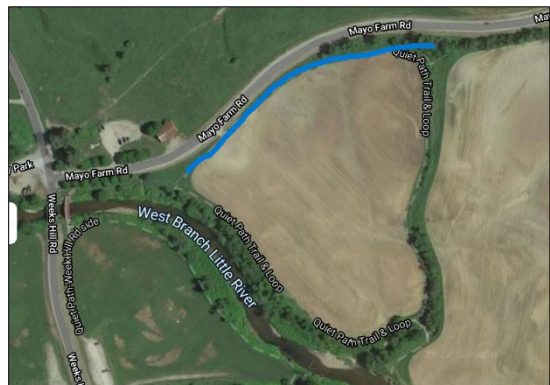


**Agenda Summary
February 28, 2024**

**Agenda Item No. A-3
Intervale Conservation Nursery – Request to collect Balsam Poplar cuttings.**

Summary: The Intervale Conservation Nursery recently submitted a request to collect Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*) cuttings from Mayo Farm. Mayo Farm is owned by the Town of Stowe and is protected by a conservation easement held by the Stowe Land Trust. The Conservation Commission is responsible for the primary stewardship of town owned conserved lands, including Mayo Farm. Brooke Fleischman, Seed Coordinator from Intervale Conservation Nursery, recently met with the Conservation Commission on February 12th to discuss the collection proposal. The below photograph shows the strip of land parallel with Mayo Farm Road where the Balsam Poplars cuttings are planned to be collected. Collection is conducted when the trees are dormant, with each cutting being approximately 6 to 9 inches long. If available, the Intervale Nursery hopes to collect approximately 1500 cuttings. If there is not enough material to collect in a responsible manner, less will be collected. Once collected, the cuttings are propagated, grown in a greenhouse, and transplanted in the field for conservation projects throughout the state.



During the February 12th Conservation Commission meeting, the Commission agreed to recommend approval of the proposal to the Selectboard. Enclosed is a copy of the proposal and an email from Stowe Land Trust confirming the proposed harvest is in conformance with the conservation easement and the Mayo Farm Management Plan.

The Intervale Conservation Nursery is based out of Burlington and works with landowners, farmers, watershed organizations and government agencies to restore and protect Vermont's waters.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve the proposal as outlined in the proposal dated January 23, 2024, upon submission of a certificate of insurance.

Sarah McShane

From: Brooke Fleischman <brooke@intervale.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 11:13 AM
To: Sarah McShane
Cc: Christine Cramer; Ben Fishbein; Sarah Foster
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mayo Farm Road - Balsam Poplar
Attachments: Quiet Path (002).png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Sarah,

Hope you've been having a good new year so far! The Intervale Conservation Nursery is gearing up for another round of winter hard wood cuttings and I wanted to reach out to see if we could collect from that same population of Balsam Poplar off the Quiet Path and Mayo Farm Road (reference photo attached). We will collect no more than 20% of what's present, and it will likely be much less than that because we can only collect from side branches that are close to the ground or from stems which are small and bendy enough to reach from the ground. Though, we will have a pole with a hook to assist us. Each cutting will be from 6 to 9 inches long and we would hope to get 1500 of them. If there isn't enough material there to get it in a responsible way, we would take less.

Let me know when the next Conservation Commission meeting will be, and I will put it in my schedule to discuss more of what cutting collection may look like.

Thanks so much!

Brooke Fleischman (*she/her*)
Statewide Seed Coordinator
Intervale Conservation Nursery
C: (402) 708 - 6793
[Intervale Center](#)
Strengthening our community food system for 35 years



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