

STAFF REPORT
APPLICATION# 23 IWC 12

REGULAR MEETING – THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023

Prepared by Meredith Badalucca, Assistant Planner and Interim Zoning & Wetlands Officer

Applicant: Brian Silk
Property Owner: David Coggeshall
Address: 867 Raymond Hill Road (Parcel ID: 046-038-00A), Oakdale, CT
Meeting Date: August 17, 2023
Date Received by IWC: August 17, 2023 (*Decision Required Date – October 20, 2023*)

Applicant Request: As of Right Determination for Timber Harvest

Activity Description:

Wetland Disturbance Area	500 SF
Watercourse/Waterbody Disturbance Area	600 LF
Upland Review Disturbance Area	0 SF

STAFF COMMENTS:

- Application is for an As of Right Determination for a Timber Harvest in accordance with Montville Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations Section 4.1.a and C.G.S. Section 22a-40.
- Under the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act C.G.S. Section 22a-40 and Montville Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations (“Regulations”) Section 4.1.a, farming is a “Permitted operation and use”. Forestry is defined as farming or agriculture under C.G.S. 1-1q.
- The property is located in the R-80 zone on about 14.4 acres, contains regulated wetlands & watercourses and is developed with an existing single-family residence.
- The Applicant states the operation is to “remove the poor quality sawlog trees and firewood trees to promote growth to the residual stand.” The applicant further states “There will be one stream/drainage crossing, corduroy will be placed up to the crossing, then bridge mats will be used to cross. Water bars will be installed as needed.”
- The amount of forest products to be harvested is 14 acres, 50,000 board feet, 24 cords and trees have not been marked.
- It is estimated that 2 – 3 weeks will be necessary to complete the project, with an estimated starting date for the harvesting operation of September 15, 2023.
- The site will be accessed from a temporary anti-tracking pad as shown on the Timber Harvest Map.
- The Commission will need to make a finding as to whether or not the proposed activities are “As of Right” activity and, therefore, do not require a permit.
- There is no proposed relocation of watercourses with continual flow or filling or reclamation of wetlands or watercourses with continual flow associated with the proposal associated with the timber harvest and, therefore, staff recommends approval of the proposal as an “As of Right” activity.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR ACTION:

If the Commission is inclined to approve this application, the following language for a motion of approval is suggested:

MOTION # 1 (A Motion to Approve)

After giving due consideration to all relevant factors, including those in Section 4 of the Montville Inland Wetland Regulations and Section 22a-40 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I move that Application# 23 IWC 12, submitted by Brian Silk behalf of property owner, David Coggeshall for a Timber Harvest and more fully described in the Application, dated 8/7/2023 and Notification of Timber Harvest dated 8/7/2023 with associated Timber Harvest Map is a Permitted Use As of Right and, therefore, no permit is required.

