

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

**Project Title:** New Salem Poor Farm  
DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 3149  
DWSP Proposal ID: PR-16-25  
DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 204-8837-17

***Site Information***

Watershed: Quabbin  
Town(s): New Salem  
Acres: 52  
Nearest Road: Hunt Rd. (Gate 18)  
Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: Yes  
Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes  
Forest Types: White Pine, Mixed Oak  
Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)?: No  
Soils: Montauk fine sandy loam, Millsite Woodstock & Chichester complex, very rocky  
Wetland Resources: No  
Vernal Pools: Yes

***Harvest Information***

Harvest Start Date: December 7, 2018  
Harvest End Date: January 18, 2019  
Number of Wetland Crossings: 0  
Number of Stream Crossings: 0

***Best Management Practices Applied***

Stream Crossings: Not Applicable  
Filter Strips: Two 50 ft. wide  
Wetland Crossings: Not Applicable  
Harvesting in Wetlands: Not Applicable

***DWSP Forester supervising this harvest***

Name: Derek Beard  
Forester License number: 14  
Phone number: 617-780-0631  
Email: derek.beard@mass.gov

## **Narrative**

### ***General Description/Forest Composition/History***

This watershed forest management project covers 52 acres amid the north end of the Prescott peninsula in New Salem. Specifically, it's situated between Hunt Road (Gate 18) and North Prescott Road (Gate 20). It is bounded to the south by the height of land, west by stone wall, north by stone wall and height of land and east by talus slope.

Most of the project (45 acres) covers a moderate north/northwest facing slope growing, a somewhat blocky pattern of, sawtimber white pine. Between the blocks of pine are pole and sawtimber black birch and red oak sawtimber. The pole size birch developed from an improvement harvest completed in the early 1980s. The remaining project area (7 acres) covers a northeast oriented finger growing sawtimber and pole size red oak.

The 45-acre section of the project encompasses what is historically known as the New Salem Poor Farm. Common throughout colonial New England, these were designated sections of town where landless residents or indebted farmers could raise crops and/or livestock. Typically, a portion of the harvest would be shared with other residents. Given the rich agrarian history, there are many stone walls, which account for some of the blocky forest patterns. In addition, it's home to an old grove of sugar maple trees commonly referred to as a sugarbush. An area where the trees are tapped for their sap which is boiled down to produce maple syrup. A practice first used by southern New England's indigenous tribes.

### ***Site Selection***

The primary goal of the watershed forest management program is to create and maintain a forest that provides high quality drinking water to current users and future generations. To achieve this, DWSP has determined that the forest should contain a diversity of species in various stages of development (seedlings through large legacy trees). In addition, the forest should be vigorous; actively growing and regenerating. Forest in this condition is suited to be resilient to and quickly recover from small and large scale disturbances such as disease, insect infestation, ice storms and hurricanes. Sufficient advanced regeneration coupled with an underrepresented young forest layer merits some regeneration harvesting.

### ***Silvicultural Objectives***

Diversification of forest structure is the primary project objective. This will be accomplished by creating openings (a.k.a. patches) in the forest canopy. Specifically, this project has 14 openings ranging between 0.3 and 1 acre with an average of 0.6 acres. Openings greater than 0.5 acres have retention trees which will add to future forest complexity.

### ***Cultural Resources***

As mentioned above, the area has a rich agrarian history evidenced by many stone walls. Adjacent to the west harvest boundary are several cellar holes.

### ***Rare or Endangered Species***

Maintaining and/or enhancing habitat is a high priority when planning and executing watershed forest management projects. As such, retaining live and dead snags, trees that show sign of use by wildlife for nesting/denning, scenting and foraging is a priority.

Adjacent to the north harvest boundary is a vernal pool; a seasonal wetland that provides breeding habitat for amphibious and invertebrate fauna.

The project does intersect with a MA Natural Heritage Endanger Species Program (NHESP) bubble. Upon NHESP review, the project was deemed to have no impact on the protected flora and/or fauna.

