

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

**Project Title: Soapstone Hill Spongy Moth Salvage**

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: S11NQ

DWSP Proposal ID: PT-19-12&13-S

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 234- 9586-19

***Location Information***

Watershed: Quabbin

Town(s): Petersham

Acres: 25.4

Nearest Road: : Soapstone Road

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: Yes

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)?: No

***Site Information***

Forest Types: oak-hardwood

Soils: Montauk-Scituate-Canton association, extremely stony, 3-15% slopes, and Montauk -Canton association, extremely stony, 15-45% slopes

Wetland Resources: There are four small wooded wetlands outside the harvest boundary to the south and west, with intermittent streams leading away from the harvest from the wetlands to the south.

Vernal Pools: none

***Harvest Information***

Harvest Start Date: October 14, 2020

Harvest End Date: May 24, 2021

Number of Wetland Crossings: none

Number of Stream Crossings: none

***Best Management Practices Applied***

Stream Crossings: not applicable

Filter Strips: the wetlands and streams outside the harvest area are protected by variable width filter strips.

Wetland Crossings: not applicable

Harvesting in Wetlands: not applicable

***DWSP Forester supervising this harvest***

Name: Helen Johnson

Forester License number: 383

Phone number: (617) 733-2937

Email: Helen.Johnson@mass.gov

## **Narrative**

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

Lot S11NQ is located on the west slopes of Soapstone Hill in Petersham. The primary forest type in the harvest area is oak-hardwood. Forest health is poor, with a large proportion of the oak dead or badly weakened by the recent spongy moth infestation.

### ***Site Selection***

This site was chosen because of its high concentration of mature oaks that died in the wake of the 2017-2019 spongy moth outbreak, and because the area is easily accessible from an existing cart road between Soapstone Road and the Gate 36B access road.

Oak, especially red oak, is one of the most economically valuable timber resources on DWSP lands. After trees die decay sets in quickly, wood boring insects begin to tunnel in, and wood value falls steeply. As part of its fiduciary responsibility to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, DWSP conducts salvage harvests of a portion of the most valuable dead and dying trees before their value is lost forever. Locations are prioritized based on ease of access, with preference given to areas that need few or no stream or wetland crossings and are on gentle to moderate terrain, thus presenting minimal risk to the water supply. This harvest is consistent with those criteria.

### ***Silvicultural Objectives***

The primary silvicultural objective of this harvest is to salvage dead and dying oaks.

### ***Cultural Resources***

A cellar hole is located outside the harvest boundary to the south.

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

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has determined that state-listed sensitive species or habitats may exist within the harvest area. To protect them from unnecessary disturbance, detailed information regarding affected species and their locations is not included here. DWSP has coordinated with NHESP to gather recommendations to protect these species during the harvest. NHESP has reviewed the Forest Cutting Plan for this lot and determined that

“Based on details in the Plan and information in our database, the Division [DFW] 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 and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00).”

**Forest Cutting Plan**

**Forest Cutting Plan page 1 of 7**

**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 234-9586-19 Case No.         
 Date Rec'd 11/2/18 Nat. Hert. Yes /  
 Earliest Start 11/20/18 Nat. Hert. Imp. NO  
 River Basin Chicopee Pub. Dr. Wat. NO  
 Gen. Obj. LT ACEC NO

Extension 1 (10/20) Final (5/25) 11-02-18P03:23 RCVD

Site Information

**Location**

Town Petersham **Lot S11NQ**  
 Road Access: South Athol Rd. New Salem (Quabbin Gate 35)  
OR Munson Turnpike, Petersham (Quabbin Gate 37)  
 Acres 25.4 Proposed Start Date 11/28/2018  
 Vol. MBF 74 Vol. Cds. 73 Vol. Tons 5

**Plan Preparer**

Name Helen Johnson  
 Address DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry  
485 Ware Road  
 Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007  
 Phone 617-733-2937  
 Type of Preparer LF  
 \*Mass. Forester License # 383  
 \*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

**Landowner**

Name DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry  
 Mailing Address 485 Ware Road  
Helen.Johnson@mass.gov  
 Town, State, Zip Belchertown, MA 01007  
 Phone 617-733-2937  
 Ch61  61A  61B  Stew  \*Case #  
 CR  CR Holder       

**Licensed Timber Harvester\*\***

Name James Harrington  
 Address 4 East St  
 Town, State, Zip Petersham MA 01366  
 Phone 978-724-3452  
 Mass. Lic. Harvester # 2021-402  
 \*\*This information may be supplied after the plan is approved, but before work begins.

