



**Adirondack
Park Agency**



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Visitor Use Management in the High Peaks Wilderness

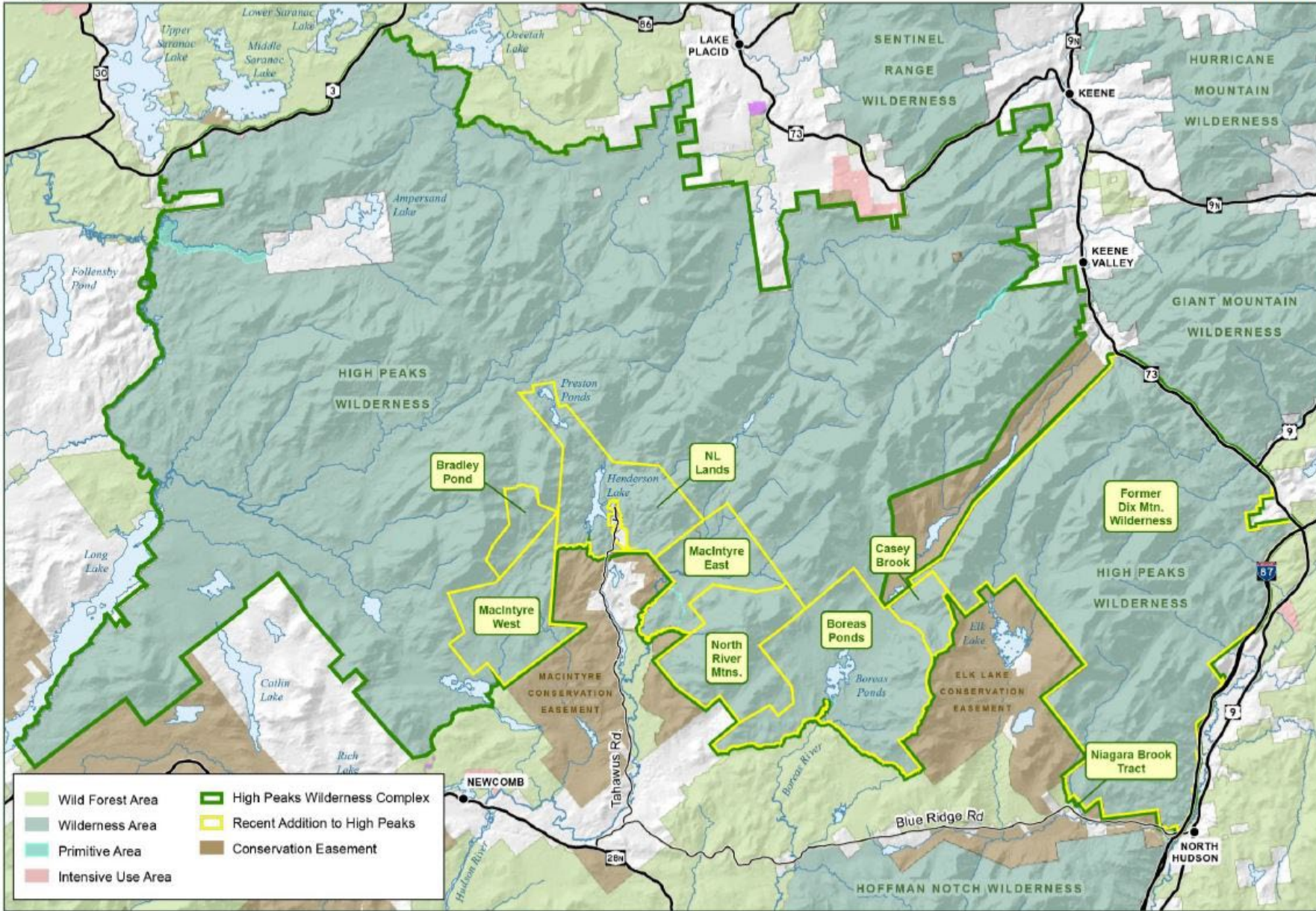
April 25, 2024

2018

High Peaks Wilderness



Overview





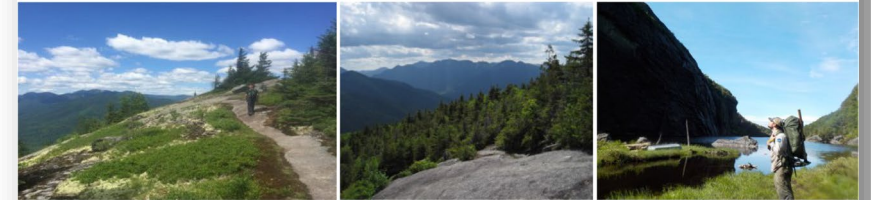
2018

- The identification of acceptable conditions as defined by **measurable indicators**;
- An analysis of the relationship between existing conditions and those desired;
- Determinations of the necessary management actions needed to achieve **desired conditions**; and
- A **monitoring program** to see if objectives are being met.



