



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Water Supply Protection

FY '15 Forestry Project Proposals



DCR Wachusett Reservoir

Proposed Timber Sales FY 2015



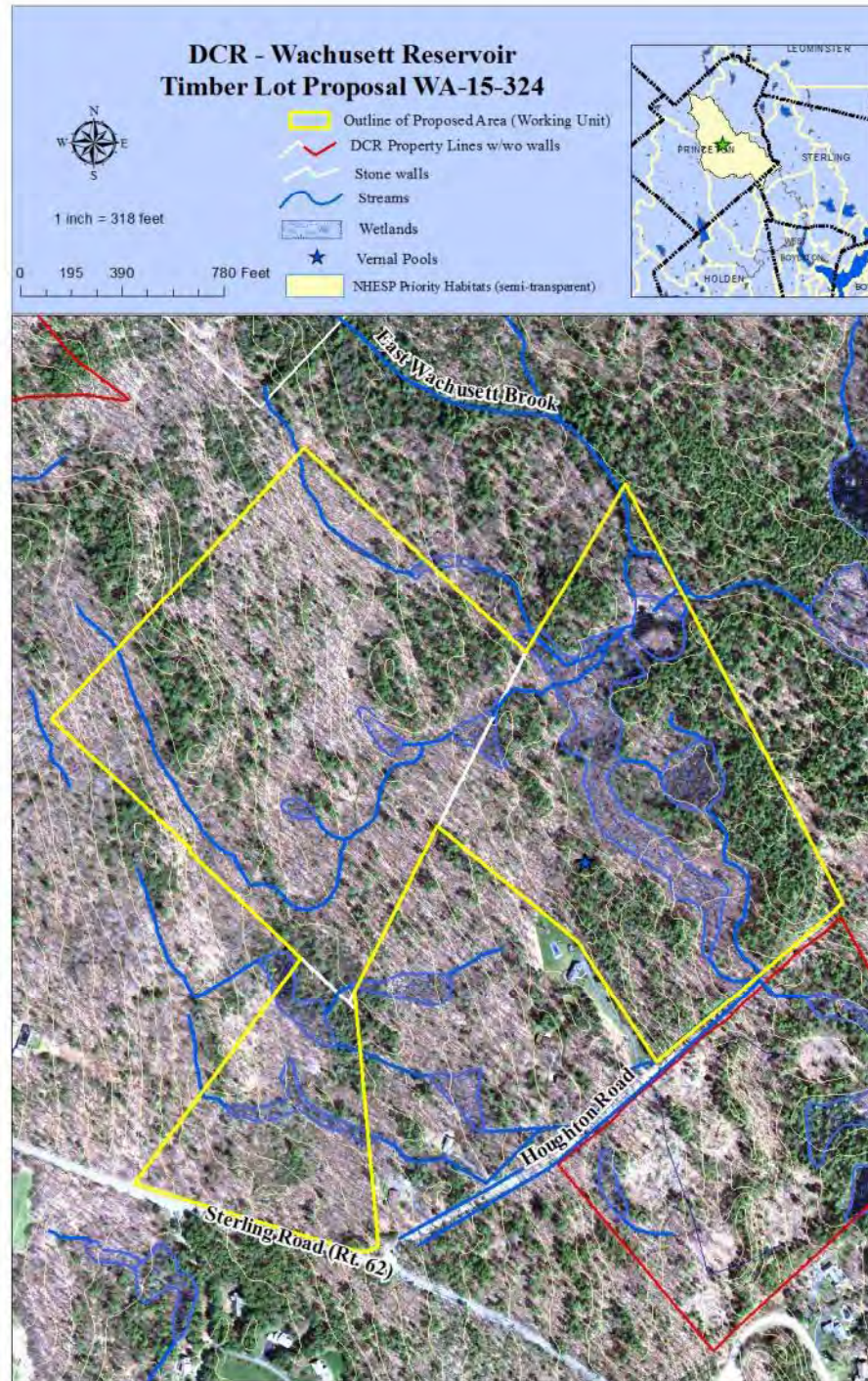
Locus Map (Scale 1:72,000 - 1 inch=6,000 feet)



Houghton Road Proposal

- ✓ Located in Princeton – on the north side of Houghton Road
- ✓ 88 acres total – No work is planned for the 14 acre parcel with frontage on Rt. 62
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. Less than 2 acres are less than 76 years old.
- ✓ Most of the forest originated in about 1930 following abandonment of the pastures.
- ✓ There is adequate advance regeneration particularly in the oak-hardwood and white pine-oak stands comprised of red oak, red maple, black birch, sugar maple, white pine, yellow birch and black cherry.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 25 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 30 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species.

