

salvage logging. Also, a microburst in 1995 felled trees across the northern

III. AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND DELINEATIONS

WILDERNESS AREAS

BLUE RIDGE

This area is located in the Towns of Arietta, Lake Pleasant, Long Lake and Indian Lake in Hamilton County. The area is roughly bounded on the north by Route 28; on the east by Route 28/30 and private lands; on the south by Cedar River Road and private lands immediately north and west of Cedar River, Wakely Mountain Primitive Area and Moose River Plains Wild Forest; and on the west by the Lake Kora and Sagamore Lake properties and the Moose River Plains Wild Forest.

The area is dominated by Blue Ridge, a height of land ranging from 2,700 to 3,683 feet in elevation and running in a general east-west direction for a distance of more than six miles. On the lower north slopes of the ridge there are a number of attractive little trout ponds with foot trails leading to them from Route 28/30. The forest cover is a typical mix of hardwoods and softwoods, with the higher elevations predominantly covered with red spruce and balsam fir. Most of the old growth spruce and hemlock in the northwestern part of the area suffered heavy damage in the 1950 blow down, which affects the character of the area even to this day. Parts of the blowdown area were affected by subsequent, legislatively authorized,

third of the area. Nevertheless, large portions of the Wilderness exhibit the characteristics of old growth forest, having been largely untouched by windstorms and logging.

The Blue Ridge Wilderness is easily accessible along most of its perimeter. A portion of the Northville-Lake Placid foot trail runs north from Wakely Pond past Stephens Pond and Lake Durant. A major rerouting in 2009 moved six miles of trail from along Cedar River Road to a new trail along the southern boundary of the Wilderness. Campers from the Lake Durant public campground make use of the trails in the vicinity while the chief use of the foot trails in the Wilson Pond section appears to be by anglers, hunters and summer visitors to the community of Blue Mountain Lake. Most use near the south boundary of this area is concentrated along the Northville-Lake Placid trail and around Sprague Pond.

Great Camp Sagamore, a National Historic Landmark, stands on the west shore of Sagamore Lake at the western boundary of the Blue Ridge Wilderness. An area of the Wilderness around Sagamore Lake is included in the Historic Great Camps Special Management Area. The area was designated to recognize the historic connection between the Great Camps and the Forest Preserve.

Approximately 5.5 miles of jeep trails and 5.5 miles of snowmobile trails have been closed. A modest stream-gauging station which was

installed in 1978 at the confluence of the East Inlet and Lost Brooks on the former Sagamore property has been removed.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Blue Ridge area statistics:

State Lands	47,8	5648
Acres		
Bodies of Water (38)	346	Acres
Elevation		
(minimum)	1,676	Feet
(maximum)	3,744	Feet
Foot Trails	23	Miles
Lean-tos	3	
Non-conforming Uses:		
Golden Beach Campground Septic		
Blue Mountain Cemetery Access Road		

FIVE PONDS

This area is located in the Towns of Fine, Clifton, Colton and Piercefield in St. Lawrence County, the Town of Webb in Herkimer County and the Town of Long Lake in Hamilton County. The lands of this unit are bounded on the north by Cranberry Lake, a portion of the Oswegatchie River, and the road from NYS Route 3 leading to Inlet and private lands; on the northeast by the Cranberry Lake Wild Forest and the southern edge of Otter Brook Road; on the southeast by the 2.4 mile road from the Otter Brook Road to the Lows Upper Dam and the 2.2 mile road from the road to the Lows Upper Dam (providing deeded access to a large inholding on the north shore of Lows Lake owned by the Boy Scouts and private lands) and south across Lows Lake to easement lands near Long Pond and down to and

including Bog Lake and Clear Pond; on the south by private lands in the vicinity of Gull Lake, and the Stillwater Reservoir; on the southwest by the Pepperbox Wilderness; and on the west by Watson’s East Triangle and Aldrich Pond Wild Forests. In the vicinity of Young’s Road in Star Lake the Wild Forest and Wilderness boundary is the Tamarack Creek snowmobile trail and the South Access Trail from Youngs Road. Land south and east of this boundary will be classified Wilderness upon acquisition of inholdings.

In 1975, the Oswegatchie River was classified as a wild river by the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act, and in 1977 was closed to motorboat use. The fire truck trail that once served High Falls from Wanakena was closed in 1976. Within the former Oswegatchie Primitive Area, approximately 7.2 miles of snowmobile trails were closed and two tent platforms were removed. These actions made the reclassification of the Oswegatchie Primitive Area possible, adding 16,920 acres to the Five Ponds Area.

The Broadhead Gore was acquired by the State in 1976. Prior to that, this parcel was considered State land from about 1890 to 1947 when the State lost it in a lawsuit brought by the late Augustus Low. The Gore, which contained original growth timber, was logged soon after the lawsuit and was then sold to the Onondaga Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Although the Gore was only about 300 acres in size, it extended from Mud Pond westward a distance of about eight miles, coming to a point in the Wilderness. This acquisition offers significant additional protection to the Five Ponds Wilderness.

In 1979 the State purchased 15,850 acres in the Towns of Webb and Long Lake, 8,635 acres of which became part of this Wilderness. The remainder of the tract lies on the opposite side of the railroad and the road leading to Partlow Lake which became the Lake Lila Primitive Area. In 2000, approximately 1,340 acres of the Lake Lila Primitive Area lying westerly of the railroad were added to the Five Ponds Wilderness Area. The State accepted the gift of a conservation easement over 6,646 acres of land surrounding Nehasane Lake, as well as fee interest subject to a 50-year estate over 3,664 acres in the vicinity of Gull Lake. This latter parcel is due to become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness in 2029.

In 1982 the State purchased 6,676 acres of land in the Town of Webb, seller's retained timber cutting rights were extinguished in 1990. This land was classified as Primitive and named Wilderness Lakes. Upon expiration of the timber rights, the Primitive Area was merged into the Five Ponds Wilderness. A private inholding remains and the ROW associated with the private road is a Primitive Area.

In 2000, approximately 13,220 acres of land acquired in Watson's East Triangle and land classified Wild Forest as part of the Aldrich Pond Wild Forest were reclassified Wilderness and added to the Five Ponds Wilderness. This area contains the Middle Branch of the Oswegatchie River, Brindle Pond, Grassy Pond and Upper South Pond. The area also contains an inholding on the north shore of Bear Pond, which, if acquired, should be added to this unit.

In 2005, 1,100 acres of land acquired in the vicinity of Bog Lake and Clear Pond were classified Wilderness

and added to the Five Ponds Wilderness providing a more direct Wilderness canoe route to Lows Lake from the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor and the waters of Lake Lila in the William C. Whitney Wilderness.

The terrain is low, rolling and interspersed with many small ponds. Wetlands and small brooks are numerous. The forest cover varies from hardwoods in the sections that were heavily logged and burned more than forty years ago to virgin pine and spruce stands.

This is one of the few locations in the northeastern United States where stands of virgin timber can be found. Early logging efforts avoided the area because it was found to be impractical to haul huge logs by horse and oxen out to the landing on Wolf Creek. The old growth pine and red spruce stand on the esker between Big Five, Little Five and Big Shallow, Little Shallow and Washbowl ponds is an example of this virgin timber. The pure pine stand at Pine Ridge along the Oswegatchie is another well-known spot where examples of original growth timber may be seen. However, portions of the Pine Ridge stand were completely blown down in the 1950 hurricane and, pursuant to legislation, the timber was salvaged by a logging contractor. Additional pines on Pine Ridge and the esker through the Five Ponds were blown down in the 1995 Derecho.

In addition to these spots, other points of interest to the hiker, camper and angler are: High Falls on the Oswegatchie River; Alder Bed Flow on the Middle Branch of the Oswegatchie River; Cat Mountain; "The Plains," which are very similar in soil and cover type to

that of the Moose River Plains; and numerous, clear, spring-fed ponds, most of which support brook trout. The Oswegatchie River was long considered the top brook trout stream in the State,

with catches of three to four pound brook trout common during the summer months. This distinction was lost when perch were, apparently, introduced accidentally into Cranberry Lake in 1945. Despite the adverse impacts to the brook trout population, the area is popular with hunters and anglers who frequent the interior ponds.

The Oswegatchie is a fine canoeing stream and is commonly used as such to reach interior wilderness points of interest. The river has received increasing use in recent years and care must be taken that such use does not result in resource degradation. The existing lean-tos on the river will be phased out and ultimately replaced by primitive tent sites.

The Five Ponds area is accessible to the public from the north and also from the south if one has a boat or canoe. The area can also be reached from the southwest via the Raven Lake Road and from the east, by boat via the Bog River/ Low's Lake tract. The western boundary in Herkimer County is accessible from the Bear Pond Road in the Watson's East Triangle Wild Forest.

The Mt. Electra observation tower was removed in September 1989, bringing this area into compliance with Wilderness standards

In 2009, portions of the lands belonging to the former Lows Lake Primitive Area were reclassified to Wilderness and added to the Five

Ponds Wilderness. In light of the Wilderness and Primitive classifications of the land surrounding Lows Lake and Bog River, DEC will manage the waters as Wilderness, precluding both public and administrative use of motor vehicles, motorboats and aircraft to the extent prohibited by the Wilderness classification. Public float plane use will be eliminated December 31, 2011.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1994.

Five Ponds area statistics:

State Lands	124,710 Acres
Private Inholdings (7)	13,092 Acres
Bodies of Water (263)	3,460 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,386 Feet
(maximum)	2,489 Feet
Foot Trails	68 Miles
Lean-tos	14
Non-conforming Uses:	
Gravel Pit	1

GIANT MOUNTAIN

This area lies in Essex County, in the Towns of Elizabethtown and Keene, and is roughly bounded by Route 9N on the north; by Route 73 on the west and south; and Route 9 on the east.

During 1903, one of the major forest fires of the Adirondacks swept over the greater part of this area, burning the topsoil down to bare rock and leaving the two dominant mountains of this area, Giant and Rocky Peak Ridge, practically bald. A few pockets on the lower slopes escaped the intense burn and are easily distinguishable as they now contain old growth white pine and hemlock stands with some mixed hardwoods.

The topography of the area is steep and rocky with a considerable number of vertical or near vertical cliffs. A number of landslides have occurred on the west side of Giant Mountain, exposing bare rock. Numerous small brooks cascade down from the upper slopes.

The tops of the higher mountains are still bare rock but aspen, white birch, balsam and spruce are slowly filling in the upper slopes.

From the eastern boundary of Route 9, a few miles south of Elizabethtown, to the top of Giant Mountain, the elevation changes about 4,000 feet in a horizontal distance of approximately six (6) miles. This represents the greatest differential in elevation per horizontal mile of any Wilderness area in the Park.

Because of the great difference in temperatures and soil conditions between these two elevations, the forest cover type ranges from stunted spruce, balsam and white birch near the mountain tops, to excellent quality oak, maple, basswood and white ash at the lower elevations. There are also some excellent stands of hemlock on the Keene Valley side near the AuSable River.

Two of the three small ponds are rather unique because of their location and attractiveness. Giant's Washbowl lies in a small depression near the 2,300 foot level on the lower south slope of Giant Mountain and has a surface area of slightly over five acres. A lovely little tarn near the summit of Rocky Peak Ridge, known as Lake Marie Louise, is reminiscent of the subalpine lakes of the western United States. The sharp col between Giant Mountain and Rocky Peak Ridge, referred to as Gusty Gap, is another attractive feature of the area.

Many small brooks cascade down from the upper slopes. One in particular, Roaring Brook, has a scenic waterfall and can be seen from Route 73, about one mile north of Chapel Pond. A number of similar brooks in the area provide scenic spots as well as trout fishing pools.

The primary users of the area are hikers who frequent it during all seasons of the year to enjoy the excellent views from numerous vantage points on the tops and sides of the mountains. Hunters also make considerable use of the area.

Access to the State lands around the perimeter is excellent, with trailheads available on each of the four sides.

A 2002 addition to the area in the Town of Keene created a 1.25 acre inholding with an access road.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2004.

Giant Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	23,688 Acres
Bodies of Water (2)	7 Acres
Inholdings (1)	1.25 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	580 Feet
(maximum)	4,627 Feet
Foot Trails	33 Miles
Lean-tos	1
Non-conforming Uses:	
Road (private)	0.23 Miles

HA-DE-RON-DAH

This area is located in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County, and the Town of Greig, Lewis County.

It is bounded on the north by private lands in the vicinity of North Pond, Hitchcock Pond, Moose Pond and the

headwaters of the Independence River; on the east by private lands along the Remsen to Lake Placid Railroad right-of-way; on the south by private lands along Route 28 and by the wood road leading to the Copper Lake property; and on the west by Pine Creek and a Department of Environmental Conservation maintained foot trail from Pine Creek to Pine Lake, East Pine Pond and Big Otter Lake. The present Wilderness boundary was established recognizing the well-established motorized access in the adjacent Independence River Wild Forest.

The terrain consists of low rolling hills with many beaver meadows and wetlands.

Although the area is forest covered, extensive forest fire damage in the southern half has resulted in much of it now being covered with brush, pin cherry, aspen and bracken fern.

In the northern half, a mix of relatively small diameter hardwood and softwood stands predominate. The exceptions are the scattered individual white pine trees just north of the former truck trail which remained following the last logging operations prior to the State acquiring this area in the early 1900's. Some of these trees exceed 100 feet in height and are more than 40 inches in diameter. The probable reason they escaped logging operations was that the final cut was for hardwoods. The scattered pines represented insufficient revenue in relation to the logging costs to fell and haul them.

Public access from the north and south is nearly all blocked by private lands. The same is true for most of the eastern and western boundaries except

at the Big Otter Trail entrance near Thendara and the Big Otter Lake road in Independence River Wild Forest from the west.

The following non-conforming uses have been removed from this area: 6.5 miles of a truck trail, 2.3 miles of snowmobile trails, one fire tower, one observer cabin and 1.8 miles of telephone line. This area now fully complies with Wilderness standards.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1995.

Ha-De-Ron-Dah area statistics:

State Lands	24,892 Acres
Bodies of Water (43)	405 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,437 Feet
(maximum)	2,353 Feet
Foot Trails	35 Miles
Lean-tos	2
Non-conforming Uses:	None

HIGH PEAKS

This area is the Park's largest Wilderness area and it is located in three counties and seven Towns: the Town of Harrietstown in Franklin County, the Towns of North Elba, Keene, North Hudson, Elizabethtown and Newcomb in Essex County and the Town of Long Lake in Hamilton County. It is roughly bounded on the north by Route 3, the Kelly Road, which runs from Oseetah Lake to Averyville Road, the Adirondack Loj property at Heart Lake, the Mount Van Hoevenberg

Intensive Use Area and Route 73 near the Cascade Lakes. The Adirondack Northway, Route 73, and private lands in the Towns of Keene and North

Hudson form the eastern boundary. The southern boundary is formed by State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry's Huntington Wildlife Forest, Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest, Great Camp Santanoni Historic Area, and private lands in the Towns of Newcomb and North Hudson. Much of these private lands along the southern boundary are actively managed for forest products and are encumbered by conservation easements held by the State. This Wilderness is bounded on the west by Long Lake and the Raquette River.

Topographic features vary dramatically. Extensive low-lying wetlands in the vicinity of Marcy Swamp and Boreas Ponds contrast with precipitous mountain crags, many exceeding 4,000 feet in elevation. The broad dome of Mount Marcy, the highest point in New York State, rises above a rugged collection of steep granitic peaks on all sides. Scoured bedrock slides on every aspect are the result of vegetation and soil swept away in catastrophic landslides.

Like the topography, the forest cover also varies. It ranges from young hardwoods, to mature, large diameter hardwood and softwood stands, to the spruce-fir of the subalpine region and the alpine meadows above timberline.

Forest fires near the turn of the 20th century were intense enough in some locations, such as the Cascade Range and the Dix range, to destroy both vegetation and topsoil, leaving bare

rock. It will take many years for enough soil to develop to support a forest. However, the greater part of this area is predominantly forested with mixed

hardwoods and softwoods. The higher elevations at and near most mountain tops have thick stands of stunted balsam with some spruce, white birch and yellow birch.

The tops of Mount Marcy and Algonquin Peak are above the timberline and a number of other mountain tops are at, or close to, timberline. The subalpine and alpine vegetation on the tops of these mountains has been of interest to many people, including students of botany, ecology and zoology, as well as recreationists willing to hike to the mountain tops for superb views of the High Peaks region and close observation of unique plant associations. Overuse threatens the continued existence of some of these associations. The Department has a long-standing partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the Adirondack Mountain Club which places stewards on a number of these alpine summits to educate hikers, interpret the alpine ecology, and monitor plant populations. This partnership has significantly improved conditions on a number of the high peaks.

Evidence of old road beds is found on the periphery of the unit and penetrating some of the river valleys. As they are reclaimed by natural forces, their presence continues to diminish. Some of the old road beds are maintained as foot trails and horse trails. Trails located at higher elevations in the interior are typically steep, wet, and rugged. These are some of the most scenic and popular Wilderness foot trails

in the Northeastern United States. Outside of the most popular routes through the Great Range, the Macintyre's, and Mount Marcy, the

regularity of human encounters decreases significantly. Opportunities for solitude in a wild and remote landscape are available for those who seek it out.

Many crystal-clear streams cascade from the mountain slopes, providing numerous scenic waterfalls, deep pools and brook trout fishing opportunities. Such streams as the North and South Forks of the Bouquet River, Opalescent River, Johns Brook, Klondike Brook, Marcy Brook, Cold River, Moose Creek and Cold Brook are photographers' favorites. Lake Tear of the Clouds, the source of the Hudson River, lies at about 4,300 feet above sea level on a flank of Mount Marcy.

Hikers and mountaineers probably outnumber all other user groups. Skiing and snowshoeing throughout the area had increased in popularity in the late 1960's through the 1980's, and is currently experiencing resurgence in popularity. Winter mountaineering and winter camping continue to be highly popular. Hunting in this rugged and remote area offers a unique challenge. Anglers who prize wild waters are enticed by protected, remote locations.

The most heavily used trails in the entire Adirondacks are those to Mount Marcy from Adirondack Loj via Marcy Dam or Lake Colden. The heavy public use near Marcy Dam, Lake Colden and in the John's Brook Valley threatens to destroy the wilderness character of these sections. Management recommendations adopted in the 1999 Unit Management Plan (UMP) have

identified appropriate management actions to minimize or eliminate many of the threats to the resource. Subsequent to the adoption of the UMP for this unit in 1999, the Department developed a comprehensive campsite plan for the busiest areas in the unit.

The ranger station at Marcy Dam will be phased out in accordance with the policy of achieving peripheral control. Due to the expected degree of use of the Lake Colden area, particularly in the winter months, Wilderness guidelines permit the indefinite retention of the Lake Colden station. The ranger station at Raquette Falls on the extreme western boundary of this Wilderness is considered a peripheral control facility as the Raquette River is open to motorboats. While the necessity to retain the Lake Colden and Raquette Falls ranger stations has been identified in the existing UMP for the area, their continued usefulness will be subject to periodic review.

An on-ground telephone line exists between The Garden Parking Lot and the Johns Brook Ranger Station to provide reliable communication. All other on and above ground telephone lines in the unit have been removed. Adequate communication is now possible between other stations using the Departments' VHF radio network or the existing private land cellular network. At such time as cellular coverage is available at the Johns Brook Ranger Station, the remaining lines will be removed from this area.

