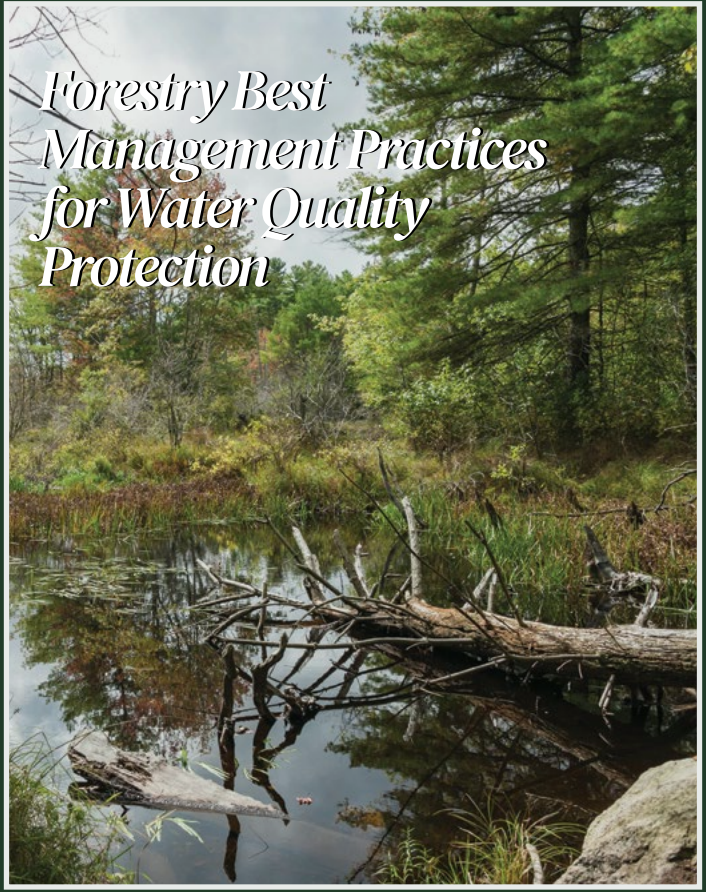
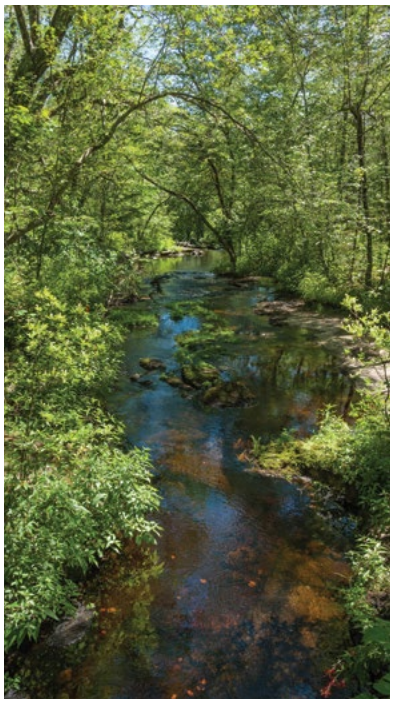
Rhode Island



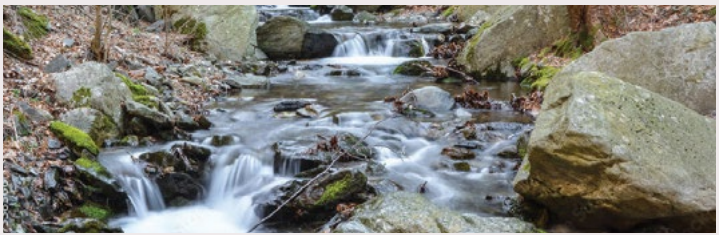
Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality Protection

Pocket Guide



Introduction

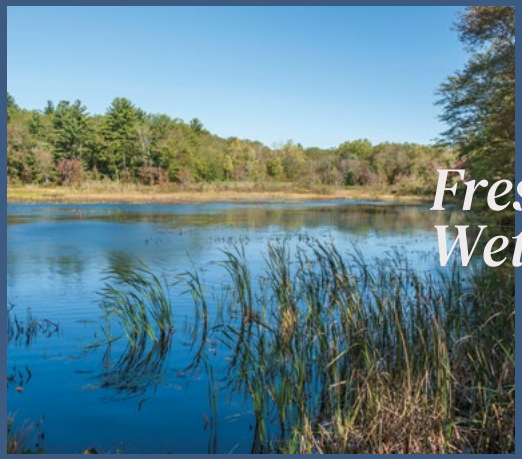
This manual has been prepared in response to a need to protect water quality from impacts resulting from forest management operations. Section 208 of the 1977 Clean Water Act requires each state to develop plans and procedures to control "silviculturally related non-point sources of pollution... to the extent feasible." Section 319 of that act requires each state to develop and implement a program to reduce non-point source (NPS) pollution to the "maximum extent practicable."



In order to minimize NPS pollution from forestry activities, the application of soil and water protection measures by woods operators and forest landowners is an accepted industry practice. These measures are referred to as Best Management Practices (BMPs), in both Rule 3.6, "Exempt Activities", of the Rules and Regulations governing the RI Freshwater Wetlands Act (150-15-3, General Laws of Rhode Island, 2022, as amended), and the Woods Operator Registration Law (2-15-1, RIGL, 1992 as amended).

In order that sensible, low impact operations can proceed without regulatory overburden, Rule 3.6 allows limited and selective timber harvesting operations in wetlands and Jurisdictional Areas, as an exempt activity within approved Best Management Practice guidelines when carried out under the supervision of the Division of Forest Environment.

