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Fulton County State Forest

UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

DRAFT

Towns of Oppenheim, Ephratah, and Johnstown

County of Fulton

November 1st, 2018

DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS
Bureau of State Land Management, Region 5

701 South Main Street Northville, NY 12134

Fulton County State Forest

Unit Management Plan

A planning unit consisting of 3 State Forests, in Fulton County

Fulton 1: Lassellsville State Forest, Fulton 2: Peck Hill State Forest,

and Fulton 3: Rockwood State Forest

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Acknowledgments

The Fulton County State Forest Unit Management Planning Team would like to gratefully acknowledge the efforts of all those who contributed to this plan.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Lands and Forests

Region 5

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DEC's Mission

"The quality of our environment is fundamental to our concern for the quality of life. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of New York to conserve, improve and protect its natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall economic and social well-being." - Environmental Conservation Law 1-0101(1)

Vision Statement

State Forests on the Fulton County State Forest Unit (FCSFU) will be managed in a sustainable manner by promoting ecosystem health, enhancing landscape biodiversity, protecting soil productivity and water quality. In addition, the State Forests on this unit will continue to provide the many recreational, social and economic benefits valued so highly by the people of New York State. DEC will continue the legacy which started more than 80 years ago, leaving these lands to the next generation in better condition than they are today.

This plan sets the stage for DEC to reach these ambitious goals by applying the latest research and science with guidance from the public, whose land we have been entrusted to manage.

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Preface

State Forest Overview

The public lands comprising this unit play a unique role in the landscape. Generally, the State Forests of the unit are described as follows:

- large, publicly owned land areas;
- managed by professional Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) foresters;
- green certified jointly by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) & Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®);
- set aside for the sustainable use of natural resources, and;
- open to recreational use.

Management will ensure the **sustainability**, **biological diversity**, and protection of **functional ecosystems** and optimize the ecological benefits that these State lands provide, including the following:

- maintenance/increase of local and regional biodiversity
- response to shifting land use trends that affect habitat availability
- mitigation of impacts from invasive species
- response to climate change through carbon sequestration and habitat, soil and water protection

Legal Considerations

Article 9, Titles 5 and 7, of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) authorize DEC to manage lands acquired outside the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. This management includes **watershed protection**, production of **timber** and other forest products, **recreation**, and **kindred purposes**.

For additional information on DEC's legal rights and responsibilities, please review the statewide Strategic Plan for State Forest Management (SPSFM) at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html. Refer specifically to pages 33 and 317.

CP-42 Contact Cooperation, and Consultation with Indian Nations

The Commissioner's Policy (CP-42) (https://www.dec.ny.gov/public/36929.html) provides guidance to DEC staff concerning cooperation and consultation with Indian Nations on issues relating to protection of environmental and cultural resources within New York State. Specifically, this policy (i) formally recognizes that relations between the Department and Indian Nations will be conducted on a government-to-government basis; (ii) identifies the protocols to be followed by Department staff in working with Indian Nations; and (iii) endorses the development of cooperative agreements between the Department and Indian Nations to address environmental and cultural resource issues of mutual concern.

Nine Indian Nations reside within, or have common geographic borders with New York State: the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, Tonawanda Seneca, Tuscarora, Unkechaug, and Shinnecock. Communication between DEC and the Indian Nations should be direct and involve two-way dialogue and feedback. Face-to-face meetings are generally desirable; however, phone calls, correspondence, and other methods of communication are also encouraged. Therefore, DEC staff should be reaching out to the respective Nations as

early in the UMP planning process as possible. The Department wishes to ensure that its actions, with respect to the environment and cultural resources, are sensitive to the concerns of Indian Nations, and that the perspective of the recognized Indian Nations is sought and taken into account when the Department undertakes an action having implications for indigenous peoples, their territories, and their culture. The Department and Indian Nations share key roles in protecting and preserving natural and cultural resources important to all citizens, and early consultation and cooperation between the Department and Indian Nations will foster more comprehensive protection and preservation of those resources.

Management Planning Overview

The Fulton County Unit Management Plan (UMP) is based on a long-range vision for the management of Lassellsville (Fulton 1), Peck Hill (Fulton 2), and Rockwood (Fulton 3) State Forests, balancing long-term ecosystem health with current and future demands. This Plan addresses management activities on this unit for the next ten years, though some management recommendations will extend beyond the ten-year period. Factors such as budget constraints, wood product markets, and forest health problems may necessitate deviations from the scheduled management activities.

Public Participation

One of the most valuable and influential aspects of UMP development is public participation. Public meetings are held to solicit input and written and verbal comments are encouraged while management plans are in draft form. Mass mailings, press releases and other methods for soliciting input are often also used to obtain input from adjoining landowners, interest groups and the public.

Strategic Plan for State Forest Management (SPSFM)

This unit management plan is designed to implement DEC's statewide SPSFM. Management actions are designed to meet local needs while supporting statewide and eco-regional goals and objectives.

The SPSFM is the statewide master document and Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) that guides the careful management of natural and recreational resources on State Forests. The plan aligns future management with principles of landscape ecology, ecosystem management, multiple-use management and the latest research and science available at this time. It provides a foundation for the development of UMPs. The SPSFM divides the State into 80 geographic "units," composed of DEC administered State Forests that are adjacent and similar to one another. For more information on management planning, see SPSFM page 21 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

DEC's Management Approach and Goals

Forest Certification of State Forests

In 2000, New York State DEC-Bureau of State Land Management received Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certification under an independent audit conducted by the National Wildlife Federation - SmartWood Program. This certification included 720,000 acres of State Forests in DEC Regions 3 through 9 managed for water quality protection, recreation, wildlife habitat, timber and mineral resources (multiple-use). To become certified, the Department was required to meet more than 75 rigorous criteria established by FSC. Meeting these criteria established a

benchmark for forests managed for long-term ecological, social and economic health. The original certification and contract was for five years.

By 2005 the original audit contract with the SmartWood Program expired. Recognizing the importance and the value of dual certification, the Bureau sought bids from prospective auditing firms to reassess the Bureau's State Forest management system to the two most internationally accepted standards - FSC and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) program. However, contract delays and funding shortfalls slowed the Departments ability to award a new agreement until early 2007.

Following the signed contract with NSF-International Strategic Registrations and Scientific Certification Systems, the Department was again audited for dual certification against FSC and additionally the SFI program standards on over 762,000 acres of State Forests in Regions 3 through 9. This independent audit of State Forests was conducted by these auditing firms from May until July 2007 with dual certification awarded in January 2008.

State Forests continue to maintain certification under the most current FSC and SFI standards. Forest products derived from wood harvested off State Forests may be labeled as "certified" through chain-of-custody certificates. Forest certified labeling on wood products may assure consumers that the raw material was harvested from well-managed forests.

The Department is part of a growing number of public, industrial and private forest land owners throughout the United States and the world whose forests are certified as sustainably managed. The Department's State Forests can also be counted as part of a growing number of working forest land in New York that is *third-party certified* as well managed to protect habitat, cultural resources, water, recreation, and economic values now and for future generations.

Ecosystem Management Approach

State Forests on this unit will be managed using an ecosystem management approach which will holistically integrate principles of landscape ecology and multiple use management to promote habitat biodiversity, while enhancing the overall health and resiliency of the State Forests.

Ecosystem management is a process that considers the total environment - including all non-living and living components; from soil micro-organisms to large mammals, their complex interrelationships and habitat requirements and all social, cultural, and economic factors. For more information on ecosystem management, see SPSFM page 39 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Multiple-use Management

DEC will seek to simultaneously provide many resource values on the unit such as, fish and wildlife, wood products, recreation, aesthetics, minerals, watershed protection, and historic or scientific values.

Landscape Ecology

The guiding principle of multiple-use management on the unit will be to provide a wide diversity of habitats that naturally occur within New York, while ensuring the protection of rare, endangered and threatened species and perpetuation of highly ranked unique natural communities. The actions included in this plan have been developed following an analysis of habitat needs and overall landscape conditions within the planning unit (i.e. the geographical area surrounding and including the State Forests) the larger ecoregion and New York State.

Landscape ecology seeks to improve landscape conditions, taking into account the existing habitats and land cover throughout the planning unit, including private lands

Ecosystem Management Strategies

The following strategies are the tools at DEC's disposal, which will be carefully employed to practice landscape ecology and multiple-use management on the unit. The management strategy will affect species composition and habitat in both the short and long term. For more information on these management strategies, please see SPSFM page 81 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Passive Management

DEC foresters will employ passive management strategies through the designation of natural and protection areas, and buffers around those areas, such as along streams, ponds and other wetlands, where activity is limited.

