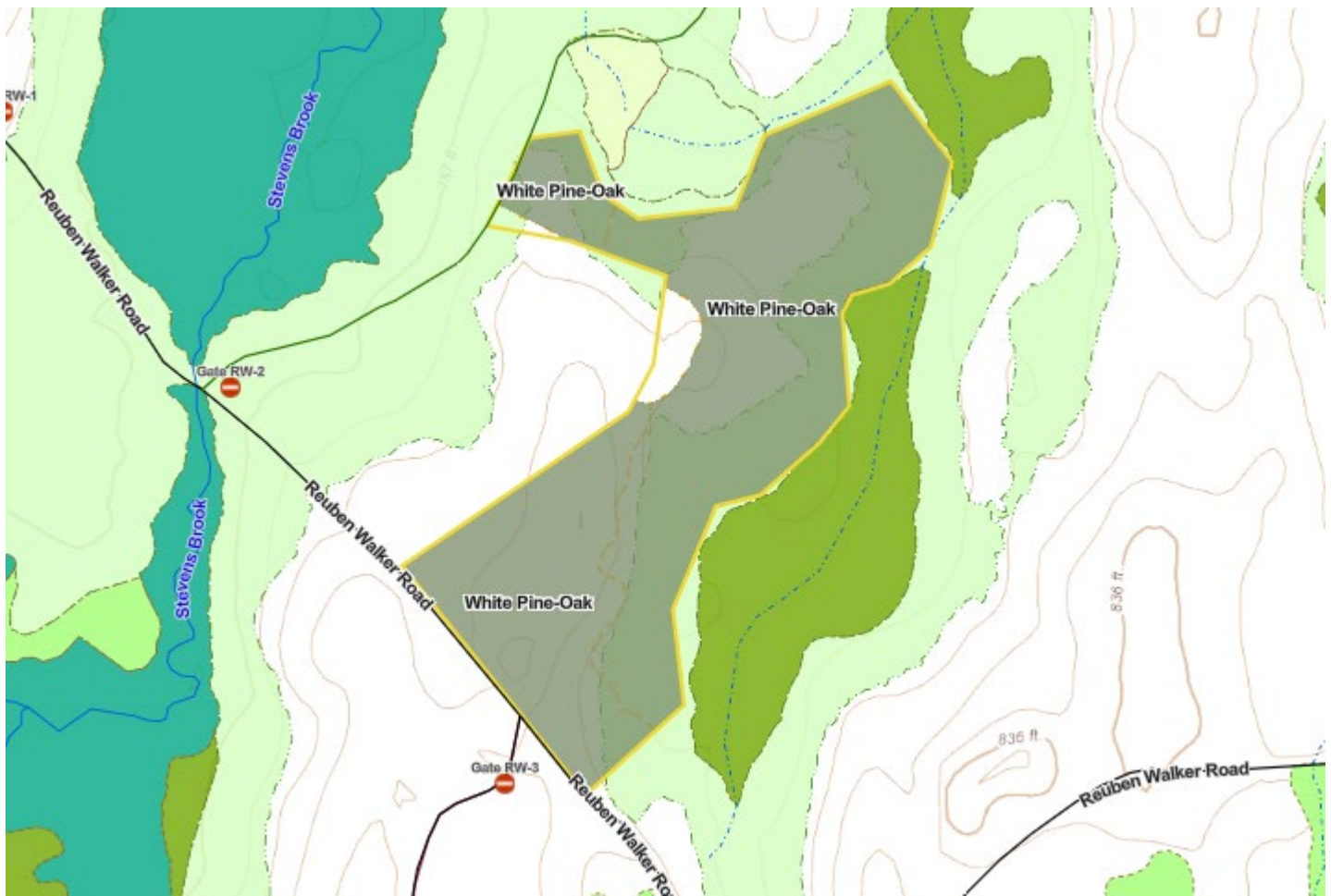
This proposal consists of white pine - oak stand. The stand is stocked with an average of approximately 100 square feet of basal area per acre. Sawlog sized white pine of average quality dominates the stand. Sawlog sized white and red oak of medium quality are present, most heavily adjacent to Reuben Walker Road. Red maple, black cherry, pitch pine, eastern hemlock, and black birch are also present in the overstory. Regeneration is abundant throughout the stand. Regeneration consists of a mix of large saplings and poles that were saved during the previous harvest and sprouts and seedlings that were established by that harvest. Mixed oaks, white pine, red maple, American chestnut, black birch, and eastern hemlock regeneration is present.