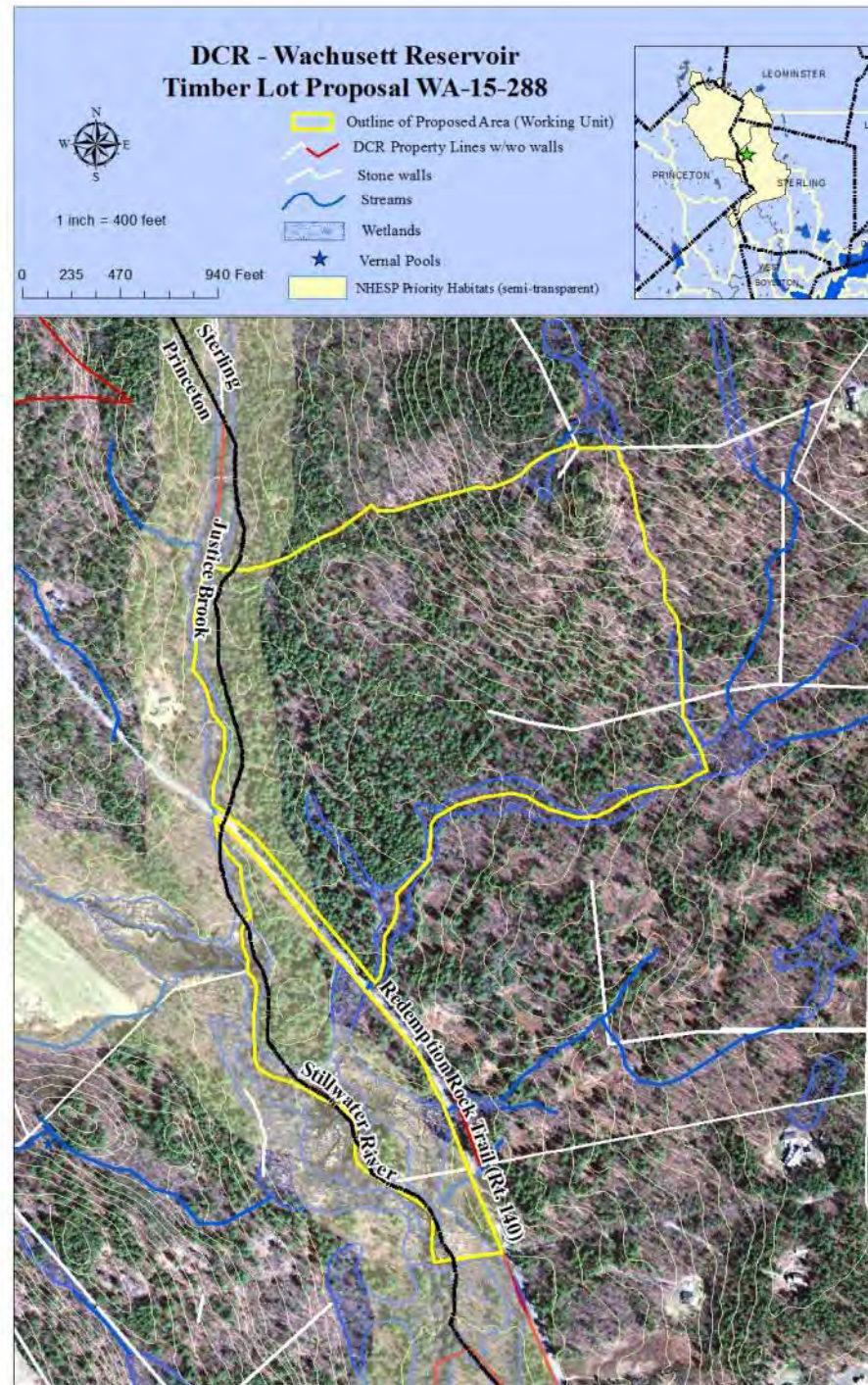
Houghton Road Proposal



Redemption Rock Trail Proposal

- ✓ Located in Sterling – on the east side of Redemption Rock Trail and to the east of Justice Brook.
- ✓ 92 acres total (acquired by the state in 1996)
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. 99% of the forest is more than 64 years old and 85% is at least 84 years old.
- ✓ Two harvests, one in the 1980's, the other in the 1990's, both prior to state acquisition, resulted in good advance regeneration throughout much of the area.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 30 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 30 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species.