South Meadows Road is a town maintained public road which extends about a mile east into the Wilderness from Adirondack Loj road. This road should be closed to conform to Wilderness guidelines. The Department

of Environmental Conservation has committed to work with the Town of

North Elba towards this closure. Closure of South Meadows Road will enhance the wilderness character of the South Meadows area, which is frequently used as an access point into the north and central portions of the Wilderness Area.

The level of public use in the most popular areas within the Wilderness has attained levels where trail erosion, soil compaction and generalized resource problems are readily apparent. Group camping in the Lake Colden/Flowed Lands area has already been restricted in peak periods by the Department of Environmental Conservation and this measure has been generally accepted by users. Measures to control or limit public use in particular areas were adopted in 1999 through the Unit Management Plan.

In 1978 and 1980, the State acquired 9,308 acres of land in fee from the Adirondack Mountain Reserve (AMR). Approximately 6,039 acres have become part of the High Peaks Wilderness, including the following summits: Haystack, Little Haystack, Basin, Saddleback, Sawtooth, Gothics, Armstrong, Upper Wolfjaw and Lower Wolfjaw mountains. Approximately 3,269 acres became part of the former Dix Mountain Wilderness (now High Peaks Wilderness) including the following summits: Noonmark, Bear Den, Dial, Colvin, and Pinnacle. The State received, by gift, a conservation easement on the remaining AMR lands, limiting future development while permitting public access across AMR property to reach adjacent State land.

A number of remaining interior private parcels (generally located in the

John's Brook Valley) could pose a threat to the surrounding State lands, if the owners or future owners decide to establish any one of several non-compatible land uses that might serve their particular interests.

Fee title or conservation easements should be acquired by the State on other key parcels of privately held land within or adjacent to this Wilderness as outlined in the New York State Open Space Conservation Plan.

The following non-conforming uses have been removed from the area: 19.3 miles of administrative roads, 35.1 miles of jeep trails, two fire towers, two observer cabins, two ranger cabins telephone lines, four tent platforms, two lean-to clusters, and ten lean-tos above 3,500 feet in elevation.

A minor change in the boundary of this area was made in 1979 recognizing a small segment of a public road near Walton Brook in the Town of Keene. Also in 1979, two sub-lots adjacent to the Mt. Van Hoevenberg Recreation Area consisting of approximately 260 acres were reclassified from Wilderness to Intensive Use in recognition of an improved cross country ski trail that has been mechanically maintained in this area since 1966.

In 2009 New York State acquired 6,806 acres from the Open Space Conservancy, Inc. (OSC). These lands were classified as Wilderness and included in the High Peaks unit. Within this addition are 3 inholdings: one parcel contains a fire tower on the summit of Mt. Adams, the second contains remnants of two fire tower observer cabins, and the third is a shoreline parcel along Upper Preston Pond with a small log cabin. Each of these

inholdings will be subject to a conservation easement held by the State of New York. The State holds a purchase option for the Upper Preston Pond parcel. A fourth private parcel, which adjoins the Tahawas/Henderson Lake tract, includes the Masten House on Henderson Lake. DEC will manage the waters of Henderson Lake as Wilderness.

In 2016, New York State acquired from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) the 20,543 acre Boreas Ponds tract, the 6,060 acre MacIntyre East Tract, and the 7,368 acre MacIntyre West tract. These lands were classified as a mixture of Wilderness, Wild Forest and Primitive. The location of the Boreas Ponds tract between the High Peaks and the former Dix Mountain Wilderness areas provided a unique opportunity to combine the Dix Mountain Wilderness Area with the High Peaks Wilderness area.

Public access to the perimeter of the area is generally good.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1999.

High Peaks area statistics:

State Lands	272,143 Acres
Private Inholdings (10)	4,265 Acres
Bodies of Water (198)	2,654 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	860 Feet
(maximum)	5,344 Feet
Foot Trails	277 Miles
Horse Trails	48 Miles
Lean-tos	75
Impoundments	2
Non-conforming Uses:	
Ranger Cabins*	2
(Marcy Dam and Lake Colden)	

Miles
Roads (public) 1 Mile

*Non-conforming uses whose removal cannot be scheduled by a fixed deadline.

HOFFMAN NOTCH

This area is located in the Towns of Schroon, North Hudson and Minerva in Essex County. It is bounded on the north by private lands lying south of the Blue Ridge Road and the Sand Pond Mountain tract donated to the State by Finch, Pruyn and Company for fish and wildlife management, silvicultural research and experimentation purposes; on the east by the Adirondack Northway and private lands immediately west of the Northway; on the south by private lands lying north of the Loch Muller Road; and on the west by the jeep road and trail that extends from Irishtown along Minerva Stream northward to the Blue Ridge Road near Cheney Pond.

The area is mountainous and rugged, dominated by three north-south ridges in excess of 3,000 feet: Blue Ridge, Texas Ridge and Washburn Ridge.

Sixteen bodies of water are located within the area. Cheney Pond, a former flow created for the purpose of driving logs down the Boreas River, lies adjacent to the area.

The forest cover ranges from second growth hardwoods saplings to nearly solid conifer stands of near mature size at the higher elevations. On some of the better soil, exceptionally large diameter hardwoods occur.

Hoffman Mountain, which is the highest point in the area and a part of the Blue Ridge Range, was selected by Town of Schroon officials as a potential ski area, but their proposal was defeated in the 1967 referendum. Subsequent studies by independent experts have revealed that the mountain is not suited for a major ski center.

Three fairly extensive Department of Environmental Conservation snowmobile trails, totaling 17.5 miles, were removed: one running north to south through Hoffman Notch; one running from Big Pond northward, then eastward; and another extending from Loch Muller northward by Baily Pond to Washburn Ridge. A 2.5-mile jeep trail was also removed, bringing this area fully into compliance with Wilderness standards.

Public access to the area is easily gained, and its present use comes chiefly from hunters and anglers.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2012.

Hoffman Notch area statistics:

State Lands	38,234 Acres
Private Inholding (1)	3 Acres
Bodies of Water (30)	247 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	900 Feet
(maximum)	3,700 Feet
Foot trails	15 Miles

Non-conforming Uses: None

HUDSON GORGE

This Wilderness Area is in the Towns of Newcomb and Minerva, Essex

County, and the Town of Indian Lake, Hamilton County. It encompasses the wildest and most remote section of the Hudson River, as well as a spectacular white water gorge.

There are two foot trails within this area that have long been designated for public use by the Department. From the south, a trail leads from Route 28 to Whortleberry Pond, with short spur trails to Ross and Big Bad Luck Ponds. From the north, a trail begins on Northwoods Club Road and ends at Blue Ledge on the Hudson River. There are no public roads or other access routes to this section of the Hudson River. In the past relatively few people were successful in navigating the waters by canoe, boat or raft. These factors had served to retain this portion of the river and its immediate surroundings in a near wilderness condition. River access has significantly increased with the development of commercial rafting since the early 1980's.

Although no established foot trails parallel this section of the Hudson River, the two above-mentioned trails, particularly the Blue Ledge Trail, receive considerable use. Unlike the majority of the Adirondack Park, much of the underlying bedrock in this area is calcareous, which is reflected by the species and natural communities that occupy these lands and waters. The river corridors along the Hudson and Cedar Rivers, along with limey cliffs and wetlands, feature a diversity of bryophytes and vascular plants that may be unmatched in the Park. In addition to its biological diversity, Blue Ledge provides dramatic cliffs enjoyed by those who run the river or hike to the river or ledges. Opportunities for good fishing are available along the river and at several interior ponds.

The distance between Newcomb and North River is the most dramatic white water trip in the Adirondacks, if not the State as a whole, and one of the most demanding and hazardous. Since the early 1980's, commercial white water rafting, utilizing a release from the Lake Abanakee dam which permits rafts to gain access via the Indian River, has increased dramatically on the lower portion of this route. This type of use has reached about the maximum level consistent with the carrying capacity of the resources of the river banks and wild character of the river and care should be taken not to exceed present use levels.

This area was originally classified as Primitive because of substantial private inholdings in the vicinities of the confluence of the Hudson and Indian Rivers, and Blue Ledge and the critical relationship of those lands to the river gorge. The area was upgraded to Wilderness in 2013 after most of the private lands – including their entire river frontage – were acquired.

The Department developed an Interim Access Plan for this area in June 2013.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Hudson Gorge area statistics:

State Lands	22,906 Acres
Bodies of Water (52)	419 Acres
Foot Trails	7 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	None

HURRICANE MOUNTAIN

This area is located in the Towns of Elizabethtown, Jay, Keene and Lewis, Essex County. It is predominantly steep,

rocky ground with thin soils. Hurricane Mountain, 3,694 feet in elevation, dominates the area. On the north the area is separated from the Jay Wilderness Area by the Jay Mountain Road, a rough road not plowed in the winter. Should the road ever be closed or abandoned, all or a major portion of this area could be consolidated with the Jay Wilderness.

Spectacular views of Giant Mountain and High Peaks regions to the south, as well as the Champlain Valley and the Green Mountains of Vermont to the east, are afforded the hiker who scales Hurricane. There are three trails to Hurricane Mountain, permitting access by all types of hikers. Hikers can also traverse the fairly open circuit trail from Big Crow Mountain across Weston Mountain, down to Lost Pond and back to the starting point while enjoying the panorama of the High Peaks to the southwest.

In 2010, 13,948 acres of the area were reclassified as Wilderness from Primitive when 0.5 acres of land associated with the Hurricane Mountain Fire Tower was reclassified to Historic.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2010.

Hurricane Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	14,222 Acres
Bodies of Water (1)	4 Acres
Inholdings (2)	41 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	810 Feet
(maximum)	3,694 Feet
Foot Trails	13.7 Miles
Lean-tos	2
Non-conforming Uses:	None

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2010.

JAY MOUNTAIN

This area lies within the Towns of Jay and Lewis in Essex County. It is bounded by the Jay Mountain Road on the south and private land boundaries elsewhere, except where the road west of Mt. Fay severs an appendage of State lands.

The high and precipitous mountains in this area are generally similar in character to the Hurricane Range and require careful management in order to avoid natural resource degradation. The vistas from Jay, Saddleback and Slip Mountains make the climb to the vantage points well worthwhile. The AuSable Valley can be seen as well as the Champlain Valley and the High Peaks.

The Jay Mountain Road, a seasonally maintained road, separates this area from the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness. A drive along this rough gravel road offers both attractive views of the upland region above Keene Valley and access to lovely stands of white birch on the lower slopes.

Although this area is below 10,000 acres in size and was originally classified as a Primitive Area, it is large enough to provide a sense of remoteness and to be maintained in an unimpaired condition and therefore was reclassified as Wilderness in 1985. Should the Jay Mountain Road be closed, this area could be extended to encompass all, or a major portion, of the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness.

Jay Mountain area statistics:

State lands	7,896 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,420 Feet
(maximum)	3,600 Feet
Foot Trails	3 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	None

LITTLE MOOSE

This area lies in Hamilton County, in the Towns of Arietta, Morehouse and Lake Pleasant. To the north it is bounded by the Moose River Plains Intensive Use Camping Area (along the Limekiln Lake – Cedar River Road) and the South Branch of the Moose River; to the west by the Moose River Plains Wild Forest near the Otter Brook Road; and on the south and east by the Moose River Plains Wild Forest corridor along the routes of the former Otter Brook Truck Trail and former Wilson Ridge Road. The area does not include Little Moose Lake, its boundary looping around the lake and crossing its outlet just west of where the outlet – the South Branch of the Moose River – begins at the lake.

Comprised almost entirely of the slopes of Little Moose and Manbury Mountains, this Wilderness exists between the upper reaches of the South Branch of the Moose River and that river's first major tributary, Otter Brook. Both these rivers are designated "Scenic" rivers. The terrain is predominantly steep and rugged, the only notable areas of exception being some wetland flats in the upper river

area of the South Branch of the Moose River. Sly Pond, at an elevation of 2,872

feet above sea level, is more than 1,000 feet higher than nearby Beaver Lake or Icehouse Pond down in the Moose River Plains and is one of the highest water bodies in the Adirondacks. Nearly 800 feet upslope from Sly Pond is the 3,634-foot summit of Little Moose Mountain, the highest point in the area. Some restricted but rewarding views are afforded from a small ledge near the spruce-fir forested summit. The spruce-fir forest here, which also encompasses the higher elevations of nearby Manbury Mountain, is potential breeding habitat for the Bicknell's thrush.

While the entire perimeter of the area is accessible via either the Forest Preserve road network of the Moose River Plains or the mountain bike trail of the Moose River Plains Wild Forest corridor, the South Branch of the Moose River on the north and west lacks foot bridges and can be challenging to cross, and no foot trails lead into the area from the corridor. Public use of this area is low and the opportunities for solitude very high.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Little Moose area statistics:

State Lands	12,201 Acres
Bodies of Water (9)	52 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,840 Feet
(maximum)	3,634 Feet
Foot Trails	4.6 Miles
Horse Trails	3.3 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	None

MCKENZIE MOUNTAIN

This area is located in western Essex County in the Towns of St. Armand, North Elba and Wilmington. In general, the Saranac River and Franklin Falls Reservoir border on the north; the Wilmington- Franklin Falls Road, the Whiteface Mountain Memorial Highway and the west branch of the AuSable River form the eastern boundary; the Saranac Lake-Lake Placid Road, Route 86 between Lake Placid and Ray Brook, forms the southern boundary; and the Saranac River forms the western boundary.

McKenzie Mountain, sometimes referred to as Saddleback, and Moose Mountain, sometimes called St. Armand Mountain, are the dominant topographical features of the area.

McKenzie Pond, from which the Village of Saranac Lake obtains its water supply, forms part of the boundary on the west side as does Moose Pond. However, few ponds are fully encompassed within the boundaries of this area. Bartlett Pond, lying at about 2,800 feet altitude on the southeast side of McKenzie Mountain, and Loch Bonnie which is at about 2,900 feet altitude on the southeast side of Moose Mountain, are completely within the Wilderness boundary.

The area is densely forested with softwoods. Spruce and balsam dominate the forests above the 2,500 feet and mixed hardwoods and softwoods dominate the lower elevations.

During the 1950 hurricane, heavy blow down occurred in a number of spots, chiefly in the saddle between Whiteface Mountain and Mount Alton to the west.

In the legislatively authorized timber salvage operation conducted after 1950, log roads were bulldozed along Lincoln Brook from the north and at the head of Lake Placid from the south. Most of these log roads have now become overgrown with dense, second growth hardwoods.

Although the area is in close proximity to the Villages of Saranac Lake on the southwest and Lake Placid on the southeast, the interior has retained its wilderness atmosphere. This is due to the steep and rugged terrain which effectively prevented motor vehicle penetration prior to its Wilderness designation in 1972.

In the 1800's, when logging was at its peak in the Adirondacks, a road was constructed from the vicinity of the Whiteface Toll Gate southwestward following the 2,400 foot contour for several miles along the side of Esther Mountain and Whiteface Mountain. The road was well built, with culverts and ditches, for horsedrawn sleds to transport logs to the head of Red Brook, where a small pool of water, known as Lake Stevens, formed the start of a log flume that ran approximately three miles to the Ausable River. Once at the river, the logs were floated down to the pulp mill in Ausable Forks. Although the old road is gradually being reclaimed by second growth hardwoods, its location will likely remain in evidence for many years.

The attractiveness of the area is enhanced by the excellent views that may be obtained from the top of McKenzie Mountain and Moose Mountain. Also, there are numerous spring-fed brooks in the area. Lincoln Brook and French Brook, with their

tributaries originating high on the northwest slopes of Esther Mountain and Whiteface Mountain, are crystal clear trout streams with many scenic spots along their courses.

The Adirondack Mountain Club originally maintained a foot trail from the vicinity of Wolf Pond near Route 86 to the top of McKenzie Mountain. To avoid private land conflicts, the trail was relocated in 1984 and now begins at the pull-off east of the Saranac Lake Golf Course on Route 86.

Public access to the area is relatively good from all but the northern side. The area is used to a considerable extent by hikers to climb the mountains, by anglers to try their luck in the small brooks and by hunters chiefly during the big game season.

Approximately six miles of snowmobile trails have been closed and four tent platforms removed from this area. The former drive-in theater site adjacent to Route 86 was added to this Wilderness in 1979. After temporary use as a vehicle parking area and storage area for the 1980 Winter Olympics, this area was allowed to revegetate.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

McKenzie Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	37,214 Acres
Private Inholdings (1)	184 Acres
Bodies of Water (17)	96 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,320 Feet
(maximum)	4,869 Feet
Foot Trails	18.4 Miles
Lean-tos	1
Non-conforming Uses:	None

PEPPERBOX

The Pepperbox Wilderness lies within the Town of Webb in Herkimer County and the Town of Watson, Lewis County. Stillwater Reservoir and the Beaver River form the southern boundary, while the north bank of the West Branch of the Oswegatchie River generally forms the northern boundary. The western boundary is primarily the county line, and the eastern boundary is the Raven Lake Road Primitive Area and the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

In 2000, approximately 7,935 acres of lands classified Wild Forest were classified Wilderness and added to this unit. This area included the West Branch of the Oswegatchie River, Tied Lake, and Buck Pond. There are three inholdings within this area that, if ever acquired, should be included in this unit.

In 2006, the State acquired the gravel extraction rights in the Beaver River Primitive Area, thus eliminating the non-conforming use of that area. The Beaver River Primitive Area has been reclassified as Wilderness and added to the Pepperbox area.

The terrain is generally flat with a few small, rolling hills. Wetlands predominate along with spruce, fir and red maple. Alder thickets, marsh and beaver flows are also common. The drier sites are vegetated with northern hardwoods. The entire area appears to have been heavily burned over and logged in the past and is not particularly scenic by usual standards. It is, however, ideally suited for snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

Several ponds are found in the area. They are generally of low productivity and some may even be sterile.

The area is classified as Wilderness because of its remoteness and its extensive wetland ecosystems. The flora and fauna associated with wetland ecosystems, such as found in the Pepperbox, exhibit great species diversity. Bird life and small mammals are especially abundant and the protection afforded Wilderness will ensure this areas significant biological importance.

The remnant of the deserted Beaver Lake Mountain fire tower has been removed and the rough road, 2.5 miles in length, has been closed. There is very little use of the area at present, except for some light hunting. Access is moderately difficult because of the distance from public roads and the lack of a trail system except for the trail to Jakes Pond in a portion of the area that was reclassified from Wild Forest to Wilderness in 2000. There is little or no demand for a trail system and this offers an opportunity to retain a portion of the Adirondack landscape in a state that even a purist might call Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1985.

Pepperbox area statistics:

State Lands	23,813 Acres
Bodies of Water (70)	617 Acres
Inholdings (3)	594 Acres

Elevation	
(minimum)	1,360 Feet
(maximum)	2,168 Feet
Foot Trails	2.0 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	Utility ROW

PHARAOH LAKE

The Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area is located in the Towns of Schroon and Ticonderoga in Essex County and in the Towns of Horicon and Hague in Warren County. The area is bounded on the west by East Shore Road and private land; north by Route 74, the great lot line between Eagle and Pyramid Lakes and private land; east by Bald Ledge Primitive Area, Putnam Pond Public Campground and private land; and south by Route 8 and private land. Part of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area lies within the Lake George Park.

Pharaoh Lake, an extremely attractive body of water, is one of the largest lakes in the Adirondack Park totally surrounded by forest preserve lands. Due to its configuration, it can provide a wilderness experience to relatively large numbers of people. In addition, the numerous crystal-clear ponds, vistas resulting from rock outcrops and severe fires, and intriguing geographic names such as Grizzle Ocean, Thunderbolt Mountain, Oxshoe Pond and Desolate Brook, make this one of the most appealing of all Adirondack areas.

Fires have burned over most of the region in the past. Coupled with the relative dryness of the area, there is a proliferation of conifers mixed with some white birch. The white pine-white birch mixture along the shores of several of the lakes and ponds adds immeasurably to their attractiveness. Stands of some of the best quality Adirondack hardwoods exist in the cove-like pockets of the unburned area in the northeast.

Pharaoh Mountain is the only mountain of significant size, although the smaller hills have very steep sides and cliffs, presenting more of an impression of relief than actually exists.

This area was expanded in 1979 by the reclassification of the Crane Pond Primitive Area to Wilderness, with the exception of the right-of-way Crane Pond Road. The 3.5 miles snowmobile trail leading from Route 74 to the Crane Pond Road, was closed in 1975 by the Department of Environmental Conservation, making this reclassification possible. On December 4, 1989, Environmental Conservation Commissioner Jorling issued an order pursuant to Highway Law 212 closing Crane Pond Road. The closure order was subsequently upheld in State Supreme Court and the Appellate Division, Third Department. The Department and the Agency will work together with local government officials and others to resolve continuing public use issues in the Crane Pond Road corridor.

In 2007, the State acquired a 101 acre parcel along the eastern boundary of the area. This acquisition extinguished a right-of-way, enabling an adjacent parcel of 210 acres to be reclassified from Primitive Area to Wilderness, thus extinguishing the Hague Brook Primitive Area.

Because of the proximity to the Adirondack Northway and the population pressures of the Capital District, the thin soils left on the burned slopes, and the relatively small size of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, restrictive management is necessary to protect the resources in this area. In addition to peripheral control, called for in the

guidelines, increasing levels of public use and associated resource impacts indicate that limitations on public access will be required to protect the fragile character of the area in the future.

The following non-conforming uses have been removed from the area: 8.5 miles of jeep trails, 5.3 miles of snowmobile trails, a fire tower, an observer cabin and telephone lines.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1992.

Pharaoh Lake area statistics:

State Land	44,411 Acres
Bodies of Water (97)	1,612 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	820 Feet
(maximum)	2,556 Feet
Foot Trails	63 Miles
Horse Trails	14 Miles
Lean-tos	13
Impoundments	1
Non-conforming Uses:	
Road (public)	1 Mile

PIGEON LAKE

This area lies in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County, and the Towns of Long Lake and Inlet in Hamilton County. It is bounded on the north by Stillwater Reservoir and large blocks of private land in the vicinity of Rose Pond, Shingle Shanty Pond and Upper Sister Lake; on the east by a private road from Brandreth Lake to North Point and Raquette Lake; on the south by private lands along the Uncas Road; and on the west by the Big Moose Road, private lands near Big Moose Lake, Thirsty Pond, Twitchell Lake, Razorback Pond, and the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor.

The terrain consists of low, rolling hills, with the exception of West Mountain near the eastern boundary. There are many brook trout ponds and streams and a considerable expanse of wetlands along the courses of Sucker Brook and Beaver Brook.

The forest cover is composed of mature or near-mature mixed softwoods and hardwoods, with some dense spruce-balsam near the summit of West Mountain and in the wetlands. Old growth white pine in the vicinity of Pigeon Lake and a few other places adds to the wilderness character.

The area is easily accessible to the public from the south, southeast and southwest, but to a lesser extent from the west and north because of posted private lands. The chief attractions for the public are the trout ponds, which entice anglers as well as campers who frequent scenic spots around Cascade Lake, Queer Lake, Constable Pond, Pigeon Lake and Gull Lake. It is also a popular area for hunters during the big game season.

The Department of Environmental Conservation maintains Brown Tract Pond Campground on the southeast perimeter. Motorboats are now banned from operating on the Brown Tract Ponds to provide a more compatible situation for canoes and other non-motorized boats utilized by campers. This site makes a fine starting location for wilderness users.

Lands formerly owned by Anne LaBastille, renowned Adirondack author, long serving APA board member and steadfast advocate for the Forest Preserve were bequeathed to New York

State in 2016 and added to this Wilderness area in 2018.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1992.

Pigeon Lake area statistics:

State Lands	49,257 ¹
Acres	
Bodies of Water (99)	1,668 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,686 Feet
(maximum)	2,928 Feet
Foot Trails	42 Miles
Lean-tos	5
Horse trails	1.6 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	
Powerline ROW	0.3 Miles

ROUND LAKE

The area is located in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County and in the Towns of Piercefield and Colton, St. Lawrence County. It is bounded on the north by the Bog River; on the east by private lands; on the south by the Sabattis Road; and on the west by the privately-owned Loon Pond tract and the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor. Created in 2006, as the result of re-classifying a portion of the Horseshoe Lake Wild Forest and classifying the more recently acquired Round Lake tract, this area provides an important linkage between the William C. Whitney Wilderness and the Eastern Five Ponds Access Primitive Area to the north. This linkage serves to protect important ecological connections as well as primitive recreational opportunities for the public.

Portions of the Bog River and Round Lake Outlet classified as Scenic according to the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act of 1975 flow

through the area. Round Lake and a number of ponds with large, associated wetland complexes are important water features, including Trout, Little Trout and High Ponds.

The terrain consists of low and rolling hills interlaced with streams and wetlands. Forest cover ranges from predominately moist beech-maple cover in the uplands to complexes of spruce-fir flats, evergreen wetlands and shrub swamps in the lower lying areas.

Round Lake is impounded by a man-made dam. The area around the lake has been logged since the 1800's first as part of Whitney Park and later by International Paper Corporation. This lake formed part of the historic route for floating logs that traveled from Little Tupper Lake into Round Lake, then down the Round Lake Outlet and Bog River into Tupper Lake. A network of logging roads and landings are evidence of the logging activities that occurred on the property prior to State acquisition. The roads also provided access to hunting clubs that leased the property. The cabins built by the clubs have been removed from the property, along with storage facilities and the Sabattis Forest Ranger Station.

This same route now offers a challenging trip for advanced canoeists and kayakers. It features a run through the gorge cut by the Round Lake Outlet down to the Bog River, as well as a series of rapids and carries around rapids and falls on the Bog River below the Lower Dam. In addition to opportunities for boating, the waters of the area provide good fishing and primitive camping opportunities. Foot trails from the Lower Dam and Sabattis Road provide hiking access to Trout Pond. These trails were closed to

snowmobile use after the area was reclassified from Wild Forest to Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Round Lake area statistics:

State Lands	10,310 Acres
Bodies of Water (21)	1,126 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,575 Feet
(maximum)	2,277 Feet
Trails	2 Miles
Impoundments	1
Non-conforming uses:	None

SENTINEL RANGE

This area is located in the Towns of Wilmington, Jay, North Elba and Keene, Essex County. It is bounded by Route 86 on the north; Route 73 on the south; and private lands on the east and west.

The Sentinel Range and its slopes dominate the area and five small ponds are situated near the northern and northwestern boundaries.

Pitchoff Mountain and the lower mountains and ridges in the northern and eastern portions of the unit are characterized by bare rock outcropping that resulted from forest fires in the early 1900's. The terrain is steep and rugged, with some vertical cliffs facing north and northeast.

The eastern slopes of the area have a hardwood forest that regenerated after the forest fires. There are mixed hardwood and softwood stands, primarily along brooks on the eastern slopes. The remainder of the area has a mixed hardwood-softwood cover with some small pockets of white pine

between ledges near the northern boundary.

Forest cover restricts the views from the highest summits in the unit. However, good views may be obtained from Pitchoff Mountain and some of the lower mountains on the periphery of the unit. Excellent views of Whiteface Mountain and the Wilmington Notch can be obtained from Copperas Pond.

Circa 1930, a ski trail was constructed from the west boundary to South Notch, and a lean-to was constructed at the terminus in the Notch. The ski trail formed a loop with the adjacent North Notch Ski Trail and was used for the 50 kilometer ski race in the 1932 Winter Olympics. The lean-to in the South Notch was built in 1931 for the Olympics. Both the South Notch and North Notch Trails were very popular ski trails up until World War II. These trails were retained primarily as hiking trails until the early 1990's when abandoned by the Department due to lack of use. The lean-to in the South Notch was removed around this time as well.

The northern portion of this area around the ponds is used to a considerable extent by campers and anglers.

The major portion of the perimeter is readily accessible to the public from highways but has not been as susceptible to penetration as some of the less rugged State land because of its terrain.

In 1979, a very minor change in the eastern boundary of this area was made to more accurately reflect the location of a public road. In 1985, 1,120 acres were added to the area extending the eastern

boundary, in part, to the East Branch of the AuSable River.

The jeep trail, 0.7 miles in length, has been closed and two tent platforms have been removed from this area. The Old Military Road, a Town road 3.5 miles in length, has been closed and the area now fully conforms to wilderness standards.

~~This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan. A UMP was adopted for this area in January 2020.~~

Sentinel Range area statistics:

State Lands	23,989 Acres
Bodies of Water (9)	114 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	660 Feet
(maximum)	3,880 Feet
Foot Trails	7.1 Miles
Lean-tos	1
Non-Conforming Uses:	None

SIAMESE PONDS

The Siamese Ponds area is located in the Towns of Lake Pleasant, Wells and Indian Lake in Hamilton County and the Towns of Johnsburg and Thurman in Warren County. It is one of the largest Wilderness areas, extending about 23 miles from north to south and about 17 miles from east to west at its widest part.

It is roughly bounded by Route 28 on the north; by private land tracts near Thirteenth Lake, Gore Mountain and Bakers Mills and Route 8 on the east; by Route 8 on the south; and by Route 8, Speculator Tree Farm conservation

easement lands and Indian Lake on the west.

The topography consists of relatively low rolling hills with a few mountain summits above the 3,000 foot level, including Bullhead, Eleventh, Puffer and South Pond. In addition, the area contains a large number of beaver meadows and wetlands.

Most of the area was heavily logged nearly a century ago and some sections, particularly in the southeastern part, were burned over in forest fires. Much of the forest cover has been re-established and in some locations there are excellent quality stands of both hardwoods and softwoods. On most of the higher elevations, except those in severely burned spots, spruce and fir predominate, while mixed hardwoods and softwoods cover the remainder of the area.

This large block of State land is unbroken by public roads and has been generally protected from wheeled motor vehicle use. Old roads from logging days, most of which have been brushed in, are still evident.

This area has an approximately 33 square mile trail-less area in its southern region which provides users a unique opportunity to experience a remote experience.

The area is known for its lovely natural features. Some of the more popular attractions are: Thirteenth Lake, Chimney Mountain, Puffer Pond, Siamese Ponds, Auger Falls on the West Branch of the Sacandaga River, the East Branch of the Sagandaga River, and John Pond. Chimney Mountain has ice caves that usually retain snow and ice through the summer

months and provide an interesting spot for visitors.

Some of the unique streams and water bodies in this area are tannic and tea-like in color as a result of surrounding vegetative material, while others are crystal clear. Water bodies range from stagnant ponds and seasonal vernal ponds to swift-flowing waters such as County Line and Peaked Mountain Brooks.

Thirteenth Lake has a small sand beach at the northern end that makes a very desirable spot for picnics, bathing, boating and camping. Additional desirable camping spots can be found around this lake.

A portion of the eastern shoreline of Indian Lake, formerly classified as Intensive Use, has been reclassified and added to this Wilderness. A very minor change in the western boundary of this area was made in 1979, resulting in the creation of the Dug Mountain Primitive Area, a legal, private right-of-way separating it from the remainder of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

Siamese Ponds area statistics:

State Lands	112, 901 ⁸⁸³
Acres	
Private Inholdings (2)	141 Acres
Bodies of Water (99)	1,318 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,048 Feet
(maximum)	3,472 Feet
Foot Trails	61 Miles
Lean-tos	5
Nonconforming Uses:	None

SILVER LAKE

This area is located in the Towns of Lake Pleasant, Benson, Hope, Wells and Arietta in Hamilton County. It is roughly bounded on the north by Route 8 and private lands near Piseco Lake, Oxbow Lake, Hamilton Lake, Sand Lake and Lake Pleasant; on the east by Route 30; on the south generally by the Hamilton County line; and on the west by Route 10, the West Branch of the Sacandaga.

The terrain is relatively low with rolling hills and only four mountain summits that exceed 3,000 feet elevation. There is considerable acreage of coniferous wetland as well as some beaver meadows along the streams.

The forest cover is chiefly mixed hardwoods and softwoods with some nearly pure stands of large diameter hemlocks. Although the entire area was logged at some time in the past, much of the standing timber, both hardwoods and softwoods, is now at or near maturity. In the wetland area along streams as well as the higher elevations around the mountain tops, the forest cover is predominantly spruce and balsam.

The famous Northville-Lake Placid Trail runs from the southern edge of the area through its center in a northerly direction, crossing the northern boundary near Piseco Lake. This trail was established by the Adirondack Mountain Club in 1922, but was subsequently taken over by the Department of Environmental Conservation for marking and maintenance. Two steel suspension bridges are on this trail, one crosses the West Branch of the Sagandaga River

and the second crosses the Hamilton Lake Stream Outlet.

Silver Lake is the principal attraction near the center of this area, chiefly for brook trout anglers. Mud Lake, Rock Lake and Canary Pond are also popular trout fishing spots. Big Eddy on the West Branch of the Sacandaga River also attracts visitors to the area. Hunters frequent the area during the big game season.

The perimeter of the area is quite accessible to the public except for a few parcels of private, posted land. In 1979 Great Lot 121, consisting of approximately 200 acres, was re-classified from Wilderness to become the Cathead Mountain Primitive Area.

The following non-conforming uses have been removed from the area: 12 miles of jeep trails, 1.3 miles of snowmobile trails, one fire tower, two observer cabins and five miles of telephone lines.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Silver Lake area statistics:

State Lands	107,995 Acres
Private Inholdings (5)	1,748 Acres
Bodies of Water (76)	725 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	807 Feet
(maximum)	3,250 Feet
Foot Trails	21 Miles
Lean-tos	3
Non-conforming Uses:	
Suspension Bridges	2
Powerline ROW	0.2 Miles

WEST CANADA LAKE

This Wilderness is located in the Town of Ohio in Herkimer County and the Towns of Morehouse, Arietta, Lake Pleasant and Indian Lake in Hamilton County. It is bounded on the north by the Moose River Plains Wild Forest area and conservation easement lands in the vicinity of Little Moose Lake, Squaw Brook, Snowy Mountain and Squaw Mountain; on the east by Route 30, Perkins Clearing conservation easement lands and the Northville-Lake Placid trail; on the south by lands of the Jessup River Wild Forest Area, private lands north of Route 8, the South Branch of West Canada Creek and an access road to private lands; and on the west by West Canada Creek and private lands east of Honnedaga Lake.

The terrain ranges from wetlands and rolling hills to steep mountains such as Snowy Mountain. Water drains from the area into three major watersheds: the Hudson, the Mohawk and the Black.

Among the area's chief attributes are its numerous ponds, lakes and streams, most of which support a brook trout population. Although there are many good trout fishing waters in this area, the ones that are most frequented by anglers are Big Rock Lake, Whitney Lake, Phillsbury Lake, Spruce Lake and Cedar Lake. The river area originating at the source of the Indian River to the South Branch of the Moose River is a designated Wild River under the New York State Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act. West Canada Creek and Cedar River are also designated rivers. The forest cover consists chiefly of mixed hardwood-softwood species with large diameter trees of both types on the more fertile soils. There is also considerable acreage of spruce-balsam wetlands and beaver meadows.

Among the spots that attract hikers and campers, in addition to the previously mentioned lakes, are the Northville-Lake Placid Trail, West Canada Creek, Snowy Mountain and the eastern shore of Cedar River Flow.

Many campers from the three public campsites on Piseco Lake and the campsites at Lewey Lake, as well as those in the Moose River Plains Wild Forest, utilize the foot trails in the area to reach points of special interest. Since the Moose River tract was purchased by the State, there has been increased use of the foot trail from that area to Brook Trout Lake and vicinity by both hunters and anglers.

Enforcement problems, stemming from the remoteness of the area, have been encountered in attempts to prevent snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle penetration into the Wilderness area. Physical barriers have been erected within the Moose River Plains Wild Forest Area at key locations to diminish this problem.

In 1979, a 700-acre tract of the Moose River Plains Wild Forest Area was reclassified to become part of this Wilderness. This tract lies to the west and south of Indian Lake. Also in 1979, the western boundary was modified due to the identification of a private right-of-way adjacent to the West Canada Mountain Primitive Area.

In 1984, 14,458 acres were added to the Wilderness as a result of the Perkins Clearing land exchange. This land was previously classified as Primitive, Wild Forest and Resource Management. Five more lakes and the remainder of Whitney Lake were added to the Wilderness, as were one lean-to and 11 miles of trail.

In 1985, the former Fort Noble Mountain Primitive Area of 450 acres was reclassified to Wilderness as a result of the removal of the fire tower, observers cabin and phone line.

In 1994, 9,925 acres of land were reclassified from the Buell Brook Primitive Area to Wilderness and added to this area.

In 2010, approximately 2,398 acres of the Moose River Plains Wild Forest were reclassified and added to the Wilderness at the same time the Moose River Plains Intensive Use Area was created. These lands included Little Moose Lake and some significant low-elevation wetland complexes in the east and north that extends toward and include some of the shoreline of Cedar River Flow. Following the construction of a parking area, a 2.3 mile section of the Indian Lake Road will be closed allowing the public to drive approximately one half mile from Squaw Lake.

On October 1, 2019, the remaining 14 acres of the Buell Brook Primitive Area will become part of this Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

West Canada Lake area statistics:

State Lands	172,025 Acres
Private Inholdings (4)	2,027 Acres
Bodies of Water (223)	3,364 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,390 Feet
(maximum)	3,899 Feet
Foot Trails	67.2 Miles
Lean-tos	16
Impoundments	1
Non-conforming Uses:	None

WILLIAM C. WHITNEY

This Wilderness Area is located in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County. It is bounded on the east by County Route 10; on the south by lands of Whitney Industries; on the west by private lands; on the northwest by the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor; and on the north by other private land holdings. This Wilderness encompasses approximately 14,700 acres of land acquired from Whitney Industries in 1998, as well as the reclassified portions of the former Lake Lila Primitive Area lying south of the Remsen to Lake Placid Railroad Travel Corridor.