### Assessment of Terrestrial Invasive Species:

Glossy buckthorn was observed but is not well established.

Figure 2. Forest cover types, WR-23-26-3.





## Soils

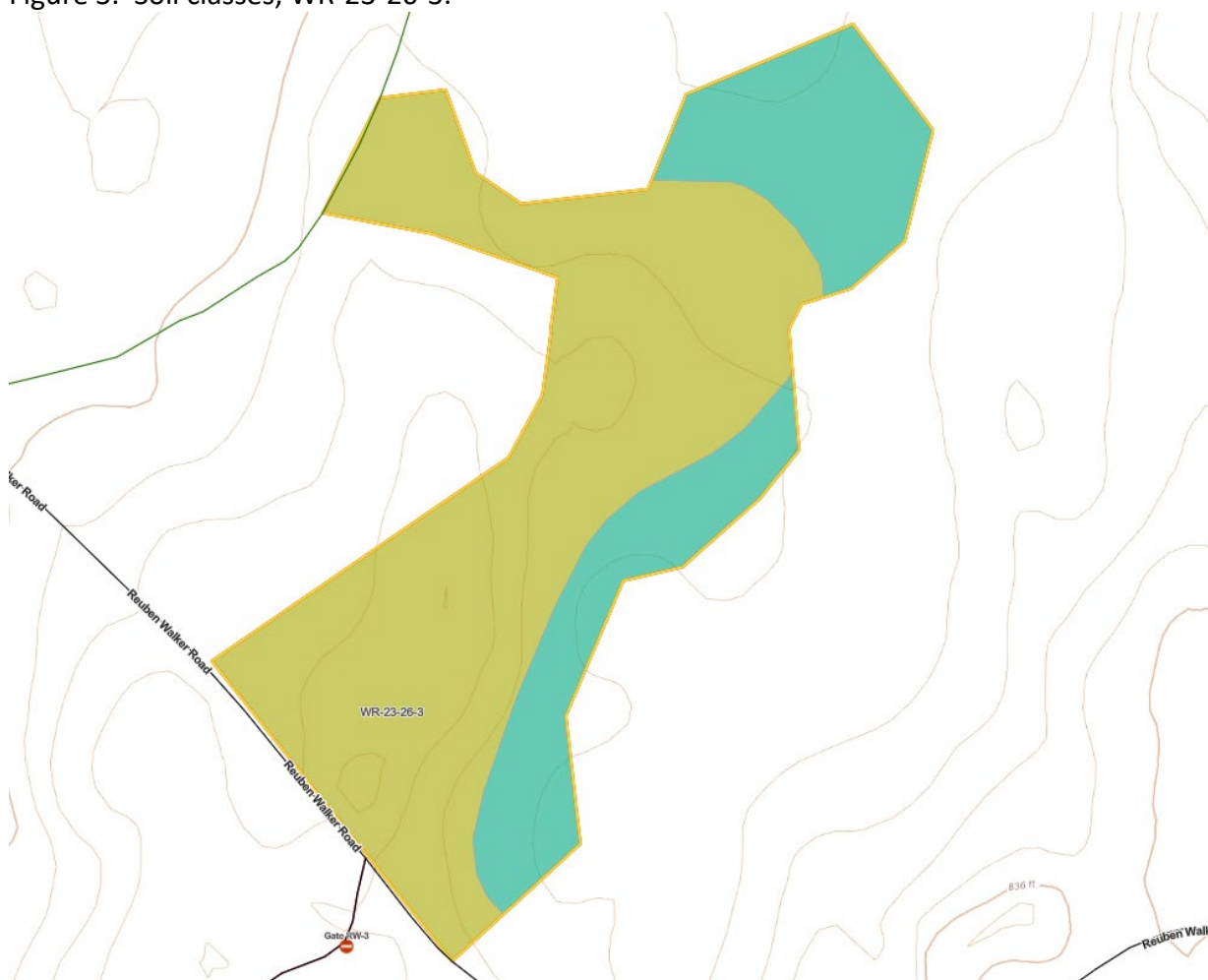
Drainage Class	%
Excessively Drained	0
Well Drained Thin	0
Well Drained Thick	67
Moderately Well Drained	0
Poorly to Very Poorly Drained	33

926C - Charlton-Chatfield association - Well drained thick - 48.0 acres

927C - Montauk-Scituate-Canton association - Well drained thick – 10.4 acres

59A - Bucksport and Wonsqueak mucks - Poorly to very poorly drained – 4.7 acres - these soils are on the eastern and northeastern edge of the lot associated with the wetlands and will be avoided.

