

Aldrich Pond Wild Forest AMENDMENT

to the

1995 Aldrich Pond Wild Forest Oswegatchie Easement Lands Unit Management Plan

Counties of Herkimer, Lewis and St. Lawrence

April 2009

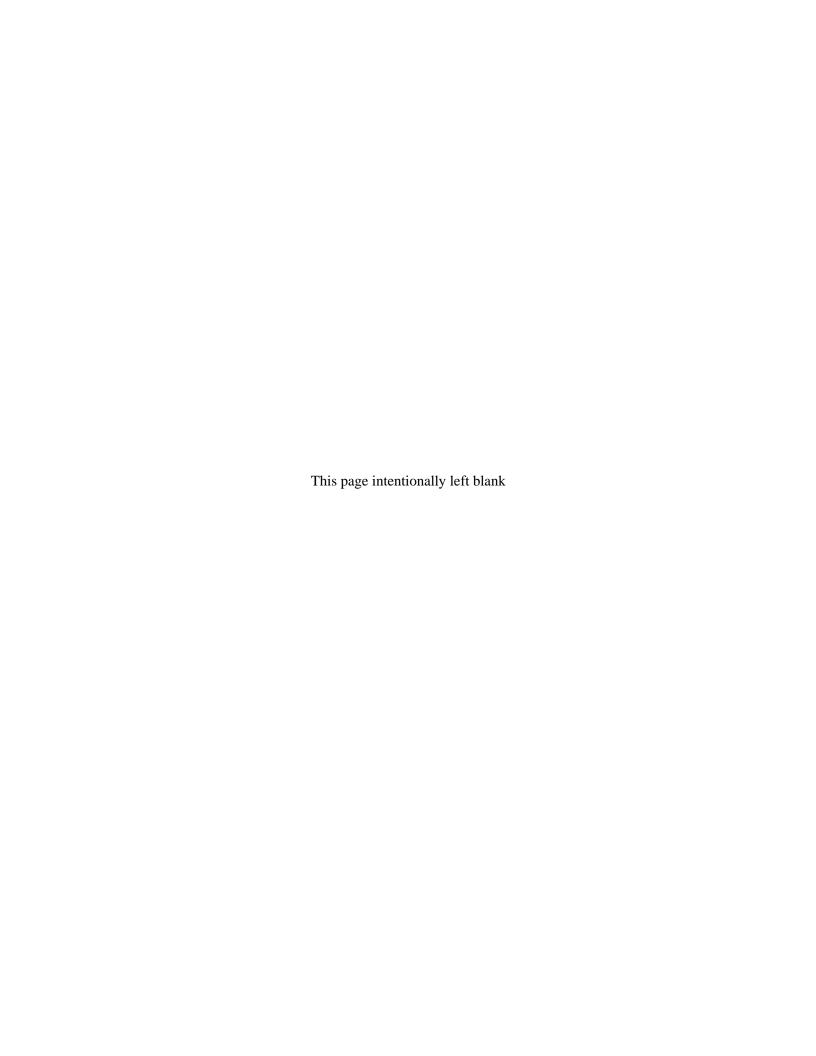
David A. Paterson, Governor

Alexander B. Grannis, Commissioner

<u>Lead Agency</u>: (in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency) New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233

For further information contact:

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UMP AMENDMENT #2

INTRODUCTION

This amendment formalizes a canoe route on the Little River in the Town of Fine in Aldrich Pond Wild Forest (APWF), including the addition of a universally accessible canoe launch and parking site at Youngs Road, a canoe carry around a waterfall and a take-out on the north end of Streeter Lake Road near Aldrich. It is proposed that the following new sections be added to the existing APWF UMP.

III. MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

D. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PLANNING AREA

5a. <u>Canoe Routes</u>

During periods of relatively high water, the Little River is passable by canoe from the Youngs Road to Streeter Lake Road near Aldrich/Coffin Mills Road. In the original UMP (1995) this route was noted, but it was not identified as a formal canoe route because of a carry on private lands necessitated by a waterfall in the river. In 1995, the Department acquired land adjacent to the falls from Clarkson University, allowing the carry around the waterfalls to be entirely on public land. This has attracted more informal use of the route and peaked interest in formalizing this canoe route by designating and improving access, carry and takeout trails, and providing more formal parking at the Youngs Road end of the route.

Current interest in formalizing this canoe route materialized after the towns of Clifton and Fine received a grant from the Department of State to improve and enhance recreation access points in the community, including this location. Currently, parking for access to the river on Youngs Road is undeveloped and cars park randomly along the road shoulder. There is also no formal access route to the river, and the carry around the falls and the takeout at Aldrich have been developed by use, not design. In order to formalize the canoe route and provide protection of the natural resources along the Little River, a plan for providing parking at Youngs Road, a carry around the waterfall and a takeout at the end of the route in the APWF must be developed .

IV. PROJECTED USE AND MANAGEMENT PROPOSED

A. FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT AND/OR REMOVAL

11. Construct a Universally Accessible Canoe Launch, Parking Sites, Carry and Take-Out on the Little River Between Youngs Road and Streeter Lake Road

Universally Accessible Canoe Launch & Parking:

A total of three parking spaces will be created in the APWF at Youngs Road. One designated universally accessible parking space and one standard parking space separated by an access aisle (see attached drawing) will be constructed perpendicular to the roadway on the northwest side of Youngs Road, at the end of the guide rails (see attached photograph). There will also be one additional parking space oriented parallel to Youngs Road immediately to the north of the universal space. A universally accessible trail will be constructed at a width of approximately 4 feet for a distance of approximately 60 feet, from the north end of the accessible parking space to the bank of the Little River. The historic point of entry along the riverbank is unvegetated and the soil has eroded. The portion of the historic point of entry that is not part of the new trail will be revegetated using native shrubs similar to those growing on the site, and mulched with straw. If needed, cedar logs fastened to the bank of the Little River with deadmen could be used to stabilize the river bank. DEC signs will be used to direct users to this new access site.

Canoe Carry & Take-Out:

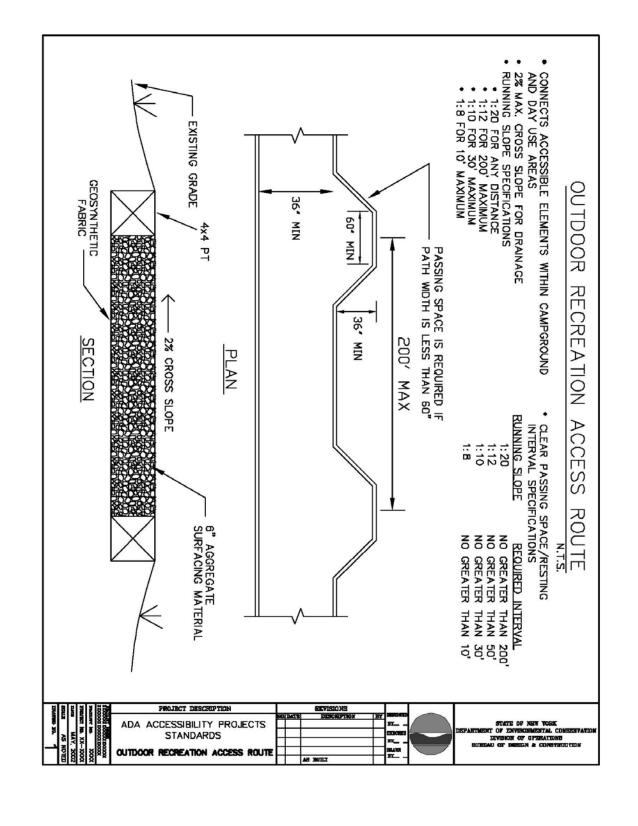
Certain sections of the existing canoe carry around the waterfall are damaged due to poor trail design and lack of drainage. The primary erosion concern along this canoe carry is a scramble up a steep bank adjacent to the waterfall. To protect the natural resources a better location for the carry will be identified, laid out and hardened with native materials as needed. Wetlands and streams will be avoided in the layout of the trail.

A formal cartop take-out site will be constructed off of Streeter Lake Road, in the approximate vicinity of the first DEC designated campsite. The historic location of the access trail may not be the best location, so alternative locations will be examined.

Consultation, per the APA/DEC MOU between the agencies will occur before the carry and take-out locations are finalized (see attached design, maps and photos of sites), and a wetland permit obtained if needed. If new locations are chosen for the canoe carry and/or the take-out, DEC will close the existing informal sites, and monitor these sites to ensure that the closure is effective. Work on these sites will be done by DEC staff, supported by the towns of Clifton and Fine.

Best Management Practices

Best management practices (BMPs) and standard erosion control methods for canoe carry trail maintenance, construction, and shorelines will be used. Proper construction will prevent erosion, minimize disturbance and ensure the longevity and stability of the trails.



