MA DCR FSC Group Certification

High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Assessment

Owner: City of Holyoke Water Works

Location: Holyoke

Name of lot: Ashley Ponds Reservoir

Assessor: Douglas Hutcheson

Date: August 1, 2016

Findings

*HCVF1* Yes X No

Rationale: Part of the property contains significant concentrations of Rare, Threatened or Endangered (RTE) species.

Description: The entire property is habitat for RTE species.

Data source(s) reviewed: MassGIS Online Viewer (Oliver), NHESP layers.

*HCVF2* Yes No X

Rationale: The property is not significant at the global, national, regional or ecoregion scale.

Data sources(s) reviewed: US Forest Service Ecoregion map, Forest Stewardship Plan (FMP for the property.

*HCVF3* Yes No X

Rationale: The property contains no old growth forest, no roadless areas, and no rare, threatened or endangered ecosystem.

Date source(s) reviewed: MassGIS Online Viewer (Oliver), FMP for the property.

*HCVF4* Yes X No

Rationale: The property’s primary function is to provide a forested buffer to the City of Holyoke’s MaClean Reservoir which is part of the public water supply.

Data source(s) reviewed: State watershed maps, FMP for the property.

*HCVF5* Yes No X

Rationale: Forested area is not fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities.

Data source(s) reviewed: MA Historical Commission archives, FMU for the property.

*HCVF6* Yes No X

Rationale: Forested area is not critical to local community’s cultural identity.

Data source(s) reviewed: MA Historical Commission archives, FMU for the property.