

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Forest Cutting Plan Summary

DCR File Number	183-1910-6
Natural Heritage Atlas	No overlap with Priority or Estimated habitats for rare species
Public Drinking Water Supply	No
ACEC	No

Site Information:

Property: Fox Den WMA	Town(s): Middlefield
Acres: 35.5	Road: Chipman Road
Forest Management Zone: Berkshire Highlands	Wildlife District: Western
Ecoregion: Berkshire-Vermont Upland	Watershed: Westfield River
Stands Treated: WE 3009, 3013, 2876, 2851	

Harvest Information:

Objective: To regenerate mature, big-tooth aspen and establish young forest habitat.

Harvest Start Date: February 15, 2006	Harvest End Date: March 10, 2007
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Forest Products to be Harvested

Species	Board Foot Volume	Cords Firewood	Cords Pulpwood
White Pine	3 mbf	-	13
Spruce	8 mbf	-	55
White Ash	6 mbf	19	-
Beech	-	2	-
White Birch	-	44	-
Black/Yellow Birch	2	-	-
Black Cherry	-	7	-
Red Maple	6	40	-
Sugar Maple	-	8	-
Aspen	-	-	574
Total	25	120	642

Site Selection: This area was identified as a priority site for regeneration through a GIS analysis of DFW landcover data. The analysis highlighted abandoned agricultural sites and identified an abandoned orchard immediately north of this aspen stand. A subsequent site visit determined that both the orchard and the aspen were high priority sites for management.

Silviculture: This is a coppice regeneration harvest where young aspen are established from root suckers (sprouts) from harvested parent trees. Within the harvest area, non-aspen trees including scattered black cherry, white ash, and red oak were retained for mast production and structural diversity.

Plan Preparer:

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Licensed Timber Harvester:

Pantermehl Land Clearing, Inc.
 1427 Bug Hill Road
 P.O. Box 371
 Ashfield, MA 01330
 MA Licensed Harvester No. 2007-341

Best Management Practices:

Stream Crossings: 3 proposed, 1 used
Filter Strips: Four 50' filter strips

Wetland Crossings: None
Harvesting in Wetlands: None

Stream Crossings	SC-1	SC-2	SC-3
Type of Crossing	Culvert	Poled	Bridge
Existing Structure	Yes	No	No
Type of Bottom	Stony	Mud	Stony
Bank Height (ft)	5'	<1'	5'
Stabilization		Corduroy	

Stream crossing SC-1 is where Chipman Road, a public way, crosses an unnamed brook. The landing was moved to the north so that only log trucks drove on the road at this point. SC-3 was not used, and stand ST-2 was accessed via an alternative rout to the north and west.