OUTDOOR RECREATION ACCESSIBLE TRAIL

TECHNICAL PROVISIONS

SURFACE

· PROVIDE A FIRM AND STABLE SURFACE

RUNNING SLOPE

. NO MORE THAN 30% OF THE TOTAL TRAIL LENGTH TO EXCEED 1:12

CROSS SLOPE

2% MAX.

RESTING INTERVALS

- PROVIDE WHERE REQUIRED, 60" MIN. LENGTH, 2% MAX SLOPE
- ▶ 1:20 ANY DISTANCE
- ► 1:10 RESTING INTERVALS REQUIRED EVERY 30'
- ▶ 1:8 RESTING INTERVALS REQUIRED EVERY 10'

OPENINGS

- A SIZE THAT DOES NOT PERMIT THE PASSAGE OF A 1/2" DIAMETER SPHERE
- ► (1/2 INCH MAX.)
- . ELONGATED OPENINGS SHALL BE PLACED SO THAT THE LONG DIMENSION IS PERPENDICULAR OR DIAGONAL TO THE DOMINANT DIRECTION OF TRAVEL.

CLEAR TREAD WIDTH

· CLEAR WIDTH - 36 INCHES MIN.

PASSING SPACE

· PASSING SPACE IS REQUIRED WHERE PATH WIDTH IS LESS THAN 60"/EVERY 1000

TREAD OBSTACLES

· 2 INCHES HIGH MAX.

PROTRUDING OBJECTS

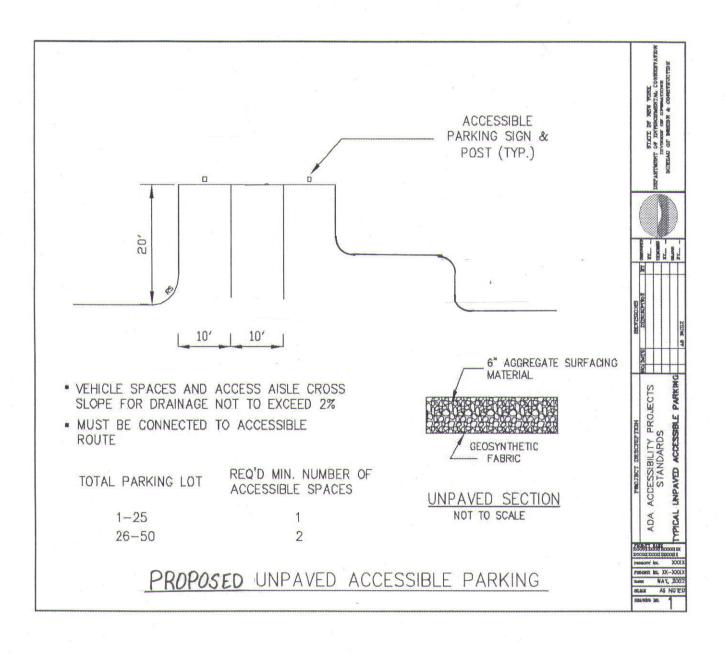
. TO COMPLY WITH ADAAG 4.4 AND SHALL HAVE 80" MIN CLEAR HEAD ROOM.

