

NEW YORK STATE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY



“Facing natural disasters and their related economic hardships, the Adirondack Park community stood together in 2011 to persevere. Going forward we must build upon this momentum to ensure the protection of the Park’s natural wonders. With the same conviction, we will promote economic opportunities to sustain the 103 towns and villages which add so much to the character of this special place.”

Chairwoman Leilani Crafts Ulrich

Annual Report

2011

Message from the Chairwoman



**Chairwoman
Leilani Crafts Ulrich**



Above: Agency ACR Executive Hearing staff and Board Members tour the Adirondack Club and Resort project site.

At Right: Over 900 people attended two Legislative Hearings held to solicit public comment on the Adirondack Club and Resort Project.

Bottom: Chairwoman Ulrich leads Board in final deliberation on the Adirondack Club and Resort project.

Cover: Keene Valley Wilderness Rescue Coordinator, Ron Konowitz, assesses tropical storm Irene damage on Lower Wolf Jaw in the High Peaks Wilderness.

2011 was one for the record books for the Adirondack Park Agency! The Agency deliberated the Adirondack Club and Resort project and implemented its first statutory change to the Park Agency Act in nearly 30 years with the passage of the Community Housing Legislation. In November, the first woman Chair, who also happened to be the first chair from Herkimer County, welcomed the first Commissioner from St. Lawrence County to the Agency Board. I extend my deepest gratitude to Governor Cuomo for his trust and confidence in conferring these historic honors.

On behalf of the women of my family and of the Adirondacks - especially those who served to protect this Park and help grow its communities - I am delighted to have the privilege to build upon my seven years experience as an Agency Board Member. I thank my predecessors for their service and dedication to this amazing Park, a place many of us are so very fortunate to call home. Their extraordinary efforts paved the way for this day.

During my first three months, the Agency focused on the significant task of reviewing the Adirondack Club and Resort project. It was a monumental effort for both the Board and Agency staff. Now, we have the opportunity to help write the next chapter of the Adirondack story - a story in which the Park Agency meets its regulatory duties with greater efficiency and plays a transformational role in listening to and encouraging more productive dialogue for the good of all who live, work and play in this magnificent place. I am eager to collectively turn the page and reach for the true potential of the Adirondack Park by embracing our combined strengths.

Our ability to find common ground is rooted in a responsibility to balance the needs of environment, economy and community. We are stronger and more effective when we rally around issues where we agree. Together we can accomplish great things.

My deepest appreciation goes to my colleagues for their support and especially to the remarkable staff who daily carry on the legacy of resource protection and community planning. It is an honor and privilege to serve with each and every one of you.



Message from the Executive Director



**Executive Director
Terry Martino**



Above: Agency Hearing staff confer prior to ACR Adjudicatory hearing. From Left - Senior Attorney Mitch Goroski, Environmental Program Specialist 2 Colleen Parker, Supervisor Natural Resources Daniel Spada and Associate Attorney Paul Van Cott.

At Right: From Left - Deputy Director for Regulatory Programs Richard Weber, DOT Commissioner Joan McDonald, and APA Executive Director Terry Martino at a site visit during construction of the Lake Champlain Bridge.

2011 was an extraordinary year for the Adirondack Park. Spring rains, snow melt and a late summer storm led to unprecedented levels of flooding that devastated communities. The 2011 floods required immediate actions to protect life, property and mitigate economic, community and environmental costs. Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, the Agency coordinated with federal, state and local entities to ensure streamlined emergency authorizations to rebuild roads, infrastructure and damaged property in an expedited timeframe.

2011 saw an interesting rhythm for permit review at the Park Agency driven by the Adirondack Club and Resort project. Hearing staff assisted in the preparation of the complete hearing record which Judge Daniel O'Connell certified in October. Executive Team staff members aided the Board in their deliberations over three months from November and December 2011 through final Board approval for the project on January 20, 2012.

In response to Governor Cuomo's January 2011 State of the State charge to increase efficiency of public services, the Agency reengineered itself to address the hundreds of small-scale permits involving citizens around the Park. The Action, Coordination and Efficiency effort (ACE) linked Jurisdictional, Enforcement and Regulatory Program staff in a joint effort to increase responsiveness. The ACE Team includes Doug Miller in the Jurisdictional office, Ariel Diggory Lynch in the Regulatory Program and John Burth in Enforcement. ACE restructuring simplifies Agency processes and increases continuity for the public. ACE improvements provide a road map for future reassessment of General Permits, application forms and procedures for major projects.

Significant staff changes occurred in 2011. Senior Attorney Richard Terry retired after 30 years of dedicated service to the Park and its communities. Sarah Reynolds was appointed from Senior Attorney to Associate Counsel. Steve Brewer joined the Agency as a Senior Attorney. Ronald Tucker accepted the Associate Project Analyst: Forest/Soils position. Daniel Kelleher joined the Agency at the end of the year as the new Special Assistant for Economic Affairs.

Mr. Kelleher will assist with my ongoing Council Liaison role to the North Country Economic Development Council. The Agency welcomed its support staff role to the North Country Economic Development Council and provided service towards the region's transformative work. The Agency was thrilled when The North Country Council was awarded funding as a "Best Awardee" in December.

I am proud of the work of all the Agency staff and appreciative of the direction of the Agency Board and Cuomo Administration. Together we acknowledge that a tremendous love of the Adirondack Park is a strong motivator. Our daily task is to achieve the Agency's mission for environmental protection and environmental compliance. The benefits are for the communities, residents, visitors and the diverse natural resources and wild lands of this magnificent place—the Adirondack Park—forever emblazoned in our experiences.



About the Adirondack Park



Aspiring Mountain Biker
Hardy Road Wilmington Wild For-
est Trails, Wilmington, Essex
County

At Right:
The Adirondack Park land use
map is superimposed over satellite
imagery. The Park covers 6 mil-
lion acres of New York State. In
2011, the Agency celebrated The
International Year of the Forest.
[Link to Earth Day Resolution](#)

Celebrated during the Adirondack Park Centennial as a “place of people and natural wonder,” the Park has a legacy dating back to 1892 when it was created by the State of New York amid concerns about water and timber resources. The Adirondack Park represents a story of conservation—of how people, communities, wilderness and open space can coexist—for the more than 6 million acres of land that comprise the park.

The heart of the [Adirondack Park](#) is the Forest Preserve which was created by an act of the New York State Legislature in 1885. Through Article 14 of the New York State Constitution, the Forest Preserve lands are constitutionally protected: “The lands now or hereafter constituting them shall be forever kept as wild forest lands. They shall not be sold, nor shall they be leased or taken by any person or corporation public or private.”

The mix of State and private lands is an underlying characteristic of the Adirondack Park. Comprised of 103 towns and villages, the park includes diverse communities with unique Main Streets, farms, small businesses, working forests, open space, and a range of services and products. The abundance of nature-based tourism and world-class outdoor recreational opportunities, combined with the character and appearance of its public and private lands, make the park notably different from most other rural areas. The park offers an unparalleled small town quality and room for businesses within its towns and villages that are gateways to public lands.

