



A **tactic** for saving forests in Massachusetts

ORGANIZERS IN RESIDENCE, MAY 27, 2020

DEFUND DCR's Management Forestry Program

PHOTO: BERKSHIRE EAGLE, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019, HOUSE BILL WOULD RESTRICT COMMERCIAL LOGGING IN MASSACHUSETTS
FORESTS



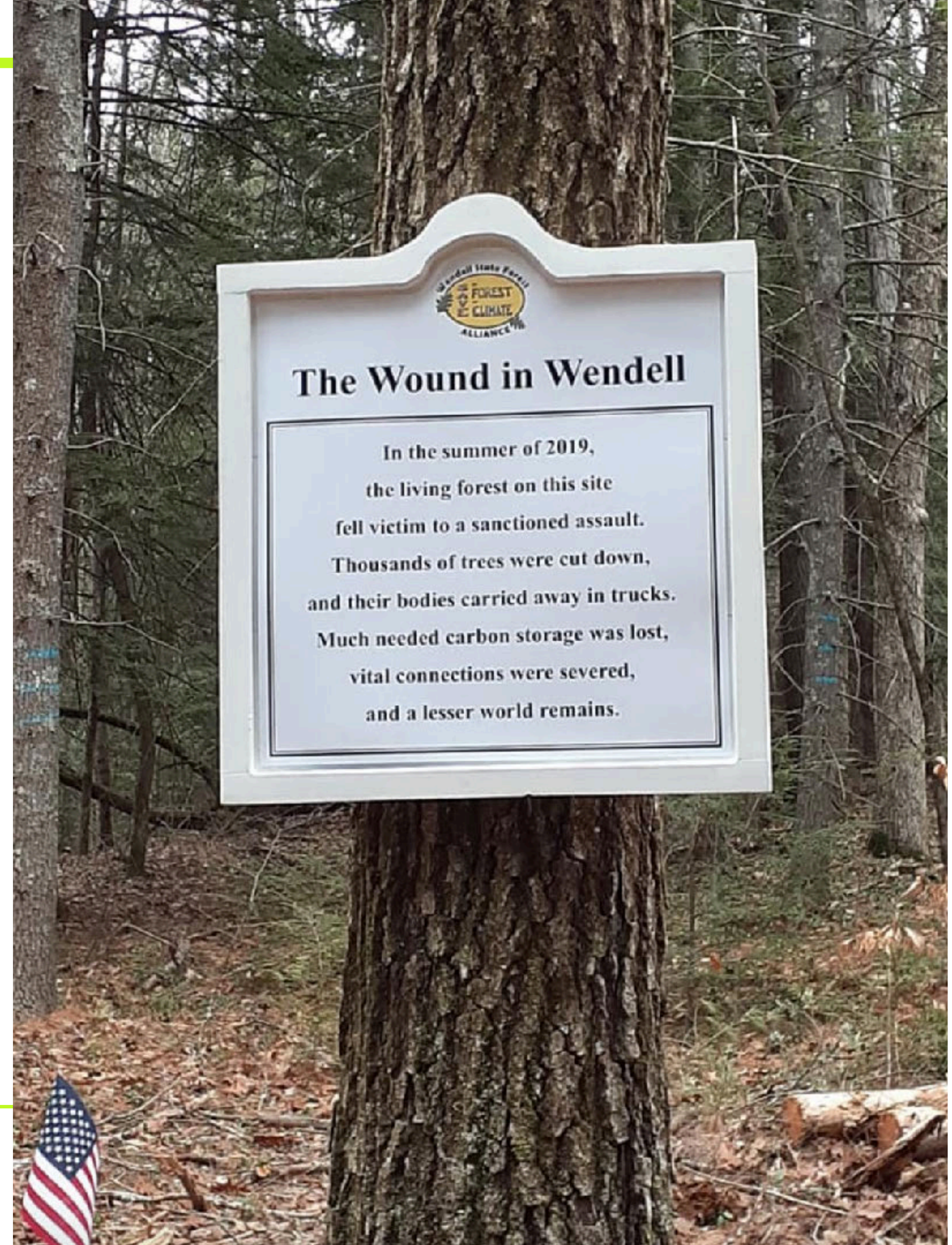
One Important TACTIC

How Can We Save the Forest?

- a clear and specific ASK to your elected officials
- strong reasons for the ASK
- join with others making the same ASK
- complements related ASKs
- persuade more people to also make the same ASK

DEFUND the DCR Management Forestry Program

IN THE NEXT BUDGET (NOW!) TO SAVE MONEY AND PROTECT PUBLIC FORESTS





Wendell State Forest 2019

Why THIS program?

HELPS WITH TWO GOALS!

- THE STATE BUDGET NEEDS TO BE CUT BECAUSE OF COVID 19'S IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY
- DCR IS LOGGING 1000 ACRES/YEAR OF STATE-OWNED FOREST
- ONLY 11 STATE EMPLOYEES AFFECTED; THEY CAN BE REASSIGNED FOR ONE YEAR

Targeted

- The Management Forestry Program is specific to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) only.
 - The Management Forestry Program (MFP) is separate from other programs provided by DCR.
 - When they say “management” what they mean is “logging.”
 - They assume logging is an “ecosystem service.” (*It is not.*)
 - The Management Forestry Program is not the Division of Wildlife and Fisheries (MassWildlife). *They do logging, too, so defunding the MFP will not stop all logging in the Commonwealth.*
 - DCR is only one of seven branches in the Executive Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs. *There are many important tasks for the staff of the MFP to do, using their scientific knowledge, in DCR or other branches.*
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Write a Letter to your Senator and Representative.



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ASK THEM TO DEFUND THE MFP AND TELL THEM WHY


[TO FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR CLICK HERE](#)

Writing a Persuasive Letter

Category of Tactic: Lobbying

- Respectful Greeting
- Introduce yourself
- Ask them to defund the Management Forestry Program
- Tell them why this is a good idea
- Tell them why this matters to you
- Ask them to let you know what they do
- Thank them!
- Sign with full address and date

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83 Crocker Farm Elementary Schools (12 acres)
87 Fort River Elementary Schools (11.5 acres)
500 Pelham Elementary Schools (2 acres)
758 football fields (1.32 acres)

DCR manages 20% of MA forests,
which is 11% of the Commonwealth

How big is 1000 acres?

WARE, MA. EASTER, 2019.



Review An Effective Tactic

- is very specific and “targeted”
- has strong reasons
- is done with many others (the more the better)
- works with (not against) other tactics in the same campaign
- is something you can inspire a lot of people to do, too!

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After you send your Letters — share them with people in your Spheres of Influence!



April 17, 2020: Greenwich Rd, Hardwick MA with 20,000 acres more to be cut

ASK THEM TO WRITE LETTERS TOO! YOURS IS AN EXAMPLE :)

Resources

[Natural forests are best at storing carbon](#)

[What does sustainable forestry sustain?](#)

[Why your immune system needs a forest](#)

[Our forests, COVID, and climate change](#)

[Natural Forests: The Greenest Infrastructure on Earth](#)

[Intact Forests in the United States: Proforestation Mitigates Climate Change and Serves the Greatest Good](#)

[**BREAKING NEWS: Over 200 Top U.S. Climate and Forest Scientists Urge Congress: Protect Forests to Mitigate Climate Crisis**](#) **Read the scientists' letter [here](#).**

[Business as usual not a wise response to climate change](#)