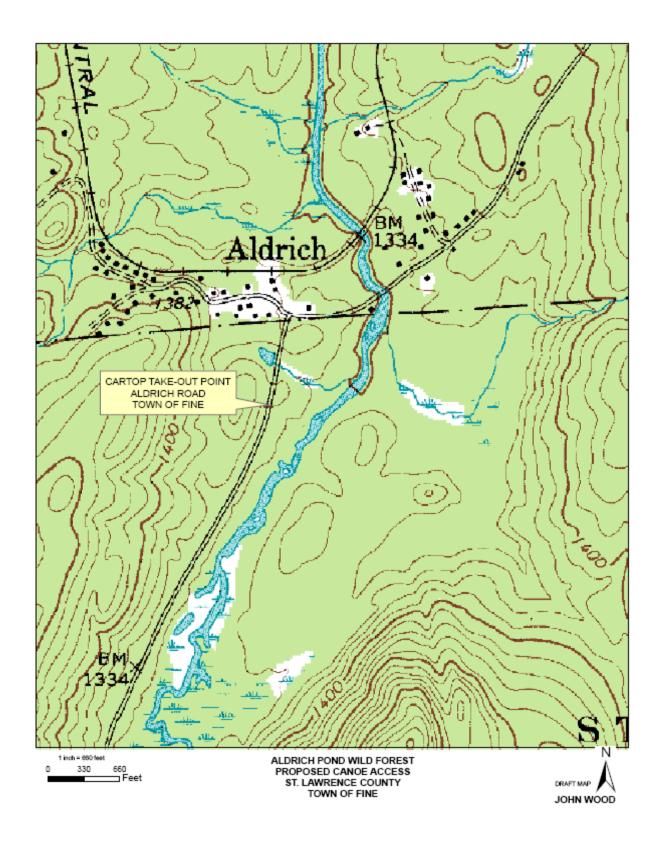
SIGNS

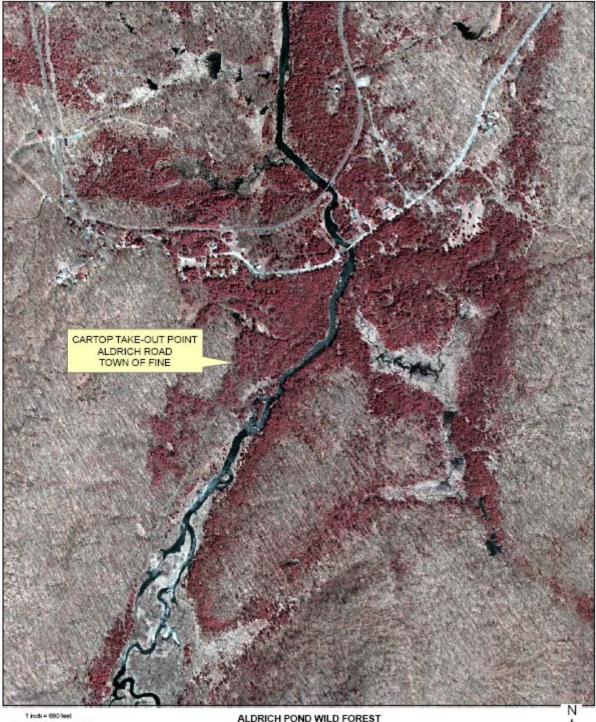
· SIGNAGE WHERE PROVISIONS ARE MET ▶ USE APPROPRIATE SYMBOL

 PROVIDE WHERE REQUIRED ▶ 3 INCHES MIN.

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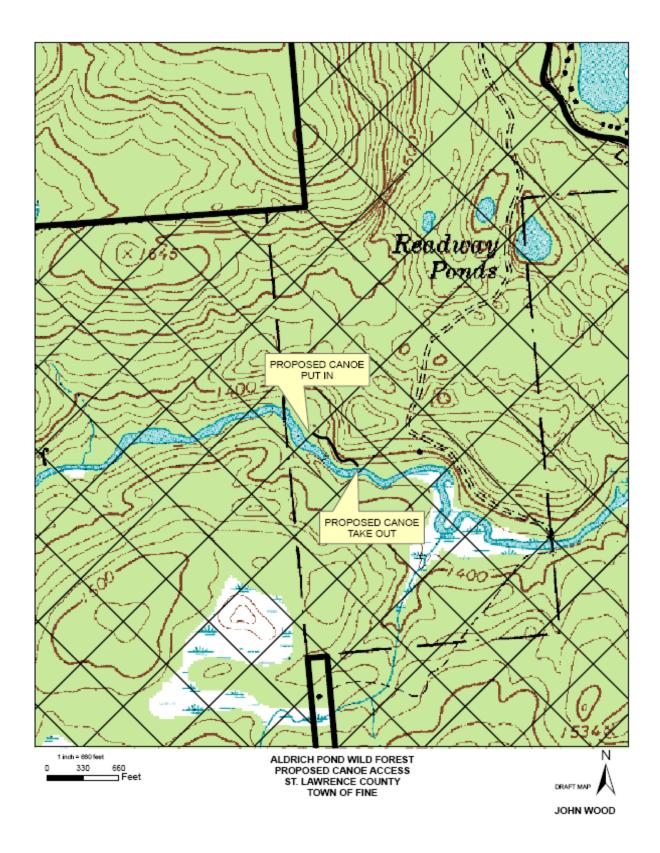


