

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

Project Title: Marsh Lane

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 4414

DWSP Proposal ID: WR-22-02-01

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 222.43328.25

Site Information

Watershed: Ware River Watershed

Town(s): Oakham

Acres: 65.6

Nearest Road: Coldbrook Rd

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: No

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes

Forest Types: White pine/oak, Oak hardwood

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)?: No

Soils: Moderately well drained Montauk-Scituate-Canton– 79%

Well drained thick Montauk-Canton association- 13%

Poorly to very poorly drained Ridgebury-Whitman- 8%

Wetland Resources: a couple thin veins of wet soils running roughly north to south through the middle of the southern portion of the lot below Marsh Lane. They will be crossed to access the southeastern portion of the lot. Portable bridge panels and brush will be used to armor the crossings as needed.

Vernal Pools: **There is a single vernal pool that is roughly 400 ft east of the landing and there is a network of five vernal pools in the southern portion of the lot. Vernal pools will be buffered.**

Harvest Information

Harvest Start Date: 7/10/25

Harvest End Date: 9/5/25

Number of Wetland Crossings: Two

Number of Stream Crossings: None

Best Management Practices Applied

Stream Crossings: There are no stream crossings.

Filter Strips: There is no harvesting in filter strips.

Wetland Crossings: There are two wetland crossings made of timberframe mats with approaches protected.

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:

Lot 4414 is located on the East side of Coldbrook Rd in Oakham.

The 1938 aerial photos show this area was young forest at that time.

The only recorded harvest in the area is lot 164, a 26 acre shelterwood in the northwestern portion of the lot that was completed in 1988. No discernable overstory openings were created during that harvest.

The entire lot appears to be even aged with white pine dominating much of the overstory. Oak species are also a major component and dominate the stand to the north. Other overstory species present are red maple, black birch, yellow birch, paper birch, pitch pine, shagbark hickory and white ash.

Site Selection

This site was selected because it is dominated by an even aged canopy with relatively low species diversity. These types of sites are less resilient to wind events such as hurricanes, which typically impact taller trees and invasive insects and pathogens, which typically impact certain species of trees. Diversifying age and height structure and species composition across the landscape will help make the forest more resilient over time.

Silvicultural Objectives

The silvicultural objective of this harvest is to start transitioning a single aged forest into a multi-aged forest by removing trees in groups to create growing conditions suitable to regenerate diverse species of native trees. The groups of trees removed vary in size and target areas with low overstory species diversity and low vigor. Two openings of 3.4 acres each will be created in areas dominated by low vigor white pine. Several openings between 0.2 and 2.0 acres were created in oak dominated and more mixed canopy areas. The desired future condition of the stand is a more balanced age structure with dense pockets of regeneration of diverse tree species surrounded by undisturbed forest.

Cultural Resources

There are cultural sites that will be well buffered. There are stone walls present throughout the lot that will be crossed to access the lot. Care will be taken to use pre-existing crossings where possible.

Rare or Endangered Species

No known rare species or priority habitats on site.

Figures

Figure 1. Final 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: 1/1/04)

For DCR Use Only:

File Number 222.433285 Case No. _____
 Date Rec'd 07-16-25 Nat. Hert. NO
 Earliest Start 07-02-25 Nat. Hert. Imp. NO
 River Basin CHICOPEE Pub. Dr. Wat. WARE
 Gen. Obj. LT ACEC NO

Site Information

Location

Town Oakham Lot 4414
 Road Coldbrook Rd
 Acres 65.6 Proposed Start Date 7/09/25
 Vol. MBF 161.2 Vol. Cds. 308 Vol. Tons 658

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 413-323-7221
 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				
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	20	20		
Mitigation	FR/DR	FR/DR		
Stabilization	CO	CO		

