



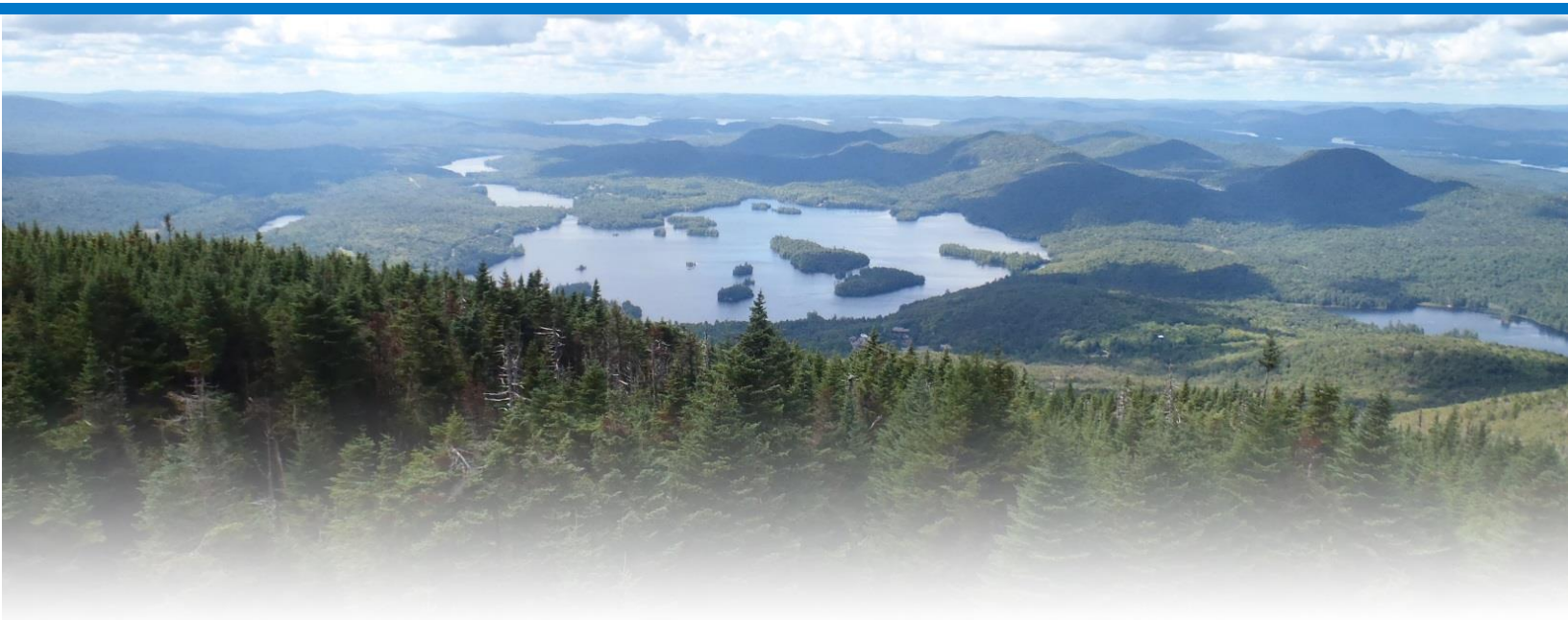
Department of
Environmental
Conservation

BLUE MOUNTAIN WILD FOREST

Proposed Final Amendment

to the

1995 Blue Mountain Wild Forest Unit Management Plan



NYS DEC, REGION 5, DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS

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Background

The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) serves as the Adirondack Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM), one of eight PRISMs across New York. APIPP is a partnership program founded in 1998 by The Nature Conservancy, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) and New York State Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and is housed under the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Funding is provided by the New York State Environmental Protection Fund and administered through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation via 5-year contracts. Since APIPP's founding, the program has grown to include more than 30 cooperating partner organizations, and over 700 volunteers.