250-RICR-150-15-3:
TITLE 250 – DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 150 – WATER RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER 15 – WETLANDS
PART 3 – Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act



Freshwater Wetlands

Regulations of Wetland Activities

Several agencies are responsible for regulating wetland activities within the state of Rhode Island. The **Wetland Compliance Program** within the **Office of Compliance and Inspection** (OCI) at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) is responsible for regulatory enforcement related to Freshwater Wetlands and other Jurisdictional Areas. The OCI investigates complaints and suspected violations of laws and regulations relating to work within Jurisdictional Areas. Failure to comply with the Freshwater Wetland Rules and Regulations, including following all BMPs, may result in the issuance of enforcement actions, which may include restoration requirements and the assessment of administrative penalties.

The **Freshwater Wetlands Program (FWP)** within the **Office of Water Resources** at the RIDEM is responsible for regulating alterations of Rhode Island's freshwater wetlands and adjacent Jurisdictional Areas (JAs) through an application process that verifies delineated JAs, determines the presence of JAs, and reviews proposed projects in JAs.

The **Coastal Resources Management Council** (CRMC) is responsible for regulating alterations of coastal wetlands and freshwater wetlands in the vicinity of the coast. Maps illustrating the jurisdiction lines between CRMC and RIDEM are available from the state. The CRMC applies the same exemptions as the RIDEM for activities within JAs in coastal zones.

Wetland Definitions (abridged)

For the purpose of this guide, forested wetlands include any freshwater wetlands within a forest. Listed here are several common forested wetland types found in Rhode Island. The following definitions are abridged from legal definitions found in 250-RICR-150-15-3.

Freshwater Wetlands

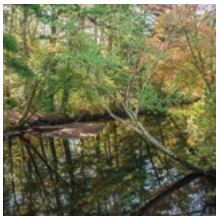
Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions including, but not limited to, marshes, swamps, bogs, emergent and submergent plant communities, rivers, streams, ponds, and vernal pools or any combination thereof; OR any or all freshwater wetlands created as part of, or the result of, any activity permitted or directed by the Department after July 16, 1971 including, but not limited to: restored freshwater wetlands; value replacement freshwater wetlands created to compensate for wetland loss such as floodplain excavations; and any freshwater wetlands created, altered or modified after that date.

River

A body of water that is designated as a perennial stream by the United States Department of Interior Geologic Survey on 7.5-minute series topographic maps.

Stream

Any flowing body of water or watercourse other than a river that flows long enough each year to develop and maintain a channel and that may carry groundwater discharge or surface runoff. Such watercourses may not have flowing water during extended dry periods but may contain isolated pools or standing water.



Water Quality Protections

Wetland Definitions

Bog
A place where standing or slowly running water is near or at the surface during a normal growing season and/or where a vegetational community shall have over fifty percent (50%) of the ground or water surface covered with sphagnum moss (Sphagnum) and/or where the vegetational community shall be made up of one or more bog plant species as listed in the regs.

Swamp
A place where groundwater is near or at the surface of the ground for a significant part of the growing season, or where runoff water from surface drainage collects frequently, when water is present long enough to support vegetation as listed in the regs.

Vernal Pool
A depressional wetland basin that typically goes dry in most years and may contain inlets or outlets, typically of intermittent flow. Vernal pools range in both size and depth depending upon landscape position and parent materials. Vernal pools usually support one (1) or more obligate indicator species as listed in the regs and typically precludes sustainable populations of predatory fish.

Bog, with an open pool that looks like a vernal pool

Water Quality Protections

Wetland Definitions

Pond
Natural or man-made body of water where open standing or slowly moving water is present for at least six months a year, excluding vernal pools.

Marsh
A place where a vegetational community shall exist in standing or running water during the growing season including groups of marsh plant species as listed.

Area Subject to Storm Flowage
Areas that include drainage swales and channels that lead into, out of, pass through or connect other freshwater wetlands or coastal wetlands, and that carry flows resulting from storm events, but may remain relatively dry at other times.

Jurisdictional Area
They include areas defining the land and waters that are subject to regulation. It includes freshwater wetlands, buffers, floodplains, areas subject to storm flowage, areas subject to flooding and contiguous areas extending **200 feet outward from the edge of a river, stream or drinking water supply reservoir and 100 feet outward from all other freshwater wetlands.**

Wetlands

Forest Management and Wetlands

Forest management activities, especially timber harvesting, in wetlands and associated Jurisdictional Areas can affect our wetlands when soil, vegetation, and surface water flow conditions are altered. Sediment is the dominant source of nonpoint pollution caused by harvesting operations, primarily caused by runoff from skid trails, roads, and stream crossings. Proper planning and following BMPs will significantly reduce or eliminate sediment pollution. Poorly planned operations or those not following BMPs can increase non-point source pollution by:

- **exposing mineral soil, leading to increased erosion and sedimentation**
- **removing shade from streams, increasing water temperature**
- **adding nutrients via runoff, increasing aquatic plant growth and decomposition, which reduces dissolved oxygen levels**
- **removing or disturbing vegetation that functionally removes pollutants from stormwater entering the wetland**

Harvesting of Forest Products

The Division of Forest Environment (DFE) monitors harvesting operations, including those in Jurisdictional Areas, through the Intent-to-Cut program. A **Notification of Intent to Cut or Saw**, filed by the Registered Woods Operator, or an approved management plan on file with the DFE, eliminates the need for a wetlands permit for the harvesting operation, provided that the harvest is conducted according to BMPs and Rule 3.6 (exempt activities) of DEM's regulations governing the Freshwater Wetlands Act (2022).

