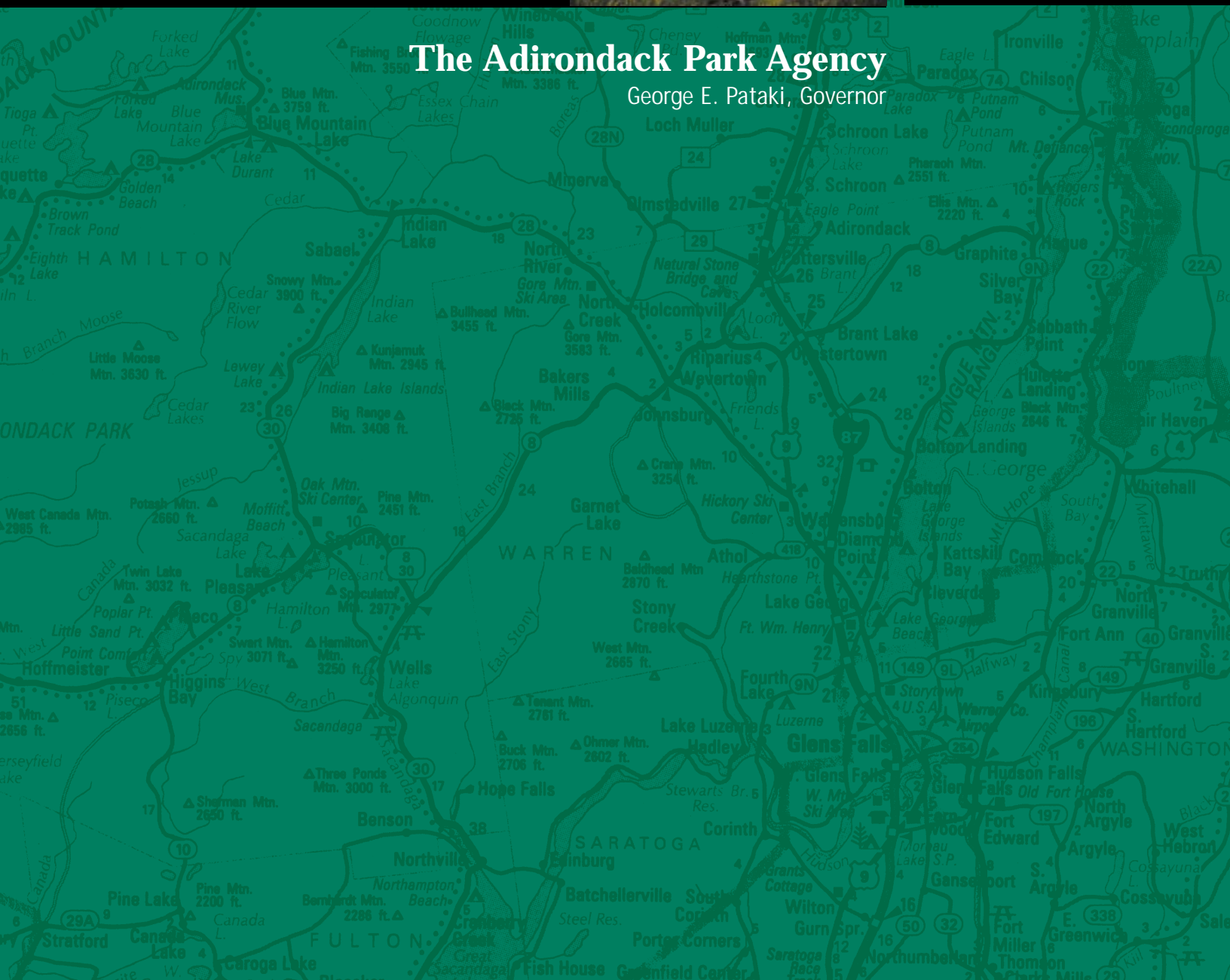


2001
ANNUAL
REPORT



The Adirondack Park Agency

George E. Pataki, Governor



Standing, back row, from left: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Designee Stuart Buchanan; Commissioner Katherine O. Roberts; Commissioner Frank Mezzano; Commissioner James T. Townsend; NYS Department of Economic Development Designee Randall C. Beach; NYS Department of State Designee Richard L. Hoffman; Commissioner James C. Frenette; Local Government Review Board Executive Director Joseph T. Rota. *Seated, from left:* Commissioner Cecil Wray; Commissioner Deanne Rehm; Chairman Richard H. Lefebvre; Commissioner William H. Kissel. Photo taken December, 2001.

| AGENCY MEMBERS |

- Richard Lefebvre,¹ Chairman [Fulton County]
- James Frenette¹ [Franklin County]
- James Townsend² [Rochester County]
- Frank Mezzano¹ [Hamilton County]
- Katherine Roberts² [Putnam County]
- William Kissel¹ [Essex County]
- Cecil Wray² [New York County]
- Deanne Rehm^{1,3} [Warren County]
- Randy Daniels, Secretary of State
- Erin Crotty, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation
- Charles Gargano, Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development

| AGENCY DESIGNEES |

- Stuart Buchanan, Department of Environmental Conservation
- Sandra LeBarron, Department of Environmental Conservation
- Randall Beach, Department of Economic Development
- Doug Schelleng, Department of Economic Development
- Richard Hoffman, Department of State

¹In-the-Park seat

²Out-of-the-Park seat

³Nominated by Governor Pataki, December 2001; confirmed by NYS Senate, February 2002

| CONTENTS |

Letter from the Governor	1
Letter from the Chairman	2
Letter from the Executive Director	3
About the Agency	4
Regulatory Program Division	5
Legal Services	8
Interpretive Program Services	11
Resource Analysis and Scientific Services	15
Economic Services	18
Local Government Services	20
Park Planning and Policy Services	22
Administration Services	25
State Land Services	26
Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board	28
Adirondack Park Institute, Inc.	29
2001 Budget Appropriations and Statistics Summary	30
Changing Faces	31
Strategic Plan Update	34
Agency Awards	35
Staff Roster	36

| LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR |

New York State Governor George E. Pataki

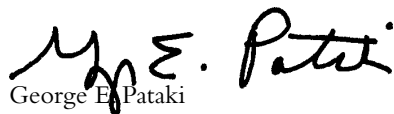
Dear Friends:

The Adirondack Park is one of New York's most treasured places. For one hundred and ten years, the Adirondack "Blue Line" has denoted a vast and most wonderfully beautiful region of open lands, lakes, mountains and communities. The Park is a place where people have always felt a close connection to nature and where careful stewardship of the environment remains important to protecting our quality of life.

I am very proud that during our administration we have provided strong protection for sensitive resources in the Adirondacks, added to our constitutionally protected Forest Preserve, and worked to enhance the vitality of Adirondack communities. We continue to focus on the Park with a firm commitment to both its natural places and its centers of human activity.

New York is fortunate to have such a vast and unique park. I urge all New Yorkers to join me in recognizing the special character of this place and its role in the life of our great state.

Very truly yours,


George E. Pataki

| LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN |



Agency Chairman Richard H. Lefebvre (right) with Governor Pataki in Tupper Lake.

Friends:

I salute Governor Pataki as we close another eventful year.

This was a productive “year of community” in the varied activities and actions of the Agency. The Park’s rich and diverse cultural history can be seen in nearly 100 distinct hamlets within the Park. At our Agency meetings we shared a “wall of pride” depicting people and places that together shape the Park. And Adirondack pride was, in turn, on display at Local Government Day in Saranac Lake, at the Department of State-sponsored Quality Communities/Quality Coasts State-wide workshop in Albany in October, with our rescue teams and others serving in New York City and in the many other activities and events that give life to our Park.

Valuable partnerships with sister agencies were strengthened, including the Quality Communities initiative spearheaded by Lt. Governor Donohue and Secretary of State Daniels. Our work with the State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Transportation to address invasive species in the Park’s transportation corridors won national recognition, and the goals of the Governor’s Build Now-New York program began to be realized in selected Adirondack Park communities.

Our theme for 2002 will be education. The Adirondack Park is ringed by world-class colleges and universities, many of which have significant educational centers in the Park. Educational institutions inside the Park, like the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry facilities in Newcomb and Wanakena, and Paul Smith’s College, continue to find new ways to address and take advantage of the resources of the Adirondack Park. The Agency has laid a foundation for expanding its own educational efforts through its Strategic Plan and key staff additions over the past year. This builds on the sequence of objectives that have marked my tenure as Chairman - reconciliation, communication, partnership and community. Education, both formal and informal, will sustain our mission of protecting the Adirondack Park, with balanced attention to its many needs.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Lefebvre
Chairman

| LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |

Agency Executive Director Daniel T. Fitts

Dear Friends:

I am proud to share the Agency's 2001 Annual Report. As always, the staff of this Agency, with the support of an engaged Board, have made significant, forward-moving progress on many issues and long-standing problems.

We are not stopping here! In 2002 we will continue working on projects and initiatives to improve on the timeliness of our permit issuance, reduce the backlog of outstanding enforcement cases, and improve our internal communication and local government outreach efforts.

As you will see in our report, the Agency continues its leadership in the use of computer technologies and map-based information. In keeping with the "year of education" initiative, we are working hard to share this information and expertise with the citizens and local governments of the Park. We will continue this truly pioneering work in the coming year.

We are also very excited about a project under way to update the Agency's web page. The focus of the initiative is to provide more information in an easy access format to those who will visit our site. The project is scheduled to be unveiled later this year and we'll be sure to let everyone know when it happens.

All of this work is intended to make our operation more efficient and our service to the public the best that it can be.

With best wishes for the coming year,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan T. Fitts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel T. Fitts

| ABOUT THE AGENCY |

As provided by Section 803 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the Agency consists of the following eleven Members: eight Members appointed by the Governor including five full-time residents of the Park and three residents of the State from outside the Park; the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation; the Secretary of State; and the Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development.

