

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

**Project Title**

<b>DWSP Harvest Permit Number:</b> 1056
<b>DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number:</b> 124-9785-19

**Site Information**

<b>Watershed:</b> Quabbin Reservoir	<b>Town(s):</b> Petersham, Hardwick & Barre
<b>Acres:</b> 26.6	<b>Nearest Road:</b> route 32A (Hardwick Rd.)
<b>Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?:</b> No	<b>Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?:</b> Quabbin
<b>Forest Types:</b> red pine, white pine hardwood, w. pine-oak	<b>ACEC?:</b> No
<b>Soils:</b> Charlton-Paxton association (902E), Woodbridge-Paxton (910C)	
<b>Wetland Resources:</b> Wetlands, streams and intermittent streams are present on or near lot.	
<b>Vernal Pools present or within 200 feet of harvest:</b> None.	

**Harvest Information**

<b>Harvest Start Date:</b> TBD	<b>Harvest End Date:</b> TBD
<b>Number of Wetland Crossings:</b> None	<b>Number of Stream Crossings:</b> Two

**Best Management Practices Applied**

<b>Stream Crossings</b>	One stream crossing has a portable bridge required and banks will be poled and seeded. Second crossing is an existing culvert in an existing graveled woods road.
<b>Filter Strips</b>	Variable filter strips used with less than 50% of basal area cut if any cut at all.
<b>Wetland Crossings</b>	None.
<b>Harvesting in Wetlands</b>	No harvesting in wetlands.

<b>DWSP Forester supervising this harvest</b>
<b>Name:</b> Steven J. Wood
<b>Forester License #:</b> 257
<b>Phone #:</b> (413) 213-7944
<b>Email:</b> steven.wood@mass.gov

## **NARRATIVE**

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

The area to be harvested is located on the east side of 32A in the southern part of Petersham with some acreage in abutting sections of Barre and Hardwick. Access to the landing is through Quabbin barway HD7 which is just south of town line in Hardwick.

The stone walls on this lot attest to its history of being cleared for agriculture, most likely for pasture. When the farmland was abandoned, probably in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century, it reverted to forest. There are 3 areas that were planted to red pine around 1940. These stands were thinned in 1969 and 1984 as was most of the lot. The red pine has declined from a non-native insect the red pine scale and secondary pathogens such as root rot are most likely also present. Sapling to pole sized white and black birch are common in the understory with some white pine and red maple mixed in. Seedlings of most native tree species are scattered throughout, though there is not much oak present. Openings # 5 & 6 have particularly dense and diverse regeneration established already.

The rest of the harvest is in white pine/hardwood or white pine/oak stands which had also been previously thinned with a few openings up to about 1/10<sup>th</sup> acre created. For the most part these stands regenerated better than the red pine containing mainly white pine, black birch and red maple with a fair amount of sugar maple in some areas. Some of the white pine in overstory is quite large and multi-stemmed, often referred to as "old field white pine" referencing the open growing conditions they had when established at field abandonment. The poorest formed of these have little if any commercial value and will be girdled to keep them from suppressing new regeneration while creating wildlife habitat. Existing dead snags of white and red pine (numerous), along with some hardwoods are scattered throughout and will be left standing, as much as possible, during the harvest.

The primary tree species present in overstory are white pine with black birch, red maple, and mixed oaks (predominately red oak) with scattered hemlock. Other hardwoods include paper birch, aspen, ash, sugar maple, hickory and black cherry. On the areas with red pine it is the predominate species with most of the other species above scattered throughout the stand.

The soils on this lot are primarily Charlton-Paxton association (902E) and Woodbridge-Paxton (910C).

### **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. In order 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. A forest in this condition is resilient to and can quickly recover from small and large scale disturbances such as diseases, insect infestations, ice storms and hurricanes.

This site was chosen since the stands overstory is predominately even-aged and the red pine in particular was declining. The white pine is large, with many poorly formed stems. Most of the site is on productive soils so it is anticipated that a better formed, healthier more diverse forest will become established. Also there is healthy, vigorous and somewhat diverse regeneration present that won't stay in that condition much longer if not released.

### **Silvicultural Objectives:**

A goal of this harvest is to build on the success of the work started in 1969 by continuing the process of establishing new tree seedlings and providing space for existing regeneration to expand and grow. The diversity of native species present is being maintained. This combination of structural and species diversity builds resistance and resilience into the forest.

Guided by the principles stated above, the primary purpose of this harvest is the establishment of a new age class by harvesting part of the overstory in small groups, up to 3.6 acres in size, in order to foster regeneration. Groups were placed according to our guidelines. Areas where there were clusters of trees that were declining or had weak stem form, often due to insects, diseases, or storm damage, were specifically targeted. Where there were groups of regeneration created from the previous cut these were expanded upon by cutting a new abutting group. The red pine stands in openings 2, 3 and 5 were already regenerated and well stocked with hardwood poles up to about 7" in diameter so these areas are having the remainder of the red pine overstory cut. At least 10 square feet of basal area is retained in all openings over  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. Red and white oak, black cherry, hickory, sugar maple and white birch were favored for retention in hopes that they will seed in and be more common in the future stand.