The terrain is comprised of lakes, ponds, wetlands, and low forested hills with a few modest mountains ranging as high as 2,297 foot Antediluvian Mountain. The centerpieces of this area are 2,300 acre Little Tupper Lake and 1,400 acre Lake Lila, respectively, the seventeenth and twenty-second largest water bodies in the Adirondack Park. The area also includes twelve smaller water bodies, including Rock Pond, Bum Pond, Hardigan Pond, Doctors Pond, Antediluvian Pond, and Lily Pad Pond. The area also includes a short section of the Beaver River, Rock Pond Outlet, Salmon Lake Outlet, Charley Pond Outlet, and numerous other small streams and flows. There are extensive wetland complexes within the area, particularly along the western end of Little Tupper Lake and the southeastern portions of Lake Lila.

The lands within the William C. Whitney Area are almost entirely forested, but the newly acquired lands have been significantly impacted by timber harvesting (prior to State

acquisition) and both the former Whitney lands and the former Lake Lila Primitive Area lands have been heavily impacted by blow down. The area falls within an ecological transition zone between temperate deciduous forest and boreal forest and is dominated by northern hardwoods, mixed woods, pine, and spruce flats.

The vast expanses of the area are important to larger species of mammals, most notably white-tailed deer, black bear, and moose. Other species of mammals known to inhabit the area include beaver, river otter, fisher, coyote, bobcat, pine marten, red fox, gray fox, and snowshoe hare.

According to the NYS Breeding Bird Atlas, the area abounds with bird life, listing 125 species of birds breeding within, or adjacent to, the area. Little Tupper Lake is the natal home to a genetically unique strain of brook trout that has proven itself to be superior in terms of longevity, survival, growth, and reproductive capability. The Little Tupper Lake strain of brook trout is present in Little Tupper Lake, Rock Pond, and Bum Pond. Unfortunately, the illegal introduction of bass has diminished the native brook trout population.

The property contains an extensive network of logging roads which provide prime cross-country ski trails. However, the primary access to the interior of this area is by water. The DEC's Little Tupper Lake Headquarters provides direct access to Little Tupper Lake, whereas a 0.25 mile carry to a put-in provides canoe access to Lake Lila. Although it would require a series of difficult carries, it is possible to undertake a point-to-point canoe route between Lake Lila and the Little Tupper

Lake Headquarters via Lily Pad Pond, Little Salmon Lake, Hardigan Pond, Rock Pond, and Little Tupper Lake. In light of the Wilderness classification of the surrounding lands, DEC will manage Little Tupper Lake as Wilderness, precluding both public and administrative use of motor vehicles, motorboats and aircraft to the extent prohibited by the Wilderness classification. All other water bodies are surrounded by lands classified as Wilderness and will be managed accordingly.

Roads (public)	2.73 Miles
Steel Bridge	1
Suspension Bridge	2
Gravel Pit	1
Power Line	0.6 Miles

*Non-conforming uses whose removal cannot be scheduled by a fixed deadline.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

William C. Whitney area statistics:

State Lands	16,041 Acres
Bodies of Water (16)	4,548 Acres
Elevation (minimum)	1,713 Feet
(maximum)	2,280 Feet
Foot Trails	17.4 Miles
Horse Trails	4.2 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	
Steele Bridge	1

WILDERNESS STATISTICAL PARK WIDE TOTALS:

State Lands	1,186,8 6524
Acres	
Private Inholdings (36)	22,096 Acres
Bodies of Water (1,363)	18,782 Acres
Foot Trails	780 Miles
Horse Trails	71 Miles
Lean-tos	141
Impoundments	5
Non-conforming Uses:	
Ranger Cabins*	2

PRIMITIVE AREAS

ALDER CREEK

This area lies in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County and consists of a right-of-way to an inholding of private land in the Pepperbox Wilderness. Should problems with motorized trespass on wilderness lands develop, this primitive corridor should be gated at the State land boundary and its use limited to private access. While the inholder has used this right-of-way as access, the legal status of this right-of-way is unclear. At such time as the inholding may be acquired, or at such time as the Department of Environmental Conservation determines that there is no legal right-of-way, this Primitive Area should be added to the Pepperbox Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Alder Creek area statistics:

State Lands	23 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	1.9 Miles

ALICE BROOK

This area is located in the Town of Fine and consists of a fifty-foot wide corridor, which includes a snowmobile trail that cuts across the top of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area between the Youngs Road in Star Lake and the Inlet Road adjacent to Wanakena on the former Sternberg and Post Henderson Roads. Efforts should be made to

relocate this important trail in the St. Lawrence County snowmobile trail system so that this area can become part of the Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Alice Brook area statistics:

State Lands	18 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Snowmobile Trails (public)*	3.5 Miles

AMPERSAND

This area consists of a small belt of forest preserve between Ampersand Brook up to and including ampersand Park Road in the Town of Harrietstown, Franklin County. It extends from the Ampersand Lake property westward to Stony Creek and northward to Stony Creek Ponds.

The road, used as access to a large private parcel, prevented this area from being classified as part of the High Peaks Wilderness. Should this parcel become State property at some future time, the road should be terminated at or west of Stony Creek and the Primitive Area together with the private inholding should then be added to the High Peaks Wilderness. Ampersand Brook is a picturesque white water stream once renowned for its excellent brook trout fishing.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1999.

Ampersand area statistics:

State Lands	405 Acres
Foot Trails	0.5 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	3.5 Miles
Roads (public)*	0.8 Miles

BALD LEDGE

This area consists of an appendage on the eastern side of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness in the Town of Ticonderoga, Essex County. A private road, used periodically during timber harvest on an adjacent private parcel, crosses this area. Once the road is no longer necessary this area can be added to the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1992.

Bald Ledge area statistics:

State Lands	513 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.5 Miles

BARTLETT

This area is in the Towns of Jay, Wilmington and Keene in Essex County and consists of the right-of-way known as Bartlett Road. This seasonally maintained public road crosses the eastern portion of the Sentinel Range Wilderness Area. Should this road ever be closed or abandoned, this area should be added to the Sentinel Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Bartlett area statistics:

State Lands	8 Acres
Non-conforming uses:	
Roads (public)*	1.4 Miles

BEAR POND

This area lies in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County, and consists of two rights-of-way, to provide access to two inholdings deep within the Five Ponds and Pepperbox Wilderness Areas. The main fork of this Primitive Area, the Bear Pond Road, provides access to an inholding at Bear Pond and the westerly fork provides access to an inholding at Twin Ponds. To avoid problems of motorized trespass on wilderness lands, this primitive area has been gated to public access in the immediate vicinity of the turn-off to "Old Upper South Pond Road," and access beyond this point is limited to private access only. Should the inholdings be acquired by the State, they should be added to the Five Ponds Wilderness and the Pepperbox Wilderness Area. The status of this primitive corridor and the Bear Pond Road should then be evaluated to determine if it should remain open to the public access as described above.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2010.

Bear Pond area statistics:

State Lands	19 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	4.2 Miles

BOREAS PONDS

This 11 acre area is located in the Town of North Hudson and includes lands surrounding the dam on the Boreas Ponds and a section of access road extending from the edge of the adjacent Wild Forest Area to the dam. Maintenance of the dam will require periodic use of motor vehicles and heavy equipment, which means that the existing road to the Boreas Ponds dam must also be maintained for administrative purposes related to dam inspection and repair.

Boreas Ponds area statistics:

State Lands:	11 acres
Dams:	1

BOQUET RIVER

This area is located in the Town of Elizabethtown in Essex County. It is bounded on the north and west by private land and on the south and east by State Route 9. A small section of the northwest and northeast boundaries abut the Giant Mountain Wilderness. A gated private road from Route 9 to the northern private property exists.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2004.

Boquet River Statistics:

State Lands	81 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.5 Miles

BUCK POND

This area lies in the Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County, and consists of a

private right-of-way following a very rough road. It provides access for all terrain vehicles to an inholding of private land at Buck Pond deep within the Five Ponds Wilderness Area. This primitive corridor and the private inholding are surrounded by the Five Ponds Wilderness Area and public access by motor vehicles or snowmobiles along this primitive corridor has created problems with all-terrain vehicles and snowmobile trespass on Wilderness lands beyond the Buck Pond inholding. The road has been gated and closed to public motor vehicle use by the Department of Environmental Conservation and private access only is allowed beyond Youngs Road. Should this inholding be acquired by the State, which should be a matter of highest priority, this road should be terminated at the northwestern State land boundary. The right-of-way and the acquisition should then be included in the Five Ponds Wilderness Area, precluding future motorized access.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1994.

Buck Pond area statistics:

State Lands	47 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (public)*	0.6 Miles
Roads (private)*	7.3 Miles

BUELL BROOK

This area is in the Town of Indian Lake, Hamilton County north of Buell Mountain. The Finch Pruyn Company donated approximately 10,000 acres, creating the original Primitive Area. One small parcel in the center of the area, with its access road extending from the north, was exempted from the donation.

In 1994, 9,925 acres were reclassified as Wilderness, reconfiguring the area as an access corridor to the inholding. When the state acquired the remaining access corridor and inholding on April 15, 2014, it took title subject to a reserved leasehold. One year following termination of the camp leases, no later than October 1, 2019, this area will automatically without further Agency action be reclassified as Wilderness and added to the West Canada Lake Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Buell Brook Statistics:

State Lands	15 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)	3.5 Miles

CATHEAD MOUNTAIN

This area consists of the Great Lot (121) in the Town of Benson, Hamilton County, a telephone line for the state operated fire tower on Cathead Mountain, lying within an inholding. Should this inholding be acquired by the State, two options are available depending upon the need then for the Cathead Mountain fire tower: (i) either the fire tower and the telephone line could be removed and the whole area be added to the Silver Lake Wilderness Area, or, (ii) the fire tower and telephone line to the tower, if found to be necessary, could remain and the primitive area be enlarged to include an appropriate, small acreage surrounding the Cathead Mountain tower, until such time as the tower is no longer needed at which time the area should be added to the Silver Lake Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Cathead Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	173 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Telephone Line*	0.5 Miles

CHATIEMAC LAKE

This area is located in the Town of Johnsburg, Warren County, and consists of the right-of-way of Chatiemac Road, a Town road. The road provides access through the eastern edge of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area to a private inholding at Chatiemac Lake. Should this inholding ever be acquired, the road should be abandoned and made part of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

Chatiemac Lake area statistics:

State Lands	3 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (public)*	0.5 Miles

DEAD CREEK

The area is located in the Town of Piercefield, St. Lawrence County. It features a low-gradient section of Dead Creek that meanders through alder swamps to its confluence with the Raquette River near Sols Island.

Much of the area is comprised of a large, ecologically significant wetland complex containing a mix of conifer wetlands, conifer scrub and broadleaved

evergreen wetlands, and is considered an important representative example of the Adirondack low elevation boreal landscape. The area is classified as Primitive even though it is unlikely to attain Wilderness standards due to its size. It is considered important to manage the area under Primitive Area guidelines to ensure the protection of its high-quality, fragile wetland complexes in their natural states.

The area provides opportunities for canoeing in winding flat water with the occasional need to carry over a beaver dam.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Dead Creek area statistics:

State Lands	1,182 Acres
Private Inholdings (1)	10 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	
Access Road	0.7 Mile
Carriage Road	6.0 Miles

DEER RIVER

This area is a narrow, long river corridor located in the Towns of Duane and Santa Clara, Franklin County. It is bounded on the south by the Red Tavern Road (County Route 14) and private lands; the north by the Blue Line of the Adirondack Park; the northeast by Cole Road; and on the east and west by private lands. This river corridor is lined by low elevation boreal wetlands.

Outstanding opportunities for canoeing, kayaking, hunting and fishing exist in this undeveloped natural area, but it lacks the necessary acreage for

Wilderness classification. The portion of the Deer River flowing through this parcel is protected as a Scenic River under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Deer River area statistics:

State Lands	1,864 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Steel bridge	1
Roads (private)*	0.5 Miles

DUG MOUNTAIN

This is a small appendage of State land adjacent to the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area in the Village of Speculator, Hamilton County. It is bounded on the north, west and south by private lands. The private lands to the north constitute a virtual inholding within the Wilderness. This appendage is separated from the Wilderness by a private road approximately 600 feet in length leading to the private holdings in the north. In the event that the private lands ever are acquired by the State, the road should be closed, and this area together with the private inholdings reclassified to Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

Dug Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	51 Acres
Non-conforming uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.1 Miles

EASTERN FIVE PONDS ACCESS

This area is located in the Towns of Clifton, Colton and Piercefield in St. Lawrence County and in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County. The area is comprised of six small, detached corridors providing access to inholdings on the eastern margin of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area. The area also includes two dams essential to preserving the Bog River-Lows Lake-Osewagatchie River Wilderness canoe route and important wetland complexes associated with the Bog River Flow.

The first area lies in the Towns of Piercefield and Colton, St. Lawrence County. It includes the Lows Upper and Lower Dams and the related access road to the Upper Dam. The area is classified as primitive because of the essentially permanent nature of certain major non-conforming uses which preclude Wilderness classification, including the two large dams and the related road access to the Upper Dam.

The two large dams are of a scale and character incompatible with a Wilderness designation. However, the dams are essential to preserving the canoe route and important wetland habitat and should be maintained for that purpose indefinitely. Maintenance of the dams will require periodic use of motor vehicles and heavy equipment, such as bulldozers and cranes, which means that the existing road to the Upper Dam must also be maintained for administrative purposes related to dam inspection and repair.

The road to the Upper Dam will be gated at the eastern edge of the Primitive Area. The owners of the large Boy Scouts of America inholding on the northern shore of Lows Lake have

deeded motorized access rights on this road. While such private motor vehicle access continues, administrative access by motor vehicles by the State will be permitted as may be necessary for appropriate administration of the State lands in the area. If this inholding is acquired by the State (which should be given highest priority) extinguishing the private access rights, administrative access by motor vehicles will be limited to dam inspection and repair.

The second detached area is a 2.2 mile road corridor located in the Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County. It provides deeded access to a large inholding owned by the Boy Scouts of America on the northern shore of Lows Lake. If this inholding is acquired by the State (which should be given highest priority), the road will be closed, and the intervening area classified as Wilderness. This Primitive Area will then become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

The third detached area is a corridor 1.6 miles in length located in the Town of Clifton, St. Lawrence County providing access, (the legal nature of which is unclear) to a five-acre inholding in an area known on the north shore of Lows Lake in the vicinity of the area known as "Parker Island". This primitive corridor and the inholding are surrounded by the Five Ponds Wilderness Area. Should the inholding be acquired (which should be given the highest priority), or the access rights extinguished, the area will become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

The fourth detached area is located in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County and consists of a private right-of-way that follows a road passing between Bog Lake and Clear Pond across lands added to the Five Ponds Wilderness

Area in 2006. The road provides access to two large inholdings within the Five Ponds Wilderness. One parcel is owned in fee by the State with a term-use easement in place to expire in 2029 and the second is a privately-owned, working-forest tract that is encumbered by a conservation easement purchased by NY State. Should this second parcel become acquired by the State, the road should be terminated at the northeastern end of the primitive corridor and the Primitive Area, together with both inholdings, the area will become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

The fifth detached area is a corridor 1.7 miles in length providing deeded access to a large private inholding surrounding Lake Marian located in the Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County. Should the inholding be acquired by the State the area will become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

The sixth detached area is a corridor 0.7 miles in length providing deeded access to a large private inholding owned by the Sabattis Land Company on the south shore of Lows Lake. The Inholding is located in the Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County and is encumbered by a conservation easement purchased by NY State. Should the inholding be acquired by the State it will become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Eastern Five Ponds Access area statistics:

State Lands	1,697 Acres
Bodies of Water (2)	213 Acres

Non-conforming Uses:	
Private Roads*	9.7 Miles
Dams*	2

ESSEX CHAIN LAKES

This area was classified in 2013 and is located in the Towns of Newcomb and Minerva in Essex County and the Town of Indian Lake in Hamilton County. The dominant feature of the landscape is the Essex Chain Lakes, a series of eight interconnected lakes. Together with nearby ponds, this tract has eleven lakes and ponds that are interconnected or within portaging distance of each other to provide a six- to seven-mile canoe route.

The northern boundary of the area generally follows the Boots-to-Cornell Road east from its beginning to a point ¼ mile from the west end of Fifth Lake, continuing east from there generally ¼ mile north of Fifth and Sixth Lakes to the Chain Lakes Road (North), then along it to Camp 6 Road. The eastern and southern boundary is the 1/10th- mile wide corridor of Wild Forest and lands pending classification, which follows the former Camp 6 Road south to the Chain Lakes Road (North) and along it before leaving the road and continuing west to the outlet of First Lake. The western boundary of the area follows the outlet of First Lake and an unnamed stream and drainages north to Little Grassy Pond and the boundary of private lands; from there it continues northeast to the beginning of the Boots-to-Cornell Road.

Significant wetlands surround many of the water bodies and are also found throughout the upland area. Both emergent marshes and deepwater marsh wetlands border the Essex Chain

Lakes. These wetlands provide nesting habitat, food and cover for wildlife, stabilize lake sediment and cycle large quantities of nutrients. Deepwater marsh wetlands provide valuable fish spawning and nursery habitat and are a food source for waterfowl and other wildlife. Several emergent and deepwater wetland plants are found in the channels which connect the lakes, including two state protected species.

Rivers in the unit include portions of the Cedar and Rock Rivers. The Rock River is designated Scenic and the Cedar River is designated Wild from the southwest edge of the Primitive Area to the Essex County line, at which place its designation changes to Scenic.

There are permanent restrictions on the land that preclude Wilderness classification. Prior to transferring these lands to the State, The Nature Conservancy granted easements to the Towns of Minerva and Newcomb over portions of the Essex Chain Lakes Tract that will allow for, as permitted by DEC, float plane access to First and Pine Lakes. The easement also grants the Towns access to, and use of materials from, two gravel pits located on the periphery of the property in order to provide gravel to maintain roads, trails and other infrastructure in this Area that may be open for motorized use. These activities would be nonconforming in lands classified as Wilderness. Even across adjacent lands and waters, such as the Essex Chain Lakes other than First Lake, the activities of float plane use in such close proximity to the lakes would significantly detract from the sense of remoteness expected in Wilderness.

Upon resolution of legal and regulatory issues concerning potential recreational uses and resource impacts involving the crossing of the Cedar River with a snowmobile trail, the corridor of Wild Forest and lands pending classification between the Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area and the Pine Lake Primitive Area will be classified Primitive and the two primitive areas will be merged into the Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area. If these issues are not resolved so as to allow for such a trail crossing the Cedar River, the lands of the corridor pending classification will be classified as Wild Forest and these two primitive areas will remain as separate areas.

The Department developed an Interim Access Plan for this area in June 2013.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Essex Chain Lakes area statistics:

State Lands	6,208 acres
Bodies of Water (19)	600 acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Camps	
Roads (private)	indeterminate mileage
Float Plane Access*	
1 Lake (First Lake)	

FIRST BROTHER

This area is located in the Town of Horicon, Warren County. It is bounded on the west by Palisades Road and by the north, east, and south by private lands. The northwestern corner of the area abuts the southern boundary of the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1992.