Under the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act (250-RICR-150-15-3) some forestry operations are permitted as Exempt Activities (see *Rule 3.6: Exempt Activities*).

Water Quality Protections

Limited harvesting is allowed in forested wetlands and adjacent **Jurisdictional Areas** provided that:

1. **The cutting is selective, and is carried out under the supervision of and in cooperation with the Department's Division of Forest Environment. For these purposes, selective cutting is defined as cutting that results in:**
   i. At least sixty percent **(60%) stocking** remaining in any forested wetland and adjacent Jurisdictional Areas. Stocking shall be based upon the applicable northeastern tree stocking guide for the dominant tree type within the forested wetland.
   ii. At least seventy-five percent **(75%) crown cover** of shrubs remaining within any Jurisdictional Area.
   iii. At least eighty percent **(80%) cover** remaining in any emergent community.
2. **For non-emergency forest operations and management practices the following conditions are met: 3.6.2(A)(5)**
   i. The property owner, in cooperation with the Division of Forest Environment, notifies the Freshwater Wetlands Program that a notice of intent to cut, or an approved written management plan submitted under the Farm, Forest and Open Space Act, R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 44-27, an approved USDA NRCS Forest Management Plan or the Rhode Island Forest Stewardship Program is on file with the Division of Forest Environment; and
   ii. The cutting operation proceeds under those best management practices developed and approved by the Division of Forest Environment; and
   iii. The cutting operation results in no permanent degradation or loss of any wildlife habitat associated with any freshwater wetland or buffer; and
   iv. Equipment crossings of watercourses are limited to areas subject to storm flowage or streams or a river less than ten feet (10') wide through the use of temporary bridges or other protective structures authorized by the Division of Forest Environment. This temporary crossing must not restrict natural flow patterns and wildlife movements, and must be removed immediately following the harvesting operation. Disturbed Jurisdictional Areas in the vicinity of any equipment crossings must be stabilized, revegetated, and restored to a natural condition; and
   v. Best management practices for erosion and sediment control are followed throughout the life of the project. (see *Stormwater Management, Design and Installation Rules*)

BMP Guidelines for Harvesting in Jurisdictional Areas

The Impact

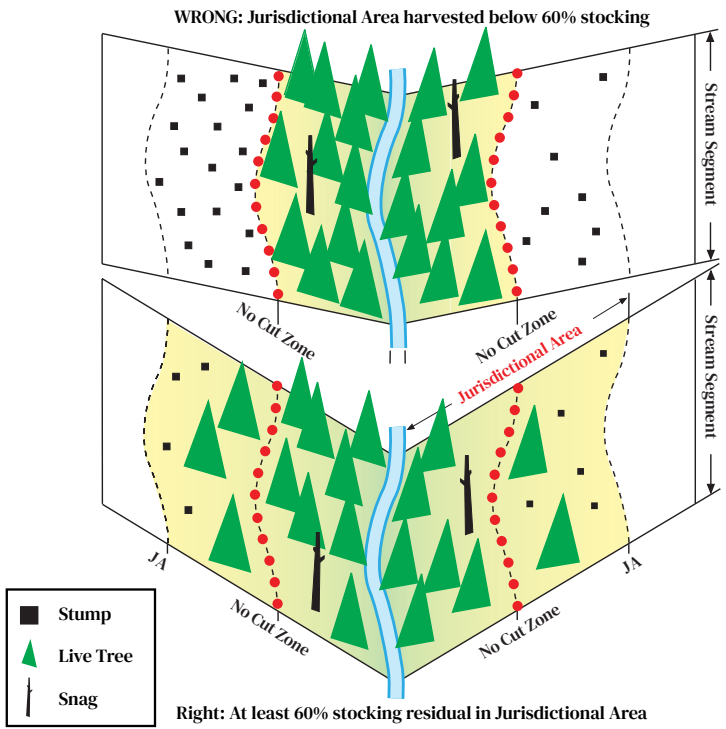
The impact of harvesting within a wetland is directly related to the equipment activity, the vegetation disturbance, and the amount of woody material cut or left behind in residual.

General Considerations

- Disturbance in riparian areas should be limited.
- Disruption of soil stability or topography is prohibited. Install and maintain erosion control devices where appropriate (see **Erosion Control**).
- Maintain Jurisdictional Area vegetation in a healthy condition. Avoid injury to roots, trunks, and branches of residual trees during silvicultural harvesting operations.
- Repair and revegetate disturbed soil as soon as possible.
- Limit harvesting disturbance to periodic harvests of not more than once every five years or longer to reduce stress on residual trees and other vegetation.
- During entry of stand, care must be taken to avoid soil puddling and compaction.
- Permanent vegetative cover **must** be re-established in disturbed areas as soon as possible following the harvest operations.