Figure 3. Soil classes, WR-23-26-3.

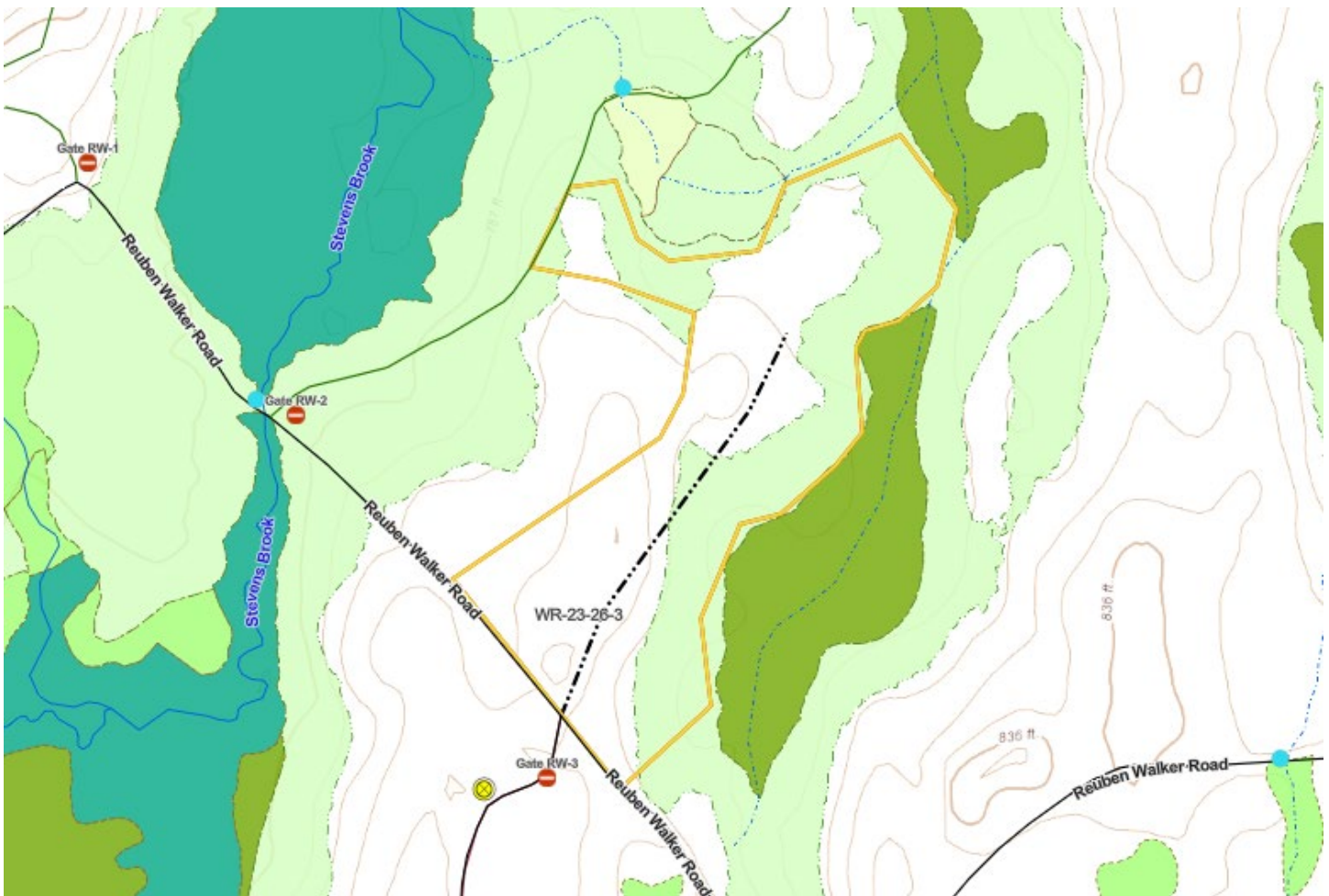


## Wetlands

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

Wetlands abut the proposal boundary, but no work will occur in wetlands and no crossings are required for access.

Figure 4. Wetland resources, WR-23-26-3.