Silviculture (Active Management)

DEC foresters will practice silviculture; the art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests and woodlands, in an effort to promote biodiversity and produce sustainable forest products. There are two fundamental silvicultural systems which can mimic the tree canopy openings and disturbances that occur naturally in all forests; even-aged management and uneven aged management. Each system favors a different set of tree species. In general, even-aged management includes creating wide openings for large groups of trees that require full sunlight to regenerate and grow together as a cohort, while uneven-aged management includes creating smaller patch openings for individual trees or small groups of trees that develop in the shade but need extra room to grow to their full potential.

State Forest Management Goals

Goal 1 – Provide Healthy and Biologically Diverse Ecosystems

Ecosystem health is measured in numerous ways. One is by the degree to which natural processes are able to take place. Another is by the amount of naturally occurring species that are present, and the absence of non-native species. No single measure can reveal the overall health of an ecosystem, but each is an important part of the larger picture. The Department will manage State Forests so that they demonstrate a high degree of health as measured by multiple criteria, including the biodiversity that they support.

Goal 2 – Maintain Man-made State Forest Assets

Man-made assets on State Forests include structures, boundary lines, trails, roads and any other object or infrastructure that exists because it was put there by people. Many of these items need no more than a periodic check to make sure they are still in working order. Others need regular maintenance to counteract the wear of regular use. It is the Department's intent to ensure that all man-made items on State Forests are adequately maintained to safely perform their intended function.

Goal 3 – Provide Recreational Opportunities for People of all Ages and Abilities

State Forests are suitable for a wide variety of outdoor recreational pursuits. Some of these activities are entirely compatible with one another, while others are best kept apart from each other. Equally varied are the people who undertake these activities, as well as their abilities, and their desire to challenge themselves. While not all people will be able to have the experience they desire on the same State Forest, the Department will endeavor to provide recreational opportunities to all those who wish to experience the outdoors in a relatively undeveloped setting.

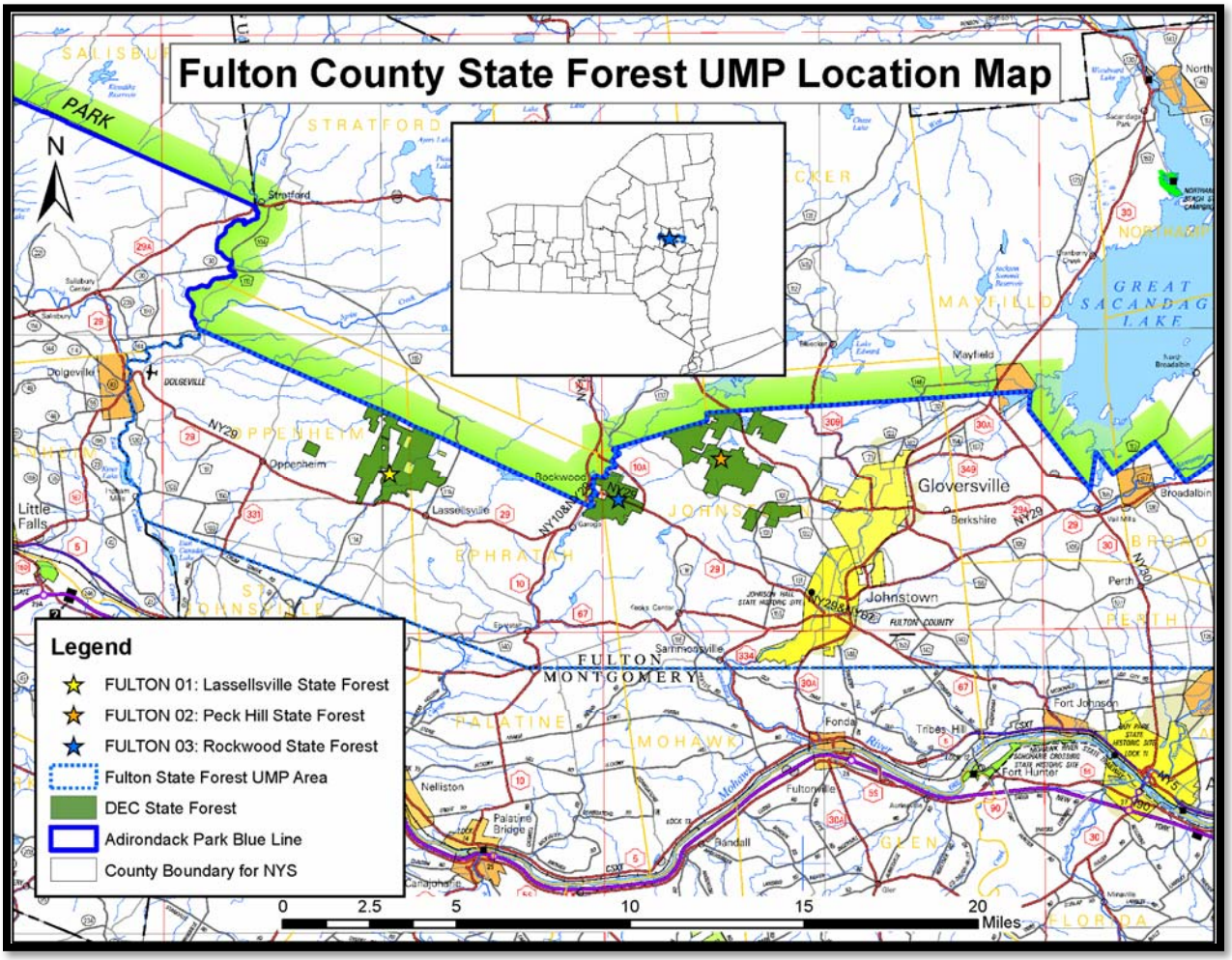
Goal 4 – Provide Economic Benefits to the People of the State

ECL §1-0101(1) provides in relevant part that "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of New York to conserve, improve and protect its natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall **economic** and social well-being." (Emphasis added) In considering all proposed actions, the Department will attempt to balance environmental protection with realizing potential economic benefit.

Goal 5 – Provide a Legal Framework for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Management of State Forests

Staff must have clear and sound guidance to direct their decisions and actions. Likewise, the public must have clear information regarding what they are and are not allowed to do on State Forests. Both of these are provided by well-written laws, regulations and policies. The Department will work to improve existing legal guidance that has proved to be inadequate, and create new guidance that is needed but does not yet exist.

Location Map



Information on the Fulton County State Forest Unit

State Lands in the Unit

Table I.A. contains the names of the state land facilities that make up this unit. A web page has been developed for each of the State Forests. Each web page features an updated map of the State Forest with recreational information and natural features.

Table I.A. – State Lands in the Unit

Facility Name and Webpage	Acreage
Fulton 1: State Forest: Lassellsville State Forest – http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/108057.html	2,255.47
Fulton 2: State Forest: Peck Hill State Forest – http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/106893.html *Exterior parcels gifted to the state as Forest Preserve *and* Wildlife Refuge (not included in forest inventory, or UMP total acreage because of proximity to Fulton 2 without being legally designated as preserve *yet*) 133.-2-27: 41.28 acres 133.-2-28: 23.15 acres 133.-2-44: 59.20 acres 133.-2-33.1: 9.20 acres	2,735.02 *132.83
Fulton 3: State Forest: Rockwood State Forest – http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/107041.html	858.74
Total for UMP	5,982.06

Soils

Soils provide the foundation, both figuratively and literally, of forested ecosystems. They support an immense number of microorganisms, fungi, mosses, insects, herpetofauna and small mammals which form the base of the food chain. They filter and store water and also provide and recycle nutrients essential for all plant life. For information on DEC's policies for the protection of forest soils, as well as water resources please see SPSFM page 108 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Table I.B. - Soils (see Figure 1 for maps)

Facility Name	Predominant Soil Type(s)	Acres
Lassellsville State Forest	Henniker fine sandy loam *(potentially highly erodible land)*	624 / 27%
	Metacomet fine sandy loam *(potentially highly erodible land)*	332/ 15%
	Becket-Tunbridge complex	330 / 14%
	Skerry fine sandy loam	243 / 11%
	Wonsqueak-Humaquepts complex	162 / 7%
	Wonsqueak mucky peat	157 / 7%
	Sabattis mucky loam	155 / 7%
	Pillsbury fine sandy loam	116 / 5%
	Becket sandy loam	88 / 4%
Peck Hill State Forest	Henniker fine sandy loam *(highly erodible land)*	477 / 17%
	Metacomet fine sandy loam *(potentially highly erodible land)*	359 / 13%
	Becket-Lyman-Tunbridge complex	337 / 12%
	Windsor loamy sand	292 / 11%
	Becket sandy loam	276 / 10%
	Adirondack fine sandy loam	206 / 8%
	Lyman-Becket-Tunbridge complex	190 / 7%
	Becket-Tunbridge complex	131 / 5%
	Pillsbury fine sandy loam	130 / 5%
	Berkshire loam	99 / 4%
Rockwood State Forest	Adams loamy sand	467 / 55%
	Henniker fine sandy loam *(potentially highly erodible land)*	273 / 32%
	Metacomet fine sandy loam	55 / 6%
	Sabattis mucky loam	33 / 4%
	Adirondack fine sandy loam	14 / 2%
	Endoaquaolls and Hapludolls	6 / 1%

Water Resources

DEC's GIS data contains an inventory of wetlands, vernal pools, spring seeps, intermittent streams, perennial streams, rivers and water bodies on the unit. This data is used to establish special management zones and plan appropriate stream crossings for the protection of water resources. Table I.C. contains a summary of water resources data on the unit.