### **Figures**

- Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan
- Figure 2. Photo Point Pictures

Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan

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# Forest Cutting Plan

and Notice of Intent under M.G.L.  
Chapter 132 – The Forest Cutting  
Practices Act, 304 CMR 11.00  
(Effective Date: 1/1/04)

### For DCR Use Only:

File Number	<u>204-8837-17</u>	Case No.	_____
Date Rec'd	<u>5/26/17</u>	Nat. Hert.	<u>Yes /</u>
Earliest Start	<u>6/13/17</u>	Nat. Hert. Imp.	<u>No</u>
River Basin	<u>Chicopee</u>	Pub. Dr. Wat.	<u>Quabbin</u>
Gen. Obj.	<u>LT</u>	ACEC	<u>NO</u>

Site Information

### Location Timber Lot 3149

Town New Salem  
Road North Prescott Rd. (Gate 20)  
Acres 52 Proposed Start Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vol. MBF 100.8 Vol. Cds. 144 Vol. Tons 278

### Plan Preparer

Name Derek Beard  
Address DCR – Div. of Water Supply Protection  
21 Elm St.  
Town, State, Zip New Salem, MA 01355  
Phone 978-544-6343  
Type of Preparer LF  
\*Mass. Forester License # 14  
\*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

### Landowner

Name DCR – Division of Water Supply Protection  
Mailing Address 485 Ware Rd.  
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007  
Phone 412-323-6921  
Ch61  61A  61B  Stew  \*Case # \_\_\_\_\_  
CR  CR Holder \_\_\_\_\_

### Licensed Timber Harvester\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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)	<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. 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\*** Timber Lot 3149

Species	MbF/Cds	Species	MbF/Cds
White Pine	64.8	Red Maple	4.3
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	0.9
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	6.4
Hemlock		Black Oak	1.7
Spruce		White Oak	0.6
Other Hardw.		Other Hardw.	
White Ash	7.0	Total MbF	100.8
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	144
White Birch	0.4	SW Pulp (Tons)	218
H & Y Birch	13.9	HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry	0.7	Chips (Tons)	

\*Note: Volumes and values 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	WO	OM		
Acres	45	?		
Landowner Objective	LT	LT		
Designation of Trees	CT	CT		
Type of Cut	SE	SE		
Source of Regeneration	SE/AP	SE/AP		

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 and values (Ch6) only 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.

*[Signature]*  
Signature of landowner(s)

5/26/17  
Date

Service Forester

**Determination and Status** 204-8837-17

Approved  Disapproved  Expires 5/26/19  
 Cutting Plan *[Signature]* 6/19/2017  
 Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Extension   Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Ser. Tit. Inq. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amendment     \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Report and Comments**

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

*[Signature]* JH7 6-7-19  
 Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Suggest use of prescribed fire to remove herbaceous ground cover at or near 100% (Tons) to initiate the process to maintain Ch 12 Tree Reg. Requirements in a five year span post harvest.*

Codes

Forest Type	Tree Species	Code	Description of Trees	Type of Cut	Taber/White Harvest	Source of Regeneration
WP White Pine	HK Hemlock	OM	Mixed Oak	SH Shelterwood	Intermediate Harvest	AS Advanced
WR White Red	HI Hem/White	RM	Red Maple	ST Seed Tree	CT Commercial Thin	SE Natural Seed
WJ White Jack	BC Black Cherry	RF	Beech	LC Clear Cut	NI Non-Care Thin	PI Plant
WO White Oak	BR Beech/Maple	SF	Spruce/Fir	SE Selection	NS Non-Standard System*	OO Coppice
RP Red Pine	OR Oak/Red	SM	Sugar Maple	SA Salvage	HG Highgrade*	DS Direct Seed
SR Red Spruce	NR Red Oak	PP	Pitch Pine	SA Salvage	DL Diameter Limit*	OT Other
				LT Long-term Mgt		
				ST Short-term Har		

\* (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: 1/1/04)

Use this page to provide further explanation or if Other (OT) was used in any category on pages 3 or 4.  
Timber Lot 3149

Landowner DCR-DWSP-Quab

Town New Salem

File Number 204-8837-17

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.

This harvest is an aggregation of 14 canopy openings (patches) spread across 52 acres. Opening size ranges from 0.3 to 1.0 acre with an

average of 0.7 of an acre. The openings cover a total of 10 acres. Openings greater than 0.5 acres have a minimum of 5 square feet of

residual basal area also known as green tree retention. Retention also includes wildlife trees a.k.a. snags which can be dead or alive.

Trees to be harvested in openings are marked with blue paint. Trees within main skid roads are marked with orange paint.

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.

