

Forest Cutting Plan

and Notice of Intent under M.G.L. Chapter 132 – The Forest Cutting Practices Act, 304 CMR 11.00 (Effective Date: 3/15/16)

For DCR Use Only:

File Number 309-43508-26 Case No. -
 Date Rec'd 10/22/25 Nat. Hert. Yes
 Earliest Start 11/7/25 Pub. Dr. Wat. No
 River Basin Chicopee ACEC No
 Gen. Obj. LT

Site Information

Location

Town Ware
 Road Bondsville Road
 Acres 99 Proposed Start Date 2/2026
 Vol. MBF 834 Vol. Cds. 443 Vol. Tons 1511

Plan Preparer

Name Benjamin Mazzei
 Address 1 Rabbit Hill Road
 Town, State, Zip Westborough, MA 01581
 Phone (857) 283-8924
 Type of Preparer OT
 *Mass. Forester License # _____
 *Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

Landowner

Name Department Fish & Game
 Mailing Address 251 Causeway Street
 Town, State, Zip Boston, MA 02114
 Phone 508-389-6300
 Ch61 61A 61B Stew *Case #
 FSC CR CR Holder

Licensed Timber Harvester**

Name _____
 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	PO	PO	PO	
Existing Structure	NO	NO	NO	
Type of Bottom	ST	ST	ST	
Bank Height (ft)	<1' <input type="checkbox"/>	<1' <input type="checkbox"/>	<1' <input type="checkbox"/>	
Stabilization	CO	CO	CO	

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)	50	50	50	100

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

See attached NHESP determination letter.

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

Forest Products

Products to be Harvested*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	720 Mbf	Red Maple	6 Mbf
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	7 Mbf
Hemlock		Black Oak	45 Mbf
Spruce		White Oak	12 Mbf
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	
White Ash		Total Mbf	834 Mbf
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	443
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	1511
B & Y Birch	44 Mbf	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	OM		
Acres	58	41		
Landowner Objective	LT	LT		
Designation of Trees	CT/OT	CT/OT		
Type of Cut	ST	ST/SA		
Source of Regeneration	SE	SE		

Landowner

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.

[Handwritten Signature]

10/14/2025

Signature of landowner(s)

Date

Service Forester

Determination and Status

Approved Disapproved Expires 10/22/27

[Handwritten Signature]
Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent Date 2/2/26

Extension 1 2 Expires / Ser. For. Ints. /

Amendment App 1 Dis 1 App 2 Dis 2 /

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

Codes

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

Forest Cutting Plan

Narrative Page (Effective Date: 3/15/16)

Use this page to provide further explanation or if Other (OT) was used in any category on pages 3 or 4.

Landowner Dept. Fish and Game

Town Ware

File Number 309-43508-26

BMPs

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.

Designation of Trees

Use this Section to describe the types of trees to be harvested and/or retained if Other (OT) was used for "Designation of Trees" in the Stand Treatment Section on page 4. Additional narrative description may be added on a separate page.

Stand No.	Describe Trees to be Cut			Describe Trees to be Left			% BA/AC	
	Species	Size	Quality	Species	Size	Quality	Cut	Left
1&2	SEE NARRATIVE							

Regeneration & Future Condition

Use this Section to describe how Chapter 132 requirements will be met if a non standard system (HG, DL, or OT) was used for the "Type of Cut" in the Cutting Standards Section on page 4.

Stand No. **Source of Regeneration** (ex. AD, SE) **How will Regeneration be obtained/protected?**
 If using AD - Describe the species present and how the regeneration will be protected
 If using SE - Describe the source of the seed and the number of seed trees/acre

Stand No.	Source of Regeneration (ex. AD, SE)	How will Regeneration be obtained/protected?

Stand No. **Desired Future Condition**
 Describe what the stand is expected to look like five years from the harvest, including the condition of the overstory & understory

1&2	An open woodland with variable overstory density dominated by various oak and hickory species with pockets of pitch pine. The understory will consist of native shrubs (scrub oak, low bush blueberry, huckleberry, grasses/sedges) with regeneration of oak, hickory, and pitch pine.

