

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

Project Title: Gate 46 Pine

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 1067

DWSP Proposal ID: HA-19-08

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 124.43550.26

Site Information

Watershed: Quabbin

Town(s): Hardwick

Acres: 18

Nearest Road: Greenwich Plains Road

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap: No

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed: Yes

Forest Types: White pine, White pine-oak, Oak-hardwoods, Northern red oak

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): No

Soil(s): Well drained to moderately well drained stony glacial till

Wetland Resources: None

Vernal Pools: None

Harvest Information

Harvest Start Date: TBD

Harvest End Date: TBD

Number of Wetland Crossings: Zero

Number of Stream Crossings: Zero

Best Management Practices Applied

Stream Crossings: N/A

Filter Strips: N/A

Wetland Crossings: N/A

Harvesting in Wetlands: N/A

DWSP Forester supervising this harvest

Name: Douglas Hutcheson

Forester License number: 375

Phone number: (413) 237-9713

Email: douglas.hutcheson@mass.gov

Narrative

General Description/Forest Composition/History

This is a white pine/mixed-oak lot on a former chestnut site, with concentrations of pine on the northwest slope and west of the existing landing opposite the Gate 46A road. The central part of the lot on the flat along Gate 46 road is mixed oak with occasional overstory pine. The principal species are white pine, and red, black and white oak. Other species present include red maple, hickory, cherry, red pine, hemlock, beech, and yellow, black and white birch. Three separate sales covering most of the lot were conducted during the 1990's. Lot #734 treated the south end of the lot in 1995, lot #704 the north end in 1995, and lot #622A treated the main body of the lot along G46 road in 1993. Each sale established regeneration through prep cutting and small group selections. Residual basal area averages 110 for mixed-oak and 150 for white pine. Oak averages 70'+ in total height and white pine 80'+. A core sample taken from a codominant black oak measured 15" and 87 years at breast height and showed declining growth for the past 45 years. Overall stand quality and vigor are fair for oak and good for white pine, with occasional superior phenotypes. Regeneration response following past treatment was good, with adequate to high levels of well distributed 10- 20-year-old white pine and mixed hardwoods in most locations. Huckleberry is common in the understory above an herbaceous layer of several species of ferns and club mosses. The stand was impacted by Spongy Moth infestations from 2016-2020; thankfully mortality was limited. Emerald ash borer entered the area in 2020 and has killed many ash trees in surrounding stands. There aren't a lot of ash present here, but ash over 6" are at risk. Infested trees will be harvested were possible.

Site Selection

The site was selected because the tree regeneration following past treatments has been successful, with adequate to high levels of well distributed 10- 20-year-old white pine and mixed hardwoods (mainly black birch and red maple) in most locations. Light to moderate deer and moose browse has been observed, however, browse levels are not expected to be excessive.

Silvicultural Objectives

The goals of this proposal include preserving wildlife habitat, maintaining or increasing tree diversity, improving overall stand health and vigor, and increasing the growth rate of the retained trees. Diversifying tree species and their age structure will be accomplished by creating openings with free to grow regeneration that should stay vigorous for at least 10 years. These openings should also encourage species that are better adapted to our changing climate to become established. An uneven-aged canopy structure was started during previous entries; management under this proposal will enlarge existing openings and establish new openings from ¼ acre to 4 acres. Trees of poor quality, low vigor, or storm damaged, will be removed. Retained trees will generally be the better formed, vigorous individuals of all species. Scattered wildlife trees with stick nests, dens, or unusual habitat characteristics, will be retained, as will standing dead stems.

Cultural Resources

Stonewalls and an old cellar hole are present.

Rare or Endangered Species

No rare, threatened, or endangered species. Moose, bear, deer, and turkey have been observed in the area.

