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Q1: Why is the city trying to log in a
“Watershed Protection Forest”?

Q2: What is a Reasonable Alternative to
logging in the Notch Reservoir?

Q1: Why is the city trying to log in a “Watershed Protection Forest”?

- How does logging protect water quality?
- What is Source Water Protection Planning?
- How do logging roads, skid trails, and tree removal improve water quality?



DCR-APPROVED WATERSHED LOGGING EXAMPLES

Quabbin Reservoir, Petersham



Protective vegetation removed

Quabbin Reservoir: SKID ROADS

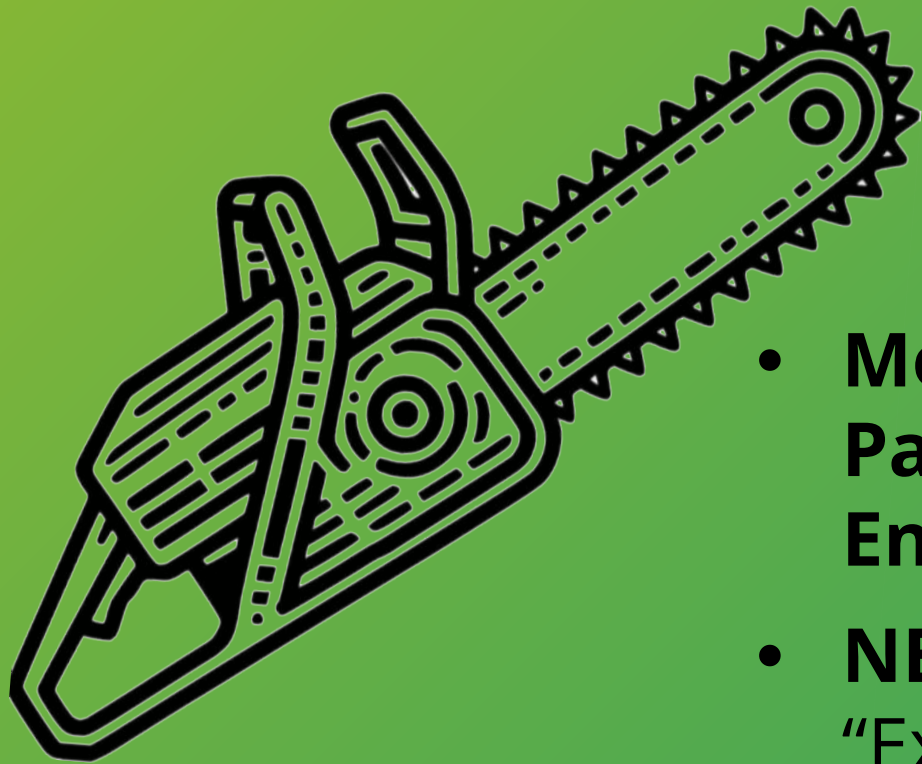


Mineral soil exposed to erosion

Quabbin Reservoir: LOGGING LANDING AREAS



Heavily impacted by equipment; soils severely compacted



- **Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership** is a project of the **New England Forestry Foundation**
- **NEFF** practices what they call “Exemplary Forestry”

What does NEFF’s Exemplary Forestry look like?

Hint: It’s not what they say they are going to do that counts, instead look at what they actually do.

NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION “EXEMPLARY FORESTRY” EXAMPLES

Muddy Brook WMA & WCA in Hardwick (Ware River Watershed)



Only “seed trees” left standing, steep eroding hillsides

Muddy Brook WMA & WCA in Hardwick (Ware River Watershed)



Few trees left, all vegetation removed around vernal pools

DCR Water Supply logging in Ware (Ware River Watershed)



Extreme compaction of wetland soils



How Does Logging Protect Water Quality?

- Common sense says that it doesn't
- Evidence says that it doesn't
- Examples show that it doesn't

Then why is logging being proposed?