The vicinity of the intersection of State Routes 30 and 28 in the hamlet of Blue Mountain Lake was prioritized for a boat decontamination station under the Adirondack Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program. This location could intercept boater traffic heading into the interior Adirondacks from the Great Lakes, Finger Lakes, Hudson River, and Mohawk River watersheds which are known to be invaded by numerous small-bodied aquatic invasive animals and high priority aquatic invasive plants. The location also falls centrally to the waterbodies of Indian Lake, Raquette Lake and Long Lake, which are known to be infested.

In 2017, representatives of DEC, DOT, and APIPP assessed a highway pull-off along Route 28, located immediately across the highway from Lake Durant, to determine the suitability of the site as a boat washing station. Lake Durant is located along the southwestern border of Blue Mountain Wild Forest and is also adjacent to other Forest Preserve lands including Lake Durant Campground and Blue Ridge Wilderness Area. The lake covers 327 acres and provides over two miles of shoreline that can be accessed from Route 30 and Lake Durant Campground.

The highway pull-off was determined to be a suitable location, and in spring of 2019, a mobile boat washing system was installed. The system chosen for this location was a Landa ECOS mobile wash system, which recovers, filters and recycles the dirty water from pressure washing for safe disposal or reuse—meeting most municipal and environmental regulations and does not require a State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit. The ECOS unit is easy to maintain and transport for off-site winter storage.

Actions Taken to Date

The following actions were undertaken as part of the installation of the boat washing station:

- Removed sod and other organic material (spoils), as needed, to a minimum 6-inch depth and to the site-specific length and width needed for vehicle/boat ingress and egress, staging, containment pad, and shed site;
- Lined excavated site with standard woven road fabric;
- Installed “crusher run” (2-inch maximum rock size and smaller with fines for packing) to a minimum compacted depth of 6 inches, maintaining a level surface;
- A stable and level surface was constructed to allow for the placement of the ECOS unit’s containment pad to be laid flat on the road surface for boat inspection and cleaning. The pad is designed to allow wash water to be contained, collected and recycled back to the ECOS unit for re-use.
- Installed shed adjacent to containment pad for boat cleaning, with the opening facing the containment pad without impeding the flow of vehicle traffic.

Management Action

The entrance and exit of the highway pull-off are in the highway right-of-way and fall under the jurisdiction of DOT, while the interior of the pull-off, where the boat washing is occurring, has been determined to be in the Blue Mountain Wild Forest and under the jurisdiction of DEC.

The temporary placement of the shed was necessary for the immediate storage of the ECOS unit at the end of each day. The Department will maintain the shed as a permanent structure rather than remove it at the end of each fall and re-install it every spring because: 1) the physical moving of the shed compromises its structural integrity, and 2) it would take additional resources to move and store the shed off-site every year.

The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan allows for the permanent placement of storage sheds, for use by administrative personnel, for the protection of state lands. As demonstrated by the following specifications and photograph, this storage shed is considered to be rustic in nature.

Specifications

- 12' wide x 20' long windowless storage shed
- Minimum 9'-wide x 7'-high windowless overhead garage doors on both 12' ends of the shed
- 2" x 4" wall and roof joists 16" O.C.
- T-111 5/8" Duratemp exterior siding
- Dark brown painted exterior walls
- Green, 30-year architectural shingled roof
- Hunter green painted trim
- The deck (floor) of the 12' x 20' shed must meet the following specifications:
 - Six 4x4" pressure-treated skids running the length of the shed (evenly spaced)
 - 2x4" pressure-treated floor joists 8" O.C.
 - 3/4" pressure-treated plywood deck screwed in place
 - Detached exterior ramp for entry and exit at one entrance of garage door
 - One exterior windowless man door for side entrance