Figures

Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan

NOV 24 2025

Forest Cutting Plan

and Notice of Intent under M.G.L.
Chapter 132 – The Forest Cutting
Practices Act, 304 CMR 11.00
(Effective Date: 3/15/16)

For DCR Use Only:	
File Number	1244366026
Date Rec'd	11-24-25
Earliest Start	12-03-25
River Basin	CHICOMPEE
Gen. Obj.	LT
Case No.	-
Nat. Hert.	NO
Pub. Dr. Wat.	QUABBIN
ACEC	NO

Site Information

Location

Town Hardwick
Road Greenwich Plains Road
Acres 18.3 Proposed Start Date TBD
Vol. MBF 190.8 Vol. Cds. 60 Vol. Tons 83

Plan Preparer

Name Douglas Hutcheson DCR-DWSP Forester
Address 485 Ware Road
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone (413) 237-9713
Type of Preparer Licensed Forester
*Mass. Forester License # 375
*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

Landowner

Name MA DCR-DWSP
Mailing Address 485 Ware Road
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone (413) 323-6921
Ch61 61A 61B Stew *Case # -
FSC CR CR Holder

Licensed Timber Harvester**

Name TBD
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

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

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)				

Harvesting in Wetlands

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

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

Forest Products

Products to be Harvested*

Table with 4 columns: Species, Mbfc/Cds, and Mbfc/Cds. Rows include White Pine, Red Pine, Pitch Pine, Hemlock, Spruce, Other Sftwd., White Ash, Beech, White Birch, B & Y Birch, and Black Cherry.

*Note: Volumes 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.

Stand Treatment

Cutting Standards

Table with 5 columns: Indicate location on map, ST-1, ST-2, ST-3, ST-4. Rows include Forest Type, Acres, Landowner Objective, Designation of Trees, Type of Cut, and Source of Regeneration.

Landowner

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.

[X] 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.

[Handwritten Signature]

11-17-25

Signature of landowner(s)

Date

Service Forester

Determination and Status 124.43550.26

Form with checkboxes for Approved, Disapproved, Expires, Extension, and Amendment. Includes handwritten date 11-24-27 and signature of Jacob Seidel.

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

Codes

Table with 5 columns: Forest Types, Designation of Trees, Type of Cut, Intermediate Harvests, and Source of Regeneration. Lists various codes and their corresponding descriptions.

*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: 3/15/16)

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

Landowner DCR-DWSP

Town Belchertown

File Number 124.43550.26

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.

Stand 1 is comprised of nine individual openings less than or equal to 1.0 acres in size, (#'s 2,5,7,8,9,10,13,14,15), totaling 5.8 acres. Stand 2 is comprised of seven individual openings 1.1 acres or greater in size, (#'s 1,3,4,6,11,12,16), totaling 12.5 acres. The acreage in the openings is measured stem to stem among the retained boundary trees around the perimeter. The drip line of these trees extend into the openings and future canopy expansion will extend the drip line further into the openings. The majority of the retained trees are red, black, and white oaks. As with the retained trees within the openings, vigorous, well formed stems with full canopies are prioritized for retention for their mast bearing capacity. Within the openings, individuals of red, black, white, and chestnut oak, white pine, white and yellow birch, hemlock, and hickory stems are also be retained for species diversity.