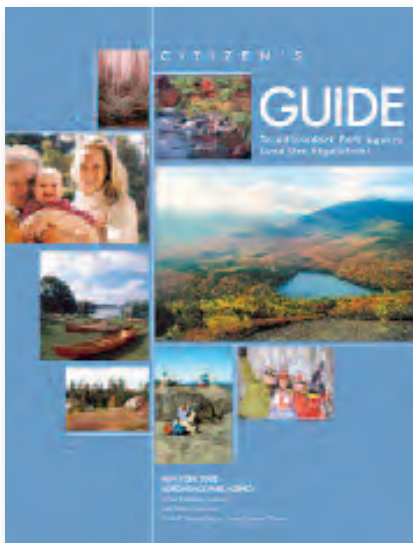
The Park represents one-fifth of New York’s land area and has the largest publicly protected area in the contiguous United States—comparable in size to the State of Vermont. The Park is home to 132,000 residents and boasts more than 10,000 lakes, 30,000 miles of rivers and streams, and a wide variety of habitats including wetlands and old-growth forests recognized for their ecological significance. Situated within a day’s drive of nearly 85 million people, the park is well positioned to offer its unique blend of wilderness solitude, outdoor recreation and community life to the millions of visitors who in increasing numbers see the park as a unique travel destination. The blend of public and private lands provides the Adirondack Park with a unique diversity found nowhere else.



About the Adirondack Park Agency



Backcountry skier sets off on an Adirondack adventure.



For more information, click on the Citizen's Guide cover above for a direct link to the Agency website.

At right:

The [APA Act](#) works to channel growth to where it is best supported. View of the Village of Lake Placid, Essex County

The [Adirondack Park Agency](#) (APA) was created in 1971 by the New York State Legislature with the mission to protect the public and private resources within the "Blue Line" of the Adirondack Park through the exercise of the powers and duties of the Agency as provided by law. The basic purpose of the [APA Act](#) is "to insure optimum overall conservation, development and use of the unique scenic, aesthetic, wildlife, recreational, open space, historic, ecological and natural resources of the Adirondack Park."

The Agency works to balance the complementary needs of all the people of the State for the preservation of the park's resources and open space character with the needs of the park's permanent, seasonal and transient populations for growth and service areas, employment, and a strong diversified economic base. To achieve its mission the Agency administers two regional land use plans: the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (SLMP) for State lands and the Adirondack Park Private Land Use and Development Plan for private lands. These documents classify State and private lands according to their characteristics and capacity to sustain use.

In the [State Land Master Plan](#), State lands are classified in one of the following categories: Wilderness, Primitive, Canoe, Wild Forest, Intensive Use, Historic and State Administrative. The SLMP establishes policy for the management of these lands and was developed in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) with approval by the Governor. DEC is charged with the care and custody of the Forest Preserve .

The [Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan](#) applies to private land use and development in the park. The plan defines Agency jurisdiction and is designed to conserve the park's natural resources and open-space character by directing and clustering development to minimize impact. Through the plan, all private lands are mapped into six land use classifications: Hamlet, Moderate Intensity Use, Low Intensity Use, Rural Use, Resource Management and Industrial Use. The Agency has limited jurisdiction in Hamlet areas, extensive jurisdiction in Resource Management areas, and various degrees of jurisdiction within the other land use classifications.

The Agency also administers two other statutes which define jurisdiction within the Park: the State Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Systems Act for private lands and the State Freshwater Wetlands Act for both the park's public and private lands. The Agency's administration of these statutes integrates the State's goals of preserving river areas and wetlands with the closely related purposes of the SLMP and Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan.

Agency programs include: Administration, Economic Services, Regulatory Programs, Park Planning, Local Government Services, State Land, Resource Analysis and Scientific Services, and Legal Services. Staff members are multi-disciplined and dedicated to the Agency's mission — all staff members are park residents living in various towns and villages.



Adirondack Park Agency Board

BOARD MEMBERS

Leilani C. Ulrich, Chairwoman
In-Park: Herkimer County
Effective 11/09/11

Curtis F. Stiles, Chairman
In-Park Franklin County
Through 8/12/11

Richard S. Booth,
Out-of-Park: Tompkins County
Arthur Lussi,

In-Park: Essex County

Frank L. Mezzano,
In-Park: Hamilton County

William H. Thomas,
In-Park: Warren County

William Valentino,
Out-of-Park: Albany County

Cecil Wray,
Out-of-Park: New York County
Sherman Craig

In-Park: St. Lawrence County
Recess Appointment 11/9/11

Kenneth Adams, Commissioner
Department of Economic
Development

Joseph Martens, Commissioner
Department of Environmental
Conservation

Cesar A. Perales,
Secretary of State

Economic Development

Jennifer McCormick, Designee
James Fayle, Designee

Environmental Conservation

Elizabeth M. Lowe, Designee
Judy Drabicki, Designee

Department of State

Dierdre Scozzafava, Designee

Please click [HERE](#) for Board
Member Bios.

The Adirondack Park Agency is a New York State government agency with an eleven-member Board of Commissioners, five of whom must be residents of the Adirondack Park. The Governor appoints eight members, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and three ex-officio members: the Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development, the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. The Board represents a careful balance of local, regional and statewide interests in the Adirondack Park.

The Adirondack Park Agency Act gives the Agency broad authority over private and public land use policy and regional planning. The Agency conducts its business at regular monthly public meetings. Board members are engaged in the following committees through which they address specific issues before the Agency: Regulatory Programs, Legal Affairs, Enforcement, Park Policy and Planning, State Land, Park Ecology, Public Awareness and Communications, Local Government Services, Economic Affairs and Administration.

Monthly meetings include review of permit applications, policy determinations, actions on State land issues and presentations by experts on a wide range of topics including economics, ecology and land conservation

In 2011, the Agency Board featured "Community Spotlights" from the Towns of Brighton, Chesterfield, Schroon and Crown Point as well as six presentations which highlighted entrepreneurial and community development success stories. New Civil Penalty guidance was approved and a strategy to address pre-2000 subdivision violations was reviewed. The Board issued fourteen variances, approved two new General Permits and seven amendments to Local Land Use Programs. The Board authorized revisions to Area Descriptions in the State Land Master Plan and found an amendment to the Independence River Wild Forest UMP compliant. The Board implemented a statutory change to the APA Act which created a density incentive for the construction of community housing and passed a resolution in recognition of the service of Chairman Curtis F. Stiles who completed his term in August 2011. [Please click Board Highlights.](#)

In November, long-serving Board Member Leilani Crafts Ulrich was designated by Governor Cuomo as the first Chairwoman of the Adirondack Park Agency. Chairwoman Ulrich was first appointed to the Board in 2004 and reappointed in 2008. During her tenure she chaired the Regulatory Programs and Park Ecology Committees. Governor Cuomo also issued a recess appointment naming Sherman Craig as an In-Park Board Member. Mr. Craig's appointment represented the first In-Park seat held by a resident of St. Lawrence County. This appointment ensured the Agency Board was in full standing for its rigorous review of the Adirondack Club and Resort project.

2011 Adirondack Park Agency Board

Seated left to right: Dierdre Scozzafava, Executive Director Terry Martino, Chairwoman Leilani Ulrich, Counsel John Banta, Jennifer McCormick.

Standing left to right: Frank Mezzano, Arthur Lussi, Sherman Craig, Judy Drabicki, Cecil Wray, William Thomas, William Valentino, Richard Booth and Local Government Review Board Chairman Gerald Delaney.



F

Administration

STAFF

Terry Martino,

Executive Director

Elaine M. Caldwell,

Administrative Officer 1

Keith P. McKeever,

Public Information Officer

Daniel F. Kelleher,

Special Assistant for
Economic Affairs

Deborah A. Lester,

Secretary to Executive Director

Robert P. Kreider,

Information Technology
Specialist 2

Susan A. Carey,

Principal Clerk 1

Amy S. Hall,

Calculations Clerk 1

C. George Hare,

General Mechanic

Norma Howard,

Student Assistant

Elizabeth Stankus,

Student Assistant

Kyle Martin,

Cleaner

Mary Merrill,

Green Thumb Program

Rod Williams,

Green Thumb Program

The Administrative Services Division is responsible for all fiscal management, contract administration, personnel management, physical plant management and office support. Division staff are involved in the preparation of purchase orders and vouchers, fiscal record keeping, determination of availability of funds for the Agency's division programs, payroll and computerization of fiscal records. Staff are also responsible for media relations, community relations and outreach.