Filter Strips

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

Narrative Page

Landowner: DCR DWSP

Town: Oakham

File Number: 222.43328.25

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

BMPs	<p><u>There are two wetland crossings on this lot. Both are narrow wetland sections with a mud and stone bottom that are each about 20' across. Both crossings will be corduroyed and/or timber frame swamp mats will be used.</u></p> <p><u>There are five variable width filter strips with no cutting. FS-1 has a vernal pool behind the landing. FS-2 is a network of five small vernal pools. There are pre-existing skid trails that will be utilized along FS-1.</u></p>
Silviculture	<p><u>The intent of this harvest is to increase vertical structure and species diversity by establishing patches of young forest. Eleven openings of 1.82, 1.16, 0.22, 0.53, 0.63, 1.78, 0.66, 1.07, 1.02, 3.38, 3.84 acres totaling 16.1 acres will be established. All openings 1.0 acres and less are considered patch cuts or group selection openings. Openings over 1.0 acres in size are considered clearcuts.</u></p> <p><u>They patches are well distributed throughout the area, in some instances taking advantage of the advance regeneration comprised of oaks, white pine and other hardwoods. Some openings are targeted at removing white pine of low quality and vigor. No thinning will occur.</u></p>
Objectives	<p><u>The objective of this operation is to diversify the age structure of the forest by removing the overstory in patches thereby releasing the advance regeneration in some instances and allowing natural seed germination in others. The current age structure is limited with an insufficient component of young forest.</u></p>
Other	<p><u>The landing of this project will be just inside gate CB-3.</u></p> <p><u>All skid trails have been marked in vertical blue paint.</u></p> <p><u>Boundary trees of each opening will be retained and are orange ringed with a dot facing inside the opening. Double orange ringed trees are edge of sale.</u></p> <p><u>Retained trees in the openings/along skid trails are single ringed and are to be protected by timber harvester.</u></p>

Forest

Products to be Harvested*

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

*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

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, 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.

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.

[Handwritten Signature]

Signature of landowner(s)

6/9/2025

Date

Service Forester

Determination and Status 222.4332825

Approved [X] Disapproved [] Expires []

Cutting Plan [X]

[Handwritten Signature]

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

7/7/2025

Date

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

Extension 1 [] 2 [] Expires / / Ser. For. Ints. / /

Amendment App 1 [] Dis 1 [] App 2 [] Dis 2 []