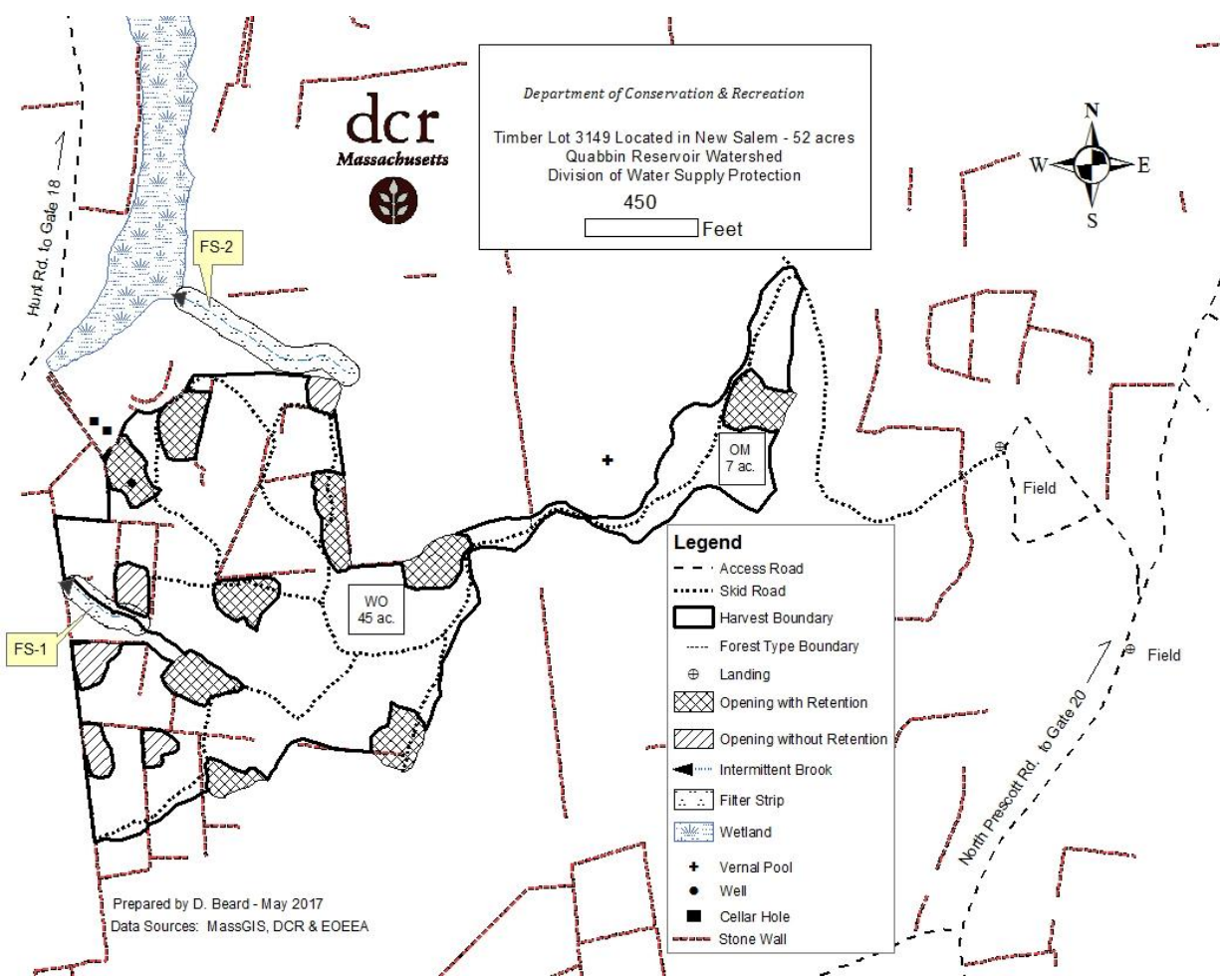
Stand No.	Species to be Cut	Size of Trees to be Cut	Quality of Trees to be Cut	% BA/Acre Removed