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

The Administrative Services Division implemented Governor Cuomo's FY 2011-12 budget as enacted. The Agency met all directives issued by the NYS Division on Budget and provided appropriate funding to maintain the Agency headquarters and staffing. The Administrative Services Division worked to convert the current computerized administrative systems to the NYS Statewide Financial Management System (SFS). Key staff attended training sessions held throughout the year. The new system will streamline Agency financial transactions and improve coordination with NYS Division of Budget.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Information Services staff initiated an upgrade to the Agency's Master Action Database (MAD). This involved the conversion of the existing program to a new Sequel Server based program. The revised MAD will provide greater flexibility and functionality. The Agency received just under 2 million page views and 387,000 visits to its website in 2011. Monthly Board Meeting and committee mailing documents were posted to the website, significantly reducing annual postage costs. All monthly Board Meetings were webcast. The Agency changed its URL address to apa.ny.gov to comply with State CIO policy. All Agency documents were updated to reflect the new web address. Tropical Storm Irene emergency response information was posted on the home page.

PUBLIC AND MEDIA RELATIONS

The Agency's Chair, Executive Director and Public Information Officer (PIO) continued to actively engage the media to ensure Agency decisions were accurately portrayed and explained. The PIO responded to 369 media requests and issued 29 press releases. The PIO conducted 14 outreach workshops to international delegations, local officials, college students and the general public.

The PIO served as Hearing Officer for five variance hearings, managed two legislative hearings, participated in 19 days of adjudicatory hearings, assisted in five North Country Regional Economic Development Council public meetings and represented the Agency at one local planning board meeting. The PIO drafted and published the 2010 Annual Report which was downloaded 3,624 times.

GREEN THUMB PROGRAM

With the passing of Howard Baker, the Adirondack Park Agency lost a friend who spent years providing important support services. Mr. Baker came to the Agency in February, 2000 and worked in the Green Thumb Program until his passing in March, 2011. Mr. Baker is missed by his friends and colleagues.



Above Left:

Leilani Crafts Ulrich

Chair Administration Committee

Above Right:

Terry Martino

Executive Director



At Right: From podium, Public Information Officer Keith McKeever opens the Adirondack Club and Resort Legislative Hearing. DEC Administrative Law Judge Daniel O'Connell presides. Information Technology Specialist Robert Kreider manages technology.



Regulatory Programs

STAFF

Richard E. Weber III,

Deputy Director,

Holly E. Kneeshaw,

Assistant Director

Colleen C. Parker, Environmental Program Specialist 2

Thomas Saehrig, Environmental Program Specialist 2

Ariel A. Diggory, Environmental Program Specialist 2

Michael Hannon, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Susan Parker, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Suzanne McSherry, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Virginia Yamrick, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Leigh R. Walrath, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Tracy J. Darrah, Environmental Program Specialist 1

Mary L. Reardon,

Secretary 1

Stephanie Petith,

Keyboard Specialist 1



Above left: **Leilani C. Ulrich**
Chair Regulatory Programs Committee

Above right: **Richard E. Weber,**
Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs

The Regulatory Programs Division implements the statutory and regulatory provisions of the APA Act, the Freshwater Wetlands Act, and Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System Act. Staff provide pre-application project guidance and assessment, determine application completeness, apply review standards and prepare permit, variance or denial orders.

In 2011, the Regulatory Programs Division received 346 project applications and issued 339 permits. Staff processed 170 preapplication requests. The following tables summarize permits issued in 2011:

Project Type	Number Issued
Major	78
Minor	71
Variance	10
State Agency Order	13
Amendment/Renewals	119
General Permits	48
Total	339

Permit Activity	Permits Issued
Commercial Use	13
Tower over 40 feet in height	7
Sand and Gravel, Mining	5
Municipal Bridges	2
Major Public Utility	2
Public Use/Group Camp	8
Hunting and Fishing	1
Wetlands	16
Resource Management	5
Municipal Sewer/Water	1
Industrial Use	1
Residential Wind Tower	0
Subdivision Projects	87
State Agency 814 Orders	15
Timber Harvesting	1
Bridge Replacement	5
Invasive Species	3
Amendments/Renewals/GP	167
Projects deemed NJ	21

HURRICANE IRENE/LEE EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION

At the direction of Governor Cuomo, the Agency did not apply its permitting jurisdiction to any emergency project necessary for the protection of life or property related to Tropical Storm Irene and Lee. In coordination with DEC, the Agency expedited authorization procedure to ensure governmental entities and private citizens were able to undertake emergency actions in a timely manner.

Staff coordinated review with DEC Region 5 resulting in the issuance of 110 General Permits (GP-0-11-008) for storm damage repair. Permits were issued in 22 towns including 50 authorized activities in the Towns of Keene and Jay. Staff authorized permit modifications to three hard-rock mine operations in order to provide local and state highway departments with required material for emergency repairs for public infrastructure. Staff conducted site visits and worked closely with the Town of Jay to authorize plans to construct a new pump station and critical public water supply line. Under the Governor's leadership major highways and infrastructure projects were repaired and reopened ahead of projections.

NOTABLE PROJECTS

Staff issued a permit to Creative Stage Lighting Inc, a world renowned manufacturer, wholesale and distributor of products for the stage and theatrical lighting profession. The permit authorized construction of a new 73,000 square foot commercial building in the Town of Chester, Warren County. The company currently employs 40 people and anticipates hiring an additional 25 employees at full operation. In addition, 24 full-time equivalent construction trade jobs will be required during the 34-week construction period.

Agency staff dedicated significant resources to the review and ultimate approval of the Adirondack Club and Resort project. Staff participated in two legislative hearings, 19 days of adjudicatory hearings and three consecutive monthly meetings of the Agency Board. Staff prepared a project order and 14 permits which the Board approved in January 2012. The project site is located in the Town of Tupper Lake, Franklin County, and centers around the community beloved Big Tupper Ski Area. Project sponsors stated an average annual workforce of 307 employees will be employed during construction with an additional 236 full-time employees working when the resort is fully operational.

JOB GENERATING PROJECTS

During 2011, the Agency permitted 24 projects which will contribute to the retention or creation of jobs in Park communities. These included small manufacturing, mining, retail, recreational and service activities.

CELLULAR PROJECTS

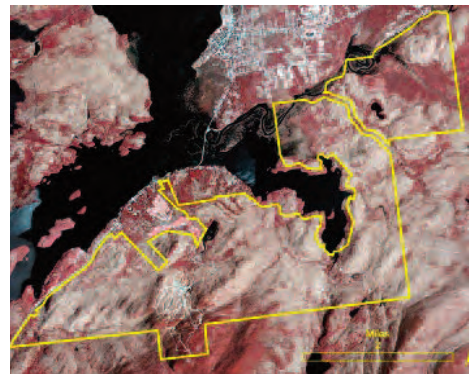
In 2011, the Agency issued 12 permits that resulted in 5 new towers, 1 collocation, 5 replacements and 1 collocation and replacement. At year's end, 9 cellular applications were in various stages of review and 17 pre-application requests were under review. [See Agency Towers Policy.](#)



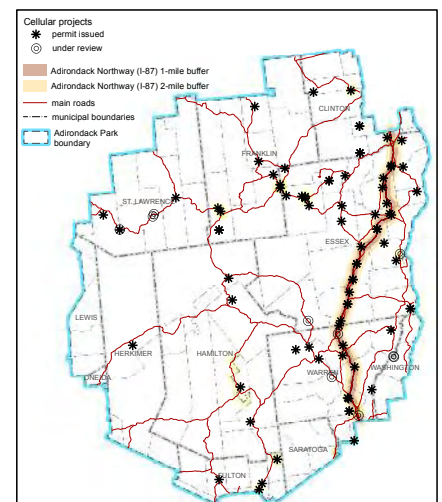
Champlain Bridge - Town of Crown Point, Essex County. Agency staff partnered with federal, state and local agencies to ensure the timely approval and construction of the Champlain Bridge. The bridge re-opened November 7, 2011.



