



**Notice of Intent to Abutters
Massachusetts Forest Cutting Practices Act**

File Number _____

Landowner: Town of Sherborn
Address: Sherborn Town Forest Committee
19 Washington Street
Sherborn, MA 01770
Date: December 9, 2023

Abutter: _____
Address: _____

Dear Abutter:

Please be advised that we have complied with the Massachusetts Forest Cutting Practices Law (Chapter 132, M.G.L. Sections 40-46) by making application to the Director of Forests and Parks for official approval for a forest products cutting plan for land we own in the city/town of Sherborn . This cutting is scheduled to begin on or about the date of January 8 , 2023.

The area to be cut is located in the vicinity of:

woodlands south of Prospect Road

The records of the Assessors show that you own property with a property boundary within two hundred feet of the cutting area. This letter is to serve the notice requirement as set out in the above cited law.

Yours Truly



Landowner

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS • EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lt. Governor

Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

John P. Murray, Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

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 269.41595.24 Case No. _____
Date Rec'd _____ Nat. Hert. _____
Earliest Start _____ Nat. Hert. Imp. _____
River Basin _____ Pub. Dr. Wat. _____
Gen. Obj. _____ ACEC _____

Site Information

Location

Town Sherborn
Road Prospect Street
Acres 31.20 Proposed Start Date 01/08/2024
Vol. MBF 55 Vol. Cds. 140 Vol. Tons 0

Plan Preparer

Name Phil Benjamin, CF
Address 151 Depot Street

Town, State, Zip South Easton MA 02375
Phone 508-414-6887
Type of Preparer LF
*Mass. Forester License # 15
*Required for land under Ch61, Ch61A or Forest Stewardship

Landowner

Name Town of Sherborn
Mailing Address 19 Washington Street

Town, State, Zip Sherborn MA 01770
Phone 508-944-6862
Ch61 ☐ 61A ☐ 61B ☐ Stew ☒ *Case # _____
FSC ☐ CR ☐ CR Holder _____

Licensed Timber Harvester**

Name Chris Jones
Address 42 Cedar Hill Road
Town, State, Zip Ashland MA 01721
Phone 774-244-0310
Mass. Lic. Harvester # 2024-1663
**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				
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)				

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

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.

Products to be Harvested*

Species	Mbf/Cds		Mbf/Cds
White Pine	20.280	Red Maple	1.900
Red Pine		Sugar Maple	
Pitch Pine		Red Oak	5.240
Hemlock		Black Oak	23.025
Spruce		White Oak	0.390
Other Sftwd.		Other Hdwd.	1.080
White Ash		Total Mbf	55.410
Beech		Cordwood (Cds)	140.000
White Birch		SW Pulp (Tons)	
B & Y Birch	3.495	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.

Cutting Standards

Indicate location on map	ST-1	ST-2	ST-3	ST-4
Forest Type	OH	WP	WO	
Acres	17.500	4.500	9.200	
Landowner Objective	LT	LT	LT	
Designation of Trees	CT	CT	CT	
Type of Cut	SE	SE	SE	
Source of Regeneration	AD,SE	AD,SE	AD,SE	

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 01/01/0003

Signature of Service Forester/Director's Agent

Date

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

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

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 Town of Sherborn
Town Sherborn
File Number 269.41595.24

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.

Please see Pages 4 and 5 for Narratives.

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

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. Desired Future Condition
Describe what the stand is expected to look like five years from the harvest, including the condition of the overstory & understory

Forest Cutting Plan

Landowner	Town of Sherborn - Sherborn Town Forest Committee
Town	Sherborn
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Narrative Page

(This page is a continuation of the Forest Cutting Plan, Narrative Page, Page 3 to present the Narrative sections that would not survive the transition from electronic version to pdf in their entirety.)

BMPs – With the exception of walking, mountain bike riding, and hunting, this portion of the Sherborn Town Forest has lain fallow for many years. Repeated insect defoliations in the early to mid-2010's in combination with periodic droughty summers resulted in a fair amount of oak mortality. With the resulting decrease in overtopping oak canopy in areas, established white pine saplings and poles are finally beginning to respond with the increased sunlight. However, the deer browsing pressure is intense as evidenced by partially browsed white pine saplings and the lack of young hardwood seedlings and saplings. A tremendous white pine cone crop dropped seed in the fall of 2023 throughout the project area. As a result of the harvest disturbance and the increase in sunlight to the forest floor, especially in the newly created small openings, there will be an incredible component of developing and thriving white pine seedlings and small saplings within a year or two. Ideally, there will be developing oak and hickory seedlings and saplings as well.

