

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

**Project Title: Stevens Branch**

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 4412

DWSP Proposal ID: WR-23-26-3

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 257.42917.25

***Site Information***

Watershed: Ware River Watershed

Town(s): Rutland

Acres: 12.8

Nearest Road: Reuben Walker Rd

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: No

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes

Forest Types: white pine/oak

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)?: No

Soils: 926C - Charlton-Chatfield association - Well drained thick. 927C - Montauk-Scituate-Canton association - Well drained thick.

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

Vernal Pools: No

***Harvest Information***

Harvest Start Date: TBD

Harvest End Date: Before 8/13/26

Number of Wetland Crossings: None

Number of Stream Crossings: None

***Best Management Practices Applied***

Stream Crossings: There are no stream crossings.

Filter Strips: There is no harvesting in a filter strip.

Wetland Crossings: There are no wetland crossings.

Harvesting in Wetlands: There is no harvesting in wetlands.

***DWSP Forester supervising this harvest***

Name: Russ Wilmot

Forester License number: 426

Phone number: 857 262 3809

Email: Russell.Wilmot@mass.gov

## **Narrative**

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

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 as a result of that harvest. Mixed oaks, white pine, red maple, American chestnut, black birch, and eastern hemlock regeneration is present.

Glossy buckthorn was observed but is not well established.

The soils are well drained.

### ***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. A healthy and resilient forest is comprised of diverse native tree and shrub species and multiple age classes of trees.

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

### ***Silvicultural Objectives***

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.

### ***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.

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

Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program (NHESP) does not show any rare habitat within the harvest area.

## Figures

Figure 1. Final Forest Cutting Plan

AUG 13 2024

## 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 357.42917.25 Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Rec'd 08-13-24 Nat. Hert. NO  
Earliest Start 08-28-24 Nat. Hert. Imp. \_\_\_\_\_  
River Basin CHICOPEE Pub. Dr. Wat. WARE  
Gen. Obj. LT ACEC NO

Site Information

## Location

Town Rutland Lot 4412  
Road Reuben Walker Rd  
Acres 12.8 Proposed Start Date 9/30/24  
Vol. MBF 50.1 Vol. Cds. 43 Vol. Tons 144

## Plan Preparer

Name Russell Wilmot  
Address 578 Old Turnpike Rd  
Town, State, Zip Oakham, MA, 01068  
Phone 1-857-262-3809  
Type of Preparer Mass. Licensed Forester  
\*Mass. Forester License # 426  
\*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

## Landowner

Name DCR/DWSP/OWM Quabbin/Ware River  
Mailing Address 485 Ware Rd.  
Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007  
Phone 857-262-3809  
Ch61 ☐ Ch61A ☐ Stew ☐ \*Case # \_\_\_\_\_  
Est. Stumpage Value \_\_\_\_\_

## Licensed Timber Harvester\*\*

Name Will be provided when known  
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	N/A			
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	N/A			
Mitigation				
Stabilization				

## Filter Strips

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

## Harvesting in Wetlands

Indicate location on map	HW-1	HW-2	HW-3	HW-4
Forest Type (see pg 2)	N/A			
Acres to be Harvested				
Resid. Basal Area (>50%?)				

## Service Forester Comments

Notify Service Forester before start  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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## Products to be Harvested\*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	44.6	Red Maple	
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	1.9
Hemlock		Black Oak	0.4
Spruce		White Oak	3.2
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash		Total Mbf	50.1
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	43
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	
B & Y Birch		HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry		Chips (Tons)	144

\*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.

## Cutting Standards

Indicate location on map	ST-1	ST-2	ST-3	ST-4
Forest Type	WO			
Acres	12.8			
Landowner Objective	LT			
Designation of Trees	CT			
Type of Cut	SH			
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE			

## 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 (Ch61 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.

8/8/2024

Signature of landowner(s)

Date

## Determination and Status 257.42917.25

Approved Disapproved Expires

Cutting Plan

☒

☐

08-13-26

8/27/24

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 afore described Forest Cutting Plan and all relevant statutes have been substantially complied with.

