



**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Terry Martino  
**FROM:** Planning Staff  
**DATE:** September 26, 2013  
**SUBJECT:** Highlights of Planning Division Activities for  
September 2013

**STATE LAND and UMP REVIEW ACTIVITIES**

State Land staff reviewed a project to replace the water supply system at Northampton Campground for compliance with the SLMP and the APA/DEC MOU.

The State land staff continued to work on writing the Final SEIS for the 2013 Classification package.

State land staff worked with Regulatory Programs staff on the Taylor Pond Dam replacement permit.

State land staff had a pre-application meeting with DEC staff regarding a parking area improvement project for the Lake George Million Dollar Beach.

State land staff began reviewing boardwalk permits granted over the past 40 years to document wetland protection effectiveness with various designs.

State land staff met with DEC to discuss a project at the Lake Colby State Administrative Area.

State land staff provided informal comments to DEC on the "team draft" of a proposed amendment to the Vanderhacker Mountain Wild Forest Area unit management plan (UMP). The draft UMP amendment entirely concerns proposed development of "community connector" snowmobile trails.

Agency staff began working with DEC staff concerning the recent cutting of a new glade skiing route on Whiteface Mountain approved in an amendment to the 2004 Whiteface Mountain Ski Center. At

this time, consultation is on-going with ORDA staff, as well as site visits and review of the existing, approved UMP.

State land staff provided informal comments to Albany DEC staff concerning a newly revised, draft plan for routing the National Park Service's "North Country National Scenic Trail" through the Adirondack Park. Staff found no issues of concern with the revised plan and are in agreement with DEC staff that its public release in the near future would be a good idea.

On September 19, State land staff attended a public scoping meeting in Lowville concerning DEC's impending, full revision of the 1986 Independence River Wild Forest Area UMP. That UMP has been amended seven times through formal, DEC-APA process. This full revision is being driven partly by the fact that a management plan is currently being drafted for the adjoining, Westward Waters State Forest, and the two units share the extensive, Otter Creek Horse Trails network.

Early in the month, State land staff worked with Regulatory Program staff in reviewing, for State Land Master Plan compliance, the final GEIS and plan for the proposed Lewis County ATV trail system.

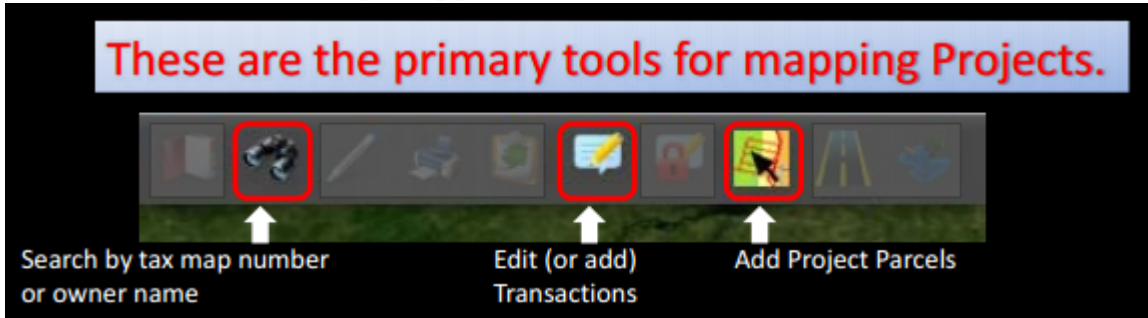
### **CARTOGRAPHY AND INFORMATION ANALYSIS**

GIS Agency Program Administration - Staff held an Agency GIS Team meeting for advanced GIS users from all divisions on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Discussed problems, requests, software, data, printing, network connections, access privilege issues related to the Agency GIS server. Demonstrated how staff can access and utilize the Agency's custom, pre-configured cartographic data templates and web mapping services for easy use in mapping analyses and exhibits.

GIS Agency Program Administration/GIS Training - Staff trained Legal and Regulatory program support staff how to use the custom tool developed to map Agency JIF, Enforcement, Wetland Visit, and Regulatory Project Review transaction sites. Through the Agency developed "Edit APA Transactions" tool, Support Staff map transaction locations into the Agency GIS at an early stage of the transaction review workflow process. All Agency program staff are then able to retrieve and review these transactions in the Agency Lookup System along with other natural, cultural, and jurisdictional map layers.