The harvest will also aim to improve the resilience of the stands as well as the wildlife habitat value by increasing stem densities and diversity of shrub species, releasing the modest mid-story to ensure improving vertical structure, maintaining individual and small pockets of mature and overmature white pine and mixed hardwood poles and sawlogs, and enhancing the coarse woody and fine woody material present on the forest floor, which is invaluable for the return of nutrients to the soils as well as providing sites for small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and other invertebrates to feed and hide.

With the exception of just a few locations, efforts have been made to minimize use of the existing trails and wood roads by the logging equipment. Water bars will be installed on some of the steeper skid trails to minimize potential erosion issues, although efforts have also been made to avoid working on the steeper topography.

Neither wetlands nor their 100 foot buffers will be impacted by this project.

There are a few occurrences of invasive plant species within the treatment area including barberry, glossy buckthorn, bittersweet, and corktree. Efforts will need to be made to eliminate these footholds as soon as possible following the harvest.

ST 1 - Desired Future Condition - The desired future condition of this stand will be an aesthetically appealing mix of randomly to somewhat evenly spaced mixed oak poles and sawlogs, individual and small pockets of black birch poles and sawlogs, occasional hickory poles and sawlogs, infrequent red maple and other hardwood saplings, poles, and sawlogs, and individual and small pockets of white pole and sawlogs as well as a few areas with developing white pine saplings and poles. The shrub layer will become denser with the added sunlight. White pine and mixed hardwood seedlings and saplings will germinate and begin to thrive in many areas of the stand with the added sunlight, although deer herbivory may affect some of

BMPs

Forest Cutting Plan

Narrative Page (Continued)

Landowner	Town of Sherborn - Sherborn Town Forest Committee
Town	Sherborn
File Number	269.41595.24

BMPs (continued)

the young hardwoods. Good productive seed trees are left behind to ensure improved regeneration of desired species. Improving the growing conditions of all ages of tree species in this stand will increase the resiliency of this forest.

ST 2 - Desired Future Condition - The desired future condition of this stand will be fairly evenly spaced white pine poles and sawlogs with very infrequent mixed oak, red maple, hickory, and black birch poles and sawtimber. The shrub layer will become somewhat denser with the small amount of added sunlight. White pine and mixed hardwood seedlings and saplings will germinate and begin to thrive in many areas of the stand with the added sunlight, although deer herbivory may affect some of the young hardwoods. Improving the growing conditions of all ages of tree species in this stand will increase the resiliency of this forest.

ST 3 - Desired Future Condition - The desired future condition of this stand will be an aesthetically appealing mix of randomly to somewhat evenly spaced white pine, mixed oak, hickory, black birch, red maple, and other mixed hardwood poles and sawlogs as well as a few areas with developing white pine saplings and poles. The shrub layer will become much denser with the added sunlight. White pine and mixed hardwood seedlings and saplings will germinate and begin to thrive in many areas of the stand with the added sunlight, although deer herbivory may affect some of the young hardwoods. Good productive seed trees will be left behind to ensure improved regeneration of desired species. Improving the growing conditions of all ages of tree species in this stand will increase the resiliency of this forest.

