



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

LYME ADIRONDACK TIMBERLANDS CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Recreation
Management Plan
**for the
Edinburg Tract
and
Corinth Tract**

Town of Edinburg, Corinth, Greenfield

Saratoga County

NYS DEC, REGION 5, DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS

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Preface

Use of Conservation Easements in New York State

The New York State Legislature has declared that the public policy of the State is to conserve, preserve, and protect its environmental assets, natural resources and man-made resources. In addition to purchasing lands in fee on behalf of the People of the State, the State also protects land and natural resources by purchasing less than fee, permanent interests in land, termed conservation easements. Conservation easements are used widely across the United States by government and non-profit land conservation organizations to protect a variety of properties with important natural resources and other landscape values such as water quality, wildlife habitat, sensitive ecosystems, wetlands, riparian areas, scenic areas such as meadows and ridgelines, agricultural land, working forests, and historic sites. The primary function of conservation easements is to limit or eliminate future development and undesirable land uses on a property, while allowing for continued private ownership and traditional management.

New York State acquires conservation easements primarily on properties that buffer existing State lands, provide additional public recreation opportunities, and/or maintain large working forests. There are now hundreds of thousands of acres of land in New York that are protected by conservation easements acquired by the State. Most of that land consists of large tracts of commercial timber land in the Adirondack and Tug Hill regions; however, New York State also holds easements on a variety of other properties across the State.

Some conservation easements allow public access to the protected property and some do not. On many large working forest conservation easement properties, the State has acquired public recreation rights in addition to development and land use restrictions. In some cases, a wide range of public recreational use is permitted, and in others public access is very limited. The amount of public access depends largely on the goals and objectives of the landowner and the State at the time the easement was negotiated.

This recreation management plan will explain public recreation rights the State acquired through the conservation easement and how these rights are to be implemented compatibly with rights retained by the landowner.

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I. INTRODUCTION

On April 22, 2004, International Paper Company (IP) and the State of New York publicly announced their intent to close on the largest land conservation agreement ever undertaken in the history of the State of New York. Under the terms of the agreement, 275,742 acres of the IP ownership, across 21 separate tracts in 9 counties and 34 towns, was encumbered by a working forest conservation easement “Conservation Easement” held by the state. Subsequently, in August of 2006, IP sold the entirety of those lands encumbered by the conservation easement to the Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC and Lyme Adirondack Timberlands II, LLC and are currently managed by Lyme Adirondack Forest Company, Inc. (hereinafter referred to collectively as Lyme or Landowner). Similar to other conservation easement agreements on large industrial timberlands in the Adirondack Park, the IP Conservation Easement terms apply to current and future owners of the property in perpetuity.

The goals of the Conservation Easement are multi-faceted and include but are not limited to: the preservation of open space, protection against development, sustainable forest management, protection of sensitive areas and ecological resources, limitation of tract subdivision, and provisions for public recreation on a tract-by-tract basis. Generally speaking, tracts designated by the Conservation Easement as wholly open to full public recreation are referred to as “Easement A” tracts, whereas those tracts where public recreation rights are strictly limited or absent are referred to as “Easement B” tracts. As identified by the Conservation Easement, approximately 84,000 acres of the current Lyme ownership fall under Easement A, with the remaining 171,000 acres falling under Easement B.

This Recreation Management Plan (RMP) addresses public recreational use of the Corinth Tract and Edinburg Tract, located in the Towns of Day, Corinth, Edinburg and Greenfield in Saratoga County referred to herein as the “Property”. The implementation of these rights is conditioned upon the Landowner’s approval of

this RMP. The development, implementation and management of state-held conservation easement lands are administered by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Plan Intent and Purpose

A RMP provides for the public recreational use in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement. Protection and sustainability of the resources is required through the Conservation Easement but is achieved through third party green certification and other mechanisms, not in the RMP. Property level audits are undertaken which include information gathered from field data collection and assessments overseen and completed by a variety of natural resource professionals, both public and private. The Landowner updates this information on a periodic basis and makes it available to the DEC when updates are finalized. The DEC recognizes that public recreation planning cannot be undertaken without consideration of the natural resources. Information regarding natural resource protection has been evaluated and considered during the development of this RMP.

The RMP complies with the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement and may be updated, amended or revised from time to time, as needed, to reflect the State's implementation of the public recreational rights granted in the Conservation Easement. All RMPs, amendments and revisions are subject to Landowner approval per the Conservation Easement terms.

During the interim period between the initial acquisition of the Conservation Easement, the development and Landowner approval of this RMP, public recreational use of the Property was allowed in accordance with an Interim Recreation Management Plan (IRMP) that was developed and approved at the time of acquisition. The IRMP was developed in consultation with the Landowner, and as drafted, was not intended to address all the issues related to public recreation on the Property. Likewise, the IRMP did not identify all the potential public use opportunities that the Property could provide. This RMP supersedes, that of the IRMP and gives full consideration of the multi-user groups for the foreseeable future.

This RMP details the implementation of specific public uses determined by the DEC to be appropriate and feasible for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, this RMP furnishes the means to discuss and clarify issues pertinent to the Conservation Easement and states the mechanisms and protocols to be used for management of the public recreation activities. The Edinburg and Corinth Tracts

are combined into this RMP due to their proximity on the landscape, recreational connectivity and similarity of the natural resource base.

The Landowner has reviewed and granted conceptual approval of this RMP. Subsequent to the Landowner's review, a Draft RMP was made available for public review and comment. Public participation is important in that it gives interested parties the opportunity to learn, provide advice, and influence decisions about how the Property should be managed within the legal context of the Conservation Easement. After considering public comments and making edits as appropriate based on that input and Landowner consultation, the RMP will be adopted, paving the way for public use opportunities to be implemented.

Recreation Plan Implementation

This RMP is solely intended to be a tool to facilitate DEC's management of the public access and public recreational uses of the Property determined by the DEC to be appropriate for the duration of the RMP. The public recreation facilities identified in this RMP have been evaluated on the ground by DEC field staff for their safety, suitability, environmental sustainability, natural resource impact and practicality. The RMP is not intended to be a complete restatement of the Affirmative Rights granted under the Conservation Easement. For a detailed list of the full rights granted in the Conservation Easement, please refer to the Conservation Easement document which is filed at the appropriate county clerk's office.

Implementation of this RMP and the construction of facilities proposed herein, are subject to relevant provisions of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), Executive Law, NYSDEC rules and regulations, NYSDEC policies and procedures, the NY State Environmental Quality and Review Act (SEQRA), and the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement. Foremost among the documents guiding the planning, design and construction of facilities will be the 2010 Memorandum of Understanding Between the Adirondack Park Agency and The Department of Environmental Conservation Concerning State-Owned Conservation Easements on Private Lands in Adirondack Park (hereafter referred to as the MOU).

This RMP was reviewed by the Adirondack Park Agency in January 2022 and was determined to be compliant with the MOU. Implementation and construction will occur as funding, personnel and resources are made available. As facility build-out is planned and executed, projects will be evaluated, designed and implemented in compliance with various permitting requirements and guidance documents.

Planning Process and Timeline

To ensure optimal use of recreational resources on the Property, it is important to understand the availability of, and demand for, recreation on both the Edinburg and Corinth Tracts and in the surrounding region, as well as public sentiment regarding various related issues. The public had the opportunity to offer opinions and information regarding issues of concern during the 30-day public comment period starting May 11, 2022. Four comments supporting the plan were received. There were no public concerns or issues expressed during the comment period. A list of public comments is located in Appendix E.

Other Relevant Plans

The 2007 Interim Recreation Management Plans for Corinth Tract and the Edinburg Tract describes the existing snowmobile trails. In the development of this RMP, the planners coordinated with the unit manager for the Wilcox Wild Forest to maximize connectivity between the Forest Preserve and the Conservation Easement lands.

II. Setting

Property Description

The Corinth Tract, 9,600 +/- acres, and the Edinburg Tract, 4,130 +/- acres, all of which is identified as “Conservation Easement – B,” is located in Saratoga County. Conservation Easement B is described below.

The Corinth Tract spans the Town of Corinth with a small amount of acreage in the Towns of Edinburg and Greenfield. The Edinburg Tract is generally northwest of the Corinth Tract and spans two towns, the Town of Edinburg and the Town of Day.

The Property is located mostly within the Adirondack Park. A 78-acre parcel of the Corinth tract is just outside the Adirondack Park boundary.



Easement B

These lands have limited and defined public recreation rights. The public is permitted only on defined corridors, for specified recreation purposes, the rest of the acreage is off-limits to public use. Conservation Easement B tracts are leased to private recreation clubs, often hunting clubs. The leased area is called a “posting lease.”

Location and Access

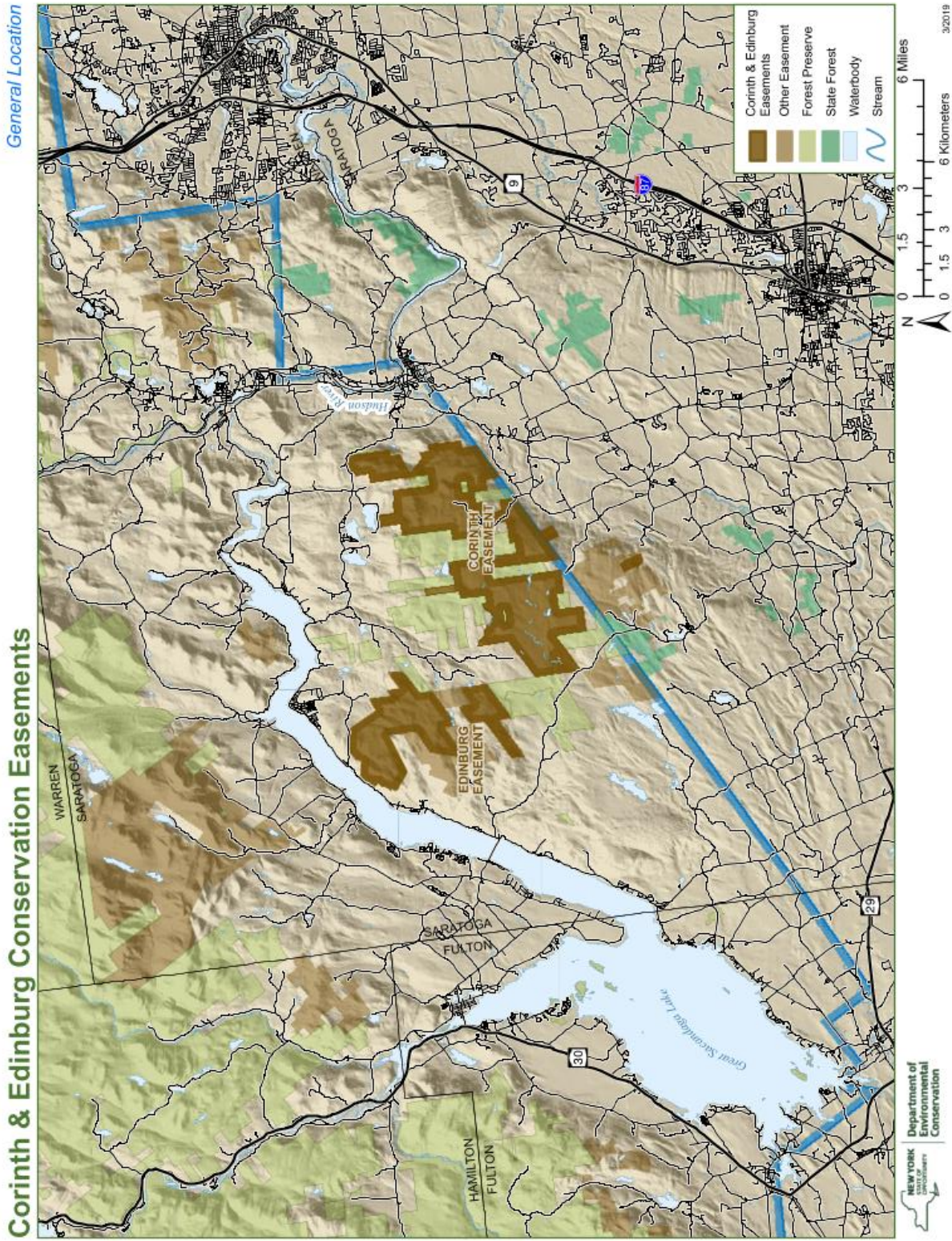
The Property can be accessed from several public roads as shown in Map 1 below. However, like other “Easement – B” lands, public access is not permitted except as outlined in this plan (See the section titled “III. Proposed Recreation

Management Actions”). U.S. Route 9, approximately 8 miles to the east of the Property, is the closest major road. From U.S. Route 9, the Property can be reached via county and town roads such as County Route 10, Fox Hill Road, Spruce Mountain Road and Hunt Lake Road. South Shore Road, Turner Road, Davignon Road, and Horsehill Road provide access from points west.

