

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

**Project Title: 5299**

DWSP Harvest Permit Number: 5299

DWSP Proposal ID: WA-20-240

DCR Forest Cutting Plan File Number: 282-33903-22

***Site Information***

Watershed: Wachusett

Town(s): Sterling

Acres: 67.5

Nearest Road: Beaman Rd.

Natural Heritage Atlas overlap?: Yes

Public Drinking Water Supply Watershed?: Yes

Forest Types: white pine/oak, Mixed hardwoods

ACEC?: No

Soils: Hinckley Loamy Sand and Paxton fine sandy loam

Wetland Resources: Wilder Brook, Wetlands and intermittent streams

Vernal Pools: Two potential vernal pools and one verified

***Harvest Information***

Harvest Start Date: 06/01/2022

Harvest End Date: 06/01/2024

Number of Wetland Crossings: None

Number of Stream Crossings: None

***Best Management Practices Applied***

Stream Crossings: None

Filter Strips: One variable width filter strip.

Wetland Crossings: None

Harvesting in Wetlands: None

***DWSP Forester supervising this harvest***

Name: Greg Buzzell

Forester License #: 025

Phone number: 774-261-1841

Email: greg.buzzell@mass.gov

## **Narrative**

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

The primary species in the forest overstory in this area is white pine along with red oak, red maple and black birch. There is also black oak, white oak, black cherry, elm, white ash and hemlock. Much of the hemlock is found in the kettles in the peninsula of upland in the west side of the area and while it's probably not free of hemlock wooly adelgid, it appears pretty healthy at this point in time. The undestory is comprised of excellent advance regeneration along with witchhazel, lowbush blueberry, maple-leaved viburnum and shadbush. There is highbush blueberry and winterberry in the damper pockets in the topography. No forest management or other cutting has occurred in these stands that originated in 1920 and 1938 following abandonment of these pastures. Where a gravel removal operation took place in the south end of the area, there are now white pine dominated stands that date from the 1960s through the early 1990s.

### ***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.

### ***Silvicultural Objectives***

With adequate advance regeneration present throughout this working unit, 7 openings will be created that range from 0.58 to 1.77 acres in size hereby achieving the goal of creating a new age class in this area. These are well distributed throughout the proposed area taking advantage of where the advance regeneration is best. Partial cutting will occur between the openings on 2.7 acres focusing on the removal of trees of the poorest quality while maintaining species diversity.

### ***Cultural Resources***

This area has been assessed by the DCR Archeologist for both known sites of cultural or archeological importance as well as for potential use by pre-Contact Native Americans.

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

None

## **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

Figure 1. 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	_____	Case No.	_____
Date Rec'd	_____	Nat. Hert.	_____ / _____
Earliest Start	_____	Nat. Hert. Imp.	_____
River Basin	_____	Pub. Dr. Wat.	_____
Gen. Obj.	_____	ACEC	_____

Site Information

## Location

Town Sterling Lot 5299  
Road Beaman Road  
Acres 68 Proposed Start Date 7/01/21  
Vol. MBF 200.9 Vol. Cds. 112 Vol. Tons 13

## Plan Preparer

Name Russell Wilmot  
Address 180 Beaman St.  
  
Town, State, Zip West Boylston, MA, 01583  
Phone 508-792-7806 Ext 318  
Type of Preparer Mass. Licensed Forester  
\*Mass. Forester License # 426  
\*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

## Landowner

Name DCR/DWSP/OWM Wachusett/Sudbury  
Mailing Address 180 Beaman St.  
  