Table I.C. – Water Resources (see Figure 2 for maps)		
Watersheds		
Hydrologic unit(s)		Zimmerman Creek-Mohawk River, Peck Lake-Caroga Creek, North Creek-Caroga Creek, Headwaters Cayadutta Creek, Hall Creek-Cayadutta Creek
Wetlands		293 ac.
Wetland of interest:		
Willie Wildlife Marsh (Peck Hill State Forest)		30 ac. total area regulated wetland
Streams/Rivers *		20.7 mi.
Total Perennial streams/rivers (P)		6.3 mi.
Total Intermittent streams (I)		14.4 mi.
Stream Classifications *Trout streams (T) *Trout spawning streams (TS)	AA(T)	0.6 mi. (P)
	C	1.0 mi. (I), 0.5 mi. (P)
	C(T)	4.8 mi. (P), 1.2 mi. (I)
	C(TS)	0.4 mi. (I), 0.7 mi. (P)
Water Bodies		
Water bodies of interest:		19 ac.
Rockwood Lake (portion on Rockwood State Forest)		4 ac.
Portion of a trout spawning pond located on Peck Hill State Forest (43.076635, -74.444670)		<1 ac.

*For information regarding stream classifications please refer to http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6042.html.

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity

Information regarding biodiversity has been gathered to support the following goals:

- "Keep Common Species Common" by maintaining landscape-level habitat diversity and a wide variety of naturally occurring forest-based habitat as well as managing plantations according to DEC natural resources policy.
- Protect and in some cases manage known occurrences and areas with potential to harbor endangered plants, wildlife and natural communities.
- Consider other "at-risk species" whose population levels may presently be adequate but are at risk of becoming imperiled due to new incidences of disease or other stressors.

Common Species

The following information sources indicate which common species (among other species) are present over time:

- NYS Breeding Bird Atlas

  Block Numbers

  - 5276A
  - 5276B
  - 5277C
  - 5277D
  - 5376A
  - 5376B
  - 5377D
  - 5476A
  - 5477C

  Breeding Bird Atlas blocks can be searched at http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/bba/

- Herp Atlas

  Block Numbers

  - 312
  - 313
  - 316

- Herp Atlas information on amphibians, toads, frogs, turtles, lizards and snakes can be found at http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7140.htmlGame Species Harvest Levels (Deer take, bear take, turkey harvest, etc.)

  Wildlife Management Unit Numbers

  - 5H
  - 5J
  - 6R

BIODIVERSITY

Habitat

The following information provides several representations of habitat types on the unit.

Vegetative Types and Stages

Table I.D. - Vegetative Types and Stages within the Unit (see Figure 4 for maps)

Vegetative Type	Acres by Size Class				% of Total
	0 -5 in	6 - 11 in	12+ in	Other	
Natural Forest Hardwood	30	4,464	332		82
Natural Forest Conifer	16	124	24		3
Plantation Softwoods	0	290	108		7
Plantation Hardwoods	0	0	0		0
Wetland				293	5
Ponds				4	<1
Open/Brush				1	0
Other (Roads, Parking lots, etc.)				155	3
Total (Acres)				5,841	100%

High Conservation Value Forests

High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) are those portions of State Forests which have known high conservation values that the Department feels should take precedent over all other land use and management decisions. HCVFs may not be identified on every Unit and State Forests that have an HCVF designated will not necessarily have multiple classifications. Areas that are identified as having exceptional values may be managed for timber, wildlife and/or recreation, however management activities must maintain or enhance the high conservation values present. Currently, HCVFs are assigned to one or more of five land classifications, four of which may be found on State Forests:

1. Rare Community - Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
2. Special Treatment - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, and refugia).
3. Cultural Heritage – Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and are critical to their traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

4. Watershed - Forest areas that provide safe drinking water to local municipalities.

5. Forest Preserve* - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

   **Forest Preserve lands inside both the Adirondack and Catskills Park Blue Line. Although Forest Preserve is not considered State Forest, they offer a significant high conservation value for lands managed by the Department.*

Portions of the FCSFU have been identified as having high conservation value. Acreage totals for designated HCVFs located within the unit can be found in the appropriate sections below. For more information on HCVFs please go to http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/42947.html.

Representative Sample Areas

Representative Sample Areas (RSA) are stands which represent *common* ecological communities (i.e. forest types) of high or exceptional quality in their natural state. RSAs are established to serve one or more of the following purposes:

1. To establish and/or maintain an ecological reference condition; or
2. To create or maintain an under-represented ecological condition (i.e. includes samples of successional phases, forest types, ecosystems, and/or ecological communities); or
3. To serve as a set of protected areas or refugia for species, communities and community types not captured in other protection standards such as an endangered species or a High Conservation Value Forest.

RSAs can simply be viewed as an effort to keep high quality examples of common ecosystems or assemblages from becoming rare in the landscape. An RSA designation does not prevent future management and in certain cases might require silvicultural treatment to achieve site conditions that will perpetuate the representative community. In addition, treatment of an RSA to mitigate unfavorable conditions that threaten the continuation of the target community will be allowed (ex. fire, natural pests or pathogens). Although allowed, silvicultural treatment or infrastructure development should not impact the RSA in a way that will degrade or eliminate the viability of the specific assemblage or community. For more information on RSAs please go to http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/42947.html

BIODIVERSITY

Table I.E. – High Conservation Value Forests within the Unit

HCVF Land Classification	Conservation Value of Concern	Facility Name / Stand Numbers	NYN HP Rank	Acreage
Watershed				
North Creek-Caroga Creek Watershed	Watershed of Garoga and Canajoharie Reservoirs	Rockwood SF, Compartment-Stand: A-4, A-9, A-10, A-11, A-13, A-15, A-16, A-19, A-20, A-22, A-23; B-11, B-13; C-1, C-2, C-4, C-8, C-9, C-11, C-12, C-13, C-14, C-15, C-16, C-17, C-18; D-1, D-2, D-6, D-8, D-12, D-13	N/A	547
Hall Creek-Cayadutta Creek Watershed	Watershed of Cork Center Reservoir	Rockwood SF, Compartment-Stand: D-3, D-4, D-5, D-7, D-11, D-14, D-15 Peck Hill SF, Compartment-Stand: E-15; G-4, G-5, G-6, G-7; H-12, H-13, H-14, H-18; I-2, I-3, I-5, I-6, I-7, I-8, I-9; J-13, J-14	N/A	653

Resource Protection Areas

In the course of practicing active forest management, it is important to identify areas on the landscape that are either reserved from management activity or where activity is conducted in such a manner as to provide direct protection and enhancement of habitat and ecosystem functions. For more information on these protective measures, see SPSFM page 85 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Special Management Zones (SMZs) provide continuous over-story shading of riparian areas and adjacent waters, by retaining sufficient tree cover to maintain acceptable aquatic habitat and protect riparian areas from soil compaction and other impacts. DEC's buffer guidelines also maintain corridors for movement and migration of all wildlife species, both terrestrial and aquatic. Buffers are required within SMZs extending from wetland boundaries, high-water marks on perennial and intermittent streams, vernal pool depression, spring seeps, ponds and lakes, recreational trails, campsites and other land features requiring special consideration. See Figure 1 for a map of the SMZs as applied on the unit. For more information regarding Special Management Zones please see www.dec.ny.gov/sfsmzbuffers.pdf

At-Risk Species

The presence of at-risk species and communities on the FCSFU and in the surrounding landscape has been investigated to inform appropriate management actions and protections. This investigation was conducted in development of this UMP and the associated inventory of State Forest resources. A more focused assessment will be conducted before undertaking specific management activities in sensitive sites. Appropriate protections may include reserving areas from management activity or mitigating impacts of activity. For more information on

protection of at-risk species, please see SPSFM page 115 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Investigation included the following:

- A formal plant survey was conducted on this Unit in the summer of 1997 by the New York Natural Heritage Program.
- Element Occurrence Records for the New York Natural Heritage Program's Biological and Conservation Data System were consulted for information.
- Consultation of NHP species guides.
- Consultation of the NYS Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

No endangered, threatened, or special concern wildlife or plant species are known to exist currently within the State Forests that comprise this Unit. However, at the larger landscape level, the presence of several at-risk species has been recorded. Table I.F. lists these species and their required habitats.

