

**DCR Division of Water Supply Protection - Land Protection Program
Fiscal Year 2023 Completed Projects**

Project	Town	Watershed	Acres	Interest	MWRA Capital Funds	Description	Land Protection Priorities
Carter Pond Uplands	Petersham/ Barre	Quabbin Reservoir	70.5	Fee	\$70,000	This entirely wooded tract on the Petersham and Barre town line lies just 275 feet from the shoreline of Carter Pond which drains to Silver Brook and the East Branch of the Swift River. This was one of only a few remaining privately held tracts within this stretch of the East Branch without protections in place. Acquisition of this property adds to an existing network of large conservation holdings just upstream along the East Branch of the Swift River, including properties belonging to the Trustees of Reservations, Harvard Forest, a DCR held Watershed Preservation Restriction, and the Raccoon Hill Wildlife Management Area. The property has significant natural resource values, including BioMap Critical Natural Landscape for Aquatic Core Buffer and Landscape Blocks.	Address Climate Change; Protect Habitat Biodiversity
Connelly Brook Forest	Sterling	Wachusett Reservoir	27.9	Fee	\$275,000	This forested property contains areas of wooded wetland and intermittent streams which are headwater tributaries to Connelly Brook. At nearly 30-acres, the size of this unprotected property presented a rare opportunity within this predominantly developed subbasin.	Preserve Water Resources; Address Climate Change
Hardwick Shore Woods	Hardwick	Quabbin Reservoir	32.0	Fee	\$0	This landlocked tract was donated to DWSP and brings DWSP ownership to the watershed boundary in this area. It is primarily wooded with a section of open wetlands. The wetlands on the property drain directly into the Quabbin Reservoir approximately 2,500ft to the west via unnamed tributaries. This property has significant natural resource values, including BioMap Core Habitat for Forest Core and BioMap Critical Natural Landscape for Landscape Blocks.	Preserve Water Resources; Address Climate Change; Protect Habitat Biodiversity; Enhance Current Ownership/Management
Longmeadow Brook Woods	Rutland	Ware River	71.6	Fee	\$120,000	This property, located along the Ware River and Wachusett watershed divide, is primarily forested with areas of wooded wetland, unnamed tributaries that are not regulated by the Watershed Protection Act, and hayfields. The woodlands have been professionally managed for decades. The perennial streams present on the property are headwater tributaries to Demond Pond and Longmeadow Brook, which feed into the East Branch of the Ware River.	Preserve Water Resources; Address Climate Change; Enhance Current Ownership/Management
Middle Branch Swift River Forestlands	Wendell	Quabbin Reservoir	29.4	Fee	\$94,000	This parcel contains open water, including a 1-acre pond and a portion of a 5-acre pond, but is otherwise entirely forested with areas of wooded wetland and unnamed tributaries. The perennial streams and ponds present on the property are headwater tributaries to the Middle Branch of the Swift River. The property, which is split by Gate Lane, has frontage along New Salem Road and abuts DWSP lands to the east. The tract also includes BioMap Regional Connectivity, which represents long term movement opportunities for species across and beyond Massachusetts, and is identified as having above average resilience to climate change based on TNC's Resilient and Connected Network analysis.	Preserve Water Resources; Address Climate Change; Protect Habitat Biodiversity; Enhance Current Ownership/Management
East Branch Swift River WPR	Petersham	Quabbin Reservoir	32.8	WPR	\$0	The gifted Watershed Preservation Restriction (WPR) over this primarily wooded tract expands upon efforts to protect the East Branch of the Swift River. This parcel gradually slopes down towards wetlands and tributaries along the western property boundary and includes approximately 1,500 linear feet of stream. The tract contains significant natural resource values such as BioMap Critical Natural Landscape for Landscape Blocks and Aquatic Core Buffer, and BioMap Regional Connectivity, which represents long term movement opportunities for species across and beyond Massachusetts, and is identified as having above average resilience to climate change based on TNC's Resilient and Connected Network analysis.	Preserve Water Resources; Address Climate Change; Protect Habitat Biodiversity
East Wachusett Brook Uplands	Princeton	Wachusett Reservoir	40.0	Fee	\$160,000	This strategically acquired entirely wooded parcel lies uphill from East Wachusett Brook and significantly improves land management capabilities by consolidating boundaries on existing DWSP holdings. This acquisition adds 40 acres to an assemblage of over 485 acres of contiguous DWSP owned or protected land. The property also includes BioMap Regional Connectivity, which represents long term movement opportunities for species across and beyond Massachusetts, and Biomap Vernal Pool Core.	Address Climate Change; Protect Habitat Biodiversity; Enhance Current Ownership/Management
Total	-	-	304.2		\$719,000	--	-