Changing Faces on the Board

New Agency Member

In December 2001 Governor Pataki nominated Deanne Rehm, Warren County, for the Adirondack Park Agency. She has since been confirmed by the Senate in February 2002. Ms. Rehm has served as Town Assessor for Bolton, Lake George and Lake Luzerne and was Supervisor of the Town of Bolton



Deanne Rehm, of the Lake George area, is the Agency's newest Commissioner

from 1995 through 2001. In addition to being a licensed real estate broker, Ms. Rehm brings a wealth of experience and knowledge on issues associated with the Lake George Basin. The Agency welcomes Deanne to the Board!

Department of Economic Development Designees

Early in the year, Designee Greg Caito left State service to seek opportunities in the private sector. Randy Beach followed as Greg's replacement on the Agency Board, joined by Doug Schelleng. Both are North Country

representatives for the Department. The Agency is also grateful to George Kazanjian who filled in for the Department at Agency meetings. We wish Greg well and welcome our new Designees from ESD!

| REGULATORY PROGRAM DIVISION |



Standing, from left: John Quinn; Doug Hamernik; George Outcalt; Mark Sengenberger; Thomas Saehrig; Gary Duprey. Seated from left: Tracy Frechette; Theresa LeBaron; Virginia Yamrick; Richard Jarvis and William Curran.

The Regulatory Program Division is responsible for the review, recommendations and determination of all projects subject to Agency jurisdiction. The Regulatory Division considered a diverse variety of regional projects during the year including subdivision of land, major public utility uses, industrial uses, commercial uses, forestry uses, public and semi-public buildings, State agency projects, single family dwellings and projects involving wetlands and shoreline restriction variances.

Applications received in 2001 totaled 254. They are listed in Figure 1 (below) by county; five applications involved more than one county. In 2001, 239 permits were issued by the Agency.

Key Projects Approved

- SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Wanakena Ranger School was granted a permit for an 11,000± square foot addition to the west end of the existing Main Building.
- Northwoods Association, Inc., was granted a permit for a 6.8-foot winter drawdown of Forest Lake to control nuisance aquatic plant vegetation.
- S. B. Lewis was granted a permit for a new 4.9-acre mineral extraction involving the removal of approximately 80,000 cubic yards of rock during a six-month period.
- Dreby NY Partnership and Priscilla Rich were granted a permit for the subdivision of 400± acres into ten parcels. Two of the parcels, involving about 354 acres, will be covered by a conservation easement held by the State of New York.

Figure 1. Number of Applications Received in 2001

<i>County</i>	<i>No. of Applications</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>No. of Applications</i>
Clinton	25	Oneida	1
Essex	62	St. Lawrence	17
Franklin	31	Saratoga	15
Fulton	13	Warren	51
Hamilton	20	Washington	9
Herkimer	8	Total	254
Lewis	2		



Pictured from left: Sandra LeBarron, DEC Region 6 Regional Director; Francis Gerace, DOT Region 2; Richard Lefebvre, Agency Chairman; Michael Carr, Director, Adirondack Nature Conservancy; Stuart Buchanan, DEC Region 5 Regional Director; and John Falge, DOT Region 7 display their signed Memorandum of Understanding to work in partnership to research invasive plants in the Adirondacks at the Holiday Inn in Lake Placid, May 2001.

- Lucien and Doris Myers were granted a permit for reconstruction of an existing dam on an unnamed tributary to Cold Brook and refilling of the impoundment to its former water level.
- Town of Newcomb was granted a permit for construction of a 2,640-yard, par 33, nine-hole public golf course.
- David Cilley/St. Regis Canoe Outfitters Inc. was granted a shoreline setback variance in the Village of Saranac Lake for the construction of a ramp and steps to provide foot access for boaters to launch hand-carried, nonmotorized boats on the Saranac River.
- Independent Wireless One was granted a permit for a new major public utility use consisting of the attachment of digital wireless communication antennae to an existing 56-foot-high, 80-foot-diameter municipal water tank owned by the Town of Queensbury Water District.
- Essex County IDA/Willsboro Development Corporation/Old Adirondack Inc. was granted a permit for a large-scale project to be undertaken in sections. Section one will involve the construction of a 25,000, square-foot furniture manufacturing facility.
- Louis R. MacArthur, Jr. was granted a permit for a new commercial use, within a group camp known as “McArthur Park,” involving use of the property for a fee to hold occasional “Wilderness Weddings” and use of cabins without a fee by Make-A-Wish Foundation clients and other similar organizations.
- Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, International Paper Company and Curtis/Palmer Hydroelectric Company were granted a permit for the construction of a new tap structure, power line and substation to service the International Paper Company property at the Corinth Paper Mill on the south side of the Hudson River (Palmer Impoundment).
- The Agency issued General Permit 2001G-1, on conditions, to the Adirondack Park Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, authorizing the agencies to issue permits to individual landowners for certain regulated activities relating to the removal or modification of recently constructed beaver dams or debris in Environmental Conservation Law Article 24 jurisdictional wetlands within the Adirondack Park.
- The Agency issued General Permit 2001G-2, on conditions, to state, county and municipal transportation departments within the Adirondack Park seeking to remove or modify recently constructed beaver dams or debris in culvert and bridge openings, or within 50 feet of the driving surface of the road or railroad or within the highway or railroad right-of-way.



Agency Commissioner Katherine O. Roberts presents Assistant Director of Regulatory Programs Mark Sengenberger with a commemorative time piece for his 25 years of dedicated service to the State of New York.

General Permits

The Agency also began work on other proposed general permits designed to provide better service to the public while continuing to protect the environment. The subject areas of these general permits involve regulated activities now routinely approved by the Agency through a lengthy permit process. The general permits are very important for speeding up Agency review time for simple classes of projects.

The subjects of two other general permits under consideration are:

- disposal of uncontaminated wastes from maintenance and construction activities by highway departments; and

- management of terrestrial invasive plant species in or within 100 feet of wetlands, along road corridors in the Adirondack Park.

New Initiatives

In addition to this significant project workload, a number of initiatives have been undertaken to improve the Division's productivity and timeliness of permit issuance. These projects are aimed at providing more consistent review by the Agency and better service to the public. To implement them, the Division:

- revised and improved its computer tracking system of project applications and permit conditions;
- classified project and public notice forms to make them more easily usable by the public;
- revised numerous permit shells to improve the consistency, timeliness, and appearance of issued permits;
- revised numerous permit applications and provided instruction to the public on how to use them;
- began working on the development of a project review handbook and warehouse of potential permit conditions; and
- began an examination of the permit review process with the expectation of finding ways to make it more effective and efficient.

Work on all of these initiatives, begun in 2001, is continuing in 2002.

| LEGAL SERVICES |

The Agency's Associate Counsel directed the Legal staff activities this year, the former Counsel having left the Agency in March. The five Agency attorneys provide interpretation of the laws and regulations administered by the Agency, assist in the on-going regulatory revision process, act as liaisons to the Office of the Attorney General, undertake review of local land use programs submitted for Agency approval and amend-

to the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform (GORR) for review in early 2002. Progress on twenty-two proposed changes to regulatory definitions continued with final approval by GORR, and the Agency's noticing of a formal rule-making. Public hearings are scheduled for early 2002. Following the close of those hearings, the Agency will consider approving a Final Supplemental Generic Environmental



From left: Richard Terry; Mitchell Goroski; Emily Tyner; Barbara Rottier; Ed Snizek; Paul VanCott; Don Smith.

ments, manage any project public hearings requested by the Agency, and provide legal assistance to program staff from other Agency divisions and to Agency Members and Designees.

Regulatory Revision

A major initiative the Agency continued in 2001 is the revision of existing rules and regulations. This ongoing project is aimed at making Agency decisions and practices more consistent and predictable, and improving service to the public.

The first amendments to Agency regulations since 1983 were executed in 2001. Eleven changes affecting Agency project review and permit functions took effect in January. Additionally, the Agency developed proposed changes to its enforcement regulations; these are expected to be forwarded

Impact Statement adopting the proposed definition changes. Action on the draft enforcement regulations is also expected to occur in 2002 as will commencement of work on additional definitions and related sections of the Agency's regulations. Regulatory revisions will continue to take place on an ongoing annual basis.

Enforcement Office

The Enforcement Office is primarily concerned with the prevention, identification and cessation of violations, the remediation of environmental damage and bringing sites into compliance with current regulatory standards, and creating incentives to deter additional violations.

In 2001 the Agency made significant progress on goals outlined in the Strategic Plan to improve the enforcement process

and reduce the enforcement backlog. Actions included the following:

- The Agency developed new enforcement regulations intended to streamline the Agency's enforcement process and to fully implement the Agency's statutory enforcement authorities. These draft regulations were recently forwarded to GORR, and once approved by GORR, will move through the process for formal Agency promulgation.
- With the assistance of an additional attorney and an intern specifically dedicated to enforcement, staff reviewed all open enforcement files to evaluate their status and to update the Agency's computer database. This effort resulted in the formal closure of nearly 2,500 files. This effort represents a significant development for the enforcement program as the Agency now has an accurate assessment of the number, type and status of open enforcement cases. Agency staff expect to use the data to better track the progress of cases and to devise strategies for ensuring the most effective and efficient use of existing staff resources to address established priorities.

In the coming year the Agency will continue to work on developing enforcement process guidelines and other initiatives to improve the overall program.

The Jurisdictional Inquiry Office

The Jurisdictional Inquiry Office continued its successful performance in 2001, answering questions for the public and making formal jurisdictional determinations as to whether permits are required for specific projects. The Jurisdictional Inquiry Office is the public's first point of contact with the Agency in most cases. The ability of this office to respond to the public in a timely manner is very important and a priority of the Agency.