Codes

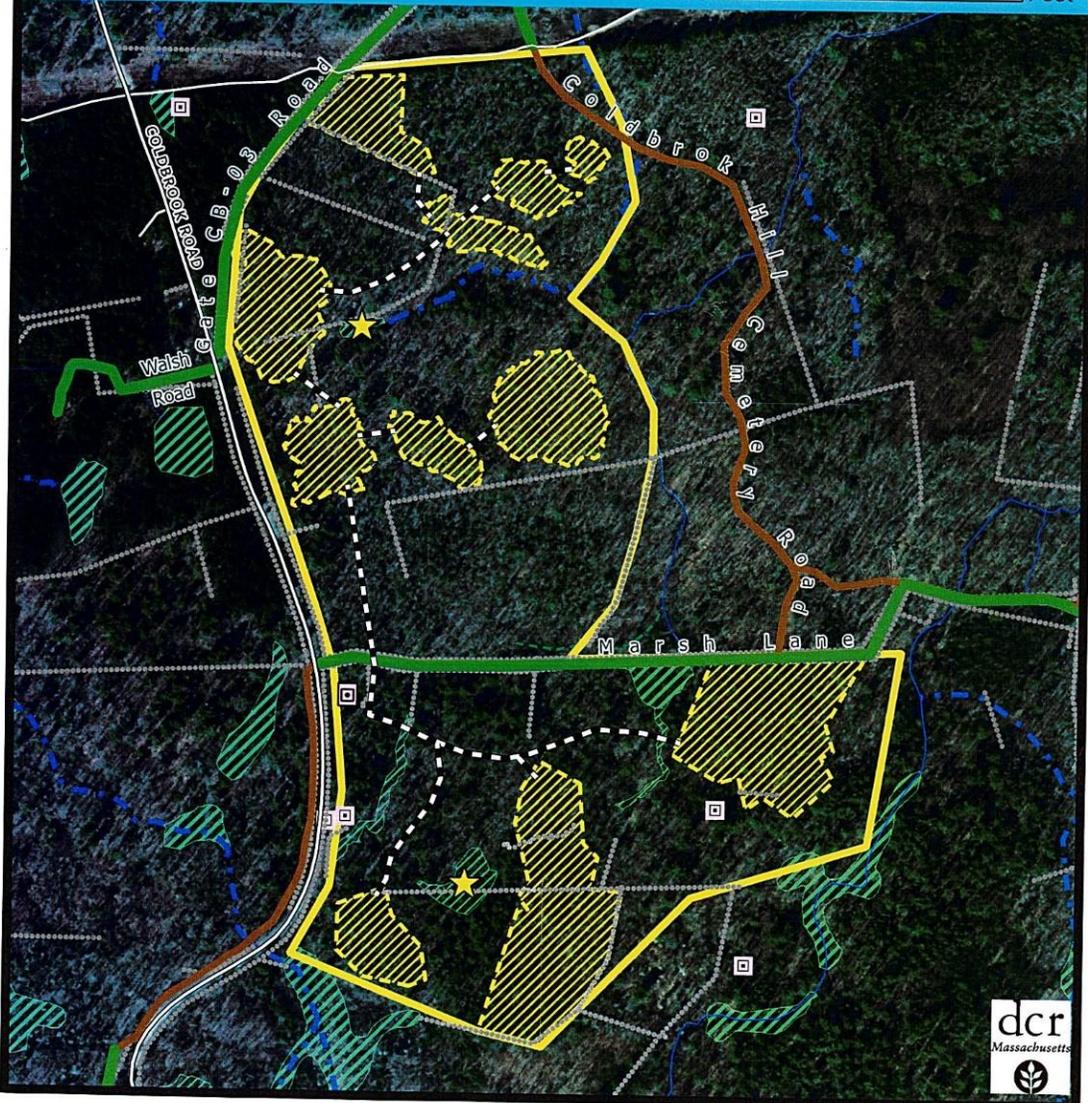
Table with 4 columns: Forest Types, Designation of Trees, Type of Cut, Source of Regeneration. Rows include WP, WK, WH, WO, RP, SR, HK, HH, BC, BB, OH, OR, OM, RM, BE, SF, SM, PP, CT, LT, SB, OT, LT, ST, SH, ST, CC, SE, SA, SN, Intermediate Harvests, Non-Standard Systems*.