Narrative for Herman Covey Bondsville Road Timbersale

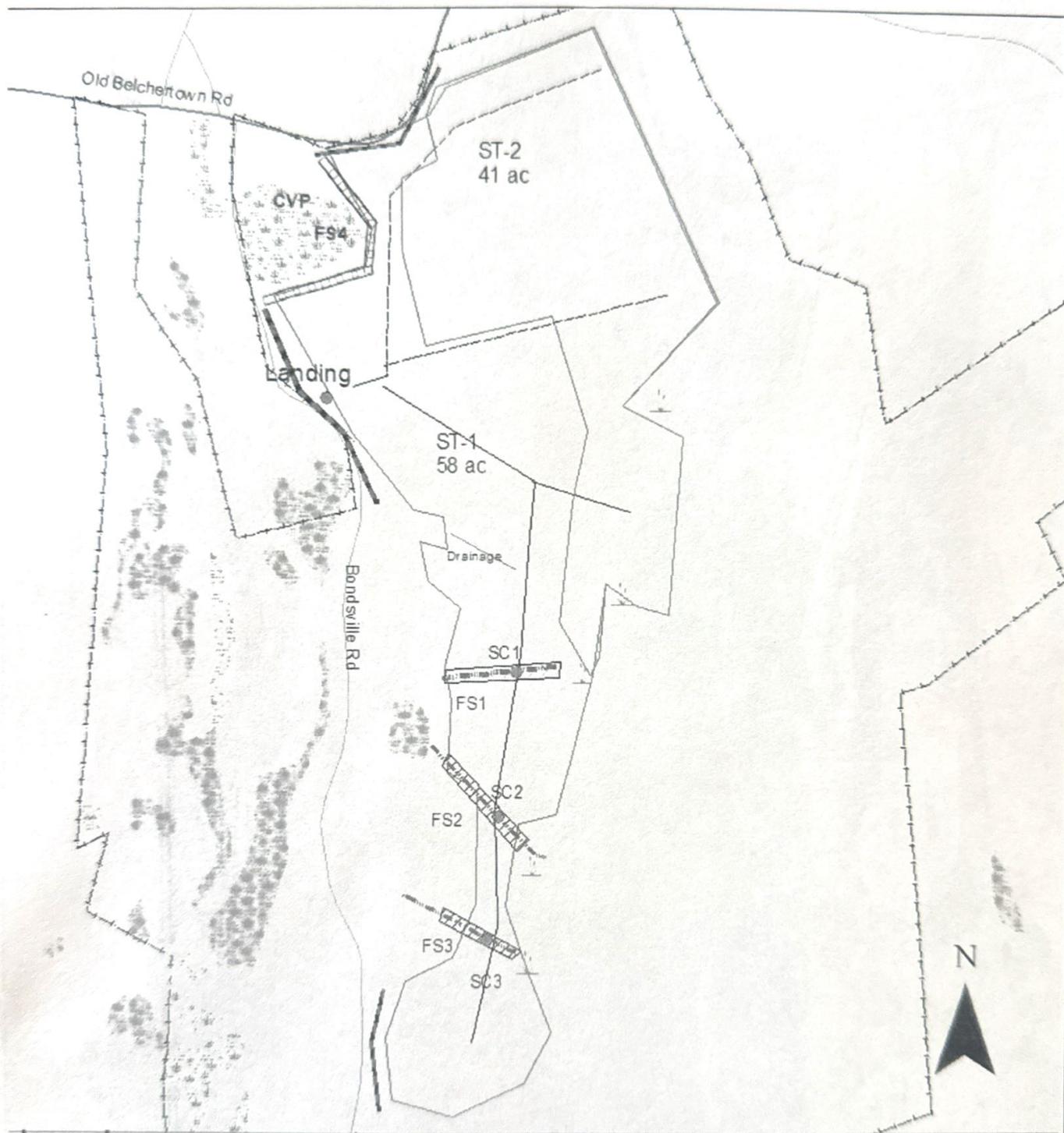
Harvesting conducted by MassWildlife is specifically geared towards establishing and maintaining habitat that will benefit species and communities of greatest conservation need as identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP 2025). The document, "Herman Covey WMA Habitat Site Plan", discusses in detail the vegetation communities and wildlife species of conservation need that are present or potentially found at Herman Covey WMA and in need of habitat restoration.