Relationship to Adjacent Forest Preserve Lands

The Property is generally surrounded by privately owned parcels but also borders several small Forest Preserve parcels. Some parcels are inholdings, situated within the matrix of the Property. These parcels are part of the Wilcox Lake Wild Forest.

Map 1. General location



Edinburg and Corinth Tracts
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Relationship to Adjacent Private Property

The majority of the Property is bordered by private land that ranges in use from residential to forestland and is off limits to public recreation. The exception is lands to the east owned by the Village of Corinth. New York State Snowmobile Trail S80, an important east-west route, passes onto the Village of Corinth's property from the Property and follows 1.2 miles of trail to a parking area on County Road 10. According to the Village of Corinth's Public Trails map, there are also 6.1 miles of non-motorized use trails that lead to several points of interest throughout the Village property (e.g. Redmond's Overlook).

There are several other adjacent conservation easement tracts that have a variety of public access. The Lake Desolation Tract, Johnny Cake Lake Tract and the Gordon's Creek Tract are currently owned by Upper Hudson Woodlands ATP and managed by F&W Forestry, and are subject to the *2017 Upper Hudson ATP Conservation Easement– Sacandaga Block RMP* www.dec.ny.gov/lands/107155.html#Planning and the *2014 RMP for Public Access Hunting, Fishing and Boating* http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/boathuntfishrmp.pdf. These RMPs guide public access for the aforementioned easement tracts.

Legal Rights of Ways (ROW)

Saratoga County – ROW on Spruce Mountain Tower Road, owned by Lyme, for access to inholding near the top of the mountain.

Private landowner – ROW on Spruce Mountain Tower Road, owned by Lyme, for access to ingress and egress private property.

History

The Corinth and Edinburg Tracts have historically been a working forest. The previous landowner, International Paper (IP), practiced forest resource management to supply their Corinth, NY paper mill (closed in 2002), and the Ticonderoga, NY paper mill with forest products from their holdings, including the Corinth and Edinburg tracts. In April 2004, New York State purchased a working forest conservation easement on 275,742 acres of IP's ownership. The Edinburgh

and Corinth Tracts make up about 13,730 acres, which accounts for 5% of the total acreage under the current landowner's (Lyme) management within the Adirondack Park. The Property continues to be managed as a working forest. Timber harvesting is an important aspect to the management of the Property and occurs year-round. In 2006, IP sold the entirety of the lands encumbered by a conservation easement to Lyme who currently holds title to and is responsible for the management of these lands.

The Property has also been used extensively by private recreation clubs for a variety of recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife viewing, and snowmobiling. These clubs lease large acreage posting leases from the Landowner. The terms of the private recreational leases allow the lessees to erect camps on their posting leases at locations approved by the Landowner.

Prior to the State of New York acquiring a public recreation conservation easement on the Property, legitimate public recreation was limited to snowmobile trails annually leased by local snowmobile clubs.

Current Uses of the Property

The Property remains privately owned and the Landowner retains all rights not purchased by New York State through the Conservation Easement. Among the rights retained by the Landowner, specific "Reserved Rights" are identified in the Conservation Easement including the right to conduct forest management activities and exclusive use of structures located on the Property.

Forest Management

A stated purpose of the Conservation Easement is to ensure that sustainable forest management and the long-term production of forest products, will continue to be available to the current and future landowners. It is common to see foresters, loggers, and logging equipment on the Property during all seasons.

Lyme is dual certified with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC). This forest certification includes an annual audit from both SFI and FSC.

Due to past and current forest management activities, there is an extensive network of forest roads and skid trails throughout the Property. This network of roads and trails are beneficial to this RMP as it minimizes the need for the construction of new snowmobile trails and provides temporary reroutes of the trails.

Recreational Leases

The Conservation Easement allows, with some restriction, the Landowner to continue the longstanding private leasing program. The Landowner's lease program allows private individuals to build, occupy, and maintain privately owned camps for recreational purposes at designated locations. There are 35 camps scattered throughout the Property. The Landowner's lessees use these camps for the big-game hunting season, but many also use them for a variety of other four-season recreational activities such as snowmobiling and leisure. Individuals or families often hold leases for many years, and for some well-established hunting camps, a lease may span several generations.

The Landowner has the right to allow their lessees to use motorized vehicles and motorized recreational vehicles on the "Conservation Easement – B" Tracts.

Existing Public Recreation

Current public recreation on the Property is limited to the snowmobile trails and one hiking trail. In total, there are about 22 miles of snowmobile trails located on the Property. Several more trails have come into existence as Logging Closure Zone alternatives and agreements with Lyme bringing the new total to 30 miles. The primary snowmobile route is the NYS S80 that generally travels along an east-west axis. Other snowmobile routes located within the Property include NYS S81, S81A, S82, S83, S84, S85, S86 and 516. Trails are currently maintained through a Volunteer Stewardship Agreement with the Saratoga Snowmobile Club.

The hiking trail located on the Property is the Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Hiking Trail, however, only a small portion (about 0.15 miles) of the trail is located on the Property. The rest of the trail is on Forest Preserve land and Saratoga Preserving Land and Nature (Saratoga PLAN) property. The trail is currently permitted on the

Property under a 10-year Cooperative Agreement signed between the DEC and the Landowner on March 15, 2015.

Natural Resources

Geology and Soils

Many factors over a long period of time have played a part in creating the land as it is today. The slowest and the most drastic changes have undoubtedly been caused by geologic events. Several times over the past billion and a half years the area has been covered by oceans and then formed into great mountains only to erode away and again be covered by water.

As far as mountains go, the Adirondacks are relatively new, having started the slow creation process less than twenty million years ago. Even though the Adirondacks mountains are relatively young, the rocks that make them up are very old. The bedrock of much of the Adirondacks was created as part of the Grenville Series, an area of sedimentary rock that covers a large portion of northeastern North America. The Grenville Series was created over a billion years ago when the area was covered by a shallow sea. Through uplift and erosion, the Adirondacks are one of the few locations where the Grenville Series is exposed at the surface of the Earth. The bedrock under most of the Property consists of metamorphic sedimentary rock; migmatite; a combination of charnockite, granitic, and quartz syenite gneiss; and a small area of quartzite, quartz-biotite schist, and graphitic schist.

Over time, the forces of glaciers, erosion and deposition have changed the surface landscape. The world's climate grew colder 1.6 million years ago, resulting in the formation of huge sheets of ice which advanced and retreated several times. The last of these ice sheets retreated from New York 10,000 years ago. As these ice sheets advanced, they tore away huge quantities of soil and rock from the landscape; later, as they retreated, they deposited this material in new locations. This glacial action shaped the hills and valleys of the Property.

There are several named peaks: Bald Mountain, Hedgehog Mountain, Negro Hill and Spruce Mountain.

All soils are formed by the chemical and physical breakdown of parent material. However, in this region, soil composition is different from the bedrock underneath. Because the soils are mostly derived from glacial deposits that have been moved and deposited as glaciers advanced and retreated, soil characteristics are quite variable and fluctuate widely from location to location. The soil series that are commonly found include: Becket, Berkshire, Bice, Hinckley, Lyman, Lyme, Skerry, Tunbridge, Wonsqueak, and Woodstock.

With the exception of the Hinckley and Wonsqueak series, the soils on the Property are derived from glacial till. Glacial till consists of material that was directly deposited by a glacier. These soils are a mixture of clay, silt, sand, and stone. The Hinckley series is derived from glacial outwash. Glacial outwash is made of material that was deposited by water flowing from a glacier. Unlike the other soil series, the Wonsqueak soils are formed from decomposed organic material; these soils coincide with the location of the major wetlands.

Vegetation

The Property is mostly forested with species composition influenced by historic events, forest management, and differences in site conditions, such as soil type, soil moisture, and weather determined by elevation, slope and aspect. The long history of timber harvesting in this area has created an ecosystem that is typical of other Adirondack working forest conservation easement lands.

Since the Property covers a large area, there is a variety of plant species. The vegetative communities present represent those typically found in the Southern Adirondacks. According to the New York Natural Heritage Program, the Property is located within the Eastern Adirondack Foothills Ecozone. Furthermore, the New York Natural Heritage Program lists two significant natural communities on the Property: a hemlock-hardwood swamp and a spruce-fir swamp are located in the Johnny Cake Lake area on the Edinburg Tract.

Water Resources

The Property is drained by one major watershed, the Upper Hudson River Basin. Significant waterways and wetlands are shown on Map 2. Waters in New York are classified for their best uses (fishing, source of drinking water, etc.) and standards are set to protect those uses. AA classification indicates that the waters are best

used as a source of drinking water whereas a C classification indicates that the waters are capable of supporting fisheries and are suitable for non-contact activities. In addition, if a stream is capable of supporting a local trout population, the standard (T) will be included in the classification key. There are several unnamed streams within the Property that are protected due to the possibility of trout populations or of the stream being capable of supporting trout spawning. None of the waterways are classified as Wild, Scenic or Recreational Rivers under the Wild, Scenic and Recreation River System. Table 1 shows the classification of major waterways on the Property.