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

Date

Forest Types  
WP White Pine  
WK WP/Hem  
WH WP/Hdwd  
WO WP/Oak  
RP Red Pine  
SR Red Spruce

HK Hemlock  
HH Henv/Hdwd  
BC Blck Cherry  
BB Bee/Bir/Map  
OH Oak/Hdwd  
OR N Red Oak

OM Mixed Oak  
RM Red Maple  
BE Beech  
SF Spruce/Fir  
SM Sugar Maple  
PP Pitch Pine

Designation of Trees  
CT Cut Tree  
LT Leave Tree  
SB Stand Boundary  
OT Other  
Landowner Objective  
LT Long-term Mgt.  
ST Short-term Har.

Type of Cut  
SH Shelterwood  
ST Seed Tree  
CC Clear Cut  
SE Selection  
SA Salvage  
SN Sanitation

Intermediate Harvests:  
CT Commercial Thin  
NT Non Com Thin  
Non-Standard Systems:  
HG Highgrade\*  
DL Diameter Limit\*  
OT Other\*

Source of Regeneration  
AD Advanced  
SE Natural Seed  
PL Plant  
CO Coppice  
DS Direct Seed  
OT Other

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

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# Forest Cutting Plan

## Narrative Page

Use only if further explanation is required of information on pages one or two or if "other" was used in any category.

Landowner:

DOR/DWSP  
OWN Chubb

Town:

Rutland

File Number:

257.429725

<b>B M P s</b>	<u>No stream or wetland crossings on this lot.</u>
	<u>The pre existing haul roads will be utilized. The main haul roads are painted in a vertical blue stripe and orange/black flagging</u>
	<u>FS-1 No cutting will take place.</u>
<b>Silviculture</b>	<u>This operation will be the final overstory removal stage of a shelterwood that was previously harvested in 2015. The result of that harvest was abundant oak and pine regeneration. The entire overstory removal area is 12.8 acres.</u>
	<u>A variety of mature white oak, pitch pine, red oak, pin oak, hickory and hemlock will be retained (Orange ringed) somewhat evenly spread throughout the removal area where possible.</u>
<b>Objectives</b>	<u>The objective of this operation is to fully release the abundant oak and pine regeneration in a final shelterwood harvest.</u>
	<u>This harvest will diversify the age structure of the forest by removing the overstory in one final cut releasing the advance regeneration in most instances and allowing natural seed germination in others. The current age structure of this forest is limited with an insufficient component of young forest.</u>
<b>Other</b>	<u>The landing of this site will be directly across Reuben Walker Rd just inside the Kitchen Fire Rd gate.</u>
	<u>A forwarder will be required to protect regeneration and the road.</u>
	<u>Retained boundary trees of the shelterwood are ringed in orange with an orange dot facing the inside of the harvest.</u>
	<u>Retained trees within the harvest area are single orange ringed.</u>