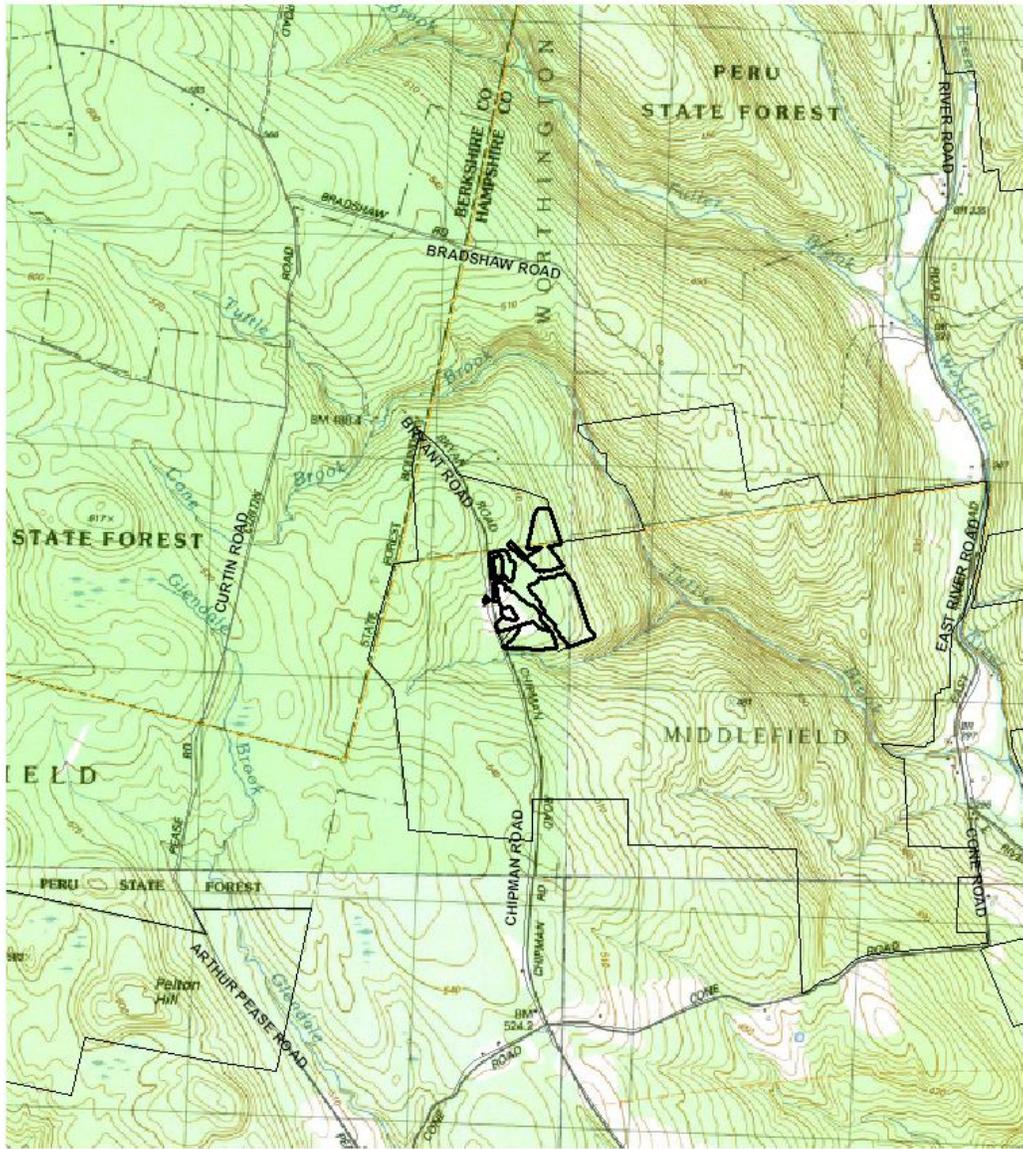
Cutting Standards:

Feature (see map)	Stand 1	Stand 2	Stand 3	Stand 4
Forest Type	Red Spruce/Aspen	Aspen/Northern Hardwood	White Pine/Norway Spruce	Norway Spruce
Acres	4.8	28.6	1.3	0.8
Landowner Objective	Long Term	Long Term	Long Term	Long Term
Designation of Trees	Leave	Leave	Stand Boundary	Stand Boundary
Type of Cut	Clearcut	Clearcut	Clearcut	Clearcut
Source of Regeneration	Coppice	Coppice	Natural Seed	Natural Seed

Determination of Status:

This cutting plan was approved by DCR on August 17, 2005. A final inspection approval was obtained from the DCR Service Forester in May, 2007.

Locus Map

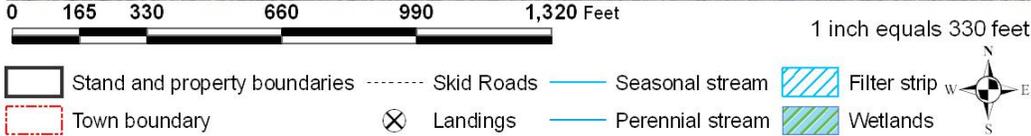


Legend

-  Fox Den WMA
-  Timbersale
-  W-FD.TS2



Aerial Photo





MassWildlife Photo by Brian Hawthorne

March 2006 – Un-merchantable aspen stems being burned under wet conditions toward the end of the winter season in stand 1 (ST-1). Appropriate permits were secured to allow the burn. Prior to burning, ST-1 was cleared with a mechanical harvester (a feller-buncher), and trees were piled with a grapple skidder for burning.



MassWildlife Photo by Brian Hawthorne

August 2006 – Vigorous aspen root sprouts in ST-1 during the first growing season following the removal of parent aspen stems.



MassWildlife Photo by Brian Hawthorne

August 2006 – A mechanized harvester removes merchantable pulpwood trees from stand 2 (ST-2). Merchantable portions of trees were transported by forwarder to a roadside landing and loaded onto log trucks for transportation to a paper mill. Un-merchantable portions of trees were piled with a grapple skidder for burning.



MassWildlife Photo by Brian Hawthorne

February 2007 – Un-merchantable aspen and hardwood stems being transported and piled with a grapple skidder, then burned under winter snow cover in stand 2 (ST-2). Appropriate permits were secured to allow the burn. Prior to burning, ST-2 was cleared with a mechanical harvester (a feller-buncher).