

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

Project Title: Webster Road Red Pine

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 1070

DWSP Proposal ID: HA-23-02

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 309-43681-26

Site Information

Watershed: Quabbin

Town(s): Ware

Acres: 21.0 acres

Nearest Road: Webster Road and Route 9

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap: Yes

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed: Yes

Forest Types: White pine, red pine, larch, white pine-oak

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): No

Soils: Canton and Scituate fine sandy loam

Wetland Resources: Three wetlands adjacent to the harvest area

Vernal Pools: One

Harvest Information

Harvest Start Date: August 17, 2026

Harvest End Date: TBD

Number of Wetland Crossings: One

Number of Stream Crossings: N/A

Best Management Practices Applied

Stream Crossings: None

Filter Strips: Three 50' filter strips

Wetland Crossings: One

Harvesting in Wetlands: None

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

The harvest area, the former Webster family farm, is located along Webster Road and Route 9 in Ware east of the middle entrance to Quabbin Park. Physical evidence of previous agricultural use is prevalent. Red pine plantations were established here to stabilize the well-drained, sandy soils near the reservoir. The red pine has been harvested numerous times resulting in two-aged stands with an unevenly stocked overstory of red and white pine. Larch is present in the stand at the south end of the lot, and mixed hardwood regeneration is present throughout the project area. The red pine is all in various stages of decline due mainly to the red pine scale and root rot. Southern pine beetles also have been discovered in several locations in CT. This insect attacks hard pines and red pine is a preferred host. Therefore, the outlook for red pine surviving in this area is very poor and the species no longer meets our objectives of having a diverse mix of healthy trees that are long-lived, well-suited to their location, and vigorously growing and assimilating nutrients. The understory is well stocked with white pine (many over 15' tall) and some hardwoods and hemlock in areas that haven't been heavily browsed. Due to the high deer population, the understory has low species diversity. There are several stands of white pine, white pine/oak and white pine/hardwood which have overstories of varying proportions of white pine, oak, and some hardwoods. The form is generally average, and they have a dense mixed understory.

Site Selection

The entire project area of 49 acres, including and surrounding the 21 acres to be harvested under this forest cutting plan, have been previously harvested. Treatments were completed on parts of the total acreage in 1986, 1991, and most recently in 2003. These past harvests established white pine, black birch and some oak regeneration. Health of the white pine and hardwood stands appears generally good; conversely, decline and mortality has occurred in the red pine, undoubtedly from scale and root rot. Hemlock adelgid and hemlock scale are present. Spongy Moth defoliation was severe from 2016-2020, killing oak and other susceptible species.

Silvicultural Objectives

The primary silvicultural goals of this harvest are to remove the remaining red pine plantation, diversify the age structure of the proposed area and to maintain or improve species diversity and residual vigor.

The red pine volume to be removed is quite variable. Some areas of the species have never been cut, and some have had multiple cuts. Red pine scale and wind throw have resulted. Cutting intensity will range from single tree and small groups to a 2.2-acre patch cut. The treatment of some of the more evenly cut stands will more closely resemble a shelterwood overstory removal. The intent is to remove as much of the red pine as possible before it dies in areas outside of required filter and buffer strips. Some areas will be skipped due to poor access and/or scattered merchantable stems. Additional stems other than red pine will be cut if

needed for access, if they're poor quality or of insufficient vigor, or to release established regeneration. Many of the cuts will be patch cuts with openings between 0.1-2 acres. Most of the larch in the plantation in the southwest corner of the lot will be retained; poor quality, unhealthy stems will be removed along with the scattered red pine in this stand. Along Webster Road the stands have been cut multiple times and the red pine residual basal area is generally below 60. White pine regeneration is present throughout though it is variable in density and acceptability. The harvest in this area is probably best described as the final overstory removal on a group shelterwood. Groups of white pine and hardwoods and patches of free to grow regeneration to 20' tall will be retained. The white pine-oak stand east of the middle entrance will have openings between 0.5-2 acres where the focus will be on cutting stems with the poorest form or vigor. 5-10 sq ft of basal area of vigorous, well-formed trees will be left in openings over 0.5 ac here.

Cultural Resources

Most of these stands are red pine plantations established in former agricultural areas. These areas have a history of soil disturbance and are not considered archaeologically sensitive. Historic features such as stone walls and cellar holes will be avoided and/or protected. Almost all the proposed areas have been logged at least once during last thirty years. Existing barways and directional felling will be used to protect the stonewalls on site. Main skid trails with unstable soils will be armored with slash to avoid excessive rutting.

Rare or Endangered Species

NHESP issued a "no take" determination for the rare, threatened, and endangered species and/or habitat that is found in the area.