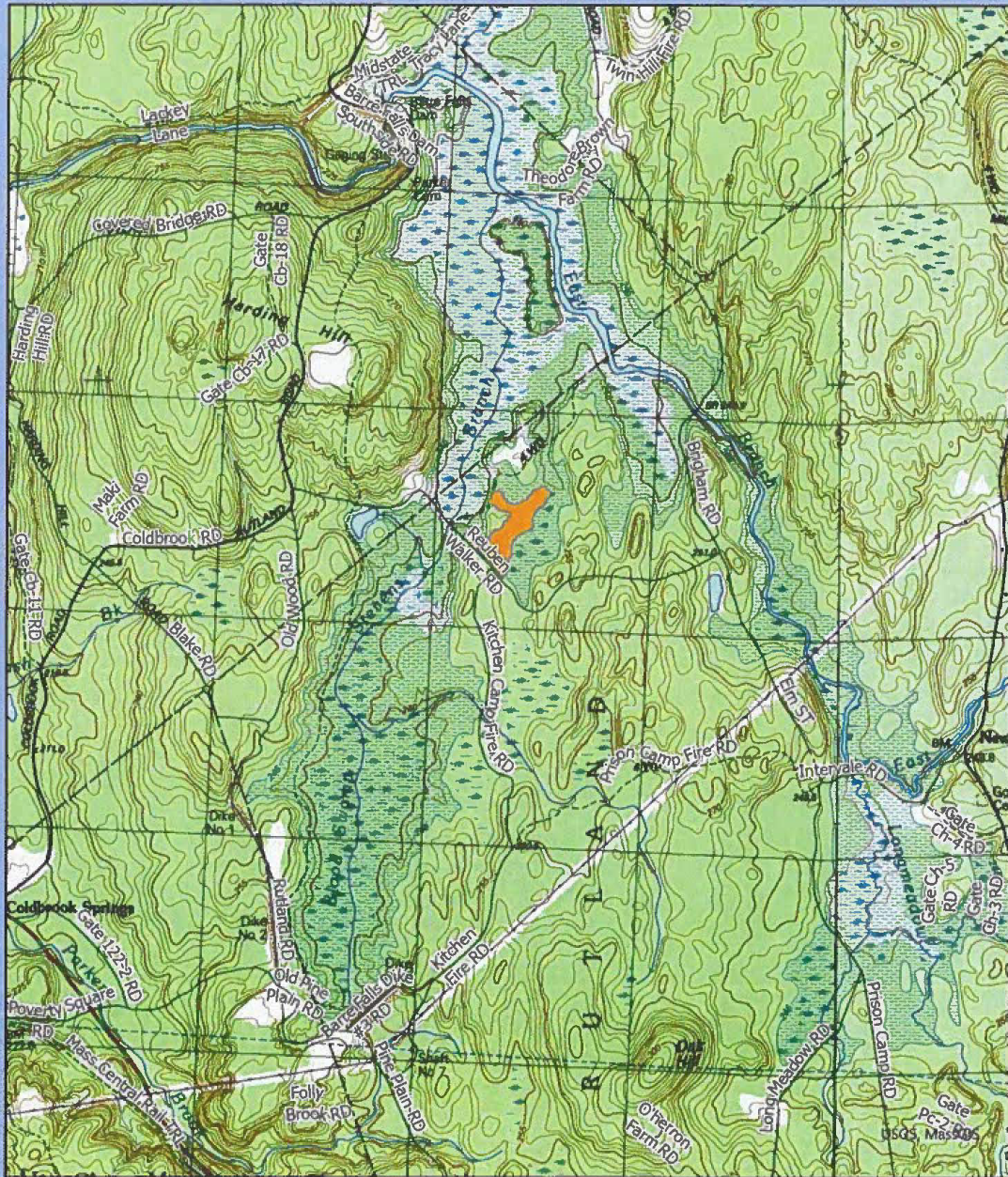
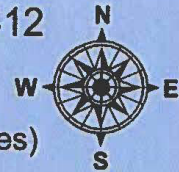


# DCR -- Ware River Watershed Locus Map 4412

0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 Feet



Sale area (12.8 Acres)