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











Stand Map
DCR DWSP Lot 1067

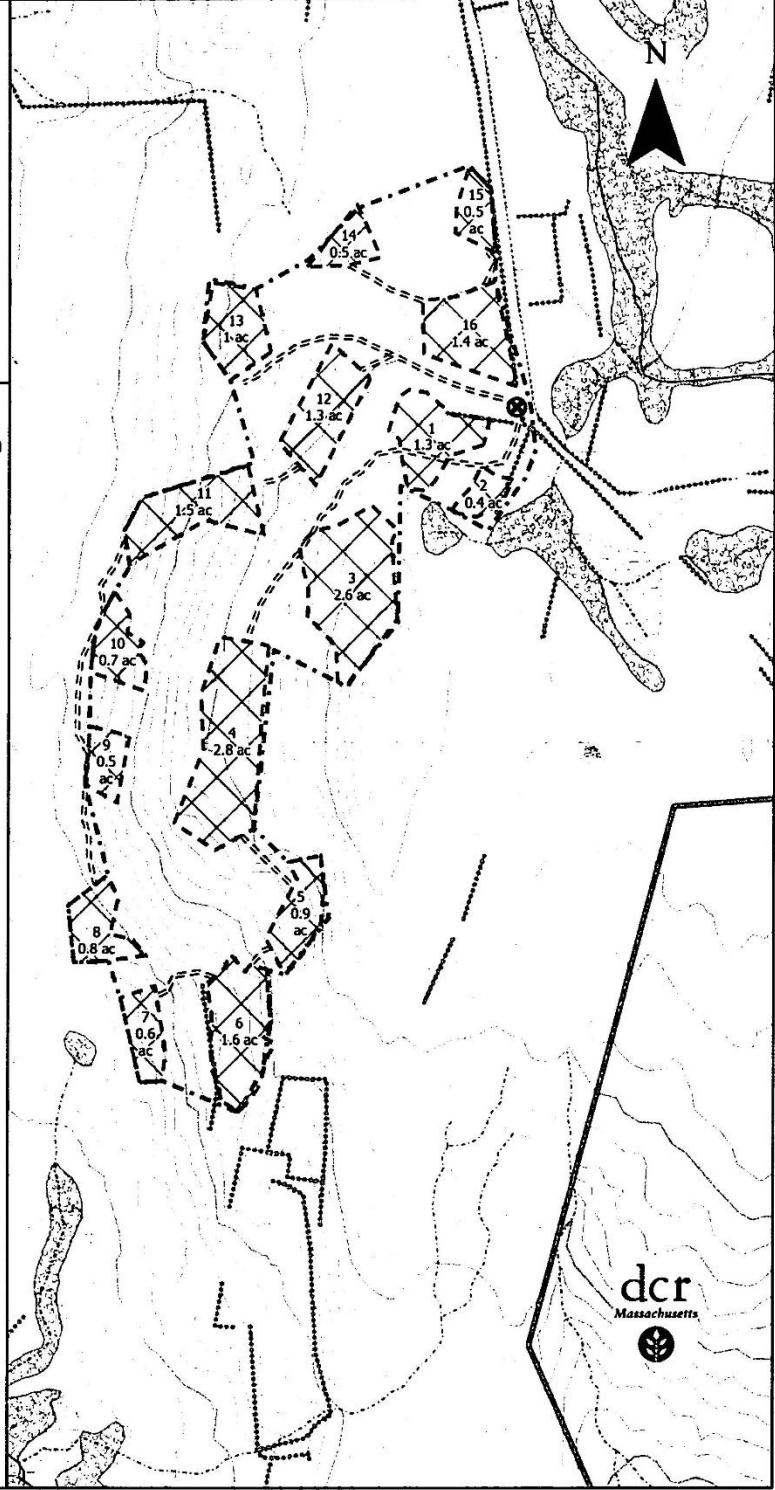
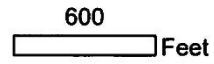
Greenwich Plains Road
Hardwick