Locus Map

Sherborn Town Forest
Sherborn, Massachusetts

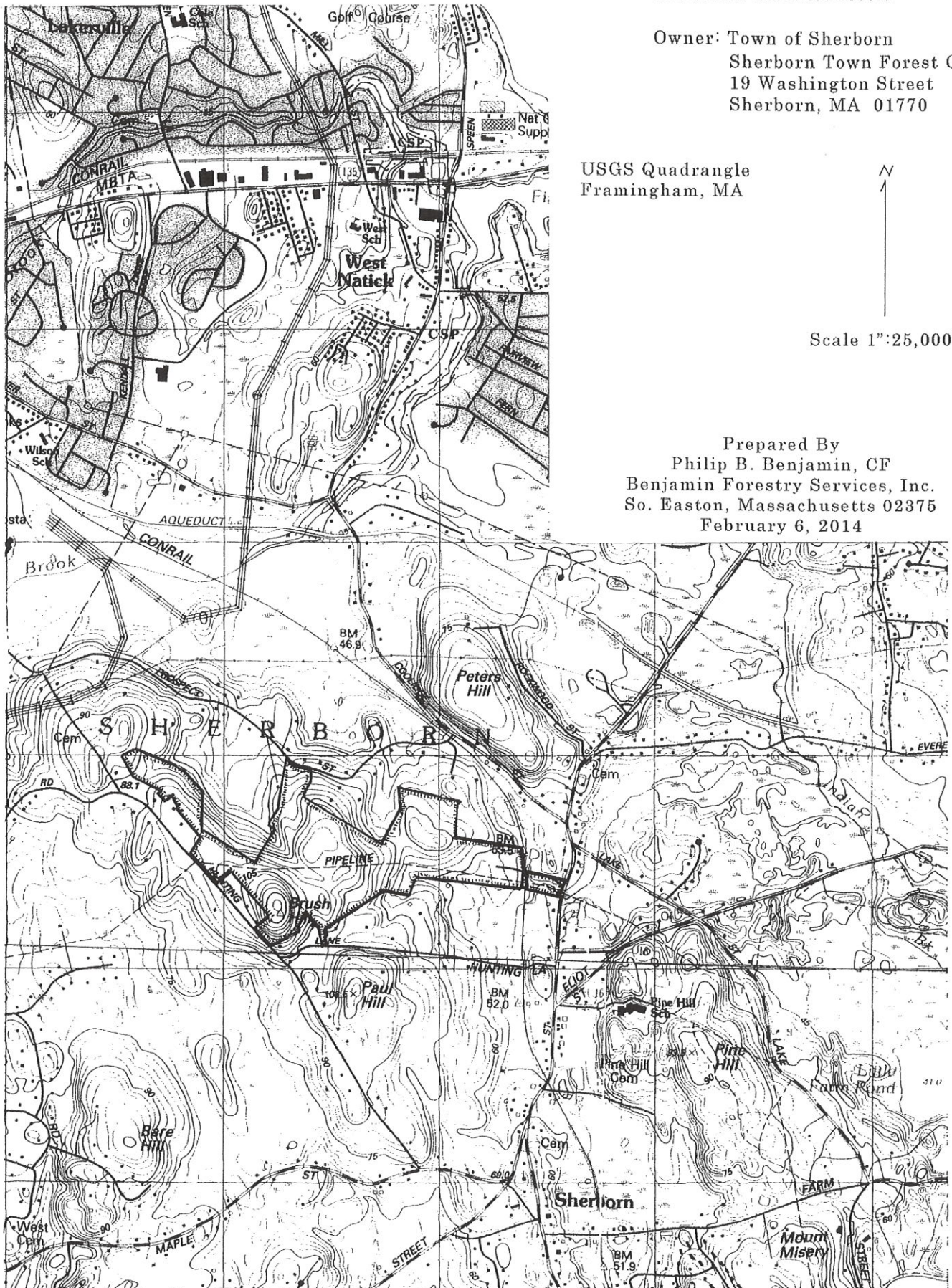
Owner: Town of Sherborn
Sherborn Town Forest Cmte
19 Washington Street
Sherborn, MA 01770

USGS Quadrangle
Framingham, MA



Scale 1"=25,000"

Prepared By
Philip B. Benjamin, CF
Benjamin Forestry Services, Inc.
So. Easton, Massachusetts 02375
February 6, 2014