Table I.F. - At-Risk Species*

Species Name	NYNHP Rank	Habitat	Record Source	NYS Status
Confirmed or Predicted in the Landscape and May Be Affected by State Forest Management				
Upland Sandpiper	S3B	Locally in lowland agricultural areas of the Mohawk Valley	. Breeding Bird Atlas notable species form on an upland sandpiper nest in block 5476A of June 3, 2001 (Freeman, Laurie. 2001).	Vulnerable

*Defined as NYNHP rank S1, S2, S2-3, G1, G2 or G2-3 OR identified as an SGCN

Key to Codes

BBA - Breeding Bird Atlas
(PRED) - Predicted Species
(CONF) - Confirmed Species

Status

E - Endangered Species (New York)
T - Threatened Species (New York)
PSC - Protected, Special Concern Species (New York)
SGCN - Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Visual Resources

The aesthetic quality of State Forests is considered in management activity across the unit. However, some areas have greater potential to preserve or create unique opportunities for public enjoyment. These especially scenic areas are inventoried below. For information on the protection of visual resources, please see SPSFM page 81 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Lassellsville State Forest contains Timmerman Creek, which runs along the east side of the first quarter mile of Schulenburg Road, providing a scenic water feature for motorists and hikers.

Peck Hill State Forest contains Willie Wildlife Marsh with scenic universally accessible trails and newly refurbished boardwalks. The Willie Wildlife Marsh was created in 1965 through the installation of a small dam that formed this wetland habitat. A nature trail travels along the perimeter of the marsh and three boardwalks provide access across it. The three sections of boardwalk that span the marsh provide unique viewing opportunities of wildlife from within a wetland habitat. Visitors often see great blue herons, Canada geese, wood ducks, and painted turtles, along with a variety of frogs, dragonflies and other marsh insects. The 0.4 mile universally accessible trail provides an obstruction-free path to the wildlife-viewing platform with scenic views of the marsh. The trail's firm, stable surface is ideal for strollers and wheelchairs.

Rockwood State Forest is bordered on the north by Rockwood Reservoir, located on property owned by Erie Boulevard Hydropower, LP. The Town of Ephratah currently does not have public access rights to Rockwood Reservoir and swimming is prohibited. However, the waterbody does provide a nice scenic vista along the northern boundary of the State Forest.

Historic and Cultural Resources

History of the Unit

Fulton County was created on April 18, 1838 by the partition of Montgomery County. Fulton County is located in the central part of New York State, northwest of Albany, lying in the southern Adirondack Mountains. Approximately 58% of the county is within the boundaries of Adirondack Park. The county contains two cities: Gloversville and Johnstown (county seat).

Shortly after the American Revolutionary War, the manufacture of gloves and leather became the area's primary industry. At one point, Johnstown and Gloversville were known as the world's Glove and Leather capital. The largest rise in population and growth in this region was a result of the success of the leather industry.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 533 square miles, of which 495 square miles is land and 37 square miles (7.0%) is water.

History and Natural Characteristics of the Unit

The following is an excerpt taken from: History of Fulton County, Revised and Edited by Washington Frothingham, Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., Printers and Publishers. 1892. https://archive.org/stream/cu31924083983951/cu31924083983951_djvu.txt

> Fulton County, named after the illustrious inventor of the steamboat (Robert Fulton), was created by the legislative act of April 18, 1838. Viewed geographically, Fulton County occupies what may be called an eastern central position. Its northern boundary is Hamilton County; its eastern, Saratoga; its southern, the mother county (Montgomery),

while Herkimer County bounds it on the west. Its surface is a rolling and hilly upland, rising into a mountainous region on the north border. The highlands consist of three general ridges, the first occupying the southeast corner, and including circular drift hills of moderate elevation, bounded by gradual slopes, the highest summits being about four hundred feet above the level of the Mohawk. The second ridge extends through and near the center of the county, and occupies a wide space along the north border. The acclivities in the north are usually steep and rocky, and the highest summits are from eight hundred to one thousand feet above the Mohawk. The third ridge, which much resembles the second, extends through the west part of the county and its highest elevations are about twelve hundred feet above the same river.

The principal water course of the county is the Sacandaga river, which flows southeast through the town of Northampton. It receives from the west the waters of the Vly, which has for its tributaries Mayfield, Kennyetto and Cranberry Creeks. The Chuctanunda Creek flows through the southeast part of the county. The Cayadutta courses southwest near the center, its valley separating the central and eastern ranges of hills. Stony Creek, a tributary of the Sacandaga, flows northeast in the northerly continuation of the Caroga valley, and winds through the central ranges of hills. Caroga Creek, which flows south, is a little west of the center of the county, its valley separating the eastern and central ranges. East Canada Creek forms the greater part of the western boundary, its tributaries being North, Fish, and Little Sprite creeks. The other streams of the county are branches of those previously mentioned or smaller tributaries of the Mohawk. Nearly all are rapid, frequently interrupted by falls and affording an ample supply of water power. Among the hills in the north part of the county are many small lakes, possessing those picturesque features which characterize the wilderness region of northern New York. Along the Sacandaga, near the mouth of the Mayfield Creek, and occupying portions of Northampton, Broadalbin and Mayfield, is an extensive swamp or vly, containing about twelve thousand acres. It has been said that the present swamp must have been a lake of considerable size, and a proof of this theory is found in the fact that Bleecker, Caroga and Stratford contain a number of small lakes.

The soil in the north part of the county, especially along the valleys, is chiefly a gravelly and clayey loam derived from the drift deposits. It is well adapted to general [agri]culture, and, in favored localities, is exceedingly rich and fertile. In the northern portion, however, the surface is too rough and broken for profitable cultivation. The general dividing line between the rich and the less productive agricultural districts of the county passes about midway between Johnstown and Gloversville, and extends nearly east and west, crossing even Herkimer and Saratoga Counties.

The geological record of Fulton County carries us back to the very earliest ages of the physical history of the world. The rocks of the northern half are Azoic, belonging to the original backbone of America, a part of which (the Adirondack Mountains), trends southward from the Laurentian highlands of Canada, forming a peninsula whose extreme tip is seen at Little Falls; while those of the southern half are Silurian, being a part of the earliest work of the ancient ocean which built our continent, building in successive sea-beaches along the Azoic land.

> To the Azoic continent belong the rocks of Stratford, Caroga; Bleecker, also parts of Johnstown, Mayfield and Northampton. They present a succession of rounded heights and ridges, the remnant of much larger masses, worn down into their present shape by the trituration of the glacial icecap. Their sides, are strewn with irregular blocks of all sizes, and their hollows are often filled with the glacial ponds which are so marked a characteristic of northern New York. The rocks of this section are crystalline (principally granite and gneiss); with massive quartzite at the summit of the Mayfield mountain and elsewhere. Traces of iron ore frequent, although the ore has not been found in mass. The granite contains large crystals of feldspar, and the gneiss is highly garnetiferous. A fine quality of building stone (schistose gneiss) from inexhaustible quarries in the town of Johnstown is the principal contribution which the Azoic rocks have thus far made to the wealth of the county, although thousands of dollars have been vainly spent in the search for gold.
>
> The whole territory of Fulton county reveals the effects of the glacial ice in scratched rocks, scattered boulders and moraines of till, and the surface formations of the lower land show the effect of water, both in streams and lakes.
>
> The most peculiar and interesting features of the county (from a student's point of view), is the Vly, a tract of several thousand acres of drowned lands. It is formed by the junction of three streams whose united channel flows into the Sacandaga just above the great bend which turns that river from the southeast to the northeast. This enters territory which was no doubt once the bottom of a lake which has been drained by a deeper cutting of the channel of the river in its course to the Hudson at Luzerne. High water in the Sacandaga dams the above mentioned streams and floods the old lake bed, until the river discharges its surplus and thus drains the sunken meadows. The processes of land-building, which are shown so perfectly in the glacial lakes and bogs of the higher parts of the county, are here held in partial check by the peculiar relations of level in the streams. (Washington Frothingham, 1892, pp 17-21)

Attempts to research specific history for the individual state forests in the Unit have been stifled by a lack of recorded history by the Department. One of the few facts discovered about the Unit's history is the name of the prior owner of land that now makes up the majority of Rockwood State Forest. Dr. Ernest Gillmore was the previous owner who transferred ownership to the State of New York for reforestation purposes in 1964. The land included a cabin at the top of Camp Road in the southern portion of Rockwood that is now just a stone ruin of a chimney. The known history of Peck Hill State Forest includes the creation of Willie Marsh by the DEC Bureau of Wildlife in 1965 through the construction of an earthen dam on the northwest corner of the waterbody in an effort to establish more wetland habitat for native wildlife.