Figures

Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan

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 309-43681-26 Case No. -
Date Rec'd 3/12/26 Nat. Herl. Yes
Earliest Start 3/27/26 Pub. Dr. Wnt. No
River Basin Chicopee ACBC No
Gen. Obj. LT

Site Information

Location

Town Ware Lot # 1070
Road Websler
Acres 21.0 Proposed Start Date TBD
Vol. MBF 203 Vol. Cts. 39 Vol. Tons 608

Plan Preparer

Name Douglas Hutcheson
Address 485 Ware Road
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone (413) 237-9713
Type of Preparer LF
*Mass. Forester License # 376
*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

Landowner

Name MA DCR-DWSP, Quabbln
Mailing Address 485 Ware Road
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007
Phone (413) 323-8921
Ch61 ☐ 61A ☐ 61B ☐ Stew ☐ *Cnse #
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	<u>30</u>			
Mitigation	<u>OT</u>			
Stabilization	<u>CO</u>			

Filter Strips

Indicate location on map	FS-1	FS-2	FS-3	FS-4
Width (50', 100', or VA)	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	

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. Unsat Area (>50%?)				

Service Forester Comments

See attached NHESP determination letter.

Codes

Type of Preparer	Type of Crossing	Stabilization	Mitigation	Type of Bottom
LF Mass. Lic. For.	CU Culvert	SE Seed	FR Frozen	LB 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

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 pesticides 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*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	124.7	Red Maple	8.8
Red Pine	50.3	Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine	.2	Red Oak	.2
Hemlock		Black Oak	2.3
Spruce		White Oak	.2
Other Sftwd.	15.4	Other Hdwd.	.2
White Ash		Total Mbf	203
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	39
White Birch	.5	SW Pulp (Tons)	608
B & Y Birch	.2	HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry		Chips (Tons)	

*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

Indicate location on map	ST-1	ST-2	ST-3	ST-4
Forest Type	WH	WP	WP	
Acres	8.8	2.2	10.0	
Landowner Objective	LT	LT	LT	
Designation of Trees	CT	CT	CT	
Type of Cut	SE	CC	CT	
Source of Regeneration	SE	SE	SE	

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. After having read the Massachusetts Forest Cutting Plan Information Sheet on page one, indicate your objective by checking the appropriate box below.

☒ 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.

I (we) certify that I (we) have notified the Conservation Commission in the town in which the operation is to take place and the abutters of record within two hundred feet of the area to be harvested.

I (we) understand that the volumes in this plan have not been independently verified by the service forester upon approval and will report final values and volumes to the Director or his/her agent if the final figures differ from those reported.



3/6/2026

Signature of landowner(s)

Date

Service Forester

Determination and Status

Approved Disapproved Expires

Cutting Plan ☒ ☐ 3/12/28

 4/13/26

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent Date

Extension 1 ☐ 2 ☐ Expires / / Ser. For. Ints. / /

Amendment App 1 ☐ Dis 1 ☐ App 2 ☐ Dis 2 ☐ / /

Final Report and Comments

I hereby certify that the above described Forest Cutting Plan and all relevant statutes have been substantially complied with.

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent Date

Codes

Forest Types				Designation of Trees		Type of Cut		Source of Regeneration	
WP	White Pine	HK	Hemlock	OM	Mixed Oak	SH	Shelterwood	Intermediate Harvests:	AD Advanced
WK	WP/Hdm	HJ	Hem/Hdwd	RM	Red Maple	ST	Seed Tree	CT Commercial Thin	SE Natural Seed
WH	WP/Hdwd	BC	Black Cherry	BE	Beech	CC	Clear Cut	NT Non Com Thin	PL Plant
WO	WP/Oak	BB	Bee/Bir/Map	SF	Spruce/Fir	SE	Selection	Non-Standard Systems:	CO Coppice
RP	Red Pine	OH	Oak/Hdwd	SM	Sugar Maple	SA	Salvage	HG Highgrade*	DS Direct Seed
SR	Red Spruce	OR	N Red Oak	PP	Pitch Pine	SN	Sanitation	DL Diameter Limit*	OT Other
								OT Other*	

*If Other (OT) or a non-standard system is used an explanation must be given on attached narrative page

File Number 309-43681-26

Orange horizontal stripes designate the leave trees on the boundary of an opening. Orange dots designate a leave tree within the opening. Stems to be cut within the openings and the skid roads are marked in blue. Red flagging designates an overhead hazard. Invasive species will be monitored and treated mechanically by DWSP staff. Log truck access will be restricted to in and out of Gate 54 and in and out of the Quabbin Park east entrance.