Residual Stocking

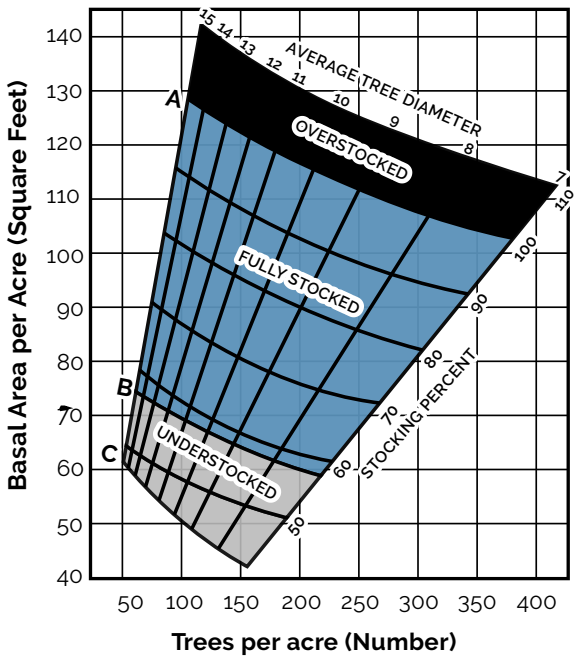
Trees within forested wetlands and adjacent Jurisdictional Areas may be harvested, but post-harvest stocking must be at least 60% on appropriate stocking guides. Situations that could result in lower residual stocking must be reviewed by DAFE and/or FWP prior to harvest.



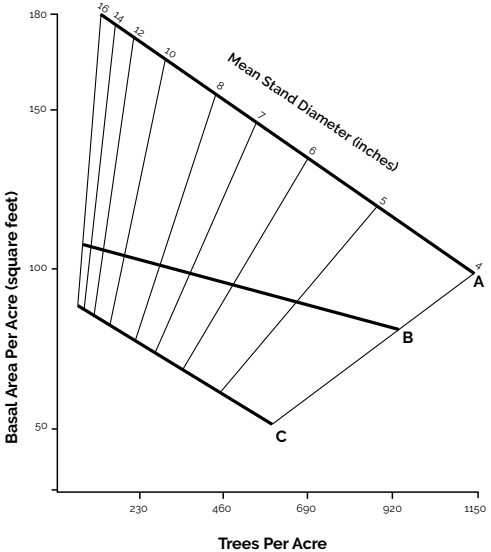
Stocking Guides

Use of the following stocking guides is not a do-it-yourself project. Landowners and operators should seek professional advice from a forester for the appropriate application of a stocking guide.
Figures: Stocking guides

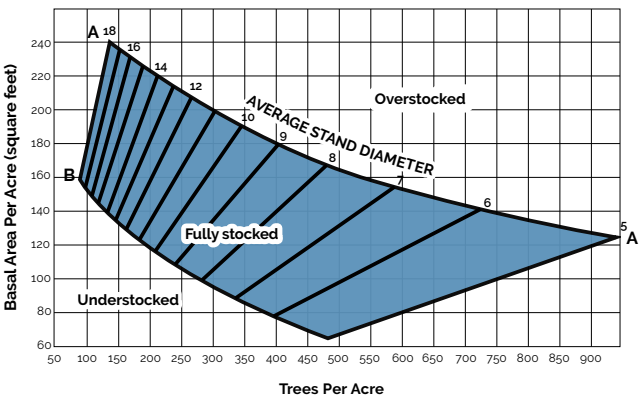
Upland Central Hardwood Stocking Guide



Mixed Wood Stocking Guide



Eastern White Pine Stocking Guide

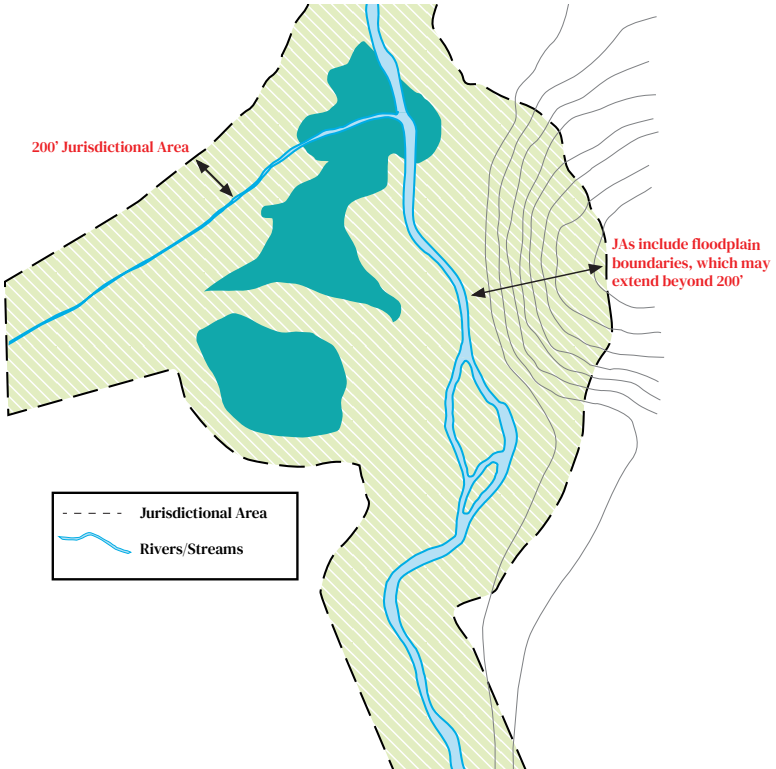


Water Quality Protections

Jurisdictional Areas, Cut Zones, and Vernal Pools

Forestry Practices

Forestry practices within **Jurisdictional Areas** are limited to avoid adverse impact on streams and wetlands. These areas are sensitive and must be protected from degradation associated with sediment, nutrients, and temperature fluctuation.



Jurisdictional Areas

The following practices must be followed within Jurisdictional Areas to protect streams and rivers:

- Fifteen foot No-Cut Zone (NCZ): A *minimum* Zone width of 15 feet will be designated. Soil disturbance with harvesting equipment is also restricted in these areas.
- No soil compaction: Avoid soil compaction and rutting within the Jurisdictional Area.

A vernal pool in a Rhode Island forest.