Wherever possible wildlife habitat features were maintained and protected, such as snags (dead trees) and trees with cavities or nests. Exceptional individuals of all species present were retained in the stand for seed and to enhance diversity.

### **Cultural Resources:**

Stone walls are numerous throughout this area and will be protected during the upcoming harvest. This is in keeping with DWSP's standard practice, which dictates that every effort is made to keep existing stone walls intact. There are some old cellar holes to the north and south of the lot which are outside the cut area and will be avoided. Otherwise, this area has been determined not to be culturally or archeologically sensitive based on a review by the DCR Archaeologist.

### **Wildlife/Rare or Endangered Species:**

The lot contains no critical habitats or known rare or endangered species, and no vernal pools. The uplands are home to a variety of wildlife including deer, turkey, coyote and moose. Beaver have periodically dammed the stream and wetland complex to the north of the lot and have cut down saplings in the harvest area as far as 400' from the stream but no new activity was noted there last year.

### **FIGURES**

Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan

**Figure 1: Forest Cutting Plan**

<h1>Forest Cutting Plan</h1> <p>and Notice of Intent under M.G.L. Chapter 132 – The Forest Cutting Practices Act, 304 CMR 11.00 (Effective Date: 1/1/04)</p> <p style="margin-top: -10px;">FEB 22 2019</p>		<b>For DCR Use Only:</b> File Number <u>124-9785-19</u> Case No. <u>—</u> Date Rec'd <u>2/22/19</u> Nat. Hert. <u>1 NO</u> Earliest Start <u>3/11/19</u> Nat. Hert. Imp. <u>—</u> River Basin <u>CHICOREE</u> Pub. Dr. Wat. <u>YES</u> Gen. Obj. <u>LT</u> ACEC <u>NO</u>																																																																																																																																																																															
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**Products to be Harvested\***

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	99.2 M	Red Maple	2.4 M
Red Pine	98.4 M	Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	10.4 M
Hemlock		Black Oak	2.4 M
Spruce		White Oak	0.5 M
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash	2.8 M	Total Mbf	217.8
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	137
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	459
B & Y Birch	0.6 M	HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry	1.1 M	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	RP4	WP4	RM4	
Acres	4.7	15.9	5.9	
Landowner Objective	LT	LT	LT	
Designation of Trees	CT	CT	CT	
Type of Cut	SE	SE	CT	
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE	AD/SE	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.

2-15-19

Date

Signature of landowner(s)

**Determination and Status 124-0785-19**

Approved	Disapproved	Expires
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2/22/21
<i>[Signature]</i>		2/27/19
Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent		Date
Extension	App 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dis 1 <input type="checkbox"/> App 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dis 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Expires
Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ser. For. Ints.

**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	HK	Hemlock	OM	Mixed Oak	Designation of Trees	Type of Cut	Intermediate Harvests:	Source of Regeneration
WP White Pine	HK	Hemlock	OM	Mixed Oak	CT Cut Tree	SH Shelterwood	AD Advanced	
WK WP/Hem	HH	Hem/Hdwd	RM	Red Maple	ST Seed Tree	CT Commercial Thin	SE Natural Seed	
WH WP/Hdwd	BC	Blck Cherry	BE	Beech	SB Stand Boundary	CC Clear Cut	NT Non Com Thin	PL Plant
WO WP/Oak	BB	Bee/Bir/Map	SF	Spruce/Fir	OT Other	SE Selection	Non-Standard Systems: <sup>*</sup>	CO Coppice
RP Red Pine	OH	Oak/Hdwd	SM	Sugar Maple	Landowner Objective	SA Salvage	HG Highgrade*	DS Direct Seed
SR Red Spruce	OR	N Red Oak	PP	Pitch Pine	LT Long-term Mgt.	SN Sanitation	DL Diameter Limit*	OT Other
					ST Short-term Har.	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  
 Town Hardwick, Peteresham  
 File Number 124-9785-19

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 red pine here has started to decline, probably infected with scale and root rot is starting to show up. Silviculture is group selection with additional thinning done between groups on about 2/3rds of the remaining non wetland area. Groups range from .2 to 3.6 acres with ones over 0.5 ac. having at least 5 sq ft of BA retained. Retention is mainly vigorous better formed stems of black cherry, oaks and white pine with a few coarse or rotten stems actively being used by wildlife. Individuals of all species present were intentional retained as seed sources for diversity. Cut trees are blue marked, save trees are orange marked. Double orange stripe is edge of cut area, single orange stripe with dot is edge of opening. Note additional oak may be marked after leaf out in spring as a salvage if dying from gypsy moth defoliation of last 2 years.

6

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


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

FILE # 124-9785-19

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 lot DWSP 1056 485 WARE RD, BELCHERTOWN in accordance with the  
(Name of Owner) (Address) MA 01007

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  
RT 32A lot.

Approval Date 2/27/19  
Director's Agent CHRIS CAPONE  
DCR Phone No. (857) 406-0175

ISSUED BY:

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