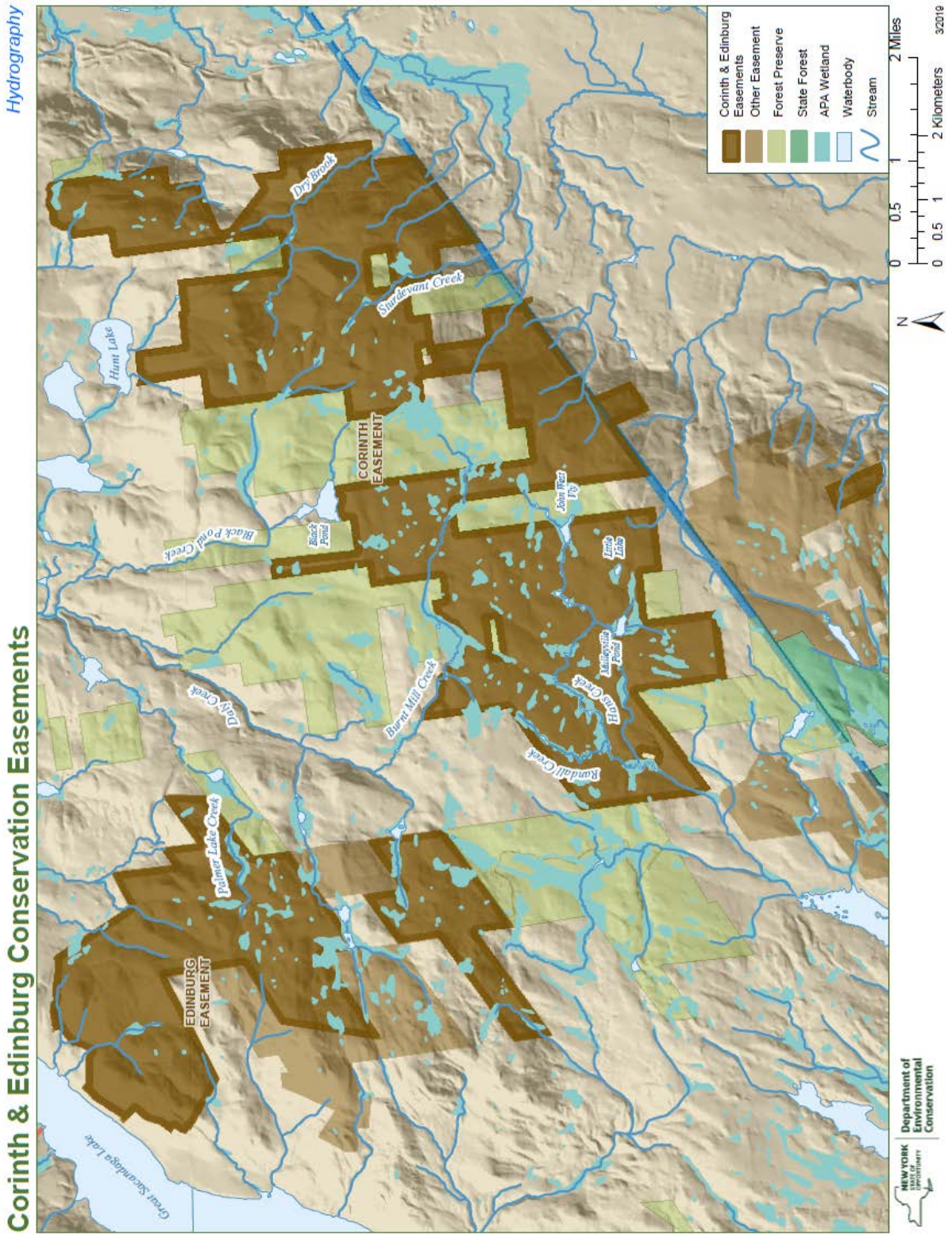
The Property also includes portions of the shorelines of three waterbodies: Black Pond, Little Lake, and Mulleyville Pond.

Wetlands are an important ecological resource for wildlife habitat, water protection, flood control, and recreational values. For these reasons, they are protected by state and federal regulations. The APA maintains records on wetlands within the Adirondack Park. There are about 861 acres of wetlands located within the Property boundary. Significant named wetlands are the Big Brewer Vly, Burnt Mill Vly, Johns Vly, and Macomber Vly.

Table 1. Watercourse Classifications

Black Pond Creek	C (T)
Burnt Mill Creek	C (T)
Daly Creek	C (T)
Kayaderosseras Creek	C (T)
Sturdevant Creek	C (T)
Dry Brook	AA (T)
Hans Creek	AA
Randall Creek	C
Palmer Lake Creek	C (T)
Gordon's Creek	C

Map 2. Hydrography



Edinburg and Corinth Tracts
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Fish and Wildlife

The Department of Environmental Conservation has limited information about the fisheries resources located on the Property due to lack of public access. The water quality classifications listed above should be used for natural resource protection related purposes.

Wildlife most likely to be found on the Property include, but are not limited to, white-tailed deer, black bear, ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, coyote, and red fox. There are also several other small mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians that inhabit the Property.

The 2000-2005 New York State Breeding Bird Atlas and the 1990-1999 Amphibian & Reptile Atlas Project (Herp Atlas) identify species that are present over blocks within NYS. The lists do not necessarily indicate that the species is on the Property, rather that the species was found within the block. Blocks cover large areas: 10 square kilometers for the Breeding Bird Atlas and 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles for the Herp blocks. The Breeding Bird Atlas species list and the Herp Atlas list is found in Appendix D.

Endangered, Threatened and Species of Special Concern

There are three species located near the Property that are either federally listed or state listed as *Endangered*, *Threatened*, or *Species of Special Concern*. There is a nearby northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) hibernaculum and a nearby breeding population of common loons (*Gavia immer*). The northern long-eared bat is a federally and state-listed *Threatened* species and the common loon is a state-listed *Species of Special Concern*. The sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) was identified in the 2000-2005 Breeding Bird Atlas and is a NY state-listed *Species of Special Concern*.

Habitat specifications for each species are as follows:

Common loon (*Gavia immer*): Lakes and ponds over 25 acres with emergent shoreline vegetation.

Sharp-shinned hawk (*accipiter straitus*): Mixed deciduous and coniferous forest with closed canopy, small diameter trees and high-density trees.

Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*): Trees with cavities and loose bark for roosting and rearing young; caves and abandoned mines for hibernation.

Invasive Species

As global trade and travel have increased, so have the introduction of non-native species. Many of these non-native species do not have adverse effects on the areas in which they are introduced. However, some become invasive in their new ranges, disrupting ecosystem function and reducing biodiversity therefore degrading natural areas. Invasive species have been identified as one of the greatest threats to biodiversity, second only to habitat loss. Invasive species can damage native habitats by altering hydrology, fire frequency, soil fertility and other ecosystem processes.

The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) is the most reliable source of information regarding terrestrial and aquatic invasive species. There are no species identified on the Property. That does not mean that there are any that have gone unreported. There are several invasive species identified nearby, generally on road corridors, including common reed grass (*phragmites australis*), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), garlic mustard (*alliaria petiolata*) purple loosestrife (*lythrum salicaria*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), and Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica var. japonica*). Populations of emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) are in Saratoga County and hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) was recently found near Lake George. Spiny waterflea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*) is also in Great Sacandaga Lake.

Cultural Resources

Cultural and Archeological

A small portion of the Corinth Tract (1.75%) is located within the Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor. The impact that the Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor has on the management of the Property is negligible. There is no existing or proposed

recreation located within the heritage corridor. There were no other known documented cultural resources or archaeological sites found on the Property.

Department staff have received training in how to recognize cultural and historical resources, as well as what measures need to be taken when such resources are discovered during project implementation.

Visual and Scenic

The most prominent visual/scenic resource is the Spruce Mountain fire tower even though the fire tower itself is located on Forest Preserve land. Currently, the public can access the fire tower via a foot trail passing through the Property and Saratoga Preserving Land and Nature (PLAN) land; approximately 0.15 miles of the foot trail passes through the Property. The fire tower provides an excellent view of the Upper Hudson Valley, the southern Adirondacks, and the southern Green Mountains in Vermont. Also, a rocky outcropping on the Edinburg Tract provides a view of Great Sacandaga Lake. A snowmobile spur trail is proposed in this RMP to reach this area. The significant acreage of wetlands on the Property also provides unique scenery along snowmobile trails.

Economic Impact

The Conservation Easement recognizes the positive economic impact of the forest products industry on Adirondack Park communities. The Conservation Easement specifically reserves the Lyme properties as working forests and provides dedicated public recreation areas. This is an economic benefit for local towns and Saratoga County, as well as the entire Adirondack Park. Tourism and outdoor recreation are growing industries and are increasingly more influential in Adirondack community economies; local support for increasing tourism dollars is clear. Also, New York State pays the portion of state and local taxes based on the value of the conservation easement that the state holds on the property.

III. PUBLIC USE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Management Authority, Staff and Responsibility

The Regional Natural Resources Supervisor is the Manager of regional staff in the Division of Lands and Forests, the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Division of Mined Lands. The Division of Lands and Forests has primary responsibility for managing public use of the lands subject to this RMP, including development of this Plan, development of individual work plans and schedules, implementation and coordination of all activities with the Landowner, partners, and other Department Divisions. The Division of Operations, at the direction of the Division of Lands and Forests, will oversee construction and maintenance of facilities approved by this RMP. The Regional Forester has overall responsibility for these matters. Reporting to the Regional Forester is a Supervising Forester whom is responsible for forestry and land management programs. Reporting to the Supervising Forester are one or more Foresters, Natural Resource Planners and/or Forestry Technicians that may be assigned to specific tasks in preparing or implementing this RMP. The Regional Fisheries Manager and Regional Wildlife Manager are responsible for all Division of Fish and Wildlife activities. The Office of Public Protection will be responsible for enforcement of NYS laws, rules and regulations. Environmental Conservation Officers and Forest Rangers have primary responsibility for monitoring and enforcement of public use of the Property.

A land manager will be designated by the Regional Forester as the lead Department staff person for developing and implementing this and subsequent RMPs for the Property. The land manager will be responsible for:

- Overseeing the coordination and preparation of the RMP, as well as periodic updates, revisions, or amendments;

- Coordinating the implementation of this RMP;
- Overseeing the budget outlined in the RMP;
- Assuring that management activities of all Department Divisions, as they relate to this RMP, comply with applicable laws, regulations, policies, and Conservation Easement terms;
- Monitoring conditions and public use; addressing conflicts; and assessing the effectiveness of the RMP in addressing resource protection and public needs;
- Fostering communication about management activities within the DEC, between the DEC and the Landowner, and between the DEC and the public. The land manager will be the primary liaison with the Landowner regarding public access and use issues.

The development of this RMP has primarily involved DEC staff and the Landowner's land management staff. Communication and coordination of planning efforts between all the parties was critical to formulating management objectives and proposals. Consistent communication is important in preparing and implementing this RMP as well as, adhering to the terms of the Conservation Easement. Department staff will regularly communicate with the Landowner to review completed activities, address concerns or problems, and coordinate future work. The DEC, the Landowner and managing foresters meet, at a minimum, once a year per the terms of the Conservation Easement.

Management Goals and Objectives

The following principles will be used to manage public use of the Property:

- Manage the Property in the context of the matrix of public and private property;
- Protect and conserve natural resources with an understanding of carrying capacity;
- Make public use compatible with active forest management;
- Protection of public safety and private property.

The goals and objectives for managing public recreational use of the Property must consider a variety of stakeholder interests, public expectations, and Landowner use and ownership of the Property. The goals presented below are general statements about desired outcomes, while the objectives are more specific and are intended to provide guidance on how to achieve the goals.

Goals:

- Provide public access for the purpose of allowing the public to safely enjoy outdoor recreational opportunities.
- Continue to provide non-motorized access to the Spruce Mountain Fire Tower.
- Avoid or minimize negative impacts of public recreational use on natural resources and environmental benefits.
- Avoid or minimize conflicts between public recreational use and forest management activities conducted by the Landowner and private lessees.
- Develop a better understanding of the natural resources, environmental benefits, and public recreation opportunities and limitations on the Property.

Objectives:

- Provide snowmobile and non-motorized access on roads and trails, except where the potential for resource impacts, risk to public safety, decrease of user enjoyment, conflicts with forest management activities, and activities not permitted by the Conservation Easement terms or other conditions make such shared use unacceptable;
- Periodically assess the impacts of recreation on forest management activities and natural resources;
- Actively manage the level and location of recreational uses; to minimize conflicts between recreational activities and forest management activities and minimize negative impacts to fish, wildlife, habitats of special concern, water quality, and other natural resources and environmental values on the Property;
- Promote partnerships with the Landowner and/or recreational constituencies and secure assistance as necessary to complete management actions;
- Provide information to the public regarding trails, closures, conditions and other relevant information using several different platforms including Department webpages, current conditions notices, press releases and social media.
- Assess the potential for integrating new or expanded public outdoor recreational uses on the Property in a manner that is consistent with the terms of the Conservation Easement and the goals and objectives outlined above.
- Whenever work is being accomplished on the Property, Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used. A list of the most common BMPs is in Appendix B.