Best Management Practices

**Stream Crossings** No 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** No 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)	VA	VA		

**Harvesting in Wetlands** None

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**

Heritage - no take - See Attached AR

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		

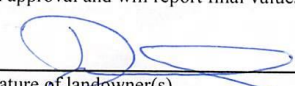
**Note:**  
 Applicant must provide DCR with all relevant information before plan may be approved and cutting may begin.  
 Some forestry activities, such as prescribed burning and pesticide or fertilizer application may require additional permits.  
 Consult MA Forestry BMP Manual for further information.

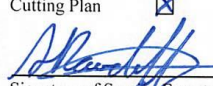
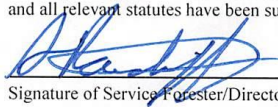
If Other (OT) is used in any category an explanation must be given on an attached narrative page

Products to be Harvested*			
Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	0.6	Red Maple	
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	47.2
Hemlock	0.2	Black Oak	20.0
Spruce		White Oak	5.1
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	0.7
White Ash		<b>Total Mbf</b>	73.9
Beech		<b>Cordwood (Cds)</b>	73
White Birch		<b>SW Pulp (Tons)</b>	
B & Y Birch		<b>HW Pulp (Tons)</b>	
Black Cherry		<b>Chips (Tons)</b>	

\*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	OH			
Acres	25.4			
Landowner Objective	LT			
Designation of Trees	CT			
Type of Cut	SA			
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE			

Landowner Signature	
<p>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.</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>LT - Long-term Forest Management</b> 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.	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>ST - Short-term Harvest</b> 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
<p>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.</p>	
Signature of landowner(s) 	Date <u>10-30-18</u>

Determination and Status		Final Report and Comments	
Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disapproved <input type="checkbox"/> Expires <u>11/2/20</u>	234-9580-19	I hereby certify that the afore described Forest Cutting Plan and all relevant statutes have been substantially complied with.	
Cutting Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent 	Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent 	Date <u>5.7.25</u>
Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent <u>SSL</u>	Date <u>11-13-18</u>	Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent	Date
Extension <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>10-15-20</u>	Expires <input type="checkbox"/> <u>4-22-17</u>	Ser. For. Ints. <u>AK/STC</u>	
Amendment App 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dis 1 <input type="checkbox"/> App 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dis 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	_____ _____ _____		

Codes	Forest Types	Designation of Trees	Type of Cut	Source of Regeneration
WP	White Pine	CT	Shelterwood	AD
WK	WP/Hem	LT	Seed Tree	SE
WH	WP/Hdwd	SB	Clear Cut	PL
WO	WP/Oak	OT	Selection	CO
RP	Red Pine	Landowner Objective	SA	DS
SR	Red Spruce	LT Long-term Mgt.	SN	DL
		ST Short-term Har.		OT
			Intermediate Harvests:	
			CT Commercial Thin	
			NT Non Com Thin	
			Non-Standard Systems:*	
			HG Highgrade*	
			DL Diameter Limit*	
			OT Other*	

\*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: 1/1/04)

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

Landowner DCR-DWSP Quabbin

Town Petersham

File Number 234-9586-19

**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.

The primary purpose of this lot is to salvage oak that dead or dying due to gypsy moth.

BLUE PAINT: dot = cordwood / pulp; horizontal line = sawlog; vertical/diagonal line = TSI; "X" = cull; three vertical dots = edge of harvest.

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**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.