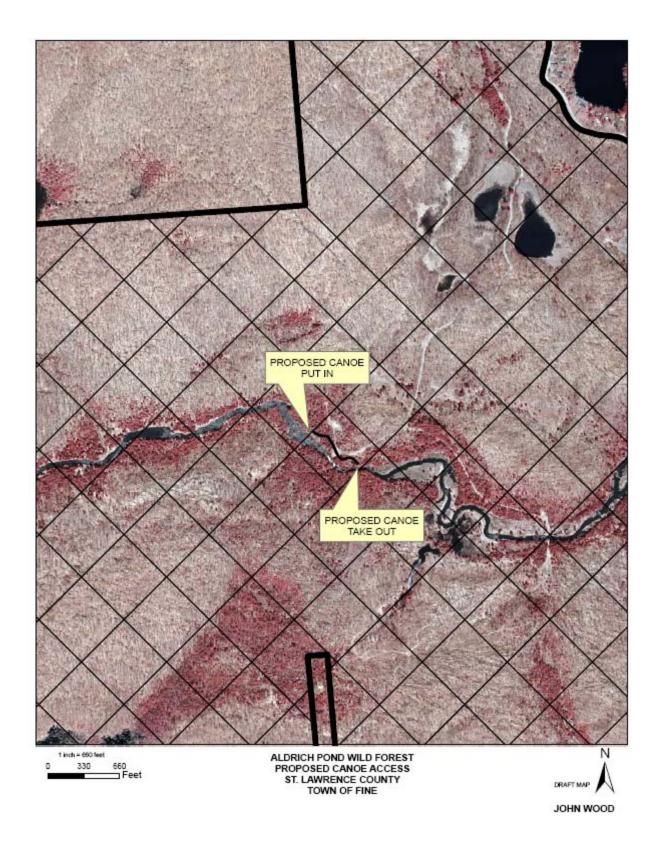


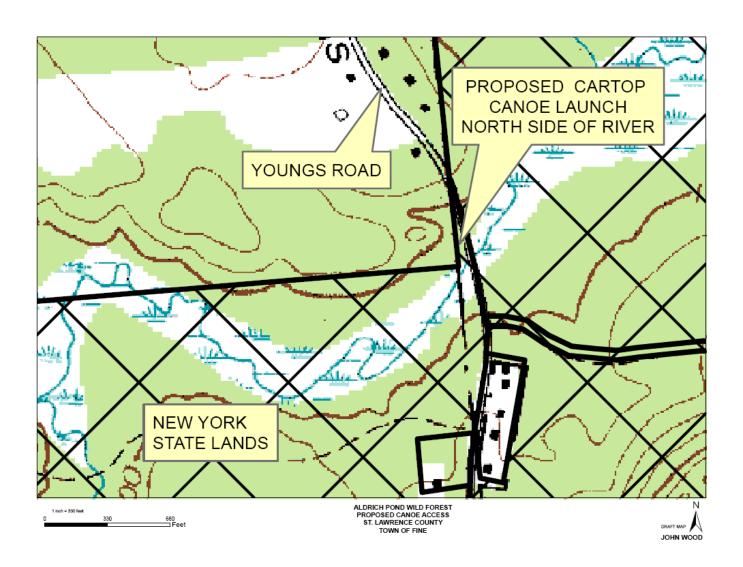


1 inch = 660 feet 0 330 660 Feet ALDRICH POND WILD FOREST PROPOSED CANOE ACCESS ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TOWN OF FINE









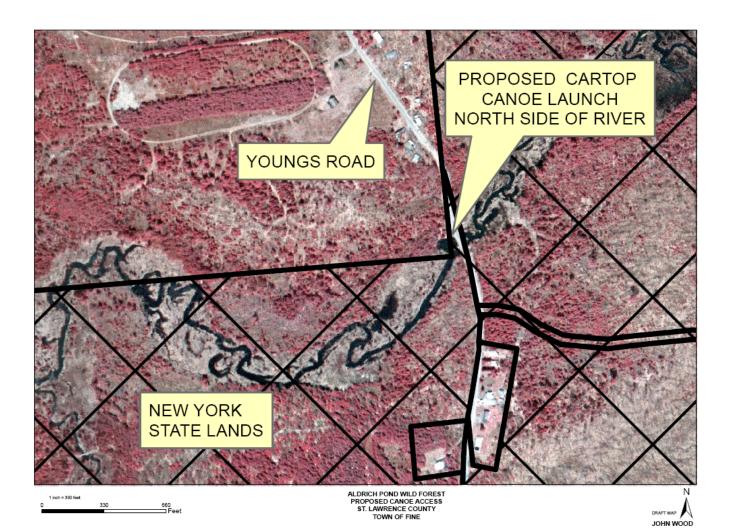


Photo of Location of the Proposed Little River Canoe Access on Youngs Road