Three full-time staff provided written determinations to 829 inquiries from the public about specific projects last year. They

ranged in complexity, including projects such as: single family dwellings, installation of municipal sewer and water services, new school construction, subdivisions, commercial uses, shoreline development and bridge replacements. The average length of time for response to these requests was eight days. We are very proud of this quick response time as it reflects our commitment to public service.

In addition staff answered 5582 telephone inquiries. The topics were sometimes as simple as a publication request, but more often involved lengthy discussion and information gathering so that the caller could be directed to the permit process, or obtain a formal (written) determination that no permit was required. Telephone calls require a general explanation of the three laws the Agency administers and Agency processes, as well as specific details about the application of the laws to a particular site.

A total of 309 "walk-ins" were served in 2001. These are members of the public who arrive at Agency headquarters asking for information or advice on how to begin the process of obtaining approval from the Agency, or those who just want to know more about the Adirondacks and what the Agency does.

The jurisdictional staff also handle project referrals from other agencies and departments (865 referrals in 2001) and respond to requests for file information available under the Freedom of Information Act (99 requests in 2001).

In 2001 the Jurisdictional Inquiry Office also continued to participate in various public outreach and educational programs, providing presentations regarding Agency jurisdiction, the jurisdictional inquiry process and the Adirondack Park Agency Act and the Rules and Regulations it administers.

Litigation

The Agency has approximately 30 cases in litigation, including affirmative cases to enforce the laws the Agency administers.



Brian Ford, Colleen Parker and Rita Quinn make up the Agency's Jurisdictional Inquiries staff.

Some of the cases closed in 2001 are listed here:

A case challenging the Agency's enactment of amended regulations in January 2001 was dismissed as having no merit.

An enforcement case involving a new commercial use was resolved by settlement, according to the terms required by the Agency's Enforcement Committee, including the payment of a civil penalty.

Another case involving a new commercial use was decided by the Supreme Court. As the Agency could not approve the commercial use due to the small acreage of the site and location in a critical environmental area, and because buildings were constructed after the Agency advised that the use could not be permitted, the Court ordered removal of the buildings and re-location of the business to another site.

The Supreme Court ordered the cleanup of a junkyard located unlawfully in a residential area, and cleanup has been instituted.

The Agency settled a significant shoreline cutting violation with an agreement that requires the landowner to replant the shoreline with trees and shrubs and pay a civil penalty.

The Agency resolved a very significant wetland case, involving the excavation and filling of Class 1 wetlands, called the Webb Royce Swamp, and trespass on State lands. The violator was required to restore the wetlands, and to undertake actions to ensure that his agricultural fields drain into a retention basin on his own lands. The violator paid \$50,000 for an environmental benefit project in lieu of a civil penalty.

Finally, the Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation successfully defended a challenge to the State's acquisition of thousands of acres of fee and easement lands from the Champion International Corporation.

| INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM SERVICES |

For the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Centers (VICs) in Paul Smiths and Newcomb, the year 2001 was a time of transition as the Adirondack Park Agency said good-bye to three dedicated staff members and welcomed new ones.

At the same time, the Interpretive Division solidified its partnership with the Adirondack community as the VICs launched new Parkwide programs and continued to provide excellent service at the two facilities in these times of change.

Accomplishments

The Paul Smiths VIC set an attendance record in 2001, boosted by record-breaking visitor numbers in October, November and December. In all, there were 74,442 visitors at the Paul Smiths facility in 2001, up 1,496 from the previous year.

The Newcomb VIC had its highest fall school visitation ever with 804, bringing the total number of school children attending Newcomb educational programs in 2001 to 1,515.

In May, the Paul Smiths VIC unveiled new outdoor interpretation in the Forest Ecosystem Research and Demonstration Area (FERDA). International Paper was recognized for its generous grant that funded the production of new signage. FERDA was established in 1999 as a joint project of Paul Smith's College, the US Forest Service Research Station in Burlington, Vermont and the Paul Smiths VIC.

In July, the Paul Smiths VIC dedicated its Native Species Butterfly House to the memory of longtime volunteer Breck



Adirondack Park Visitors Interpretive Center at Paul Smith's staff: from left: Mike Brennan; Joanne MacDowell; Andy Flynn; Cara McCann and Brian McAllister.

Chapin, who passed away in 2000. The ceremony featured the unveiling of a wrought iron sculpture by Abenaki metal artisan David Benedict with a plaque commemorating Chapin's work at the Butterfly House.

In August, Governor George E. Pataki announced that the Adirondack Park Agency would receive a \$13,000 National Recreational Trails Program grant to build a trail connecting the Newcomb

VIC to the Santanoni Preserve. Funding will be provided through the Federal Highway Administration. When complete, visitors will be able to travel through the woods from the VIC's trail system to the 32-acre Camp Santanoni Historic Area, located within the 70,000-acre Vanderwhacker Wild Forest.

In September, the Paul Smiths VIC officially opened the new Boreal Life Trail, which features a 1,600-foot boardwalk through a peatland bordering Barnum Pond. The boardwalk was built primarily by Paul Smith's College students. Paul Smith's College President Dr. George Miller, Forestry Professor Hans Michielen, Agency Chairman Richard H. Lefebvre and APA Commis-



Dedication of the Breck Chapin Native Species Butterfly House at Paul Smith's VIC in July 2001.

sioner

sioners, staff and volunteers were on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and a tour of the new trail.

In the fall, the Newcomb VIC introduced a new “Life in the Woods” owl unit for middle and high school students. The school children learned about owls, trees, map and compass skills, sampling procedures and toolmaking. “Life in the Woods” is made possible thanks to a partnership with the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry’s Adirondack Ecological Center and the Adirondack Museum.

Partnerships

As the foundation of the VIC success story, partnerships with the community continue to form the basis of the Center’s activities and grew even stronger in 2001.

For example, special thanks are extended to the New York State Department of Correctional Services, as two correctional facilities sent crews to help VIC staffers resurface miles of interpretive trails in the summer and fall months. Inmates and officers from the Moriah Shock Camp spread bark along the trails in Newcomb, and crews from Camp Gabriels assisted at the Paul Smiths VIC.

Funding for the new Adirondack Interpretation Through the Arts program was promised from various sources, which enhances the relationship between the VICs and the arts community in the Park. The arts program will be funded mainly by the Adirondack Park Institute; the Adirondack Center for Writing is co-sponsoring the writing and storytelling events. The music, storytelling and writing programs will be funded in part by a \$3,110 Developing Community Arts Grant with



Newcomb Visitors Interpretive Center staff: from left: Kathleen Jennings; Michael Tracy, Rynda McCray and Emily Dehoff

public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Program, administered locally by the Arts Council for the Northern Adirondacks. North Country Public Radio will be the media sponsor for these events.

The Newcomb VIC continued to be an integral part of the southern Essex County community thanks to ongoing partner-

ships with the Town of Newcomb and the Adirondack Ecological Center, operated by the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. The Town of Newcomb helps keep the VIC’s driveways plowed and sanded in the winter. The Center also hosts the annual Peggy Lynn concert during the Town of Newcomb’s Teddy Roosevelt Days in September. Likewise, the Adirondack Ecological Center holds its annual Huntington Lecture Series every summer at the Newcomb VIC.

New Initiatives

The Second Annual Chilly Ski Festival was held at the Paul Smiths VIC in January. Attracting more than 300 people to the facility, this event was deemed an overwhelming success and was made possible by partnering with two important sponsors – High Peaks Cyclery and the Saranac Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Newcomb Mountain Quilters joined the Interpretive Division’s family in 2001 by holding a new Kids Learn to Quilt program at the facility. In a series of classes, children made blocks for the bear paw quilt, which was later assembled by members of the Newcomb Mountain Quilters and donated to the Newcomb VIC in October. The program was so popular, it was scheduled to continue in a six-part monthly

series in 2002. The Newcomb Mountain Quilters will donate their time; the only cost to participants will be the initial purchase of the fabric.



Newcomb VIC Environmental Educator Ellen Rathbone reviews some natural characteristics of the Adirondack Park with a school group.

The Newcomb VIC took advantage of its Bird-of-Prey educational program and featured its owl and American kestrel at the first-ever Raptor Celebration in October. Interest in birds of prey has grown steadily since Newcomb introduced its raptors to the public in 2000.

In December, the VICs debuted an innovative arts initiative for 2002 called the Adirondack Interpretation Through the Arts program. Featuring four new large-group events – two each at Newcomb and Paul Smiths – the program is designed to explore how artists interpret the ecology, history and culture of the Adirondack Park through their work. The planned events are: the Adirondack Photography Symposium, Adirondack Music Celebration, Adirondack Storytelling Festival and Adirondack Writing Symposium.

As 2001 came to an end, the VICs were planning a new initiative, the Tourism Partners Program, which is designed to strengthen the relationship between the Adirondack Park Agency and the tourism industry in the Adirondack region.

This program will create new channels of communication between the Agency and tourism businesses and tourism promotion agents.

2001 Interpretive Programs Statistics

Visitors	Paul Smiths	74,442
	Newcomb	22,151
Programs, Groups and Schools	Paul Smiths	19,141
	Newcomb	5,655
Outreach	Paul Smiths/ Newcomb	2,413
Volunteer Hours Donated	Paul Smiths	5,270
	Newcomb	6,341

Let's Hear it for the Volunteers!

As “adjunct staff,” the VIC volunteers assist in many areas both on and off Center properties.

One of the main areas where volunteers help out is at the front desk, serving as information specialists. A knowledgeable volunteer can be found every day giving out information to hundreds of visitors with just as many questions. VIC volunteers play an integral role in the Centers’ school visitation programs. As naturalists, they sometimes teach a number of environmental education courses to visiting school children from around the Adirondack region and New York State.