Vernal Pools

Vernal pools are protected by the Rules and Regulations governing the Freshwater Wetlands Act and are subject to special considerations. The area around a vernal pool is critical to providing shade and filtering debris from entering the pool. The following practices must be followed to protect vernal pools:

- When harvesting near vernal pools, leave a NCZ of 25 feet where no cutting occurs. An additional 25 feet should be left mostly undisturbed, with a residual stocking level of 60% on an appropriate stocking chart.
- Skid trails and landings should not be placed within 200 feet of a vernal pool.
- Ruts deeper than 6 inches are prohibited within 200 feet of a vernal pool.
- Equipment use must be restricted within 50 feet of a vernal pool.

Equipment Access in & Through Jurisdictional Areas

Logging Roads, Skid Trails & Landings

General Considerations:

- Logging access in wetland areas must be designed and maintained in accordance with the BMPs outlined in this handbook. The natural hydrologic flow and characteristics that exist on site must be maintained.
- Disruption of natural drainage patterns can channel large volumes of storm flow directly into wetlands. Control measures must be used to divert runoff from disturbed areas, allowing filtering and gradual seepage into Jurisdictional Areas.
- When planning to harvest in a wetland Jurisdictional Area, wait until the driest time of the year or until the ground is frozen. Use of harvesting equipment during unsuitable weather and soil conditions leads to site degradation.

Basic Considerations

Grade

The slope of the road is called the grade. This is the change in elevation over a distance and is expressed as a percent. Inappropriate grades allow the buildup of water and increase erosion. The grade of logging roads or trails should be kept below 10% with 3-5% being most desirable (Haussman 1978). Occasional changes in grade (angled water bars, dips, or "thank-you-ma'ams") permit water to drain off logging roads.

Slope

Side hill positions are more desirable for road location than directly up and down hillsides. Soils on steep slopes are more highly erodible than other areas.

Obstacles

Rock outcrops, ledges, wet areas, streams, and other features should be avoided whenever possible.

Drainage

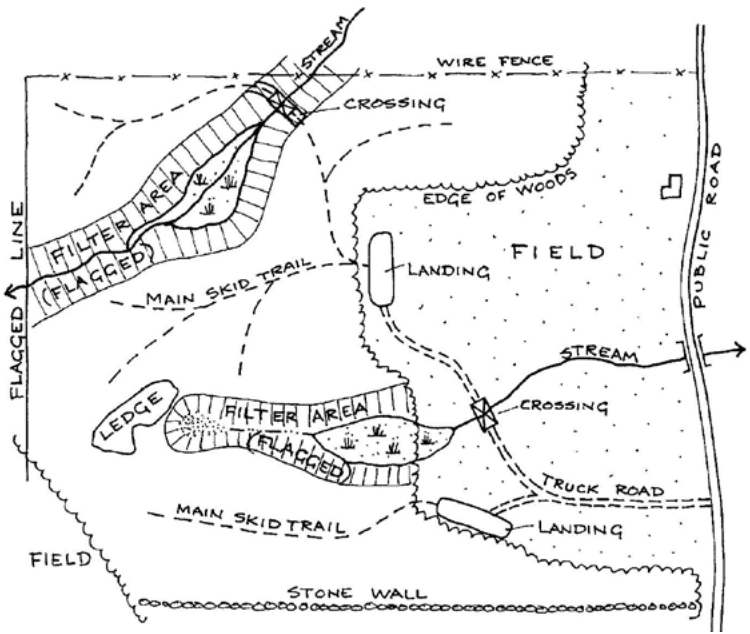
Existing drainage patterns must be maintained. Consult topographic, soils, wetland, and vegetation maps when planning road and skid trail locations.

If slope, grade, and drainage are not taken into account, severe erosion and road damage can occur.

Logging Roads, Skid Trails & Landings

Locating Landings, Roads & Skid Trails

Preplanning roads and landings saves time and construction costs. Walk the entire length of the proposed road to become familiar with topographic and ground conditions. Designate locations for landings first, as this will inform road and skid trial locations.



Access System Planning

Planning the access system requires careful consideration of the following:

- Landings must be located outside of Jurisdictional Areas.
- Gravel or stone should be used at public road access points to prevent debris from entering paved roads.
- Approaches to streams must have as low a grade as possible, never exceeding 10% within the Jurisdictional Area.
- Skid trails and road grades must be kept as low as possible.
- Plan roads and trails around obstacles.
- Erosion control devices should be installed at the landings and along roads to maintain water drainage and minimize sedimentation in downslope wetlands.

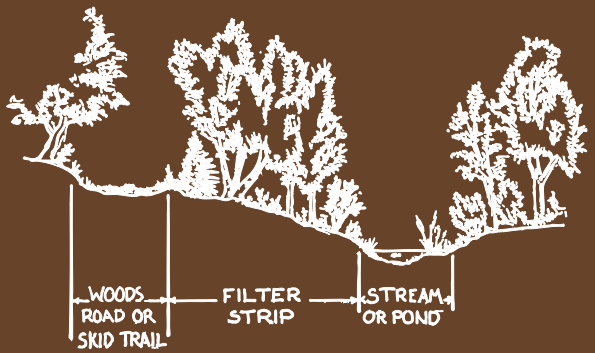
When landings are properly sited and prepared, no erosion or runoff should occur.

Logging Roads, Skid Trails & Landings

Filter Strips & Erosion

Filter Strips

Runoff from roads, skid trails, and during harvesting operations must be prevented from entering wetlands by leaving an area of undisturbed vegetation to act as a filter. This undisturbed zone will slow water velocity and help prevent erosion. Larger filter strips are required for steeper slopes or in areas with sensitive habitats and in public drinking water supply watersheds. Filter strips can overlap with No-Cut Zones where roads near watercourses or vernal pools.