Hurricane Irene caused tremendous damage in the Adirondack Park. Flood water destroyed businesses in Keene, Essex County - August 29, 2011.



Adirondack Club and Resort project site. Town and Village of Tupper Lake, Franklin County.



Cellular projects permitted or under review through 2011. Please click above image for large scale map.

Economic Services



Above left: **Arthur Lussi**
Chair Economic Affairs Committee
Above right: **Daniel Kelleher**
Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

Below: Chairwoman Ulrich welcomes Mr. Kelleher to the Agency.



At Right: Hamilton County Chairman William Farber (at podium) welcomes citizens to the Indian Lake Theatre for one of the public meetings held by the Governor's North Country Regional Economic Development Council.

The Economic Services Unit provides staff expertise in market and financial feasibility analysis, economic and fiscal impact analysis, and economic development planning. Staff assists project sponsors and economic developers in evaluating business locations and identifies other sources of help for business development.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Daniel Kelleher was hired in December 2011 to fill the vacancy left after long-serving Special Assistant for Economic Affairs Stephen Erman retired in September 2010. Mr. Kelleher was the Business Development Manager for the Downtown Albany Business Improvement District. Prior to his role as Business Development Manager, Mr. Kelleher played an integral part in the Smart Growth Grant Hamlets 3 project. He contributed to the development of the Policy Solutions for Economic and Physical Expansion of Adirondack Communities Guidebook. He also conducted extensive analysis of employment, demographic, infrastructure and transportation data for the 16 municipalities included in the study.

Mr. Kelleher immediately joined the Agency's Executive Team and assisted the Agency Board in its deliberation of the Adirondack Club and Resort project. Mr. Kelleher will provide critical expertise in financial feasibility analysis, economic impact analysis, real estate financing and economic development planning. He will serve as a valuable resource for State and local economic developers regarding the Agency's planning and regulatory program responsibilities.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Agency's Economic Affairs Committee continued its focus on small business development issues and opportunities in the Adirondack Park. Presentations detailed the Keene Town-wide Broadband Internet Project, Green Practices in Hotel Management, Sustainable Agriculture and Community Markets, Clarkson University's Small Business Program, Aquatic Invasive Management and the North Country Regional Economic Development Council.

NORTH COUNTRY REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Agency Administrative and Planning staff supported the Governor's regional economic development councils. Staff attended regular meetings of the North Country and Capital Region Councils. Staff assisted in the preparation of the public outreach plan, provided staff support at all public meetings, helped develop the on-line template for the Consolidated Funding application process and provided invaluable State agency expertise to the regional councils.

On December 8, Governor Cuomo announced that the North Country Plan was voted a "Best Plan" award and allocated \$103 million in funding for implementation of priority projects. Key initiatives include infrastructure development for broadband in Hamilton County and railway infrastructure to Newton Falls, expansion of the Bombardier plant in Plattsburgh and advanced technology development in Potsdam, community housing in Watertown and Clayton, and modernization of the research laboratory facilities at Trudeau Institute in Saranac Lake.



Planning

Click for full divisional report

STAFF

James E. Connolly,

Deputy Director

Brian F. Grisi,

A.P. Local Planning Assistance Specialist

John W. Barge,

Mapping Technologist 3

Walter W. Linck,

Associate Natural Resources Planner

Matthew S. Kendall,

Associate Natural Resources Planner

Kevin G. Prickett,

Senior Natural Resources Planner

Kathy D. Regan,

Senior Natural Resources Planner

Robyn E. Burgess,

Environmental Program Specialist 1

Lauretta H. Bullis,

Secretary 1



Above left: **Richard S. Booth**
Chair Park Policy and Planning Committee

Above right: **James Connolly**
Deputy Director, Planning

At right: APA Look-Up system with shoreline photo database.

The Agency's Planning Division is responsible for local government services, Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map updates and map amendments, State lands coordination, Park policy, Geographic Information System (GIS), cartographic services and web site management.

MAP AMENDMENTS

Staff provided technical assistance to the towns of Essex, Crown Point and Belmont on local planning, zoning and mapping initiatives. Staff digitized sewer system infrastructure and district boundaries to help Crown Point identify possible Hamlet expansion areas. Staff prepared a webpage for map amendment guidance to assist municipalities with the process. [See Map Amendment](#) process website page.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN HERITAGE CORRIDOR

APA staff serve on the Lake Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership Program Advisory Committee. The Lake Champlain Heritage Area was designated by Congress in 2006 and includes Clinton, Essex, Warren, Washington and Saratoga counties. A Heritage Area Management Plan was approved by the National Park Service during 2011. The Advisory Committee provides guidance on implementation of the Heritage Plan and recommendations on grant awards to eligible applicants.

ADIRONDACK PARK PARTNERSHIP

Staff provided technical and advisory support to the Adirondack Park Partnership initiative. The focus in 2011 was on broadband, economic development, recreational planning and priority issues of the Common Ground Alliance's "Blueprint for the Blue Line."

ADIRONDACK UTILITY WORK GROUP

Staff assisted in review of a major transmission line proposal for Lake Champlain, a travel corridor management plan for Route 3, utility pole relocation on Route 28 in Forestport and improved GIS data sharing between State agencies and public utilities.

CLIMATE CHANGE

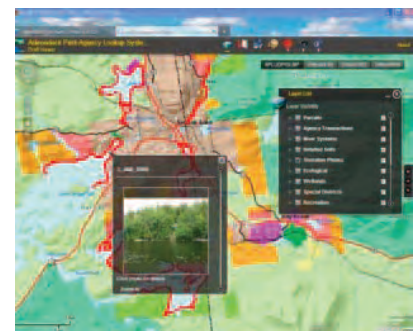
Staff participated in the Adirondack Climate Action Partnership work groups to address climate change and alternative fuel options for the North Country with a focus on increased use of bio-fuel alternatives by heating oil distributors in the North Country.

CARTOGRAPHY AND INFORMATION ANALYSIS

Staff completed calculations on 2010 US Census block data to estimate Adirondack Park population.

Staff mapped potential community housing areas. The APA Act was modified to increase density for community housing in Moderate Intensity Use and Low Intensity Use areas within 3 miles of Hamlets and one mile from specific post offices.

Staff developed an application for the APA Look-up System which displays shoreline photographs that are geocoded to their correction physical location.



Local Government Services

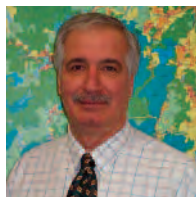
Click for full divisional report



Above: Agency staff Trevor Fravor (facing) meets with code enforcement officer at Northern Adirondack Code Enforcement Officials Educational Conference.



Above: AATV President Brian Towers, Keene Supervisor Bill Ferebee, Executive Director Terry Martino, Chairman Curtis Stiles and DOS Designee Dede Scozzafava gather after Mr. Ferebee accepted Annual LGD award on behalf of Keene residents Jim Mason and Dave Herman.