Redemption Rock Trail Proposal

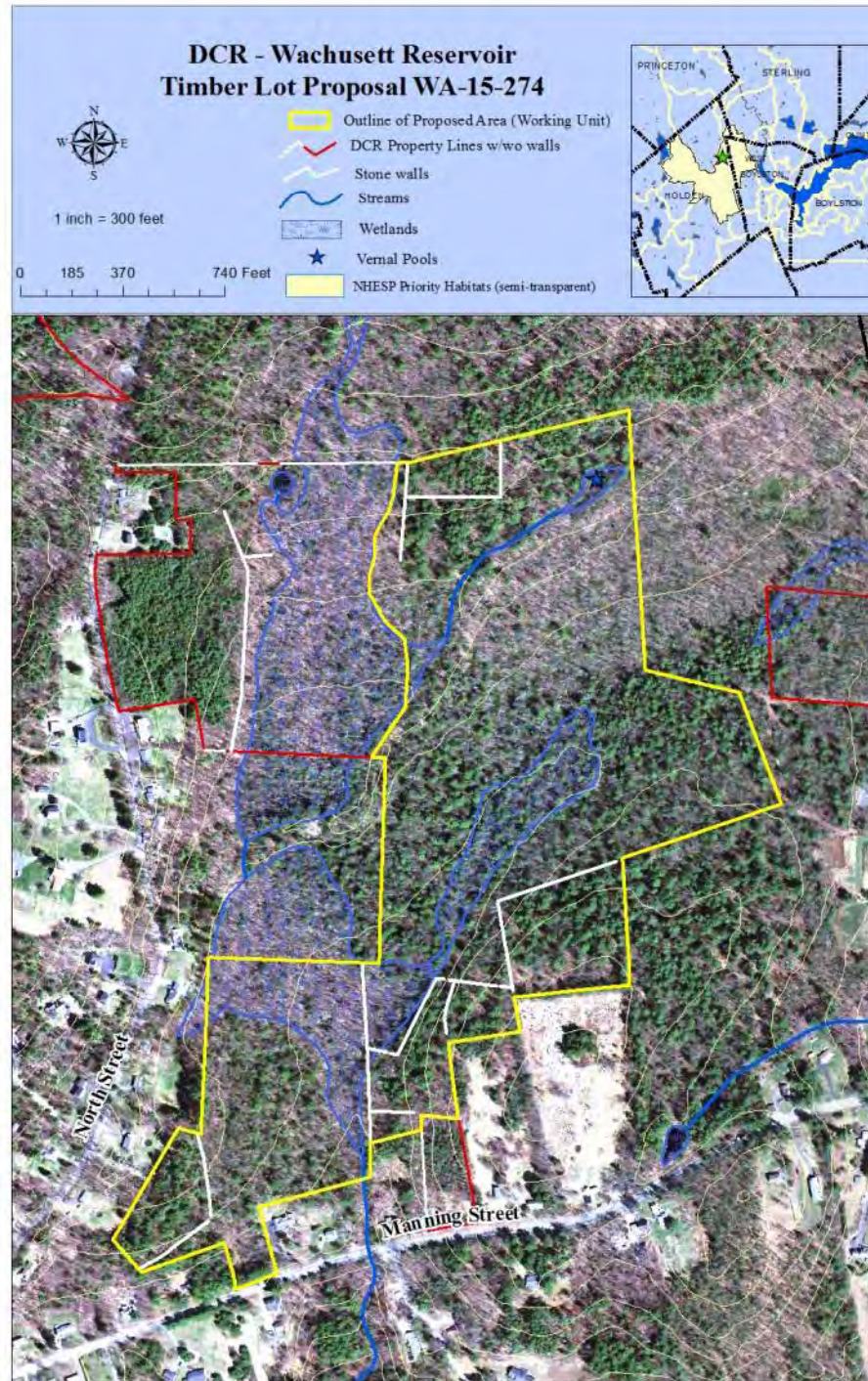


Manning Street Lot



- ✓ Located in Holden – on the north side of Manning Street.
- ✓ 57 acres total (acquired by the state in the late 1990's and early 2000's)
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. While there is good diversity in age classes of 30 years and older, this is a good opportunity to have a widely diverse age structure including a young age class.
- ✓ A harvest in the mid-1980's prior to state acquisition, resulted in good advance regeneration in the north and south end of the property. The vast middle of the area is dominated by a thick mountain laurel understory with limited regeneration except for sassafras.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 15 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 20 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species as well as trying to establish regeneration in the areas of thick mountain laurel.

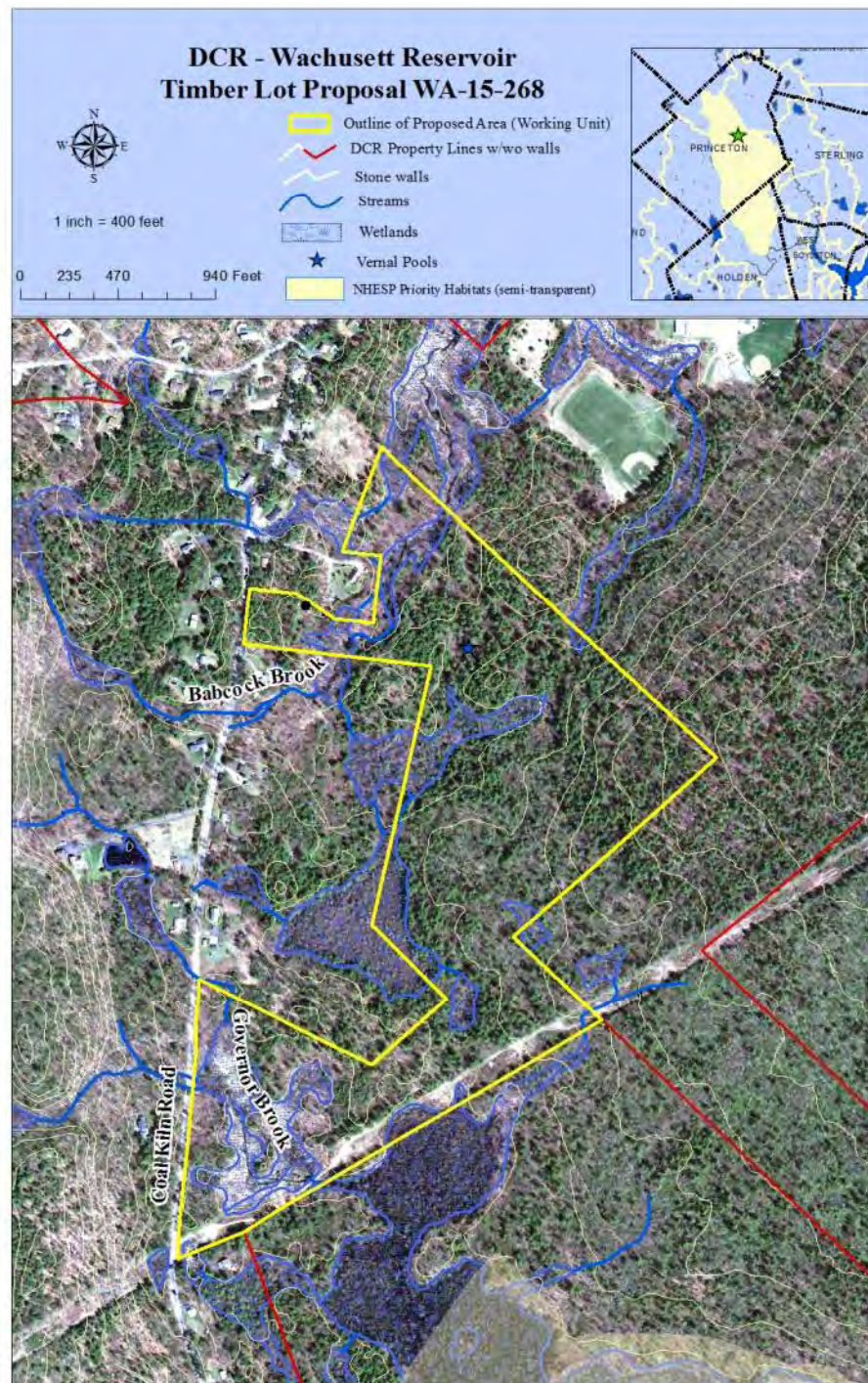
Manning Street Lot



Coal Kiln Road Proposal

- ✓ Located in Princeton – on the east side of Coal Kiln Road, north of the powerline.
- ✓ 66 acres total (acquired by the state in 1995)
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. A severe thunderstorm in 1989 followed by salvage harvesting led to the establishment of good regeneration in the far south end and most of the north end of the area.
- ✓ Much of the middle of the area is dominated by a thick mountain laurel understory which is limiting regeneration.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 15 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 34 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species as well as trying to establish regeneration in the areas of thick mountain laurel.