“Minimum Tool” Management

The Department of Environmental Conservation allows and promotes recreation on the Property to the extent that the adverse physical and social impacts of public use are controlled and mitigated to the greatest extent possible. Public recreational

use must be controlled to prevent or correct misuse and overuse, it is best to do so by education and the application of the minimum tools, equipment, regulations, or practices necessary that will bring the desired result. To achieve this, the DEC uses the “minimum tool” necessary to obtain specific objectives, employing indirect methods (limiting parking, etc.) whenever possible, and developing regulations only where necessary and as a final resort. Existing programs that promote outdoor recreation use and etiquette will be utilized where appropriate and feasible. Examples of successful programs and messages used in other management units include, Leave No Trace™ and Tread Lightly!™.

Public Use Management

Shared Maintenance of Improvements

The Conservation Easement provides general guidance on how the costs of maintaining improvements are to be shared. The DEC and the Landowner will share the expense of any maintenance or improvements for public use based on the proportionate amount of use and benefit that each party derives from the open and accessible improvement. A cost sharing agreement, developed by both parties with due consideration to their respective annual budgets and work-plans, shall be discussed, reviewed and updated, at a minimum, each year at the annual meeting or at an interim point deemed necessary by either party.

Neither the DEC, nor the Landowner, is responsible for assuming a cost that is not commensurate with the interest of either party, in a particular shared improvement. With that in mind, the DEC is solely responsible for the incurring costs that are unique to providing public access and use; likewise, the Landowner is solely responsible for the incurring costs unique to their reserved rights in the Property. Any damage caused by public recreational activities shall be the responsibility of the DEC to repair. Any damage caused by the Landowner’s activities (for example, logging operations or lessee access) shall be the responsibility of the Landowner to repair.

Roads and trails will be constructed and maintained with consideration to the standards that have been mutually agreed to by the Landowner and the DEC.

Recreation Monitoring and Department Access

Department staff are responsible for the inspection of all lands under Department jurisdiction including lands over which New York State holds a conservation easement. Monitoring occurs according to a schedule devised by DEC. Required annual meetings between DEC and the Landowner will provide a chance for both parties to express concerns and bring up matters of mutual concern that pertain to the Conservation Easement.

DEC shall have access to, on and across the property for the purpose of:

- Monitoring the Property with 10 days-notice, as required;
- Undertaking periodic inspections, enforcing the Conservation Easement, or taking any and all legally permissible actions necessary or appropriate to remedy or abate Conservation Easement violations;
- Exercising and administering the DEC's other affirmative rights as set forth in the Conservation Easement including public recreation implementation, enforcement and actions involving public safety.

Barriers, Gates, and Locks

DEC, in consultation with the Landowner, has the right to install barriers and gates to control public access where need is evident. DEC and the Landowner will have access to all gate locks.

- Gates will be wide enough to accommodate tractor trailer log trucks, skidders or other large vehicles. This is generally 16 feet.
- All new and replacement DEC gates will be constructed of materials that will be highly visible and appropriately signed per DEC safety, color, and design standards.
- Gates will be locked occasionally or during certain times of year because of unsafe conditions, during periods of adverse weather (i.e., "mud season") and to prevent damage to natural resources or infrastructure. All gates on this property will be locked to the public outside of snowmobile season. **DEC may close any road to any or all public motorized use for any reason, at any time, by posted notice.** Violators will be prosecuted.

Recreation Signs

DEC will be primarily responsible for installing, constructing and maintaining all signs deemed necessary for identifying access to designated recreational amenities, roads and trails open to the public. The *Shared-Use Roads Signing Manual for Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I and II LLC* (Appendix F) will be the principle guiding document in selecting signs to be used on the Property. Snowmobile trails will be signed according to the Office of Parks and Recreation guidelines provided to snowmobile clubs. Appropriate signage and maps will be placed in kiosks including information to inform visitors of steps they can take to help prevent the spread of invasive species. The Landowner may elect to place additional signage that they feel is situation-appropriate.

Logging Closure Zones

Logging closure zones (LCZs) may be established to temporarily exclude the public from areas of the Property to avoid conflicts and safety issues with logging activities and equipment. The Landowner must give DEC 30 days-notice of setting up LCZs, though it's generally preferable for them to be identified at the annual meeting. LCZs shall not remain closed to public use for more than 6 months. LCZs may not include more than 10% of the area of the Property that is open to the public at any one time.

If a portion of a recreation corridor is closed, the parties will cooperate to identify and provide an alternate corridor. When identifying an alternate snowmobile corridor or hiking trail, existing forest roads or foot paths on the Property must be evaluated for their usability before any skid trails are evaluated and/or new corridors and trails are created. If a new corridor or trail is to be constructed, then all measures must be taken to minimize the amount of tree cutting. If an alternative route or trail is established, that route shall not remain a permanent trail after the original route has re-opened. If an alternative snowmobile route is not feasible, then DEC may agree that the trail should be closed, and an alternative not established. Any agreement of this kind will be in writing.

Gravel pits

DEC may transport and use on the Property sand and gravel for the maintenance and construction of roads and trails that are designated for public use. To minimize

negative environmental impact and maintain forested areas, parties should use existing sand and gravel pits when practical and avoid opening new pits unless necessary.

New pits are those not identified in the Baseline Documentation. To create a new pit, the Landowner must approve the area or location from which sand and gravel are to be extracted by the DEC. The DEC will not create new gravel pits within buffer areas as defined by the Conservation Easement and will comply with all applicable laws and regulations when extracting sand and gravel. Existing pits within buffer areas may be used as long as operations minimize adverse environmental and visual impacts.

IV. PROPOSED RECREATION MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Motorized Use

Snowmobile Use

Conservation Easement Terms - Summary

Snowmobile corridors on Conservation Easement B tracts are described in this RMP and Map 3 below. Snowmobile trail design and maintenance standards shall conform to policies, manuals and guidelines produced by the DEC and NYS Office of Parks and Recreation (Appendix A and C). Restrictions on the trail system may be posted as need or as circumstances may dictate.

The laws and regulations which govern public use of snowmobiles on the DEC managed properties such as State land, will be applied to the snowmobile trails on this Property. (See Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 6 Conservation (A), Chapter II, and NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law.) All snowmobiles using the Property must be registered and insured.

Discussion

Approximately 22 miles of snowmobile trails were recognized as existing in the 2007 IRMP. Since then, several trails have been established by the DEC as alternate trails because of Logging Closure Zones (described in the Public Use Management section above). There are currently 30 miles of snowmobile trails located within the Property. The primary snowmobile route is S80, traveling along an east-west axis. Other snowmobile routes located within the Property include S80B, S80C, S81, S81A, S82, S83, S83B, S84, S85 S86 and 516 (shown on Map 3).

The trails are maintained and groomed by the Saratoga Snowmobile Club and under a Department issued Volunteer Stewardship Agreement issued to the Saratoga County Association of Snowmobile Clubs.

Due to Logging Closure Zones the trail system varies from year-to-year. The trail system must have redundancy built in because of closures. The annual opening and closing of specific trails will be at the discretion of Department staff and the Landowner to ensure that all needed Logging Closure Zones are put in place and any needed re-routes are developed and opened. The DEC maintains close communication with the Landowner and snowmobile clubs in advance of the yearly snowmobile season to discuss any necessary trail reroutes, formalize trail agreements and bring up issues that may affect the operation of the trail network. While the DEC makes every effort to avoid closing trails, if a re-route is not feasible, routes may be closed.

It is a known issue that during the non-winter months, motorized vehicles such as ATVs and dirt bikes trespass on the Property's numerous roads and snowmobile trails. NYSDEC law enforcement is aware of the trespass and takes frequent actions to stop it. It is important for anyone who witnesses trespass to report violations to law enforcement.

In addition to the existing trails shown on Map 3 below, the DEC proposes to recognize 7.8 miles of established snowmobile trails as follows:

Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Trail – A short spur trail off S80, the trail follows an existing road to the fire tower. The trail over the Property is 0.2 miles as it continues over Saratoga County property and then to the last 200 feet on Forest Preserve.

Thousand Acre Swamp Connector (S83) – This trail continues for 1.6 miles from the Thousand Acre Swamp parcel (Forest Preserve). The proposed snowmobile corridor will follow a network of logging roads and trails to the northern most corner of the southern section of the Property. At this point, it will merge with New York State Snowmobile Trail S80. No new construction is needed.

Sacandaga Overlook Trail – This 0.5 mile out and back trail leads to a view overlooking the northern end of Great Sacandaga Lake. No new trail construction is needed. One 5-foot bridge over a narrow unclassified stream should be improved. No wetlands are involved. This trail shall be no more than 8 feet wide.

Horsehill Road Connector (S80) – This 1.8 mile trail connects the Horse Hill Road area to the northern parts of the Edinburg Tract and S80. No new construction is needed.

Davignon Road Connector (516) – This 1.8 mile trail connects Fox Hill Road and Davignon Road. No new construction is needed.

Wells Road Parking Area Connector (S85) – This 1.9 mile trail connects Wells Road parking area to S80. No new construction is needed.

Management Actions

- The DEC may close any road or corridor to snowmobile use for any reason, at any time, by posted notice. Violators will be prosecuted.
- Continue to address Logging Closure Zones and other access issues in advance of the snowmobile season.
- Continue partnering with local snowmobile clubs. Manage the Saratoga County VSA, making changes including trail reroutes due to logging zone closures.
- Create workplans for improvements to the trails, working closely with the Landowner and the snowmobile club.
- Improve the bridge on the Sacandaga Overlook Trail.
- Continue to collaborate with New York State law enforcement to address enforcement issues.

Non-Motorized Use

Hiking, Snowshoeing and Cross-Country Skiing

Conservation Easement Terms - Summary

Hiking trails are specifically permitted on Easement B tracts if they are described in an approved RMP. The Conservation Easement does not include other non-motorized uses, such as horseback riding and biking in this category, therefore they are not permitted.

Discussion

The Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Hiking Trail traverses three properties: NYS Forest Preserve, Corinth/Edinburg Tracts and Saratoga PLAN. The tower itself is on a 2.5 acre parcel of Forest Preserve. The 0.15 miles of the trail on the Conservation Easement Property is open to the public under a 2015 Cooperative Agreement between Lyme and the DEC, as the trail was not in the 2007 Corinth IRMP. Formalizing this RMP will eliminate the need to manage this annual agreement.

The trail will be maintained by Department staff and/or entities working under an appropriate VSA or TRP. The hiking trail will be closed to the public during big game hunting season for safety reasons.

Management Actions

- Collaborating with enforcement, monitor the Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Hiking Trail for trespass.
- Seasonal trail closure: Ensure signage is in place annually prior to the start of big game hunting season. In the past, New York State Forest Rangers have worked with Lands and Forests to accomplish this.
- Improvements to signage on the trail if need becomes evident.
- Work with volunteer groups to maintain the trail.