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

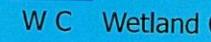
DCR DWSP Timber Sale 4414

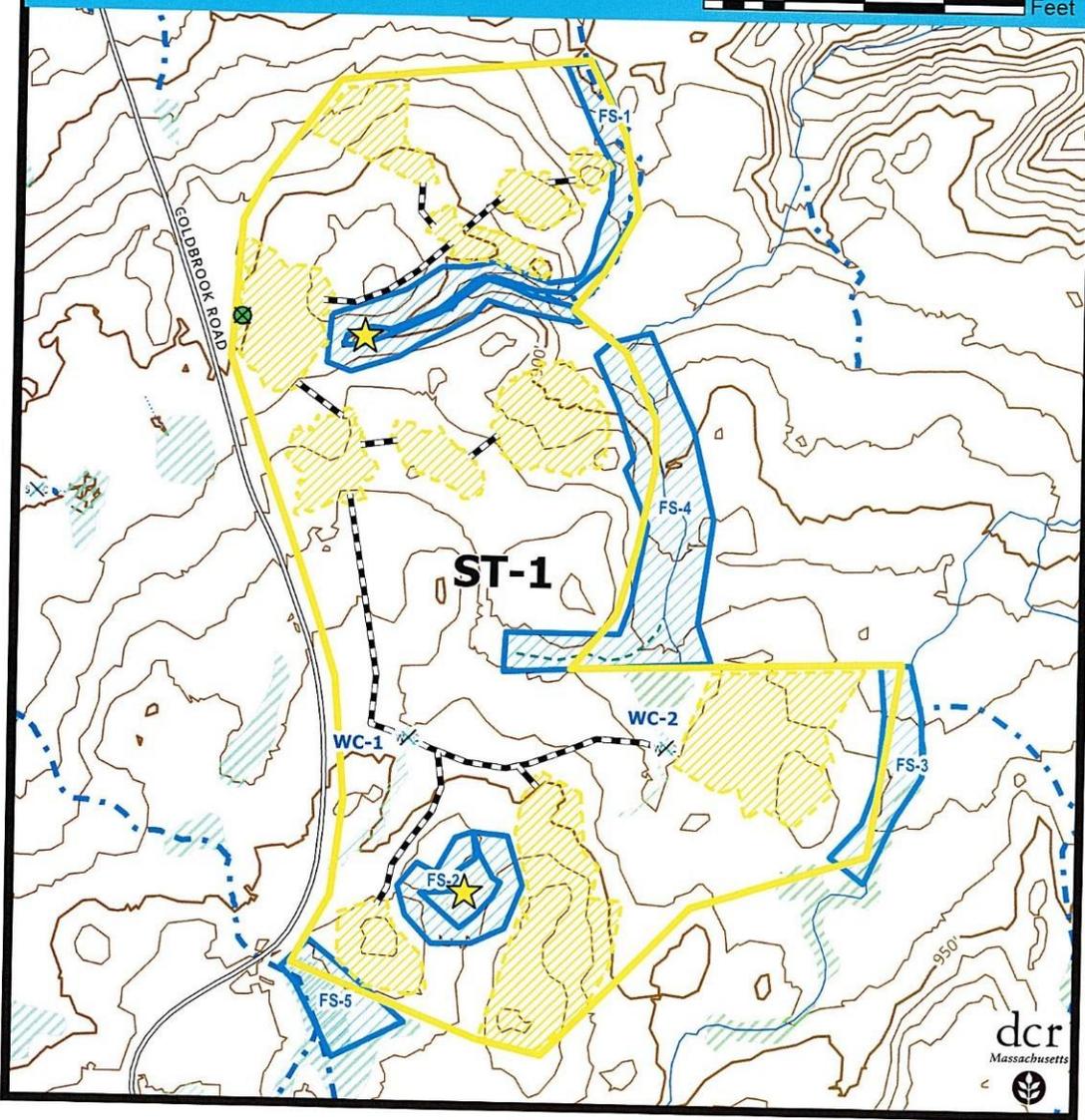
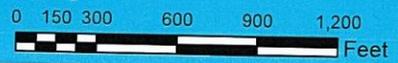
Basemap

-  Sale Area (65.6 acres)
-  Openings (16.1 acres)
-  Landing(s)
-  Vernal Pool(s)
-  Skid Trails
-  Trail(s)
-  Forest Road(s)
-  Stonewalls
-  Streams
-  Wetlands
-  Cultural Site(s)



DCR DWSP Timber Sale 4414
Filter strips/Stands/Topo

-  Sale Area (65.6 acres)
-  Streams
-  Openings (16.1 acres)
-  Wetlands
-  Landing(s)
-  Filter Strips
-  Vernal Pool(s)
-  W C Wetland Crossing
-  Skid Trails



DCR -- Ware River Watershed Locus Map 4414



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



Sale area (65.6 Acres)