Massachusetts priority natural communities are rare types of ecosystems with limited distribution and/or global distribution, ranked by conservation status (e.g., S1 through S3S4). Priority natural communities and their rankings found at Herman Covey WMA include Pitch Pine - Scrub Oak Community (S2), Ridgetop Heathland (S2), Open Oak Forest/Woodland (S3), Sugar Maple - Oak - Hickory Forest (S3), and Black Oak - Scarlet Oak Woodland (S3,S4). Species of Greatest Conservation Need that will benefit from this work includes birds like the Prairie Warbler, Chestnut Sided Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Whip-poor-will, and Ruffed Grouse as well as various pollinators and state listed moths.

The primarily goal for this harvest is to promote pitch pine, oak, and hickory woodlands with a strong shrub response (blueberry and scrub oak) as well as regeneration of desired tree species (oak, pitch pine, hickory). This will be accomplished by removing most of the white pine and mesic species like black birch and red maple while retaining large crowned white, red, black, scarlet, and chestnut oaks. Hickory and pitch pine will be retained throughout the harvest units. Seed tree standards will be met across the harvest through retention of a minimum of four, twenty inch DBH or larger trees per acre.

In stand 1, all oak, pitch pine, and hickory will be retained unless painted blue. All white pine, black birch, and red maple will be cut unless painted red. All dead oak snags will be removed across the stand. All other tree species will be retained unless painted blue. Basal area will be reduced by 20-90% across the stand depending on the aggregation of the various species and oak mortality due to spongy moth infestation.

In stand 2, all oak, pitch pine, and hickory will be retained unless painted blue. All white pine, black birch, and red maple will be cut unless painted red. All dead oak snags will be removed across the stand. All other tree species will be retained unless painted blue. Basal area will be reduced by 20-90% across the stand depending on the aggregation of the various species and oak mortality due to spongy moth infestation.



Legend

-  Herman Covey bondsville cut
-  Buffer strips
-  Filter strips
-  Wetlands
-  Skid Roads
-  Herman Covey WMA boundary