Volunteers can also be found in the Paul Smiths VIC’s Native Species Butterfly House in the summer, showing the public a myriad of moths and butterflies in all stages of development.

In order to educate the public about the many natural and historical areas of the Adirondacks, volunteers have the opportunity to attend many continuing education workshops



The Paul Smith's VIC Maintenance crew. From left: Robbie Cox, Penny Dufrane; and George Hare.



Harriet McClure long time volunteer on the reception desk pictured at right with visitor at the Paul Smith's VIC.

on various topics related to the Park. Many of the VIC volunteers are part of the Franklin County and Essex County Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs. This program enables senior participants to volunteer at quite a number of agencies and institutions throughout the Adirondack region.

The best part of the volunteer program at the Newcomb and Paul Smiths VICs is the camaraderie and great friendships that begin to blossom in these informational and educational institutions.

The mission of the Adirondack Park Institute, Inc., would not be possible without the Volunteer Corps of the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Centers in Paul Smiths and Newcomb. It is their enthusiasm and dedication to the API's endeavors that make these efforts a reality.

Many, many thanks are owed to each of the volunteers!

RESOURCE ANALYSIS | AND SCIENTIFIC SERVICES |

In 2001 the Agency Park Ecology Committee continued to provide excellent oversight to the technical and scientific activities of the Resource Analysis and Scientific Services (RASS) staff. A major focus of 2001 was communication with the many community contacts the staff enjoys.

Scientific Community

The RASS unit is an important participant and supporter of the scientific community of researchers, academics and volunteers who contribute to our knowledge and understanding of the Park's resources. A major technical effort completed by the Agency in 2001 was the preparation of a Trends Analysis Plan that documents the need for monitoring of 59 data elements as indicators of resource health in 18 subject areas. Subject areas range from housing to surface water, scenic vistas and wetlands. The Plan serves to identify those areas where the Agency believes more research and data development will be most efficiently used and, if completed, would enable a comprehensive and balanced view of the multiple interrelated economic, social and environmental factors which are integral to the dynamics of this Park. The staff has promoted the concepts of the Plan to the scientific community in an effort to spur interest in research.

The work organized by the Agency and undertaken with its partners to complete EPA-funded watershed and wetland protection projects continues with renewed vigor. For example, the Agency has initiated a nuisance aquatic plants project which will coordinate work now under way all across the Park with community-based volunteers and promote a better focus on the problem. With this latest project the Agency has,



Resource Analysis and Scientific Services (RASS) staff. From left, standing: Mark Rooks, Brian Grisi, Sean Connin, and Ray Curran. Seated, Leslie Karasin and Sunita Halasz.

since 1993, received a total of \$2.3 million from EPA for ten wetlands projects. Researchers throughout the Northeast make use of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data generated by these projects, particularly to identify the threats posed by acid precipitation.

Local Communities and Information Outreach

Working with our local planning assistance program, RASS staff have actively participated in delivering information and analysis to local governments. Two workshops focused on the permit process were held in Bolton and Chesterfield. In addition to carefully guided role-playing activities, these events offered members of the community who went into the field the opportunity to discuss natural resource implications and site development considerations with Agency staff.



RASS Supervisor Ray Curran (right) with Tony Goodwin, Executive Director of the Adirondack Ski Touring Council.

Wetland Delineations

Providing timely field wetlands delineations for landowners continues to be a priority RASS function. In 2001 staff made

267 field trips to delineate wetlands, while still making these visits in a timely fashion. The number of visits was at an all-time high and up 50 per cent from the base number in 1993 when we started a focused effort to deliver this service.

Beyond the value to the protection of wetlands, this public service has inestimable value in providing information to the public about the Agency. The wetlands delineator is often the first face from the Agency that people actually meet, and they are provided relevant information about Agency regulations and permitting, as well as explanations of the reasons underlying the regulations.

Adirondack Park Shared GIS CD

In a joint RASS/Planning initiative, a Geographic Information System (GIS) team prepared a set of compact disks containing many GIS data sets and distributed it beginning in July. The two-disk set, of which nearly 300 copies were dis-

tributed in 2001, assembles over 50 geographic data sets from 11 State and Federal agencies. A primary short-term benefit of the CD is to have sets of mapped information available to the Department of Environmental Conservation unit planners for their use in the priority initiative to complete the unfinished plans for State land units of the Park. The CD is also being provided to local governments, and plans are under way to provide training and instruction on how to use the information.

The CD has been an overwhelming success. In the coming year we plan to build on that success by participating in conferences, educational programs, and VIC programming. For example, the Team has a very exciting GIS demonstration program planned for several events in the coming year which it has cleverly named “50 Ways to Weave Your Covers.” Please join us! Also, watch in 2002 for CD2!

RASS Staff’s Wetland Field Visits - 2001

<i>Land Use Area</i>	<i>Number of Visits</i>
Moderate Intensity Use	72
Rural Use	65
Hamlet	47
Low Intensity Use	39
Resource Management	24
Wild Forest	15
Wilderness	1
Unclassified	1
State Administrative	1
Industrial Use	1
Total	267



Agency Geographical Informational Systems (GIS) team (standing, Sue Parker and John Barge and Sunita Halasz seated at top left) hosts a workshop for local code enforcement officers on how to use the new GIS CD.

Staff's Wetland Field Visits - 2001

<i>County</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Essex	60	22
Warren	42	16
Franklin	39	15
Hamilton	32	12
Clinton	23	9
Fulton	22	8
St. Lawrence	17	6
Herkimer	15	6
Washington	7	3
Saratoga	5	2
Lewis	3	1
Oneida	2	1
Total	267	100



RASS Project Analyst Brian Grisi (right) shows Agency Board Members Richard Hoffman and James Townsend (from left) what to look for in identifying wetland soils in September 2001.

Staff's Wetland Field Visits 1993-2001

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>
1993	176
1994	232
1995	194
1996	192
1997	193
1998	226
1999	215
2000	214
2001	267

The Agency's Park Ecology Committee, through its activities, continued to promote public outreach and understanding of many other key ecological issues, most notably impacts of road ice and snow removal, impacts of pressure-treated lumber, storm water disposal, wastewater management, alpine ecology, watershed protection and wetland mitigation.

| ECONOMIC SERVICES |



From left: Steve Erman, Agency Special Assistant - Economic Affairs; Neil Seymour, Director, Franklin County Tourism; Bill Osborne, Hamilton County Tourism; Ann Melious, Executive Director of the Adirondack Regional Tourism Council; and Andy Flynn, VIC Senior Information Specialist speak with the Economic Services Committee while Newcomb Supervisor George Canon and Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages Director Jean Olsen look on.

During 2001 the Agency continued to stay abreast of economic trends affecting the Adirondack Park and to support communities in planning for new economic activities.

The Agency's Economic Affairs Committee began the year with a discussion of what constitutes community well-being. Stephen Blackmer and Michael Wilson of the Northern Forest Center reviewed a recently released "wealth index" for the Northern Forest, an area which includes the northern sections of New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. The discussion of this series of social, economic and environmental indicators allowed the Agency to consider how the relationship between people, communities, and natural features has made the Adirondack Park a special place with quality-of-life opportunities that are important to the success of the region's economy.

In a subsequent Committee meeting, local planning and economic staff detailed how land use planning can facilitate community economic improvement. The concept of deter-

mining future development and preservation goals and the importance of creating workable strategies to achieve them was explored. The Committee next focused on two significant industries within the Adirondack Park, forest products and tourism. Information developed through these panel discussions and presentations has been important in creating a better understanding of community dynamics and the type and scale of development opportunities in the Park.

During the year the staff-level Economic Services Unit continued to be a resource for communities interested in expanding or diversifying their economies. Staff provided technical support and information for local economic development planning and helped identify and enlist the support of other State and regional service providers. Staff also provided information on the Agency's permitting process, resource information needed for site selection, and assistance in addressing potential regulatory issues. A key function of the Economic Services Unit is to work with economic developers and project sponsors to build a stronger understanding of the Agency's regulatory process, and the importance of locating development where site conditions and supporting infrastructure will allow development permits to be most easily obtained.



Agency Chairman Richard LeFebvre speaks at the Governor's Quality Communities, Quality Coasts Conference in Albany in October 2001.

Staff continued to work closely with local officials and other community leaders in: Clifton and Fine, St. Lawrence County; in Johnsbury, Warren County; in Moriah, Essex County, and in other Adirondack communities that are actively engaged in efforts to achieve economic renewal and diversification. Mindful that development opportunities vary greatly in the large and economically diverse Adirondack Park, Agency Members and staff have listened carefully to community leaders as they have discussed their aspirations for economic renewal and detailed their perspectives on local assets of importance in tourism- and non-tourism-based economic development.

The Agency also continued its outreach efforts to emphasize the importance of sound planning to both resource protection and the enhancement of local economies, and to indicate that economic development and open space protection are not incompatible goals if people are willing



Agency Commissioners look for more clues in identifying a wetland: Randall Beach (left), Frank Mezzano (center); James Frenette (left of center); and Cecil Wray (right) spend sometime studying wetland vegetation in Ray Brook, September 2001.

to work together. These outreach efforts included three meetings with county legislative leaders in Warren, St. Lawrence and Clinton counties as part of an ongoing series.