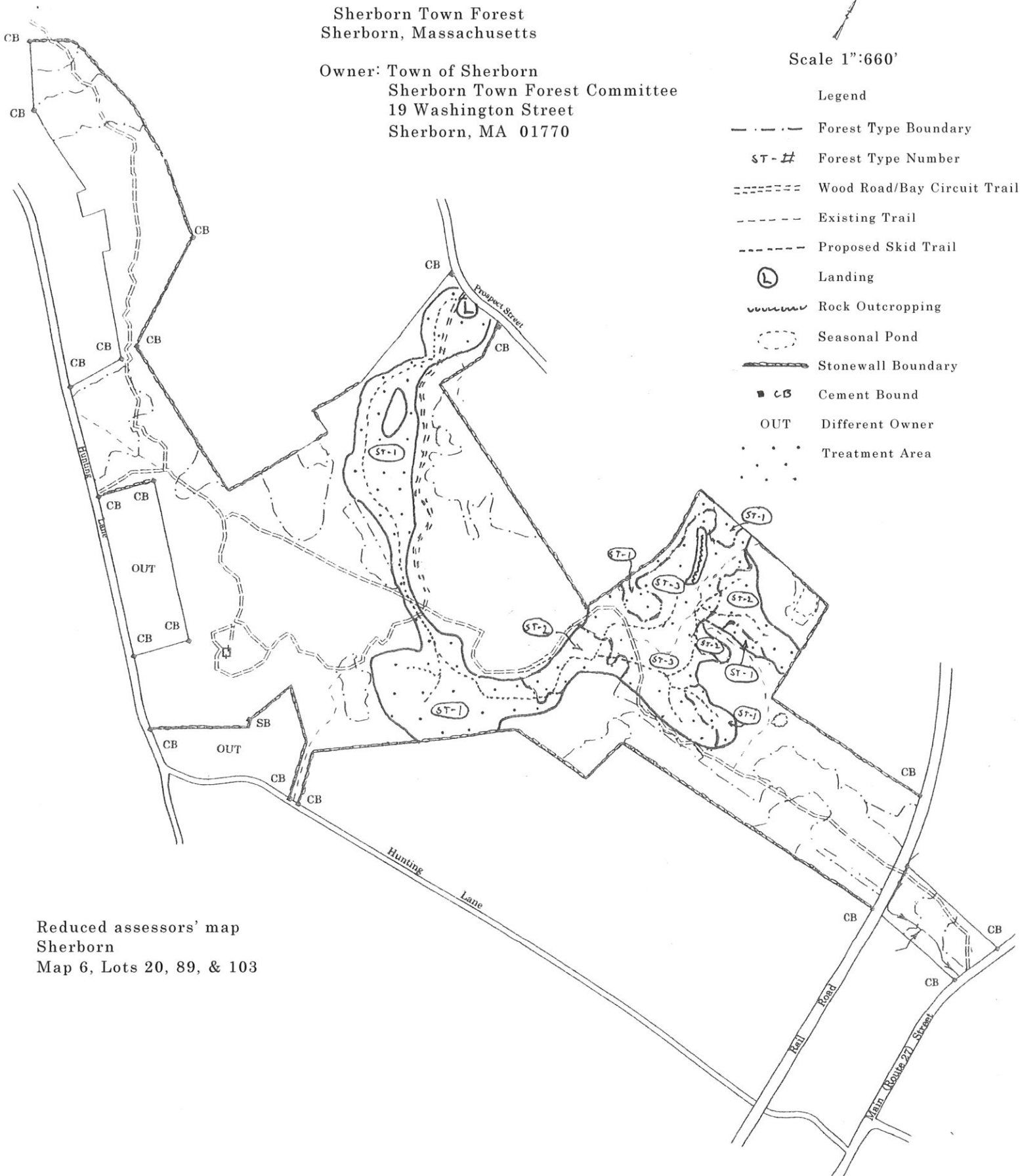
Sherborn Town Forest
Sherborn, Massachusetts

Owner: Town of Sherborn
Sherborn Town Forest Committee
19 Washington Street
Sherborn, MA 01770

Scale 1"=660'

Legend

- Forest Type Boundary
- ST-# Forest Type Number
- ==== Wood Road/Bay Circuit Trail
- Existing Trail
- Proposed Skid Trail
- (L) Landing
- ~~~~~ Rock Outcropping
- Seasonal Pond
- Stonewall Boundary
- CB Cement Bound
- OUT Different Owner
- ... Treatment Area



Reduced assessors' map
Sherborn
Map 6, Lots 20, 89, & 103

Prepared By
Philip B. Benjamin, CF
Philip Benjamin Forestry
So. Easton, Massachusetts 02375
December 7, 2023