First Brother area statistics:

State Lands	97 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	None

FORKS MOUNTAIN

This area is in the Town of Wells, Hamilton County. It includes the fifty-foot wide corridor of the snowmobile trail which cuts across the southern tip of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness between the Teachout Road on the East Branch of the Sacandaga and the State land boundary on the Sacandaga River. Efforts should be made to relocate this important trail in the county snowmobile trail system so that this area can become part of the Wilderness Area.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

Forks Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	16 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Snowmobile Trail (public)*	2.5 Miles

GOOSENECK POND

This area includes a 100 foot wide corridor between the State land boundary and the outlet of Gooseneck Pond in the Town of Ticonderoga, Essex County. Gooseneck Pond is the Town's water supply. It includes the access road, the control valve and the retaining dike at the north end of the lake and is intended solely for the purpose of the Town maintaining the dike and control valve. If the Town

ceases to use Gooseneck Pond as a water supply, the road should be closed and the area added to the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1992.

Gooseneck Pond area statistics:

State Lands	0.4 Acre
Non-conforming uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.2 Miles

HOFFMAN NOTCH

This area is in the Town of Schroon, Essex County. The 2012 Unit Management Plan for the Hoffman Notch Wilderness identified deeded private water resources exist in the unit. The deeds provide for use of springs and spring houses. Additional rights include motor vehicle access and maintenance of water structures. This Primitive Area was created in the 2018 Classification Action in recognition of these rights. If these rights are extinguished, the area should be added to the Hoffman Notch Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan for the Hoffman Notch Wilderness was adopted in 2012, prior to the creation of the Primitive Area.

Hoffman Notch area statistics:

State Lands	3.9 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Spring Houses	
Roads (private)	0.6 Miles

HURRICANE MOUNTAIN

This area consists of several corridors that cut through the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness in the Towns of Elizabethtown, Jay, Keene and Lewis, Essex County. These include: two Town roads that cross Forest Preserve, the

Jay Mountain Road and the O'Toole Road; two rights-of-way to inholdings near the Hurricane Road in Elizabethtown; and a right-of-way for a power line running through and over the western portion of the Wilderness Area. If any of these corridors are closed, abandoned or acquired by the State, they should be consolidated with the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Hurricane Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	11 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.6 Miles
Roads (public)*	2.4 Miles
Power Lines*	1.3 Miles

JOHNS BROOK

This area is in the Town of Keene in Essex County. It consists of the private right-of-way across State lands to several private parcels in the High Peaks Wilderness including Johns Brook Lodge of the Adirondack Mountain Club and associated cabins. Should these holdings and/or the right-of-way ever be acquired by the State, this area should be made part of the High Peaks Wilderness, the lodge and cabins removed, the road closed and the ranger cabin phased out.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1999.

Johns Brook area statistics:

State Lands	154 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	1.1 Miles
Ranger Cabin*	1

MACINTYRE

This area is in the Town of Newcomb, Essex County. The State purchased these lands in 2014 and 2015. The area contains a 50-foot-wide, 1,935 foot long corridor known as Boulder Alley Road across the MacIntyre West parcel and a 50 foot wide, 454 foot long corridor known as the Donnelley's Road across the MacIntyre East parcel. This Primitive Area was created in the 2018 Classification Action in order to recognize these rights. If these rights are extinguished, the area should be added to the High Peaks Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

MacIntyre area statistics:

State Lands	11 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)	0.5 Miles

MADAWASKA FLOW – QUEBEC BROOK

The area is located in the Towns of Waverly and Santa Clara, Franklin County. It is bounded on west by the Blue Mountain Road and on the

northwest by the Benz Pond Road. The remaining boundaries abut private lands. Much of the private land is under State-held conservation easement as working forest. Important features include the 330-acre Madawaska wetland complex which provides habitat for rare boreal bird and plant species. The area also provides important recreational opportunities for hunting, fishing, canoeing and kayaking, while offering visually dramatic openings such as large bogs and meandering rivers with little human development.

Several roads with deeded rights of access exist within the unit. The Madawaska Road and Conversations Corners Road, west of the former railroad bed, are used as a public snowmobile corridor. Future management decisions about this corridor should consider alternatives for achieving and maintaining a condition as close to wilderness as possible in this area. A 100-foot-wide, 3.2 mile long privately owned railroad bed running north to south bisects the unit. It is used by a private hunting club.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Madawaska Flow – Quebec Brook area statistics:

State Lands	5,565 Acres
Private Inholdings (1)	97 Acres
Bodies of Water (5)	57 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	3.0 Miles
Madawaska Road	1 Mile
Conversation Corners Road	2.9 Miles
Snowmobile Trail (private)*	2.3 Miles

NEHASANE

This area lies in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County and consists of the private right-of-way providing access from the end of the Charley Pond Road to the private land holdings at Nehasane Lake. This road is approximately 4.5 miles in length with the first 0.2 miles open to public use of motor vehicles to provide access to the Lake Lila trailhead. The road is gated at this trailhead and access beyond is limited to private access to the inholdings. Should, at some point in the future, the private lands to the west and southwest be acquired by the State extinguishing deeded access rights, the Primitive Area will be terminated at the Lake Lila trailhead parking lot.

This Primitive Area also contains the Nehasane Railroad Station, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including one acre of land surrounding the building and the short (0.1 mile) access road servicing the station. In the event that the station itself is relocated or removed, the one acre surrounding it and the access road will become Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Nehasane area statistics:

State Lands	55 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	4.4 Miles
(public)*	0.2 Miles
Railroad Station*	1 Acre

OK SLIP POND

Located in the Town of Minerva, Essex County, this area includes a 2.6-mile long segment of road that crosses the Hudson Gorge Wilderness and leads to a private inholding surrounding OK Slip Pond. The area includes the road, the distribution power line that serves the inholding and an 11-acre parcel abutting State Route 28 that is occupied by a transmission power line. This road is not open to the public. Should the private inholding ever be acquired by the State, the road should be closed to all motorized use and the lands of this Primitive corridor and the inholding should be classified as Wilderness.

The Department developed an Interim Access Plan for this area in June 2013.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

OK Slip Pond area statistics:

State Lands	19 acres
Non-conforming Uses	
Road (private)*	2.6 miles
Powerlines*	2

PARTLOW LAKE

This area is located in the Town of Long Lake, Hamilton County. It is a 3.1 mile road which connects the Nehasane Primitive Area with the private lands encompassing Gull Lake, Deer Pond and Partlow Lake to the west. The private land owners have a legal right of way to use this road to access their land. This inholding is scheduled to pass to State ownership in the year 2029 at

which time this Primitive Area will become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Partlow Lake area statistics:

State Lands	37 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	None

PINE LAKE

This area is located in the Towns of Newcomb and Minerva in Essex County. It was classified in 2013 and includes lands from the TNC/Finch acquisition and a portion of the Blue Mountain Wild Forest that was reclassified and added to this area. The northern boundary follows the 1/10th-mile wide corridor of Wild Forest and lands pending classification eastward towards and along the Cedar River to where a bridge once crossed the river. The eastern boundary then follows a 1/10th-mile wide corridor of lands pending classification and Wild Forest to the northern boundary of the former Indian River Tract. The southern boundary is the northern boundary of the former Indian River Tract and unnamed streams leading west and north to the Cedar River. The western boundary follows the Cedar River to its confluence with the Rock River and then the Rock River to the 1/10th-mile wide Wild Forest corridor.

Prominent features of this area include Pine Lake and Mud, Clear and Corner Ponds. The easements held by the Towns of Minerva and Newcomb for float plane landings on Pine Lake prevent this area from being designated as Wilderness or Canoe, but it offers a

river. Certain ecological resources found here are considered to be critical on both a regional and global scale. These include one of the largest representative samples of the lowland boreal forest under protection in the Adirondack Park, old-growth forest, and rare animal species such as the spruce grouse and extra-striped snaketail dragonfly. Hunting, fishing, canoeing and kayaking in a lowland boreal forest setting are some of the outstanding primitive recreational opportunities afforded here.

There are four private lease camps on fee lands on the north side of the Raquette River in the Town of Piercefield. These private rights may be retained by the landowner until 2025.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Raquette-Jordan Boreal area statistics:

State Lands	11,907 Acres
Bodies of Water (4)	44 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	3.1 Miles
Camps	4

RAVEN LAKE ROAD

This area is in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County and consists of a 1.84 mile road to a 8 acre inholding on Raven Lake. This road serves as a part of the boundary between the Pepperbox and Five Ponds Wilderness units. Should the inholding be acquired, the road should be closed and this property added to the Pepperbox Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Raven Lake Road area statistics:

State Lands	24 Acres
Non-conforming uses:	
Roads (private)*	2.33 Miles

SACANDAGA

This area is in the Town of Wells in Hamilton County, immediately north of the West Branch of the Sacandaga River through the Silver Lake Wilderness. It consists of the West River Road where it crosses Forest Preserve lands from Blackbridge westerly to Whitehouse. Should private lands be acquired by the State, segments of the road that are no longer necessary to access private lands should be incorporated into the Silver Lake Wilderness.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Sacandaga area statistics:

State Lands	11 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (public)*	1.95 Miles

SCHUYLER ISLAND

This Lake Champlain island lies in the Town of Chesterfield in Essex County and is designated Primitive to insure protection of its relatively fragile resources. While a small island and lacking the unique flora and fauna of Valcour Island (which is also classified Primitive), Schuyler Island is more remote than Valcour Island and has lower levels of public use. The island requires careful protection consistent with Primitive Area guidelines.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2017.

Schuyler Island area statistics:

State Lands	160 Acres
Trails	0.3 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	None

TAHAWUS

This area is in the Town of Newcomb, Essex County. It is bounded to the south by the Hudson River from the Dam at Henderson Lake east to the bridge on the Upper Works Road extension; on the east along this road; on the north by the road that provides access to the dam; and on the west by the dam itself.

This area was created as the result of an addition to the High Peaks Wilderness Area in 2009. A 6,806 acre parcel was acquired by New York State from the Open Space Conservancy, Inc. (OSC). The boundaries of this parcel abut pre-existing Forest Preserve and most of this acreage was added to the High Peaks Wilderness. A 1.8 acre parcel of this land was omitted from the Wilderness designation due to retained rights to use the dam at Henderson Lake for producing hydroelectric power and to transmit that power. Power is to be transmitted underground, if possible, from the dam along an existing road to the Upper Works Parking lot. The power generated is to be used only for the Masten House parcel or the Adirondack “core area”. Should these rights be extinguished, this parcel should be added to the High Peaks Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Tahawus area statistics:

State Lands	1.4 Acres
Non-conforming uses:	

Reserved private right at Henderson Dam for use of this conforming structure for hydro-electric power generation.

Road to Henderson Lake Dam (private)*	0.1 Mile
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TAMARACK CREEK

This area is located in the Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County. It is bounded on the north by Aldrich Pond Wild Forest and a private road that extends to a private inholding on the western edge of the area; by private lands to the south; and on the west and east edges by the Five Ponds Wilderness. Should the private parcel to the south become State land, that parcel and the Tamarack Creek Primitive Area should be added to the Five Ponds Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Tamarack Creek area statistics:

State Lands	46 Acres
Non-Conforming Uses:	None

TIED LAKE

This area lies in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County and consists of the private right-of-way, following a rough road, providing access to an inholding of private land deep in the Pepperbox Wilderness Area. To avoid problems

with motorized trespass on Wilderness lands this Primitive Area has been gated immediately south of Tied Lake limiting access to private use beyond the lake.

Should the private inholding be acquired by the State, it should be incorporated into the Pepperbox Wilderness Area and the status of the road reviewed to determine if the road should remain open to public use as described above.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2010.

Tied Lake area statistics:

State Lands	12 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	2.5 Miles

TWITCHELL LAKE

This area is located in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County and consist of a power line right of way which traverses two parcels in the Pigeon Lake Wilderness. The northern most parcel was acquired in 2016 by the State as a gift from the Anne LaBastille estate. Should this power line ever be removed, this right of way will be added to the Pigeon Lake Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Twitchell Lake area statistics:

State lands:	1.6 Acres
Non-conforming use:	
Power line	0.3 Miles

VALCOUR ISLAND

This Lake Champlain island lies in the Towns of Peru and Plattsburgh in Clinton County. The island is designated Primitive to insure its protection in a near natural state. The unique vegetation and wildlife of the island, in particular, are in need of such protection. The wildness of the rocky east shore, complete with unusual wind and water rock sculptures, also deserves preservation. This island is not suitable for reclassification to Wilderness because of the area's proximity to a heavily developed shoreline as well as the presence of such essentially permanent, historic structures as the lighthouse. The Clinton County Historical Association retains the right to maintain the lighthouse.

State acquisitions of the former Seaton property at the southern end of the island and the lighthouse on the western shoreline increases the area's suitability for water-oriented recreational uses. Any interpretive program for the island should stress both its historical significance and its special natural features.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2017.

Valcour Island area statistics:

State Lands	951 Acres
Federal Inholding (1)	0.1 Acres
Trails	12.6 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	
Former Seaton House and Associated Outbuilding*	2
Storage Shed*	1
Historic Lighthouse*	1

WAKELY MOUNTAIN

This area is in the Town of Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County. It consists of the State land south of the Wakely Mountain Trail. Once the fire tower on Wakely Mountain is no longer needed, this area should be made part of the Blue Ridge Wilderness. The majority of the telephone line and poles associated with this area are on the ground or no longer exist.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Wakely Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	208	Acres
Foot Trails	0.4	Miles
Non-conforming Uses:		
Fire Towers*	1	
Observer Cabins*	1	

WANAKENA

This area is located in the Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County. The Wanakena Water Company, which supplies water to the Hamlet of Wanakena, has reserved rights along the former administrative road to lay and maintain water lines to a spring which serves as the water supply for the hamlet of Wanakena. Motor vehicles and motorized equipment are used by the hamlet to maintain its water supply. This gravel road is classified as Primitive to permit access by Town officials for this purpose only. Public motorized use of this corridor should be prohibited and other official use permitted only in conformity with Wilderness guidelines. The truck trail has been gated at the commencement of the Primitive Area as it enters the Wilderness and permanently blocked at

the termination of the Primitive Area. The ultimate goal for the Primitive Area is to become part of the Five Ponds Wilderness Area should an alternate water supply for Wanakena be developed.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1994.

Wanakena area statistics:

State Lands	7 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	1.2 Miles

WEST CANADA MOUNTAIN

This area is in the Town of Morehouse, Hamilton County. It is surrounded by private lands on the north, east and west. The southern boundary is the legal access road to the Miller Camp.

In 1979 a boundary adjustment was made expanding this area to include a previously unrecognized, private right-of-way adjacent to the West Canada Lake Wilderness Area.

At some future time, if the right-of-way reverts to the State, this area should be added to the West Canada Lake Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

West Canada Mountain area statistics:

State Lands	3,105 Acres
Water Bodies (2)	7 Acres
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (private)*	2.8 Miles

WILMURT CLUB ROAD

This area is in the Town of Morehouse in Hamilton County. It consists of the roadbed and right-of-way passing through State lands designated as a part of the West Canada Lake Wilderness to private tracts totally surrounded by the designated Wilderness. Should these inholdings ever be acquired by the State, the road should be closed and this area made a part of the West Canada Lake Wilderness.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Wilmurt Club Road area statistics:

State Lands	3 Acres
Non-conforming uses:	
Roads (private)*	0.9 Miles

WINDING FALLS

The area is located entirely within the Town of Piercesfield, St. Lawrence County. It consists of a fifty-foot-wide, 2.6 mile corridor along an existing, old woods road through the Round Lake Wilderness Area. Located between the Hamilton County Line and the Bog River, it provides a potential route for snowmobile travel between the Hamlet of Long Lake and the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor. This corridor crosses the Bog River and Round Lake Outlet, both of which are classified as "Scenic" under the NYS Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act. The remote quality of this area should be recognized in the consideration of alternatives for locating this snowmobile trail connection.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

Winding Falls area statistics:

State Lands:	26 Acres
Non-conforming Uses :	None

PRIMITIVE AREA STATISTICAL PARK WIDE TOTALS:

State Lands	38,222 Acres
Private Inholdings	(3) 107 Acres
Bodies of Water	(42) 1,086 Acres

Foot Trails	13.5 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	
Roads (public)*	7.85 Miles
Roads (private)*	63.43 Miles
Roads (State-owned with private access)	Undetermined Miles

Snowmobile Trails*	8.3 Miles
Fire Towers*	1
Observer Cabins*	1
Ranger Cabins*	1
Lighthouse*	1
House and Outbuildings*	
Railroad*	2 Miles
Railroad Station	1
Camps	undetermined
Dams	3
Steel Bridge	1
Power Lines*	3.6
Float Plane Access*	2 Lakes (First and Pine Lakes)

*Permanent non-conforming uses or non-conforming uses whose removal cannot be scheduled by a fixed deadline.

CANOE AREA

SAINT REGIS

This area is in the Towns of Santa Clara, Brighton, and Harrietstown in Franklin County. It is bounded on the north by private property and Keese Mills Road; on the east by the Santa Clara Town line, old logging roads and Upper St. Regis Lake; on the south by the Remsen to Lake Placid Travel Corridor, and on the west by the Santa Clara Town line.

Its selection as an area for special and restricted management is based on the numerous, closely-spaced ponds which lend themselves to use as canoe or guideboat waterways. Similar to the ponds that are clustered south of the railroad tracks and commonly referred to as the "Fish Creek" area, this region has long been noted for its qualities of clear, spring-fed ponds, short carries and tranquil beauty. The area is now closed to motor vehicles, motorboats and aircraft in conformity with the master plan guidelines, thereby restoring the tranquil, wild atmosphere of these waters. The peripheral ponds are quite easily accessible via one or two short carries making a unique wilderness canoeing experience available to many people.

The terrain is dominated by the numerous ponds and is relatively low in elevation. St. Regis Mountain in the north and Long Pond Mountain in the western part of the area are the only two high spots. The character of the terrain also makes the area ideally suited for cross country skiing in winter months.

Much of the area was burned over in forest fires, probably the most extensive one occurring in the summer of 1903. Therefore, except for the wetlands, most of the forest cover was either burned off or very heavily damaged. This has resulted in stands of hardwoods which have regenerated after aspen, pin cherry, and white birch started rebuilding the humus layer. There are low-lying stands of hemlock and spruce, now mature or nearly mature, which escaped the burn because of their location. There are also some spots near the ponds where white pine escaped the fires, and these large shoreline trees add to the scenic attractions.

All of the interior ponds have brook trout, and stocking and pond reclamation efforts by the Department of Environmental Conservation have been carried on regularly for many years.

The chief use now made of the area is for fishing, camping, canoeing and cross-country skiing. Snowmobile trails have been phased out under the Canoe Area guidelines, as well as the use of motorboats by the public on all waters within the area.

The administrative road will be retained for administrative use relating to fish and water resource enhancement. Approximately 15.4 miles of snowmobile trails in this area have been closed, twenty-one tent platforms removed and motorboat use by the public prohibited.

The ¼ mile spur road leading from the Floodwood Road to the south shore of Long Pond, has been blocked near the Floodwood Road and a small parking area has been provided at that point.

Public access to the area is restricted from the north and west by private posted land but is readily available on the south and east.

In 2010, a half-acre of land associated with the St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower was reclassified to Historic.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

Saint Regis area statistics:

State Lands	17,615 Acres
Bodies of Water (52)	1,153 Acres
Elevation	
(minimum)	1,560 Feet
(maximum)	2,873 Feet
Foot Trails	18.4 Miles
Horse Trails	4.9 Miles
Bike Trails	5 Miles
Lean-tos	3
Administrative roads	5.9 Miles
Non-conforming Uses:	None

WILD FOREST AREAS

Because wild forest areas include many various-sized scattered parcels, as indicated on the map, only the largest tracts are described to illustrate the largely untapped resources available in this category. No statistics are presented, and the narrative deals with general areas rather than specific parcels. Future revisions of the master plan should provide more detailed information about state lands in the wild forest category.