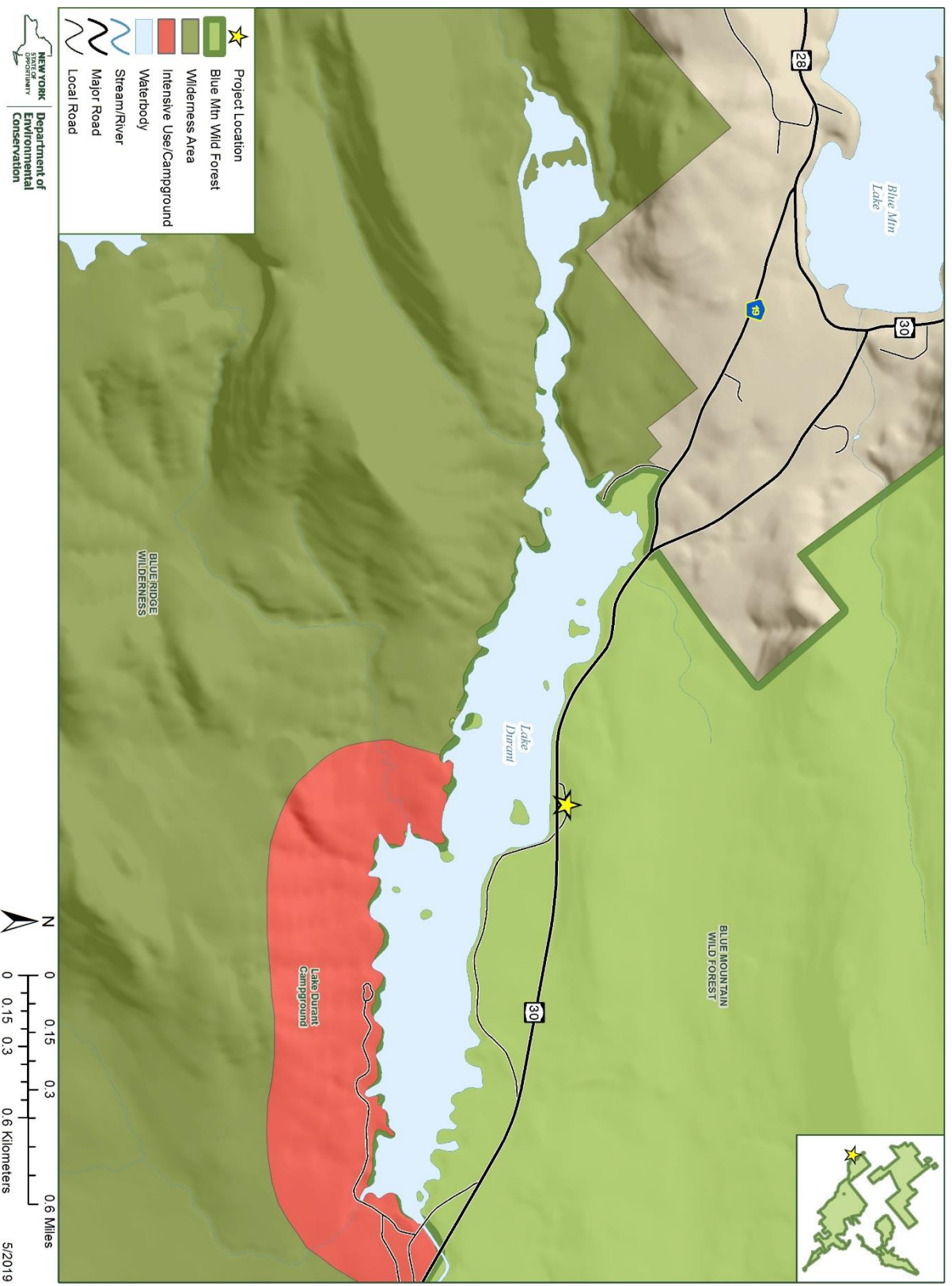
Existing boat washing station.