Town, State, Zip West Boylston, MA 01583  
Phone 608-792-7806  
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				
Mitigation				
Stabilization				

## Filter Strips

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

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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	164.8	Red Maple	
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	29.9
Hemlock		Black Oak	4.9
Spruce		White Oak	1.2
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash		<b>Total Mbf</b>	200.9
Beech		<b>Cordwood (Cds)</b>	112
White Birch		<b>SW Pulp (Tons)</b>	13
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	WO	RM		
Acres	54	14		
Landowner Objective	LT	LT		
Designation of Trees	CT	N/A		
Type of Cut	SH	N/A		
Source of Regeneration	AD/SE	N/A		

**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 landowner(s)

Date

**Determination and Status**

	Approved	Disapproved	Expires
Cutting Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent _____ Date _____			
Extension	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Expires _____ Ser. For. Ints. _____
Amendment	App 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Dis 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	App 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dis 2 <input type="checkbox"/> _____

**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

WP White Pine  
WK WP/Hem  
WH WP/Hdwd  
WO WP/Oak  
RP Red Pine  
SR Red Spruce

HK Hemlock  
HH Hem/Hdwd  
BC Black Cherry  
BB Bee/Bir/Map  
OH Oak/Hdwd  
OR N Red Oak

OM Mixed Oak  
RM Red Maple  
BE Beech  
SF Spruce/Fir  
SM Sugar Maple  
PP Pitch Pine

Designation of Trees

CT Cut Tree  
LT Leave Tree  
SB Stand Boundary  
OT Other  
Landowner Objective  
LT Long-term Mgt.  
ST Short-term Har.

Type of Cut

SH Shelterwood  
ST Seed Tree  
CC Clear Cut  
SE Selection  
SA Salvage  
SN Sanitation

Intermediate Harvester:

CT Commercial Thin  
NT Non Com Thin  
**Non-Standard Systems\*:**  
HG Highgrade\*  
DL Diameter Limit\*  
OT 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