## Silviculture

Acres in Intermediate cuts: **0**

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

Acres in Regeneration cuts: **14**

Average regen opening size: **14**

Maximum regen opening size: **14**

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

Regeneration consists of a mix of large saplings and poles that were saved during the previous harvest, and sprouts and seedlings that were established by that harvest. Mixed oaks, white pine, red maple, American chestnut, black birch, and eastern hemlock regeneration is present.

### **General comments on silviculture proposed:**

The silvicultural objective for this lot is to release the abundant established regeneration that is present with an overstory removal. This would preferably be accomplished as a complete overstory removal. Approximately 5 square feet of basal area per acre of scattered good quality, dominant white pine and oak stems as well as all pitch pine will be retained.

### **Climate Change considerations:**

Typical silviculture in this proposal is designed to sustain fundamental ecological processes, reduce the risks of impacts from severe disturbances, and enhance species and structural/habitat diversity.



Figure 5. Orthophoto and cover types, WR-23-26-3.



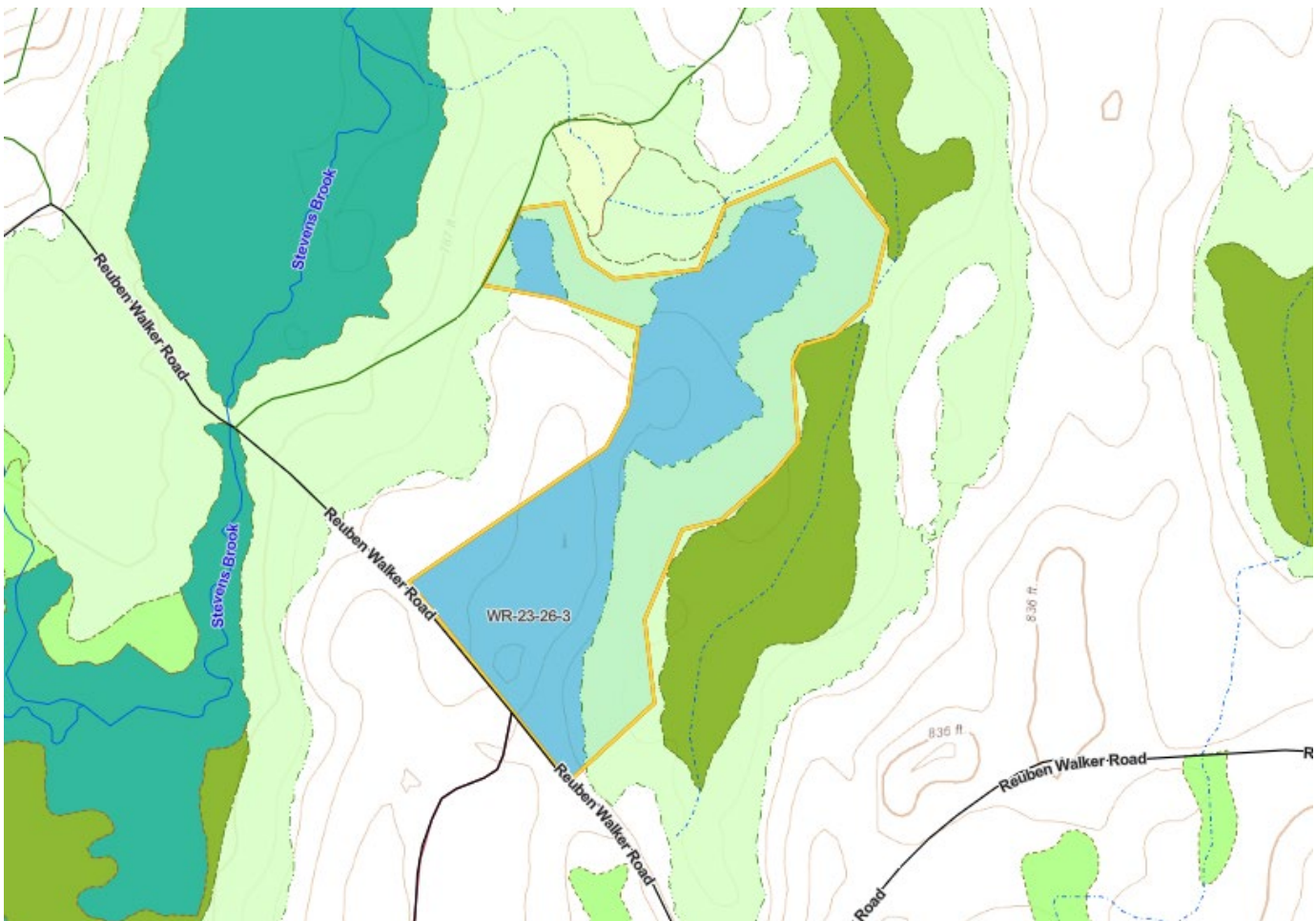


## Subwatershed Analysis

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
8042 (Barre Falls)	4849	129	1083	15