2019 – 2021

- ...a **visitor use management structure** for the High Peaks should be undertaken...;
- ...implement a world-class **visitor management system**... using **adaptive management**...;
- Other specific recommendations related to visitor experience, parking, access and safety.



High Peaks Advisory Group
(HPAG)

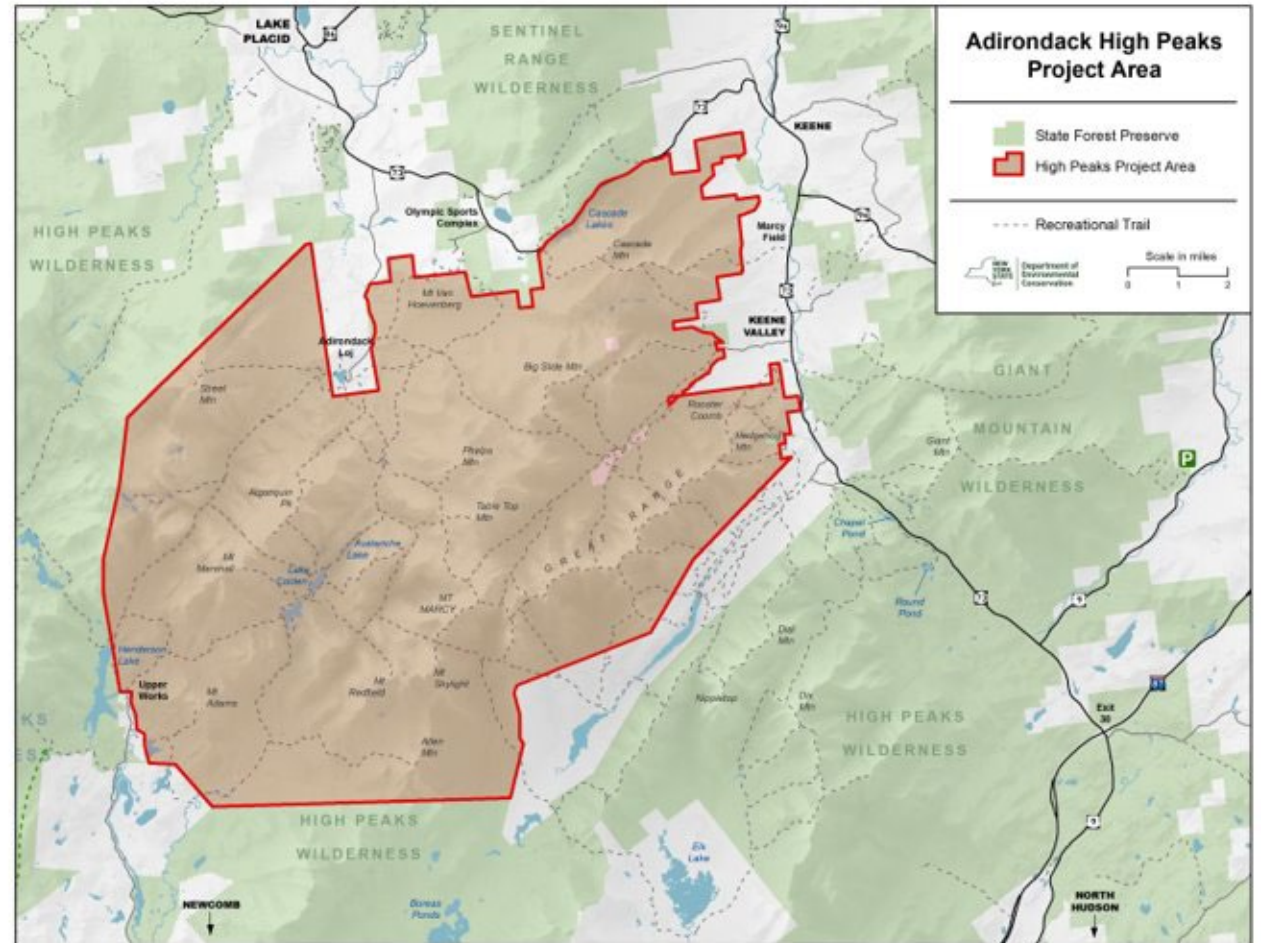
Final Report

January 2021



2022

- State Budget - \$600k for “comprehensive planning”
- DEC Commissioner announcement
- Request for Proposals (RFP)



State Project Team

- Forestry / land management (Regional)
- Forest Rangers (Regional)
- Forest Preserve program administration (Albany)
- Adventure NY / Outdoor Recreation program (Albany)
- Adirondack Park Agency

Stakeholders

- Local government
- Environmental advocates
- Recreation organizations
- Economic development/tourism agencies
- Other state agencies (DOT, ORDA)

Project Deliverables

- Identification of desired conditions related to “Social Carrying Capacity” of study areas
- Management strategies for achieving and maintaining desired conditions
- Identification of indicators and thresholds for monitoring and measuring success

Project Purpose

To conduct a visitor use management planning process, using the IVUMF, with a focus on experiential, social, and public safety elements of visitor use management and visitor capacities, to promote sustainable visitor use.

Thank You

Josh Clague

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and Conservation Easements

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