Erosion Control

Sediment-laden water should be prevented from entering streams through the use of erosion control devices. All erosion control measures must be installed in strict conformance with standards outlined in the *RI Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook*.

Permanent Erosion Controls

Installing water diversion culverts, broad-based dips, water bars, and strip diverters permits water to drain off the roads before the water reaches the speed or volume that can cause erosion. Utilizing a natural change in grade of the road can achieve the same goal.

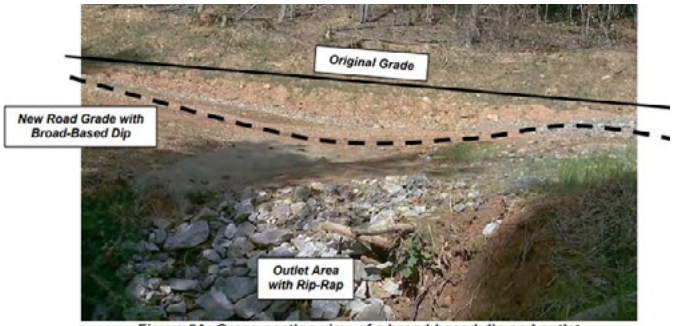
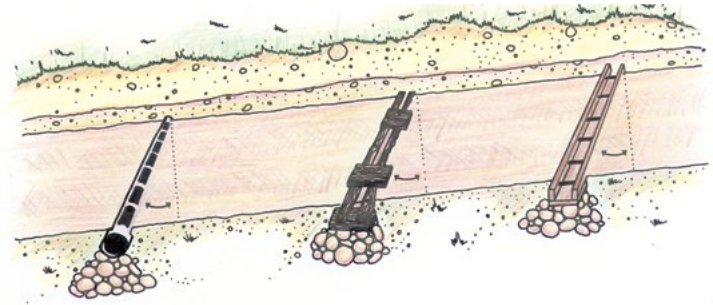


Figure 5A: Cross-section view of a broad-based dip and outlet

Water Diversion

Diversions should be installed to redirect surface water away from watercourses.



Several methods of erosion control can be employed when constructing roads.

Filter Strips & Erosion

Temporary Erosion Controls

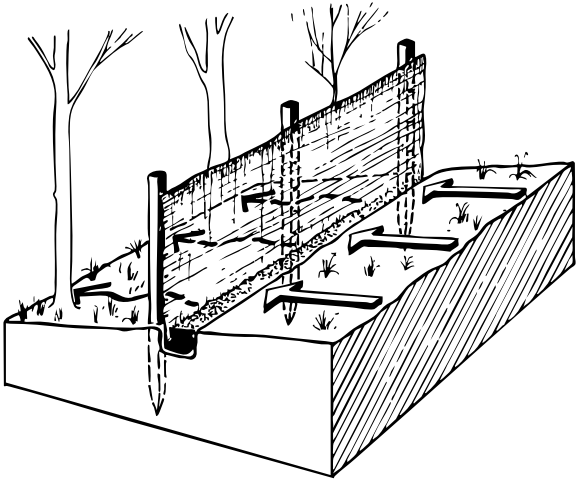
Temporary erosion control devices, such as silt fencing or straw barriers, should be installed as close to the sediment source (e.g. landing, road) as possible to prevent degradation of the wetland. These must be used in conjunction with the required filter strips.

Filter Fence Installation:

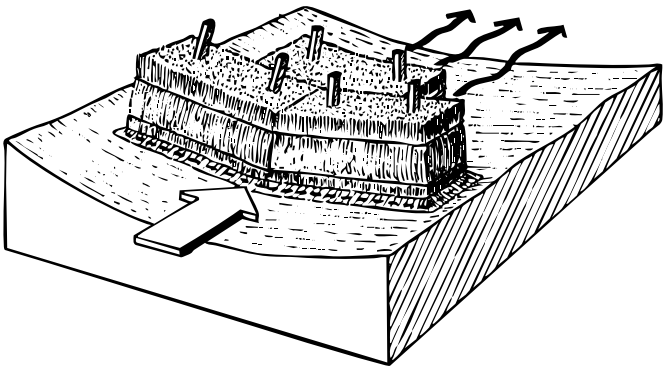
- Install a synthetic filter fence by first setting stakes at least every 3-10 feet. Three feet is needed for light fabric, while 10 feet is adequate when using extra strength fabric and/or wire mesh support fence.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations and choose a filter fabric capable of handling the expected water flow. The fabric may be 15-36 inches high.
- Excavate a 4-inch deep trench upslope along the line of the stakes.
- Place an 8-inch skirt of fabric in the trench; staple the other side of the fabric to the stakes; then backfill and compact the soil.

Straw Bale Installation:

- Excavate a trench 4 inches deep and the width of the bale;
- Position straw bales in a single row or stagger them, ensure there are no gaps between bales where water could flow through;
- Place the bales in the trench and stake with at least two stakes per bale; and
- Backfill with soil on the uphill side to keep water from flowing underneath the bale.



Filter Fence Installation Example



Straw Bale Installation Example

Filter Strips & Erosion

Freshwater Wetland Crossings

Wetland Crossings

An Intent-to-Cut must be filed with the Division of Agriculture and Forest Environment before crossing any wetlands. The Division can provide technical assistance with stream crossings and operations in wetlands.