Accessibility for People with Disabilities

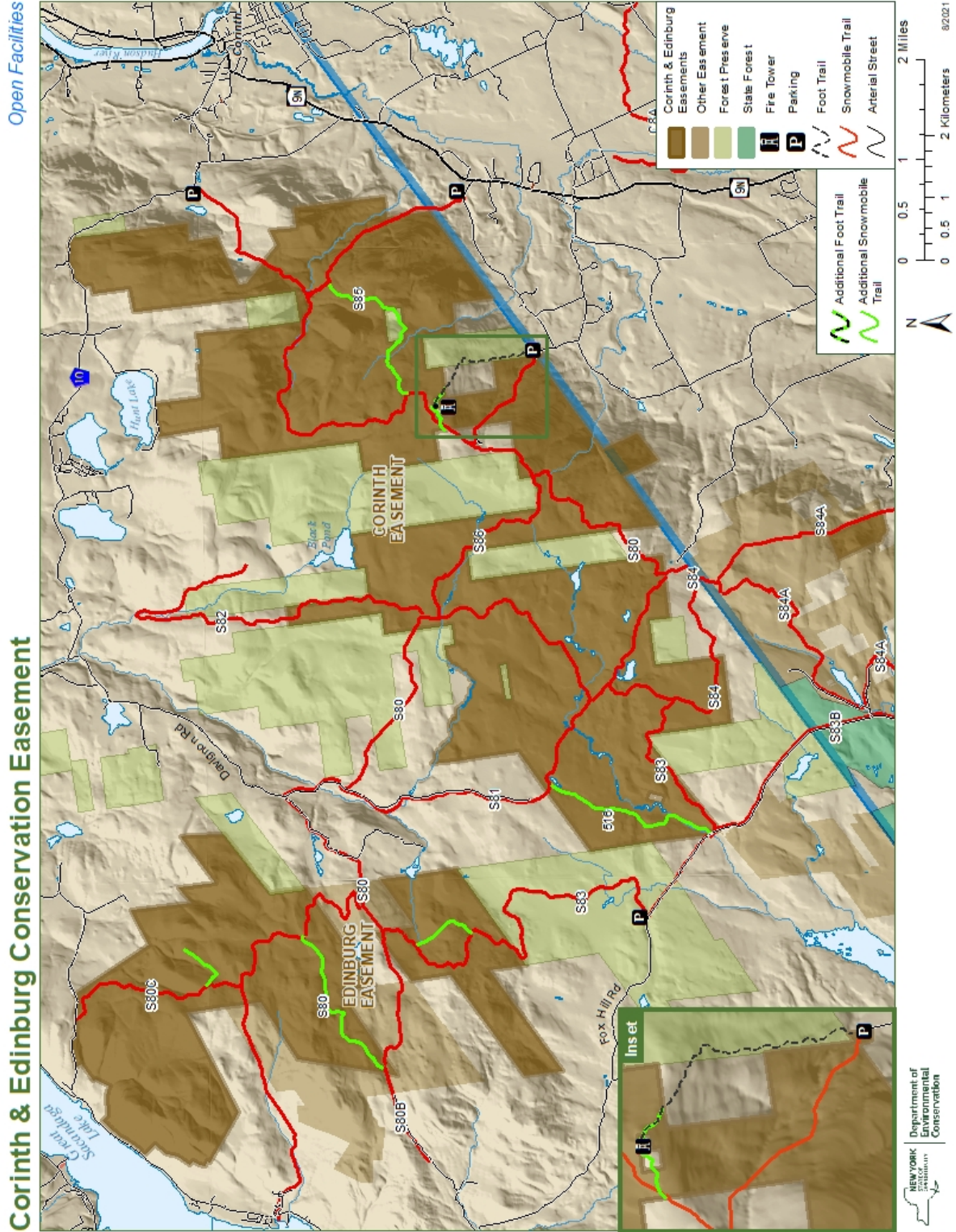
Discussion

The snowmobile trails and the 0.15 mile section of the Spruce Mountain Fire Tower Trail addressed in this RMP are the only recreational activities permitted on the Property. The designated snowmobile trails are not available for other forms of recreation. The DEC will evaluate this Property for opportunities to improve access for people with disabilities, such as parking areas, privies, signage, and kiosks, particularly at trailheads on the Property. The DEC will continue to seek opportunity to provide access for persons with disabilities across all DEC-held conservation easements.

Management Actions

- Assess signage needs at each trailhead on the Property. Improve accessible features on signs.
- Improve the accessibility of facilities as improvements are made, in particular, parking areas, privies, signs and kiosks.

Map 3. Facilities



Edinburg and Corinth Tracts
 Final Recreation Management Plan | July 2022

V. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE AND ESTIMATED BUDGET

Logistics

A variety of factors influence the phasing and rate at which proposed RMP projects are completed. Budget allocations and competing priorities can limit the DEC's ability to complete projects, however, at the same time this has opened new doors to partnership opportunities that have been effective, successful, and sustainable.

Work planning for projects proposed by this RMP is also a factor influencing project initiation and completion. Ensuring that projects are compliant with existing laws, regulations, permitting requirements and guidance documents is critical prior to initiating construction and often requires a substantial investment of time and resources.

Working forests and their infrastructure require construction and maintenance activities that are well-planned and innovative. Execution of these activities requires the use of skilled equipment operators and trades people where conditions vary greatly from the built environment of more developed settings. Planning for projects proposed in this RMP will focus on the construction of the safest and most durable facility or improvement in the most cost-effective manner possible.

When examining all the logistical considerations, the most important is active interface between the DEC and the Landowner on a regular basis. Effective conservation easement management is only possible through the cooperation and open communication of land managers representing both parties. The timing and phasing of projects proposed in this RMP will give consideration to their potential impacts on the Landowner's forest management operations and the private rights of their lessees.

Phasing and Estimated Costs

The following table outlines a schedule for implementation of the proposed management actions and their estimated costs. The estimated costs of implementing these projects are based on historical costs incurred by the DEC for similar projects.

	Estimated Cost & Allocated Work Days
Annual Maintenance and Other Activities	
Snowmobile Trail Maintenance Materials and workplan development	\$3,000 5 days
Manage snowmobile trail VSA with Saratoga County	3 days
Spruce Mountain fire tower foot trail maintenance	1 day
Develop and update web material for the DEC's webpage	5 days
Work with enforcement to address trespass and other legal issues as they come up on the Property	20 days
Evaluate and improve parking areas and signage for persons with disabilities	\$4,000 15 days
Total Annual Maintenance Costs	\$7,000 49 days

VI. APPENDICES

- A.** Management and Policy Considerations
- B.** Best Management Practices
- C.** Descriptions of Road Classes
- D.** Species Inventory Lists
- E.** Public Comments
- F.** Shared Use Roads Signing Manual
- G.** Department and Landowner Review Declaration

Appendix A. Management and Policy Considerations

State Environmental Quality Review Act

SEQR requires all state and local government agencies to consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors during discretionary decision-making. This means these agencies must assess the environmental significance of all actions they have discretion to approve, fund or directly undertake. SEQR requires the agencies to balance the environmental impacts with social and economic factors when deciding to approve or undertake an action. The proposed actions addressed in this RMP are considered Type II actions and therefore are not subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act. These actions have been determined not to have a significant adverse impact on the environment based upon the criteria contained in section 617.7 (c) of this Part, criteria for determining significance, and not be a Type I action as defined in section 617.4 of this Part.

Regulations of the Adirondack Park Agency

The DEC must consult with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) where recreation management actions on the Property and within the Adirondack Park involves activities such as: improvements or actions within or adjacent to freshwater wetlands, Wild, Scenic, or Recreational Rivers, or other waterbodies. This consultation is established by the *2010 Memorandum of Understand between the APA and the Department of Environmental Conservation*.

All activities pursuant to this RMP and future amendments must adhere to permit requirements of the Freshwater Wetlands Act administered by the APA within the Adirondack Park. The Act regulates activities within 100 feet of freshwater wetlands in New York State. Section 814 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act.

APA/DEC Memorandum of Understanding Concerning State-Owned Conservation Easements on Private Lands within the Adirondack Park. August 13, 2010

The *2010 Memorandum of Understanding between the Adirondack Park Agency and Department of Environmental Conservation: Concerning State-Owned Conservation Easements on Private Land within the Adirondack Park (MOU)* guides communication between the APA and the DEC regarding RMP development, and lists activities requiring APA consultation, notice and/or review or no APA review. The APA's role relating to the Freshwater Wetlands Act, and administration of the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System Act on conservation easements is also outlined. All management of public recreation on the conservation easement property by the DEC is subject to this MOU.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is the agency charged with reviewing projects that could affect any "waters of the United States" under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, including wetlands, irrespective of size. All activities, including dredging and/filling, in water pursuant to this RMP or future amendments, must adhere to permit requirements of the ACOE.

Article 15 of the Environmental Conservation Law – Protection of Waters

Permit is required for disturbing the bed or banks of a stream with a classification of AA, A or B, or with a classification of C with a standard of (T) or (TS) (disturbance may be either temporary or permanent in nature). Any project that is led by the DEC does not need to be issued an Article 15 permit.

Article 24 of the Environmental Conservation Law – Freshwater Wetlands

Permit Wetlands are mapped, defined and regulated within the Adirondack Park by the Adirondack Park Agency; and outside of the Adirondack Park by the DEC. Projects on conservation easement lands are regulated and permitted as private lands.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), along with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title V, Section 504, has a profound effect on the manner by which people with disabilities are afforded equality in their recreational pursuits. The ADA is a comprehensive law prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities in employment practices, use of public transportation, use of telecommunication facilities, and use of public accommodations.

Consistent with ADA requirements, DEC incorporates accessibility for people with disabilities into siting, planning, construction, and alteration of recreational facilities and assets supporting them. In addition, Title II of the ADA requires, in part, that services, programs, and activities of DEC, when viewed in their entirety, are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. DEC is not required to take any action which would result in a fundamental alteration to the nature of the service, program, or activity, or would present an undue financial or administrative burden. When accommodating access to a program, DEC is not necessarily required to make each existing facility and asset accessible, as long as the program is accessible by other means or at a different facility.

This plan incorporates an inventory of all the recreational facilities and assets on the unit or area, and an assessment of the programs, services, and facilities provided to determine the level of accessibility. In conducting this assessment, DEC employs guidelines which ensure that programs are accessible, including buildings, facilities, and vehicles, in terms of architecture and design, and the transportation of and communication with individuals with disabilities.

In accordance with the US Department of Justice's ADA Title II regulations, all new DEC facilities, or parts of facilities, that are constructed for public use are to be accessible to people with disabilities. Full compliance is not required where DEC can demonstrate that it is structurally impracticable to meet the requirements [28 CFR § 35.151 (a)]. Compliance is still required for parts of the facility that can be made accessible to the extent that it is not structurally impracticable, and for people with various types of disabilities. In addition, all alterations to facilities, or part of facilities, that affect or could affect the usability of the facility will be made in a manner that the altered portion of the facility is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities [28 CFR § 35.151 (b:1-4)].

DEC uses the Department of Justice's 2010 Standards for Accessible Design in designing, constructing, and altering buildings and sites. For outdoor recreational facilities not covered under the current ADA standards, DEC uses the standards provided under the ABA to lend credibility to the assessment results and to offer protection to the natural resource (ABA Standards for Outdoor Developed Areas; Sections F201.4, F216.3, F244 to F248, and 1011 to 1019).

Any new facilities, assets, and accessibility improvements to existing facilities, or assets proposed in this plan, are identified in the section containing proposed management actions. A record of accessibility determination is kept with the work planning record.

For further information, please contact Leah Akins, DEC Statewide ADA Accessibility Coordinator, at accessibility@dec.ny.gov.

NYSDEC Directive Documents

- Temporary Revocable Permits for State Lands and Conservation Easements (ONR-3);
- Volunteer Stewardship Agreements (CP-58);
- Adopt-A-Natural Resource (ONR-1)

Shared-Use Signing Manual for Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I and II LLC, January 2011

This manual was developed and adopted through the collaborative efforts of the DEC and the Landowner. Use of this manual will streamline the implementation process. See Appendix F for the manual.

NYSDEC Standard Accessible Designs for Outdoor Recreational Facilities Guidebook, 2014

As the DEC continues to expand outdoor recreation opportunities, the design process will continue to incorporate research and ingenuity to harmonize accessibility and Universal Design principles to provide a quality visitor experience on state lands, including state conservation easements.

