



ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY  
CURTIS F. STILES, CHAIRMAN

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
June 26, 2009

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**ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY ANNOUNCES OPENING OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
AND SCHEDULES PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR STATE LAND CLASSIFICATION  
PROPOSALS IN HAMILTON AND ST.LAWRENCE COUNTIES**

**PARK AGENCY ACCEPTING WRITTEN COMMENTS THROUGH AUGUST 28, 2009**

**RAY BROOK, NY** - The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) is now accepting public comments and will conduct three public hearings regarding proposals to classify and reclassify state lands and water involving the Five Ponds Wilderness Area, Lows Lake Primitive Area, Hitchens Pond Primitive Area, Round Lake Wilderness Area Lows Lake, Hitchens Pond and the Bog River. These areas are located in the northwest part of the Adirondack Park in Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties.

Public hearings will take place on the following dates at these locations:

**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2009  
**Time:** 11:00 AM  
**Location:** SUNY ESF Ranger School  
257 Ranger School Road  
Wanakena, NY 13695

**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2009  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Long Lake Town Hall

1204 Main Street  
Long Lake, NY 12847

**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2009  
**Time:** 12:00PM  
**Location:** NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation  
Room PA 129B  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233

The hearings will provide the public opportunity to comment on the proposed classification and reclassification actions for State lands and waters. Although the APA encourages the public to attend the hearings, written comments may be sent directly to the APA and will be accepted through August 28, 2009.

Please mail written comments to:

Richard Weber  
Assistant Planning Director  
PO Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Total acreage involved in this proposed action is approximately 12,545 acres.

An estimated 4,384 acres of State land and water would be classified as Wilderness. This would involve five State land classification proposals that include recently acquired State lands on the south shore of Lows Lake and lands north of Bog Lake along with the lake bed and waters of Lows Lake, Hitchens Pond and the Bog River.

In addition, approximately 8,161 acres of state land would be reclassified from Primitive to Wilderness. The Lows Lake Primitive Area, Hitchens Pond Primitive Area and Tomar Pond Primitive Corridor would change from Primitive to Wilderness.

This proposed action also includes the creation of a new unit with a Primitive classification to accommodate State Land Master Plan non-conforming structures in Wilderness (dams) and continued motorized access to private in-holdings.

One additional alternative under consideration would include the proposed Wilderness classification for the lake bed and waters of Bog Lake, with an estimated area of 221 acres. This action only involves classification and reclassification of State lands pursuant to the provisions of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

A description of the proposed action is available for download from the Adirondack Park Agency's website at [www.apa.state.ny.us](http://www.apa.state.ny.us). Hard copy materials may be viewed at the Adirondack Park Agency's headquarters in Ray Brook.

For further information regarding the proposed classification, contact Richard Weber at (518)891-4050.

The New York State Adirondack Park Agency was created in 1971 by the State Legislature to develop long-range land use plans for both public and private lands within the boundary of the Adirondack Park. With its headquarters located in Ray Brook, the Agency also operates two Visitor Interpretive Centers, in Newcomb and Paul Smiths. For more information, call the APA at (518) 891-4050 or visit [www.apa.state.ny.us](http://www.apa.state.ny.us).