[illegible]

If using SI - Describe the source of the seed and the number of seed trees/acre

Describe what the stand is expected to look like five years from the harvest, including the condition of the overstory & understory

DCR DWSP

Lot # 1070

Webster Road

Ware, MA

Prepared by:

Douglas Hutcheson

MA DCR DWSP

Quabbin & Ware River Forestry

Scale: 1:6,291

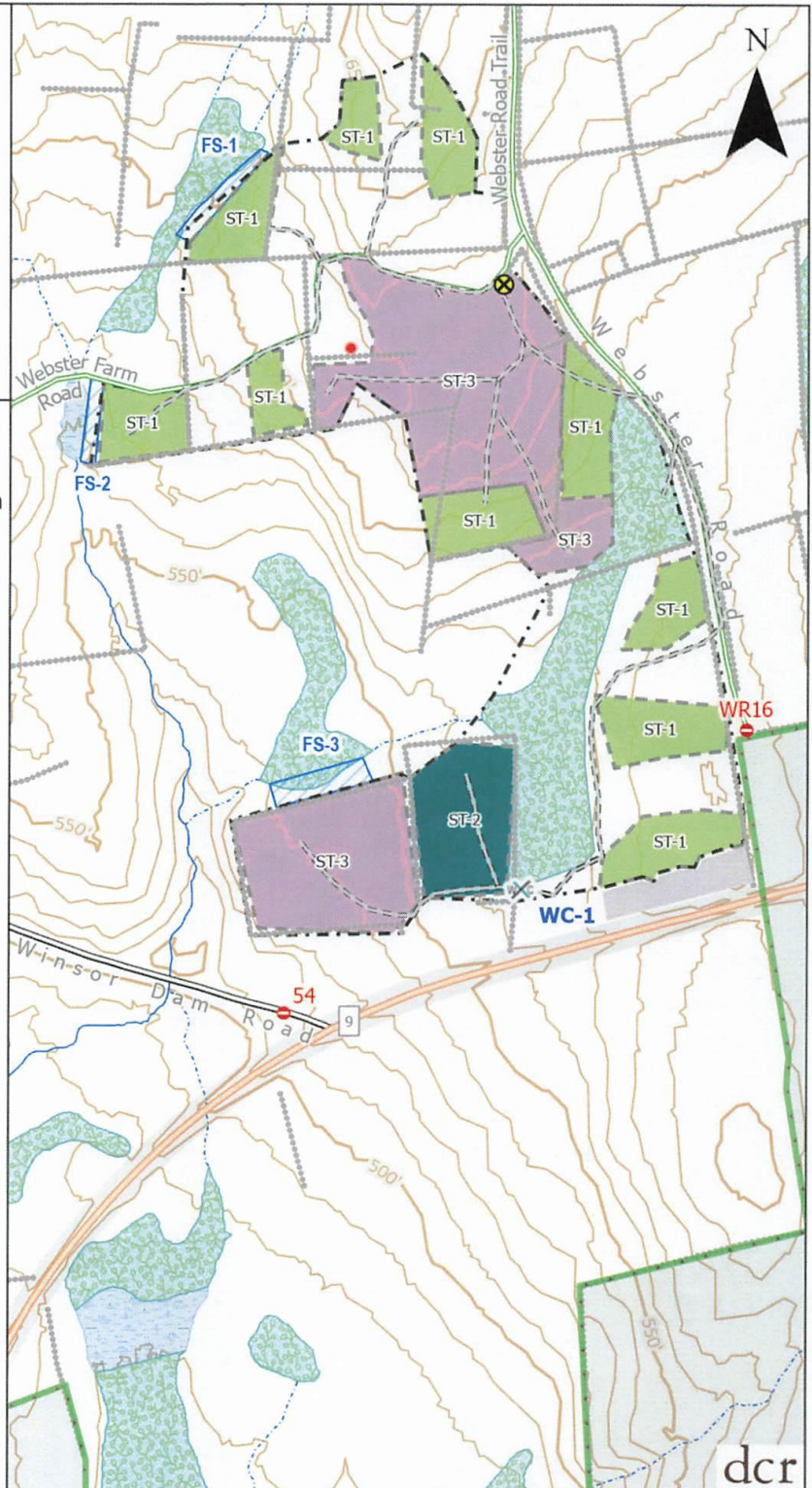
1 inch = 524 feet

Created 2/26/2026

Data sources:

MassGIS, DCR, & EOEEA

- Town Boundary
- Numbered Route
- Quabbin Reservoir Reservation
- DCR DWSP Gate
- Road Buffers
- Public Road
- Forest Road/Trail
- Wetland Crossings
- Filter Strips
- Swamp/Marsh
- Forested Swamp/Marsh
- Stream/River: Perennial
- Stream/River: Intermittent
- DCR Verified Vernal Pool
- Harvest boundary
- Group opening
- Thinning / improvement
- Clear cut with retention
- Landings
- Skid Trails
- Stone Walls