Appendix B: Best Management Practices

All public recreation management activities will incorporate the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the greatest practical extent. BMPs are those methods, procedures, and devices that are designed to prevent or minimize soil erosion, water run-off, damage to natural resources or wildlife habitat, pollution, pathogens, or other negative environmental impacts when conducting various management activities. A list of BMPs will also be included in work plans. BMPs related to the implementation of public access and recreational improvements on the Property include, but are not limited to:

- Locating improvements away from streams, wetlands, and unstable slopes;
- Locating improvements to minimize necessary cut and fill;
- Locating trails to minimize grade and avoid streams, wetlands, and unstable slopes;
- Avoiding areas where threatened and endangered species are known to exist during any period of the year;
- Minimizing tree cutting;
- Using proper drainage devices, such as water bars and broad-based dips, to prevent erosion and damage to improvements;
- Using stream crossings with low, stable banks, firm stream bottom, and gentle approach slopes;
- Constructing trails, bridges and other stream crossings at right angles to the stream.
- Limiting stream crossings and construction on or near streams to periods of low flow;
- Designing, constructing, and maintaining bridges and other improvements on or near streams to avoid disrupting or preventing movement of fish and other aquatic species.
- Minimizing the use of equipment in streams;
- Using soil stabilization practices on exposed soil around construction areas, especially bridges, immediately after construction;
- Properly clean equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species from one site to another.

Appendix C: Description of Road Classes

Road Specifications

ROAD/TRAIL SPECIFICATION FACTOR	VEHICULAR ROAD VOLUME CLASS ¹			ATV TRAIL VOLUME CLASS			SNOWMOBILE TRAIL VOLUME CLASS		
	LOW	MED	HIGH	LOW	MED	HIGH	LOW	MED	HIGH
# OF TRAFFIC LANES	1		1+		1	2		1	2
MINIMUM CURVE RADIUS W/O SIGNAGE (FT.)		50		n/a	35	50	n/a	40	50
MAXIMUM GRADE % (SUSTAINED/ SHORT STRETCH)		10% / 15%			10% / 15%			10% / 15%	
SHOULDER WIDTH, EACH SIDE (FT.)	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 6	n/a	3 to 4	4 to 5	n/a	n/a	n/a
TRAVELED SURFACE WIDTH (FT.)	10	12	14	6 to 8	10	12	6 to 8	12	14
MINIMUM TURNOUT SPACING	n/a	½ mi	1 mi	n/a	n/a	½ mi	n/a	n/a	½ mi
SURFACE SPECIFICATIONS	BMP's								
DITCHING	BMP's								
CULVERT INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS ²	BMP's								
MIN. SIGHTING DISTANCE W/O SIGNAGE (FT.)	100	150	250	n/a	150	250	n/a	150	250
VEGETATION CONTROL	cut/remove								
PITCH (MAXIMUM)	<10%	4" crown		n/a	20%	15%	n/a	20%	15%
STREAM AND WETLAND CROSSING SPECS	BMP's								
SENSITIVE AREA SET BACKS	BMP's								
SIGNAGE STANDARDS ³	Minimal	Basic	Moderate	Minimal	Basic	Moderate	Minimal	Basic	Moderate
GATE LOCATIONS	as agreed								
SEASONAL USE SPECIFICATIONS ⁴	surface								
MAINTENANCE STANDARDS ⁵	minimal	as needed	regular	minimal	as needed	graded	none	groomed	groomed
ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS ⁶	APA / DEC								
INSURANCE STANDARDS ⁷	NYS REG								
ENFORCEMENT ⁸	DEC								

- 1 Vehicle volume specs:
 low: +/- <20 round trips/month
 medium: +/- 20-300 trips/month
 high: +/- >300 trips/mo

- 2 All culverts shall be properly headed with stone, wood, or steel/plastic collars

- 3 Signage Standards
 minimal signs for identifying road name where begins and for hazardous situations such as barriers/known hazard preventing passage ahead, stop sign indicating intersection with a moderate or higher volume road
 basic same as minimal plus bridge approach signage, sharp curve signs, or additional as otherwise needed and agreed upon by DEC and the landowner (eg., such as suggested speed limit if is first road into a property)
 moderate same as basic plus suggested speed limit(until it becomes a regulation), turnout spacing, or additional as otherwise needed and agreed upon by DEC and the landowner

- 4 "Surface" means the condition and type of the surface will set standards for seasonal use. Generally closed during mud season(as posted) to public motor vehicle and log truck use, by agreement of DEC and the landowner. "winter" means winter use only

- 5 Maintenance Standards:
 minimal condition checked annually, routine maintenance such as grading, ditch cleaning pothole/washout repair generally needed only every three or four years
 as needed same as minimal but due to higher use levels will likely need some routine maintenance annually or every other year
 regular annual routine maintenance likely needed

- 6 APA/DEC regulations on wetlands, stream crossing, etc.

- 7 NYS regulations on insurance requirements for vehicles

- 8 The landowner is responsible for informing lessee's of rules and regs for use of trails and related retained recreation rights; DEC has legal authority for enforcement of DEC regulations with members of the public, including the landowner's lessees when they are recreating as members of the public

Appendix D: Species Inventory Lists

Breeding bird species highlighted represent protection in New York:

Game Species

Protected – Special Concern

Unprotected

Breeding Bird Species List

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTION IN NY
American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Game Species
American goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	Protected
American redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Protected
American robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Protected
American woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	Game Species
Baltimore oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Protected
bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Protected
barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Protected
barred owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	Protected
belted kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	Protected
black-and-white warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Protected
blackburnian warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	Protected
black-capped chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Protected
black-throated blue warbler	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>	Protected
black-throated green warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	Protected
blue jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Protected
blue-headed vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	Protected
broad-winged hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Protected
brown creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	Protected
brown thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Protected
brown-headed cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Protected
Canada warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	Protected
cedar waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Protected
chestnut-sided warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	Protected
chimney swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Protected
chipping sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	Protected
common grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Protected
common merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Game Species

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTION IN NY
common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Protected
dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Protected
downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Protected
eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Protected
eastern phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	Protected
eastern towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	Protected
eastern wood-pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Protected
European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Unprotected
field sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	Protected
golden-crowned kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Protected
gray catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Protected
great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Protected
great crested flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Protected
great horned owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	Protected
hairy woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	Protected
hermit thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	Protected
house sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Unprotected
house wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Protected
indigo bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	Protected
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Protected
least flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	Protected
magnolia warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	Protected
mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Game Species
mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Protected
mourning warbler	<i>Oporornis philadelphia</i>	Protected
Nashville warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	Protected
northern cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	Protected
northern flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Protected
northern rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	Protected

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTION IN NY
northern waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	Protected
olive-sided flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Protected
ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	Protected
pileated woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Protected
purple finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	Protected
red crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Protected
red-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Protected
red-eyed vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Protected
red-headed Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Protected-Special Concern
red-tailed hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Protected
red-winged blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Protected
rock dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Unprotected
rose-breasted grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Protected
ruby-throated hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	Protected
ruffed grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Game Species
scarlet tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Protected
sharp-shinned hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Protected-Special Concern
song sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Protected
spotted sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Protected
Swainson's thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	Protected
swamp sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	Protected
tree swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	Protected
turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Protected
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	Protected
warbling vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	Protected
whip-poor-will	<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	Protected-Special Concern
white-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	Protected
white-throated sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Protected

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTION IN NY
Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes</i>	Protected
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	Game Species
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Protected
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Protected
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Protected
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	Protected
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	Protected

Herptofauna Species List

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTION IN NY
eastern American toad	<i>Anaxyrus americanus</i>	(no species are listed as protected.)
gray tree frog	<i>Dryophytes versicolor</i>	
northern spring peeper	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>	
American bullfrog	<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>	
green frog	<i>Lithobates clamitans</i>	
mink frog	<i>Lithobates septentrionalis</i>	
wood frog	<i>Lithobates sylvaticus</i>	
northern leopard frog	<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>	
pickerel frog	<i>Lithobates palustris</i>	
spotted salamander	<i>Ambystoma maculatum</i>	
red spotted newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>	
northern dusky salamander	<i>Desmognathus fuscus</i>	
northern redback salamander	<i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	
northern spring salamander	<i>Gyrinophilus porphyriticus</i>	
northern two-lined salamander	<i>Eurycea bislineata</i>	
northern redbelly snake	<i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i> <i>occipitomaculata</i>	
common garter snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	
eastern hognose snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	
common snapping turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	
painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	

Appendix E: Public Comments

A draft of the Corinth and Edinburg Tract Conservation Easement Recreation Management Plan (RMP) was released to the public on May 11, 2022. A public comment period was held from May 11 through June 10, 2022. Four (4) comments supporting the plan were received. There were no public concerns or issues expressed during the comment period. Below is a summary of the comments received during the public comment period.

Comments received are as follows:

1. There is a strong relationship between the County and the snowmobile club in this area [Edinburg and Corinth Tracts]. Support was expressed for the approval of the Draft Plan.
2. Support was expressed for the RMP because it provides access to the Spruce Mountain Firetower.
3. Support for the RMP as public recreation is important to the local economy to draw tourists to the region. (2)

Appendix F: Shared-Use Roads Signing Manual

Lyme Adirondack Timberland I LLC Lyme Adirondack Timberland II LLC Properties Encumbered by NYSDEC Phase I-A; Phase I-B; and Phase II-III Conservation Easements

Developed in Joint Consultation By:

*NYSDEC- Division of Lands and Forests Region 5 & 6 Staff
Lyme Timber Company/ LAFCO*

Upland Forestry

January 2011

Edinburg and Corinth Tracts
Final Recreation Management Plan | July 2022

Introduction

The following manual provides standardized signs for public use management on Lyme Adirondack Timberland I & II, LLC conservation easement properties.

Signs featured in this manual have been developed and adopted through the collaborative efforts of representatives of both the DEC and the Landowner. The Grantor (Lyme) and Grantee (DEC) agree that the uniform type, design and content of the signs in this manual are for common placement at mutually agreed locations on Lyme properties with shared public recreation use, consistent with provision 4.6.2. and 4.6.3. of Phase I-A; Phase I-B and Phase II-III Conservation Easements.

The approved signs in this manual are meant to assist field foresters representing both parties in streamlining the implementation processes when a demonstrated need for signs is determined through recreation planning, or becomes evident based on “real world” situations that arise in the field. The placement of these signs at “mutually agreed” locations will be determined at the local level by the respective land managers for the specific Tracts or properties.

Other uncommonly used signs necessary to address tract-specific management issues and concerns are not presented in this plan. Sign needs commensurate with these particular circumstances will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the respective land managers, with sign content and location to be mutually agreed upon at that time.

This manual may be amended, augmented, edited or modified at any time necessary as determined by the mutual agreement of both the Grantor and the Grantee, and their respective agents, assigns and successors in title.

Shared Use Roads Sign Project: Core Elements and Protocols

1) Broad Categories of Signs to be Used on Roads Open to the Public

- a) Trail Marker Signs
- b) Regulatory Signs
- c) Caution Signs
- d) Directional Signs
- e) Other Signs

2) Trail Marker Signs- Intended to keep public motorized use and traffic on roads that have been designated as open for that use

- a) Trail Marking “Blazers”
Use “line of sight” like trail markers- mark both sides of designated travel corridor in an effort to keep public motorized traffic funneled onto the corridor and away from intersecting side roads
- b) Mileage markers
Could be cross-referenced to descriptions on kiosk maps and/or brochures

3) Regulatory Signs- Intended to consistently advise public motorized users of general usage guidelines directly pertaining to the safe operation of motorized vehicles.

- a) Stop Sign
Standard Colors per USDOT specifications
- b) “Do Not Enter- Road Closed to Public Motorized Vehicles and Snowmobiles”
Standard Colors per USDOT specifications
- c) “Recommended Speed Limit “XX” MPH”
Appropriate for posting on easement lands where no special regulations pertaining to a speed limit have been drafted or adopted.
- d) “Speed Limit XX MPH”
Appropriate for posting on easement lands where special regulations pertaining to a speed limit have been drafted or adopted.

4) Caution Signs- Intended to give advance notice to public motorized users of specific identified hazards that the user will encounter when operating on roads

posted as open to public motorized use.