Unit Overview Map



Blue Mountain Wild Forest

Lake Durant Overview Map



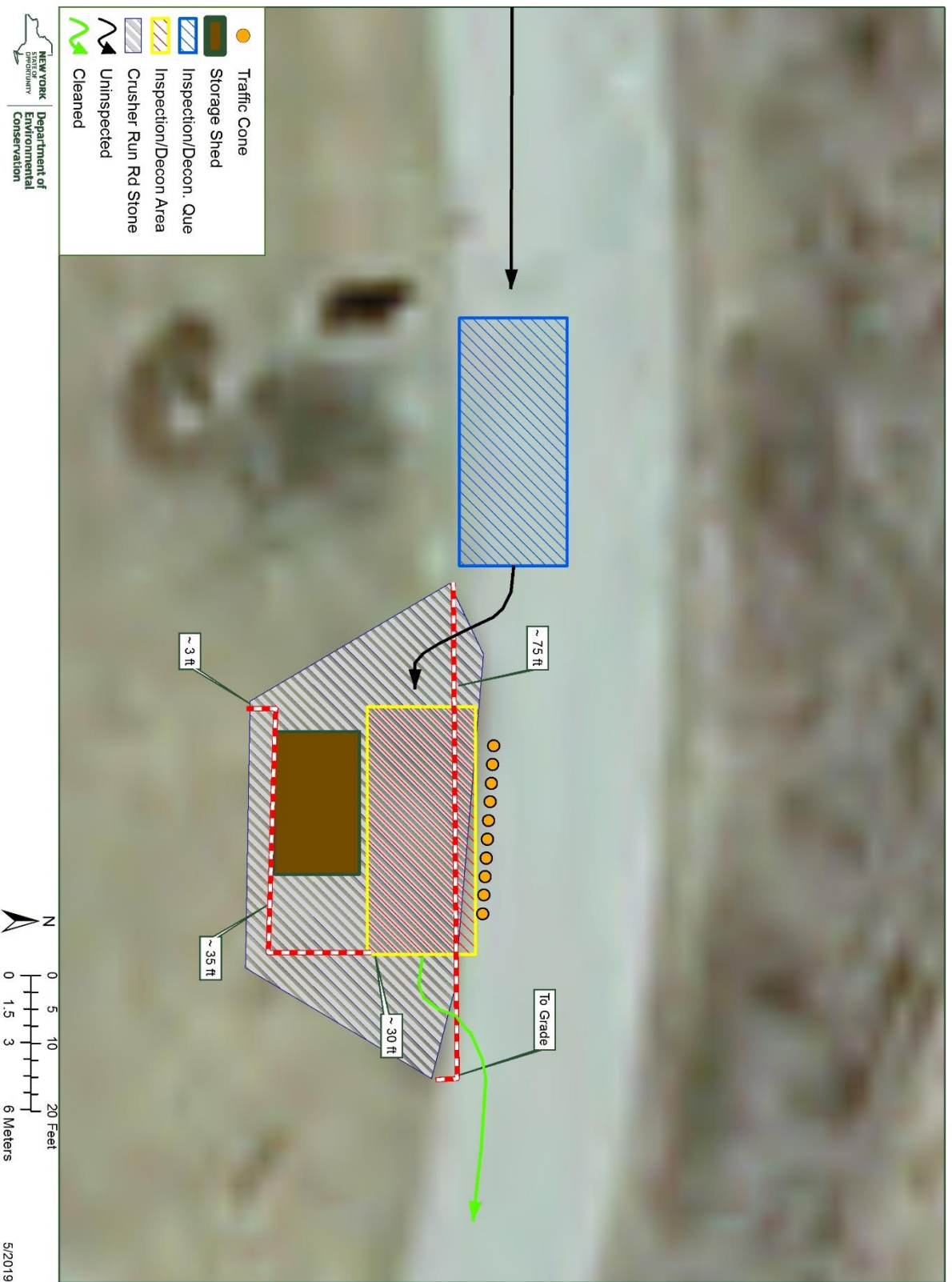
Blue Mountain Wild Forest

Traffic Flow Overview Map



Blue Mountain Wild Forest

Project Details Map



Appendix 1 – Public Comment

The Department held a public comment period from October 9, 2019 through October 30, 2019. During this time period a total of six comments were received related to the management proposals found in the amendment. All comments were in favor of the of the UMP amendment.