pg 4 of 5

# Forest Cutting Plan

## Narrative Page

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

Landowner: \_\_\_\_\_

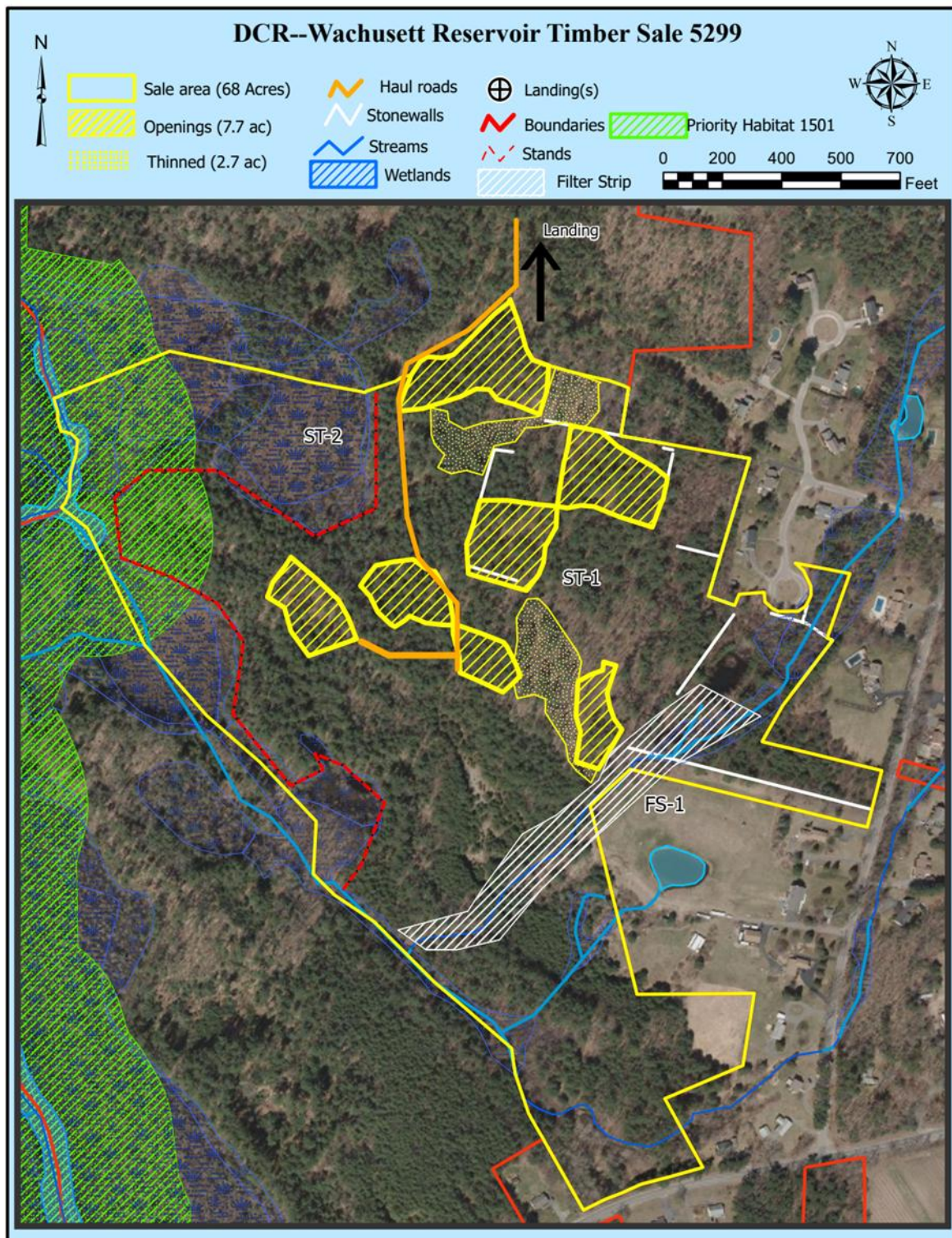
Town: \_\_\_\_\_

File Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>BMPs</b>	<p><u>No Stream or wetland crossings. One Variable width Filter Strip in the far southern portion of the lot.</u></p> <p><u>Haul roads are preexisting.</u></p> <p><u>Landing is along a field about 1400 feet North of the sale area.</u></p>
<b>Silviculture</b>	<p><u>In order to release advance regeneration, 7 openings in the overstory are being created, covering 7.7 acres. These openings range from 0.58 acre to 1.77 acres in size with an average of 1.1 acres. They are well distributed throughout the area taking advantage of the advance regeneration comprised of white pine, oaks and other hardwoods.</u></p> <p><u>Thinning will occur in two areas in between the openings covering about 2.7 acres. The thinned areas have less regeneration, oak tree canopies thinned out from dispar moth/competition or poor form/vigor.</u></p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<p><u>The main objective of this operation is to diversify the age structure of the forest by removing the overstory in patches thereby releasing the advance regeneration. The current age structure is limited with an insufficient component of young forest.</u></p> <p><u>A secondary objective is to create some ground disturbance and sunlight in thinned out areas where regeneration can then take hold and remaining trees can fill in with more space.</u></p>
<b>Other</b>	<p><u>Depending on the logger, some wood from this site might need to be trucked to a different landing area off site more suitable for large log trucks.</u></p> <p><u>The entrance to the site is thru a shared driveway with an abutter.</u></p> <p><u>FS-1 No cutting will take place.</u></p>