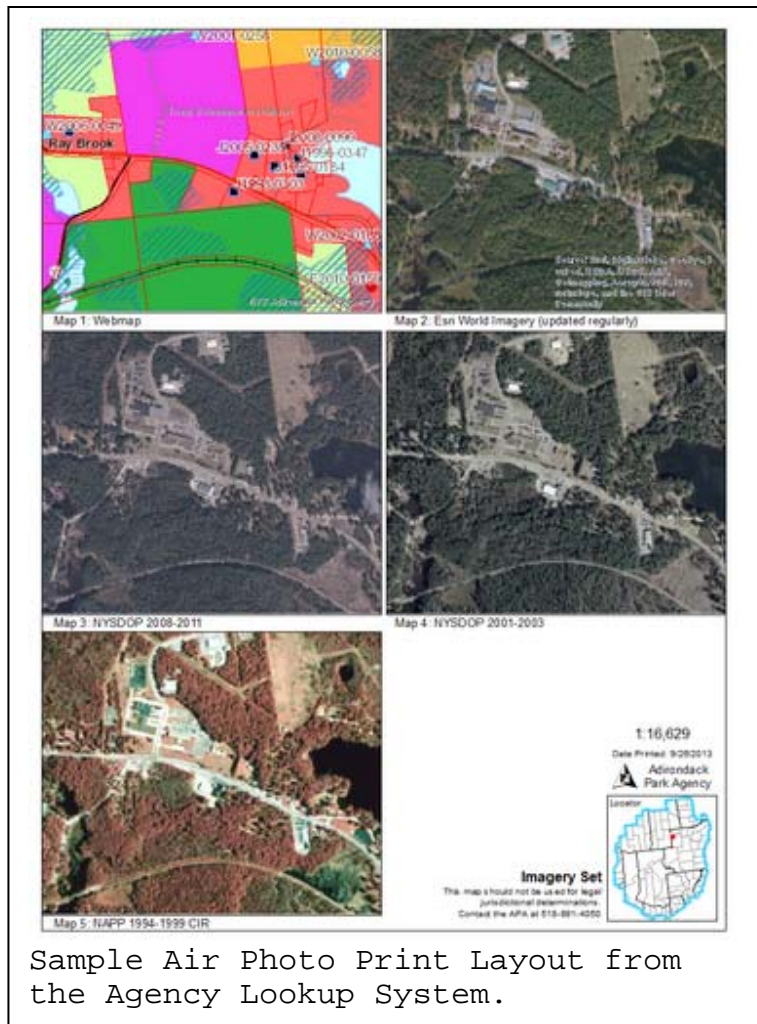
GIS Agency Program Administration/GIS Training - Staff developed an in-depth training document to be used with the "Edit APA

Transactions" mapping tool. Staff demonstrated the help document to Legal and Regulatory support staff.



GIS Hardware/Software Management/GIS Data Management - Staff improved custom program routines written to process photos taken on state lands. Photos are categorized by state land classification and mapped as points with photos viewable in the Lookup System. These program routines automate a multi-step process for State Lands staff. Pictures taken in the field can now be viewable in the Lookup System overnight.

GIS Hardware/Software Management - Staff developed new Lookup System print layout documents for use by all Agency staff. Through advanced programming, these innovative layouts provide two to five thematic maps on one printed page - saving paper while providing extensive mapped information. Staff are easily able to print maps of various vintages of aerial imagery for a selected location. Staff can print a page of soils, slopes, elevation, zoning, and CEA maps. Or, staff can print a single page standard set of maps for inclusion in the Jurisdictional Inquiry review process.



Sample Air Photo Print Layout from the Agency Lookup System.

GIS Consultation - Staff provided direction to

individual staff from all divisions at various times on GIS needs including availability of GIS data over the Internet, in-office network access, printing, processing field collected GIS data.

GIS Data Management/Consultation/Software Management - Staff reconfigured the Lookup System to add a feature for "Temporary Data Under Review." To this new section, staff added St. Lawrence County Recreational Trail spatial data received from the County. This included primary and alternate proposals extending over much of the county inside the park. JIF and RASS staff can now easily review these data without needing advanced GIS skills.

GIS Data Management - Staff requested from Agency Local Government Services staff what town and village information they would like to see made available through the Lookup System. Staff integrated this information into the map interface. By pointing at a municipality, Agency staff can now retrieve Agency Approved Local Landuse Plan information; can navigate to the town or village's website or access the Agency's extensive electronic document folder for anyone of the 100 park municipalities.

GIS Consultation/GIS Training - Staff assisted Agency staff in preparing for an on-line GIS class offered from Pace University. Software licenses, system requirements, and data access consultation was provided.

GIS Consultation - Staff provided March 2011 land classification statistics by park municipality as requested by Jim Zack, XtraSpatial.

GIS Consultation - Staff provided information about park wetlands GIS data content standards and coding to Tim Daly, NYS ITS - Environment & Energy - GIS for a DEC initiative.

GIS Consultation - Staff provided information about the Agency park population estimate GIS analysis as requested in a phone call from Brad Dake. Emailed maps of US Census blocks bisected by the BlueLine near Broadalbin and Peru where Mr. Dake had questions rising from his own population estimate analyses.

GIS Map Production - Staff created map graphics for a public information presentation.

Map Amendment Review - Staff are reviewing a request by the Town of Ticonderoga for a map amendment to expand the Hamlet of Ticonderoga. The areas being requested are all adjacent to existing Hamlet areas and within existing public sewer districts.

Web Administration/Content Management - Staff made major required updates to the Agency's Language Access Services page as requested by Division of Immigrant Policies and Affairs, NYS Department of Labor. Other web content updates included posting a job vacancy notice and monthly mailing content.

Web Content Management - Staff provided guidance to Legal staff updating Agency flyer content.

Web Content Management/ GIS Data Management - Staff created a Google Earth (KML) file for the boundary of the newly acquired TNC/Finch lands and posted the file to the State Land page.

Administrative Tasks - Staff prepared monthly reports.

Administrative Tasks - Staff attended mandatory on-line *Sexual Harassment in the Workplace* training.

Administrative Tasks - Staff attended mandatory on-line *Essentials of Supervision: Attendance and Leave Benefits* training.

Administrative Tasks - Staff attended mandatory on-line *Internal Controls - Controlling Risk in the Workplace: Line Staff's Role*.

September GIS/Web Task Summary:

Task	Count
GIS Agency Program Administration	3
GIS Consultation	6
GIS Hardware/Software Management	3
GIS Map Production	6
GIS Data Management	4
GIS Training	4
LUA Boundary/Blue Line Inquiry	9
Map Amendments Review	2
State Land Classification/Reclassification Review	1
Web Administration	1
Web Content Management	5
Administrative Tasks	4