

September 10, 2020

The commercial salvage operation to reopen Old Chesterfield Road, Snow Brook Trail is wrapping up. All that remains is to seed the log landing just inside the gate at the Snow Brook Trailhead.



Old Chesterfield Road and Snow Brook Trail are fully open.

The storm certainly changed things, but the resulting patches of even-aged forest will provide important young forest wildlife habitat. In the short term, these areas will be foraging locations for bats and the fledglings of insectivore songbirds nesting in the surrounding woods. “Soft mast” species like blackberries will spring up and be food for everything from birds to bear. As trees regenerate, they will provide quality browse for deer and moose and dense “escape cover” and breeding habitat for many birds and small mammals. Stumps and down woody material provide habitat for species from small mammals to bobcats. Large snags and trees retained in the salvage will provide den locations for many species and hunting perches for raptors.

For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

August 13, 2020

The commercial timber sale to reopen Old Chesterfield Road, Snow Brook Trail and salvage 18 acres of storm damage (on the Winchester end of Pisgah State Park) continues.



Blow down blocking Old Chesterfield Road has been cleared and salvage to the west of Old Chesterfield Road should be complete by the weekend and Fullam Pond will be accessible by vehicle this weekend. Be aware the road through the salvage area is still a bit rough.

Old Chesterfield Road remains closed weekdays to cars and trucks at the junction of John Hill Road until the salvage is complete. Snow Brook Trail will remain closed from Old Chesterfield Road to Orchard Trail during the salvage.

Working in a blow down area is difficult for the equipment operators. Do not enter the project area or approach equipment. Watch here for updates. For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

July 28, 2020

The commercial timber sale which will reopen Old Chesterfield Road, Snow Brook Trail and salvage 18 acres of storm damage (on the Winchester end of Pisgah State Park) began July 20th.

While plans are to remove the blow down blocking Old Chesterfield Road early in the project, Fullam Pond is still not accessible by vehicle. Old Chesterfield Road remains closed to cars and trucks at the junction of John Hill Road until further notice, and it continues to be closed to ATV's at the junction of Broad Brook Road.



The log landing off Snow Brook Trail has been completed salvage of the storm damage has begun. Working in a blow down area is difficult for the equipment operators. Snow Brook Trail will remain closed during the salvage. Do not enter the project area or approach equipment. Watch here for updates. For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

July 23, 2020

Work has resumed in the southern unit of the Old Swanzey Road timber sale at Pisgah State Park.



A “cut to length” harvester fells, delimbs and cuts the trees to log length.



Red oak seedlings are scattered through the areas where cutting occurred last year.

June 22, 2020

During thunderstorms on May 15, 2020, a sizable area of storm damage occurred on the Winchester end of Pisgah State Park near the junction of Old Chesterfield Road and the Snow Brook Trail.



Storm damage blocks 400 feet of Old Chesterfield Road and 600 feet of the Snow Brook Trail. As a result, the gate on Old Chesterfield Road has remained closed this spring. Vehicle access to Fullam Pond is impossible.



A commercial timber sale to salvage the 18 acre area of storm damage, and re-open the trail and road has been planned by the Division of Forests & Lands in conjunction with the Division of Parks and the NH Fish & Game Department. The project was put out to bid on June 19th. Due to wildlife concerns operations cannot start until July 20th at the earliest, but are planned to conclude by mid September.

April 3, 2020

Due to the early warm-up all cutting and forwarding on the northern Unit wrapped up in early March. The northern log yard was set up using log mats down the center of the yard for the forwarder to sit on to stack wood, and log trucks to load wood. Because of this trucking wood continued into late March. Work in both Units will restart sometime after mud season.



For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, [Inge Seaboyer](#) at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, [Scott Rolfe](#) at 603-227-8741.

February 19, 2020

Work on the Old Swanzy Road timber sale at Pisgah State Park has resumed. Due to snow, current operations are limited to the northern Unit directly off Old Swanzy Road. Work on the southern unit will be completed sometime after mud season.

For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, [Scott Rolfe](#) at 603-227-8741.

December 4, 2019

The Old Swanzey Road timber sale at Pisgah has wrapped up until later in the winter. Close out work – like installing water bars on trails – was done on most of the completed area south of the Unit 1 (southern) log yard on November 22nd. Due to rains last week, trucking the remaining wood on the log yard was delayed until this week.

When the sale re-starts this winter work may shift to Unit 2 (the northern Unit) with its log yard directly off Old Swanzey Road.

For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

October 28, 2019

The Old Swanzey Road timber sale at Pisgah continues to operate as long as ground conditions remain favorable. The 5 acre clearcut around the Unit 1 (southern) log yard is complete and opens up a view from Fullam Pond Trail.



The harvest includes both clear cuts and partial cutting called “shelterwood”.



A small “patch clear cut” at the southern end of Unit 1.

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October 1, 2019

The Old Swanzezy Road timber sale at Pisgah is finally in full swing. Much of the work on the Unit 2 (northern) log yard was completed in September, in preparation for operations later this year; then the Unit 1 (southern) yard was opened up, and upgrades to the northern end of the Fullam Pond Trail (which will serve as the access road) were completed.



Like most previous timber sales at Pisgah, this harvest is being operated “cut-to-length”, with a harvester which delimbs, and cuts logs in the woods. Logs are then transported to the log yard with a “forwarder”.



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August 20, 2019

Final work to seed the log yard for the Reservoir Road Timber sale was completed this morning. This project, first contracted in 2017 was delayed by last summer's heavy rains, so ironically, just as it wraps up, the 2019 project - the Old Swanzy Road Timber Sale is about to start up. The first step on the new project will be setting up the log yard areas for both the northern Unit -directly off Old Swanzy Road - and the southern Unit - off Fullam Pond Trail.

August 15, 2019

Things are winding down on the Reservoir Road timber sale. The foot/ski path, which runs from the ATV/Snow-machine Trail to Reservoir Road, has been re-opened. All cutting and forwarding was completed earlier this week and trucking of logs will be completed soon. Once all the logs have been trucked the log yard will be smoothed, seeded and mulched.



A forwarder gathers up logs in a Group Selection Cut.



A forwarder trail. Logging slash (like tree limbs) has been placed in the trail.



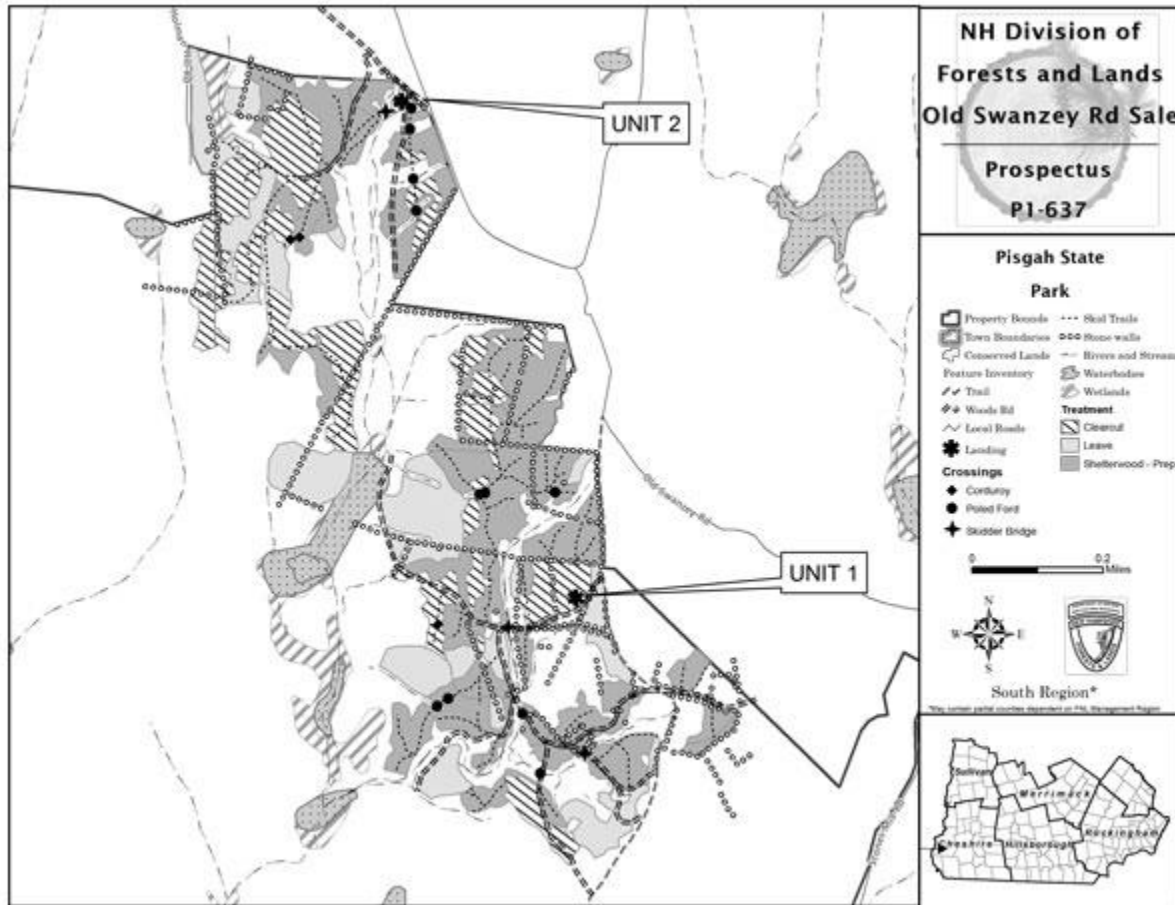
Two Group selection cuts completed in 2019.