Prepared by:
Douglas Hutcheson
MA DCR DWSP
Quabbin & Ware River Forestry

Scale: 1:7,200
1 inch = 600 feet
Created: 11/6/2025

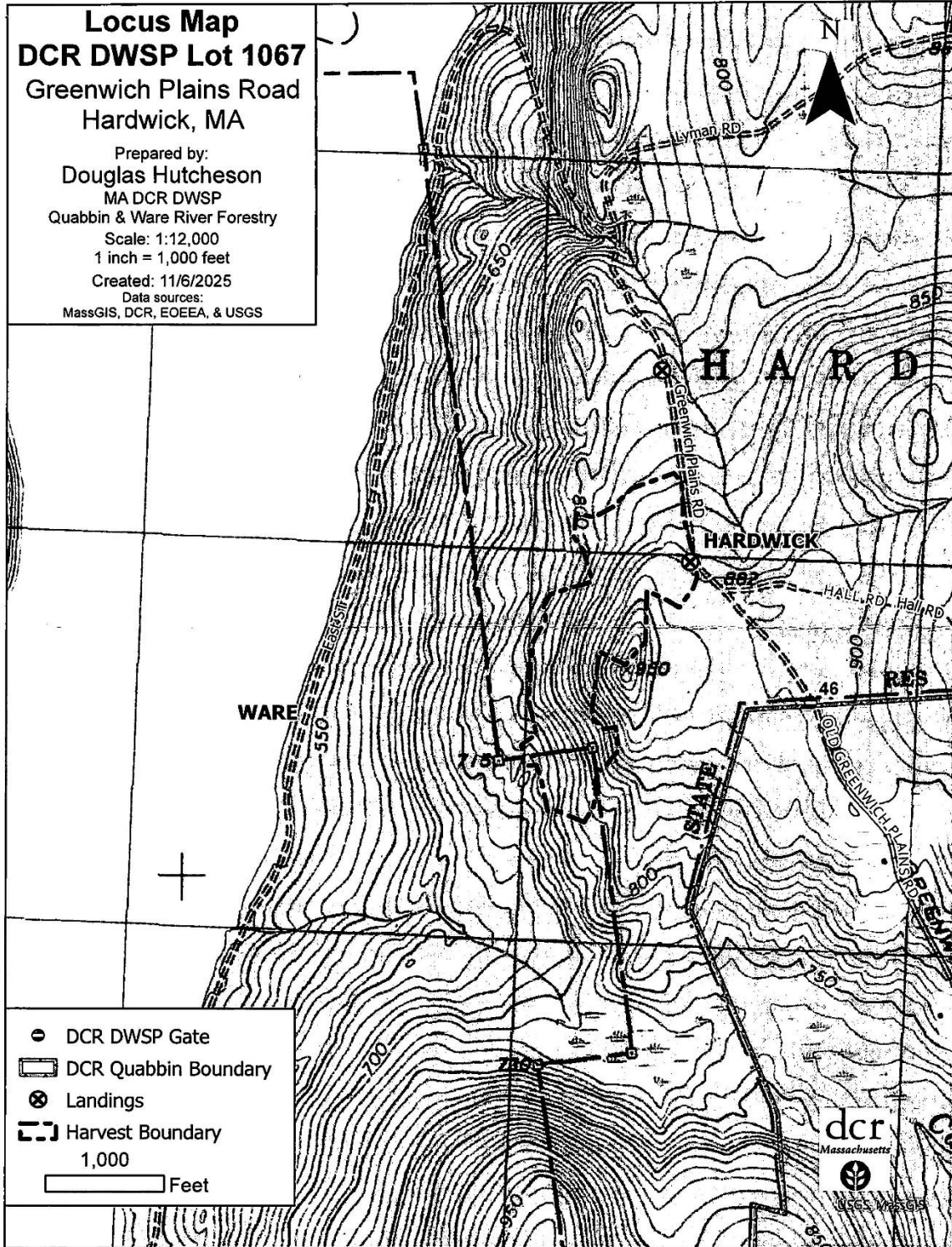
Data sources:
MassGIS, DCR, & EOEEA

- Minor Street
-  Quabbin Reservoir Reservation
-  Swamp/Marsh
-  Forested Swamp/Marsh
-  Stream/River: Perennial
-  Stream/River: Intermittent
-  Landings
-  Skid Trails
-  Harvest boundary
-  Group opening
-  Stone Walls



Locus Map
DCR DWSP Lot 1067
Greenwich Plains Road
Hardwick, MA

Prepared by:
Douglas Hutcheson
MA DCR DWSP
Quabbin & Ware River Forestry
Scale: 1:12,000
1 inch = 1,000 feet
Created: 11/6/2025
Data sources:
MassGIS, DCR, EOEEA, & USGS



dcr



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

FILE # 124.43550.26

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 MA DCR-DWSP 485 Ware Rd.
(Name of Owner) Belchertown (Address) in accordance with the

provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section 40-46, filed in Clinton with the Dept. of Conservation

Greenwich Plain lot.

Approval Date 12/3/2025

Director's Agent Jacob Serdel

DCR Phone No. 857-345-2535

ISSUED BY: Priscilla E. Geigis

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