

SHERMAN CRAIG Chairman **TERRY MARTINO**Executive Director

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Terry Martino

FROM: Kathy Regan

DATE: May 31, 2018

RE: Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS): Gore

Mountain Reclassification Action and Unit Management Plan Amendment

Approval

In May 2018, the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) found the 2018 amendment to the 2002 Gore Mountain Ski Area Unit Management Plan (UMP) amendment to be in conformance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP). The UMP amendment included conceptually-proposed alpine ski trails and lift re-alignment which will be an important addition to the Ski Center, but need to be addressed formally in a separate land classification and UMP amendment process.

APA, in consultation with the DEC, drafted a DSEIS which proposes to approve two reclassification actions involving the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area:

- (1) The addition of 38.7 acres of the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area to the Siamese Pond Wilderness Area; and
- (2) The addition of 29.0 acres of the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest Area to the Gore Mountain Intensive Use Area.

The DEC, in consultation with the Agency has drafted a UMP amendment for Gore Mountain Intensive Use Ski Area which proposes ski lift realignment and new alpine trail ski construction. The APSLMP requires that any request for reclassification of existing lands from another land use category to Intensive Use will be accompanied by a draft unit management plan for the proposed Intensive Use area that demonstrates how the applicable use guidelines will be respected. The draft UMP amendment is an appendix to the DSEIS.

Agency staff are requesting the Board acceptance of the DSEIS and authorization to proceed to Public Hearing. Agency staff also request Board authorization to accept public comment on APSLMP conformance of the UMP amendment.