July 8, 2019

The Reservoir Road timber sale (P1-625) has re-started. Like last summer, log trucks will be entering via the ATV trail from the parking lot on Route 119. A small section of the sale, east of Reservoir Road will be completed first, and until it is complete, vehicles on Reservoir Road must yield to equipment crossing the road (there are stop signs in both directions).

May 28, 2019

In April the [Division of Forest and Lands](#) showed a timber harvest in the northeastern portion of Pisgah State Park – off Old Swanzezy Road and Fullam Pond Trail -to prospective buyers. Planning for this project to harvest timber and improve wildlife habitat on 137 acres occurred in 2018. Layout and marking on the project was completed in the fall of 2018.



This project is located in the management Criteria 3 area as described in the [Pisgah State Park Management Plan](#). To accomplish the even-aged forest management goals for Criteria 3, this project includes 3 clear cuts ranging in size from 5 to 16.6 acres; seven smaller “patch” clear cuts ranging from 1.2 to 3.7 acres and 6 groups cuts from 0.3 to 0.9 acres totaling 51 acres. Clear-cuts over 3 acres will provide [young forest habitat](#) and have been located in blocks of mature and/or declining trees.



On the remaining 86 acres partial cutting call “shelter-wood” provides growing space for the residual trees, and light to help establish desired tree regeneration.

In a clear-cut done in the timber sale off Horseshoe Road at Pisgah a heavy acorn crop timed with the fall harvest in this clear cut resulted in dense red oak regeneration one-year post harvest.



In the short term, clear cuts will be foraging locations for bats & the fledglings of insectivore songbirds nesting in the cuts and the surrounding woods. And they will provide quality browse for deer & moose.

Large stems will be retained in the clear cuts for wildlife use as nest trees or perches for hawks and owls to hunt from.



In just a few years the regenerating clear cuts will provide “escape cover” & breeding habitat for many birds and small mammals.



The harvest operations will take place on dry or frozen ground.

For more information on this this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

September 18, 2018

Due to the unusual amount of rain in August cutting on the timber harvest off Reservoir Road was suspended roughly a month after it started. Cut trees were brought to the log yard, and most were trucked by August 20th.

A small amount of softwood pulp remains on the log yard to be trucked when operations resume. Additional interim cleanup will occur this fall.

Approximately half of the project area has been operated. The remainder will be operated when ground conditions improve – likely in the summer of 2019.



Shelterwood cutting along South Link Trail.



Group Selection.

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July 19, 2018

The first equipment (a feller-buncher which will cut the trees) moved on to the Pisgah State Park on 7/11/18. It was joined by a cut-to-length processor which de-limbs and cuts the harvested trees to log length in the woods. It is then carried to the log yard (off the ATV access trail) by a forwarder where it will be loaded onto trucks to go to mills or other locations where it will become boards or firewood or paper. The first logs were trucked on 7/18/18.

This area along the east side of Reservoir Road has been cut but not yet processed. Here the cut-to-length processor works in the same area.

Now processed the logs wait for the forwarder to move them to the log yard.

Signs on Reservoir Road alert visitors to the forwarder crossing location.

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July 5, 2018

It is expected that the 165 acre project to harvest timber and improve wildlife habitat at Pisgah State Park may begin operation at the end of the week of July 9th-13th. Truck access for the harvest will be up the ATV/snow machine Access Trail. The logging contractor fixed the first quarter mile of the trail from the Parking lot off NH Rt 119 to the log landing north of the power line last fall using gravel supplied by the Division of Forests & Lands.

Logging operations and trucking will only occur during weekdays, but ATV riders should be aware that log trucks entering and exiting via the ATV/snow machine access trail must be given the right-of-way.