During 2001 the Park Agency's regulatory program granted permits to a total of 35 economic development projects. These included: facility improvements at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Ranger School in Wanakena, Town of Fine, St. Lawrence County; the creation of a nine-hole golf course in the Town of Newcomb, Essex County; facility improvements at the Adirondack Regional Airport in Lake Clear, Harrietstown, Franklin County; a new veterinary clinic in Northampton, Fulton County; and two modern facilities for the expansion of wood products companies in the Towns of Willsboro and Chesterfield, Essex County.

| LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES |

Given the number of active local planning programs in the region, the decisions made by local governments impact the Adirondack economy and environment as much as the Agency's work. In this sense, the task of land use management is a shared responsibility, with the Agency learning from the experience of communities about many vital issues of the day, including telecommunications, the need for commercial revitalization and other important aspects. Local Government Services continued to provide support to and learn from Adirondack communities during 2001.

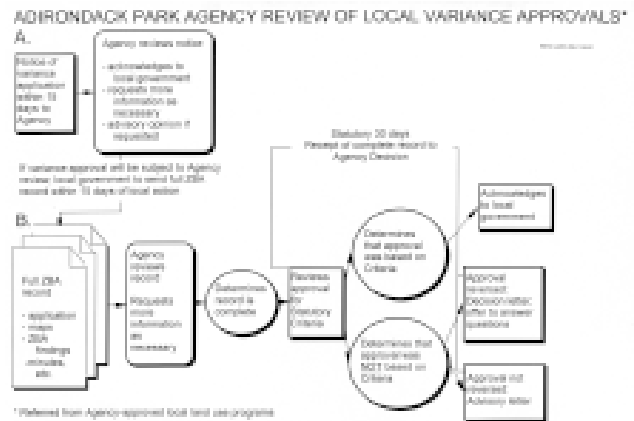
Local Government Day

In March, the Agency and ten other partners co-sponsored the fourth annual "Local Government Day" in Saranac Lake. Over 160 local officials and other organization representatives participated in the day-and-a-half program of workshops



James Hotaling and Daniel Fitts, standing from left, welcomes code enforcement officers to a workshop held at Agency headquarters in Ray Brook, in November 2001, in conjunction with the NYS Department of State.

and sessions on community development, grant funding, design guidelines, jet skis, and other issues. The conference schedule is developed through a Park-wide survey of local governments, in order to respond to the needs of communities. According to Frank Mezzano, Co-Chairman of the Agency's Local Government Services Committee, "The variety of ses-



sions continues to create a vital program and refreshes us in terms of gaining knowledge of local needs and aspirations."

Other Outreach Efforts

Central to the Agency's Strategic Plan is the goal of improving local government outreach efforts. Several initiatives to accomplish this goal were undertaken in 2001.

The Agency co-sponsored workshops around the Park on site plan review, variance, and local administration and en-



Code Enforcement Workshop held at Agency headquarters in Ray Brook in November 2001 in conjunction with the NYS Department of State.

forcement. The New York State Department of State provides support to this effort with advice and information on the aspects of town and village law and the roles and responsibilities of boards and officials who shoulder the main job of guiding new development activity. Agency staff provided guidance on site visits, including a review of soil conditions, visual analysis, and site access, and distributed copies of the new CD-ROM disc which includes Park-wide resource information.

Direct Local Program Assistance

Agency staff assisted over 20 communities with specific assistance, meeting with local boards on many aspects of local planning, from the challenge of starting a local plan for the first time to fine-tuning existing regulations so that they respond to today’s needs. Because of the vast experience of

local governments over the last several years, the Agency can now provide examples of local plans, special studies and regulations from other towns and villages which have been through the process.

Agency-approved Local Programs

The Agency approved the Town of Chesterfield local land use program, the 16th program approved by the Agency. The Town and the Agency also co-sponsored a site review workshop (see above) as an initial effort to help orient local officials and boards to the practical aspects and challenges of development review.

The Agency also approved policies to better process amendments and variance records referred from local governments as part of the two-tiered system envisioned in the Adirondack

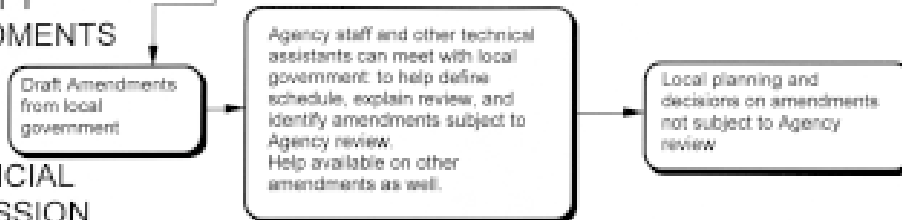
AMENDMENTS TO AGENCY-APPROVED LOCAL PROGRAMS

amend to 2/2008

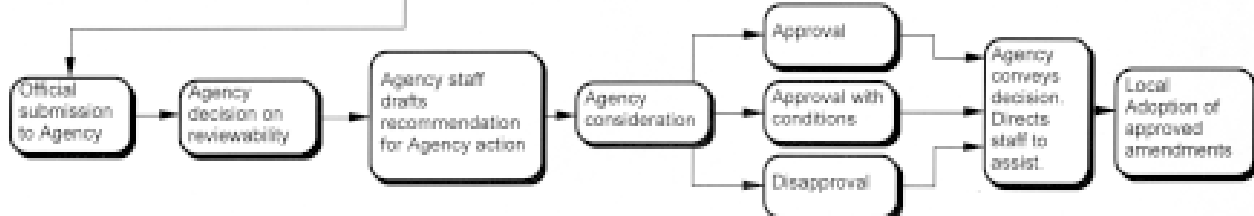
A. EARLY PLANNING



B. DRAFT AMENDMENTS



C. OFFICIAL SUBMISSION



NOTE:
State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

Local and Agency actions on amendments are subject to SEQRA. Local governments are advised to consult with their municipal attorney to identify at an early stage the SEQRA requirements for determinations, environmental assessments, hearings, findings, and other actions.

| PARK PLANNING & POLICY SERVICES |

The Planning Division in 2001 continued to expand its presence and support functions to all the Agency's divisions. During the year its staff provided strong support and leadership for a number of key Agency regional planning, State land and local planning initiatives, including work on revision of the Agency's telecommunications towers policy, strategic planning, regulatory revision, public outreach, records management, team efforts for State land, scenic road corridor planning, local government services, economic services, computer services, staff training programs, and Agency building infrastructure planning and liaison with the Office of General Services (OGS).

The Division also continued its strong support of partnership activities in 2001 including support to the "Gateway Communities" program, Adirondack Community Information Centers (the Towns of Inlet, Hamilton County; Star Lake, St. Lawrence County; and Johnsburg, Warren County, among others); the New York State Geographic Information Clearinghouse; the New York State Scenic Byways Program, and a number of other partnership activities with Park local governments.

Park Policy and Planning Committee

During 2001 the Park Policy and Planning Committee, as part of its ongoing responsibilities to update and maintain the State and private land plans and maps for the Adirondack Park, addressed six technical amendments to the Official Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map. These technical amendments, authorized by Section 805(2)(c)(4) of the APA Act, provide a public process to identify locations where the



The Park Planning and Policy Services staff: Back row, from left: Ed Hood; Nancy Heath; James Hotaling and Henry Savarie. Front row from left: Patricia Kimpton; Susan Parker; John Banta; John Barge and Walter Linck (kneeling).

Official Map does not accurately reflect State and private land ownership boundaries. It helps assure that the records for real property taxation, State agencies and landowners agree to the degree that is achievable with available survey information within the Park.

Telecommunication Towers Policy Revision

In August 2000 the Agency directed the Planning Division to lead an effort to comprehensively examine and revise the Agency's

existing policy adopted in 1978. During 2001 the Division, with the help of a consultant, conducted research on towers policies and practices elsewhere, identified important criteria and considerations, and reviewed these with the Agency. Multiple drafts of recommended policy language were developed by staff and reviewed with the Agency, leading up to a series of five public meetings in November and December to gather public comment. An updated policy is expected to be adopted by the Agency in early 2002.

Scenic Byways Planning and Project Implementation

During the Year 2001 the Agency made continued progress on the implementation of its numerous Scenic Byway projects in the Park. Over the past several years, the Agency has been awarded some \$2 million in Scenic Byway funds pursuant to the Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). These funds provide direct benefits and opportunities for a variety of purposes including road corridor planning, highway safety, pedestrian facilities and improvements, historic preservation, visitor information, and preservation, enhancement and protection of visual resources, among others.

Altogether, these funds will support the completion of twelve Scenic Byway planning and improvement projects and activities in the Adirondack Park, including:

- Route 73: hamlet visitor improvements in the Town of Keene;
- Route 73: tourism interpretation, information, and education planning and improvements;
- Route 73: trailhead access assessment, management plan and safety improvements;
- Route 73: Marcy Field interpretive and recreational facilities improvements;
- Route 28: interpreting the Upper Hudson River Corridor;
- Route 3/86/9N: development and printing of a prototype interpretive map of the 170-mile Olympic Trail;
- Route 3: development and printing of an interpretive guidebook for the Northwest Foothills Region;
- Route 86/9N: development and printing of an interpretive guidebook for the Whiteface/AuSable River Region;
- development and printing of a Citizen's Guide to mitigating stream and road corridor erosion;
- Routes 73, 86, and 9N: development and printing of a map/brochure on the AuSable River and adjacent road corridors;
- creation of a web site on the AuSable River watershed; and
- Route 28: development and production of interpretive exhibit panels for the first Adirondack Community Information Center in the Town of Inlet.

During 2001 the interpretive exhibit project for the first Adirondack Community Information Center in Inlet was successfully completed, serving as a model for two additional centers opened later that year in North Creek and Star Lake. The Agency received final approval on its contract with the New York State Department of Transportation paving the way for the implementation of most of the Scenic Byway projects. The New York State Comptroller approved the Agency's request for a sole-source service agreement with the Town of Keene to enable the Town to take the lead on the Hamlet and Marcy Field projects. A contract between the Agency and the Town was subsequently developed and approved and project planning is under way. Requests for proposals (RFP) for this work are scheduled to be released in early 2002.



