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

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

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: S11SQ

DWSP Proposal ID: N/A

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 024-29973-21

# Site Information

Watershed: Quabbin Town(s): Belchertown

Acres: 162

Nearest Road: Juckett Hill Road Natural Heritage Atlas overlap: No

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed: Yes

Forest Types: Oak-hardwoods, Northern Red oak, White pine-hardwoods, Spruce-Fir

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): N

Soils: Fine, sandy loam and rock outcrop

Wetland Resources: Streams

Vernal Pools: None

## **Harvest Information**

Harvest Start Date: 10/1/2020 Harvest End Date: 3/9/2021 Number of Wetland Crossings: 0 Number of Stream Crossings: 4

#### **Best Management Practices Applied**

Stream Crossings: Stabilized with corduroy and seed Filter Strips: Variable width filter strips left uncut

Wetland Crossings: N/A Harvesting in Wetlands: N/A

# **DWSP Forester supervising this harvest**

Name: Steven J. Wood

Forester License number: 257 Phone number: (413) 323-6921 Email: steven.wood@mass.gov

#### **Narrative**

# General Description/Forest Composition/History

The forest surrounding Juckett Hill is generally a closed canopy, even aged forest. The soils are well to moderately well-drained fine, sandy loams along with an area of outcrop soils found to the southeast and downhill from the height of land, 1,070 feet. The most prevalent canopy species are red, black, scarlet and white oak, along with white pine. Red maple, hickory, black and white birch, and hemlock are also present, as is a small Norway Spruce plantation. Topography is mostly mild with occasional steep sections which will be worked conservatively or avoided depending on severity. Previous timber harvests were conducted in 1988, 1990, and 1991.

#### Site Selection

Historical impacts by spongy moth highlight the need to diversify the vertical structure and species composition that is currently present. Recent disturbance events have begun that process and provide an opportunity to augment and guide that process. The area was most recently impacted by a Spongy Moth outbreak from 2015-2020. The result was heavy mortality of canopy oaks. Emerald ash borer, (Agrilus planipennis) arrived at the end of 2019 and many ash trees were showing decline by the fall of 2020. Stagnant growth of canopy white pine has been observed due to white pine needle cast disease, which hinders photosynthetic capacity. Stagnant growth and mortality of white pine regeneration has also occurred, most likely from several funguses and a canker. Droughts in 2015-2016, and fall of 2020, further reduced growth in all species of trees, both in the canopy, the midstory, and the seedling and sapling layer.

# Silvicultural Objectives

Oak and pine are the two keystone species in the watershed forest surrounding the Quabbin Reservoir. The primary silvicultural objective is to encourage establishment and growth of a more diverse suite of trees, woody shrubs, and herbaceous plants. Where soil and moisture conditions are better suited to tree growth, small group selection will be used (openings 0.5 to 2.0 acres in size) with thinning between those openings. In the rocky outcrop where soil conditions are poorer, Spongy Moth killed oak trees will be salvaged.

#### **Cultural Resources**

Numerous foundations and stone walls are present. A well is likely nearby but is yet to be identified.

## Rare or Endangered Species

There are no NHESP habitats in the treatment area. Moose and deer browsing is evident. Bear, turkey, grouse, and coyote are also known to use this area.

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	AME			12 12 2	0					
					Name DCR, Division of Water Supply Protection					
Road Jucket Hill Rd. access through gate 8 or 6				6	Mailing Address 485 Ware Rd.					
Acres	Prop	osed Sta	rt Date_	9/15/20						
Vol. MBF_250.7 V	ol. Cds:	32	Vol. Ton	s 612	Town, S	ate, Zip Belc	hertown, N	1A 0100	7	
					Phone	_(413)	323-6921		-	
Plan Preparer					Ch61	Ch61A	] Stew [	*Ca	se #	
					Est. Stun	page Value				
Name Steven J.					Licono	ad Timba	u Hawa	otou*:	e.	
	vision of W	ater Sup	ply Prote	ction	Licens	ed Timbe	пагуе	ster		
485 Ware		The same of the test of the			Name _	TBD				
Town, State, Zip Bel			7		Address	-				
	3) 213-794				2.5%	ate, Zip				
Type of PreparerMas					Phone					_
*Mass. Forester Licens			7307 50	<del></del>		. Harvester # ormation may be s				
*Required for land und	gs			2.4	work begin	esting in \	Vetlan	ds		
Stream Crossin				PxH		esting in \	Wetlan	ds		
Stream Crossing	SC-1	SC-2	SC-3	Dath SC-4	Harve Indicate le	cation on map	Netlan	HW-2	HW-3	н
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Stream Crossing Indicate location on map Type of Crossing Existing Structure	SC-1 BR no	CU	BR no	BR	Indicate to	cation on map			HW-3	Н
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#### Products to be Harvested\*

Species	Mbf/Cds	40.44	Mbf/Cds
White Pine	133.5	Red Maple	9.5
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	70.8
Hemlock		Black Oak	25,4
Spruce		White Oak	3.1
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd,	8.5
White Ash		Total Mbf	
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	532
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	6/2
B & Y Birch		HW Pulp (Tons)	
Black Cherry	-	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.