Above Left: **William H. Thomas**
Chair Local Government Services Committee

Above right: **Brian Grisi**
Local Planning Assistance

The Local Government Services staff assists individual towns in the Park developing local planning and zoning laws as well as administering Agency-approved local land use programs. Staff attend community meetings, providing written advice, design training workshops and provide plan and code review.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OUTREACH

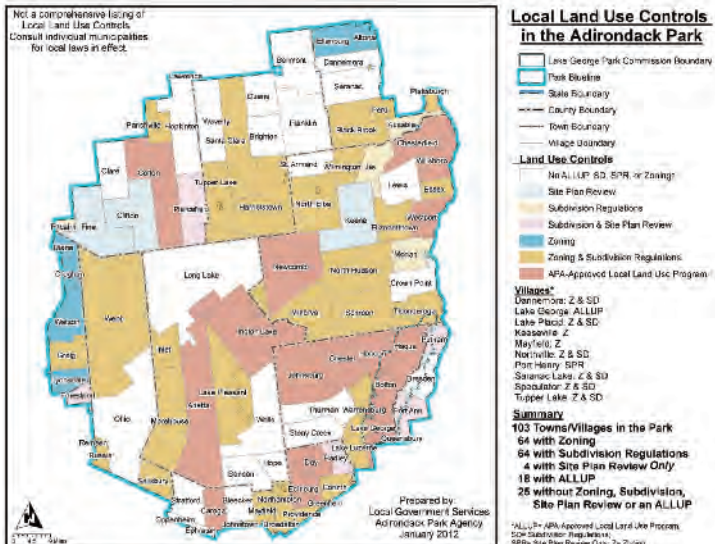
Staff responded to 625 inquiries from local officials on land use issues and participated in nineteen meetings with town officials providing information on Agency jurisdiction and land use law. Five training workshops were conducted throughout the Park for local government officials. In March, Local Government Day attendance exceeded 300 people. Forty-five Adirondack municipalities and 53 organizations were represented. Dede Scozzafava, Deputy Secretary for Local Government at the NYS Department of State, provided the keynote address. Nine staff members participated in the Northern Adirondack Code Enforcement Officials Association 15th Annual Educational Conference. Staff made 67 contacts with CEOs from 43 municipalities. In June, staff attended the Adirondack Camp and Home Show held in Old Forge, NY. Over 1000 people attended the event. In addition to general outreach, Agency staff provided a one-hour program on local and park-wide land use regulations.

APPROVED LOCAL LAND USE PROGRAMS

During 2011, seven zoning amendments were approved by the Agency for the following municipalities: Edinburg, Hague, Queensbury, Chester, Lake George and the Village of Lake George. This included amendments to zoning law, zoning maps, districts and subdivision regulations. In addition, comprehensive plans were reviewed for the Towns of Caroga and Willsboro. Staff provided informal review of the Towns of Saranac and Stony Creek's comprehensive plans and the Town of Northampton and Essex's proposed zoning regulations. Staff reviewed 84 variances from towns with approved programs, of which 31 involved shoreline setback provisions and 2 involved density provisions. Two variance referrals were reversed.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

In June the Local Government Services Committee presented a concept for a conceptual map amendment that would allow towns to receive Agency approval to amend the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map in their community when prescribed infrastructure improvements are in place. This will serve to provide potential development with a pre-approved outcome so investment in a project can proceed without the need for future Agency action. This was a model local law initiative by the Town of Westport.



State Lands

Click for full divisional report



Above: State Land staff Kevin Prickett uses GPS technology in the Taylor Pond Wild Forest.

State Land staff work with DEC to prepare and review Unit Management Plans (UMPs) consistent with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (SLMP); provide guidance and interpretation regarding the SLMP to DEC staff and the Agency’s Board; consult with DEC on long-range plans for the future of State lands; review proposed DEC projects on State lands to ensure conformance with the SLMP; and work with the DEC to develop staff proposals for the classification or reclassification of State lands.

ADIRONDACK PARK STATE LAND MASTER PLAN REVISIONS

State Land staff, in consultation with DEC, revised the SLMP Area Descriptions, delineations and statistics. Staff utilized the Agency’s GIS resources to accurately and consistently estimate trail mileage and water body acreage. The revisions reflect significant State land classification changes incorporated as a result of the 2005 and 2009 classification and reclassification actions which included classification of several new Primitive Areas, designation of the Round Lake and Little Moose Wilderness Areas, creation of an Intensive Use Camping Area within the Moose River Plains Wild Forest and addition of 17,000 acres of new State land to the Chazy Highland Wild Forest. The revised SLMP is available for download from the Agency’s website. [Please click SLMP](#)

SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM

State Land staff administered components of a Scenic Byway grant for the Olympic Scenic Byway project in the Wilmington Notch area of NYS Route 86. An inventory was created for parking areas, trailheads, fishing access and rock climbing locations along the highway corridor along the West Branch of the Ausable River in the vicinity of Wilmington Notch. A plan for parking area improvements, interpretive signage and resource protection measures was prepared in consultation with DOT, DEC and local government officials. Signage will be installed in conformance with State and national standards for Scenic Byways. The Agency shared information from the project with the Essex County Public Health Department for use in their Healthy Communities Program. State Land staff are also working with staff from NYS DOT on the development of a Corridor Management Plan for Route 3 which crosses the northern part of the Park from Star Lake to Saranac. Emphasis will be placed on coordinating both State agency and community planning initiatives into a single overall plan for this highway corridor.

UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANS

State Land staff conducted a variety of planning exercises, including field work, GIS analysis, draft reviews, permitting and compliance advice for the following State land units:

Hoffman Notch Wilderness, Five Ponds Wilderness, Sentinel Range Wilderness, St. Regis Canoe Area

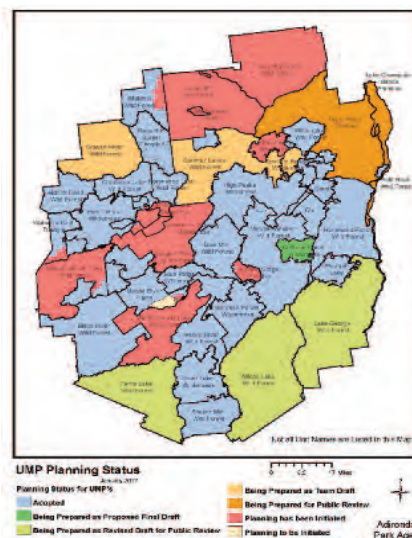
Vanderwhacker Mt. Wild Forest, Wilcox Lake Wild Forest, Taylor Pond Wild Forest, Saranac Lake Wild Forest, Moose River Plains Wild Forest, Lake George Wild Forest, Jessup River Wild Forest, Independence River Wild Forest, Cranberry Lake Wild Forest, Shaker Mountain Wild Forest

Northville Boat Launch, Second Pond Boat Launch Intensive Use Area, Crown Point Historic Area and Campground, Lake Champlain Islands Complex and the St. Regis and Hurricane Mt. Fire Towers.



Above left: **Dick Booth**
Chair State Lands Committee
Above right: **James Connolly**
Deputy Director, Planning

At right: UMP Status Map. Click map for current status.



Legal

STAFF

John S. Banta,
Counsel
Sarah H. Reynolds,
Associate Counsel
Paul T. Van Cott,
Associate Attorney
Mitchell J. Goroski,
Senior Attorney
Elizabeth A. Phillips,
Senior Attorney
Steve L. Brewer,
Senior Attorney
Mary B. Palmer,
Keyboard Specialist 1



Above Left: **Cecil Wray**
Chair Legal Affairs Committee
Chair Enforcement Committee
Above Right: **John Banta**
Agency Counsel

At Left: Senior Attorney Mitch Goroski(L) and Associate Attorney Paul Van Cott during the ACR adjudicatory hearing.