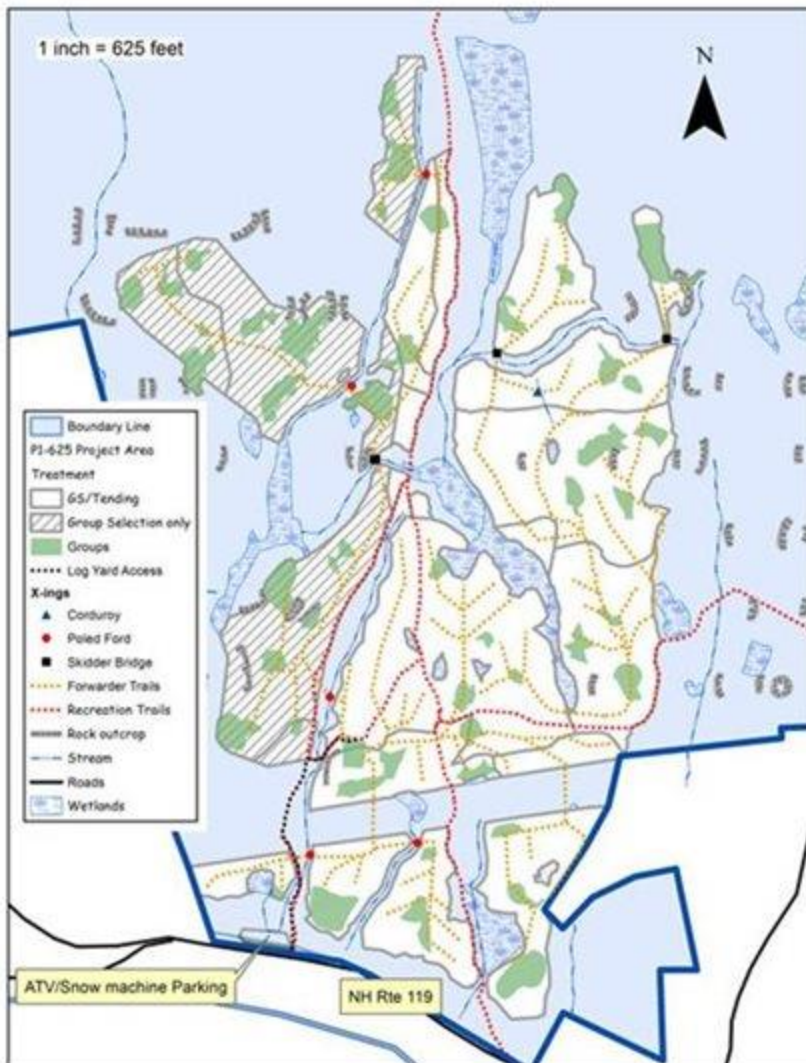
The equipment will cross Reservoir Road just south of South Link Trail. Logs will be brought to the log landing with a "forwarder". Here too logging equipment will have the right-of-way. Stop signs will be erected on Reservoir Road and cars, trucks and ATV's will need to stop and yield to any approaching equipment. During the course of the harvest equipment will also cross the ATV Access Trail (near the log yard), South Link Trail and the hiking trail which runs north from the ATV Access Trail to Reservoir Road - watch for "Caution Equipment Crossing signs" when the harvest is operational.

For more information on this project and timber harvesting in State Parks and State Forests, contact Project Forester, Inge Seaboyer at 603-464-3453 or Regional Forester, Scott Rolfe at 603-227-8741.

July 24, 2017

The Division of Forest and Lands recently wrapped up layout and marking on a project to harvest timber and improve wildlife habitat on 165 acres at [Pisgah State Park](#) starting in the fall of 2017. This project is located off Reservoir Road in the management Criteria 2 area as described in the Pisgah State Park Management Plan. In this part of the Park the goal is to develop an uneven-aged forest with all the different age classes, from seedlings to large saw timber represented. The management technique used is a combination of Group Selection (small opening from 0.1 – 1.0 acre) and partial cutting. For this project in the western portion of the harvest area only Groups were used. In the remainder of the area partial cutting (referred to as "tending") will be done between Groups. This cutting will allow some sunlight to reach the forest floor and help establish regeneration of species like red oak and white pine.

Pisgah State Park - P1-625



Regeneration 1 year post harvest in similar cutting in the first timber sale at Pisgah State Park. Deer and other wildlife had fed on (browsed) the tops of many young trees. Bats and even interior nesting birds will bring their young to these openings to feed on the insects that use them.



Regeneration four years post -harvest has already grown out of mammals. The dense young trees hide them from hawks and owls.



Several Groups in the current project have been located in pine with sparse tops like these. Crowns here are small due to overcrowding and are also affected by White Pine needle disease which causes the tree to shed more needles than normal, earlier in the year adversely affecting photosynthesis, growth and overall health.



Access for the harvest will be up the ATV/snow machine access trail. The logging contractor will be responsible for fixing the first quarter mile of the trail from NH Rt 119 to the log landing north of the power line. The Division of Forests & Lands will be supplying gravel for the repairs. Road repairs will happen this fall.



Foresters worked with Park Manager Whip Newell to identify problem trees along roads and trails within the project area. Trees like this one with heart rot will be removed as part of the harvest.

The harvest operations will take place on dry or frozen ground but cease when snow fall begins. Logs will be brought to the log landing with a “forwarder”. The equipment will cross Reservoir Road just south of South Link Trail. Watch for signs when the harvest starts.

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