Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Please submit field forms, a copy of a USGS map, and all supporting documentation to the State Botanist at:
Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270 ext. 200

RARE PLANT OBSERVATION FORM

Species Scientific Name: Quercus Macrocarpa

NHESP Element Occurrence Number (if known):

Observation Date(s): 26, 27 August ; 1, 9 September

USGS Quad Name and Series (7.5"x7.5" or 7.5"x15"): Pittsfield East and East Lee (1:25,000 scale)

County: Berkshire Town: Lenox

Directions to location of observations (please attach USGS map): see attached topo maps, most sites best (and relatively easily) accessed from Railroad.

Habitat: (Describe plant communities, associated vegetation, physical characteristics, geological features and surrounding land use. Are other rare species present?) Sites 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 are relatively wet areas with saturated soils and are best described as Red Maple Swamps or Red Maple–black ash swamps. In these areas, the Quercus Macrocarpa are infrequent, small (<12 inch dbh) trees that rarely form major parts of the canopy. Sites 4 and 6 are somewhat drier, and would be best described as Bur Oak floodplain forests. At these two sites, the Quercus Macrocarpa are much larger and older and form major portions of the canopy. Some trees from site 6 (near open backwater) were >25 inches dbh and >100 years old.

Areal Distribution, Numbers, Phenology

Population found: yes
not found:
Presumed extirpated: no
(give reasons under "Comments")

No. of mature plants: unknown, >100
No. of immature plants: unknown, seedlings observed
No. of plants age unknown:

Population area: 3.5 X 0.5 km

Percent of population in leaf: +/- 60 bud: flower:
with immature fruit: mature fruit: +/- 40 senescent:

Observations of floral visitors, fruit dispersers: None observed

Vigor of individuals and population: Apparently healthy

Evidence of expansion or decline: Non observed

Have you observed this species at this site in previous years? Please give details: NO

Site Physiography

Elevation: ca. 294 meters

Topographic position	Aspect	Slope	Light	Moisture
crest ____	N ____	0-20 X	open ____	inundated X
upper slope ____	E ____	20-45 ____	filtered ____	wet X
mid slope ____	S ____	45-75 ____	shade X	mesic ____
lower slope ____	W ____	vert. ____		dry ____
bottom X	Flat X			xeric ____

Soil types: Alluvial silt and mucky silt

Surficial rock types (with percent of ground covered): NA

Bedrock/parent material: None

Surficial water (distance away): usually within 50 meters Source: Housatonic River or standing water in swamp

Management / Ownership

NHESP Site Name (if any): ____ Managed Area: ____

Comments/Management recommendations: ____

Disturbance or threats (natural or unnatural) to population: Clearing of land; changes in water level

Owner's Name: Housatonic River Valley state WMA (largely owned, some private) Telephone: (___) ____

Address: ____

Owner Comments: ____

Observer Information

Observer's Name: Arthur Haines Telephone: (207) 729-1199

Address: Woodlot Alternatives, Inc. 122 Main Street, Number 3, Topsham, ME 04086

Plant ID by: Arthur Haines

Specimen # & Herbarium: Harvard Herbaria (NEBC) — from site 6 —

Element Occurrence (EO) Summary (Circle one choice in each category)

EO Quality: (How representative is this occurrence? Consider the size and productivity of the population and the vitality and vigor of the individuals.)

(A) Excellent B - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: In areas with large individuals and relatively many individuals

EO Condition: (Is the habitat supporting the EO pristine or degraded? Is there a potential for the habitat to recover from disturbances? A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: In many places the remaing community is is good shape except for exotic plants

EO Viability: (What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?) (A) Excellent B - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: ____

EO Defensibility: (Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?)

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Hydrological changes due to further impoundment at Lords Pond could be detrimental.

