



DRAFT RESOLUTION

**ADOPTED BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY WITH RESPECT
TO THE 2024-25 ADIRONDACK PARK STATE LAND MASTER PLAN
AMENDMENTS**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

WHEREAS, Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act (Executive Law, Article 27) provides that the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP) should be reviewed periodically and may be amended; and

WHEREAS, the Agency adopted a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (FPEIS) entitled, "Guidelines for Amending the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan," dated February 28, 1979, that sets forth the factors to be considered for the classification of recent acquisitions, alteration of the guidelines for management and use set forth in each classification, alteration of definitions of existing classifications, alteration of introductory guidelines, alteration of facility definitions, and alteration of area descriptions; and

WHEREAS, the FPEIS guidelines serve as mitigatory measures designed to encourage amendments that will offer further protection to state land resources; and

WHEREAS, the APSLMP provides that amendments shall be effectuated in the same manner as its original adoption and should be subject to public hearings within and outside of the Park; and

WHEREAS, any amendments shall be prepared by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA or Agency) in consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department or DEC) and submitted to the Governor for her approval after public hearings have been held on the amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and the Department entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the Implementation of the State Land Master Plan (MOU), last revised March 2010, providing procedures for consultation and consideration of proposed changes to the APSLMP; and

WHEREAS, the Agency consulted with the Department, and prepared recommendations for comprehensive amendments to the APSLMP involving topics including, but not limited to, visitor use management, accessibility, climate change, beaver control structures, use of motor vehicles to remove non-conforming structures, wildlife management structures, and the classification of the Four Peaks tract; and

WHEREAS, the Department has acquired approximately 585 acres of land within the Adirondack Park in the Towns of Jay and Wilmington in Essex County; and

WHEREAS, the APSLMP provides criteria for classifying State lands within the Adirondack Park according to their characteristics and capacity to withstand use; and

WHEREAS, the classification of State lands amends the APSLMP, and APSLMP amendments must be approved by the Governor upon a recommendation by the Agency that is made in consultation with the Department; and

WHEREAS, the Agency determined that the proposed action to amend the APSLMP is a Type I action pursuant to 9 NYCRR § 586.5(a)(6)(iv), and prepared a Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF); and

WHEREAS, the Agency determined that the proposed action to amend the APSLMP will not have significant adverse environmental impacts and issued a negative declaration in the Environmental Notice Bulletin on October 2, 2024, thereby fulfilling the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617, and 9 NYCRR Part 586; and

WHEREAS, the Agency accepted written public comment on the proposed amendments package from October 2, 2024 through December 2, 2024 and received 1,238 written public comment letters; and

WHEREAS, the Agency held three public hearings, including a virtual hearing on October 22, 2024, a hearing in Wilmington on October 23, 2024, and a hearing in Albany on October 29, 2024, where approximately 27 individuals provided verbal comments; and

WHEREAS, on August 14, 2025, the Agency Board heard a summary of public comments received, the Agency's response, and any changes made as a result of those public comments to the proposed final package; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 7 of New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), the Agency has considered climate change and the State's climate goals and finds that the proposed final APSLMP amendments are not inconsistent with, and will not interfere with, the attainment of the state's greenhouse gas emissions limits; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Agency determines that the proposed amendments package is consistent with the FPEIS and the relevant guidelines therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency determines that the proposed classification action described above applies the guidelines of the APSLMP to protect sensitive ecological resources and intangible values, and prevent significant adverse environmental impacts associated with types of use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency determines that the proposed classification proposal conforms with the APSLMP's unifying theme that "the protection and preservation of the natural resources of the state lands within the Park must be paramount. Human use and enjoyment of those lands should be permitted and

encouraged, so long as the resources in their physical and biological context as well as their social or psychological aspects are not degraded” (APSLMP, p. 1); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency authorizes and directs the Executive Director to make any non-substantive technical corrections to the proposed final amendments package; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Agency recommends that the 2024-2025 proposed APSLMP amendments be approved by the Governor and the Agency shall forward the recommendations for revisions to the APSLMP to the Governor for her approval.

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absent: