



TO: Terry Martino
FROM: Planning Staff
DATE: August 4, 2014
RE: Planning Division Activity Report for June & July, 2014

This report reflects monthly activity of the State land and other planning staff within the Division.

APSLMP CONSULTATIONS

UMP Development/Review

- Conducted field work to consult with DEC staff regarding construction of primitive tent sites and parking areas proposed for the Blue Mountain Wild Forest corridor north of the Outer Gooley Club.
- Conducted field work to consult with DEC staff regarding proposed designation and maintenance of some existing loop trails in Blue Mountain Wild Forest near Newcomb, just east of the upper Hudson River.
- Conducted office and field review of some of the locations of, and separation distances between, primitive tent sites in the Indian Lake Islands Administration Campground, Jessup River Wild Forest.
- Conducted field work to consult with DEC staff regarding a draft amendment to the Jessup River Wild Forest UMP that will propose adoption of approximately 900 feet of existing (but previously unidentified) old road for multiple uses.
- Reviewed and provided comments to DEC on the Initial Draft for the snowmobile trail amendment to the Vanderhacker Mountain Wild Forest, Camp Santanoni Historic and Lake Harris Campground Intensive Use Areas.
- Reviewed the provided comments to DEC on the Initial Draft of the UMP for the Essex Chain Lakes Complex.
- Conducted a field visit to the Lewis Preserve in the Chazy Highlands Wild Forest Area to document the extent of rare natural communities and consider how proposed management actions in the draft UMP for the area might affect these communities. Staff have asked DEC's NYNHP to provide additional information and guidance.

- Reviewed 3,818 public comment letters and drafted the response-to-public-comment memorandum for the Jay Mountain Wilderness UMP amendment.
- Drafted and presented recommendations to the Agency Board concerning the APSLMP compliance of three UMP amendments reviewed during the June Agency Meeting.
- Began review of the Public Draft UMP for Alger Island Public Campground and Fourth Lake Day Use Area. A site visit was made in June with DEC Operations staff. Comments were submitted to DEC in the middle of July.
- Conducted field work at the end of June at the Essex Chain Lakes to review recent construction of primitive tent sites.
- Developed map amendment proposals for Great Camp Santanoni Historic Area in response to DEC's submission of the Camp Santanoni Historic Area Unit Management Plan.
- Collected GPS data related to the boundary of the Camp Santanoni Historic Area as part of review of the Camp Santanoni Historic Area Unit Management Plan.
- Inventoried ruins and structures related to Camp Santanoni Historic Area as part of the review of the Camp Santanoni Historic Area Unit Management Plan.
- Reviewed a DEC proposal to install a dry hydrant at the Upper Saranac Lake Boat Launch.
- Reviewed a proposal for mountain bike trails at the "Loggers Loops" in the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest and met with DEC staff regarding other proposals contained within the Initial Draft UMP for the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest.
- Provided consultation to DEC staff concerning separation distances between existing and proposed primitive tent sites on Garnet Lake in Wilcox Lake Wild Forest. DEC has since submitted a revised team draft of a UMP for the area.

APA/DEC MOU Consultation

- Conducted field work to consult with DEC staff regarding establishment, without need for tree cutting, a new beginning portion of the trail to O.K. Slip Falls in the Hudson Gorge Wilderness Area.
- Reviewed proposed State land projects associated with UMP amendments for the Bog River Complex and Cranberry Lake Wild Forest. Staff determined wetland permits are not needed for the projects.
- Conducted a site visit for a proposed State land project in Watson's East Triangle Wild Forest. DEC will revise plans

to avoid wetland loss, making the project non-jurisdictional.

- Reviewed a proposed State land project for the rehabilitation of Mill Creek Road in the Black River Wild Forest. Updated plans were submitted and the project was determined to be APSLMP compliant and non-jurisdictional for wetlands.
- Reviewed a proposed, 30-foot long boardwalk in the Wilmington Wild Forest. Staff determined this State land project is APSLMP compliant and non-jurisdictional for wetlands.
- Provided consultation regarding wetlands, accessible trail construction and APSLMP conformance at the Balfour Lake waterway access site in Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest.
- Provided consultation regarding proposed maintenance and repair on the historic Valcour Lighthouse on Valcour Island, part of the Champlain Islands Complex.
- Provided consultation regarding proposed improvements to facilitate mountain biking on a snowmobile trail in the Wilmington Wild Forest.
- Provided consultation regarding interpretive sign management planning at Camp Santanoni Historic Area.
- Consulted with DEC staff concerning submission of a snowmobile trail work plan for a portion of the trail between Speculator and Indian Lake in Jessup River Wild Forest.
- Consulted with DEC staff concerning the planning of a State land project to reroute two small segments of the foot trail to O.K. Slip Falls in the Hudson Gorge Wilderness.

Permit Review

- Reviewed DEC proposals outlined in a proposed State land project for road repair in the Black River Wild Forest.
- Reviewed updated site plans for a permit issued earlier this year in the Pigeon Lakes Wilderness. The plans have been modified and an amended permit was issued.
- Met with DOT staff to discuss the need for a UMP amendment in order for DOT to revise the vegetative management plan for the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor.

