



**MINUTES OF THE PARK ECOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING  
October 11, 2013**

Committee members in attendance included Agency Chairwoman Leilani Ulrich, Member Arthur Lussi, Designees Bradley Austin Department of Economic Development, and Robert Stegemann Department of Environmental Conservation, and Committee Chair Valentino. Members Karen Feldman, Richard Booth, William Thomas, and Daniel Wilt, , joined the Committee. Also participating in the meeting was Executive Director Fred Monroe of the Local Government Review Board. Staff included Executive Director Terry Martino, Counsel James Townsend and Supervisor, Natural Resource Analysis Ed Snizek.

The Committee meeting convened at approximately 9:00 a.m.

**Supervisor, Natural Resources Report (E. Snizek)**

Mr. Snizek briefly reviewed the monthly activity report for the RASS Division which was included in the Board monthly mailing packet.

**EPA Phase I Wetlands Project (Steve Langdon)**

Steve Langdon presented an update to the Board on the Wetlands Monitoring Project that is funded by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Langdon is the EPA contractor working with the Park Agency, with a primary focus on building a monitoring framework for detecting wetland response to climate change within the boundaries of the Adirondack Park. He noted that the Park Agency has received \$3 million in grant funding to date for projects that have expanded the Agency's ability to map and analyze data.

**Renovate OTF Guidance Document (E. Snizek)**

This was a first reading of the guidance document prepared by Agency staff for the appropriate use of the aquatic herbicide Renovate and Renovate OTF to manage Eurasian Watermilfoil, an aquatic invasive plant.

Mr. Snizek noted this is a guidance document and will be applied only after taking into account the specific facts and circumstances specific to each aquatic invasive species

management project that comes before the Agency. He noted that Eurasian Watermilfoil is very difficult to eradicate and requires annual management of treated areas to include hand harvesting of plants if necessary. He added that the best time for treatment is during the spring.

Chair Ulrich asked if Mr. Snizek felt that in his professional opinion prevention of invasives species is a better way to commit financial resources to avoid infestations. He responded affirmatively and referred to the need for Statewide transport laws that would limit the spread of aquatic invasive species.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.