



SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

**DRAFT
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY
WITH RESPECT TO THE
GORE MOUNTAIN SKI CENTER INTENSIVE USE AREA
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT**

Proposed for Adoption
by the Adirondack Park Agency
May 10, 2018

WHEREAS, section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act (APA Act) directs the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop, in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency (Agency), individual management plans for units of land classified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master (APSLMP) and requires such management plans to conform to the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

WHEREAS, in addition to such guidelines and criteria, the APSLMP prescribes the contents of unit management plans and provides that the Agency will determine whether a proposed individual unit management plan complies with such guidelines and criteria; and

WHEREAS, ORDA prepared a unit management plan for the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area in 1987 that was updated in 1995 and 2002 (2002 Plan), and amended in 2005; and

WHEREAS ORDA has prepared a second amendment to the 2002 Plan, dated May 2018 (Proposed Final 2018 Amendment), and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment to the 2002 Plan proposes to widen or extend certain ski trails, construct new ski trails, construct a new ski lift, modify vehicular access and parking, enlarge the reservoir and install a new water line for snowmaking, expand and reconfigure buildings, construct a single-track bike trail, and develop a hiking center; and

WHEREAS, this action is a Type I action pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 and 9 NYCRR 586 for which ORDA is the lead agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation is an involved agency; and

WHEREAS, ORDA prepared a positive declaration and a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment; and

WHEREAS, ORDA has filed a Notice of Intent with the Agency to undertake new land use and development on lands adjacent to the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area owned by the Town of Johnsbury, known as Ski Bowl Park, pursuant to section 814 of the APA Act, which is attached to the GEIS as Part B; and

WHEREAS, ORDA prepared a cumulative impacts analysis addressing the cumulative impacts of the proposed land use and development on Ski Bowl Park pursuant to the Notice of Intent and the actions proposed in the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area, pursuant to the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment, which is attached to the GEIS as Part C; and

WHEREAS, ORDA declared the Draft GEIS to be complete for public review on January 3, 2018 and presented the Draft GEIS and the draft unit management plan amendment to the 2002 Plan for information to the Agency on January 11, 2018; and

WHEREAS, ORDA held a public hearing on the Draft GEIS and the draft unit management plan amendment to the 2002 Plan on January 24, 2018 and accepted public comment until February 9, 2018, after notice published in the Environmental Notice Bulletin, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Act, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, and regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2018, ORDA presented the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment and the Final GEIS to the Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Agency established a public comment period on conformance of the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment with the APSLMP, which ran from March 12, 2018 through March 26, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Agency received three written comments during the public comment period regarding the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment; and

WHEREAS, two public comments generally supported the proposals described in the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment and one comment addressed the APSLMP's requirement that unit management plans provide appropriately detailed inventories of natural resources and facilities for public use, particularly in relation to ski trail mileage, and expressed concern regarding the conceptual discussion of reclassification of 159 acres of State land currently classified as Wild Forest to Intensive Use and reclassification of 33 acres of State land currently classified as Intensive Use to Wilderness; and

WHEREAS, ORDA has revised the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment to update the ski trail mileage inventory and related statements regarding the calculation of ski trail mileage under Article XIV of the New York State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed conceptual reclassification of State lands is not properly considered part of the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment; and

WHEREAS, ORDA has revised the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment to clarify that the discussion of State land reclassification is conceptual only and that the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment does not authorize reclassification or any actions on State lands in the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has considered the foregoing recitals, the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment including Parts B and C, the May 2, 2018 Memorandum from Kathy Regan to Terry Martino, Agency staff's May 10, 2018 presentation, public comment, and the deliberations of Agency Board Members and Designees at the Agency's May 10, 2018 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the Adirondack Park Agency finds the Proposed Final 2018 Amendment to the 2002 Gore Mountain Unit Management Plan, dated May 2018, conforms with the guidelines and criteria of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Adirondack Park Agency authorizes its Executive Director to advise the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation and the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Olympic Regional Development Authority of the Agency's determination in this matter.

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absent: