



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Adirondack Foothills Final Draft Unit Management Plan Overview

A planning unit consisting of 6 State Forests and 24
Parcels of Detached Forest Preserve, in Oneida County
and Herkimer County

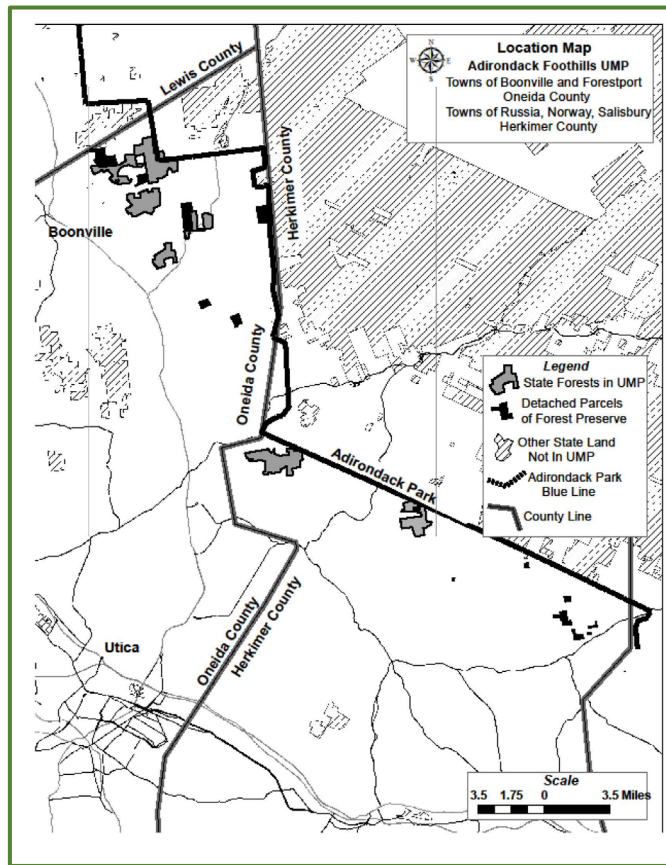
June 21, 2023

Please Note:

The Final Draft Adirondack Foothills Unit Management Plan was previously released in 2016 at which time several new proposals were introduced through the public comment process. These proposals were reviewed thoroughly for inclusion into the Plan. Due to several staffing changes, release of an updated Final Draft plan has been delayed until now. Thank you for your patience as the Department tackled these challenges.

Unit Location Map

Located southwest and adjacent to the Adirondack Park



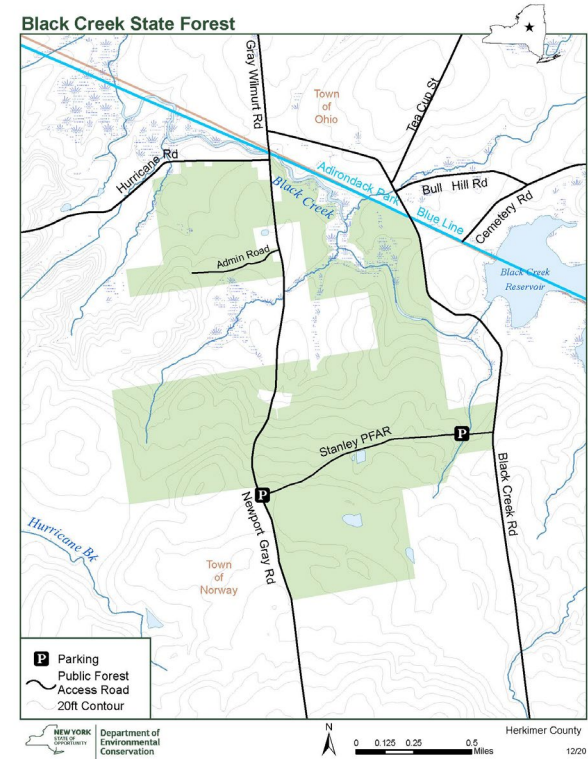
State Forest Lands

- **Managed for Forest Products, Watershed Protection, Recreation, and Other Kindred Purposes**