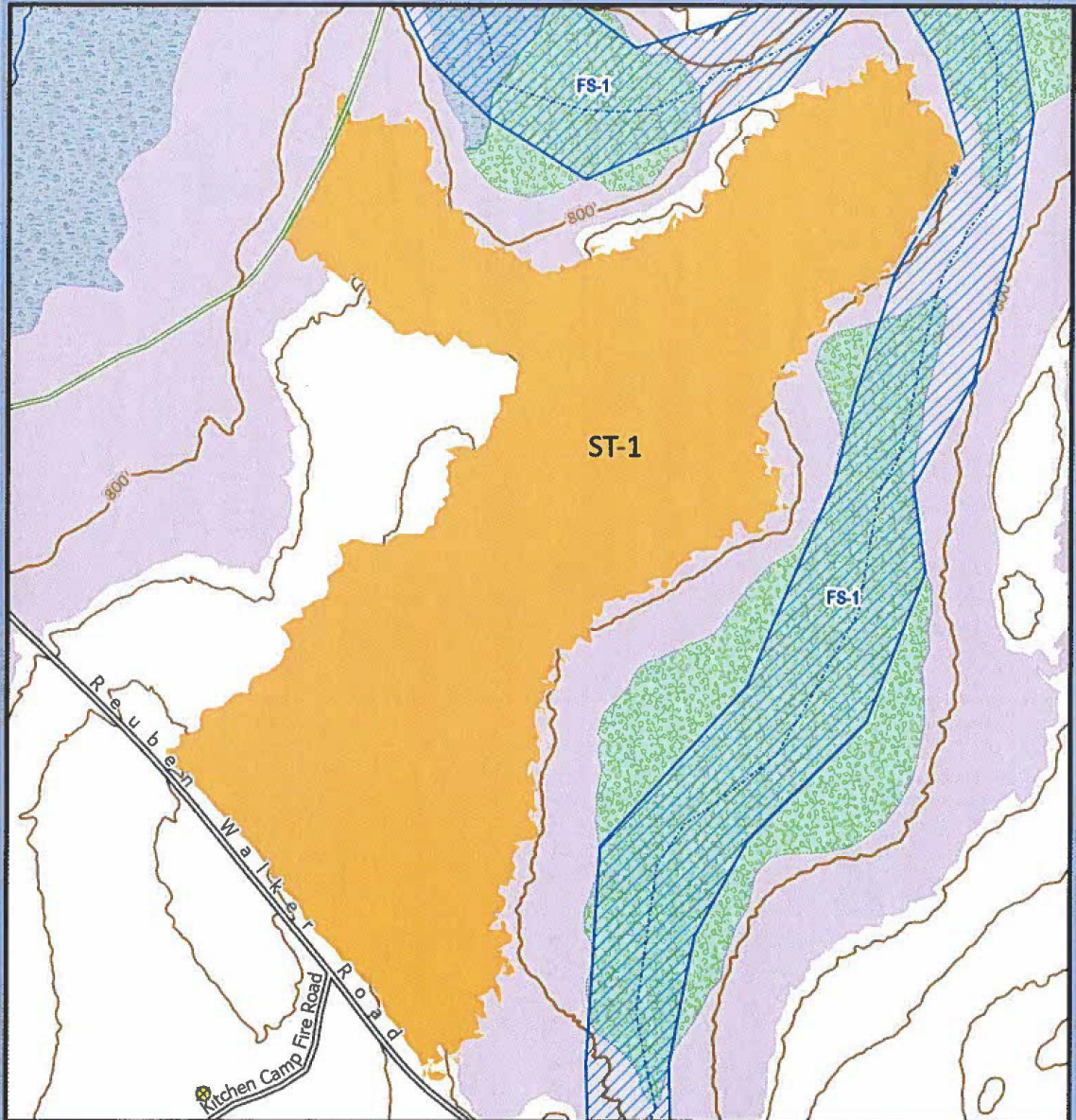
# DCR -- Ware River Watershed Timber sale 4412 Stand/Filter Strip/Topo Basemap



- |                            |              |             |             |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Filter Strips              | Beech        | Other       | Red Spruce  |
| Stream/River: Perennial    | Hemlock/Hdwd | Pitch Pine  | WP/Hardwood |
| Stream/River: Intermittent | Hemlock      | Red Maple   | WP/Hemlock  |
| <b>Cutting Plan Stands</b> | Oak/Hdwd     | Red Pine    | WP/Oak      |
| Beech/Birch/Maple          | Mixed Oak    | Spruce/Fir  | White Pine  |
| Black Cherry               | N Red Oak    | Sugar Maple |             |

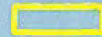


110 55 0 110 220 330 440  
Feet





# DCR -- Ware River Watershed Timber Sale 4412



Sale Area (12.8 Acres)



