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

Project Title:

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 5258
DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 241-7794-16

Site Information

Watershed: Wachusett	Town(s): Princeton					
Acres: 86	Nearest Road: Houghton Road					
Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?:No Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes						
Forest Types: Oak-Hardwoods/White pine-oaks	ACEC?: No					
Soils: The Hinckley fine sandy loam (excessively drained outwash soil) and the Montauk-Scituate-Canton						
association which is are deep, well drained soils of till origin.						
Wetland Resources: East Wachusett Brook and two intermittent tributaries with associated bordering						
vegetated wetlands flow north to south through this area.						
Vernal Pools: There is one verified vernal pool in the southwest part of the sale area and another potential,						
but yet to be verified vernal pool a little south of the small pond near the eastern boundary of the property.						

Harvest Information

DWSP Permit Start Date: 7/1/16	DWSP Permit End Date: 12/01/17
Number of Wetland Crossings: 0	Number of Stream Crossings: 6

Best Management Practices Applied

Stream Crossings	These small intermittent stream crossings will most likely occur
	when the streams are dry in which case they will be crossed using
	poled fords or corduroy. If the any stream is flowing then bridging
	will be used.
Filter Strips	There are no trees marked in the filter strips.
Wetland Crossings	There are no wetland crossing.
Harvesting in Wetlands	No harvesting in wetlands will occur.

DWSP Forester supervising this harvest
Name: Greg Buzzell
Forester License #:025
Phone #:508-792-7806 x317

NARRATIVES

General Description/Forest Composition/History:

This area is located in Princeton with frontage on the north side of Houghton Road. This forest originated after the abandonment of these two pastures in about 1930 and there is no evidence that any tree cutting has occurred since that time. The forest in the west pasture is dominated by red oak along with red maple, black birch, white pine, hickory, white oak, eastern hophornbeam and beech. The forest in the east pasture has a similar mix of species however white pine is the dominant species. Shrub species are primarily hazelnut, witch-hazel, mountain laurel, viburnums and blueberries. There is good advance regeneration scattered through most of this area and is made up of a similar mix of species as is the overstory.

Site Selection:

The ideal watershed protection forest is one which best serves the function of the land as a producer of high quality drinking water in both short- and long-term. This forest must be vigorous and diverse in tree species and ages, be actively accumulating biomass and actively regenerating. Such a forest will be ideally suited to be resilient to and quickly recover from small- and large-scale disturbances such as diseases, insect infestations, ice storms and hurricanes.

This area was selected for management because of the lack of age diversity both in these 86 acres as well as in the 1,200 DCR-owned acres from which water flows down East Wachusett Brook and into the Stillwater River. Presently there is only one age class in this forest, the 86 year old forest stands that developed following the abandonment of the pastures. Since 1930, no harvesting or natural disturbance has initiated the development of at least a second age class of trees. The ideal protection would have at least 3 age classes of trees distributed throughout this sale area.

Silvicultural Objectives:

Openings will be made in the overstory taking advantage of areas of good advance regeneration thereby releasing these younger trees from the shade of the older, taller forest. Eighteen openings will be made (11 in the west pasture and 7 in the east pasture) that range in size from about 1/3rd to nearly 2 acres in size. These openings total nearly 14 acres which represents 16% of the manageable acreage in this area. A few mature trees will be retained within each of these openings, particularly the ones larger than ½ acre. These trees provided important structural diversity within these patches of young trees in the short term and especially in the long term as it is anticipated that these retained trees will never be cut but be allowed to live to their natural lifespan.

Cultural Resources:

There are no known or documented significant historic or archeological resources in this area. According to models that predict the likelihood of the past use of a site by Native Americans, this area ranks as "Not Sensitive" due to its hilly, rocky character. Care will be taken to minimize disturbance to stone walls or any other cultural artifact if any are found.

Wildlife/Rare or Endangered Species:

FIGURES

Figure 1. Forest Cutting Plan

- Figure 2. Map of harvest area showing approximate boundary, proposed openings and other features
- Figure 3. General locus map showing the location of the proposed timber harvest

Figure 4. Pre-Harvest Photographs, A-D

Figure 5. Post-Harvest Photographs, A-B

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Address 180 Beam	an St.					-							
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Products to be Harvested*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	101.7	Red Maple	
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	16.7
Hemlock		Black Oak	8.6
Spruce		White Oak	
Other Sfiwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash		Total Mbf	127.7
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	119
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	138
B & Y Birch	6.0	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	OH	MH	wo	WP
Acres	26.0	26.0	13.0	21,0
Landowner Objective	LT	LT	LT	LT
Designation of Trees	CT	CT	СТ	CT
Type of Cut	SE	SE	SE	SE
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.