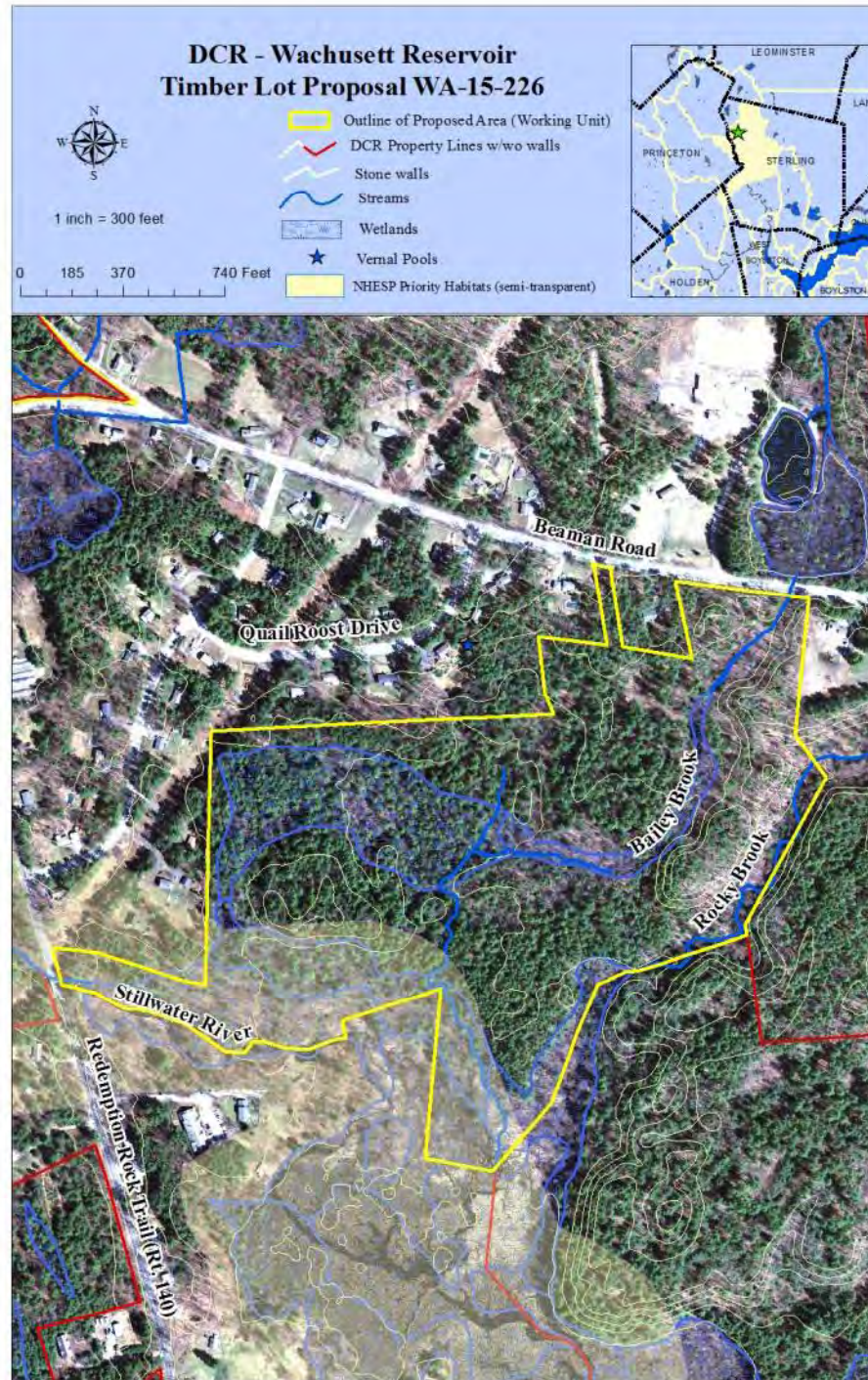
Coal Kiln Road Proposal



Bailey Brook Proposal

- ✓ Located in Sterling – on the south side of Beaman Road, with Bailey Brook running through the middle and Rocky Brook bordering on the east side.
- ✓ 48 acres total (acquired by the state in 1990's)
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. Only 3% of the area is in stands that are less than 20 years old with 84% more than 60 years old.
- ✓ A harvest by the MDC in 1997 led to the establishment of excellent regeneration in much of this area comprised of white pine, red oak, hemlock, red maple, black oak, white oak and black cherry.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 16 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 16 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species.

