

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 understory 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																																																																																																																																																													
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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			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				Best Management Practices		Type of Preparer	Type of Crossing	Stabilization	Mitigation	Type of Bottom	Note:	LF Mass. Lic. For.	CU Culvert	SE Seed	FR Frozen	LE Ledge	Applicant must provide DCR with all relevant information	TH Lic. Tim. Har	BR Bridge	MU Mulch	DR Dry	ST Stony	before plan may be approved and cutting may begin.	TB Timber Buyer	FO Ford	CO Corduroy	OT Other	MU Mud	Some forestry activities, such as prescribed burning and	LO Landowner	PO Poled	ST Stone		GR Gravel	pesticide or fertilizer application may require additional permits.	OT Other	OT Other	HB Hay Bales	OT Other	OT Other	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						pg 3 of 5					
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Forest Products

Landowner

Service Forester

Codes

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		Total Mbf	200.9
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	112
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	13
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.

Stand Treatment

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<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

Date

Extension	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Expires /	Ser. For. Ints. /
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Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

Amendment	App 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Dis 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	App 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Dis 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	_____ /
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Date

Forest Types	HK	Hemlock	OM	Mixed Oak	Designation of Trees	Type of Cut	Intermediate Harvests:	Source of Regeneration
WP White Pine	HH	Hem/Hdwd	RM	Red Maple	CT Cut Tree	SH Shelterwood	CT Commercial Thin	AD Advanced
WK WP/Hem	BC	Blck Cherry	BE	Beech	LT Leave Tree	ST Seed Tree	SE Natural Seed	SE Natural Seed
WH WP/Hdwd	BB	Bee/Bir/Map	SF	Spruce/Fir	SB Stand Boundary	CC Clear Cut	PL Plant	PL Plant
WO WP/Oak	OH	Oak/Hdwd	SM	Sugar Maple	OT Other	SE Selection	CO Coppice	CO Coppice
RP Red Pine	OR	N Red Oak	PP	Pitch Pine	Landowner Objective	SA Salvage	HG Highgrade*	DS Direct Seed
SR Red Spruce					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

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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.