🔀 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.

Signature of andowner(s)

Date

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Determi	ination a	nu Status			гіпаї кер	ort and Commen	its	
Cutting Plan	Approved	Disapproved	Expires 9-21-2-01=	· . 2	I hereby certify t and all relevant s	that the afore described For statutes have been substant	rest Cutting Plan ially complied with.	
Signature of S	J.D. Service Foreste	Director's Ager	t <u>10-5-24</u> Date	315	Signature of Serv	vice Forester/Director's Ag	gent Da	ate
Extension	· 1	2 2 Dis 1 App 2	Expires Ser. Fe	or. Ints.		1	:	
Forest Types WP White Pine WK WP/Hen	HK Ben	aleek OM Mix Vildwd RM Red	ed Oak CT Cut To Maple LT Leave	of Trees ee Tree	Type of Cat SH Shelterwood ST Seed Tree	Intermediate Harvests; CT Commercial Thin	Source of Begeneration AD Advanced SE Natural Sood	1
WO WP/Oak. RP Red Pine SR , Red Spruer	BB Bez/ OH Oak c OR NR	Bin/Map SF Spri Bin/Map SF Spri Bidwd SM Sug ed Oak PP Pild	en SB Stand i cen/Fir OT Other ar Maple <u>Landowner (</u> h Pine LT Long-t ST Short-t	Directive Com Mgt. tem Har.	SE Selection SA Salvage SN Sanitation	NJ Non-Com Thin Non-Standard Systems:* HG Highgrade* DL Diameter Limit* OT Other*	CO Coppice DS Direct Seed OT Other	

Fe	orest Cutting Plan	Landowner: Dec./Dwse/Owry
Nai	Tative Page	Town: Prinkaron
Use page	only if further explanation is required of information on s one or two or if "other" was used in any category.	File Number: 241-7794-16
B M P s	There are 6 stream crossings on this site. SC-1 & SC-2 are filled with bridged to get into the harvest area from the road. SC-6 will only be u very deep & rocky soils so harvesting will only occur in summer or w	gravel from the road. SC-1 will be used for the one opening. The site has inter when conditions are suitable.
Silviculture	In order to release advance regeneration, 18 openings in the overstory acres. These openings range from 0.37 acres to 1.84 acres in size with well distributed throughout the area taking advantage of the advance r hickories, other hardwoods and some pine.	are being created, covering 13.92 an average of 0.77 acre. They are regeneration comprised of oaks,
Objectives	The main objective of this operation is to diversify the age structure of in patches thereby releasing the advance regeneration. The current age insufficient component of young forest.	f the forest by removing the overstory e structure is limited with an
Other	Because of the topography and resource areas. The western main landi road from SC-1 where a previous landing was installed. All streams on site have filter strips and there will be no harvesting in to off the map on purpose because of limited space on the map.	ng will be located directly across the

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Figure 2. Map of harvest area showing approximate boundary, proposed openings and other features







Figure 4. Pre-Harvest Photographs, A-D



A. This is the location of the easterly of the two landings along this unpaved stretch of Houghton Road in Princeton.



B. The overstory in this area is being removed to release the young hardwood and white pine saplings. The large white oak in the center of the photo is being retained in order to provide structural diversity.



C. This white pine dominated overstory is being removed to release the diverse hardwood saplings. Note the black cherry tree in the middle of the photo which is being retained to provide structural diversity as well as species diversity.



D. One of the numerous stream crossings that are necessary to access this area. This intermittent stream will be protected from damage whether the stream is flowing or not with the proper application of Best Management Practices.

Figure 5. Post-Harvest Photographs, A-B



A. An area of overstory removal with white pine and hardwood regeneration. The hemlock and the pine snags were retained to provide structural and habitat diversity.



B. Another area of overstory removal with good white pine and hardwood regeneration. In this area, the white oak was retained.