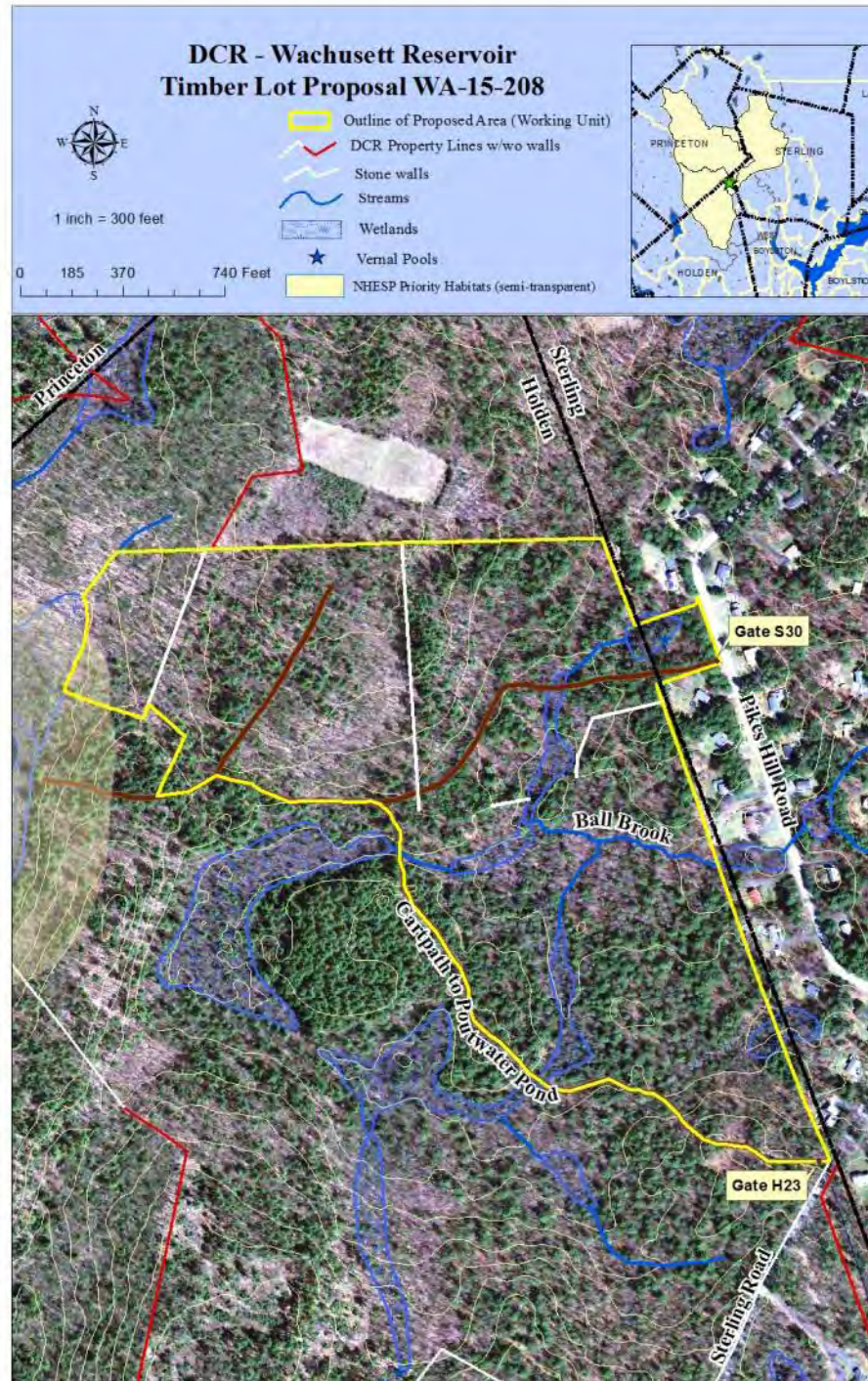
Bailey Brook Proposal



Pikes Hill Road Proposal

- ✓ Located in Holden – to the west of Pikes Hill Road and north of Sterling Road.
- ✓ 66 acres total (acquired by the state in 1994)
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed.
- ✓ Harvesting in 1980 led to 16 acres of new forest which is now 34 years old. There is good advance regeneration throughout much of the remaining area.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 15 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups. This will result in one of the first management units in the Wachusett forest with young, middle aged and older stands of trees in roughly equal proportions.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 30 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species.