- Crossing watercourses should be avoided whenever possible.
- Use existing bridges or culverts when possible. The RIDEM Freshwater Wetlands Permitting Program must be contacted prior to the construction or alteration of any permanent crossings.
- **Crossing watercourses over 10 feet in width requires a permit from the Freshwater Wetlands Permitting Program.**
- Watercourses must be crossed using temporary bridges or bridge mats. Corduroy crossings may not be used for streams or watercourses.
- When crossing a wetland other than a watercourse or a temporarily muddy area, corduroy crossings or portable bridges should be used to prevent soil disturbance.

Watercourses less than 10 feet in width can be crossed without a permit as long as the following BMPs are followed:

- Use existing crossings where possible.
- Crossings must be installed causing the least amount of disturbance possible.
- Crossings must be installed where the stream is narrowest and/or the watercourse beds are stable.
- The approach to the crossing must be located on slopes with a grade less than 10%
- Crossings must be made at angles 90 degrees to the stream.
- Trails approaching the crossing must be stable and well-maintained.
- Hay mulch or wood residues may be used to stabilize disturbed areas during an operation.
- Temporary erosion control devices should be used when needed to limit debris from entering streams at crossings.
- Debris resulting from the operation should be removed from the crossing location as soon as possible.

Existing crossings may be maintained and repaired. The maintenance of existing crossings qualifies as an exempt activity under Wetlands rule 3.6.3(A)(5). However, for the exemption to apply to this activity, the following steps must be taken:

- The pre-existing condition of the crossing must be documented through photographs and a measured drawing or diagram.
- Any improvement activities are documented with photographs and measured drawings or diagrams.
- The footprint of the crossing **may not** be enlarged.
- The watercourse hydrology and water flow **must not** be altered. For example: existing culvert capacity may not be enlarged without a permit, but a damaged culvert can be replaced with one of the same capacity.

Freshwater Wetland Crossings

Maintenance of Roads

Road & Skid Trail Maintenance

During Forestry Operations
The following BMPs must be followed during harvesting and other forestry operations:

- Logging roads and skid trails must not be used during excessively wet or other unsuitable weather and soil conditions.
- Temporary or permanent water diversion or drainage structures should be installed when necessary.
- Periodic grading may be necessary to maintain proper grade and water-shedding characteristics of the road.
- Ruts 12 inches or deeper must be immediately corrected. Ruts deeper than 6 inches within Jurisdictional Areas must be immediately corrected.

After Forestry Operations
The following BMPs must be followed after the harvest or other forestry operations are completed:

- Any ruts greater than 6 inches should be corrected.
- Berms and ditches should be filled in and restored to the original condition.
- Roads or trails that cross streams or intermittent water courses must be restored to their original condition.
- Disturbed soils should be stabilized through seeding and mulching.
- Access to restored and stabilized areas should be restricted to prevent degradation.
- A continuous line of temporary erosion control devices should be installed between areas of unstable soil and any adjacent wetlands until the disturbed soils recover [Refer to “Soil Erosion Handbook”].

Minor ruts at an ephemeral stream crossing.

Maintenance of Roads

Fuels, Lubricants & Waste

It is illegal to dump fuels, lubricants, and other wastes on the land or in the waters of the State of Rhode Island.

During Forestry Operations
Harvesting, road construction, and other forestry activities often require motorized equipment. Anti-freeze, fuels, and lubricants used in machinery can pollute wetlands and groundwater. Planning for forestry operations should include practices to handle solid and liquid wastes generated in the field.

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) will help prevent non-point source pollution from fuels, lubricants, and wastes during forestry activities:

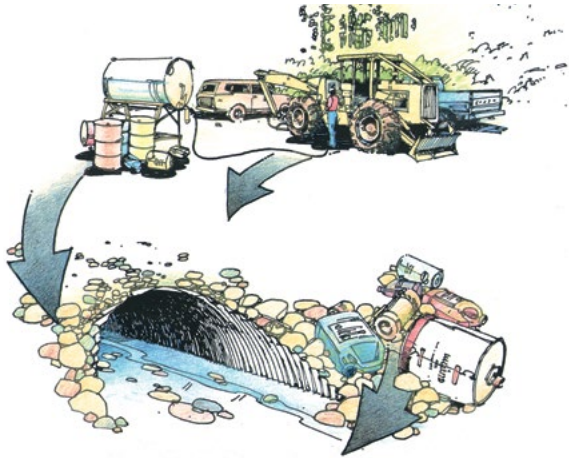
- Use biodegradable lubricants whenever practical. Biodegradable and traditional lubricants must be disposed of properly.
- Maintain equipment. Check hoses, fittings, and seals regularly to prevent spills or leaks.
- Designate specific sites for equipment maintenance, storage, and fueling. These sites should be on level terrain, outside of any Jurisdictional Area, and a minimum of 100 feet from any wetland.
- Collect all waste. Store waste lubricants and other wastes in separate, leak-proof containers until they can be transported off site for proper recycling, reuse, or disposal.
- Do not mix wastes. Mixing wastes can create hazardous wastes that are potentially dangerous as well as difficult & expensive to properly dispose of.

Spills
Fuels, lubricants, pesticides, and waste spills during forestry operations can occur due to vandalism, accidents, or equipment damage.

All significant spills must immediately be reported to the RI DEM Office of Emergency Response, 401.537.4533.
https://dem.ri.gov/programs/emergencyresponse/report-spill.php

The following BMPs should be followed to properly address spills:

- Maintain a spill containment and cleanup kit appropriate for the substance in use. A kit for petroleum products should contain:
  - ◊ Plugs and clamps to control line or hose breaks
  - ◊ A container for catching leaks
  - ◊ A shovel
  - ◊ Absorbent material such as sawdust or fine clay
- Become familiar with emergency response agencies in the area, as well as the location of the nearest telephone if you do not have access to a cellular phone.
- Carefully inspect equipment following a minor spill to ensure there are not additional equipment failures or other leak and spill risks.



