



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Jim Connolly
FROM: Kathy Regan
DATE: January 2, 2013
RE: Staff Recommendation for Taylor Pond Management Complex Unit Management Plan

Taylor Pond Management Complex spans 13 towns and 3 counties in the northeastern section of the Adirondack Park. This management complex is spread over a 567 square mile area, consisting of 26 separate parcels of land totaling 45,637 acres of Forest Preserve, 6,314 acres of State Forest, and 1,329 acres of Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Also within this planning area are 23,067 acres of land held under Conservation Easement by New York State. The easement lands are not subject to management proposals in this Unit Management Plan (UMP).

The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP) recognizes that State Forest and WMA's exist within the Park and that these lands are classified as Wild Forest.

To the extent that state lands classified as wild forest were given or devised to the state for silvicultural or wildlife management purposes pursuant to statutory provisions specifying that these lands will not form part of the forest preserve (if such provisions are constitutional), the following guidelines are not to be interpreted to prevent silvicultural or wildlife management practices on these lands, provided that other guidelines for wild forest land are respected. (page 31)

Agency and Department staff worked cooperatively to ensure the guidelines for Wild Forest were met.

During the review of the Public Draft UMP, DEC and APA staff resolved several resource protection issues including group camping, primitive tent site location and separation from parking, and the management of wildlife in sensitive wetland habitats within WMA's. We also had extensive conversations

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regarding the need to look at this complex and its relationship to adjacent Units and easement lands and how management actions can be coordinated and expanded to optimize recreational opportunities without jeopardizing the natural resource.

Staff have reviewed the Taylor Pond Complex Proposed Final Unit Management Plan (December 2012) and recommend that it be determined to be in compliance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

Attached is a draft resolution for consideration by the Agency during the January 2013 Board meeting.

KDR:lhb

Attachment