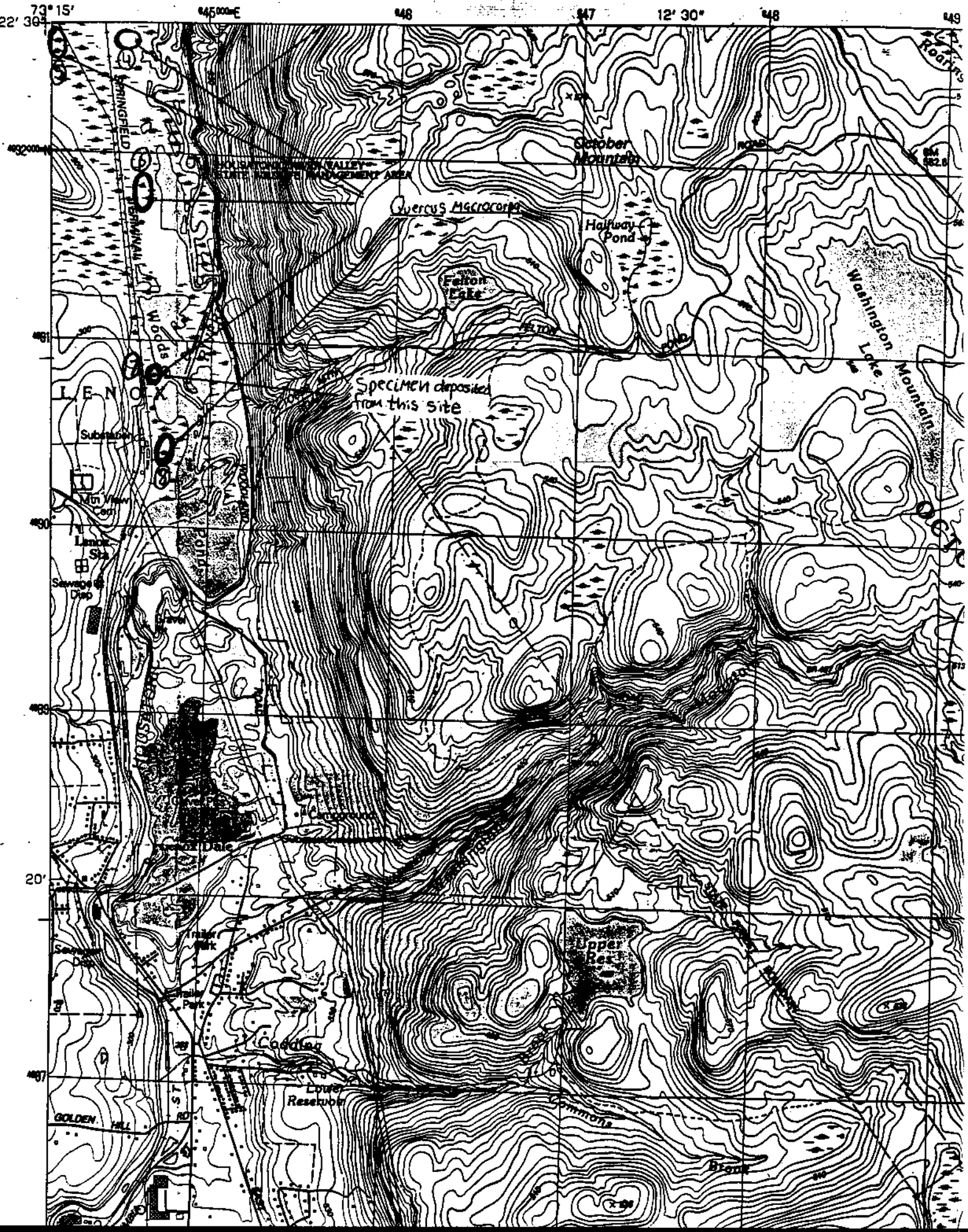
EO RANK: (A summary of all factors listed above.) (A) Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: ____

Signature: Arthur Haines Date: 24 November 1998

Quercus Macrocarpa

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1969

MILES

EAST LEE, MASSACHUSETTS