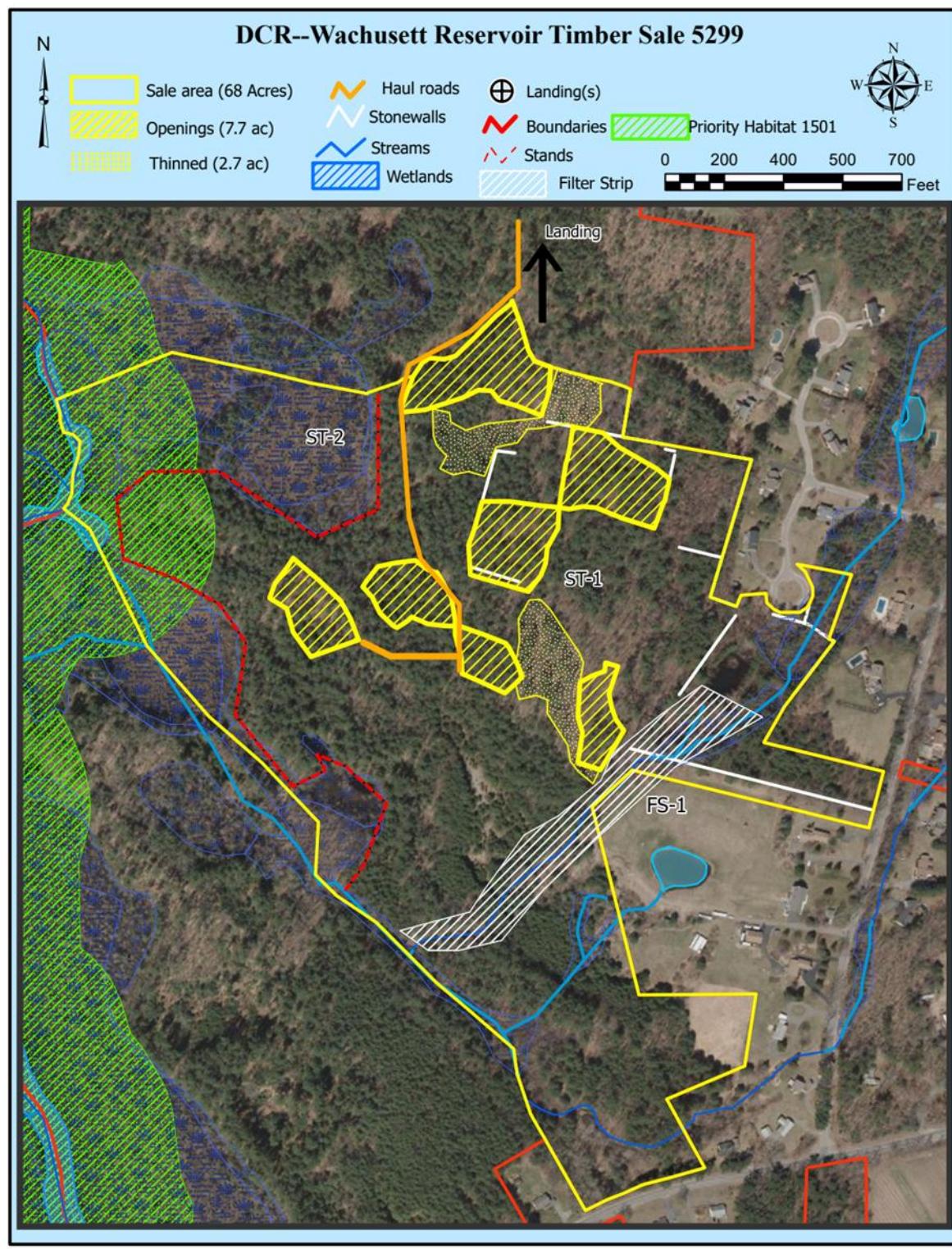
Landowner: _____

Town: _____

File Number: _____

B M P s	<p>No Stream or wetland crossings. One Variable width Filter Strip in the far southern portion of the lot.</p> <p>Haul roads are preexisting.</p> <p>Landing is along a field about 1400 feet North of the sale area.</p>
Objectives	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Silviculture	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Other	<p>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.</p> <p>The entrance to the site is thru a shared driveway with an abutter.</p> <p>FS-1 No cutting will take place.</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)