James Hotaling receives recognition from Commissioners Frank Mezzano (left) and James Townsend (far right) for his 25 years of dedicated service to the State of New York.

The Agency also expects to release an RFP and put a consultant under contract in 2002 for development and completion of four linked interpretive exhibit stations along the Route 28 Upper Hudson River Corridor in the Town of Johnsburg. The Agency also hired a graphic designer to assist in the development of a citizens guide, map materials, and web site development. All of this work is under way and is expected to be complete in 2002.

These Scenic Byway projects will help contribute to the enhancement, preservation and protection of some of the Park's most valuable scenic road corridor resources, as well as provide substantial benefits to a number of Park local governments.

Work on all of the Agency's Scenic Byway-funded projects is expected to be completed over the course of the next three years.

Geographic Information System, Cartographic Services, and Records Management

Principal among the Year 2001 accomplishments in the Planning Division's GIS and cartographic services unit are (1) the update and reprinting of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map (including update of the State land portion of this map), (2) production of the shared Adirondack Park GIS CD, and (3) development of an interactive mapping application that enables internet users to access the Agency's State and private land class map from the NYS web banner. Visitors to the State's World Wide Web sites are able to view and zoom in on any area of the Park to view the private and State lands maps and classifications, waters, roads, municipal boundaries and similar map features.

Cartographic staff continued to enhance the electronic information available to all staff on their desktops through the Agency's "Look-up" System. This system uses Geographic Information System software to combine maps, such as the Official Land Use and Development Plan Map, with data such as information about property ownership from real property

tax rolls, or prior Agency determinations from the Agency's permit and jurisdictional inquiry indexes. Regarding the Agency's shared CD, during the year staff compiled over 50 data layers from 11 data producers to enhance the use and access of the information by local governments and others.

Public access to the Agency's GIS resources continues to be provided through the New York State GIS Clearinghouse, maintained on the Internet by the NYS Office for Technology.

At present the available interactive mapping information is limited to the base map and official land classifications as a demonstration of new on-line public services being considered at the Agency. Planning Division staff maintain the Agency's web site home page, which received over 22,000 visits in 2001.

Planning staff also supervise the Agency's records management program. Over 110 boxes of materials were processed for microfilming and archival storage in 2001. Staff also initiated work on establishing a new and faster CD-formatted record retrieval system, intended to eventually replace the Agency's need to maintain microfiche records.

| ADMINISTRATION SERVICES |

The bulk of the work of the Agency's Administration Committee focused on review and discussion of the Telecommunications Towers Policy revision being led by the Planning Division, which was initiated in August of 2000. This work involved detailed discussions with a consultant hired to spearhead the effort, the LA Group of Saratoga, New York. In addition to numerous Agency meetings and discussions on this project, five public meetings were held on the proposed policy revisions. An updated policy was adopted in early 2002. The Committee put the finishing touches on the Public Comment Policy and Meeting Minutes Policy. The Administration



Agency Secretary Bettijane Forrester receives accolades from Commissioner Cecil Wray, Chairman Lefebvre, and Commissioner William Kissel for her 25 years of service.

Committee also spent time reviewing and commenting on the updated Citizen's Guide, which is intended to provide basic information about the Agency's land use regulatory authority. The new Citizen's Guide, released last year, has been applauded for its fresh approach to providing this information and has been very well received by the citizens of the Park.

Finally, the Committee began the process of sorting out and reviewing all existing Agency policies and memorandums of understanding with the goal of bringing them up-to-date and including them in the overall policy system.

| **STATE LAND SERVICES** |

What an exciting time for the protection, recreational use and enjoyment of the Adirondack's State land. Under Governor Pataki's leadership the Agency has initiated a number of projects to accomplish these goals and to resolve a number of long-standing issues.

With the support of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), an additional staff person has been added to the State Land staff

with the expectation the Agency will fulfill its part of the Governor's commitment to complete all unit management plans in the Park.

A summary of the many State land activities is provided below.

Unit Management Planning Initiative

Wise management of our State land resources and quality recreational opportunities in the Adirondack Park are the cornerstone of Governor Pataki's initiative to complete all unit management plans for the Adirondack Park. For the past year the Agency has been fully committed to and engaged in this effort.

The Agency was involved throughout the year in the development and review of 32 individual unit management plans and plan amendments drafted by the DEC and the Olympic Regional Development Authority. This work involved 25 site visits, 30 meetings with DEC staff, and 35 responses to DEC requests for information or advice. Staff also participated in two unit management planning conferences organized by the DEC and created a set of GIS CD-ROMs containing



Agency Commissioner William Kissel visits with the Agency's Counselor John Banta and State Land Project Coordinator Walk Linck at the Agency's Kid's Christmas party.

important, current resource data for use by the planners in their effort.

Americans with Disabilities Act

In July a landmark settlement of the Galusha lawsuit was achieved—with Agency participation—that has cleared the way for implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act within the Forest Preserve. This positive turn of events in Park history creates significant new

opportunities for the disabled while preserving the management of our public land in a manner consistent with the New York State Constitution and the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.



Agency Chairman Lefebvre with Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Erin Crotty at the state fair in Syracuse in August, 2001.

Agency Actions

An amendment to the Whiteface Mountain Ski Area Unit Management Plan was approved by the Agency at its July meeting. This amendment has enabled the Olympic Regional Development Authority to maintain Whiteface Mountain's international certification and prominence in the world of downhill ski racing and allows that venue to continue to attract world-class skiing competitions to the Adirondacks.

A revised State Land policy on Agency Review of Unit Management Plans was adopted at the October meeting. This important policy is aimed at ensuring a consistent and timely process for review of unit management plans. It also marks a new day of invigorated cooperation and improved working relationships with our sister agency, the DEC.



Agency Regional Planner Chuck Scraftord (foreground) on a site visit on Stony Pond in the Vanderwhacker Wild Forest with Project Supervisor for State Lands Walter Linck.

In addition to unit management plan activities, 42 separate State land projects or issues demanded the involvement of staff. A few of these were critical and difficult issues concerning compliance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

Comprehensive Adirondack Snowmobile Plan

The Agency participated in discussions with the DEC and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on the development of a plan to provide for long-term recreational opportunities for snowmobilers in the Adirondack Park. We look forward to continued work on this project in the coming year and to hearing public perspectives concerning it.

ADIRONDACK PARK | LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD |

Section 803-a of the Adirondack Park Agency Act provides for the establishment of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board. As provided by law, the purpose of the Review Board is to advise and assist the Agency in carrying out its mission. The Agency enjoys a strong working relationship with the Review Board through open discussion and dialogue focused on local government perspectives.



Local Government Review Board Executive Director Joseph T. Rota meets with Governor Pataki at LP Quinn middle school in Tupper Lake.

Agency Members and staff regularly attend the Review Board meetings which are held monthly throughout the Adirondack Park. At

the monthly Adirondack Park Agency meetings, Review Board staff play a prominent and active role in all deliberations. The Agency's efforts to achieve balanced decision making are greatly enhanced by this dialogue.

In keeping with his commitment to foster a strong working relationship with the communities of the Adirondack Park, Governor Pataki included \$50,000 in operating funds for the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board in the Agency's budget.

Local Government Review Board Staff

- CHAIRMAN, Lloyd Moore, St. Lawrence County
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Joseph T. Rota
- COUNSEL, John C. McDonald
- SECRETARY, Carol A. Monroe

Members of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board

- Clinton County John Maye/Howard Aubin
- Essex County Dale French/John Paradis
- Franklin County Nellie Staves
- Fulton County Sylvia Parker*
- Fulton County Theodore J. Collins, David Edwards (alt.)
- Hamilton County Richard Amadon/Barry Hutchins
- Herkimer County Henry Eykelhoff/George Hildebrandt/Linda Eykelhoff
- Lewis County Randolph Kerr
- St. Lawrence County Lloyd Moore (Chairman)
- Saratoga County Bruce Brownell/Jean Raymond
- Warren County John O'Neill/Frederick H. Monroe
- Washington County Bob Banks/John LaPointe

*Special liaison

Contact: Joseph Rota, Executive Director, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board, PO Box 63, Huletts Landing, New York 12841, Phone 518-499-2753.

| THE ADIRONDACK PARK INSTITUTE, INC. |

The Adirondack Park Institute, Inc. (API) is a New York State not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. It was founded in 1989 by a Statewide constituency of private citizens interested in raising money to provide environmentally focused educational curricula and resources to our communities through the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Centers (VICs).

API is the private funding vehicle for program development and resource enhancement at both the VICs. The API's mission is to give children and their parents the tools to answer their own questions and learn how to think, especially about caring for the environment around them.

The funding for promotion and support of the educational programs available at the Centers comes from two principal sources: the general public in the form of API memberships and donations, and grants from corporate sponsors and foundations.

The API's goal for the future is to continue to promote and facilitate funding for the ever-changing and developing programs offered at the Visitor Interpretive Centers. It is essential to continue to provide communities, and especially children, with up-to-date information concerning the environment around them. It is with this knowledge that they may better comprehend, relish, utilize and protect the Adirondack Park.

Adirondack Park Institute, Inc.

PRESIDENT, Col. Robert C. Lilly, USAF (Ret.)
 SECRETARY, Mary E. Lyle
 TREASURER, Herman F. Cole
 ASSISTANT TREASURER, George H. Canon
 VICE PRESIDENT, Development/Membership,
 Charles F. Monzeglio, Jr.