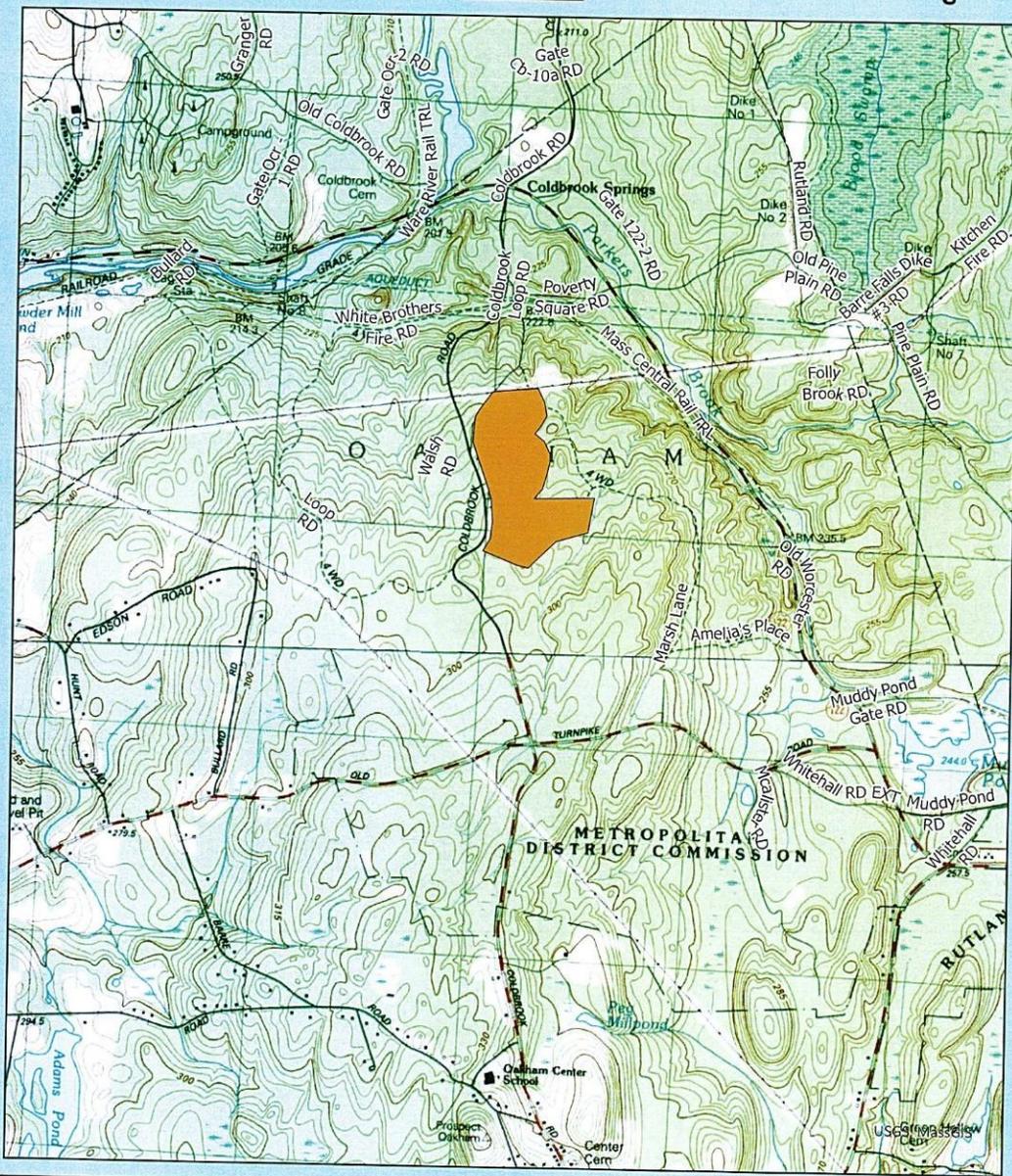
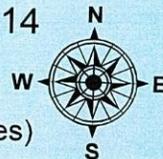


Figure 2: Before harvest (July 2025)