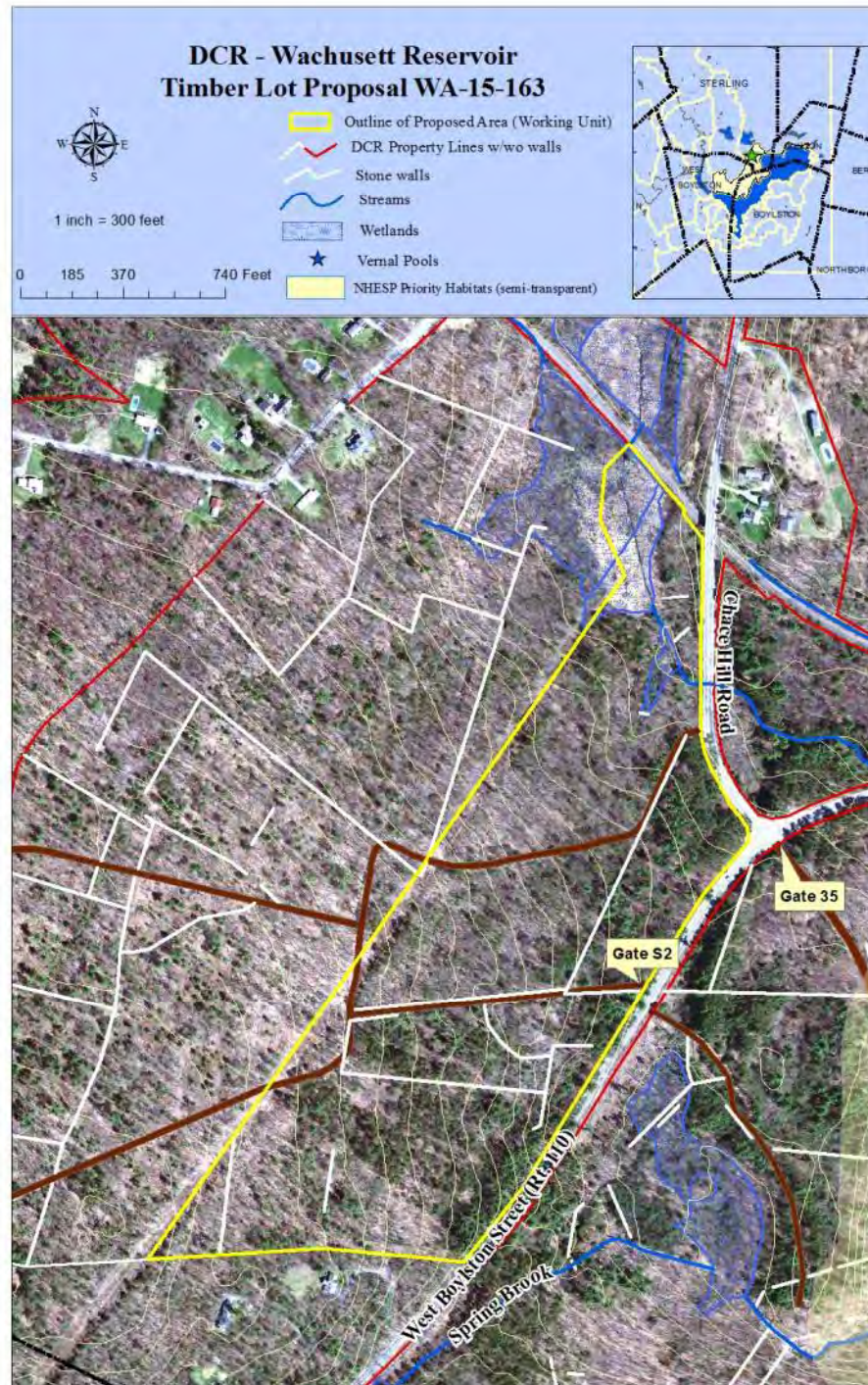
Pikes Hill Road Proposal



Rt. 110 Proposal

- ✓ Located in Sterling– on the west side of Rt. 110 and the west side of Chace Hill Road.
- ✓ 48 acres total
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. 91% of the forest is greater than 70 years old. This is also an opportunity to deal with the dying red pine near Rt. 110.
- ✓ These red and white pine plantations were planted following the hurricane of 1938. The first harvest took place in 1987, removing much of the red pine. The result is good advance regeneration, primarily of mixed hardwoods which are well suited to growing on this site.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 12 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups. These will be concentrated in areas with a red pine overstory.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 16 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species. Of special interest is the stand of an unusually high component of hickory.