TRUSTEES

Frank A. Augsbury, Jr.
 Sarah Bogdanovitch
 Thad P. Collum
 Michael I. German
 Thomas H. Gosnell
 William B. Hale
 Frank M. Hutchins
 Pieter V.C. Litchfield
 George Miller
 Charles E. Sporck
 Robert Stegemann

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Richard J. Bartlett, Esq.
 Wayne H. Byrne
 Scott F. Cristman, Esq.
 Douglass C. Harvey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Linda J. Bennett
 P.O. Box 256
 Newcomb, NY 12852
 518-582-2022

2001 BUDGET | APPROPRIATIONS & STATISTICS SUMMARY |

The Adirondack Park Agency operates three facilities: its Headquarters in Ray Brook and two Visitor Interpretive Centers, one in Paul Smiths, Franklin County, and the other in Newcomb, Essex County. In addition to the operating funds for these facilities, the Agency's budget contains a \$50,000 appropriation for the ongoing operation of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board.

The following are the funds appropriated for the 2001-2002 fiscal year for the operation and staffing of facilities:

Total Operating Funds	\$ 4,295,000
Local Government Review Board	\$ 50,000
Staffing Level for 2001	65 permanent staff

The Agency budget further contains authorization to receive funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency for ongoing wetland characterization projects in the Park's major river basins.

Workload Statistics

Project Review

Applications received	254
Permits issued	239

Jurisdictional Inquiry Office

Written jurisdictional inquiries	853 received, 829 responded to, with an average 8-day response time
Telephone inquiries	5,582
Public inquiries	309
Referrals from other State agencies and departments	865 received
Freedom of Information Act inquiries	99
Wetland delineations	267 completed in an average of 12.5 days after request
Enforcement cases	172 current and 2,474 backlog cases closed
Site visits conducted	488
State Land Team activities	52 site visits; 80 meetings with DEC; 32 UMPs and 42 projects reviewed
VIC Visitors	96,593
VIC School Groups and Special Program attendance	24,796

| CHANGING FACES |

The Agency bids farewell to staff...



Michael Storey retired in May. An Adirondack Park Naturalist, Mike had been with the Visitor Interpretive Center in Paul Smiths since the facility opened in 1989. He worked for the Agency in Ray Brook prior to his Paul Smiths appointment, providing

his skills as an Adirondack Park Naturalist in the Planning Division. Mike can be credited with much of the design and layout of the trail systems at both Visitor Interpretive Centers, as well as having a strong hand in the successful Interpretive Program the Agency enjoys today.

Alex Hyatt resigned in March. The Senior Public Information Specialist since 1999, he moved to the Albany region, where he now works for the New York State Office for the Aging.



Karen Roy, a long-serving staff member in the Agency's RASS unit left the Agency to become the Director of the Adirondack Lakes Survey Corporation here in Ray

Brook. The Agency looks forward to many cooperative initiatives with Karen in the future.



Agency Counsel, **Charlie Fox**, accepted a position in the Governor's Office in Albany. The Agency is grateful for his many contributions including rule revision and policy development projects.



Sandra Bureau resigned as Director of Interpretive Programs to pursue opportunities in the private sector. She first served on the original VIC Education Advisory Committee and as one of

the first teachers in residence, while a science teacher in Long Lake. Sandy was the first naturalist and facility manager for the Newcomb VIC and worked there from its opening in 1990 until becoming Division Director in 1996.

The Agency welcomes new staff...



Andy Flynn joined the Agency's Visitor Interpretive Center in Paul Smiths in July as the new Senior Public Information Specialist for both VIC facilities. He is a ten-year veteran of the

journalism trade in the Adirondack Park region, which included stints as editor and reporter at both the Adirondack Daily Enterprise in Saranac Lake and the Lake Placid News and as reporter for North Country Public Radio in Canton. Andy received a bachelor's degree in communication from the SUNY College at Fredonia in 1991.



Cara McCann joined the Agency's Visitor Interpretive Center in Paul Smiths in February as the new Artist Designer 4. Prior to her current job, she taught video art for The Ark, an after-school program in the City of Troy. She also

has experience teaching arts and crafts. Cara received a bachelor's degree in Latin American studies from SUNY Binghamton and a master's degree in studio art from SUNY Albany in 2000.



Penny Dufrane joined the Agency's Visitor Interpretive Center in Paul Smiths in April as the Cleaner. Prior to her appointment, this St. Regis Falls native worked at Paul Smith's College for 12 years in the maintenance department.



Ed Snizek joined the Agency's Legal Division in March of 2001 as an additional Enforcement Officer hired to help reduce the backlog of open enforcement cases. Ed also serves as the Agency's Health and Safety Officer.

Ed worked for the Clinton County Health Department as the Director of Environmental Health for ten years prior to joining the Agency. He has also held positions with the Oneida Health Depart-

ment and the Adirondack Lake Survey Corporation. Ed earned his bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University, Virginia, and his master's degree in zoology from DePauw University, Indiana.



Walt Linck joined the Agency as a Project Assistant (State Land) in the Planning Division. Walt's job is to assist the Governor's Priority Initiative of completing all unit management plans in the Adirondack Park. Walt has earned a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's in

environmental science from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He has held a variety of positions in environmental education programs and most recently directed the Adirondack AmeriCorps Program.



Sean Connin joined the Agency as the Associate Project Analyst, Freshwater, in the RASS unit. Sean brings experience in environmental research, teaching, and management to the Agency's efforts to protect and enhance the freshwaters of the

Adirondack Park. Sean has an undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado, holds advanced degrees from Yale and Dartmouth, and has done postdoctorate work at the Universities of Arizona and Arkansas. He has held a variety of private sector and public positions. Most recently, he directed the Adirondack Aquatic Institute at Paul Smith's College.



As we reported in the 2000 Annual Report, **Sunita Halasz**, became a permanent member of the RASS staff through appointment to an Environmental Program Specialist position. She had been working with the Agency on two EPA-funded watershed projects since 2000. Sunita holds

both a Bachelor's and Master's degree from Cornell University. Her expertise in the use of geographic information system information and technologies has helped advance a number of Agency initiatives and projects.



Jennifer Okonuk joined the Agency as a Project Assistant to the Enforcement program. A Paul Smith's College graduate, Jennifer has been involved in and focused her work load on the Agency's efforts to reduce the Enforcement backlog.

In Memory

The Agency sadly notes the passing of **Harold Jerry**, a progenitor of the Agency who was legendary for his love of the Park and tireless efforts to protect its resources.

We also lost "our best man" **George R. Farrell** in 2001. George was a long-time staff member renowned for his quick wit and personality. George loved people and will be long remembered for the profound impact he had on those who came in contact with him.

The Agency bid a fond farewell to **Robert Traver**, who also passed away in 2001. Bob was a long-time volunteer in the Agency's Economic Development Services Program. He was a summer resident of Mt. Arab in the Town of Piercefield.

Jack Cogan, a long-time VIC volunteer who spearheaded the summer astronomy program at the Paul Smiths VIC, passed away in December after moving west. During his tenure, he taught thousands of people about the stars, solar system and galaxies – looking at sunspots in the morning and gazing at stars long into the night. Before he left the area, Jack donated his astronomy equipment to the Paul Smiths facility.

| STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE |

The Agency realized significant progress on implementation of its strategic plan. Improving Agency effectiveness and efficiency was evident in the following achievements:

- adoption of the first installment of Agency regulatory changes;
- development and use of new Agency permit shells and application forms;
- reissuance of a general permit for removal of beaver dams and initiation of work on other general permits;
- initiation of an effort to redesign the Agency web site;
- completion and distribution of a new Citizen's Guide to Adirondack Park Land Use Regulations;
- development of a draft plan for evaluating Adirondack Park cultural, economic, and natural resource trends;
- continuation of county outreach meetings, and development and release of a new monthly newsletter "Community Chat;" and



Tony Kirby of the New York State Thruway Authority and Rick Pilarski of the Governor's Office of Employee Relations, receive an award of appreciation for their work with the Agency's Performance Measurement strategies from Daniel Fitts in June, 2001.

- resolution and closure of several thousand outstanding Agency enforcement cases.

The Agency's Strategic Plan emphasis in 2002 will continue to be on performance measurement activities, and products that will help the Agency produce a more timely and efficient project review process, reduce the backlog of enforcement cases, and expand the number and type of public outreach and training opportunities available.

The Agency is grateful for the contributions of Mr. Rick Pilarski of the New York State Governor's Office on Employee Relations and Mr. Tony Kirby of the New York State Thruway Authority and their respective agencies for participating in this project. Both freely shared their expertise in all aspects of strategic planning and played a major role in the development and ongoing implementation of the Agency's Plan.

| AGENCY AWARDS |

Each year, the Agency celebrates Earth Day by recognizing those who have given something special to the Adirondack Park. The 2001 Earth Day awards were presented to the following individuals who contributed in some way for this purpose:

Nellie Staves, Tupper Lake—protection of fish and wildlife;
 Heidi Kretser, Wildlife Conservation Society—Adirondack
 Community Information Centers;
 Theresa Sayward, Town of Westport Supervisor—Noblewood
 Park Project;
 Joe Boardman, Commissioner, NYS DOT—environmental
 sensitivity in highway construction;
 Jim Tinney, NYS DOT—promoting interagency coopera-
 tion on roadside landscapes;
 Stu Buchanan and Sandy LeBarron, NYS DEC—projects to
 improve wastewater treatment;
 Gary Gunther, Environmental Facilities Corporation—
 projects to improve water quality; and
 William Muszynski, US Environmental Protection Agency—
 wetland protection projects.

US Highway Administration Award

Chairman Lefebvre and Dan Spada of our RASS Division, on behalf of the Agency, proudly received an award from the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, DC, for the Division's work on the Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation Program along Adirondack Park roadsides. Joining the Agency in receipt of this award are the project partners, the New York State Department of Transportation, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Adirondack Nature Conservancy.