ALDRICH POND

This area is bounded on the north by the Oswegatchie River, Star Lake, private lands, the Oswegatchie River and the Adirondack Park boundary; on the east by Youngs Road (County Route 60) and the Five Ponds Wilderness; on the south by the Middle Branch of the Oswegatchie River; and on west by the Lewis/St. Lawrence County Line and Adirondack Park Blue Line. It is located in the Towns of Fine and Pitcairn in St. Lawrence County, Diana, in Lewis County and Webb in Herkimer County.

Communities, such as Aldrich and Kalurah, once thrived in the area and are now reminders of the region's industrial past. Scotch pine plantations, second growth forests, telephone poles and old roads found along trails are additional signs of the area's human history. Visitor use is most evident during the hunting and fishing seasons. The State lands within the unit afford local residents close proximity to opportunities for many types of recreation, solitude and wild open space. The low hills and moderate

grades make use of trails enjoyable for all ages. During winter months, the area receives considerable amounts of lake effect snow from Lake Ontario, making it an optimum location for winter outdoor activities. The Little River flows through this unit and the Middle Branch of the Oswegatchie River (a designated Wild and Scenic River) flows adjacent to this unit.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1995.

BLACK RIVER

This area includes Wild Forest lands within an area primarily in Herkimer County, south of Route 28, north of Route 8, east of the Adirondack Park boundary and west of the Adirondack League Club holdings. The Black River flows in a generally east-west direction through the middle of the area.

A considerable number of interior, privately-owned parcels exist to which jeep trails extend from the public highways. Relatively low hills interspersed with small wetland areas covered with second growth hardwoods on the more fertile soils and spruce-fir combinations along water courses are typical in this southwestern corner of the Park. Mohawk Valley population centers such as Rome, Utica and Herkimer are within short driving distance, and big game hunting pressure in the fall season is heavy. The streams attract many trout anglers to the area. South Lake is a favorite fishing, hunting and boating spot.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1996.

BLUE MOUNTAIN

This area is located in Hamilton and western Essex counties. It is generally bounded by Route 30 on the west and south, the Indian River and Hudson River on the east and Route 28N on the north.

The terrain varies from gentle around the easily accessible and popular Rock Lake to extremely steep and rugged in the remote Fishing Brook Range.

The 3,759-foot Blue Mountain dominates the landscape for some distance around, offering wide ranging views in all directions for those willing to make a short but steep hike to the summit from the picturesque hamlet of Blue Mountain Lake. Tirrell Pond is nestled to the northeast of Blue Mountain and, due to relatively easy access, affords an excellent opportunity for day use or primitive camping. Opportunities for more remote and rugged explorations through some truly wild back country are afforded by long, lower segments of the Rock and Cedar Rivers – designated Scenic and Wild, respectively – just upriver of where they reach the Essex Chain Lakes and Pine Lake Primitive Areas.

In 2013, with the addition of the Nature Conservancy/Finch land acquisition, some existing portions of the northeastern section of this unit near the Essex Chain Lakes were reclassified to Primitive and added to the Essex Chain Lakes and Pine Lake Primitive Areas. At the same time, a major block of the newly acquired lands north of the lakes, extending from the Cornell Road

in the west, eastward to the Hudson River and northward toward Newcomb, was classified as Wild Forest and added to the area. Wild Forest access along the Boots-to-Cornell Road, and then to the south shore of Fifth Lake was established for the sole purpose of providing Universal Access.

Further south, additional land from the Indian River Tract west of the Chain Lakes Road (South) was added to this unit, including the road itself from the edge of the unit northwest to the old boundary of the Essex Chain Lakes Tract. Also in 2013, a 1/10-mile wide corridor following and including the former Camp 6 Road from its beginning at Drakes Mill Road in the north, south to its end at the Cedar River, was classified Wild Forest and added to the area. This corridor separates the Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area from the northernmost reaches of the Hudson Gorge Wilderness.

In the event the Pine Lake Primitive Area is merged into the Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area, the corridor of Wild Forest in this area south of First Lake and north of Pine Lake will be reclassified to Primitive from the boundary of the former Essex Chain Lakes Tract to the outlet of First Lake.

Consistent with Master Plan guidelines for Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers, the waters of the Hudson River in this area shall be free from motorized activity.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1995.

CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS

This area consists of four small islands: Garden, Cole, Sheephead and Signal Buoy. They range in size from 0.08 to 0.82 acres and are located in the Towns of Westport, Crown Point and Ticonderoga in Essex County.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

CHAZY HIGHLANDS

This area is located in portions of eight Towns in Franklin and Clinton Counties. The unit is roughly bounded on the north and east by the Adirondack Park Blue Line boundary; on the south by Route 3; and on the west by Route 26.

The largest contiguous parcel within this area, the 17,190 acre Lyon Mountain Tract, was acquired by the State of New York in 2008. Located in Clinton County in the Towns of Saranac and Dannemora, the tract is entirely bounded by private lands and public roads. Four adjoining privately owned parcels are subject to working forest conservation easements held by New York State. A privately owned rail bed of the former D&H Railroad runs through the eastern portion of the tract. The tract contains a number of existing structures and improvements including the Lyon Mountain Fire Tower, the lifts from the former Lowenburg Ski Area and remnants of commercial forestry operations.

The Lyon Mountain Tract contains a 1,860 acre area above 2,800 feet in elevation that is designated a Bird

Conservation Area and should be managed to protect the high elevation habitat these species need for nesting. The southwestern section of this tract contains a large area that is rugged and offers a sense of remoteness and solitude.

An additional 1,629 acres of land located in the Town of Ellenburg was added to this unit in 2010. The topography at this property is generally flat to rolling and provides the best available access to the summit and cliffs of Ellenburg Mountain. The parcel is criss-crossed with a number of small streams which feed Graves Brook, Loomis Brook and eventually, Lake Champlain. Graves and Loomis are known native brook trout waters. The area is well known locally as habitat for big game species.

The Chazy Highlands also contains numerous discontinuous and isolated parcels with little development that afford many opportunities for discovery and solitude. Local residents and visitors who venture off nearby roads onto these lands will find a variety of habitats and natural features, including open wetlands and rolling hills with rock outcroppings that afford scenic views of surrounding lands and fishing access along the North Branch of the Saranac River. They may also encounter bobcat, bald eagle, beaver, porcupine, deer, and other wildlife. While some of this area's State lands fall within the Towns of Dannemora and Altona and are not considered Forest Preserve, they are classified as Wild Forest and managed as such except for silviculture and wildlife management practices.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

CRANBERRY LAKE

This area is located in southern St. Lawrence County in the Towns of Clifton, Colton and Fine. It includes Wild Forest lands within an area bounded on the south by the SUNY ESF Biological Station, Five Ponds Wilderness and the south shore of Cranberry Lake; on the east by the Colton Town line and the Conifer Emporium easement lands; on the north by State Highway 3 and the Oswegatchie River; and on the west by private lands and the Inlet Road. It provides a considerable amount of snowmobiling opportunity in the winter in a setting offering the snowmobiler a sense of remoteness.

Cranberry Lake Public Campground, on the northeastern shoreline of Cranberry Lake, provides a starting point for the greatest concentration of users, permitting exploration by boat of the interesting flows of Brandy Brook, East Inlet and Sucker Brook. Trails, including one to the summit of Bear Mountain, connect these and several interior brook trout ponds for fishing, camping and hunting on a variety of Wild Forest land.

The boreal forest of Peavine Swamp is visible along Route 3 traversing the western tract, where one can glimpse interesting bog and scattered great pines. A short hike into this spruce-fir forest will often reward the birdwatcher with sightings of species normally found only much further north in Canada. A multi-loop cross country ski trail provides a scenic winter opportunity

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1984.

DEBAR MOUNTAIN

The Wild Forest lands within this unit generally fall within the Towns of Waverly, Santa Clara, Duane, Brighton and Franklin in Franklin County. It is bounded on the west by private lands west of the St. Lawrence-Franklin county line and a section of the county line; the north by the Adirondack Park Blue Line; and the east by State Route 3, County Highway 26; and the south by the Tupper Lake Town line, the St. Regis Canoe Area, State Highway 86 and County Highway 55.

Located between the open flat landscape of the St. Lawrence Valley to the north and the high elevations of the High Peaks region to the south, this area consists of low, rounded mountains, hills and ridges which readily provide evidence of the past widespread glaciation of the region. Elevation extremes range from a high of 3,355 feet at the summit of Loon Lake Mountain to a low elevation of 1,299 feet on Long Pond (Town of Waverly). The summit of Debar Mountain once permitted Verplanck Colvin to triangulate Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River.

Several miles of the river corridors in this unit have been classified under the New York State Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System. Hays and Hatch Brooks and the Osgood River provide trout fishing opportunities and the slopes of Sable, East and DeBar mountains offer a challenge to the big game hunter.

The East and Main Branches of the St. Regis River traverse this area.

These rivers provide an opportunity for paddling in a generally remote setting. The rivers are also lined with extensive wetland systems that provide habitat to a large variety of boreal species.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

FERRIS LAKE

This area is located in the southwestern corner of the Park. It consists of those Wild Forest lands south of Route 8 and the West Canada Lake Wilderness Area and west of Route 10. Both Route 8 and Route 10, as well as the Powley-Piseco Road, provide easy access to the area.

The attractiveness of this area lies in its numerous ponds, lakes and streams which attract anglers throughout the season. The area is popular with big game hunters and many of the ponds and lakes are connected by an existing snowmobile trail system following old logging roads. While there are no trails, these old roads also make easy walking routes and their potential use in a designated hiking (and cross country skiing) trail network for the area should be considered in the unit management plan, as should the potential for camping on the larger ponds and lakes. Another feature of the area is its mountain summits or rock outcroppings, in particular the ledges on Good Luck Mountain and Echo cliffs on Panther Mountain, which provide vistas not readily found in the southern Adirondacks.

One of the last old Adirondack dirt public roads, extending about 17 miles from Route 10 near Piseco Lake to

Stratford, cuts through the approximate center of this large block of Forest Preserve. It provides the public with motor vehicle access through practically unbroken forest, quite comparable to some of the Wilderness areas. Many motorists take advantage of the attractive drive over this old winding dirt road, the like of which has become a rare and vanishing facility in the eastern United States. If possible, this road should remain in its current condition and measures taken to insure roadside camping does not detract from the character of the area or adversely affect the resources of the road corridor.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

FULTON CHAIN

This unit is located in Herkimer County, Town of Webb, Township 8, John Brown's Tract, Macombs Purchase. It is divided into five main sections separated by three strips of privately-owned lands, one of which includes lands near the Fulton Chain of Lakes. The unit is roughly bordered on the north by the Razorback Pond Outlet and the Pigeon Lake Wilderness Area; on the east by the Big Moose Road, Pigeon Lake Wilderness Area, private lands near Big Moose Lake and the Village of Eagle Bay; on the south by the Third Lake Creek, County Route 118 and private lands adjacent to the Fulton Chain of Lakes; and on the west by private lands and the west boundary of Township 8.

The unit also includes DeCamp or Treasure Island, which comprises two small islands of Forest Preserve between the First and Second Lakes of

the Fulton Chain. A permanent easement across private lands connects this Wild Forest to Razorback Pond and the Pigeon Lake Wilderness Area.

This unit has high recreational potential due to its location within short driving distances from the populated Mohawk Valley. Uses include hiking, camping, canoeing, hunting, fishing, horse-back riding, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and sight-seeing, the latter drawing many visitors to the Rondaxe Mountain Fire Tower during the fall foliage season. Moss Lake, a former girls summer camp, is also a popular and scenic location for hiking, skiing, and camping.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1990.

GRASS RIVER

This unit is located in St. Lawrence County in the Towns of Clare, Clifton, Colton, Fine and Parishville. It includes the Wild Forest lands bounded on the west and north by the Adirondack Park Blue Line; the south by the Oswegatchie River and Route 3; and on the east by Route 56.

The four Branches of the Grasse River flow through this unit, including the Main (a designated Study River), Middle (a designated Scenic River), South (a Scenic River and Recreational River) and North (a Scenic River). The unit contains numerous scenic rapids and waterfalls that are easily accessible. This concentration of scenic and recreational water resources on Forest Preserve provide a unique outdoor recreational opportunity for visitors and residents of St. Lawrence County.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1990.

HAMMOND POND

This area is located in the Towns of Crown Point, Elizabethtown, Horicon, Keene, Moriah, North Hudson, Schroon, Ticonderoga, and Westport in Essex County. It is generally bounded on the west by Giant, Dix and Hoffman Notch Wilderness Areas; on the south by the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness and NY State Route 74; on the east by Lake Champlain; and on the north by NY State Route 9N. Several isolated Forest Preserve parcels are located in the Towns of Keene and Jay.

Owl Pate and Hail Mountain provide great distant views, and exceptionally fine overlooks may be had from the many rocky bluffs and ledges dominating the area. A ½ mile hike to the Belfry Mountain fire tower offers 360 degree views of the High Peaks, Lake Champlain and beyond. Many ponds offer scenic fishing opportunities and have defined but unmarked trails leading from highways. A great variety of flora and fauna reflect an overlap of forest types where beech, birch, maple and hemlock on the cool, northern slopes give way to oak, ash, basswood and pine on the southerly exposures.

Tracey Road, North Hudson-Moriah Road and Route 9 provide abundant access for hunters, anglers and other recreationists. The Sharp Bridge public campground offers trail access to East Mill Brook and the interior. While most trails in the area remain unmarked, the abundant access to this area could provide recreational opportunities similar to those found in the Pharaoh Lake

Wilderness area to the south for those who do not require the solitude of the Wilderness setting. This would relieve some of the use pressure on the Pharaoh Lake area.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in [May 2019](#)~~1988~~.

HORSESHOE LAKE

This area is located in the Towns of Colton, Piercefield and Tupper Lake in St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties. The unit includes Wild Forest land bounded on the north by the Remsen – Lake Placid Railroad line; the east by Routes 3 and 30; the south by the Hamilton County Line and the Round Lake Wilderness; and the west by the Eastern Five Ponds Access Primitive Area, the South Branch of the Grasse River and the Colton Town Line.

Important biological resources abound in this unit. Several large lakes featuring both shallow and deep waters provide habitat for the Common Loon. Rich marsh communities include rare plant species and provide prime breeding grounds for a variety of birds. Bald Eagles can be spotted in the area throughout the year. Significant headwater bogs drain into waters of Tupper and Horseshoe Lakes, naturally coloring the waters a dark, tannin-stained color.

This unit affords visitors a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The most popular destinations include the Mt. Arab Firetower and Horseshoe Lake. On the 2,500-foot summit of Mt. Arab are the restored firetower and the former observer's cabin. The view from the top offers endless stretches of

forests, ponds and lakes and mountain ridges. Easy access to Horseshoe Lake affords an excellent opportunity for fishing and boating. Camping in this area provides an excellent base camp opportunity for wilderness canoe trips into surrounding Wilderness areas. Tupper Lake, nearly 8.5 miles long and with significant extent of Forest Preserve shoreline, also has much to offer visitors.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2002.

INDEPENDENCE RIVER

This western Adirondack area lies in the Towns of Greig, Lyonsdale, Watson and Webb in Lewis and Herkimer counties. It includes Wild Forest lands within an area bounded on the south by Route 28, the Ha-De-Ron-Da Wilderness and the Moose River; the north by the Five Ponds Wilderness, the Pepperbox Wilderness and the Number Four Road; on the east by the western boundary of Township 8 in John Brown's Tract; and the west by the Adirondack Park Blue Line.

A balance of private lands interlaced with forest preserve tracts characterize this area of gentle hills and flat lands.

The sand plain depressions north from Brantingham Lake to the Independence River offer many unique bird and plant life associations.

Numerous bogs and beaver meadows along the drainage of Beaver Meadow Creek and Second, Third and Fourth Creeks provide contrasting wildlife habitats. An extensive network of trails, both foot and snowmobile, link

Pine Lake, Big Otter Lake and the Independence River with the Stillwater Road in the north.

This area has an extensive array of horse trails that comprise much of the Otter Creek Trails network. This network includes a developed overnight assembly area in adjacent State Forest, immediately outside of the Blue Line.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 1986.

JESSUP RIVER

This area is located in Hamilton County in the Towns of Arietta, Wells, Indian Lake and Lake Pleasant. It is bounded on the north NYS Rt. 30 and the Blue Ridge Wilderness; the west by the West Canada Lake Wilderness; the south by the Silver Lake Wilderness; and the east by Siamese Ponds Wilderness.

Access is from Route 30 and the (Perkins Clearing) Jessup River Road, which traverse the area, and from the Moffitt Beach and Lewey Lake Campgrounds.

Long popular with hunters, trappers and anglers, the interspersed private woodlands with State ownership has made this area a top producer of fish and wildlife. The Jessup and Miami Rivers have long been known as good trout streams.

Numerous logging roads and trails are open to foot travel. The Pillsbury and Snowy Mountain summits and associated fire towers, from which vast views of lakes and forest may be obtained, offer particularly enjoyable hikes.

In 1979, the Indian Lake Islands were reclassified to Intensive Use, leaving campsites in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area and campsites in the Jessup River Wild Forest. These campsites are administered through the Department's campground recreation program during the operating season.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

LAKE GEORGE

This area is located in Essex, Warren and Washington Counties. It is bounded on the east and south by the Park Blue Line; on the north by Pharaoh Lake Wilderness and NY State Route 74; and on the west by NYS Route 9 and the Hudson River. Most of the Lake George Wild Forest area lies within the Lake George Park. The Lake George Park, lying wholly within the Adirondack Park, was established by State law in 1961. The boundaries of the Lake George Park are more or less contiguous with the watershed of the Lake, an arrangement which is designed to facilitate coordinated management of the use of land as it impacts water quality.

Mountains rising steeply on either side of the lake provide many views of rugged beauty. The area west of the lake is accessible by Routes 9N and 74 while the Forest Preserve on the east side is accessible from the Pilot Knob and Hulett's Landing roads. The Tongue Mountain and Island Pond sections form the base for a varied wildlife resource. The moderating influence of the lake on both sides of this peninsula has produced an oak-pine cover type which is more characteristic of the southern

part of the State than of the Adirondacks. Many plant and wildlife species found on Tongue Mountain are rarely found elsewhere in the Park.

The Black Mountain tract on the opposite shore is more precipitous. Spruce and hemlock are common. Recreational enjoyment of the area is enhanced by this diversity of plant and animal associations.

Trails connect the lake at Shelving Rock and Black Mountain Point with interior ponds and the summits of Black Mountain and Sleeping Beauty. The latter provides some exceptional views.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for the Black Mountain section of this area in 1986.