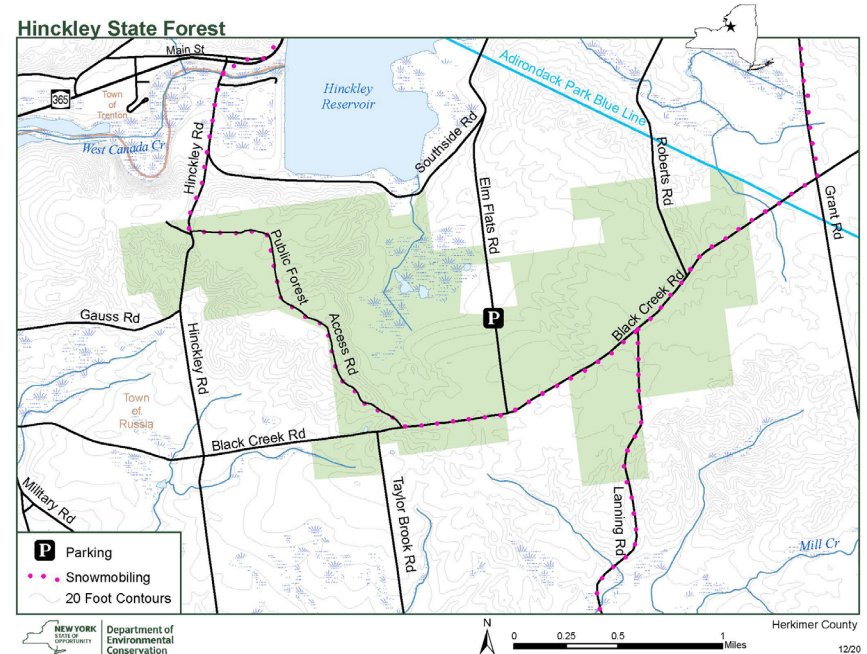
Black Creek State Forest

- 998 Acres
- Located in the Town of Norway, Herkimer County



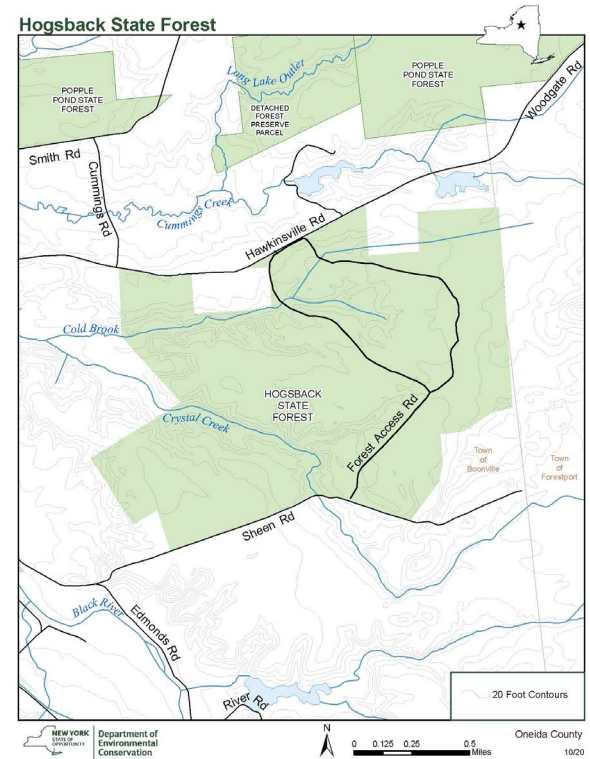
Hinckley State Forest

- 1,590 Acres
- Located in the Town of Russia, Herkimer County



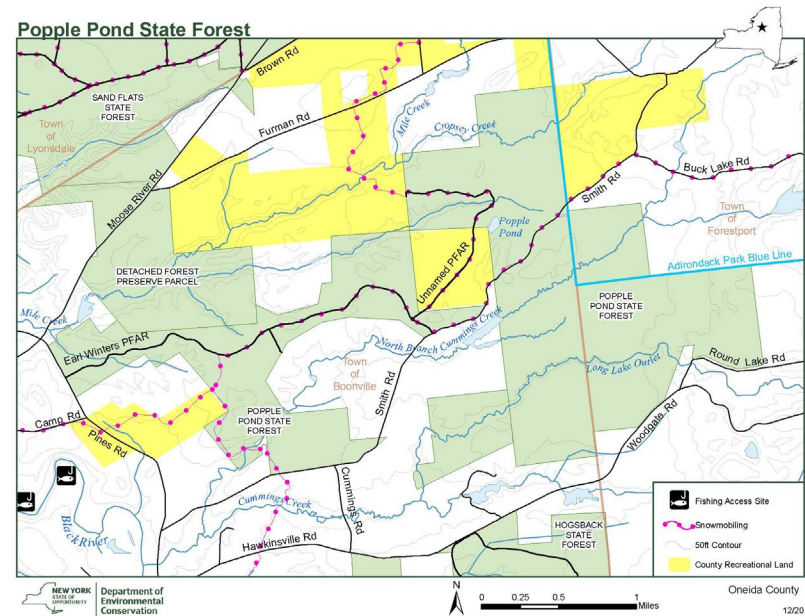
Hogsback State Forest

- 1,115 Acres
- Located in the Town of Boonville, Oneida County



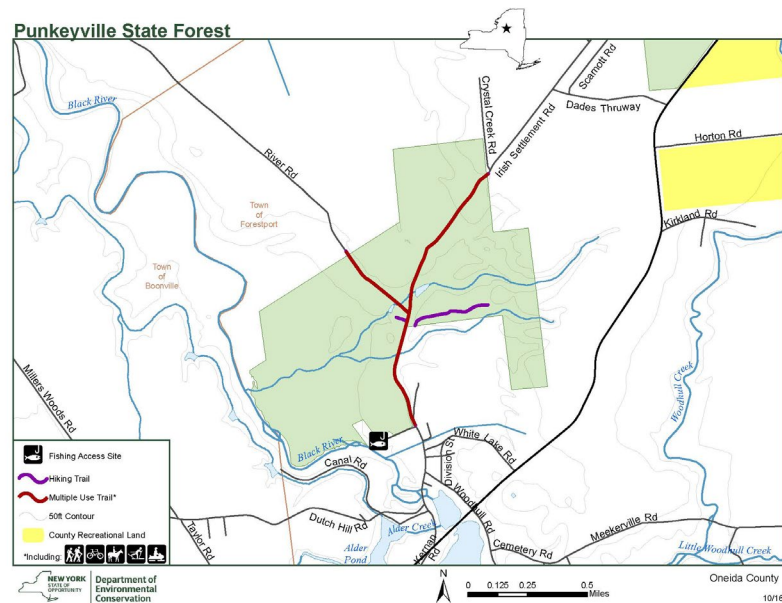
Popple Pond State Forest

- 2,446 Acres
- Located in the Towns of Boonville and Forestport, Oneida County



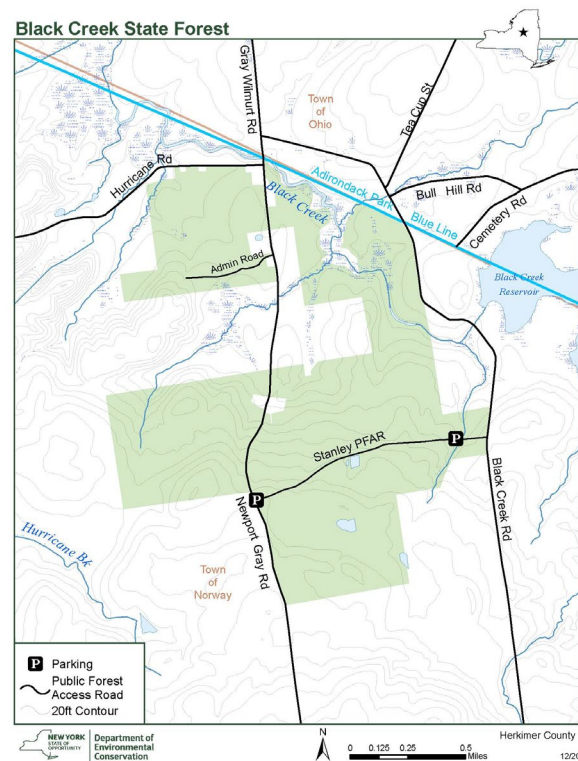
Punkeyville State Forest

- 535 Acres
- Located in the Town of Forestport, Oneida County



Woodhull State Forest

- 567 Acres
- Located in the Town of Forestport, Oneida County



Detached Parcels of Forest Preserve

- **Parcels of State land outside of the Adirondack Park that are too small to be considered a State Forest**
- **These lands are managed as though they are Wild Forest lands found within the Forest Preserve**
- **No Timber Harvesting**
- **Managed mainly for Recreation and Open Space**



Major Plan Highlights



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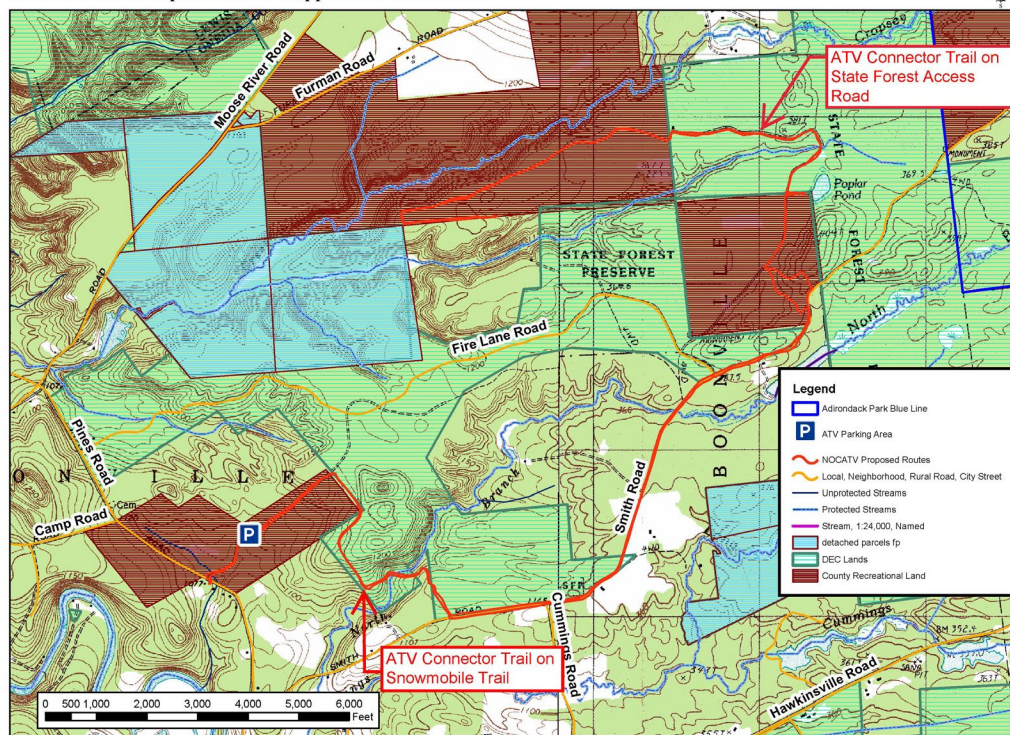
Establish Two ATV Connector Trails on Popple Pond State Forest

The Northern Oneida County ATV Club (NOCATV Club) approached the Department proposing the creation of two ATV connector trails on Popple Pond State Forest. These two trails would connect existing ATV trail systems on adjacent Oneida County owned forest lands, which lie around the perimeter of Popple Pond State Forest. One trail will utilize 1.0 mile of existing snowmobile trail. The other would utilize 0.8 mile of an existing State Forest Access Road. These trails will be maintained under a Volunteer Stewardship Agreement with NOCATV.



Proposed ATV Connector Trail Map

NOCATV Club Proposed Trails - Popple Pond State Forest



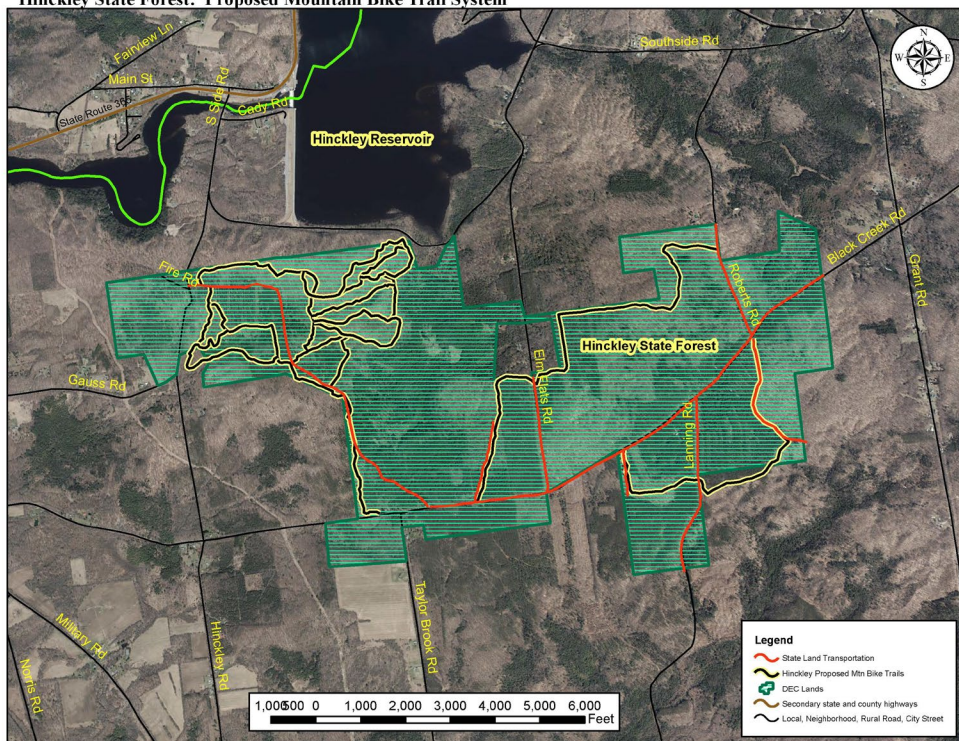
Formally designate approximately 10 miles of mountain biking trails on Hinckley State Forest

Informal use of the existing fire lanes on Hinckley State Forest by the mountain biking community has evolved into a rapid increase in trail usage and development of additional informal trails. In order to better manage this activity, the Department will enter into a formal Volunteer Stewardship Agreement with the Adirondack Foothills Trail Alliance to sign and maintain existing trails, and close any trails that may impact environmentally sensitive areas. Increased parking opportunities on old log landings will also be explored.



Proposed Mountain Bike Trail System Map

Hinckley State Forest: Proposed Mountain Bike Trail System



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Detached Parcels of Forest Preserve #22 & #26 (Irondale) Improvements

The remnants of the former Salisbury Steel and Iron Company can be found on Herkimer Detached Parcels of Forest Preserve numbers 22 & 26. William H. Switzer started the company in 1902 and the company shut down in 1913 when Switzer passed away. This plan proposes to install split rail fencing and warning signs around the presently open mine shafts, as well as interpretive signage describing the area's history. A five car parking area will be established along Switzer Road to accommodate users of the area.



Historical Picture of Salisbury Steel & Iron Company.



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Other notable management activities:

- Relocate a snowmobile trail off River Road in the village of Forestport onto adjacent Punkeyville State Forest.
- Formally designate a haul road on Popple Pond State Forest as a Motorized Access Route for Persons with Disabilities.
- Investigate whether there is an entity interested in constructing and maintaining a picnic area at the former Trout Farm on Punkeyville State Forest through the Department's Volunteer Stewardship Program.



Routine management activities:

- Conduct timber management activities in accordance with the timber management schedule located within the Plan.
- Maintain boundary lines around State lands in accordance with the yearly schedule within the Plan.
- Maintain State Forest Access Roads in accordance the yearly schedule within the Plan.
- Continue to conduct all activities in accordance with the Strategic Plan for State Forest Management.



A copy of the full Final Draft Plan can be found at:

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Public Comments may be directed to:

R6UMP@dec.ny.gov

Comments will be accepted until September 15, 2023



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Thank You

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