Inventory of Resources

The term cultural resources encompass a number of categories of human created resources including structures, archaeological sites and related resources. The Department is required by the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) (PRHPL Article 14) and SEQRA (ECL Article 8) as well as Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law, 6NYCRR Section 190.8 (g) and Section 233 of Education Law to include such resources in the range of environmental values that are managed on public lands. For more information on protection of historic and cultural resources, please see SPSFM page 139 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

As a part of the inventory effort associated with the development of this plan the Department arranged for the archaeological site inventories maintained by the New York State Museum and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be searched in order to identify known archaeological resources that might be located within or near the unit. The two inventories overlap to an extent but do not entirely duplicate one another. The purpose of this effort was to identify any known sites that might be affected by actions proposed within the unit and to assist in understanding and characterizing past human use and occupation of the unit. The following historic and cultural resources were discovered while conducting a forest inventory in the unit from 2015-2016:

- Stone chimney ruin from a camp that belonged to Dr. Ernest Gilmore at the top of Camp Road in the southern portion of Rockwood State Forest.
- A headstone engraved Earnest M. Werner 1857-1945 is located northwest from the stone chimney remains. A neighboring landowner stated that Earnest Werner was the father-in-law of the former owner of the land, Dr. Ernest Gilmore.
- There is a homestead foundation containing many early 20th century artifacts located in Peck Hill State Forest. There are many stone foundations to be found on Lassellsville and Peck Hill State Forests, but this particular location contains a remarkable number of artifacts.
- Ruins of a softwood sawmill known as Clemons Mill is located on Clemons Mill Trail in Lassellsville State Forest. A stand of black locust has reached biological maturity at this site and is beginning to decline. This sawmill was owned and operated by Fred Clemons until the year 1960. The State purchased the land in 1961.
- There is an early 20th century stone water well located in Peck Hill State Forest. The well appears to have been hand built using rounded river rocks. The well is located 120' away from a town road and is considered to be a potential hazard to the public. It was recommended that the well be filled in with clean sand for safety reasons. The well was filled by DEC Operations on October 5th, 2017.

There are currently no site developments planned for these areas and there would be appropriate buffer distances put in place to protect these known resources during any future harvests within the stands.

Historic and Archaeological Site Protection

The historic and archaeological sites located within the unit as well as additional unrecorded sites that may exist on the property are protected by the provisions of the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA - Article 14 PRHPL), Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law, 6NYCRR Section 190.8 (g) and Section 233 of Education Law. No actions that would impact known resources are proposed in this Unit Management Plan. Should any such actions be proposed in the future they will be reviewed in accordance with the requirements of SHPA. Unauthorized excavation and removal of materials from any of these sites is prohibited by Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of Education Law. In some cases, additional protection may be afforded these resources by the federal Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA).

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Archaeological Research

The archaeological sites located on this land unit, as well as additional unrecorded sites that may exist on the property, may be made available for appropriate research. Any future archaeological research conducted on the property will only be undertaken under the auspices of all appropriate permits. Research permits will be issued only after consultation with the New York State Museum and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Extensive excavations are not contemplated as part of any research program in order to assure that the sites are available to future researchers who are likely to have more advanced tools and techniques as well as more fully developed research questions.

Real Property

DEC's Bureau of Real Property GIS system contains maps and some deeds for State Forest properties. Original deeds were also consulted to complete the information below.

Boundary Lines

Table I.G. – Status of Boundary Lines

Facility Name	Length of Boundary (mi.)	Length Needing Maintenance (mi.)	Length Needing Survey (mi.)
Lassellsville State Forest	20.1	20.1 Last completed April 2005	0
Peck Hill State Forest	28.6	28.5 Last completed Spring 2006	0 (0.03 mi. recently completed in response to an encroachment from 116.-2-62.2)
Rockwood State Forest	9.7	9.7 Last completed in Spring 2000	0

For more information on boundary line maintenance, please see SPSFM page 153 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Real Property typically conducts boundary line maintenance every seven years. Real Property in Northville has not had the manpower to maintain this schedule.

Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Lassellsville State Forest	1	ROW between 128.-2-50 and 128.-2-40 to Compartment G, Stand 16	W
Lassellsville State Forest	1	ROW through 128.-1-20 from W. Fical Rd to Compartment D	101

REAL PROPERTY

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Peck Hill State Forest	2	ROW through 132.-1-45.1 from N. Bush Rd	X
Peck Hill State Forest	2	ROW through 116.-2-19 to Compartment B, Stand 21	112
Rockwood State Forest	3	ROW through 130.16-3-10 and 130.16-3-1 (extension of Cemetery Road) to Compartment A	B

Encroachments

Well-marked boundary lines that are readily identifiable to the public reduce unintentional trespass. However, encroachments onto State Forest lands do sometimes occur. Such issues requiring resolution are listed in the following table.

Table I.I. – Encroachments

Facility Name	RA #	Description	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Lassellsville State Forest	1	Encroachments along southern boundary of 128.-2-51	W
Peck Hill State Forest	2	Encroachment from west side of 116.-2-62.2	M

Land Acquisition

Acquisition of property from willing sellers on the landscape surrounding the unit may be considered in the following priority areas:

- In-holdings and adjoining properties that would reduce management costs and benefit resource protection and public access goals
- the mineral estate wherever it is split from a State Forest tract
- properties within identified matrix forest blocks and connectivity corridors
- forested lands in underserved areas of the state
- forested lands in areas that are in need of watershed protection
- for other reasons, as identified in the current NYS Open Space Plan

For more information on land acquisition, please see SPSFM page 147 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Infrastructure

State Forests are managed with a minimal amount of improvements to accommodate rustic, forest based recreational opportunities while providing for resource protection; public health and safety; and access for individuals of all ability levels. For more information on infrastructure policies, please see SPSFM page 157 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Roads and Trails

DEC's GIS data contains an inventory of public forest access roads, haul roads and multiple-use-trails on the unit, including a representation of the allowable uses along each road or trail segment. Table I.J. contains a summary of roads, trails and related infrastructure on the unit.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

State Lands Interactive Mapper (SLIM) – An interactive online mapper can be used to create custom maps of recreational trails on this Unit to help people plan outdoor activities. Located at DEC's Mapping Gateway: http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/212.html

Google Earth Virtual Globe Data - Some of DEC's map data, including accessible recreation destinations, boat launches, lands coverage, roads and trails on this Unit can be viewed in Google Maps or Google Earth. (Also located at DEC's Mapping Gateway)

Table I.J. – Existing Access and Parking (see Figure 3 for maps)

Category	Total Amount	Needing Improvement
Public Forest Access Roads	3.6mi.	0 mi.
Haul Roads	2.5 mi.	0 mi.
Trails	28.2 mi.	0 mi.
Stream Crossings		
Bridges	7	0
Culverts	14	0
Related Infrastructure		
Parking Areas / Trailheads	12	0
Gates / Barriers	13	2

Use and Demand on Roads, Haul Roads and Parking Areas

The Peck Hill State Forest parking area located on Willie Road has recently been improved with fresh gravel and defined spaces that include two new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible parking spots. This action was in anticipation of a higher frequency of use by the public for the newly renovated Willie Wildlife Marsh Nature Trail, which has been repaired and

reopened, with the addition of a 0.4 mile section that is accessible (designed to the ADA guidelines for universally accessible trails).

During the initial public comment period for the Fulton County UMP scoping meeting (held in November, 2016) many local users of Rockwood State Forest commented (either in person, or via email) that the current public forest access roads running through the portion of the state forest south of Route 29 should be closed off to prohibit motor vehicle access by the public. They expressed concerns about damaged forest roads, illegal trash dumping, illegal camping, and target practice.

There is also a public forest access road on the north side of Rockwood State Forest off Cemetery Road, referred to as Cemetery Road Extension. This road leads to a small parking area for two primitive campsites nearby. There is a locked steel gate blocking access to North Loop Road to the east and a boulder barrier attempting to block vehicle access to the campsites to the north. This is a heavily used area that is being illegally accessed by 4x4 motor vehicles to the north causing rutting damage on the foot trail leading to Rockwood Lake.

A work plan has been approved that will mandate the installation of a large double gate to block public motor vehicle access to all roads on the south side of Rockwood State Forest, as well as to fortify the existing barriers on the north side. Individuals with CP-3 permits for the Motorized Access Program for People with Disabilities (MAPPWD) would still have access to these areas by being permitted to utilize a combination lock to enter the forest roads and trails beyond the locked steel gates.

Signs / Kiosks

There are a total of 10 signs and kiosks on the unit. A new ADA compliant kiosk will replace an existing kiosk at the Willie Wildlife Marsh trailhead.