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





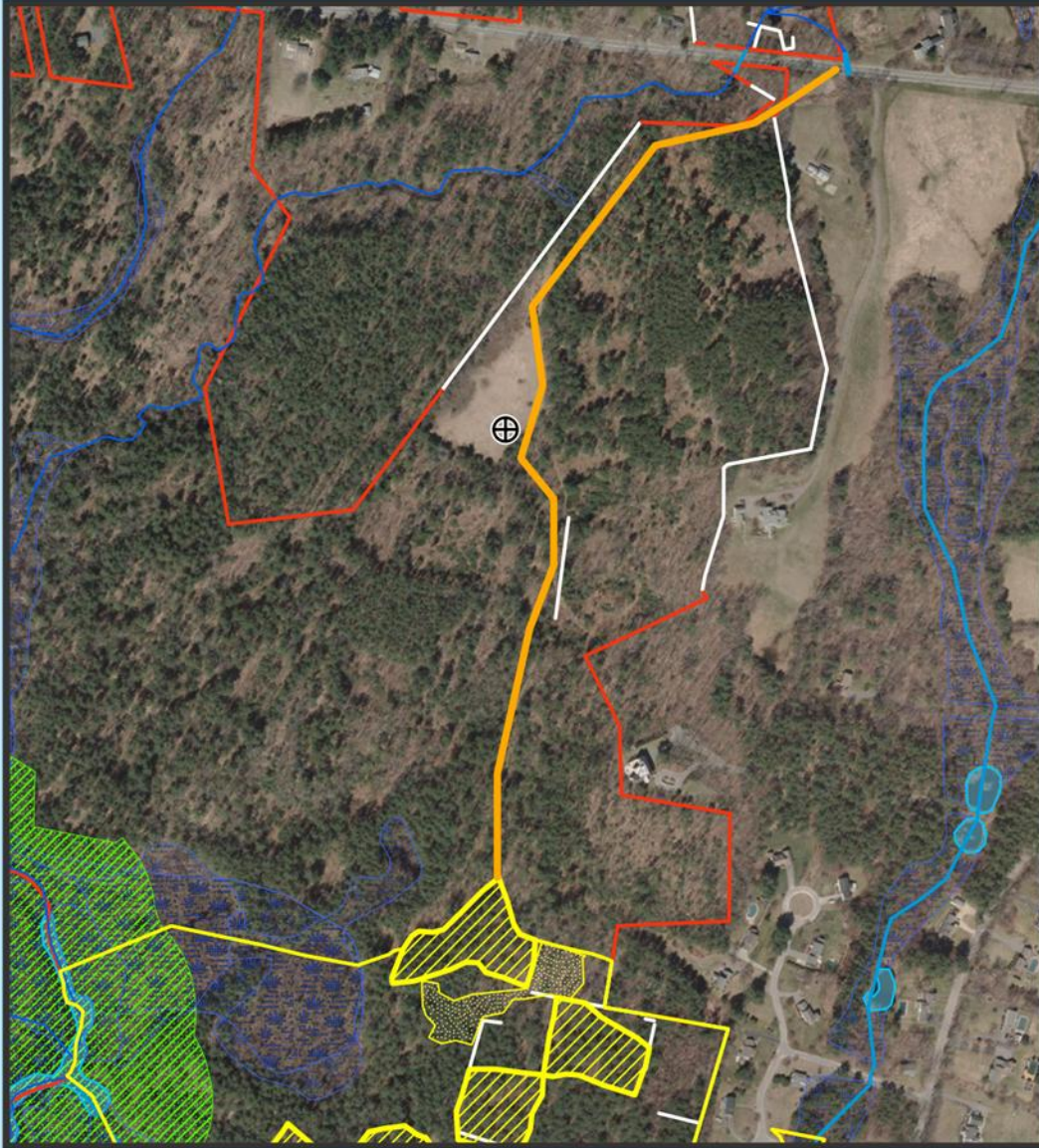
# DCR--Wachusett Reservoir Timber Sale 5299



Sale area (68 Acres)  
Openings (7.7 ac)  
Thinned (2.7 ac)