- a) "Stop Ahead"
- b) "One Lane Bridge Ahead"

- c) Right Curve/Left Curve
- d) Hazard Markers

5) Directional and Informational Signs

- a) Intended to:
 - i) Direct users to public use facilities and improvements located on the easement property
 - ii) Give public users a “sense of place” spatially speaking
 - iii) Direct users to nearest government-maintained public highway
 - iv) In the case of trail networks:
 - (1) Direct users to communities along the network
 - (2) Direct users to intersecting travel corridors that are part of the same trail network.
- b) Not intended to direct users to off-property goods and services i.e. :
 - i) Gas stations
 - ii) Lodging/ Camping
 - iii) Bar/Restaurant
 - iv) General Store
- c) Department staff will develop directional and informational signs based on tract-specific needs and input from the landowner or their forest management consultant
 - i) Size, content and proposed placement shall be vetted through the landowner prior to submission of final sign request and installation
 - ii) The DEC will arrange for sign fabrication through their in-house sign services

- 6) Other Signs-** Intended to be ordered and installed as specific needs dictate.
- a) Administrative signs pertaining to public use
 - i) Parking Area
 - ii) No Parking
 - iii) Barrier- 100 feet
 - iv) Do Not Block Gate
 - v) Camping At Designated Sites Only
 - vi) Other signs as need dictates
 - vii) Informational Kiosks at critical public access points
 - viii)“Working Forest Rules of the Road for the Public”
 - b) Install administrative signs based on:
 - i) The DEC public use manager’s assessment of need following consultation with the landowner and/or their forest management consultant
 - ii) Issues/concerns raised by the landowner or their forest management consultant
 - c) Landowner and the DEC will coordinate regarding funding and the fabrication source that administrative signs will be drawn from; to the extent practicable, Department standardized signs from the current sign shop inventory will be employed where their language is appropriate to the situation.

Shared Use Roads & Trails–Elements and Protocols for Broad Category Signs

1. ***The following public use management signs are to be used on all properties that allow for public recreation. These broad category signs are intended for widespread “generic” use across the greatest practicable extent of the easement properties.”***

Signs to be used uniformly on all entrances, roads, parking areas and trails open to public use

Public Use conditions & rules, Permitted Use signs, Trail Marker Signs

A. Public Use Signs

1. **Informational Kiosks** at critical public access points, parking lots and/or staging areas, determined in the Recreation Plan; large signs depicting public use conditions (regulations) for the property and a public use map.
 2. **Permitted Public Use Signs-** at trail heads, parking lots, main intersections or the beginning of public use routes; intended to inform the public of what recreation uses and what types of vehicles are allowed on a specific road, trail or use corridor.
 3. **Trail Marker Signs-** Along the route at points where the public could go off the route (side roads, etc); intended to keep public use and traffic (motorized or non-motorized) on the route that has been designated as open for that use.
 4. **Camp Site Sign-** at designated camp sites.
 5. **Parking Area Sign-** where parking is allowed.
 6. **Boat Launch Sign-** where access to water is allowed.
 7. **Etc., etc. Signs-** positive; where the activity is allowed; generally not where activities are prohibited.
2. ***Broad category signs necessary to address similar tract-specific management issues and concerns are presented below in this plan. Sign needs commensurate with these particular circumstances will be addressed on a case-by-case basis at the appropriate local management level.” These signs are also intended for widespread generic use across the greatest practicable extent of the easement properties when needed.***

Signs to be Used on Roads Open to the Public when there are specific management

issues or concerns

Regulatory Signs, Caution Signs, Prohibitory Signs

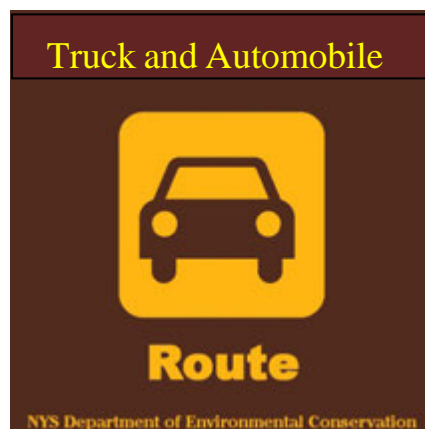
B. Regulatory, Prohibition and Caution Signs

1. **Stop Signs**- Dangerous situations where conflicting uses of the property could converge; where active timber haul roads intersect with recreational use routes; not to be employed in a general way or as a matter of routine placement on public recreation roads.
 2. **Speed Limit Signs**- Special situations; speed limits or recommended speeds should be included in the **Information Kiosk Sign** under conditions of use and the **Permitted Public Use Signs**.
 3. **Stop Ahead**- Snowmobile trails and other special situations.
 4. **One Lane Bridge Ahead**- Special situations
 5. **Right Curve/Left Curve**- Special situations
 6. **Hazard Markers**- Special situations
 7. **Barrier - 100 feet**- Special situations
 8. **Do Not Enter**- Should be used only when there is a specific Department need to prohibit the public from entering, not because it is a private road and the landowner wants added protection from intrusion.
 9. **No Parking**- Department recreation management need or reason.
 10. **Do Not Block Gate**- Department recreation management need or reason.
 11. **Other as specifically needed for the situation.**
3. ***Broad category informational and directional signs should be deployed on conservation easement properties with public recreation use as program resources are available to do so. The following recreation management signs are designed to enhance the public's use of the recreational resource and are intended for widespread generic use across the greatest practicable extent of the easement properties***
1. **Easement Road Identification Sign**- All shared use roads
 2. **Directional Signs**- Appropriate trail and road intersections and other locations.
 3. **Mileage Marker Signs**- All roads and possibly trails.

4. **Posting of Signs** in the field; posting and placement considerations
 1. Wherever possible and practical, all roadside signs will be posted on metal posts
 2. Signs will be posted outside the ditchline of roads that have the potential to be plowed during winter logging operations

Trail Marker Signs

Sign: Trail Marking Blazer
Dimensions: 6" x 6"
Color Scheme: Department Standard Colors-Brown Background/
 Yellow Lettering
Reflective: Yes-- Lettering
Construction: Metal or Vinyl



- Blazers depicting additional icons/text may be added on a case-by-case or standardized basis as operational needs dictate, to include, but not be limited to: motorcycles, equestrian use, mountain biking and access for people with disabilities.
- Use “line of sight” like trail markers- mark both sides of designated travel corridor in an effort to keep public motorized traffic funneled onto the corridor and away from intersecting side roads.

Sign: Mileage Markers
Dimensions: 6” x 6”
Color Scheme: Brown Background/ Yellow Lettering
Reflective: Not Required
Construction: Metal or Vinyl



- Mileage markers should be cross-referenced to descriptions on kiosk maps and/or brochures whenever possible
- Wide number range from 1 mile to 15 miles

- Layout on road networks is subject to road ID system established by the DEC RMP

Regulatory Signs

Sign:	Stop Sign
Dimensions:	18" x 18"
Color Scheme:	USDOT Standard- Red and White
Reflective:	Yes- Required
Construction:	Metal or Vinyl



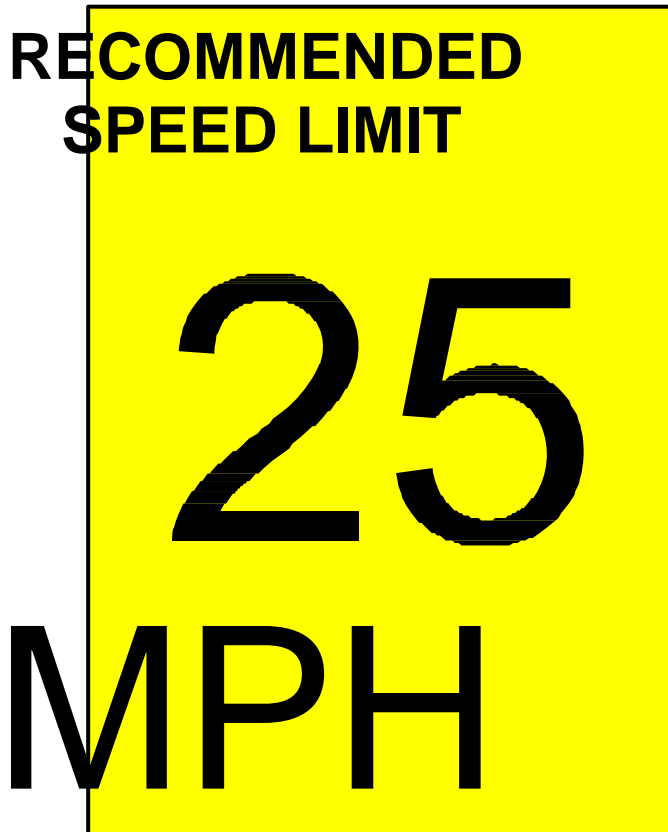
- Stop signs will be posted at the specific location where the desired action is intended to take place (i.e. intersection)

Sign: Do Not Enter- Road Closed to Public Motorized Vehicles and Snowmobiles
Dimensions: 18" x 18"
Color Scheme: USDOT Standard- Red and White
Reflective: Yes- Required
Construction: Metal or Vinyl



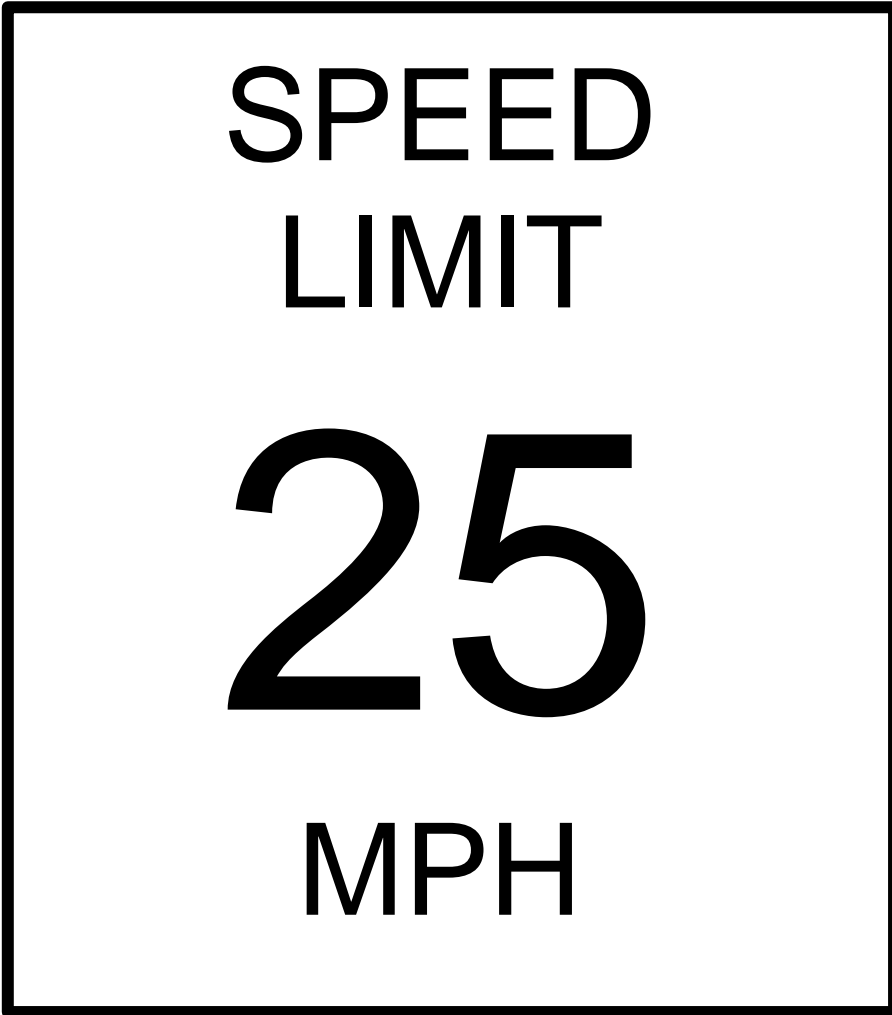
- Sign has universal applicability for road closures—may be posted in response to either temporary or permanent management needs and goals.
- These signs will be posted at the specific location where the desired action is intended to take place (i.e. intersection)

Sign:	Recommended Speed Limit 25 MPH
Dimensions:	12" x 18"
Color Scheme:	Yellow Background/ Brown or Black Lettering
Reflective:	Yes- Required
Construction:	Metal or Vinyl



- These signs may be posted at critical public access points to each easement property as well as intermittently along specific roads/trails that have been designated as open to public motorized use.
- These signs may be utilized on easement properties where special regulations pertaining to public vehicular operation *have not been adopted*. **Department uniformed enforcement officers are unable to issue tickets based on this sign.**
- Tract-specific circumstances that necessitate a recommended speed limit that is less than 25 mph will be addressed locally on a case-by-case basis with joint consultation and agreement between the landowner and the DEC.