Boating and Fishing Facilities

Non-motorized canoes and kayaks may be hand launched into the Willie Wildlife Marsh and Rockwood Lake. Rockwood Lake is not part of Rockwood State Forest, it is owned by Erie Boulevard Hydropower, LP, which allows fishing, canoeing and kayaking on the reservoir with the stipulation that boaters are required to wear a personal floatation device (PFD)

Designated Campsites and Lean-tos

Rockwood State Forest contains 3 primitive campsites with fire pits. Primitive campsites do not include pit privies. A single privy has been installed to accommodate the 2 campsites on the north side of Rockwood State Forest off Cemetery Road. There is currently one privy and no lean-tos on the FCSFU.

Utility Transmission and Collection Facilities

There are electricity transmitting power lines running through Peck Hill State Forest that are owned and maintained by National Grid located south of West Fulton Street Extension with a right-of-way through Compartment J. The right-of-way passes through the southeastern corners of Stands 13 and 14.

Non-recreational Uses

Off-Highway and All-Terrain Vehicle Use

For a comprehensive discussion of DEC's policy regarding ATV use on State Forests, please refer to page 213 of the SPSFM at www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

The FCSFU has a history of illegal 4x4 and ATV activity that is ongoing. Public motor vehicle access has been prohibited on Rockwood State Forest on the south side of Route 29 at the entrance of D-Spur Road. The decision to revoke public motor vehicle access on the south side of Rockwood State Forest was made based on recommendations received through public comment and from Forest Rangers who would like to reduce the frequency of illegal activities related to public motor vehicle access in that area, which include: large scale trash dumping, damage to forest roads resulting from 4x4 truck and illegal ATV activity, illegal camping, and target shooting when spent casings and broken targets are left behind.

To curb the illegal activity in Peck Hill State Forest, a locking steel gate will be installed at the entrance of "Elm Road South", where unauthorized vehicles are entering. The gates will remain accessible to CP-3 permit holders. A locking steel gate will also be installed in Lassellsville State Forest at the east entrance off Fical Road West. This area is part of snowmobile trail C8E, which has experienced increased illegal ATV activity over the last two seasons (2017-2018) that has resulted in damage to the snowmobile bridge, multiple braided trails with excessive soil erosion, soil compaction, and exposed crop tree roots.

Formal and Informal Partnerships and Agreements

Conservation and stewardship partnerships are increasingly important, especially for public land management agencies. Considering the fact that resources will always be limited, collaboration across political, social, organizational and professional boundaries is necessary for long-term success and sustainability. Encouraging the development of cooperative and collaborative relationships is and can be done through volunteer agreements with the Department. For more information on these and other partnerships, please see SPSFM page 181 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

There are two types of formal agreements in place that facilitate public involvement on state forest lands within the FCSFU; these are Temporary Revocable Permits and Volunteer Stewardship Agreements (formerly known as Adopt-A-Natural Resource). An example of a recently approved Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) was for Search and Rescue Team 5-1 of Johnstown, NY who were issued an Expedited TRP to host an orienteering training exercise involving the participation of 23 individuals on Rockwood State Forest. Unlike a Routine TRP that requires an application fee and proof of liability insurance for activities on State Land involving groups of 51 to 100 individuals, an Expedited TRP does not require an application fee, proof of liability insurance, or prior approval by Central Office. The purpose of a TRP is to establish formal terms and conditions for temporary uses of State Land that are intended to protect public health, public safety and the environment. The Superintendent of the Fulton County Highway Department currently has a TRP for plowing the main parking area at Rockwood State Forest and grooming the trails for cross-country skiing. The trails that are supposed to be groomed for skiing are C-North Trail, C-4 Loop Road, C-Connector Road, and D-Spur Road. It should be noted that regardless of the existence of the TRP, the trails have not been groomed and the Department has had to contact the Fulton County Highway Department

to request that they plow the parking area of Rockwood State Forest after receiving complaints from visitors about the conditions of the lot after snow storms.

Three snowmobile clubs currently have an ongoing formal volunteer stewardship agreement (VSA) in place to cover the work they perform on the snowmobile trails within Lassellsville and Peck Hill State Forests. The Oppenheim Trail Blazers of Dolgeville, NY maintain snowmobile trail C8A, which crosses Route 29 from the south at Bliss Road and enters Lassellsville State Forest 20 feet east of the entrance at Schulenburg Road. The 4-mile snowmobile trail on Lassellsville State Forest runs from south to north and converges with Schulenberg Road just before it exits the state forest to continue on to Swamp Road. The Royal Mountain Moonlighters of Ephratah, NY have a VSA for snowmobile trail C8E, which enters Lassellsville State Forest on the east side from West Fical Road and travels 1.7 miles west until it converges with Schulenberg Road and trail C8A. Trail C8E is in very poor condition and shows signs of heavy ATV traffic that is resulting in ruts with standing water, soil compaction, and exposed tree roots. The local forest rangers have been notified and monitoring and enforcement will be increased in that area. A locking steel gate has been approved to block motor vehicles when snow is not present. No date has been set for the construction of the gate.

The Ful-Mont Snow Travelers of Fonda, NY have been very active in maintaining the 8.5-mile corridor snowmobile trail C7G that travels through Peck Hill State Forest, especially in the past two years. In 2015, they repaired a large snowmobile bridge in Peck Hill State Forest In November of 2016, the club also replaced two culverts within Peck Hill Compartment I. The culverts were installed in a classified trout stream in which the stream had undercut the previous culverts, a type of streambed erosion referred to as head-cut. The volunteer of the snowmobile club placed sand bags upstream and downstream to prevent migration of streambed sediment during the culvert replacement process. This project not only improved trail conditions for the snow machines, but it also improved conditions for streamflow and wildlife habitat.

Recreation

Recreation is a major component of planning for the sustainable use of State Forests on this unit. DEC accommodates diverse pursuits such as snowmobiling, horseback riding, hunting, trapping, fishing, picnicking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bird watching, geocaching, mountain biking, and hiking. Outdoor recreation opportunities are an important factor in quality of life. We often learn to appreciate and understand nature by participating in these activities. However, repeated use of the land for recreational purposes can have significant impacts. For further discussion of recreational issues and policies, please see SPSFM page 187 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html. The following section includes an inventory of recreational opportunities available on this unit as well as a description of use and demand for each activity. Recreational maps and geographic data are available at DEC's Mapping Gateway http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/212.html in Google format or in the State Lands Interactive Mapper.

Wildlife-related Recreation

Hunting

For the general hunting regulations for the State of New York refer to:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28182.html

The Northern–Southern Hunting Zone is separated by NY Route 29 in Fulton County. Lassellsville and Peck Hill State Forests are both located in the Northern Hunting Zone. The

portion of Rockwood State Forest that is north of Route 29 is in the Northern Zone, while the other half of the state forest on the south side of Route 29 is in the Southern Zone. There are potential opportunities for hunters to take big game such as white-tailed deer and black bear during the appropriate seasons, as well as small game such as wild turkey, gray squirrel, snowshoe hare, cottontail rabbit, ruffed grouse, as well as various geese, ducks and other game birds during the appropriate seasons.

Fishing

For freshwater fishing regulations in the State of New York visit:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html

The waterways in the FCSFU are subject to statewide angling regulations. The most common fish stocked in Fulton County streams are brown trout due to their tolerance for warmer water temperatures than native brook trout. The general regulation for harvesting trout in NY is a limit of 5 per day of any size during open season (April 1st through October 15th).

- Timmerman Creek flows south and is stocked by DEC with brown trout where it crosses Youkers Bush Road, as well as a second location at Mill Road (both south of Lassellsville State Forest). This creek has the best access of any classified trout stream in the unit, offering a nearby parking area on Schulenberg Road ½ mile north of Route 29.

- Zimmerman Creek flows south and is stocked by DEC with brown trout where it crosses Route 29 and where it runs along Kringsbush Road (south of Lassellsville)

- Crum Creek flows southwest and is stocked with brown trout where it crosses North Road south of Route 29 (southwest of Lassellsville State Forest)

- Cayadutta Creek flows southeast and is stocked with brown trout where it crosses Phelps Street by DEC (east of Peck Hill State Forest)
- The boardwalks spanning the Willie Wildlife Marsh from north to south were recently replaced and offer fishing access from within the wetland, which contains 9 acres of open water. The board walks provide several readily accessible locations to potentially catch native freshwater fish like small-mouth bass, but there has been no fish stocking or inventory performed. However, it is worth noting that the wetland plants present in the marsh may make angling difficult.

- Rockwood Lake is used as a reservoir for the Hamlet of Rockwood. It is located on property owned by Erie Boulevard Hydropower just north of Rockwood State Forest. The privately-owned company allows the public to use the reservoir for fishing, canoeing and kayaking. It is a popular ice fishing waterbody during the winter.

Trapping

For the general regulations on trapping for the State of New York visit:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9209.html

There are opportunities to capture wildlife using approved traps in all three state forests in Fulton County. Lassellsville State Forest and Peck Hill State Forest are in the Northern Hunting Zones. Rockwood State Forest is divided by Route 29, the portion of Rockwood north of Route

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29 is in the Northern Zone, while the portion south of 29 is in the Southern Zone. Lassellsville and Peck Hill State Forests have substantial beaver populations that would provide trapping opportunities.