Rt. 110 Proposal

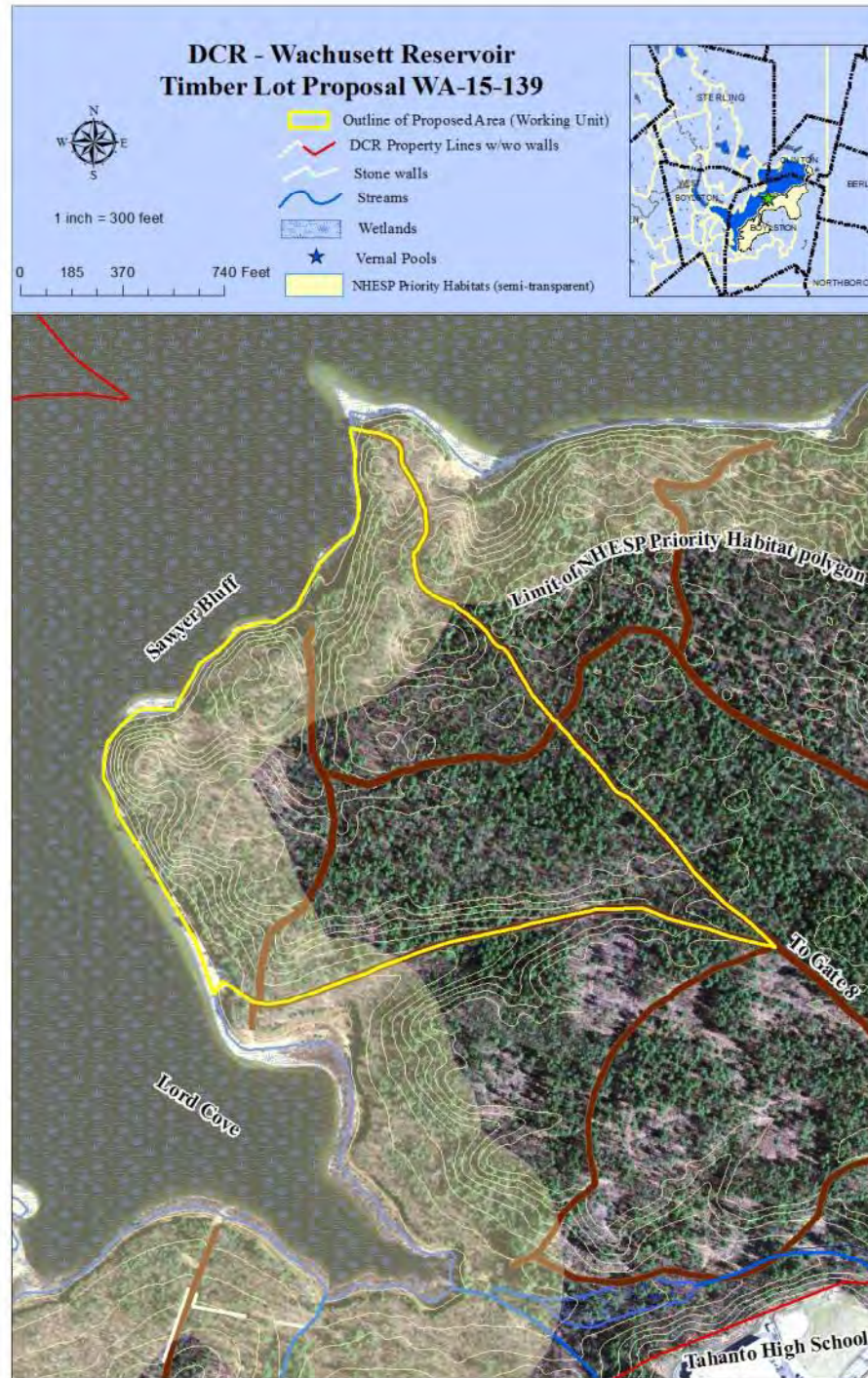


Sawyer Bluff Proposal



- ✓ Located in Boylston– inside Gate 8.
- ✓ 43 acres total
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. 96% of the forest is greater than 80 years old.
- ✓ A timber sale in 1993 in this area has led to good advance regeneration made up of a good mix of white pine, oak, red maple and black birch.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 14 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 14 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species. Given the dry soil on this site, white pine is particularly well suited to this site and will be given special attention.
- ✓ This area is within the asian longhorned beetle regulated area. Any host species that are cut will be handled in compliance with the ALB eradication program regulations.

Sawyer Bluff Proposal

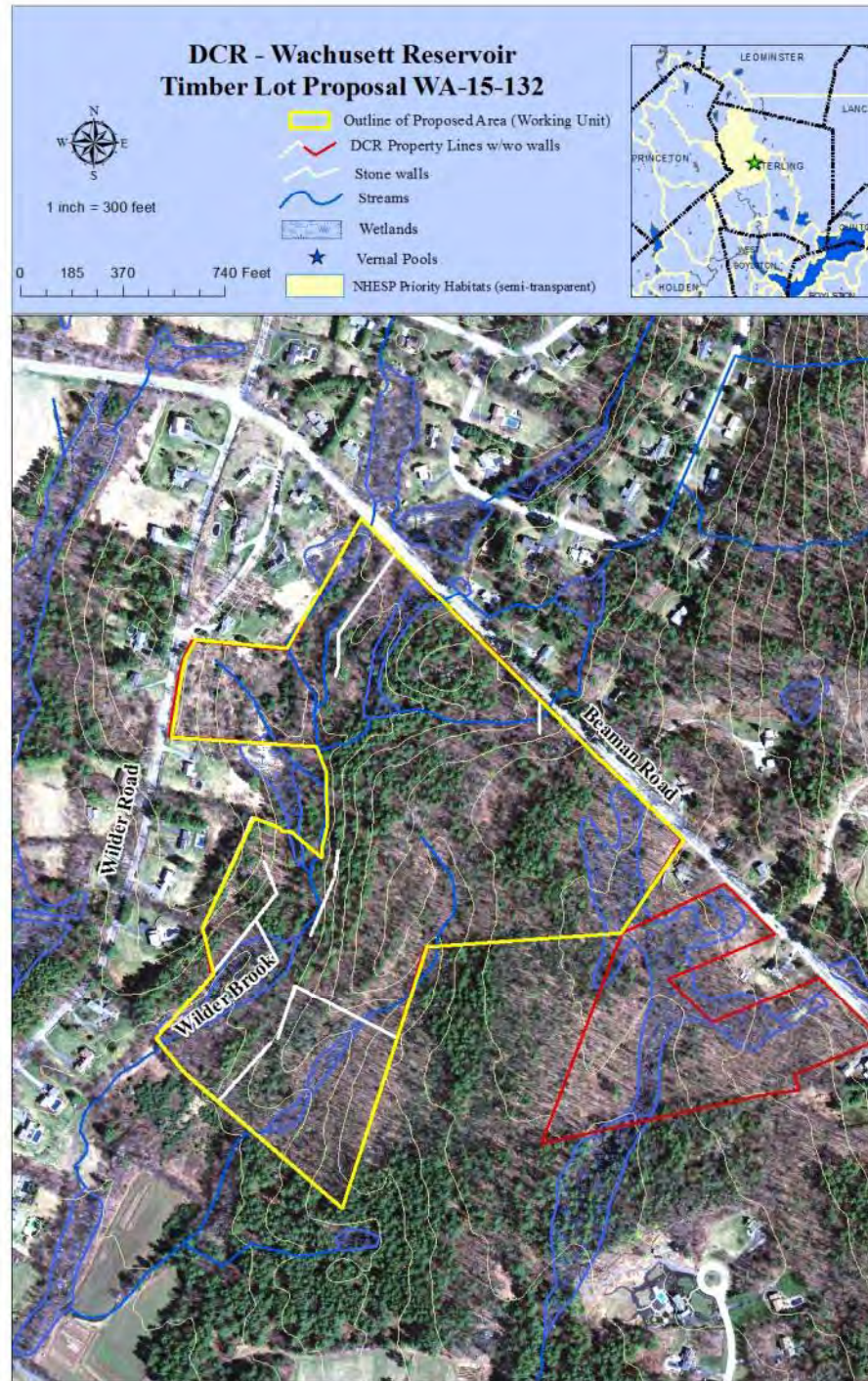


Wilder Brook Proposal



- ✓ Located in Sterling – south of Beaman Road and to the east of Wilder Road.
- ✓ 44 acres total (acquired by the state in 1998).
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed. While there is good diversity in age classes of 30 years and older, this is a good opportunity to have a widely diverse age structure including a young age class.
- ✓ The history of abandonment of the pastures and a timber sale in the early 1970s has resulted in a wide range of ages. Only the youngest age class is missing.
- ✓ This operation will focus on releasing up to 11 acres of the advance regeneration by removing patches of the overstory in various sized groups.
- ✓ Partial cutting will occur in about 10 acres focused on removing the least vigorous and poorly formed trees while encouraging the healthy, long-lived trees of a diversity of species. This is a good opportunity to do some early thinning in some of the stands that are only 30-40 years old.