MOOSE RIVER PLAINS

This area is located in Hamilton and Herkimer counties in the Towns of Arietta, Inlet, Lake Pleasant, Long Lake, Morehouse, Ohio and Webb. This area is bounded on the north by Pigeon Lake Wilderness; on the east by Blue Ridge Wilderness; on the south by West Canada Lake Wilderness and Little Moose Mountain Wilderness; and on the west by the boundary of Township Two and Township Three. The scenic "plains" of the Moose and Red Rivers are well-known areas of interest to the public. These zones of herb and grass vegetation contrast vividly with the overall forested nature of the Park. Other scenic points of interest include the Moose River Cliffs, Mitchell Ponds, Lost Ponds, Icehouse and Helldiver Ponds.

The area is unique also for how, in the 1960's, the Department of

Environmental Conservation improved the extensive road system and developed numerous individual camping sites along the road. This has provided an outdoor recreational opportunity intermediate between that of a developed campground and typical primitive camping in Wild Forest and Wilderness. In 2010, over 2,900 acres in a corridor along certain roads were reclassified to create the Moose River Plains Camping Intensive Use Area and to facilitate a concentration of roadside camping sites in compliance with this Master Plan. The new Intensive Use camping area, subject to special management guidelines, is intended to maintain this somewhat higher density of camping sites adjacent to and screened from the area's gravel road system.

Also in 2010, approximately 14,667 acres south of the South Branch of the Moose River and south of the Moose River Plains Camping Intensive Use Area were reclassified to Wilderness. Most of these lands formed the new 12,269-acre Little Moose Wilderness, and the remaining acres were added to the West Canada Lake Wilderness. This reclassification excluded a twenty-foot-wide corridor along the routes of the former DEC administrative road (Otter Brook Truck Trail) and former Wilson Ridge Road, retained as Wild Forest expressly to allow for non-motorized, recreational uses such as a mountain-biking, hiking and cross-country skiing. The exclusion of motor-vehicle use and emphasis on development of this long route for mountain biking creates potential for a premier mountain-biking opportunity in the Adirondack Park. No motor-vehicle use should be reestablished along this remote route due to impacts to the significant, surrounding Wilderness. As it is now,

the area's camping, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and mountain biking opportunities make the Moose River Plains one of the truly four-season recreational areas of the Park.

Great Camp Uncas, a National Historic Landmark, stands on the east shore of Mohegan Lake near the northeastern boundary of this Wild Forest. An area around Mohegan Lake is included in the Historic Great Camps Special Management Area. The area was designated to recognize the historic connection between the Great Camps and the Forest Preserve.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2011.

RAQUETTE RIVER

This area is located in the Towns of Colton, Hopkinton, and Parishville, St. Lawrence County. It extends to the north along the Raquette River impoundments to Stark Reservoir and to the south to Jamestown Falls just north of Seveys Corner. It is also bounded on the east by the Raquette-Jordan Boreal Primitive Area and the west by Route 56.

This unit is characterized by flat and gentle sloping terrain, flowing rivers, deciduous and evergreen forests, and numerous wetlands. Prior to the State's acquisition, many of these forested tracts had limited and informal public use. Public access to the lands east of the Raquette River is gained by crossing the river or the reservoir. As the Jordan River (a designated Scenic River) flows through this unit, it meanders through significant areas of boreal forest and has the character of a northern

Canadian river. This northwestern region of the Park contains significant low elevation boreal habitat. A canoe carry from Carry Falls Reservoir to the Jordan River allows paddlers to portage rapids and reach flat waters. The Raquette River, above Carry Falls Reservoir, is a designated Scenic River.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

SARANAC LAKES

This area is located in the towns of North Elba and Saint Armand, Essex County and Brighton, Harrietstown, Santa Clara and Tupper Lake, Franklin County. It is bounded on the north by the Tupper Lake Town line, the St. Regis Canoe Area, State Highway 86 and County Highway 55; on the east by McKenzie Mountain Wilderness and the Sentinel Range Wilderness; on the south by the High Peaks Wilderness and the Tupper Lake Town line; and on the west by State Route 30 and the Tupper Lake Town line.

Easily accessible from Routes 3 and 30, this southern Franklin County area offers a broad network of streams, lakes and ponds for water-oriented recreation. Boating access sites, camping areas and portages are convenient for the day user and the long distance traveler alike. The Fish Creek Ponds and Rollins Pond Campgrounds offer a base camp for some users of the area.

Ampersand Mountain, just south of Route 3 in the High Peaks Wilderness, provides a superb view of this area as a reward for a three-mile hike through majestic stands of hemlock and northern hardwoods.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

SARGENT PONDS

This area is located entirely within Hamilton County in the towns of Arietta, Indian Lake, and Long Lake. It is bounded on the south by the Blue Ridge Wilderness, and the southern shore of Raquette Lake; on the west by private lands and the Pigeon Lake Wilderness Area; on the north by private lands and the Sperry Pond and Cedarlands Conservation Easement lands and the Hamilton County line; and on the east by Long Lake and State Highway 28N/30.

Known to many canoeists, hunters and anglers, this Wild Forest area contains numerous waterbodies that vary from small interior beaver ponds to portions of shoreline on Blue Mountain Lake, Forked Lake, Lake Eaton, Long Lake, Raquette Lake and Utowana Lake.

The North Point Road provides access to the Upper and Lower Sargent Ponds trails and Buttermilk Falls, a popular destination along this stretch of the Raquette River. The Owls' Head Mountain fire tower and Castle Rock on Blue Mountain Lake provide scenic views of the surrounding lakes and forest.

Public campgrounds on Raquette Lake, Forked Lake and Lake Eaton plus the North Point Road to the Raquette River provide varied access and recreational opportunity to users of this area.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

SHAKER MOUNTAIN

This area is located in the Towns of Bleeker, Caroga, Mayfield and Northampton, in Fulton County and the Town of Benson in Hamilton County. With the exception of snowmobile trails and the trail to the Kane Mountain Fire Tower, this area receives relatively little use. Most of the area was heavily logged prior to State acquisition and there are a considerable number of old log roads, chiefly in the southern half, where most of the hills are low and gently sloped. These woods roads make comfortable hiking trails that can be enjoyed by all ages.

A number of small ponds afford some attractive camping sites. The second growth hardwoods that predominate allow easy foot travel both on and off the old woods roads and foot trails. This is in contrast to much of the State lands north of the area where the 1950 blow down and subsequent dense softwood reproduction has made travel off maintained foot trails quite difficult.

This tract offers great potential to serve the Wild Forest recreational needs of New York's hikers, horsemen, snow-mobilers, cross-country skiers and campers, and is capable of absorbing a considerable degree of public use.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

SPLIT ROCK MOUNTAIN

This area is located in the eastern foothills of the Adirondack Mountains along the western shore of Lake Champlain, in the Towns of Essex and Westport, Essex County. It is bounded on the east by Lake

Champlain, and on the north, west and south by private lands. The area is named for Split Rock Mountain, the predominant feature of the landscape referring to an unusual “split rock” formation and historic landmark found on private land at the northern end of the mountain.

Habitat varies from the open wetlands of Webb Royce Swamp to the precipitous cliffs on the eastern side of Split Rock Mountain. The area also harbors a rich and unique mosaic of flora and fauna. The northernmost breeding population of the New York State endangered timber rattlesnake is found here. All tree species native to New York that are found north of the Mohawk River are represented in this unit. The area provides habitat for representative bird species of the Adirondack Park; eighty percent of the bird species found in the park, including black-crowned night heron and the peregrine falcon, have been documented in this region. Several threatened plant species reside within the unit as well.

The diversity of natural resources and recreational opportunities in this unit attract visitors for a variety of uses, including day hiking, camping, hunting, and wildflower and wildlife observation.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

TAYLOR POND

This area is located in portions of thirteen towns in three counties in the northeastern region of the Adirondack Park. It is bounded on the north and west by Route 3 and the Adirondack Park Blue Line; the east by Lake

Champlain; and on the south by Route 9N between Elizabethtown and Westport.

Significant land features in this unit include Poke-O-Moonshine, [-the southern flank of Trembleau Mountain](#) and Catamount Mountains. Poke-O-Moonshine, with a restored fire tower on its 2,180-foot summit, offers outstanding views of Lake Champlain and the Green Mountains of Vermont. Its granite gneiss cliffs, several hundred feet tall, provide nesting habitat for peregrine falcons and are also a popular rock and ice climbing destination. The open and rocky, 3,168-foot summit of Catamount offers a 360-degree view including Whiteface Mountain, Lyon Mountain, Union Falls and Lake Champlain. Numerous discontinuous parcels and a lack of developed facilities affords many opportunities for discovery and solitude in this unit. The Department of Environmental Conservation administers State lands within this area other than Forest Preserve, including the Ausable Marsh, Pauline Murdock and Wickham Marsh Wildlife Management Areas, and the Terry Mountain and Burnt Hill State Forests.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2013.

VANDERWHACKER MOUNTAIN

This area is located in the Towns of Chester, Johnsbury, Keene, Minerva, Newcomb, North Hudson, and Schroon in Essex and Warren Counties. It is generally bounded on the south by the Hudson Gorge Wilderness and State Route 8; on the west by the Hudson River; on the east by State Route 9 and Schroon Lake; and on the north by the High Peaks Wilderness.

The primary attractions of the area are the lakes and ponds, the Hudson and Boreas Rivers and Vanderwhacker Mountain. The latter, by virtue of its isolated location, provides perhaps the best view of the High Peaks from the south in the Park. From the summit of Vanderwhacker Mountain, it is also possible to trace the course of the Hudson River and gain an appreciation of that river's magnificence.

The Hudson River and the Boreas River within this area are designated as Scenic rivers. White water stretches, interspersed with stillwaters, provide a variety of scenes to hold one's appreciation. The Wolf Pond, Durgin Brook and Lester Flow sections of the Upper Boreas are well known to bird clubs. There are plant and birdlife communities of unusual interest, particularly those featuring boreal species.

Consistent with Master Plan guidelines for Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers, the waters of the Hudson River in this area shall be free from motorized activity.

In 2016, New York State acquired the 20,430 acre Boreas Ponds Tract from The Nature Conservancy. 9,118 acres of land north of the Blue Ridge Road in the vicinity of the Branch River and the Gulf Brook Road were added to the unit. With this addition, new access to the High Peaks Wilderness Area from the south is gained while adding a diversity of recreational opportunities on the Wild Forest lands closer to Blue Ridge Road.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

WATSON'S EAST TRIANGLE

This unit is located within the Town of Webb, Herkimer County, and the Towns of Croghan and Watson Lewis County. The unit is bounded on the north by the Aldrich Pond Wild Forest; the east by the Five Ponds Wilderness Area; the south by the Pepperbox Wilderness Area; and on the west primarily by working forest lands encumbered by conservation easements held by the State.

Numerous roads and trails on State-owned land and adjacent easements provide many opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, big game hunting, fishing, camping and snowmobiling. Visitors have the opportunity for solitude and remoteness in this unit as the result of the close proximity of two large, abutting Wilderness Areas to the east and south. An alternative, less remote, experience in these wild lands is also possible due to the close proximity of rural land use to the west of the unit, including maple sugar farms, working forests, seasonal camps, and the villages of Croghan and Harrisville.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2010.

WHITEHILL

This unit is located in St. Lawrence County and includes Wild Forest lands within an area bounded on the west and north by the Adirondack Park Blue Line; the east by the St. Lawrence-Franklin county line; and on the south by the West Branch of the St. Regis River, the Stark-Joe Indian Road and Route 56.

Forests consisting of maple, beech, birch, pine and hemlock cover the area's low rolling foothills. The highest point is a 1,600-foot unnamed hill located in the southeastern corner of the unit's main parcel.

A distinguishing feature of the area is Wheeler Marsh. This 1,238-acre wetland is one of the largest in the northern Adirondack region. It provides habitat for a wide array of wildlife and offers views of expansive, open peatlands. The largest natural water body is the 35-acre Clear Pond. Easy access to this pond affords an excellent opportunity for fishing, canoeing and camping.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2006.

WILCOX LAKE

This area is bounded on the south by the Adirondack Park Blue Line; the west by State Highway 30, the Silver Lake Wilderness, and State Highway 8; and east by State Routes 28 and 9.

The Hudson River is the border for the eastern side of the area, which is composed of a collection of smaller detached Forest Preserve parcels. The southern boundary of this area is the Blue Line of the Park and below the Great Sacandaga Reservoir the area is also composed of several smaller detached parcels.

Crane Mountain is the tallest mountain in the area, providing unobstructed views of the region. The Hadley Mountain fire tower provides hikers with endless views across the southeast corner of the Park.

This area is capable of withstanding considerably more recreational use without the destruction of the physical resource or the Wild Forest atmosphere. It is an area of rolling hills and open summits with a considerable number of attractive brook trout streams. Numerous trails provide easy access by foot in the summer and by snowmobiles, skis or snowshoes in the winter.

In addition, and contrast to this well-developed trail system, there is also a large trail-less section north of Wilcox Lake that provides an excellent opportunity for a remote experience.

This area does not yet have an adopted Unit Management Plan.

WILMINGTON

The area consists of State lands in the Towns of Wilmington, Jay and Keene in Essex County and Black Brook in Clinton County. It is roughly bounded on the north by the Forestdale and Silver Lake Roads; the east by Route 9N; the south by the Sentinel Wilderness and Whiteface Mountain Ski Center; and on the west by Gillespie Drive, Whiteface Mountain Veteran's Memorial Highway and the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness.

The area's distinguishing feature is its diversity of recreational opportunities. The largest contiguous parcel, approximately 6,400 acres, offers scenic rock cliffs overlooking much of the Jay and Sentinel Ranges, camping at the lean-to on Cooper Kill Pond, and hunting access along the Forestdale Road. Other State land parcels provide access for trout fishing on the renowned Ausable River, viewing scenic

waterfalls, rock climbing and mountain biking. In the winter, cross country skiing, ice climbing, trapping, and snowmobiling are available.

A Unit Management Plan was adopted for this area in 2005.

INTENSIVE USE AREAS

CAMPGROUNDS

Alger Island
AuSable Point
Brown Tract Pond
Buck Pond
Caroga Lake
Cranberry Lake
Crown Point
Eagle Point
Eighth Lake
Fish Creek Ponds
Forked Lake
Golden Beach
Hearthstone Point
Lake Durant
Lake Eaton
Lake George Battleground
Lake George Islands
Lake Harris
Lewey Lake
Limekiln Lake
Lincoln Pond
Little Sand Point
Luzerne
Meacham Lake
Meadowbrook
Moffitt Beach
Moose River Plains Camping Area*
Nicks Lake
Northampton Beach
Paradox Lake
Point Comfort
Poke-O-Moonshine
Putnam Pond
Rogers rock
Rollins Pond
Sacandaga
Scaroon Manor
Sharp Bridge
Taylor Pond
Tioga Point
Wilmington Notch
* Less developed facilities

DAY USE AREAS

Ski centers, parkways, beaches

Gore Mountain Ski Center
Hinckley Day Use Area
Lake George Beach
Lake George Battlefield Park
Mt. Van Hoevenberg Winter Recreation Area
Poplar Point
Prospect Mountain Parkway
Whiteface Mountain Memorial Highway
Whiteface Mountain Ski Center

BOAT LAUNCHING SITES

The following lakes are approximately 1,000 acres or more in size and are therefore eligible for further analysis to determine their suitability for initial or additional boat launch ramp construction.

Name of Water	Number of Acres
Lake Champlain	281,600
Lake George	28,160
Great Sacandaga Lake	26,656
Cranberry Lake	6,976
Carry Falls Reservoir	6,458
Tupper Lake	6,240
Stillwater Reservoir	6,195
Raquette Lake	5,274
Upper Saranac Lake	5,056
Indian Lake	4,365
Schroon Lake	4,128
Long Lake	4,090
Piseco Lake	2,848
Lake Placid	2,803
Hinckley Reservoir	2,784
Upper Chateaugay Lake	2,605
Little Tupper Lake	2,381
Lower Saranac Lake	2,285
Fourth Lake (Fulton Chain)	2,138
Chazy Lake	1,606

Name of Water	Number of Acres
Sacandaga Lake	1,600
Lake Pleasant	1,440
Middle Saranac Lake	1,376
Union Falls Flow	1,376
Brant Lake	1,376
Peck Lake	1,370
Big Moose Lake	1,286
Blue Mountain Lake	1,261
Forked Lake	1,248
Meacham Lake	1,203
Woodhull Lake	1,158
Abanakee Lake	1,018
Lake Clear	1,000

The following lake chains contain lakes less than 1,000 acres in size, but the combined acreage of lakes within these chains exceeds approximately 1,000 acres. These lakes, listed below, are eligible for further consideration to determine their suitability for boat launch ramp construction because they are connected by navigable waterways and the aggregate acreage of each chain exceeds 1,000 acres. These chains may contain additional lakes less than 1,000 acres in size which are not listed. Such lakes have been determined to be unsuitable for boat launch ramp construction.

Saranac Chain:

- Middle Saranac
- Lower Saranac
- Second Pond
- First Pond
- Lake Kiwassa

- Lake Flower
- Oseetah Lake

Tupper Chain:

- Tupper Lake
- Simon Pond
- Raquette Pond

St. Regis Chain:

- Upper St. Regis Lake
- Lower St. Regis Lake

Chateaugay Chain:

- Upper Chateaugay
- Lower Chateaugay

Fulton Chain:

- First Lake
- Second Lake
- Third Lake

Rainbow Chain:

- Lake Kushaqua
- Rainbow Lake

Indian Chain:

- Indian Lake
- Lewey Lake

Upper Saranac Chain:

- Square Pond
- Fish Creek Pond

HISTORIC AREAS

CAMP SANTANONI

Camp Santanoni Historic Area is 35 acres in size and located north of New York State Route 28N in the Town of Newcomb in Essex County. It consists of three clusters of buildings (the Gate House Complex, the Farm Complex and the Main Camp Complex), the garden and orchard area, and a 4.7-mile access road connecting them. Camp Santanoni, one of the oldest and largest great camps, was created by Robert C. Pruyn in 1892. The 12,900± acre Santanoni Preserve was acquired by the State of New York in 1972 as part of the Forest Preserve. The three building complexes and the road are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are in the process of being restored. The Unit Management Plan for this area was adopted in 2016.

CROWN POINT

This 390 acre site contains archaeological remains and ruins from a number of periods and events significant to the history of New York State and the nation including: a number of archaeological sites pre-contact Native American, the standing ruins of Fort Saint Frederic constructed by the French in 1731, and archaeological remains of associated military and civilian occupations. Crown Point was the second post captured by American forces in 1775 (after Fort Ticonderoga) and served as the base for the American fleet that fought in the Battle of Valcour Bay. The property surrounding the sites of the French and British forts was donated to the state in 1910 on the condition that the ruins be preserved in perpetuity. Subsequent acquisitions have expanded the boundaries. Crown Point is listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places and has been designated as a National Historic Landmark.

HURRICANE MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER

This area includes the fire tower on Hurricane Mountain and a 0.5 acre square surrounding the fire tower. The fire tower is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The area was reclassified from Primitive to Historic in 2010. The designation does not preclude the Department of Environmental Conservation from determining the fire towers structurally unsound and should be removed, nor does it preclude the DEC from relocating the fire tower to another location consistent with its historic setting. In this event, the area's classification will, without any further Agency action, become part of the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness Area. The Historic Area designation does not require, obligate or anticipate expenditure of State funds for maintenance and restoration of the fire tower. The Unit Management Plan for this area was adopted in 2014.