#### **Cutting Standards**

Indicate location on map	ST-1	ST-2	ST-3	ST-4
Forest Type	ОН	OR	WH	SF
Acres	72.2	31.8	33.0	9.0
Landowner Objective	LT	LT	LT	LT
Designation of Trees	СТ	СТ	CT	СТ
Type of Cut	SA/SE	SA/SE	SE	SH
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE	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.

∠T – 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.

Signature of landowner(s)

**Final Report and Comments Determination and Status** Expires Approved Disapproved 9-14-22 Cutting Plan 20 SITE Expires Ser. For. Ints. Extension 1 2

I hereby certify that the afore described Forest Cutting Plan and all relevant statutes have been substantially complied with. 2

Director's Agent Signature of Sorvice Foreste Date

Forest Types
WP White Pine
WK WP/Hern
WH WP/Hdwd
WO WP/Oal
RP Red Pine
SR Red Spruce

Amendment

Hemlock Mixed Oak Hem/Hdwd Blck Cherry Bee/Bir/Map RM BE SF SM Red Maple Beech Spruce/Fir Oak/Hdwd Sugar Maple Pitch Pine N Red Oak

Designation of Trees Cut Tree Leave Tree Stand Boundary Other Landowner Objective LT Long-term Man Type of Cut SH Shelterwood Seed Tree Clear Cut Selection ST CC SE Salvage

Sanitation

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

pg2of5

# **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 Belchertown

File Number 024.29973.24

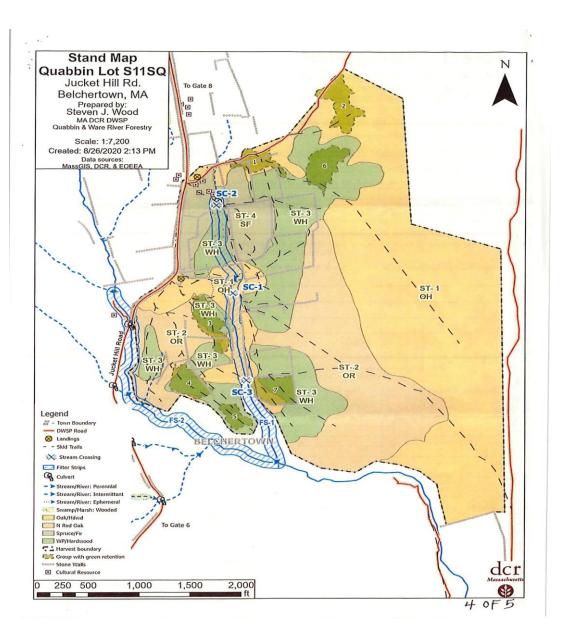
SMPs

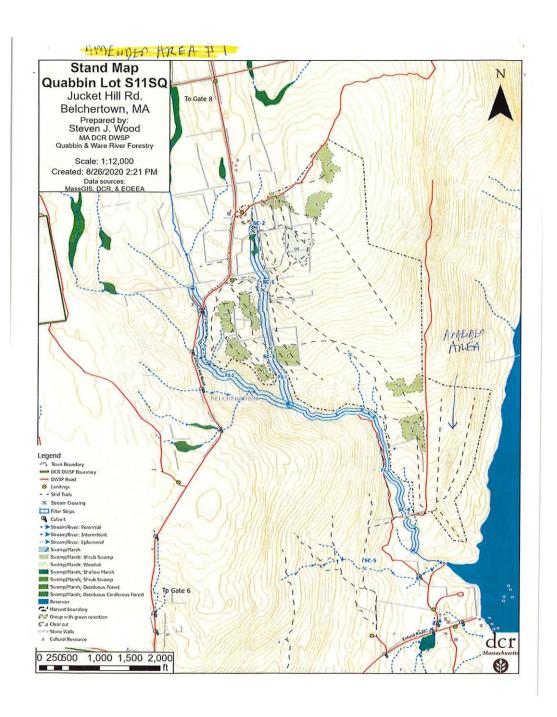
Use this Section to provide further explanation or if Other (OT) was used in any category in the Best Management Practices Section on Page 3.