Wilder Brook Proposal

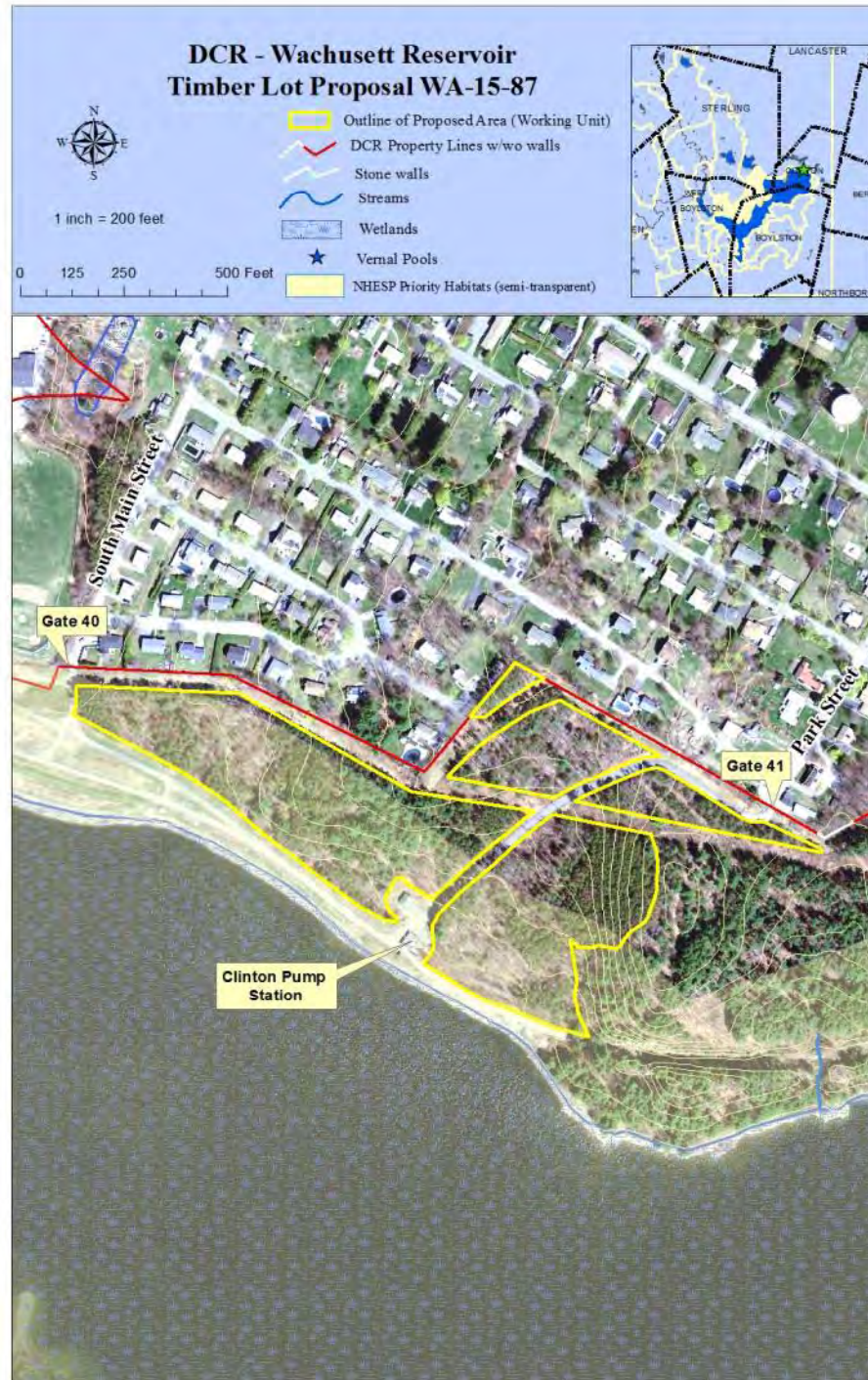


North Dike Proposal



- ✓ Located in Clinton – on a portion of the North Dike inside Gates 40 and 41.
- ✓ 12 acres total.
- ✓ This area was chosen for management due primarily to lack of diversity in age structure both within this specific area and within this subwatershed as well the failing health of the red pines within this plantation which was established in 1935.
- ✓ The red pine throughout this area having been dying in patches for years due to a root rot disease. Of the 12 acres that this plantation originally occupied, the red pine has completely died on nearly 3.5 acres and there are dead or dying red pine in nearly all of the remaining acres. As the red pine dies, it is replaced by native hardwood trees.
- ✓ This operation will remove all of the remaining live red pine trees and as many of the standing, dead trees as feasible from about 8.5 acres. The white pine will not be cut in the 1.0 acre area where they mix with the red pine.
- ✓ Without intervention, the red pine will continue to die, leaving dangerous standing dead trees throughout the area and on the ground for many years while slowly converting to a hardwood forest. Intervention will result in a quick conversion to a young hardwood forest while avoiding the long period of dangerous and unsightly conditions.

North Dike Proposal



- ✓ Written public comments are due by August 15th in order for the Division to address the public issues and incorporate suggestions and concerns into the silvicultural prescriptions.
- ✓ A public tour has been scheduled for the North Dike Proposal on Monday, July 14th. Meet at Gate 40 at the end of South Main St. in Clinton at 6:00 PM.
- ✓ Public tours will be offered for any of the proposed timber sales. If interested, please notify DCR Forest Greg Buzzell at 508-792-7806 ext. 317. Tours are available until August 15th.
- ✓ For more information: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/water-res-protection/watershed-mgmt/watershed-forestry.html>
- ✓ Questions/Comments?