8042 - Barre Falls - Lot 4407 (proposal WR-22-22-03) contains 5 acres and has been sold but has not yet been cut. There are 15 acres in proposal WR-22-22-4 and 48 acres in proposal WR-21-21-3 in this subwatershed.

Figure 6. Subwatersheds, WR-23-26-3.



## Equipment

Forwarder required: **Yes**

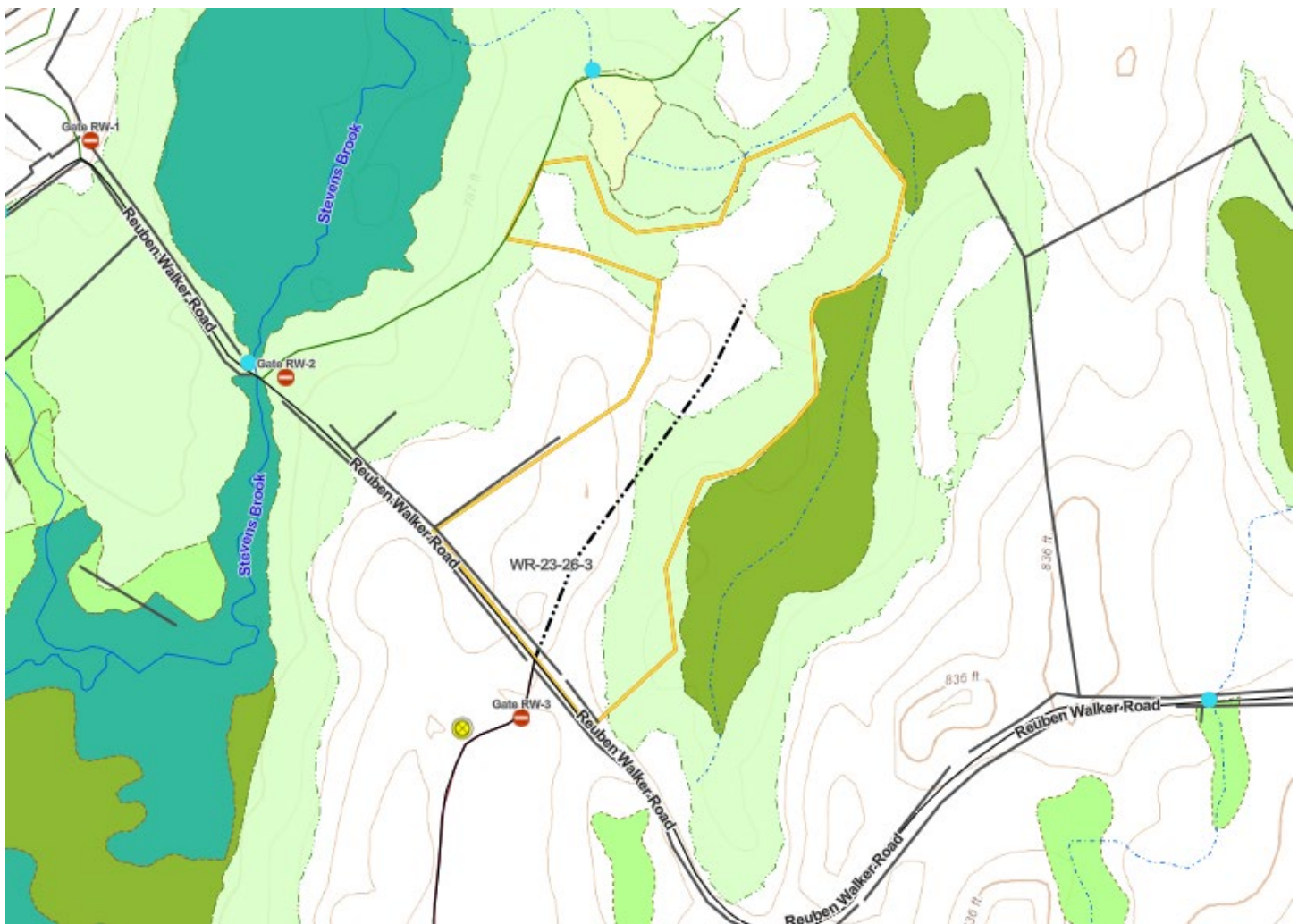
Feller/processor required: **Yes**

Steep slopes present: **No**

### Comments on harvesting limitations:

Due to landing location on the opposite side of Reuben Walker Road a forwarder will be required.