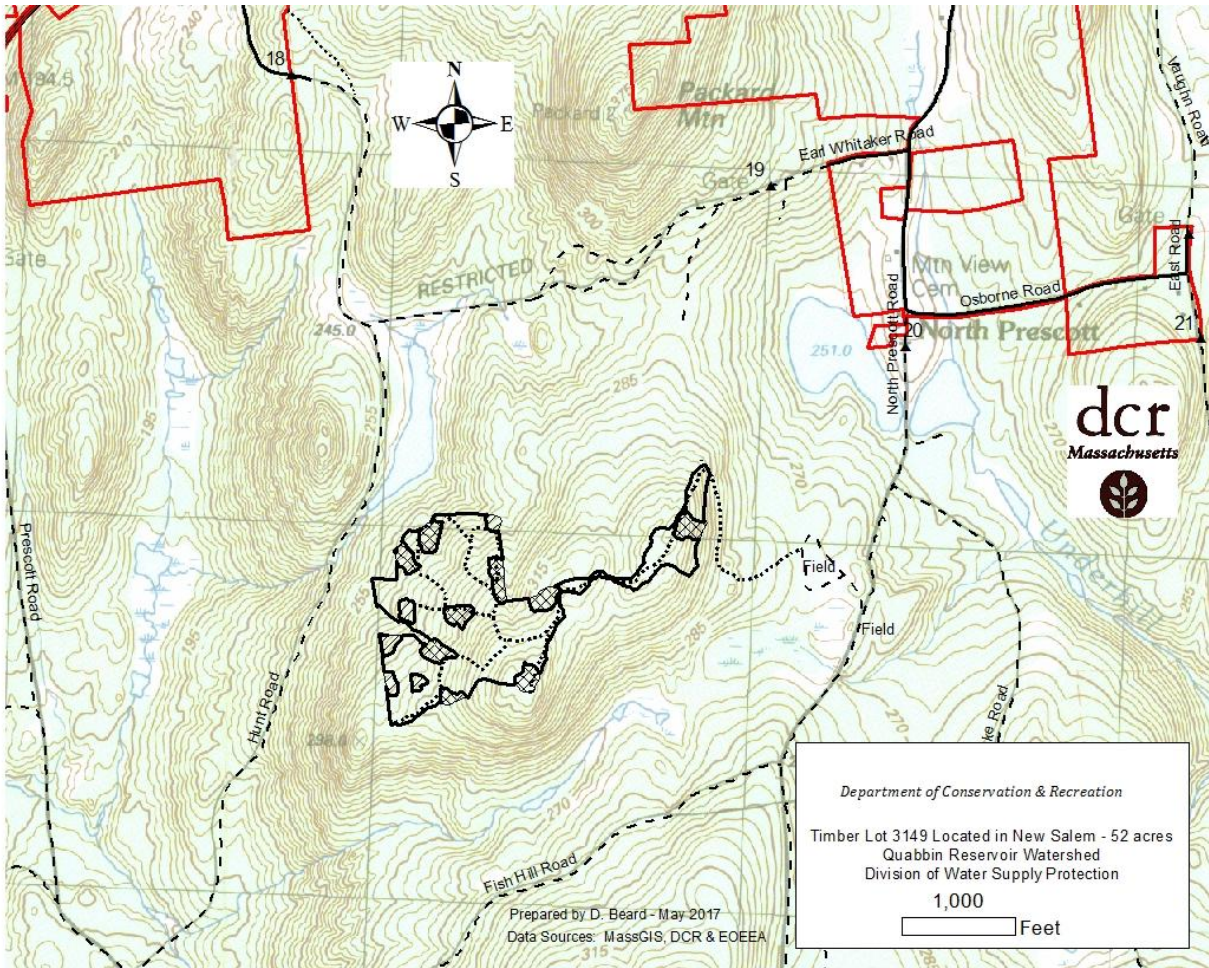
Regeneration & Future Condition

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





MASSWILDLIFE

**DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581  
p: (508) 389-6300 | f: (508) 389-7890  
**MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE**

Jack Buckley, Director

Fletcher Clark - Department of Conservation and Recreation  
40 Cold Storage Drive  
P.O. Box 484  
Amherst, MA 01004

Cutting Plan No.	<u>204-8837-17</u>
NHESP Tracking No.	<u>17-36834</u>
Town	<u>New Salem</u>
Road	<u>North Prescott Road</u>
Landowner	<u>DCR - DWSP</u>
Preparer	<u>Derek Beard</u>
Date	<u>June 19, 2017</u>

Dear Fletcher,

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program ("the NHESP") of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife ("the Division") has reviewed the above-referenced Forest Cutting Plan ("the Plan") pursuant to the special approval procedures of the Forest Cutting Practices Regulations (304 CMR 11.04(6)). Based on details of the Plan and information in the NHESP database, the Division does not expect activities proposed in the Plan to negatively impact Estimated Habitat or result in "Take" (as defined in 321 CMR 10.02) of plant or animal species protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) (M.G.L. c. 131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00). Therefore, the Division does not require that the Plan be modified at this time.

Please copy the Division on any proposed amendment, extension and on the approved Plan for the site. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Brent Powers at (508) 389-6354 or [brent.powers@state.ma.us](mailto:brent.powers@state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Thomas W. French, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director

Cc: New Salem Conservation Commission

**MASSWILDLIFE**

dcr



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

FILE # 204.8837.17

**W**

# 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 DCR-DWSP 485 WARE RD, BELCHERTOWN, MA in accordance with the  
(Name of Owner) (Address)

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

N. PRESCOTT RD lot. (3149)  
(GATE 20)

Approval Date 6/19/17

Director's Agent FLETCHER CLARK

DCR Phone No. (413) 262-2367

ISSUED BY:

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

**Figure 2. Photo Point Pictures**

Pre-Harvest, June 2017



Post Harvest, February 2019



June 2023 (5 years of growth)