At Right: Senior Attorney Elizabeth Phillips (Center) with Engineering Specialist Shaun LaLonde and Environmental Program Specialist Colleen Parker conduct first variance hearing under new Agency procedures.

The Legal Division consists of four major components: the Office of Counsel including the Legal Services Unit, the Jurisdictional Inquiry Unit, and the Enforcement Unit. The Counsel and Associate Counsel advise all Agency divisions and the Agency Board. Legal Services attorneys review significant documents, assist the Attorney General with litigation, manage adjudicatory hearings and provide other necessary legal advice. The Jurisdictional Inquiry Unit provides advice to landowners and potential project sponsors regarding Agency jurisdiction, including informal phone advice and written jurisdictional determinations. The Enforcement Unit seeks to resolve violations of the laws the Agency is charged to administer.

OFFICE OF COUNSEL

A key Legal Division accomplishment for 2011 was the Agency's successful defense of new regulatory provisions addressing non-conforming shoreline structures and wetland subdivision jurisdiction. Legal challenges to the new regulations, in force since December 2008, were resolved by the Third Department Appellate Division in July 2011. Other noteworthy court decisions included the Supreme Court, Albany County, ruling affecting an Agency 1987 Wilderness classification involving the land and waters of Lows Lake; and the Supreme Court, Albany County, rejection of a challenge to Agency and DEC Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan guidance regarding snowmobile trail location and maintenance provisions in Unit Management Plans for Wild Forest units within the Park. Ongoing litigation includes a federal court challenge from a group of disabled veterans seeking motor vehicle, aircraft and helicopter access to wilderness lakes.

The Legal Division worked with Agency staff to streamline procedures for variances and minor projects. Staff implemented a revised variance hearing process to reduce the burden on applicants while still ensuring a thorough review. New forms and procedures to improve the flow of minor project proposals from the jurisdictional office into permit review were tested in 2011.

Finally, the Office of Counsel provided the two-attorney team of Paul Van Cott and Mitchell Goroski which led the hearing staff through 19 days of formal adjudicatory hearing for the Adirondack Club and Resort project (P2005-100). Counsel John Banta and Associate Counsel Sarah Reynolds were part of the Executive Team which advised the Agency Board in ACR deliberations in November and December, resulting in project approval in January 2012.

REGULATORY REFORM

In 2011, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed the Agency's proposed community housing incentive. The Agency also developed General Permits to articulate specific decision criteria for categories of activities subject to Agency jurisdiction, adding a new General Permit for certain wetland subdivisions (2011-G1) and another for herbicide treatments by DOT that involve wetlands (2011-G2).



**JURISDICTIONAL
INQUIRY FORM
Download
HERE.**

Click for full divisional report

STAFF

Jurisdictional Inquiry Office

Douglas Miller,

Environmental Program
Specialist 2

Brian M. Ford,

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Nancy M. Heath,

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Enforcement

John M. Burth, Environmental
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Program Specialist 1

Milton B. Adams, Environmental
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Program Specialist 1

Susan Streiff,
Keyboard Specialist 1

Aaron Ziemann
Student Assistant



Above Left: **Douglas Miller**
EPS 2 Jurisdictional Office

Above Right:

John Burth

EPS 2 Enforcement Office

At right: Enforcement staff work to prevent and mitigate violations such as this wetland vegetation cutting violation.

JURISDICTIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

The public's first point of contact with the Agency is often a letter or a phone call handled by the Jurisdictional Inquiry Unit. Staff within this Unit provide advice to landowners and others regarding Agency jurisdiction. Staff help citizens determine if an Agency permit or variance is required for proposed land use and development or the subdivision of land within the Park. Determinations often require a full deed history and other legal and factual research. This is the Agency's initial and most common point of contact with the public; hence, a high priority is placed on prompt responses.

In 2011, the Agency received 732 jurisdictional inquiries resulting in 508 non-jurisdictional determinations and 124 jurisdictional determinations. The average response time was 24 days. Jurisdictional staff answered 3,677 telephone calls and met with 180 walk-in members of the public. Staff also handled 435 referrals from other agencies. In addition, the Agency's Records Access Officer responded to 186 Freedom of Information requests.

ENFORCEMENT UNIT

In 2011, Enforcement Officers actively worked with local officials to prevent or quickly discover new violations. These efforts help to achieve amicable resolutions that avoid undue adverse impacts and burdensome financial expenditures.

Staff started the year with 371 previously unresolved cases and opened 305 new cases. Staff closed 419 cases in 2011. Staff prepared 198 settlement agreements of which 112 were executed through consent with landowners. Landowners undertook remediation based on informal agreements that resulted in compliance for an additional 46 minor violations. Staff determined 149 enforcement cases were not violations and closed an additional 112 pre-2000 subdivision cases. Also, 281 site visits were conducted, which represents a 25% increase over 2010.

The Enforcement Unit continues to see significant compliance for new subdivisions inside the Park. Staff closely monitor new subdivision activity through the use of New York State Office of Real Property's SalesWeb application. In 2011, only 1 new subdivision violation transpired out of 112 subdivisions undertaken within the Park. Ninety of the 112 new subdivisions were issued an Agency jurisdictional determination or permit. Between 2010 and 2011, the percentage of subdivisions within the Park related to a previous jurisdictional determination or permit increased from 70% to 80%. In addition to utilizing the SalesWeb application to track subdivisions, Enforcement staff rely on 2009 air photos, digital photographs of Adirondack lakeshores which staff began inventorying in 2008, and prompt responses to alleged violations to efficiently undertake investigations.



Resource Analysis & Scientific Services

Click for full divisional report

STAFF

Daniel M. Spada,
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Greg A. Bendell, Environmental Engineer 1

W. Mark Rooks,
Associate A.P. Project Analyst, Biological Resources

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Mary A. O'Dell,
Biologist 1 (Ecology)

Ronald Tucker,
Associate A.P. Project Analyst, Forest Resources

Lauretta H. Bullis,
Secretary 1

The Resource Analysis and Scientific Services (RASS) Division provides scientific and technical analysis supporting all Agency transactions. The Agency's scientists provide expertise on engineering, soils analysis, forestry, invasive species, wildlife habitat, wetlands and other aquatic systems. Staff perform valuable field services including wetland delineations, mean high water mark determinations, structure height determinations, deep-hole test pit (DHTP) determinations, on-site waste water treatment (OSWT) system review and stormwater management analysis.

DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR THE ADIRONDACK PARK

RASS continues to lead an effort to update the Development in the Adirondack Park (DAP) guidance document. DAP provides project design and review guidance for use by project sponsors and Agency staff. Work continued throughout the year on the various sections of this document.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

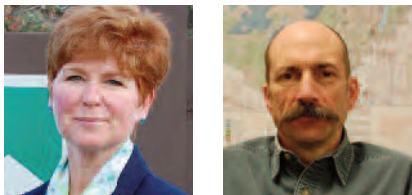
RASS Engineering staff assure proposed OSWT systems conform to New York State Department of Health and Agency regulations and standards. Staff confirm systems are designed with the required level of advanced treatment, are properly sited and provide the necessary public health as well as natural resource protections.