If lubricants, fuels, and wastes are not properly contained, they will be carried by runoff and contaminate wetlands.

Fuels, Lubricants & Waste

Appendix I • Selected RI General Laws

2-15-1. Registration of wood cutting operations. No person, firm or corporation, or any authorized agent of that person, firm or corporation, shall cut or saw standing or growing trees, shrubs or vegetation for commercial forest products, other than for the owner's own domestic use, unless the person, firm or corporation is registered as a woods operator with the department of environmental management. Application for a registration certificate shall be made, in writing, on or after July 1 of each year on forms prepared by the department of environmental management accompanied by a fee as authorized by regulation in §2-10-3.1 for each certificate, and all registration certificates shall expire on June 30 of the year following their issuance. Funds collected from registration fees as provided in this section shall be deposited within the state forestry fund as provided for in §2-10-3.

2-15-2. Reports to department – Suspensions. Before any person, firm or corporation cuts or saws, as provided in this chapter, he or she shall at least five (5) days prior to the cutting or sawing notify the department of environmental management, on forms prepared by the department, of the location of the area and/or property. The five (5) day notice contained in this section may be reduced to any length of time, including a complete waiver of the five (5) day notice by the department, if in the discretion of the department the reduction is warranted. Failure to give the required notice is considered sufficient cause to suspend a registration certificate for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days. No suspension becomes effective unless the person, firm or corporation which is alleged to have failed to give the required notice has been notified of the alleged failure and has also had an opportunity to be heard. Any person, firm, or corporation, or any authorized agent of any person, firm or corporation shall utilize best management practices while harvesting trees as provided for in this chapter. Administrative fees for the filing of five (5) day notices shall be collected as provided for in §2-10-3.1 and deposited within the state forestry fund as provided for in §2-10-3.

2-15-3. Violations. Any person, firm or corporation or agent who cuts or saws standing or growing trees, shrubs, or vegetation for commercial forest products from any location without first receiving a registration certificate shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars ($100), nor more than five hundred dollars ($500).

2-15-4. Exemptions from §§2-15-1 — 2-15-3. The provisions of §§2-15-1 — 2-15-3 shall not be construed to mean the cutting of shade trees or shrubs, or the cutting or sawing on single holdings of less than five (5) acres or to woodland owners who cut or saw, for sale to others, no more than five thousand (5,000) board feet or twenty-five (25) cords of the items described in §2-15-1 in any one registration year.

34-20-1. Liability for unauthorized cutting of trees or wood. Every person who shall cut, destroy, or carry away any tree, timber, wood or underwood whatsoever, lying or growing on the land of any other person, without leave of the owner thereof, shall, for every such trespass, pay the party injured twice the value of any tree so cut, destroyed, or carried away; and for the wood or underwood, thrice the value thereof; to be recovered by civil action.

Appendix II • Works Consulted

Haussman, R. and Pruett, E.W. 1978. Permanent Logging Roads for Better Woodlot Management. USDA – Forest Service, Northeastern Area.

Migliore, B. and Lafaille, B. (eds.). 2015. Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook. Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.

Managed Forests and Clean Water. USDA – Forest Service Program Aid # 1929

Seeding Logging Roads to Prevent Erosion. USDA – NRCS. Morgantown, West Virginia.

Appendix III • Government Agencies

STATE

Division of Agriculture and Forest Environment
401.537.4065
www.dem.ri.gov/natural-resources-bureau/agriculture-and-forest-environment/forest-environment

Division of Fish and Wildlife
401.789.0281
www.dem.ri.gov/natural-resources-bureau/fish-wildlife

Office of Water Resources
401.537.4169
www.dem.ri.gov/environmental-protection-bureau/water-resources

Coastal Resource Management Council
401.783.3370
www.crmc.ri.gov

FEDERAL

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
401.828.1300
www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/rhode-island

RI CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Eastern
401.934.0842
www.easternriconservation.org

Northern
401.934.0840
www.nricd.org

Southern
401.661.5761
www.sricd.org

Other Partners

URI Forestry Extension: Rhode Island Woods
Forestry Extension provides resources and information for landowners, businesses, and outdoor enthusiasts on forest stewardship, wildlife, science and policy, legacy planning, RI woods-related products, learning opportunities, including forest-related businesses, upcoming events and workshops, tree identification, new forestry technologies, and other educational tools. RI Woods is a partnership of URI Department of Natural Resources Science, RIDEM-DAFE, NRCS, RI RC&D, NRCS, RIFCO.

web.uri.edu/rhodeislandwoods/

RI Forest Conservator's Organization
RIFCO is a non-profit forest conservation organization, whose members are primarily forest landowners and other like-minded conservationists, dedicated to the protection and wise use of Rhode Island's woodland resources. RIFCO hosts workshops and events and partners with other organizations.

www.rifco.org

RI Tree Farm Program
RI Tree Farm Program is a voluntary recognition program, part of the American Tree Farm System, promoting the sustainable management of our forests for wood, water, wildlife, and recreation since 1941. Tree Farm Program sponsors annual tours to highlight the work that certified Tree Farmers do to protect and manage Rhode Island's woodlands. The mission of the Tree Farm Program is to promote the growing of renewable forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forestry.

www.ritreefarm.org

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Thank You.