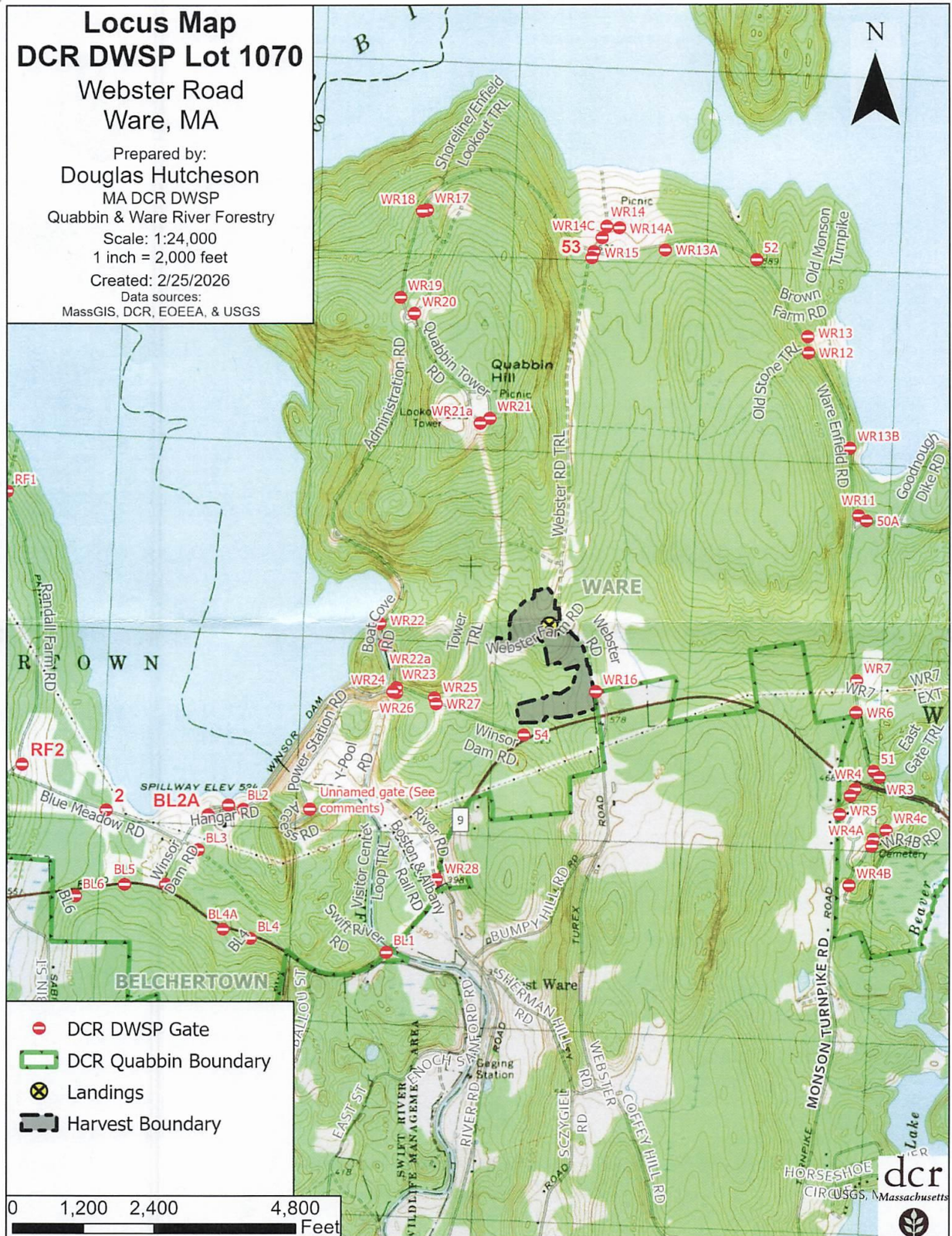


0 1,000 2,000

Locus Map DCR DWSP Lot 1070

Webster Road
Ware, MA

Prepared by:
Douglas Hutcheson
MA DCR DWSP
Quabbin & Ware River Forestry
Scale: 1:24,000
1 inch = 2,000 feet
Created: 2/25/2026
Data sources:
MassGIS, DCR, EOEEA, & USGS



dc



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

FILE # 309-43681-26

FOREST CUTTING PLAN CERTIFICATE

W

Post this in a conspicuous place within the area in which the harvesting operation is to take place.

This certifies that DCR-DWSP Quabbin 485 Ware Rd in accordance with the
(Name of Owner) (Address) Belchertown, MA 01007

provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section 40-46, filed in Amherst F.O. with the Dept. of Conservation
and Recreation, Division of State Parks and Recreation, a Notice of Intent to cut forest products upon the
Webster Rd lot. "1070"

Approval Date 4/13/26
Director's Agent Jacob Macko
DCR Phone No. (857) 202-2824

ISSUED BY:

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