SURFACE WATERS

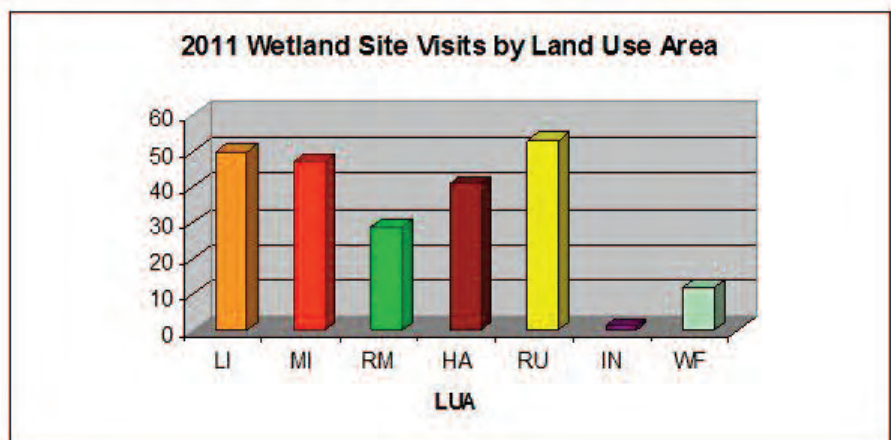
The condition of surface waters affect park residents in many ways including recreational activities and human health. Nuisance aquatic plants, invasive species, algal blooms, basin in-filling, and delta growth are all symptoms of larger problems within watersheds. RASS staff analyze surface waters to determine symptoms and to educate stakeholders on preventive and restoration measures. Adequate shoreline setbacks, vegetational buffer zones, and implementation of appropriate stormwater management plans are essential parts of the Agency's protection of water quality.

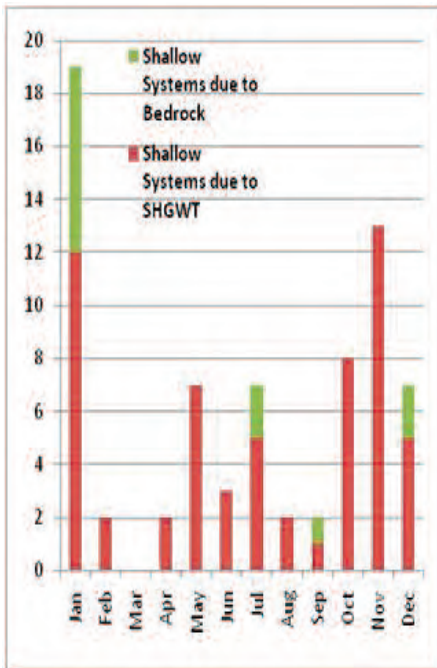
WETLANDS

Wetlands play a critical role in both the natural and built environment. Wetlands dissipate the force of floods, filter out impurities and provide valuable habitat for wildlife. In 2011, staff completed 240 wetland delineations and advised on 72 wetland jurisdictional determinations. The average response time for delineations was 11 days, which represents the third fastest processing time since the Agency started tracking this data in 2000. Essex and Warren Counties received the largest number of wetland site visits followed by Franklin and Clinton. Wetland site visits were spread fairly evenly across all private land use classifications with Rural Use the most visited in 2011.



Above left: **Leilani C. Ulrich**
Chair Park Ecology Committee
Above right: **Daniel Spada**
Supervisor-Natural Resource Analysis





SOILS

Interpretations of DHTPs provide the necessary information to correctly locate OSWT systems. Staff review is an extremely valuable public health service for Adirondack Park landowners. In 2011, RASS staff described 97 DHTPs and reviewed 81 consultant-submitted reports to verify profile accuracy, separation requirements and appropriate setback distances. Forty percent of the test pits were approved for conventional systems, 40% were approved for shallow absorption systems and 20% did not meet Agency guidelines. Of the approved shallow systems, 83% were due to shallow seasonal high groundwater tables (SHGWT) and 17% were a result of shallow depth to bedrock.

FORESTS

Factors such as invasive pests, pathogens, climate disruption and acidic deposition pose threats to the Park's forests. The Agency encourages sound forest management practices that result in resilient, healthy forests. This year RASS staff drafted a general permit for silvicultural prescriptions that trigger "clearcut" jurisdiction in an attempt to provide an incentive to undertake and complete harvesting treatments that reduce high grading, dominance by undesirable species, reductions in biodiversity and unhealthy forest conditions. The incentive approach is a major step for the Park's forests with follow up planned in 2012.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GRANTS

In October the Agency was awarded an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Wetland Protection Program Development grant entitled "Detecting Climate Change in Wetlands in the Adirondack Park." The grant total is \$308,816 with a federal share of \$227,005. This is the 14th EPA wetlands protection program grant awarded to the Agency. The RASS Division has successfully secured and implemented over \$3 million dollars in federal funding dating back to 1993.

OUTREACH

Staff conducted four wetland training programs for town officials and the public in the Towns of Chesterfield, Hague, Mayfield and Willsboro. The program identified the three criteria that are used to delineate wetlands; vegetation, soil type and hydrology. Participants also learned how APA wetland jurisdiction applies, how wetlands are mapped and how staff review wetland projects.

In addition, staff conducted an annual wetland recognition course for APA and DEC staff.



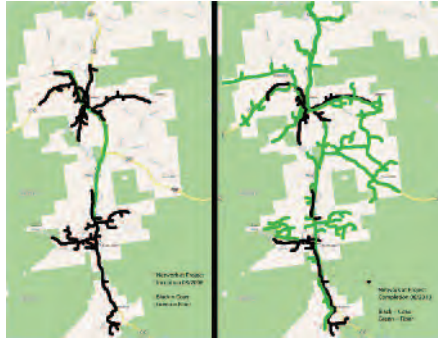
Top: Chart detailing the number of engineered systems required in 2011 due to shallow depth to bedrock or shallow depth to seasonal high ground water table.

Middle: Leccinum, a genus of fungi in the family Boletaceae.

At Right: Biologist Mary O'Dell conducts a wetlands training workshop for APA and DEC staff.



Economic Spotlight



The Keene Broadband project expanded service to over 900 of the 1,000 homes and businesses in town.

The Adirondack Park Agency undertook a public awareness initiative in 2011 to highlight successful entrepreneurs and community partnerships inside the Adirondack Park which helped expand economic opportunities and strengthen Adirondack communities. During its monthly meetings, the Agency's Economic Affairs Committee focused on the work of entrepreneurs to promote these remarkable efforts and encourage others to pursue opportunities inside the Adirondack Park. The Agency believes these local success stories help identify the unique assets of the Park which were beneficial to these businesses as well as define the challenges they encountered when undertaking economic development activities in a rural region.

KEENE TOWN-WIDE BROADBAND INTERNET PROJECT

In January, Dave Mason and Jim Herman, co-directors of the "Keene New York Town-Wide Broadband Internet Project," discussed the successful grassroots effort to implement high-speed internet service in the Town of Keene. The project concept originated from a strategic planning effort for the Keene Central School which concluded that broadband development was critical to the future quality of education, student preparedness and sustaining school enrollment.

The project was completed in four years and involved major improvements including implementation of a new fiber-to-the-home technology. These upgrades increased performance and expanded service to over 900 of the 1,000 homes and businesses in town. All Keene Central School students, teachers and staff have internet access as a result of this project. In addition, the total number of broadband internet subscriptions increased by 126% since 2006, helping sustain the local internet service provider. The project created opportunities for remote network-based employment which attracted new families to the community who rely on the internet for their livelihood. The Keene New York Town-Wide Broadband Internet Project is a successful model for other Adirondack communities. Its overwhelming success was attributed to strong commitment from the permanent and seasonal town residents, dedicated leadership, a focus on connecting the school and the partnership provided by the locally owned business, Keene Valley Video and Internet, Inc.

