



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director
FROM: James T. Townsend, Counsel
DATE: June 4, 2014
RE: State Land Committee Agenda

The State Land Committee Agenda is attached. There are five agenda items for May.

- 1) The first agenda item is the presentation of the public draft of the Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area, Pine Lakes Primitive Area, and a portion of the Blue Mountain Wild Forest Complex Unit Management Plan (UMP). These Areas are a portion of the recently classified lands acquired from Finch, Pruyn. Several of the management actions proposed in this draft reflect commitments made in the resolution approving the classification recommendation. This draft is being presented by DEC for information only; no Agency action will be required. DEC will proceed through a public comment period before presenting its Final Draft of the Complex UMP to the Agency.
- 2) The second agenda item is the presentation of the public draft of an amendment to the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest Unit Management Plan (2005). This amendment proposes to establish snowmobile routes and selects among alternatives contained in the 2005 Plan and some new routes; it also proposes to close some routes. This draft is being presented by DEC for information only; no Agency action will be required. DEC will proceed through a public comment period before presenting its Final Draft of the Complex UMP to the Agency.
- 3) The third agenda item is the presentation of a Final Draft of an amendment to the Bog River Complex UMP. The Horseshoe Lake Wild Forest is located on either side of Route 30 south of Tupper Lake. This amendment will establish new trails and related parking facilities in the area of Goodman Mountain, recently renamed to honor Andrew

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Goodman, a civil rights activist, and in the Otter Point area. The Agency considered the Final UMP amendment at its May meeting and authorized a public comment period on the compliance of the proposed amendment with the SLMP. Kathy Regan's memorandum reviews the public comments and recommends a finding of conformance. The Agency will be asked to adopt the enclosed resolution finding the Final Draft in conformance with the State Land Master Plan.

4) The fourth agenda item is the presentation of an amendment to the Cranberry Lake Wild Forest UMP which proposes to add two connector trails to the Cranberry 50 in place of 5.7 miles of road walking along Route 3. The Agency considered the Final UMP amendment at its May meeting and authorized a public comment period on the compliance of the proposed amendment with the SLMP. Kathy Regan's memorandum reviews the public comments and recommends a finding of conformance. The Agency will be asked to adopt the enclosed resolution finding the Final Draft in conformance with the State Land Master Plan.

5) The fifth agenda item is the presentation of an amendment to the Jay Mountain Wilderness Area (JMWA) UMP to reflect the recently approved amendment to Article XIV which allows exploratory mineral sampling by NYCO on that portion of the JMWA known as Lot 8. The legal effect of the constitutional amendment is that the SLMP's Wilderness Guidelines do not apply to Lot 8; thus there is no discretion for the Agency or DEC whether to permit this activity and no question about the activity's conformance with the SLMP. The activity must still be documented in an amendment to the JMWA UMP so that if the lands are not acquired by NYCO, the lands will be reclaimed and remain part of the unit and be governed by the UMP. DEC and APA have conducted a public comment period. Included with this mailing is a memorandum from Kathy Regan, Senior Natural Resource Planner summarizing the technical issues and providing staff's response. DEC will be available to discuss its Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP). The Agency will be asked to adopt the enclosed resolution finding the Final Draft of the Amendment to the Jay Mountain Wilderness Area in conformance with the State Land Master Plan.

JTT:lhb

Attachments