Sign: Speed Limit 25 MPH
Dimensions: 12" x 18"
Color Scheme: USDOT Standard-- White Background/ Black Lettering
Reflective: Yes- Required
Construction: Metal or Vinyl



- Same posting criteria as “Recommended Speed Limit” signs
- These signs may be utilized on easement properties where special regulations pertaining to public vehicular operation *have been adopted*. **Department uniformed enforcement officers are able to issue tickets based on this sign-provided that it is posted according to current DOT standards.**
- Tract-specific circumstances that necessitate a recommended speed limit that is less than 25

mph will be addressed locally on a case-by-case basis with joint consultation and agreement between the landowner and the DEC.

Caution Signs

Sign: As Shown Below
Dimensions: Hazard Markers- 6" x 12"
All Others Shown- 18" x 18"
Color Scheme: As Shown Below
Reflective: Yes- Required
Construction: Metal or Vinyl



Either Left or Right Curve As Operational Needs Dictate



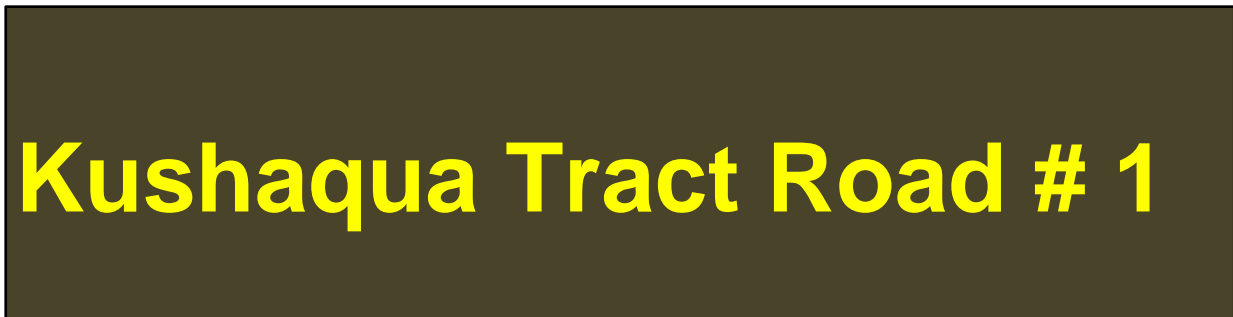
- Hazard marker signs will be posted on both sides of the public use road corridor immediately adjacent to the identified hazard condition (bridge railings, culverts, etc.)
- In consideration of research conducted, and a recommended easement tract maximum speed limit of 25 mph in place, caution signs *other than hazard marker signs* will be posted no less than 100 feet in advance of the identified hazard. In circumstances where the road approaching an identified hazard is windy or steep, caution signs will be posted no less than 150 feet in advance of the identified hazard.

Directional and Informational Signs

Sign:	Easement Road Identification Sign
Dimensions:	4" x 14"
Color Scheme:	Department standard colors- Brown Background/ Yellow Lettering
Reflective:	Not Required
Construction:	Wood or Vinyl



EXAMPLE



EXAMPLE

- Easement Road ID sign content will be cross referenced to ensure consistency with road ID language found in RMPs.
- Road ID names/numbers will be tract-specific and are at the discretion of the DEC planner, subject to consultation with the landowner as need dictates.

Sign: Easement Directional Signs
Dimensions: 11" x 30"
Color Scheme: Department standard colors- Brown Background/ Yellow Lettering
Reflective: Not Required
Construction: Wood



EXAMPLE



EXAMPLE

- **All other directional or informational signs** will be developed as need dictates on a tract-by-tract basis. Signs will be custom-ordered by local Department staff using in-house sign fabrication services. Generally speaking, directional signs will be constructed of wood and labeled with yellow lettering set on a brown background.

Sign: Easement Roads- Permitted Public Uses

Dimensions: 8" x 11"

Color Scheme: Yellow Background/Brown Lettering

Reflective: No

Construction: Metal or Vinyl



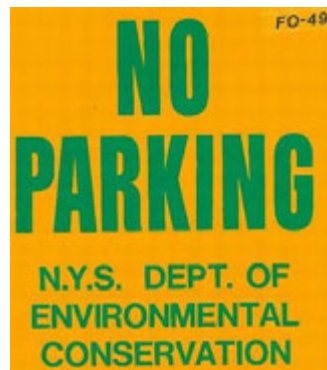
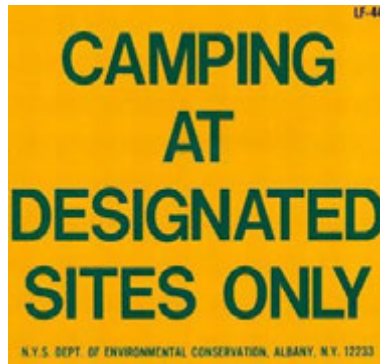
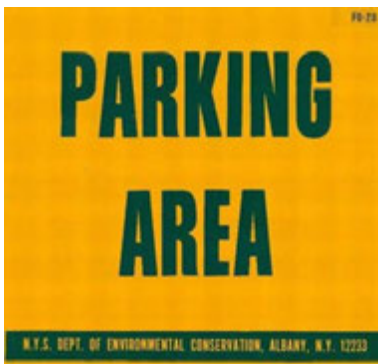
EXAMPLE

- Tract Names, Road Names and Public Use Activity Icons:

- Will be applied to signs as needed on a tract-specific basis using brown vinyl lettering created by the DEC sign shop; lettering applied prior to sign posting.
- Department Foresters will submit individual requests for vinyl lettering based on their needs
- Department will focus icon development with the goal of standardization of size, color scheme and image across all easement properties
- Icons will illustrate permitted public means of access to include the types of activities referenced above as well as motor vehicles (car, truck or universal symbol) motorcycles, hikers, cross-country skiers, snowshoers and equestrians.


Other Signs

Sign:	Department Administrative Signs As Shown Below <i>To be drawn from existing Department sign inventory</i>
Dimensions:	12" x 12"
Color Scheme:	As Shown Below
Reflective:	Not Required
Construction:	Metal or plastic






Sign: Public Access Point Informational Kiosk
Fabricated Using Department In-House Sign Services
Dimensions: 4' x 8'
Color Scheme: Brown Background/ Yellow Lettering
Reflective: Not Required
Construction: Wood



Kushaqua Tract Conservation Easement Lands
 Privately Owned Working Forest Lands - Public Outdoor Recreation Opportunities



Public Recreation on the Property is Subject to the Following Conditions

- Be prepared to encounter logging trucks and equipment at any time
- Speed limit on all property roads is 25 MPH– use of your headlights for visibility purposes is recommended.
- Roads and trails open to the public may be temporarily closed or rerouted due to road conditions or logging operations.
- Parking is permitted in designated parking areas, pull-offs and on road shoulders- Please do not block gates or obstruct the travel of other vehicles.
- Use of motorized vehicles, including cars, trucks, ATVs and snowmobiles, is limited to roads and trails specifically marked and designated for those uses (see map)
- Camping and campfires are permitted only at designated campsites
- Please respect the rights of the landowner, their lessees, employees and contractors.
- Don't Litter- If you carry it in....carry it out
- Camps and a 1 acre area surrounding them are private property- trespass by the public in these areas will not be tolerated.
- Private camp lessees are permitted to travel to and from their camp lots by any motorized means, regardless of the road's designated public use.
- For more information on public recreation management of the property, contact:
 NYSDEC Lands and Forests: (518) 897-1200
- To report a problem or an emergency, contact:
 NYSDEC Law Enforcement Dispatch: (518) 891-0235

LEAVE THIS SPACE
 (APPROX 2 FEET WIDE x
 3-1/2 FEET TALL)

BLANK FOR THE
 ADDITION OF A
 CUSTOM DESIGNED
 MAP AND/OR TRACT
 SPECIFIC
 PRACTICES/REGS
 POSTER CREATED BY
 REGIONAL OFFICE
 STAFF

EXAMPLE

4'

8' (FLIP PAGE OVER FOR TEXT AND GRAPHICS DIMENSIONS)

TEXT AND GRAPHICS SIZES

- *DEC LOGO*— 4 INCH DIAMETER LOGO WITH "NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION" WORDING AROUND THE LOGO.
- *TITLE TEXT (TOP OF SIGN)*— 3" HIGH, "BOLD FACE" ARIAL FONT TEXT
- *"Public Recreation on the Property is Subject to the Following Conditions"*— 2" HIGH, "BOLD FACE", UNDERLINED, ARIAL FONT TEXT
- *BULLETED TEXT*— 1" HIGH, ARIAL FONT TEXT
- *TEXT SPACING*— 1/4" To 1/2" Maximum

Sign: Working Forest “Rules of the Road” for the Public

Fabricated at the direction of the Landowner **Dimensions:**

Subject to the Discretion of the Landowner

Color Scheme: Subject to the Discretion of the Landowner

Reflective: Subject to the Discretion of the Landowner

Construction: Metal

CAUTION

You are entering a privately-owned working forest
Use extreme caution when approaching active logging operations
Yield to log trucks and logging equipment
Forest roads are not maintained or signed to highway standards.
Please drive responsibly and prudently at all times.
Watch out for other vehicles and road users.

EXAMPLE

- Landowner may have these signs designed, fabricated and installed at their discretion.

Sign Committee Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Location</u>
Eric Ross	Upland Forestry	Fort Ann, NY
Sean Ross	Lyme Timber Company	Hanover, NH
Peter D'luhosch	NYSDEC- Region 6	Potsdam, NY
Marcus Riehl	NYSDEC- Region 5	Northville, NY
Sean Reynolds	NYSDEC- Region 5	Ray Brook, NY

Project Contributors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Location</u>
Damon Hartman	Upland Forestry	Tupper Lake, NY
Kris Alberga	NYSDEC- Region 5	Ray Brook, NY
Rick Fenton	NYSDEC- Region 5	Northville, NY

Appendix G: Department and Landowner Review Declaration

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has the responsibility of managing public access and recreation on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Sustainable Forestry Conservation Easement: Phase I-A, in accordance with the encumbering conservation easement. This Recreation Management Plan (RMP) is consistent with the purpose, terms and conditions of the conservation easement. RMP management actions are approved for implementing public recreation on the easement property. Notwithstanding the foregoing, should any discrepancies arise between the RMP and the Conservation Easement, the Conservation Easement will prevail.

ACCEPTED BY GRANTEE:

By: Jeffrey A. Rider
Jeffrey A. Rider, Acting Director
Division of Lands & Forests
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Date 7/29/2022

ACCEPTED BY GRANTOR:

By: Sean Ross
Sean Ross, Managing Director
The Lyme Timber Company

Date 7/12/2022

Edinburg and Corinth Tracts
Final Recreation Management Plan | July 2022