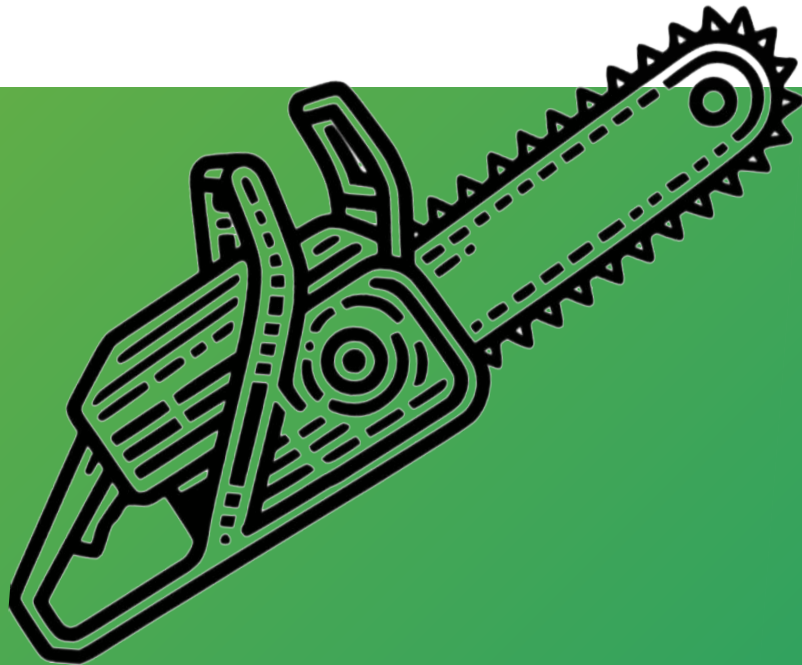
What did the recent Governor's Climate Forestry Report say about logging in waterheds?

(Comprised of 12 members: 9 foresters / loggers and 3 scientists)

"Other Committee members argued that abundant ecosystem science shows that there is no reason for the Division to actively manage forest land to produce clean water."

[-Report of the Climate Forestry Committee](#), (page 41)

Why is logging the only alternative being considered for the notch reservoir?



Q2: What is a Reasonable Alternative to logging in the Notch Reservoir?

- Full, permanent protection of the forest
- A “Forever-Wild” Conservation Restriction
- Grant funding is available to protect water
- Wild-Carbon Credits for 20 years would generate greater income than logging, with zero negative impacts to the watershed

A Forever-Wild Conservation Restriction (CR) would result in full, permanent protection of the Notch Reservoir's Watershed Protection Forest.

- Planning grants up to \$125,000 are available to pay for permanent protection
- MA-DEP also funds watershed protection
- CR to be held by a local Land Trust partner

Wild-Carbon Credits could generate greater income than logging, with zero impact to the watershed and long-term water quality

- Carbon Credits generated by tree growth could bring in as much as \$200-300,000 over a 20-year period (conservative estimate)
- Create a Notch Reservoir endowment
- Help North Adams meet it's climate goals

A viable Wild-Carbon project would include approximately 5000 acres, in North Adams and adjacent towns (public or private lands)

- Could include other municipal watershed protection forests
- Could serve as a model in the region
- Would enhance the recreation and tourist economy

Estimated from the Tri-City Carbon Project (Watershed Forests owned by the cities of Holyoke, Westfield, and West Springfield)

- 13,536 acres enrolled in the voluntary carbon market
- Projected carbon credit income over 10 years = \$2,000,000 or \$148/acre
- A 5000 acre project could produce approx. \$1,478,000 over the 20-year period

This permanent protection and carbon credit alternative should be seriously considered

- There is no need to rush to a decision that will eliminate a better outcome
- The carbon credit income would cost the city nothing, saving taxpayer money
- The carbon credits could offset the expense of supplying clean water to all residents



*"In wildness is the
preservation of the world."*

--- Henry David Thoreau

from the essay Walking, published in
The Atlantic in June of 1862