Herman Covey WMA,
Ware, MA
FCP Stand Map
Prepared by: Mazzei

390 195 0 390 Meters

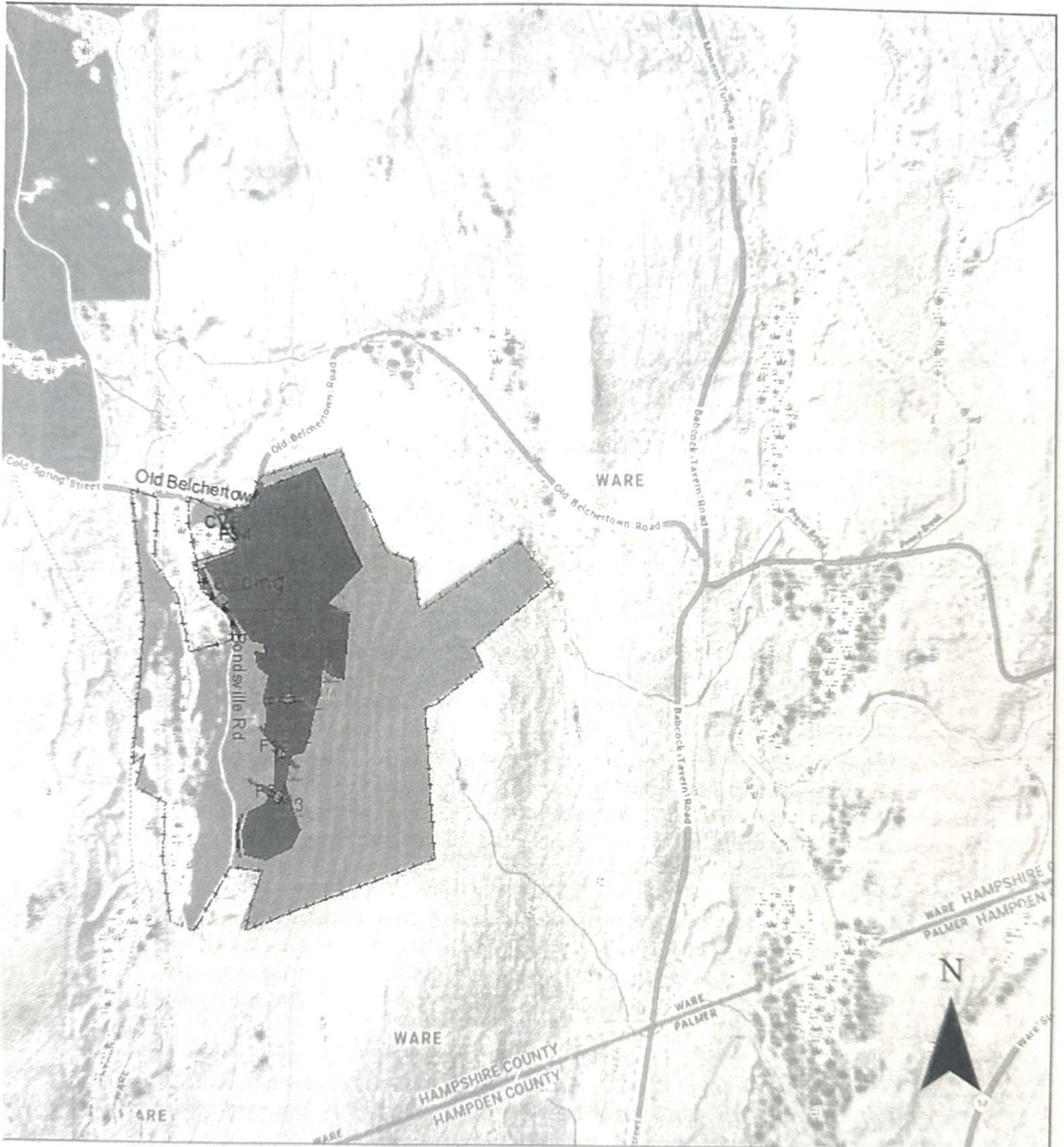


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Herman Covey WMA,
Ware, MA
FCP Stand Map
Prepared by: Mazzei





Legend

 Herman Covey bondsville cut

Herman Covey WMA,
Ware, MA
LOCUS Map
Prepared by: Mazzei





MASSWILDLIFE

DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581
p: (508) 389-6300 | f: (508) 389-7890
MASS.GOV/MASSWILDLIFE

Jacob Macko
DCR Service Forestry
West: District 7

Forest Cutting Plan No.:	309.43508.26
NHESP Tracking No.:	25-19922
Town:	Ware
Road:	Bondsville Road
Landowner:	Dept of Fish & Game (MassWildlife)
Preparer:	Benjamin Mazzei (Westborough, MA)
Date:	November 18, 2025

Dear Jacob,

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife ("the Division") has reviewed the above-referenced Forest Cutting Plan ("the Plan") pursuant to the special approval procedures of the Forest Cutting Practices Regulations (304 CMR 11.04(6)).

Eastern Whip-poor-wills (*Antrostomus vociferous*) listed as "Special Concern", inhabit the forests and open spaces associated with the Herman Covey Wildlife Management Area. While timber harvesting has the potential to enhance habitat for the species, there is a threat via direct mortality, to the species during the nesting season. Therefore, the Division recommends harvesting activities be conducted outside the nesting season as much as is practicable. The nesting season begins mid-April and ends in early July.

Based on details of the Plan, and information in the NHESP database, the Division does not expect activities proposed in the Plan to negatively impact Priority Habitat or result in a **Take** (as defined in 321 CMR 10.02) of plant or animal species protected under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) (M.G.L. c. 131A) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00). Therefore, the Division does not require that the Plan be modified at this time.

Please copy the Division on any proposed amendment, extension, and on the approved Plan for the site. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Nikolis Gualco, Endangered Species Review Biologist at nikolis.a.gualco@mass.gov OR (508) 389-6375.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Leddick".

Jesse Leddick
Assistant Director

MASSWILDLIFE



dcR

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of State Parks and Recreation

FILE # 309-43508-26

FOREST CUTTING PLAN CERTIFICATE

W

Post this in a conspicuous place within the area in which the harvesting operation is to take place.

This certifies that MA Dept. of Fish & Game (Name of Owner)
251 Causeway St (Address)
Boston, MA 02114 in accordance with the

provision of M.G.L. Chapter 132, Section 40-46, filed in Amherst F.O. with the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, Division of State Parks and Recreation, a Notice of Intent to cut forest products upon the

Herman Govey Whit, Ware
(Bondsville rd)

Approval Date 2/2/26

Director's Agent Jacob Macko

DCR Phone No. (857) 202-2824

ISSUED BY:

Priscilla E. Geigis, Director
Division of State Parks and Recreation