Figure 7. Harvesting limitations, WR-23-26-3.

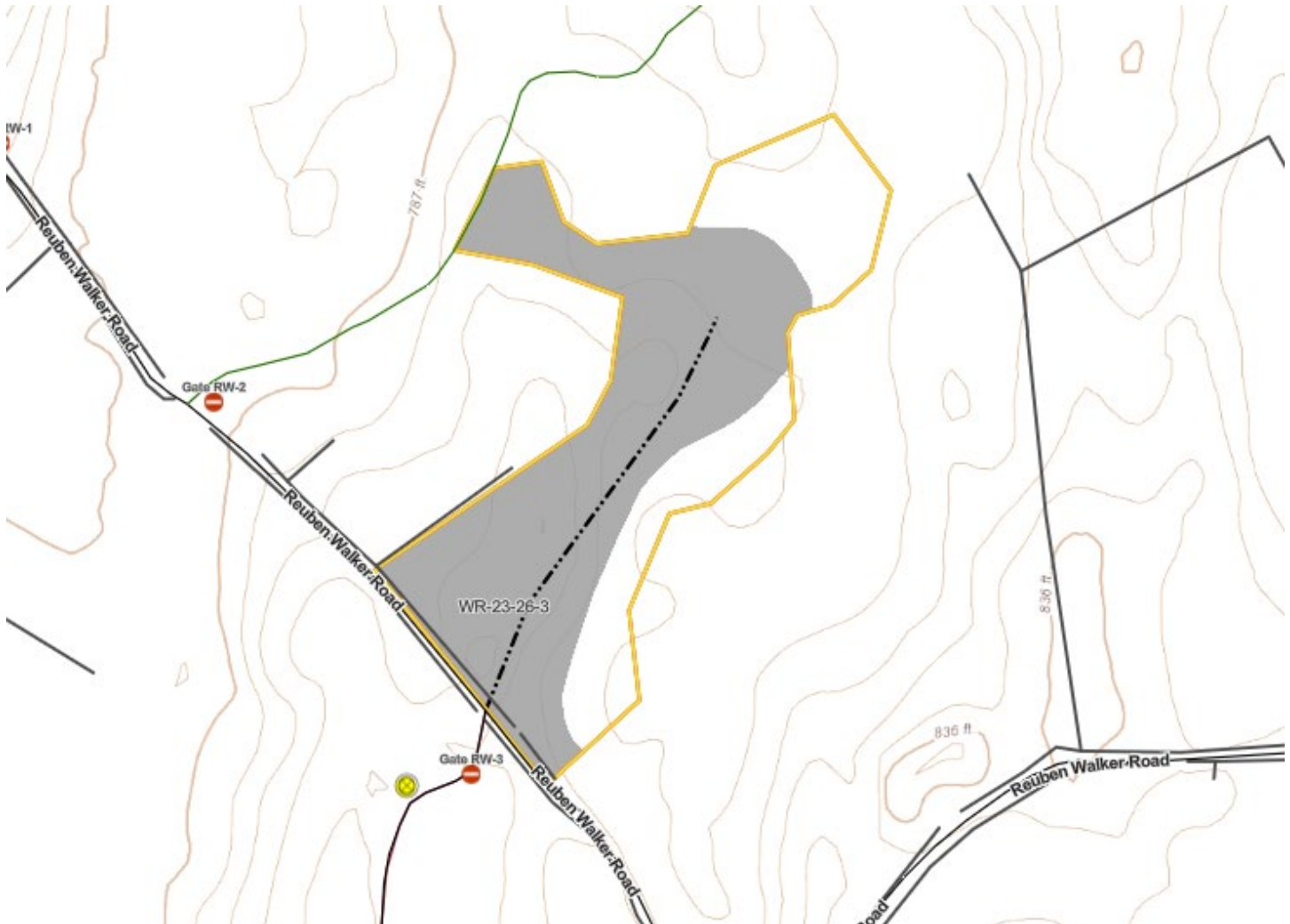


## Cultural Resources

### Comments on Cultural Resources:

Stonewalls are present on the lot. The area has been accessed in the recent past, so no new impacts on stone walls are anticipated. BMP recommendations from the DCR archaeologist to minimize soil compaction and disturbance will be followed.

