



MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Richard Weber, Deputy Director - Planning

DATE: July 8, 2021

RE: Planning Division Activity Report for the period April, May, June 2021

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

DIVISION STAFFING

Effective June 30, 2021 Walt Linck retired from his position as an Environmental Program Specialist II, Natural Resources, at the Agency.

APSLMP CONSULTATIONS

UMP Development/Review

Continued APSLMP conformance consultations with DEC staff concerning updated draft of the Fish Creek Campground UMP.

Continued APSLMP conformance consultations with DEC staff concerning updated draft of the Pepperbox Wilderness UMP.

Continued APSLMP conformance consultations with DEC and ORDA staff concerning a proposed Whiteface Mountain UMP Amendment.

Continued APSLMP conformance consultations with DEC staff concerning Chazy Highlands Management Complex.

Continued internal review of the St. Lawrence County Team Draft UMP Amendment for SLMP conformance.

Reviewed public comments for the Debar Mountain Management Complex and conducted follow up meetings with Department staff to address SEQR compliance and next steps.

APA/DEC MOU Consultation

Reviewed and responded to a Department staff inquiry regarding the placement of solar panels within the Lake George Islands Campground on Narrow Island.

Consulted with Department staff regarding the potential need for a non-natural materials bridge on the Erie Canal trail in Independence River Wild Forest.

Consulted with Department staff regarding the replacement of solar panels on the Colden Outpost cabin in the High Peaks Wilderness Area.

Consulted with Department staff on the use of aquatic pesticides for invasive species control on submerged Forest Preserve lands.

Consulted with Department staff regarding the conformance of alternative designs of a proposed long span bridge in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness for a popular cross-country ski trail.

Agency State Land staff attended meetings with DOT and DEC staff to discuss the project plans for the NYS Route 30 Bridge over the South Inlet of Raquette Lake including the integration of NYSEG powerlines in the highway ROW.

PARK POLICY AND PLANNING

Park-wide Recreation Planning

Continued a planning effort with DEC to develop Park-wide guidance on an approach to “visitor use management” on state lands, which may be used for future UMP proposals to address visitor-use impacts. As part of this, participated in a number of conference calls with DEC staff, communicated with National Park Service staff, and developed presentation for a future Agency meeting.

Continued participation in the DEC/APA Accessibility Advisory Committee.

ADMINISTRATION (State Land Staff)

Regulatory Programs Support

Continued review of Department applications for wetlands projects on Conservation Easement lands: P2020-0037, P2020-0038, P2020-0039 and P2020-0040.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REVIEW

Reviewed DOT project for the removal of existing bridge and construction of new bridge in Warren County.

Reviewed proposed projects in the Towns of Web, Ephrata, Northampton, Ausable, and Hope,

GIS AGENCY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Consultation

- Assisting Agency GIS power users with connecting to GIS web-services.

Data Management

- Obtained updated DEC State land data.
- Downloaded updated Agricultural District data.

Training

- Completed mandatory SLMS staff training courses.

GIS MAP PRODUCTION

- Prepared a Park-wide map and dataset of mineral extraction parcels for Regulatory Programs and RASS staff.
- Prepared a revised set of planning maps for the Town of Tupper Lake.
- Prepared a series of State land classification graphics for State land training
- Prepared draft maps of potential land use classification boundaries related to Rollins Pond Intensive Use area.
- Digitized images of Town of Webb sewer infrastructure maps.
- Mapped State ownership of lands related to a bridge project in Warren County.

ADMINISTRATION (GIS STAFF)

- Routine updates and edits to agency web mapping applications.
- Troubleshooting and managing LUS 4.0 and other web applications.
- Reviewed the agency's GIS mapping website pages for changes and updates.

April-June 2021 GIS/Web Tasks Summary:

Task	Count	Year to Date
GIS Agency Program Administration	4	19
GIS Map Production	14	22
LUA Boundary/Blue Line Inquiry	11	25
Map Amendments Review	3	7
State Land Classification/Reclassification Review	1	3
Web Administration/Content Management	17	25
Administrative Tasks	3	13

WEB ADMINISTRATION/CONTENT MANAGEMENT

- Tested copy of Agency website on a new remote server.
- Met with Agency website committee continue the cleaning and reorganization of our website information and material.
- Updated website and administrative guidance documentation for staff use.
- Implemented discussed and submitted changes to the website from agency staff members.
- Regular updates and maintenance of homepage and forms and documents on website, including monthly mailing and Agency meeting related documents.
- Posted and updated FOIL documents related P2021-0075 in response to a high volume in FOIL requests for this project.

MAP AMENDMENTS REVIEW

- Obtained sewer and water infrastructure data from Warren County for an application from the Town of Warrensburg for two Hamlet expansion areas.
- Met with officials from the Town of Webb to discuss sewer and water infrastructure relate to a Hamlet expansion application.
- Filed final decision documents for MA2019-02 (Lake Luzerne)

STATE LAND CLASSIFICATION /RECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

- Met with Agency State land and DEC staff at Rollins Pond campground to consider potential State land map reclassifications involving Intensive Use and Wild Forest.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PROGRAM

See separate report in Park Policy and Planning