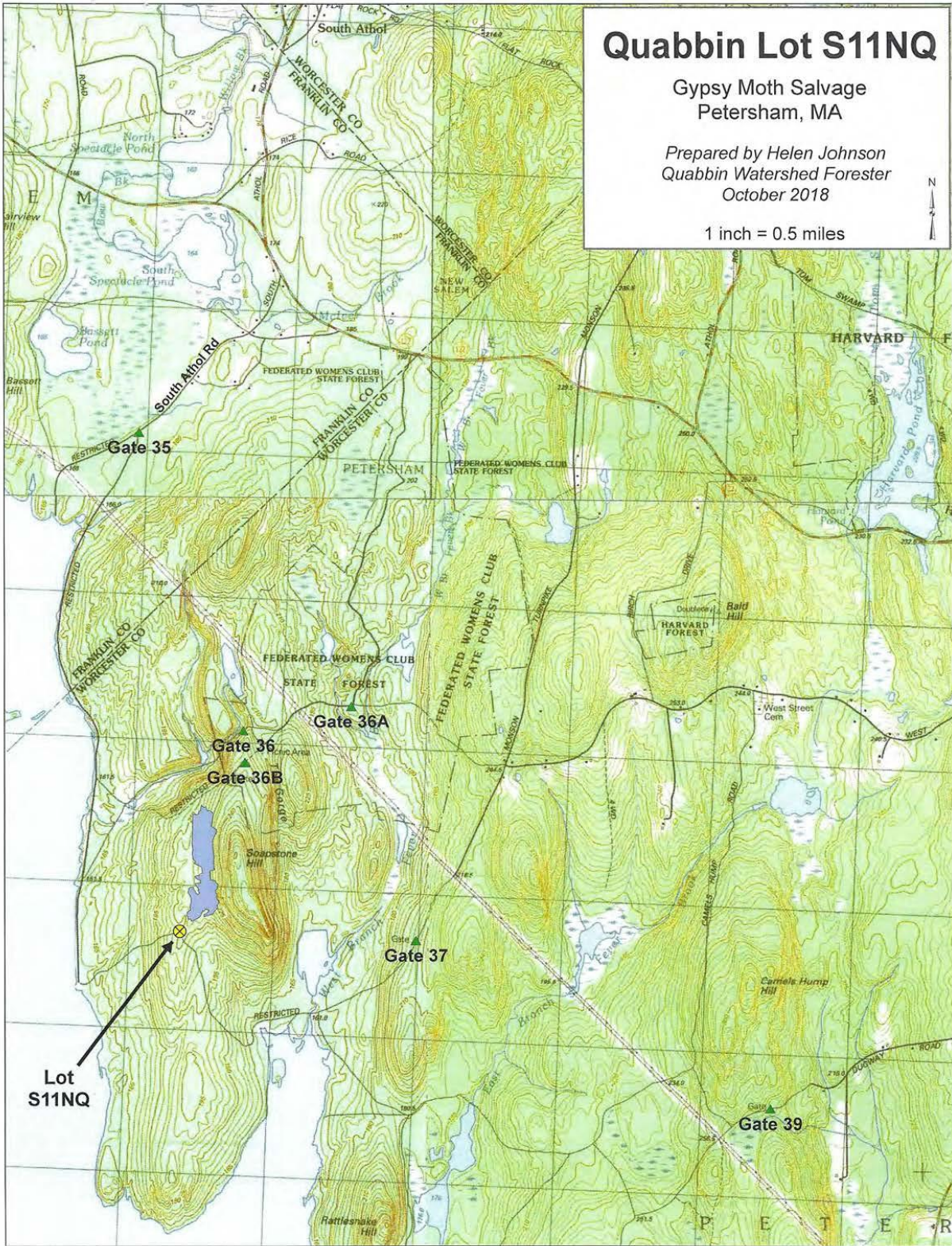
Stand No.	Describe Trees to be Cut			Describe Trees to be Left			% BA/AC	
	Species	Size	Quality	Species	Size	Quality	Cut	Left