Hunting Zone regulations for trapping (WMU 5H, 5J, 6R):

- Northern Zone:
  - body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure after December 10th
  - traps must be checked once in each 48 hour period
- Southern Zone:
  - traps must be checked once in a 24 hour period

Public Use

Rules and guidelines for the use of public lands managed by DEC are generally as follows:

- **Do Not Move Firewood**! You could be spreading pests and diseases that kill our forests! A firewood regulation is in place to protect our forests and prevent the spread of invasive pests and diseases. Do not bring firewood from home. Buy it from a source near your destination.
- Camping is prohibited within 150 feet of any road, trail, spring, stream, pond or other body of water except at areas designated by a "camp here" disk.
  - In other words, you can camp anywhere as long as you are at least 150 feet from a water body, road, or trail, unless the area is posted as "Camping Prohibited."
- Groups of ten or more persons OR stays of more than three days in one place require a permit from the New York State Forest Ranger responsible for the area.
- Sponsoring, conducting or participating in an organized hike, camping trip or other event with more than 20 people on state lands without a permit from DEC is prohibited.
- Use pit privies provided near popular camping areas and trailheads. If none are available, dispose of human waste by digging a hole 6"-8" deep at least 150 feet from water or campsites. Cover with leaves and soil.
- Do not use soap to wash yourself, clothing or dishes within 150 ft. of water.
- Drinking and cooking water should be boiled for 5 minutes, treated with purifying tablets or filtered through filtration device to prevent instances of giardia infection.
- Fires should be built in existing fire pits or fireplaces if provided. Use only dead and down wood for fires. Cutting standing trees is prohibited. Extinguish all fires with water and stir ashes until they are cold to the touch. Do not build fires in areas marked by a "No Fires" disk. Camp stoves are safer, more efficient and cleaner.

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- Carry out what you carry in. Practice "Leave No Trace™" camping and hiking. Burying of refuse is prohibited.
- Keep your pet under control. Restrain it on a leash when others approach. Collect and bury droppings away from water, trails and camp sites. Keep your pet away from drinking water sources.
- Observe and enjoy wildlife and plants but leave them undisturbed.
- Removing plants, rocks, fossils or artifacts from state land without a permit is illegal.
- The storage of personal property on state land is prohibited.
- Carry an approved PFD for each person aboard all watercraft.
- Motorized vehicles are permitted only on access roads posted as open to motor vehicles. Off road use of motorized vehicles is prohibited, except where specifically permitted by signs, posted notice or by DEC permit.
- No permanent structures should be established, including tree stands or blinds.
- Target shooting on state land is permitted if: you do so in a safe manner; you do not damage trees; and you pick up used targets, spent casings, etc.
    - Possessing and shooting at breakable targets—including, but not limited to, clay pigeons and glass containers—is prohibited on state lands.
    - Unless legally engaged in the act of hunting, no person shall discharge firearms on state lands posted or designated as closed to target shooting.

Camping

Primitive camping does not require a designated campsite and is allowed on Forest Preserve lands in the Adirondacks and Catskills, as well as State Forest lands outside the Preserve. Primitive camping involves little or no amenities such as running water, electricity, picnic tables, or restrooms.

Campers are encouraged to use designated primitive campsites. They often are less than 150 feet away from water, trails and roads, so the locations are appealing to campers who otherwise must camp more than 150 feet from water, trails and roads.

All designated primitive campsites have a yellow and black "Camp Here" marker. Many on lakes and ponds are often identified by number - a yellow number on a dark brown wooden plaque typically attached to a tree near the edge of the water.

Primitive campsites are first-come-first-served, and cannot be reserved. It is proper etiquette to share your campsite for one night if a second camper or group of campers arrives after dark especially if there is rain, cold or strong winds.

Rockwood State Forest is the only state forest in Fulton County with designated campsites. Rockwood contains three designated primitive campsites that are labeled with signs and contain only fire pits. Two sites are north of NY Route 29 off of the Cemetery Road entrance. The third

site is on the south side of Route 29. From the parking lot, take D-Spur Road to Spring Road, the designated campsite is halfway down Spring Road on the north side.

Water-based Recreation

There are opportunities for hand launching canoes and kayaks from Rockwood State Forest onto privately-owned Rockwood Lake and on Willie Wildlife Marsh in Peck Hill State Forest. Both areas would require that the non-motorized boats be carried in, since the nearby trails do not accommodate motorized vehicles.

Trail-based Recreation

*Table I.K – Multiple Use Trails**

(see Figure 3 for maps)

Use	Length (mi.)
Foot Trail Use	15.3
Cross-country Skiing	6.0
Snowmobile	13.8
Equestrian (not a managed use, but permitted on multiple use trails)	0.0
Mountain Biking (not a managed use, but permitted on multiple use trails)	0.0

* Length available for each use includes use on public forest access roads; does not include municipal roads

Each of the three state forests contains a multiple use trail system. Rockwood State Forest contains 6.0 miles of trails managed for cross-country skiing

Foot Trail Use

There are 15.3 miles of foot trails throughout the Fulton County Unit that have recently been mapped. Many of these designated foot trails were originally created by logging equipment and were perpetuated by unauthorized ATV use. They would not be suitable for bicycling or snowmobiling, so they have been designated as foot trails only. The greatest use and demand for these trails comes from local hunters.

Cross-country Skiing

There are approximately 6 miles of trails in Rockwood State Forest that were maintained by the Fulton County Highway Department for cross-country skiing, but the County has not applied for a new TRP since 2015, which may be attributed to a lack of snowfall over the past few years. These trails were popular with the local community several years ago. The County Highway Department Superintendent stated that he will likely resume grooming the trails when the area receives more snowfall. These trails double as accessible trails for the MAPPWD program, allowing motor vehicle access to CP-3 permit holders. From December 2nd to April 30th all motor vehicle access (including snowmobiles) is prohibited on the roads and trails within Rockwood State Forest to give priority to cross-country skiing.

RECREATION

Equestrian

Rockwood State Forest has multiple use trails on the south side of NY Route 29 that are popular with horseback riders. The large maintained gravel parking area at the trailhead makes this state forest easily accessible for vehicles towing horse trailers.

Mountain Biking

On DEC lands, biking is allowed on all multiple use trails (including designated snowmobile trails when not snow covered), roads open to public motorized vehicles, and other trails designated for bicycling.

While no trails within the unit are currently managed specifically for bicycling, the Southern Adirondack Velo Club has been granted a VSA to maintain existing multiple use trails in Peck Hill State Forest and build new trails intended for single track mountain biking, as well as double track trails for longer distance connective corridors. The club would like to develop a connector trail system that runs from Peck Hill State Forest to Shaker Mountain Wild Forest and possibly further. New trail locations must be approved by the Department before construction.

Snowmobiling

Lassellsville State Forest contains snowmobile trail C8A and C8E. C8A has 3.6 miles on state forest land and is managed by the Oppenheim Trail Blazers. C8E has 1.7 miles on state forest and is maintained by the Royal Mountain Moonlighters.

Peck Hill State Forest contains snowmobile trail C7G. C7G has 8.5 miles on state forest land and is managed by the Ful-Mont Snow Travelers.

Snowmobiling is currently prohibited on Rockwood State Forest.

Other Recreational Activities

Orienteering

Search and Rescue Team 5-1 of Johnstown, NY uses Rockwood State Forest for orienteering training exercises in winter involving the utilization of handheld GPS units to navigate to waypoints while snowshoeing off trail.

Target Shooting

It is illegal to discharge a firearm, bow or crossbow:

- so that the load or arrow passes over any part of a public highway,
- within 500 feet (for a firearm), 250 feet (for a crossbow) or 150 feet (for a bow) of any school, playground, or an occupied factory or church,
- within 500 feet (for a firearm), 250 feet (for a crossbow) or 150 feet (for a bow) of a dwelling, farm building or structure in occupation or use unless you own it, lease it, are an immediate member of the family, an employee, or have the owner's consent.

Target shooting is allowed in locations that do not fall within the restricted areas above and is recommended where the natural topography creates a safe backstop sufficient to stop projectiles.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

When target shooting in authorized locations, please collect all brass and shells before leaving the site.

Breakable targets are prohibited on State Lands, and willingly or unknowingly damaging trees by shooting them is not allowed.

Overall Assessment of the Level of Recreational Development

It is important that recreational use is not allowed to incrementally increase to an unsustainable level. DEC must consider the impact on the resources from increased use on other management goals or other recreational uses. DEC must consider the full range of impacts, including long-term maintenance and the balancing of multiple uses.