Figure 8. Stony and Extremely stony soils, WR-23-26-3.





# Wildlife Resources & Rare and Endangered Species

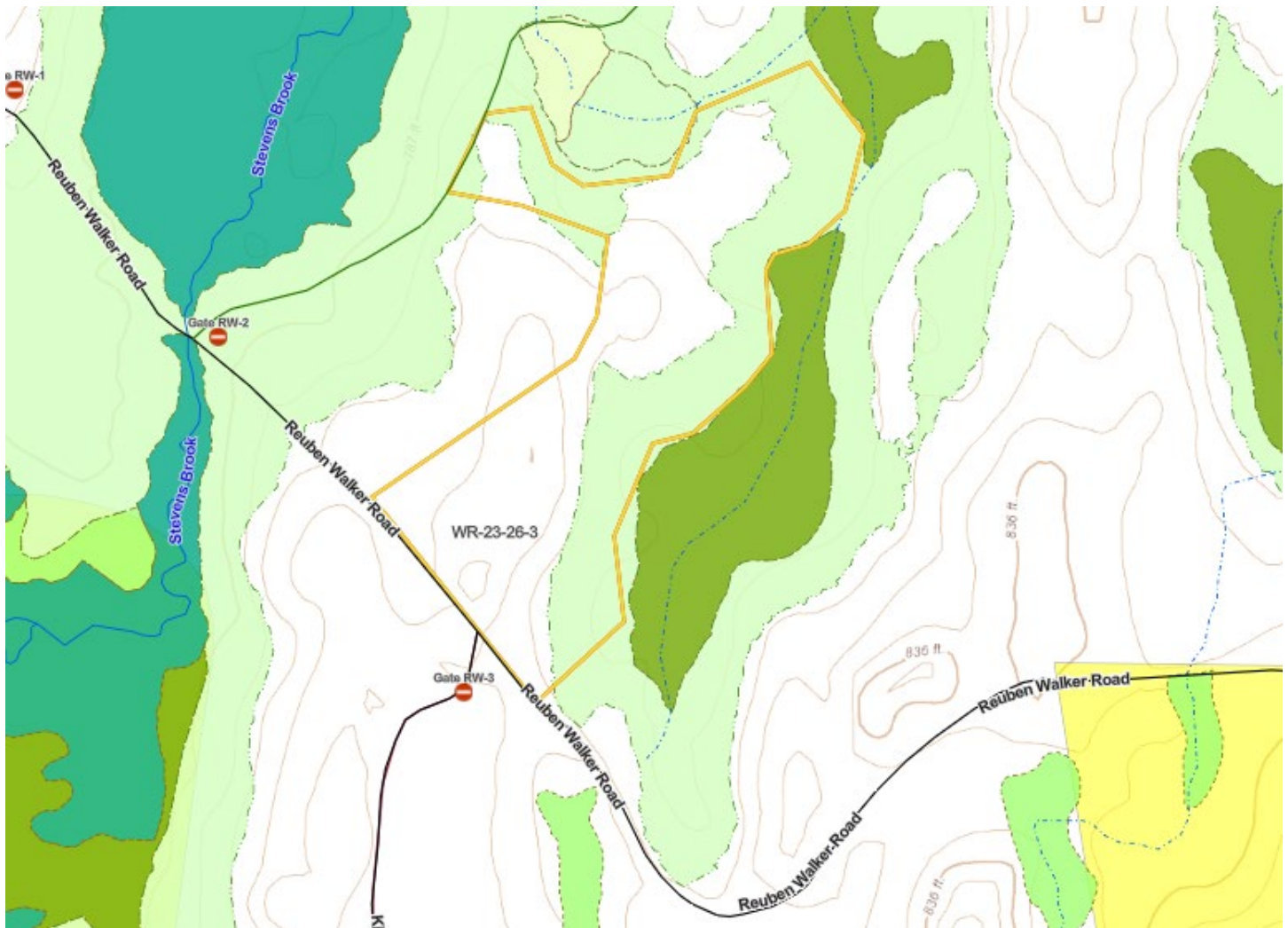
## General Wildlife Comments:

Moose are abundant in this area and heavy browse is present in parts of the lot.

## Comments on Rare Species/Habitats:

None.