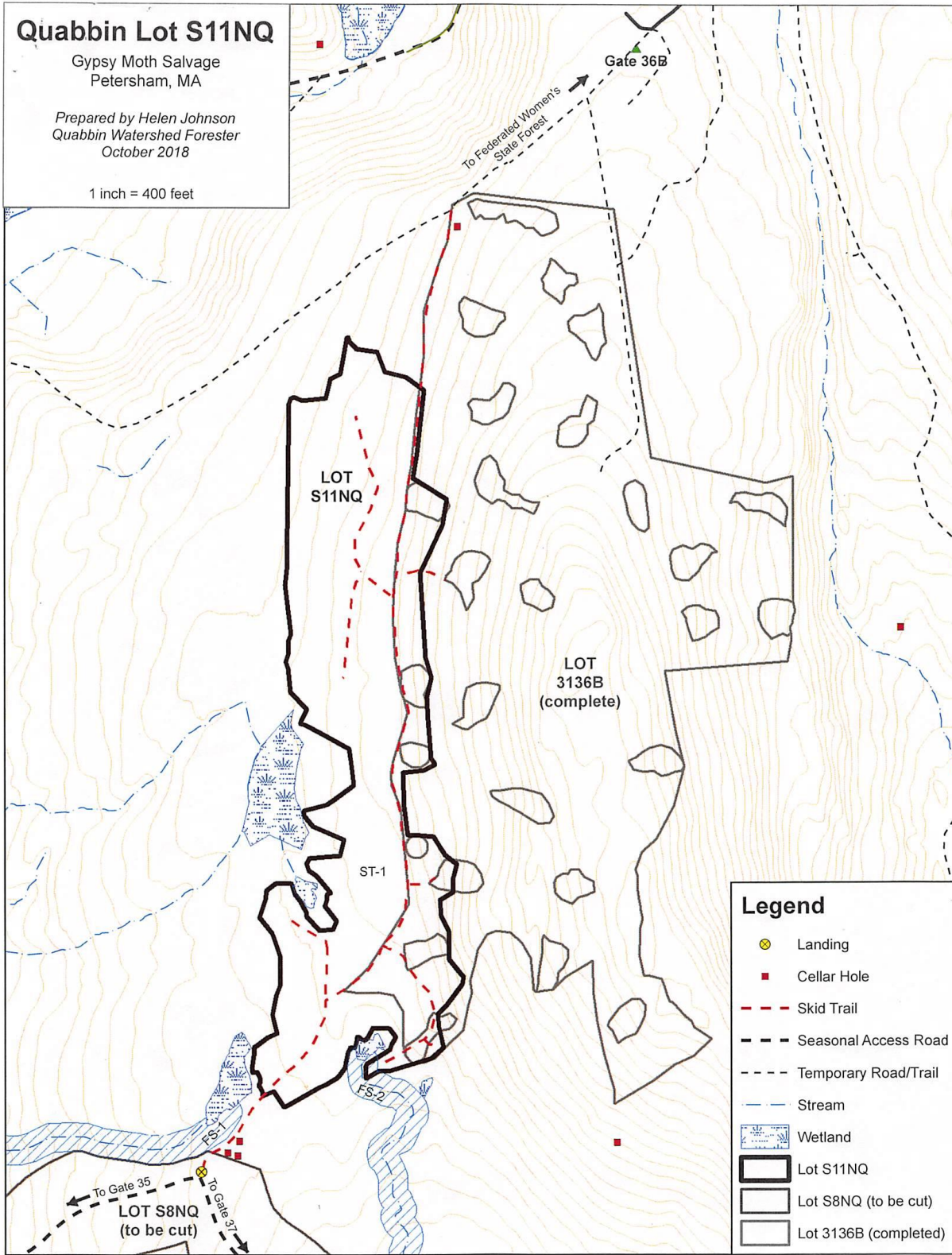
**Regeneration & Future Condition**

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





**DIVISION OF  
FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**

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

Andrew Rawcliffe  
Department of Conservation and Recreation  
40 Cold Storage Drive  
Amherst, MA 01004

Cutting Plan No. 234.9586.19  
NHESP Tracking No. 18-38167  
Town Petersham  
Road South Athol Rd (Quabbin Gate 35)  
Landowner DCR-DWSP Quabbin Forestry  
Preparer Helen Johnson  
Date November 13, 2018

Dear Andrew,

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (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, information in the NHESP database, the Division does not expect activities proposed in the Plan to negatively impact Estimated Habitat or result in a **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 Rebekah Zimmerer, NRCS Review Biologist, at (508) 389-6354 or [Rebekah.zimmerer@state.ma.us](mailto:Rebekah.zimmerer@state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas W. French".

Thomas W. French, Ph.D.  
Assistant Director

Cc: Petersham Conservation Commission

**MASSWILDLIFE**

dcr



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

FILE # 234.9586.19

# 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 Quabbin 485 Ware Rd Belchertown, MA 01007 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

S11N9 lot, Petersham

Approval Date 11/13/18

Director's Agent Andrew Rawcliffe

DCR Phone No. 617.549.1677

ISSUED BY:

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