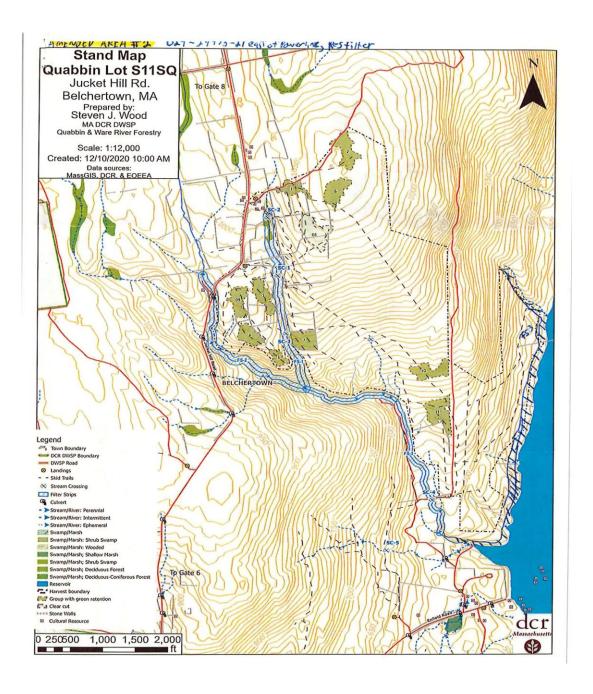
Cut trees marked with blue paint, edge of sale marked with double orange (save) or blue (cut), edge of openings marked with orange stripe and dot.

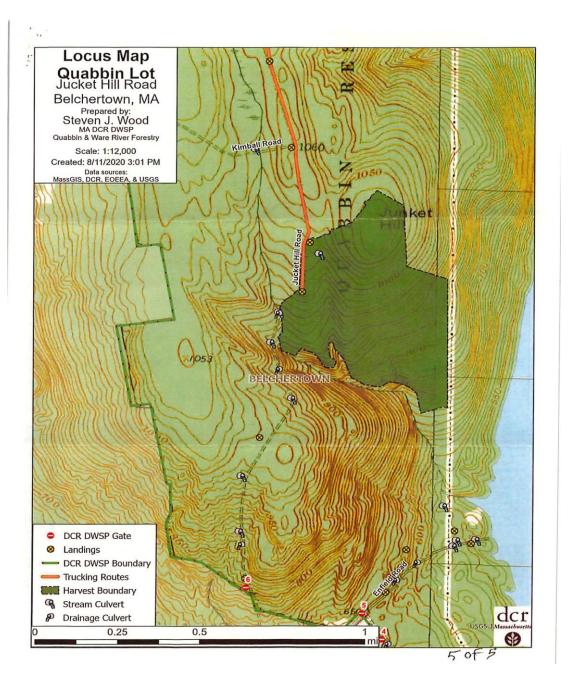
S and SE portion is mainly an oak salvage of gypsy moth killed trees from 2015-2019 outbreak. Most of the rest of lot is group selection with thinning in between openings. Groups are between 0.5 -2.0 acres with retention of 5-10 ft BA. Regeneration throughout but a lot is weeviled or otherwise damaged WP and poorly formed RM saplings/poles. TSI is marked and laurel and witchhazel are going to be cut or pulled. It is expected site will regenerate quickly to a mix of pine and hardwoods. Quite a bit of oak regeneration present and there is a couple acres of pitch pine in ST-3.

			in the Stand Treatment Sect	ained if Other (OT) was used for "Do on on page 4,	and the second
Stand No.	Species to be	e Cut	Size of Trees to be Cut	Quality of Trees to be Cut	% BA/Acre Remove
			441.4400.340		
Stand No.		to describe was use	d for the "Type of Cut" in the Cutting  How will Regeneration be obtaine If using AD - Describe the species	, -	be protected
Stand No.	Source of Regeneration	to describe was used	d for the "Type of Cut" in the Cutting How will Regeneration be obtain. If using AD - Describe the species. If using SE - Describe the source of	Standards Section on page 4.  d/protected?  resent and how the regeneration will	be protected s/acre





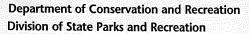






# **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

FILE # 024.29973.21



# FOREST CUTTING PLAN CERTIFICATE



Post this in a conspicuous place within th	ne area in which the	harvesting operation is to ta	ke place.
This certifies that <u>DCR-DWSP</u> (Name of Owner	Ware Pd.	Belchertown, MA	01007 in accordance with the
provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section and Recreation, Division of State Parks ar		atori pod susessioni, il na sisterima si Garannia di Li	with the Dept. of Conservation
Quabbin 5118Q lot.	iu Recreation, a No	uce of intent to cut forest pro	oducts upon the
Approval Date 917 20		ISSUED BY:	Oi y
Director's Agent DOVA OS Hutch	KSDD	DSGLD 61.	Full Yeig
DCR Phone No. 413 . 237.971	3	Priscilla E. Gei Division of Sta	igis, Director ate Parks and Recreation