Figure 9. NHESP Priority habitat overlay, WR-23-26-3.

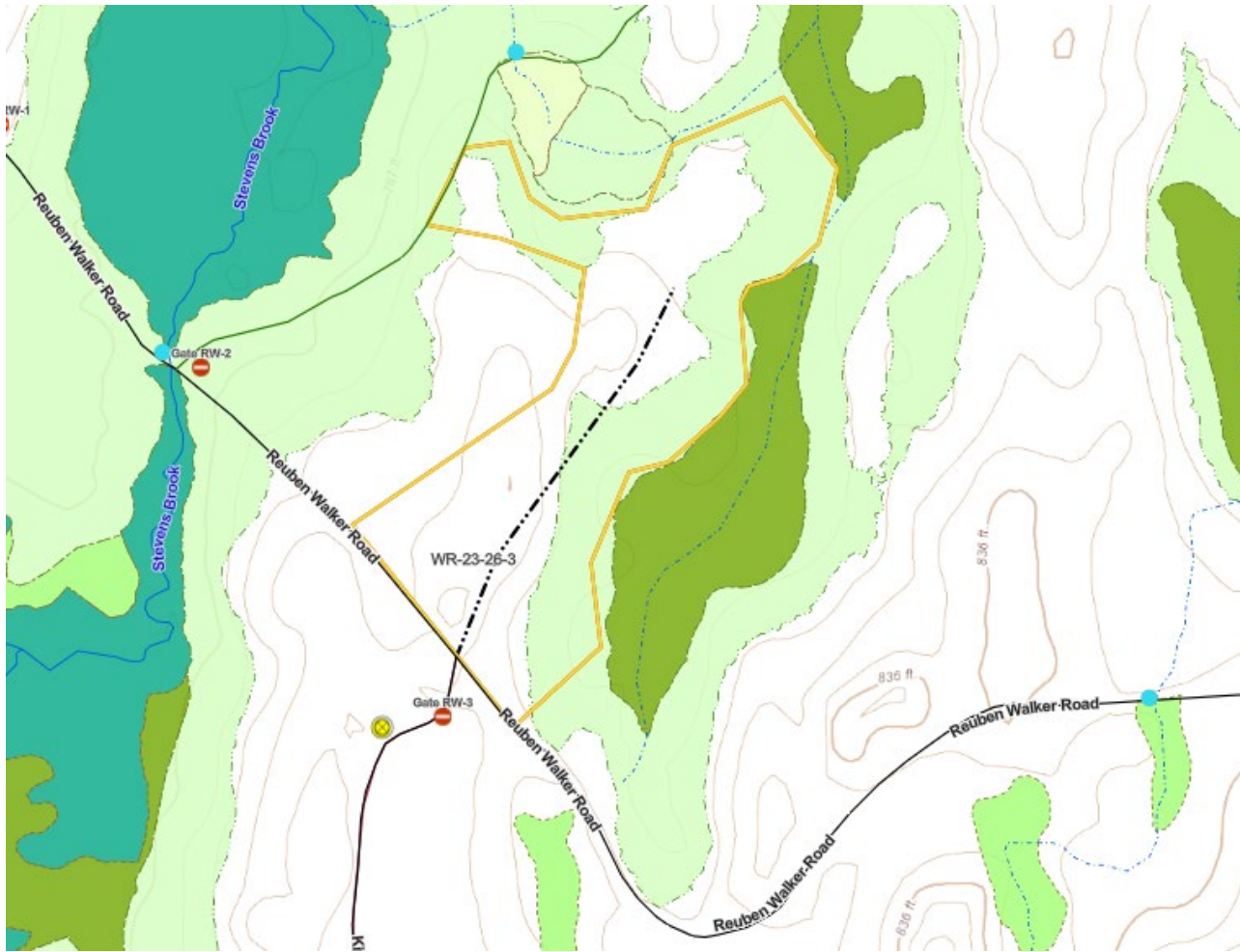


## Environmental Quality Engineering

### Comments on EQ Issues:

No stream or wetland crossings. No EQ concerns.

Figure 10. Access planning, WR-23-26-3.



## Forest Access Engineering

Gravel needed: Yes

Landing work needed: No

Culverts needed: No

Work needed on permanent bridges: No

Beaver issue: No

### Further comment on access needs:

Reuben Walker Road needs gravel and grading.

Figure 11. DWSP FY 2023 Forestry Proposals – Master Legend for story maps