JOHN BROWN'S FARM

This 105 acre area includes the home, farm, pond, and grave of abolitionist John Brown. John Brown was buried at this site following his 1859 execution in Virginia. The bodies of two of Browns' sons and several of Browns' followers, who were killed in the raid on the Harper's Ferry Armory, were relocated to this site. The property was deeded to the State of New York in 1895 on the condition that it be preserved as a park or reservation. A monument to Brown was erected in 1935. The property is listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places and has been designated as a National Historic Landmark.

ST. REGIS MOUNTAIN FIRE TOWER

This area includes the fire tower on St. Regis Mountain and a 0.5 acre square surrounding the fire tower. The fire tower is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The area was reclassified from Primitive to Historic in 2010. The designation does not preclude the Department of Environmental Conservation from determining the fire towers structurally unsound and should be removed, nor does it preclude the DEC from relocating the fire tower to another location consistent with its historic setting. In this event, the area's classification will revert to Canoe Area. The Historic Area designation does not require, obligate or anticipate expenditure of State funds for maintenance and restoration of the fire tower. The Unit Management Plan for this area was adopted in 2014.

STATE ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

Lands included in the State Administrative classification:

CLINTON

Ausable -- Maintenance Area, Rt. 9N-I-87 - DOT
Dannemora -- Correctional Facility - DCS
Dannemora -- Correctional Facility -- DCS
Dannemora -- Clinton East Annex - DCS
Dannemora -- Surplus Property - OGS
Dannemora -- Adk. Correctional Treatment & Evaluation Center
Dannemora -- Former Lyon Mtn. Correctional Facility -- DCS
Dannemora -- ROW- SH 5186, Vacant Land - DOT
Saranac SH -- 1398 Moffittsville/Franklin, Maintenance Area -- DOT
Saranac -- Vacant, Rt. 3/Saranac River -- DCS
Saranac -- Cemetery, Douglas Rd. --DCS
Saranac -- Cemetery, Ryan Rd. --DCS
Saranac -- Vacant, West side of Picketts Corner Rd. -- DCS
Saranac -- Vacant, East and West sides of Picketts Corner Rd. -- DCS
Saranac -- Vacant, Picketts Corner Rd. at Barnham Brook Rd. - DCS
Saranac -- Route 3 Maintenance Facility - DOT

ESSEX

Crown Point -- Maintenance Area, Factoryville Rd. -- DOT
Chesterfield -- Maintenance Area, Rt. 22 - DOT
Elizabethtown -- Rt. 9N - Essex County Stonehouse Maintenance Area -- DOT
Keene -- Route 73, Essex County Sub-headquarter - DOT
Lewis -- Maintenance Area West of Exit 32 - DOT
Minerva -- Maintenance Area, Rt. 28N -- DOT
Minerva -- One acre gravel pit along Chain Lakes Road (South) - DEC
Newcomb -- One acre gravel pit along Chain Lakes Road (North) - DEC
Newcomb -- One acre gravel pit north of Deer Pond - DEC
Newcomb -- One acre gravel pit along Boreas Ponds Road - DEC
North Elba -- Camp Adirondack - DCS
North Elba -- Ray Brook State Office Complex
North Hudson -- Maintenance Area, Exit 30 -- DOT
North Hudson -- One acre gravel pit at LaBier Flow - DEC
Schroon -- Schroon Lake Sewage Treatment Plant - EFC
Schroon -- Horseshoe Brook Pumping Station, Utility - EFC
Schroon -- Maintenance Area, Rts. 9 and 74 Residency Office - DOT
Severance -- Maintenance Area - Int. Rts. 9 & 73 - DOT
Stowerville -- Maintenance Area - 2 mi. west of I.87 - DOT

Ticonderoga -- 315 Champlain Ave., State Armory, Div. Military, Naval Affairs
Underwood -- Maintenance Area - Rt. 9 - DOT
Westport-- N. Main Street, Sewage Treatment Plant - EFC
Westport -- Pumping Station No. 1, Washington Avenue - EFC
Westport -- Pumping Station No. 2, S. Main Street - EFC
Wilmington -- Atmospheric Sciences Research Center

FRANKLIN

Duane -- Maintenance Area Rt. 458, "Meacham Lake" -- DOT
[Duane – Reclamation Area Red Tavern Road, Duane Center -- DOT](#)
Franklin -- Maintenance Area Rt. 3, Vermontville - DOT
Harrietstown -- State Armory
Harrietstown -- Maintenance Area Rt. 186, Lake Clear Jct. – DOT & DEC
Harrietstown -- Wawbeek Maintenance Area -- DOT
[Harrietstown – Crescent Bay Seasonal Headquarters -- DEC](#)
Santa Clara -- Adirondack Fish Hatchery
Tupper Lake -- Sunmount Developmental Center – DMH

FULTON

Northampton -- Maintenance Area SH 362 - DOT
Northampton -- DEC, Northville - DEC
Rockwood 29 – DOT

HAMILTON

Arietta -- Maintenance Area - Rt. 10, 1.5 mi. north of Fulton County - DOT
Hoffmeister Maintenance Area, Rt. 8 – DOT
Indian Lake -- Maintenance Area, Residency – DOT
Indian Lake – Maintenance Area, Rt. 4 - DEC
Long Lake -- Maintenance Area, Rts. 28N, 30 - DOT
Long Lake -- Maintenance Area Rt. 28, Raquette Lake Patrol
Long Lake -- Maintenance Area SH 5189, Long Lake Patrol
Long Lake -- Little Tupper Lake Headquarters, Rt.10, 4 mi. west of Rt. 3
Long Lake – Raquette Lake Water Supply – DEC
Long Lake – Maintenance Area, Sagamore Road -- DOT
[Long Lake – SUNY Cortland Camp Pine Knot](#)
Wells -- Hamilton County Sub-headquarters - DOT

HERKIMER

[Webb – Stillwater Reservoir Field Office, Stillwater Dock Road -- HRBRRD](#)

ST. LAWRENCE

Colton -- Town of Colton Maintenance Area-Rt. 3 - DOT
 Colton -- Cranberry Lake Maintenance Center - DEC
 Fine -- St. Lawrence Power Radio Tower

Fine -- Radio Tower Site -- PASNY
 Fine -- Ranger School -- SUNY ESF
 Hopkinton -- White Hill Radio Towers

WARREN

Lake George -- Residential Bldg. Location/I-87 - DOT
 Chester SS -- Rt. 8, Maintenance Area -- DOT
 Chestertown -- Maintenance Area-I-87, Exit 25 on Rt. 8 -- DOT
 Johnsbury -- Maintenance Area, Peaceful Valley Road -DOT
 Warrensburg -- Parking Lot SH 5157 Warrensburg-Chestertown - DOT
 Warrensburg -- Maintenance Area near I-87/Lake George-Warrensburg - DOT
 Warrensburg -- Warren County Storehouse Site
 Warrensburg -- DEC Office-DEC Warrensburg-Warren County Residency on Rt. 9
 Queensbury -- DOT properties -- DOT

WASHINGTON

Dresden -- Chubbs Dock Educational Programing Facility - DEC

**WILD, SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVERS SYSTEM
 in the Adirondack Park**

<u>River</u>	Number of Miles Classified		
	<u>Wild</u>	<u>Scenic</u>	<u>Recreational</u>
Ampersand Brook		8.6	
Ausable -- Main Branch			21.7
Ausable -- East Branch		8.8	25.2
Ausable -- West Branch			31.8
Black		6.8	5.8
Bog		6.2	
Boreas		11.4	
Bouquet			42.7
Bouquet -- North Fork		5.9	
Bouquet -- South Fork		5.0	
Blue Mountain Stream (Trib. of Middle Branch, Grasse River)		7.9	
Cedar	13.5	13.0	10.4

Cold		14.5	
Deer		5.7	
East Canada Creek		19.3	
Grasse -- Middle Branch		12.9	
Grasse -- North Branch		25.4	
Grasse -- South Branch		36.1	4.2
Hudson	11.2	11.8	55.1
Independence		24.5	
Indian (Trib. of Hudson River)			7.5
Indian (Trib. of Moose River -- South Branch)	15.1		
Jordan		15.7	
Kunjamuk	7.1	9.1	
Long Pond Outlet		16.3	
Marion		4.4	
Moose -- Main Branch		15.0	11.0
Moose -- North Branch		5.3	11.6
Moose -- South Branch		33.6	
Opalescent	10.4		
Oswegatchie -- Main Branch	14.9		
Oswegatchie -- Middle Branch	13.0	22.7	
Oswegatchie -- West Branch		7.2	6.3
Otter River		8.8	
Ouluska Pass Brook	2.3		
Piseco Outlet	3.8		
Raquette		36.0	51.6
Red		8.0	
Rock		6.4	1.3
Round Lake Outlet		2.4	
St. Regis -- East Branch		15.4	6.3
St. Regis -- Main Branch		15.6	23.9
St. Regis -- West Branch		31.5	5.5
Sacandaga -- East Branch	11.3		12.6
Sacandaga -- Main Branch			28.5
Sacandaga -- West Branch	18.1		16.6
Salmon			11.6
Saranac			62.7
Schroon			63.9
West Canada Creek	7.4	17.1	9.1
West Canada Creek -- South Branch	5.7		9.1
West Stony Creek	7.4		7.7
TOTALS	148.4	487.2	545.6

TOTAL MILES CLASSIFIED 1181.1

These mileage statistics include all designated rivers and therefore include 2362.2 miles of shoreline. Most recreational river shoreline and some wild and scenic river shoreline is privately owned.

TRAVEL CORRIDORS

HIGHWAY CORRIDORS

Route	Terminal	Approximate Mileage
I-87	Northern Park Boundary to Southern Park Boundary	91
3	Western Park Boundary to Northeastern Park Boundary	107(a)
8	Southwest Park Boundary to Hague	109
9	Northern Park Boundary to Southern Park Boundary	92(b)
9L	Southeastern Park Boundary to Route 9	13
9N	Southern Park Boundary to Keeseville	124
10	Southern Park Boundary to Route 8	23
22	Northern Park Boundary to Southern Park Boundary	76(c)
28	Southwestern Park Boundary to Route 9	100(d)
28N	Blue Mountain Lake to North Creek	47(e)
29A	Southern Park Boundary to Southwestern Park Boundary	18(f)
30	Northern Park Boundary to Southern Park Boundary	151(g)
56	Northern Park Boundary to Sevey	15
58	Western Park Boundary to Fine	5
458	Northern Park Boundary to Route 30	20
73	Route 9 to Route 86	26(h)
74	Route 9 to Lake Champlain	30
86	Jay to Route 30	34
149	Southern Park Boundary to Southeastern Park Boundary	5
186	Route 86 to Route 30 at Lake Clear	4
192A	Route 192 to Route 86	2
287	Western Park Boundary to Route 8	6
373	Port Kent to Route 9	3
374	Northern Park Boundary to Dannemora	27
418	Warrensburg to Thurman	3
421	Horseshoe Lake to Route 30	6
431	Wilmington to Whiteface Summit	8
185	Crown Point Bridge to Route 22	4

Subtotal	1165 Miles
Minus dual designations	87
Total	1078 Miles

- (a) includes 6 miles dually designated as Route 30
- (b) includes 4 miles dually designated as Route 8 and 10 miles dually designated as Route 73
- (c) includes 25 miles dually designated as Route 9N
- (d) includes 11 miles dually designated as Route 30

- (e) includes 9 miles dually designated as Route 30
- (f) includes 5 miles dually designated as Route 10
- (g) includes 9 miles dually designated as Route 8
- (h) includes 2 miles dually designated as Route 9N

RAILROAD CORRIDORS

Area Description

Remsen-Lake Placid Corridor

The Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor (RLPTC) is a railroad corridor that enters the southeast corner of the Adirondack Park from Remsen, New York. It includes state-owned parcels, and parcels to be acquired by the State within the corridor, approximately 119 miles long and traverses the following six counties and ten towns:

Oneida Co. – Remsen and Forestport
Herkimer Co. – Webb
Hamilton Co. – Long Lake
St. Lawrence Co. – Piercefield and Colton
Franklin Co. – Tupper Lake, Santa Clara and Harrietstown
Essex Co. – North Elba

The northern section of the railroad corridor passes through the Villages of Tupper Lake and Saranac Lake (as well as the communities of Saranac Inn and Lake Clear) before terminating in the Village of Lake Placid.

About 46 percent of the length of the corridor is flanked on at least one side by State Forest Preserve lands, and about 27 percent of the remaining length is flanked on at least one side by State conservation easement lands. From Old Forge to Tupper Lake, the route passes through some of the most remote territory in New York State. It forms part of the bounds of the Pigeon Lake, Five Ponds, William C. Whitney and Round Lake Wilderness Areas. It also traverses a portion of the Lows Lake Primitive Area and forms almost all of the southern border of the St. Regis Canoe Area. The remaining areas of Forest Preserve adjoining the route are classified Wild Forest, including the Black River, Fulton Chain, Independence River and Saranac Lakes Units.

The railbed, constructed in 1892 by William Seward Webb, was utilized continuously by the New York Central Railroad, and then the Penn Central Railroad, until freight service ceased in 1972. With the exception of a 3000-foot segment in the Village of Saranac Lake and the Lake Placid depot parcel, where there are railroad easements, the railroad corridor was purchased in fee by New York State in 1974 and 1975. In 1977, the State leased the line to the Adirondack Railway Corporation. After bankruptcy of the lessee, and following a long period of litigation, the State acquired the remainder of the lease in

1991. Geographically limited and intermittent scenic railroad service has occurred since 1992, but until that time trains had not traveled on the railroad corridor for more than a decade. The railroad corridor has been designated a snowmobile trail since the 1991-1992 season.

This railroad corridor is generally 100 feet wide, but is wider in some locations, primarily within communities. State ownership terminates in the Village of Lake Placid at Station Street. The Remsen-Lake Placid Railroad was classified as a travel corridor in 1979.

SCENIC VISTAS

Potential Scenic Pull-offs

TOWN	LOCATION
Bellmont	1 mile west of Owl's Head
Bolton	Two on Federal Hill Road
Bolton	One on Coolidge Hill Road
Corinth	Approximately 0.5 miles east of Daly Creek Road and 0.1 miles north of West Mountain Road
Dannemora	0.5 miles west of Village of Dannemora on State Route 374
Dannemora	0.25 miles east of Merrill Road
Dannemora	2.75 miles northeast of Village of Dannemora on French Settlement Road
Dannemora	1 mile northeast of hamlet of Standish on road from Standish to Lyon Mountain
Ellenburg	Approximately 6.5 miles north of Upper Chateaugay Lake and approximately ¼ mile west of West Hill School
Essex	1.5 miles northeast of Whallonsburg on Christian Road
Essex	0.75 miles southwest of Whallon Bay (Lake Champlain) on Lake Shore Road
Fine	Approximately 1.25 miles south of hamlet of Fine
Harrietstown	Approximately at intersection of State Routes 86 and 192-A
Hopkinton	Whites Hill
Indian Lake	On State Route 30 overlooking Lake Abanakee
Indian Lake	2.5 miles east of Lake Abanakee overlooking Lake Snow
Johnsburg	3 miles south of hamlet of North Creek
Johnsburg	3 miles south of North River on Barton Mine Road
Johnsburg	Approximately 0.5 miles southeast of Bakers Mills
Keene	Intersection of State Routes 73 and 9N
Lake Pleasant	On southeast shore of Lake Pleasant
Newcomb	On State Route 28N approximately 0.75 miles south of Campsite Road
Newcomb	3 miles east of hamlet of Newcomb on State Route 28N

North Elba	0.5 miles east of Village of Lake Placid on State Route 86
North Elba	Near intersection of State Route 73 and Heart Lake Road in North Elba
Ohio	Intersection of West Canada Creek Road and State Route 8 at hamlet of Nobleboro
Santa Clara	Two miles west of Keese Mill on Keese Mills Road
Santa Clara	On State Route 30 at Pelky Bay on Upper Saranac Lake
Saranac	3.25 miles east of Picketts Corners near Hardscrabble Road
Saranac	2 miles southeast of hamlet of Saranac on Burnt Hill Road
Saranac	At intersection of Chazy Lake Road and Chateaugay Branch of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad
Saranac	Two miles northwest of Clayburg on Clayburg to Standish Road
Tupper Lake	At intersection of road east of Sunmount Developmental Center and State Routes 3 and 30
Tupper Lake	Approximately 1.5 miles west of the Railroad Station on State Route 3
Willsboro	1.5 miles south of Willsboro on County Route 22-M
Willsboro	4.5 miles northeast of Willsboro on County Route 27 on Willsboro Point
Westport	4.0 miles north of Westport

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Illustrative Special Interest Areas

SCENIC

Ampersand Mountain Summit
Arab Mountain Summit
Azure Mountain Summit
Bald (Rondaxe) Mountain Summit
Bar Mountain Summit
Black Mountain Peak
Blue Mountain Summit
Bog River Falls
Bushnell's Falls
Buttermilk Falls
Cascade Falls
East Canada Falls
Falls Brook
Fort Noble Mountain
Hadley Mountain Summit
Hanging Spear Falls
High Falls
Historic Great Camps
Hurricane Mountain Summit
Indian Falls
Kane Mountain Summit
Miller's Falls
Opalescent Flume
Paradise Bay
Poke-O-Moonshine Summit
Prospect Mountain
Pulpit Rock
Raquette Falls
Red Rock Bay
Rocky Falls
St. Regis Mountain Summit
Sleeping Beauty
Sliding Rock Falls
Twitchell Creek Gorge
Vanderwhacker Mountain Summit
Wakely Mountain Summit
Wanika Falls
Whiteface Mountain Summit

GEOGRAPHICAL

AuSable River Delta
Balanced Rock
Chimney Mountain
Colden Dike
Giant Mountain Slides
Ice Cave Mountain
McComb Mountain Slide
Moose River Rock Dam
Rainbow Lake Esker
Rogers Rock
Round Mountain Exfoliating Dome
Six Mile Creek Esker

HISTORIC

Axton Plantation
Burnt Shanty Clearing
Fort George & Battleground
French Louie's Camp
Historic Great Camps
Mother Johnson's Boarding House
Long Lake--Round Pond Canal
Prospect Mountain Inclined R.R.
Riparius Bridge
Rondeau's Hermitage
Roosevelt Plaque
Scott's Pond Lumber Dam
Scott Clearing and Lumber Dam
Lake Stevens Flume Route
Valcour Island

NATURAL

Baxter Mountain
Bloomingdale Bog
Boreas Hardwood
Buckhorn Lake Hardwoods
Chubb River Marsh
Church Pond
Five Ponds Esker
Griffin Rapids Virgin Timber
The Gulf

Moose River Plains
Oseetah Lake Marsh
Oswegatchie Plains
Otter Pond Virgin Timber
Owl's Head--Red Pine Area
Pharaoh Lake Red Pine
Piseco Lake Hardwoods
Pine Orchard
Pine Ridge

Peninsula Nature Trail
Raquette River Delta
South Inlet--Raquette Lake
Tongue Mountain
Wanika Falls Hardwoods
Whiteface Mountain--Red Pine Area
Whitehouse Hardwoods
Valcour Island