Adirondack Council Award

At its annual meeting in the summer of 2001, the Adirondack Council presented an award for the interpretive programing at the Visitor Interpretive Centers. Chairman Lefebvre accepted the award on behalf of the Agency and expressed his pride and appreciation to the Council in his acceptance speech.

| STAFF ROSTER |

Administration

Daniel T. Fitts, *Executive Director*
 Victoria Hristovski, *Director of Public Information*
 Deborah Lester, *Secretary to Executive Director*
 Stephen M. Erman, *Special Assistant, Economic Affairs*
 Judith A. Smith, *Head Clerk*
 Patrick Farrell, *General Mechanic*
 Susan A. Carey, *Calculations Clerk 2*
 Laurreta H. Bullis, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
 Bettijane Forrester, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
 Robert Kreider, *Senior Computer Program Analyst*
 Howard Baker, *Green Thumb*
 Charlyne Phillips, *Green Thumb*

Legal

Charles G. Fox, *Counsel (left Agency 4/01)*
 Barbara A. Rottier, *Associate Counsel*
 Kathleen D. Talbot, *Secretary 2*
 Richard R. Terry, *Senior Attorney*
 Ellen Egan George, *Senior Attorney*
 Mitchell Goroski, *Senior Attorney*
 Paul Van Cott, *Senior Attorney*
 Colleen C. Parker, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Rita G. Quinn, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Brian Ford, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Emily M. Tyner, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Donald D. Smith, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Michael P. Hannon, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Edward S. Snizek, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 (joined Agency 2/01)
 Susan Van Wormer, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
 Mary Reardon, *Keyboard Specialist 1*

Planning

John S. Banta, *Director of Planning*
 Edward J. Hood, *Assistant Director of Planning*
 Patricia A. Kimpton, *Secretary 1*
 Nancy M. Heath, *Principal Clerk*
 Susan H. Parker, *Cartographic Technician 3*
 James W. Hotaling, *Chief, Local Government Services*
 Henry A. Savarie, *Senior Natural Resource Planner*
 Charles W. Scrafford, *Supervisor of Regional Planning*
 John W. Barge, *Senior Natural Resource Planner*
 Walter W. Linck, *Project Coordinator(State land)*
 (joined Agency 2/01)

Resource Analysis & Scientific Services

Raymond P. Curran, *Supervisor, Natural Resource Analysis*
 David B. Fleury, *Soil & Water Engineering Specialist*
 Sean Connin, *Associate Project Analyst, Freshwater*
 (joined Agency 5/01)
 Brian F. Grisi, *Associate Project Analyst, Forest Resources*
 Daniel M. Spada, *Associate Project Analyst, Biological Resources*
 Karen M. Roy, *Project Analyst, Physical Resources*
 (left Agency 2/01)
 Mark W. Rooks, *Biologist 2 Trainee (Ecology)*
 Sunita S. Halasz, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 (joined Agency 3/01)

Regulatory Programs

William J. Curran, *Director of Regulatory Programs*
 Mark Sengenberger, *Assistant Director of Regulatory Programs*
 Theresa LeBaron, *Secretary 1*
 Tracy Frechette, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
 Richard D. Jarvis, *Environmental Program Specialist 3*
 Gary J. Duprey, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
 George V. Outcalt, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
 John L. Quinn, *Environmental Program Specialist 2*
 Suzanne B. McSherry, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Thomas E. Saehrig, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Virginia Yamrick, *Environmental Program Specialist 1*
 Douglas Hamernik, *Environmental Program Specialist Trainee*

Interpretive Programs

Paul Smiths Visitor Center

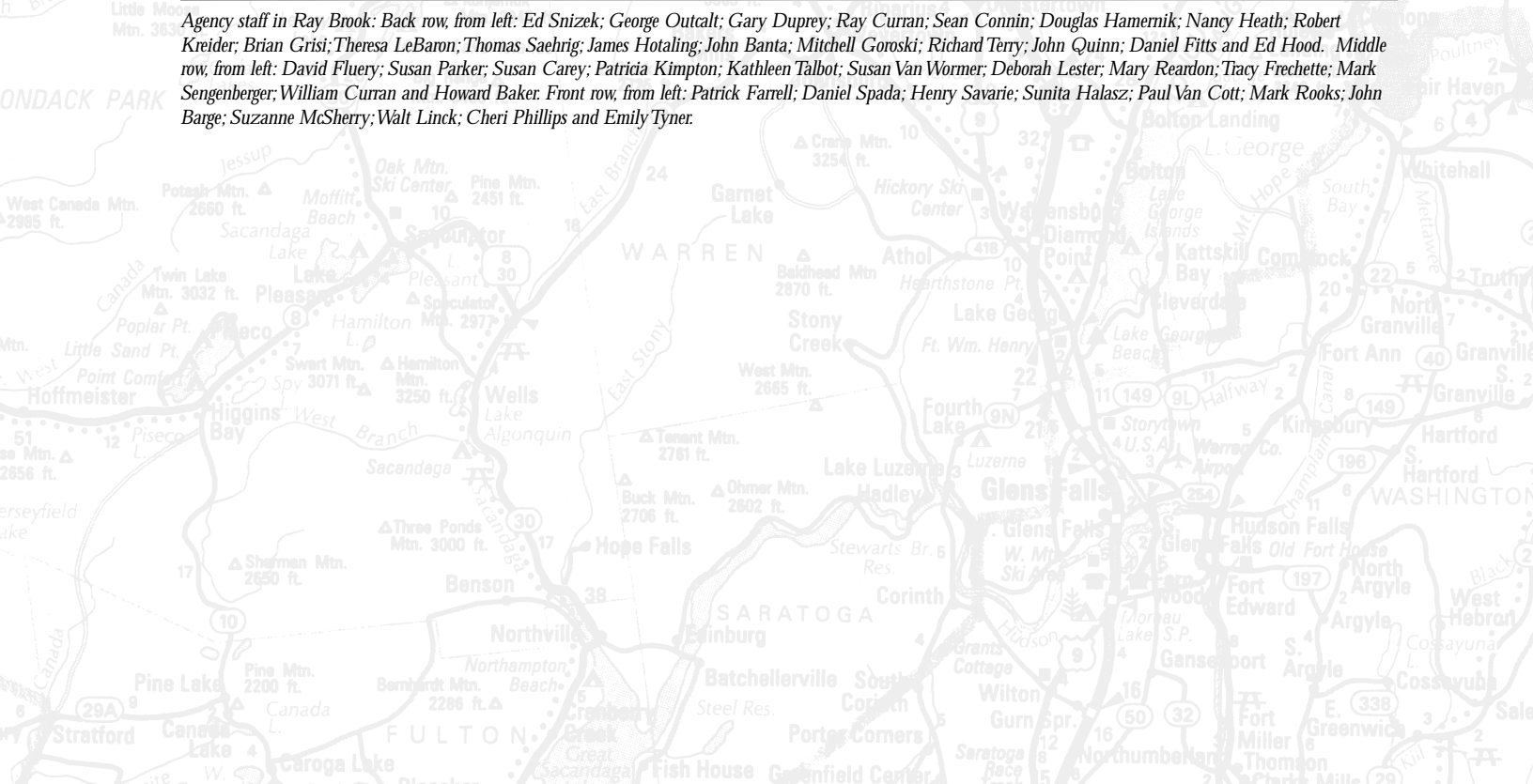
Sandra Bureau, *Director of Interpretive Programs (left Agency 12/01)*
 Joanne B. McDowell, *Administrative Aide*
 Michael J. Storey, *Environmental Educator 3 (retired 5/01)*
 Michael Brennan, *Environmental Educator 3*
 Andy Flynn, *Senior Public Information Specialist (joined Agency 7/01)*
 Cara McCann, *Artist Designer 4 (joined Agency 2/01)*
 Brian McCallister, *Coordinator of Volunteer Services*
 Clarence G. Hare, *Maintenance Supervisor 1*
 Robbie Cox, *Laborer*
 Penny Dufrane, *Cleaner (joined Agency in 4/01)*

Newcomb Visitor Center

Rynda McCray, *Environmental Educator 3*
 Ellen Rathbone, *Environmental Educator 1*
 Mary Hall, *Coordinator of Volunteer Services*
 Kathleen Jennings, *Keyboard Specialist 1*
 Michael Tracy, *Maintenance Assistant*
 Emily Dehoff, *Seasonal Naturalist*



Agency staff in Ray Brook: Back row, from left: Ed Snizek; George Outcalt; Gary Duprey; Ray Curran; Sean Connin; Douglas Hamernik; Nancy Heath; Robert Kreider; Brian Grisi; Theresa LeBaron; Thomas Saehrig; James Hotaling; John Banta; Mitchell Goroski; Richard Terry; John Quinn; Daniel Fitts and Ed Hood. Middle row, from left: David Fluery; Susan Parker; Susan Carey; Patricia Kimpton; Kathleen Talbot; Susan Van Wormer; Deborah Lester; Mary Reardon; Tracy Frechette; Mark Sengenberger; William Curran and Howard Baker. Front row, from left: Patrick Farrell; Daniel Spada; Henry Savarie; Sunita Halasz; Paul Van Cott; Mark Rooks; John Barge; Suzanne McSherry; Walt Linck; Cheri Phillips and Emily Tyner.





NEW YORK STATE

Adirondack parkagency

George E. Pataki, *Governor*
Richard H. Lefebvre, *Chairman*
Daniel T. Fitts, *Executive Director*

State of New York
Adirondack Park Agency
Route 86
P.O. Box 99
Ray Brook, NY 12977
518.891.4050
www.state.ny.us

Paul Smiths Visitor
Interpretive Center
Route 30
P.O. Box 3000
Paul Smiths, NY 12970
518.327.3000

Newcomb Visitor
Interpretive Center
Route 28N
P.O. Box 101
Newcomb, NY 12852
518.582.2000