Landing



Vernal pool



Haul Roads



Stonewalls

0 1,000 2,000 3,000

Feet



Forest Roads/Trails



Trails



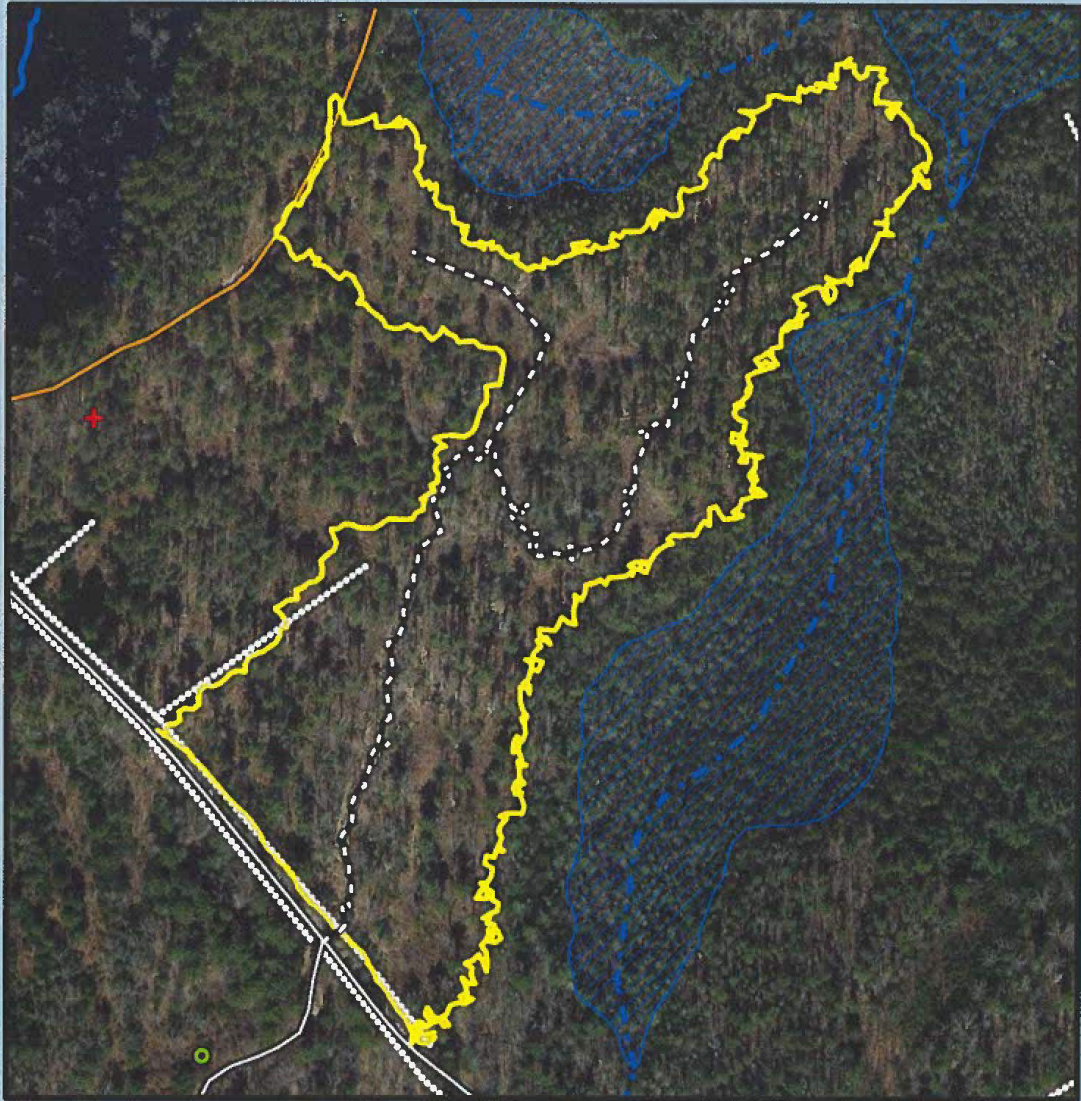
Wetlands



Streams



Intermittent Streams



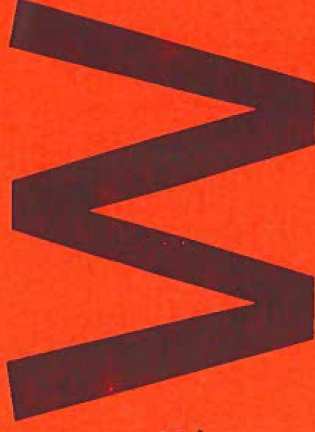


dc



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

FILE # 257.42917.25



## 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/OWM Quabbin/Ware River Belcherstown in accordance with the  
(Name of Owner) (Address)

provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section 40-46, filed in Clinton with the Dept. of Conservation  
and Recreation, Division of State Parks and Recreation, a Notice of Intent to cut forest products upon the

Reuben Walker Rd. lot.

Approval Date 8/27/2024

Director's Agent Jacob B Seidel

DCR Phone No. 857-345-2535

ISSUED BY:

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