



**LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH**  
Chairwoman

**TERRY MARTINO**  
Executive Director

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Kathy Regan, Deputy Director, Planning  
*Kathy Regan*

DATE: May 29, 2015

RE: Pepperbox Wilderness Unit Management Plan (UMP) Amendment

The original amendment was for the addition of a lean-to at Gregg Lake, along with the designation of a foot trail for access to the lean-to. Agency staff had reviewed the Initial Draft Amendment to the 1985 Pepperbox Wilderness, dated March 2015, and found the amendment conforms to the general guidelines and criteria of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

Placement of both the primitive tent site and the trail will avoid wetlands. This land, within the Pepperbox Wilderness, was acquired after the UMP was written in 1985 and therefore management actions had not been defined. Although a large portion of the Pepperbox Wilderness has been identified to remain essentially “trail-less”, Gregg Lake is not within that area.

The Agency and the Department have received public comment regarding this UMP amendment. The primary concern is that the Pepperbox Wilderness UMP is very old and that the Unit now included significant additional acreage. Comments suggested that a lean-to and trail not be added until the Pepperbox Wilderness UMP, possibly in conjunction with the Five Ponds Wilderness UMP, is revised.

The Department has determined that the addition of a lean-to and the designation of a trail prior to a major revision of the Pepperbox Wilderness UMP should not occur and have modified the Proposed Final UMP amendment to include a designated primitive tent site at Gregg Lake instead of a lean-to. The Department will re-evaluate the location of this primitive tent site during the UMP revision process.

Agency staff had reviewed the Proposed Final Amendment to the 1985 Pepperbox Wilderness, dated March 2015, and found the amendment conforms to the general guidelines and criteria of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.