Haul roads
Stonewalls
Streams
Wetlands

Landing(s)
Boundaries
Stands
Filter Strip

Priority Habitat 1501



0 200 400 600 800
Feet

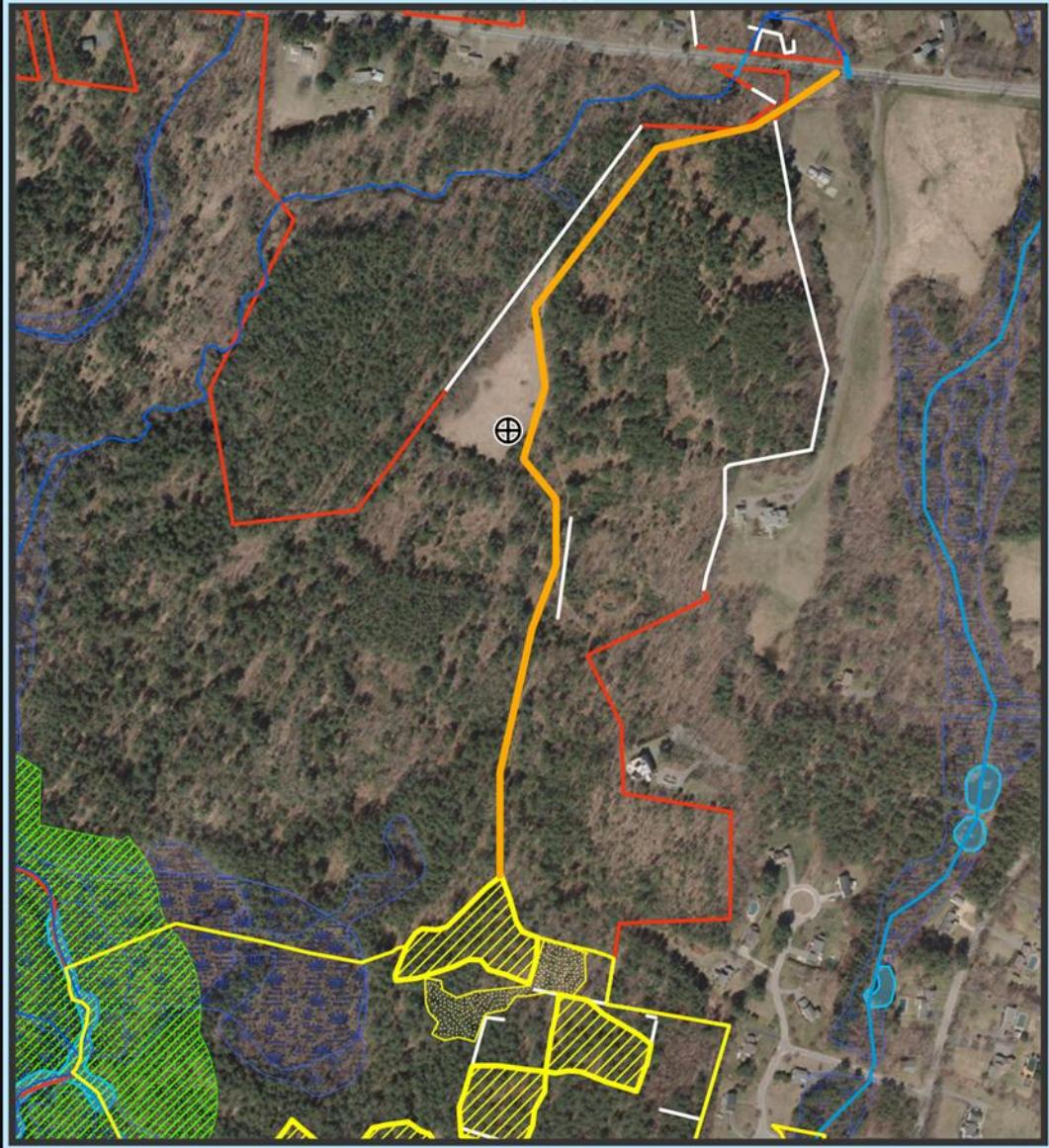


Figure 3. General locus map showing the location of the proposed timber harvest

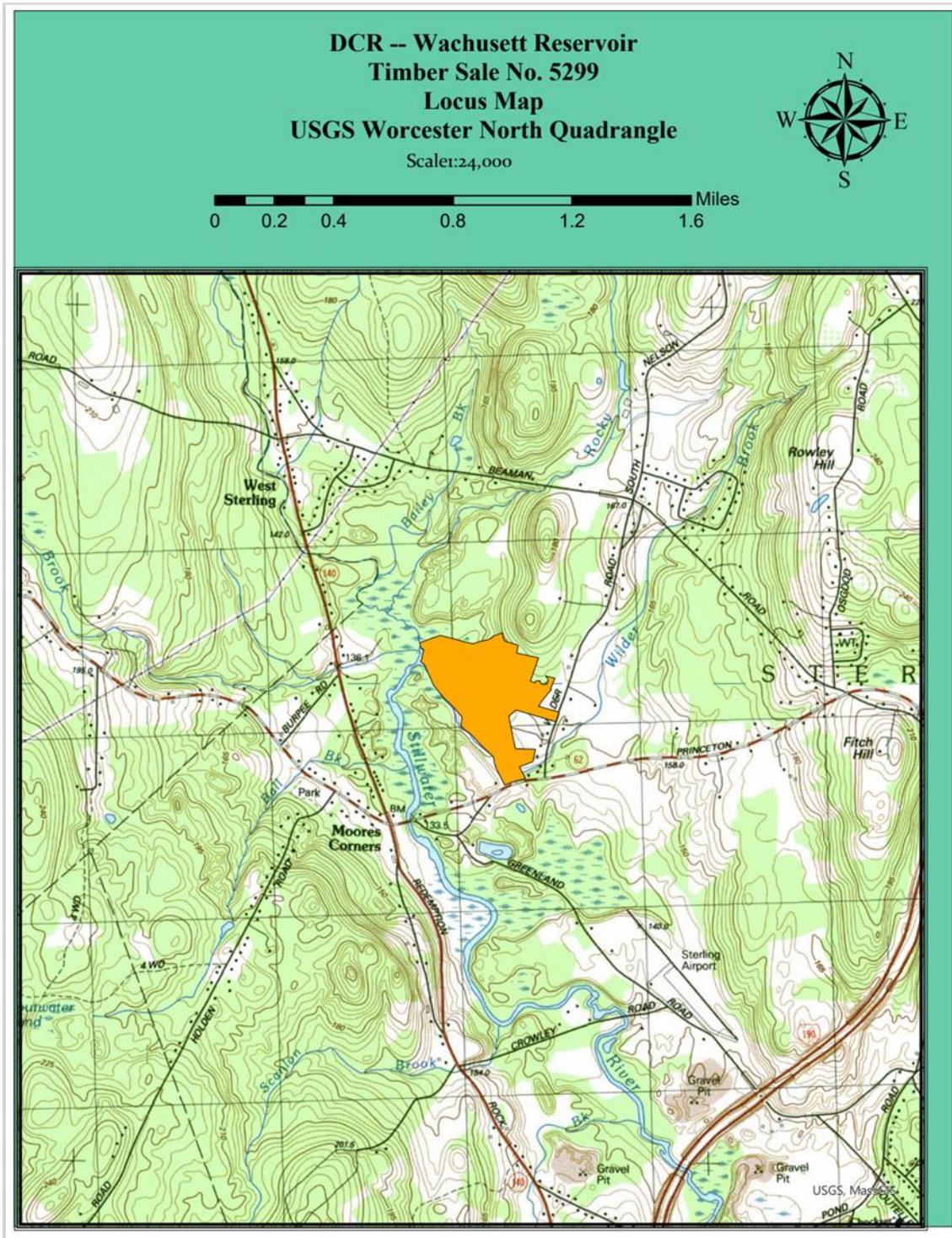


Figure 4. Pre-Harvest Photographs, A-D

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.