WSR Rivers Review/Consultation

- Reviewed a DEC referral concerning construction of a 10-car parking area at the Iron Bridge across the upper Hudson River (classified "Scenic") in the Blue Mountain Wild Forest.

APSLMP REVISION

- Met with DEC Operations staff to show the Intensive Use boundary for Meacham Lake Campground. DEC is planning on moving their boat launch and needed to know where it would be possible.
- Conducted field work with DEC staff on the newly acquired Good Luck tracts of land (pending classification). Staff discussed other parcels also pending classification to identify potential issues and questions. Additional field work is needed for several parcels.

PARK POLICY AND PLANNING

Park-wide Recreation Planning

- Consulted extensively with Central Office staff of DEC regarding the upcoming initiation of a joint, inter-agency Park-wide recreation planning effort.
- Participated in a meeting about the "Great South Woods" project at DEC headquarters in Albany.

Outreach

- Attended a volunteer work day to assist with construction of the Goodman Mountain Trail as recently proposed and approved via the Bog River Complex (Horseshoe Lake WF)UMP amendment.

Invasive Species Control

- Reviewed the Inter-Agency Guidelines for Implementing Best Management Practices for the Control of Terrestrial and Aquatic Invasive Species on Forest Preserve Lands in the Adirondack Park, an appendix to the APA-DEC MOU.

Training/Conferences

- Attended the Common Ground Alliance meeting in Long Lake and participated in the "SLMP Update and Complex Planning" break-out session.
- Attended the quarterly meeting of the Forest Preserve Advisory Committee (FPAC) in Albany.

ADMINISTRATION (State Land Staff)

Reporting

- Prepared monthly report.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REVIEW

- Reviewed proposed projects in the Towns of Crown Point, Broadalbin, Ticonderoga and Wilmington.

June & July State Land Tasks Summary:

Task	Count	Year to Date
APSLMP Consultations		[75]
APSLMP Revision		[11]
Park Policy and Planning		[21]
Administration		[19]
Historic Preservation Act Review		[13]

GIS AGENCY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Consultation

- Provided support to Agency staff using GIS analysis, GPS data collection, Lookup System transaction mapping and information retrieval. Provided advice on mapping coordinate systems and measurements.

Data Management

- Processed over 200,000 parcel records from 12 counties for use in the Agency GIS and Lookup System. Data from 2013 and 2014 were merged into a consistent data schema for property ownership retrieval and analysis. Data were re-projected into a consistent coordinate system suitable for Lookup System use ensuring positional reliability. Data were imported to SQL Server and made available to the Agency via Spatial Database Engine, served through Arc Server web mapping services. This was a major effort taking place over approximately four weeks.

Hardware/Software Management

- Re-programmed Lookup System Arc Server Flex routines and XML files for utilization of new Park-wide parcel data.
- Re-programmed the Edit Transaction Arc Server Flex application for utilization of new parcel data.
- Worked with ESRI and the Agency's Administration staff to coordinate July payment for the annual GIS software maintenance.

Training

- Wrote documentation and assisted individually staff in use of new parcel data and changes reflected in the Lookup System and Edit Transactions applications.

GIS MAP PRODUCTION

- Printed 16 large-format maps from the Boquet River Watershed Management Plan for the Boquet River Association.

MAP AMENDMENTS REVIEW

- MA2014-01 (Former Camp Gabriels)- Agency's Order was finalized and signed.
- MA2014-02 (Putman, Town of Moriah) - We received an application from a landowner who has requested that approximately 12 acres be reclassified from Resource Management to Moderate Intensity Use.
- MA2014-03 (Wilmington) - We received an application from the Town of Wilmington to reclassify two areas, totaling approximately 200 acres, from Rural Use and Low Intensity Use to Moderate Intensity Use.

WEB ADMINISTRATION/CONTENT MANAGEMENT

- Conducted an Agency Web Team meeting during which staff discussed redesign of our Forms content pages.
- Developed a prototype of new Forms pages categorized by major topic for discussion at the Web Team meeting.
- Wrote content management web pages in Cold Fusion for improved management of Agency Forms content. Developed a database where information about Agency forms may be stored including form category, title, link, description and keywords. Each form is stored as a database record that may dynamically populate form list and form detail pages. The object is to tailor form content more specifically and intuitively to customer's needs.

ADMINISTRATION (GIS STAFF)

- Set up new desktop PC delivered by Agency IT staff.
- Set up and learned the new Microsoft Outlook email system.
- Prepared monthly reports.

Memo to Terry Martino

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June & July GIS/Web Tasks Summary:

Task	Count	Year to Date
GIS Agency Program Administration	5	82
GIS Map Production	22	56
LUA Boundary/Blue Line Inquiry	12	28
Map Amendments Review	3	14
State Land Classification/Reclassification Review	0	1
Web Administration/Content Management	3	29
Administrative Tasks	3	13