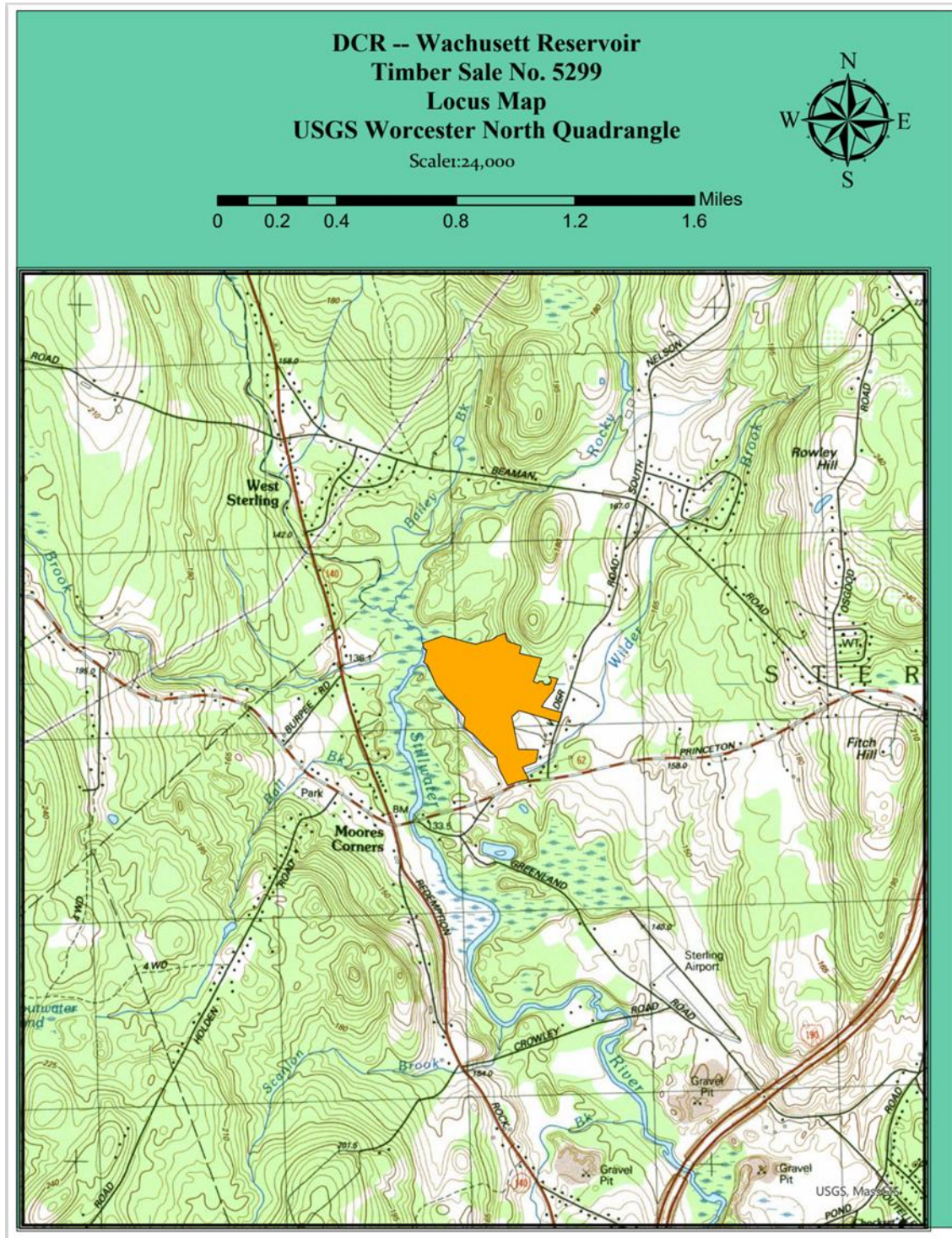


Priority Habitat 1501





**Figure 3. General locus map showing the location of the proposed timber harvest**





**Figure 4. Pre-Harvest Photographs, A-D**

A. Opening with thick regeneration.



B. White pine marked for removal in an opening with hardwood and white pine regeneration.





C. White pine marked in an opening with white pine retention and hardwood regeneration.



D. White pine marked and some unmarked in a thinned area.





**Figure 5. Post-Harvest Photographs, A-B**

A. Looking southwest along the edge of one of the smaller areas of overstory removal.



B.