THE GOLDEN ARROW LAKESIDE RESORT - GREEN HOTEL MANAGEMENT

Jenn Holderied-Webb, proprietress of The Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort in Lake Placid, recognizes the Adirondacks as a valuable resource and important factor to the success of her family's business. In 2005, the resort management team committed to a business philosophy of providing a quality guest experience in a prime location while balancing profitability with environmental impact. To achieve this goal, the Golden Arrow implemented a comprehensive program based on Audubon International's Green Leaf Hotels Program and successfully reached the highest rank of 5-leaf status. The Golden Arrow is the only resort in New York State to reach this level of environmental commitment.



Above: The Golden Arrow Lakeside Resort installed solar thermal panels on the hotel roof to heat the indoor pool.

The hotel uses energy-efficient building materials and techniques including low flow toilets, shower heads and a sheet/towel reuse program. The lobby area was renovated and the pool heating system was upgraded with thermal solar panels. Heat recovery systems were installed in all hot water systems throughout the resort. The resort's private white sand beach was replaced with crushed limestone which helps combat the effects of acid rain on Mirror Lake. A 3,400 square foot "green roof" covers the resort in native plants and herbs. The "green roof" increases roof life and acts as a storm water management system as well as an insulator. Herbs grown on the roof are used in the resort's restaurant which also works hard to source as much locally grown food as possible on their menu .

At right: The Golden Arrow is the only resort in NY to reach the Audubon International's Green Leaf Hotels Program 5 Leaf status.





Above: Essex Farm is one of many Community Supported Agricultural farms that is producing food for local markets.

ESSEX FARM - SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & COMMUNITY MARKETS

Located in the Town of Essex, Essex Farm is one of a growing number of farm operations that capitalize on the Park's protected open space to engage in agriculture. Mark and Kristen Kimball operate Essex Farm with a business model as a year-round, full diet, draft horse-powered Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, or membership farm. Members pay a flat yearly rate and receive a wide range of fresh vegetables, fruits, grains, dairy, and grass fed meats.

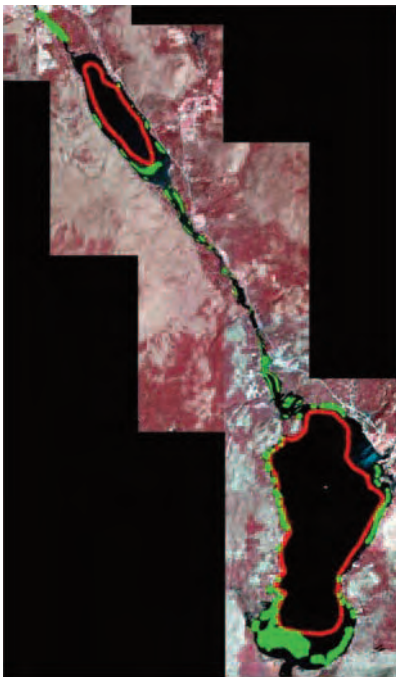
Essex Farm is a 500-acre farm. The Kimballs own 80 acres and lease the remaining 420 acres. They are committed to growing food for local people. Their membership increased from seven people in year one to over 150 members this year. The majority of members live within 45 minutes of the farm. The average member purchases 60-70% of their calories from Essex Farm. The farm initially employed two farm workers and presently has six full-time employees along with several part-time employees. The Kimballs stated their first employees moved on to start their own successful CSA. The Kimballs anticipate that gross income for 2011 would exceed \$400,000.00.

The Adirondack Park is uniquely situated to meet the increasing demand for locally grown food. The Park's density-based land use plan helps deter the subdivision of prime agriculture lands as experienced in other regions of the country. The Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan factored in prime agricultural soils when the private lands of the Park were classified. This resulted in the retention of large tracts of productive agricultural lands. The Kimballs noted connecting young farmers to workable farms was critical to keep the momentum moving.

AQUATIC INVASIVE MANAGEMENT, LLC

Aquatic Invasive Management, LLC (AIM) was founded by Andrew Lewis and Tommy Thomson in August of 2007. AIM improves water bodies that are infested by invasive aquatic species such as Eurasian water-milfoil, variable-leaf milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed and Asian clams. Lewis and Thomson spent a combined seven years working on the Upper Saranac Lake milfoil project with Dr. Dan Kelting of the Adirondack Watershed Institute. The successful completion of this project motivated the two Paul Smith's College students to form their own company. AIM provides lake inspections, GPS mapping, consulting and harvesting services to eradicate invasive aquatic species. The company specializes in handpicking milfoil. In 2011, AIM employees removed 4,111 bags of invasive milfoil from lakes across the Adirondack Park and as far south as Saratoga County. Based on average bag weights, that equals approximately 50 tons of invasive plants.

As greater awareness of the negative environmental and economic impacts of invasive species increased, the company grew in size. AIM went from one client in 2007 to more than ten in 2011. They work mainly with Lake Associations inside the Park but in 2009 expanded to water bodies outside of the Adirondack Park. The company provides solid seasonal employment opportunities that pay an average of \$15.00 to \$30.00 dollars an hour. Annual revenue increased from less than \$25,000 in 2007 to approximately \$450,000 in 2011.



Above: AIM provides aquatic invasive species eradication services from mapping the location to hand harvesting the plants. In 2011, AIM removed over 50 tons of invasive plants.

[Please click to view Economic Spotlight Page on the Agency's website.](#)

Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board



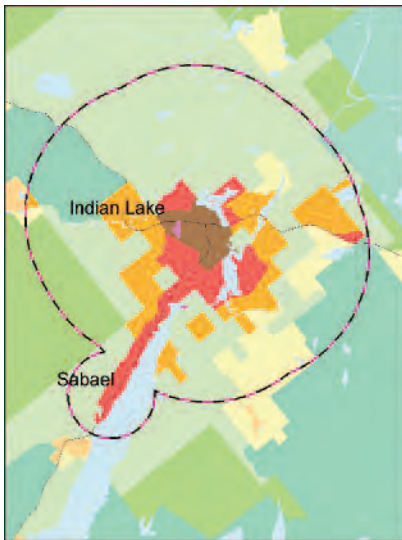
Frederick Monroe
Executive Director, APLGRB

CHAIRMAN AND OFFICER

Chairman, Gerald Delaney
Executive Director, Frederick Monroe
Secretary, Carol A. Monroe

Review Board website:
www.adkreviewboard.com

Below: The Review Board provided valuable insight and support for the development and passage of the Agency's Community Housing Incentive legislation.



Back cover: Moon over MacKenzie Mountain viewed from across Lake Flower in the Village of Saranac Lake

Section 803-a of the APA Act establishes 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.

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, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board Executive Director Frederick Monroe plays a prominent and active role in all deliberations. The Agency's efforts to achieve balanced decision making are greatly enhanced by this dialogue.

The State of New York provides operating funds for the Local Government Review Board through the Agency's budget.

In 2011, the Agency and the Review Board entered a Memorandum of Understanding which laid the foundation for improved communication and coordination.

At right: Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe (left) and Chairman Gerald Delaney review MOU.



Below: Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe (seated right of podium) listens to an Economic Spotlight presentation during the Agency's Economic Affairs Committee Meeting. Kristen Kimball (at podium) and Mark Kimball (seated to her left) are the owners of Essex Farm, a community supported agriculture or CSA. The Kimballs discussed the importance of open space for the future of local farming.



NEW YORK STATE
ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY



State of New York
Adirondack Park Agency

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Leilani Crafts Ulrich, Chairwoman / Terry Martino, Executive Director