On the unit level, recreational use is generally low. The greatest recreational uses are snowmobiling and hunting, with cross-county skiing and horseback riding taking place on a smaller scale within Rockwood State Forest. Illegal ATV and 4x4 motor vehicle use creates the greatest environmental impacts and user conflicts, damaging trails intended for other purposes and creating new unauthorized trails leading from private property. If anything, an increase in authorized recreational uses should be encouraged (such as hiking, camping, and mountain biking), where it could result in a greater presence of engaged users that would make the state forests less inviting to those attempting to drive motor vehicles without authorization.

Universal Access

DEC has an essential role in providing universal access to recreational activities that are often rustic and challenging by nature, and ensuring that facilities are not only safe, attractive and sustainable, but also compatible with resources. For more information on universal access policies, please see SPSFM page 173 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

There are currently motorized access trails on Peck Hill State Forest and Rockwood State Forest for people with disabilities. Motorized access is exclusively granted to individuals with CP-3 permits issued through the MAPPWD. Peck Hill State Forest contains 2.46 miles of CP-3 trails in Peck Hill West, which consists of C-4 Road and Swamp Road for ATV access for hunters. C-4 Road has a locked gate and Swamp Road is blocked with boulders, but has a bypass trail directly across from the south end of the Willie Marsh parking area. In addition to CP-3 trails, there is also a 0.4 mile section of universally accessible trail in Peck Hill West that is part of the Willie Wildlife Nature Trail. Peck Hill East contains 2.3 miles of MAPPWD trails made up of Elm Road and Elm Road South for ATV access for hunters with CP-3 permits.

Rockwood State Forest contains 7.1 miles of MAPPWD routes. The routes that allow ATV access for CP-3 permit holders for hunting and primitive camping on the south side of Rockwood consist of C-Connector Road, C North Trail, C-4 Loop Road, Camp Road Trail, South Loop Road, D East Road and Spring Road. Camp Road, D South Road, and D Spur Road, also located on the south side of Rockwood State Forest, offer hunting access by ATV and 4x4 trucks to CP-3 permit holders. North Loop Road, located on the north side of Rockwood State Forest, has one ATV-accessible CP-3 route with a locked gate. The designated primitive campsites are off of Spring Road, and North Loop Road.

Due to comments received from local users during the scoping meeting for this UMP, a locked gate barrier has been installed to prohibit public motor vehicle access to anyone without a CP-3 permit on the south side of Rockwood.

Application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The ADA, along with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title V, Section 504, have had 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. Title II of the ADA requires, in part, that reasonable modifications must be made to the services and programs of public entities, so that when those services and programs are viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This must be done unless such modification would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the service, program or activity or cause an undue financial or administrative burden.

Title II also requires that new facilities, and parts of facilities that are newly constructed for public use, are to be accessible to people with disabilities. In rare circumstances where accessibility is determined to be structurally impracticable due to terrain, the facility, or part of facility is to be accessible to the greatest extent possible and to people with various types of disabilities.

Consistent with ADA requirements, the Department incorporates accessibility for people with disabilities into the planning, construction and alteration of recreational facilities and assets supporting them. This UMP incorporates an inventory of all the recreational facilities or assets supporting the programs and services available on the unit, and an assessment of the programs, services and facilities on the unit to determine the level of accessibility provided. In conducting this assessment, DEC employs guidelines which ensure that programs are accessible, including buildings, facilities, and vehicles, in terms of architecture and design, transportation and communication to individuals with disabilities.

Any new facilities, assets and accessibility improvements to existing facilities or assets proposed in this UMP are identified in the section containing proposed management actions. The Department is not required to make each of its existing facilities and assets accessible as long as the Department's programs, taken as a whole, are accessible.

For copies of any of the above mentioned laws or guidelines relating to accessibility, contact the DEC Universal Access Program Coordinator at 518-402-9428 or UniversalAccessProgram@dec.ny.gov

Mineral Resources

Oil, Gas and Solution Exploration and Development

Oil and gas production from State Forest lands, where the mineral rights are owned by the state, are only undertaken under the terms and conditions of an oil and gas lease. As surface managers, the Division of Lands and Forests will evaluate any concerns as they pertain to new natural gas leases on State Forest lands. Consistent with past practice, prior to any new leases, DEC will hold public meetings to discuss all possible leasing options and environmental impacts. A comprehensive tract assessment will be completed as part of this process. For more information on natural gas and other mineral resource policies, please see SPSFM page 225 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO PIPELINES WITHIN THE FCSFU.

There are currently no oil and gas leases within the FCSFU.

Pipelines

The Department, pursuant to ECL § 9-0507, may lease State lands for the construction and placement of oil and gas pipelines only if a portion of the mineral resources to be transported was extracted from State lands. Pipeline and road development must be in compliance with State Forest tract assessments, the Strategic Plan for State Forest Management, and the Generic Environmental Impact Statement and Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Regulatory Program.

Pipelines will be located immediately adjacent to Public Forest Access Roads. The location of the roads and pipelines will be in compliance with tract assessments. Pipelines may be located in stands managed for closed canopy conditions only along pre-existing roads that intersect such area. Additional surface disturbance associated with such construction will be considered only in areas other than stands which are managed for relatively unbroken canopy conditions. Areas managed for unbroken canopy conditions may be referred to using various terms such as “uneven-aged,” “uneven-aged variable retention,” “all aged,” “high canopy,” “closed canopy” or others.

Pipeline development on State land will not be permitted if the Department determines that it creates a significant long-term conflict with any management activities or public use of the State Forests, or with other management objectives in this plan. All pipelines will be gated to restrict motorized access, and if necessary hardened crossings or bridges will be installed, to allow heavy equipment access across pipelines. These requirements will be satisfied by the Lessee.

Exceptions to the above guidance must be approved by the Division of Lands and Forests, in consultation with the Division of Mineral Resources.

There are currently no pipelines within the FCSFU.Supporting Local Communities

Tourism

State Forests can be an economic asset to the local communities that surround them. It is estimated that more than three out of every four Americans participate in active outdoor recreation of some sort each year. When they do, they spend money, generate jobs, and support local communities. For more information, please see SPSFM page 245 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Taxes Paid

The New York State Real Property Tax Law provides that all reforestation areas are subject to taxation for school and town purposes. Some reforestation areas are also subject to taxation for county purposes. Most unique areas and multiple use areas are exempt from taxation. All of these lands are assessed as if privately owned.

Detailed tax information can be obtained by contacting the local town assessors and Fulton County Clerk. The following taxes were projected for State lands in this unit for the 2014 tax year:

FOREST PRODUCTS

Town of Ephratah

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): $4,224
- Total School Tax: $7,577
- Total County Tax: $3,241
- Other Tax: $755

Town of Oppenheim

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): $12,788
- Total School Tax: $31,610
- Total County Tax: $6,100
- Other Tax: $2,532

Town of Johnstown

- No taxes were projected for State lands in Johnstown for the 2014 tax year.

Forest Products

Timber

Timber management provides a renewable supply of sustainably-harvested forest products and can also enhance biodiversity. The products harvested may include furniture-quality hardwoods, softwoods for log cabins, fiber for paper making, firewood, animal bedding, wood pellets, biofuel, and chips for electricity production. For more information, please see SPSFM page 251 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Information on upcoming timber expected to be produced from timber management activities on the unit is contained in the land management action schedules in Part III of this plan.

The authority to sell forest products from NYSDEC administered lands is provided by the Environmental Conservation Law. To perpetuate the growth, health and quality of the forest resources, the Department has implemented a sustained yield timber management program for State Forest lands.

Forest stands being considered for timber harvesting are selected based on the following criteria:

1) Adequate access;
2) Wildlife considerations;
3) Present and future forest health concerns (including invasive plants and pests);
4) Current distribution of vegetative stages within the unit management land area and surrounding landscape, including the eco-regional habitat gaps as per the Strategic Plan for State Forest Management;
5) Ability to regenerate stands (if a regeneration harvest);
6) Existing timber and vegetation management needs from other unit management plans;
7) Market conditions;
8) Potential growth response of stands to treatment

9) Presence of rare, threatened and endangered species and unique natural communities

By law, any trees to be removed in a harvest must be designated, and paid for prior to removal. Designation (marking) of trees is made by NYS DEC forestry staff. After designation is completed, a fair market appraisal is conducted. No products may be sold at less than the fair market value. Forest stands are selected for harvest based on the criteria outlined above, and the desired future conditions identified by this Unit Management Plan

The Environmental Conservation Law requires that different procedures are employed based on the appraised value of a timber sale. Sales that are appraised greater than $10,000 are called revenue sales and sales that are appraised at less than $10,000 are known as local sales. Revenue sales contracts must be approved by DEC's Central Office staff, and revenue sale contracts valued at $25,000 or more must be approved by the Office of the State Comptroller. The Regional Forester has the authority to execute local sale contracts. All sales valued at more than $500 (and those less than $500 which are thought to have substantial public interest) are publically advertised and competitively bid.

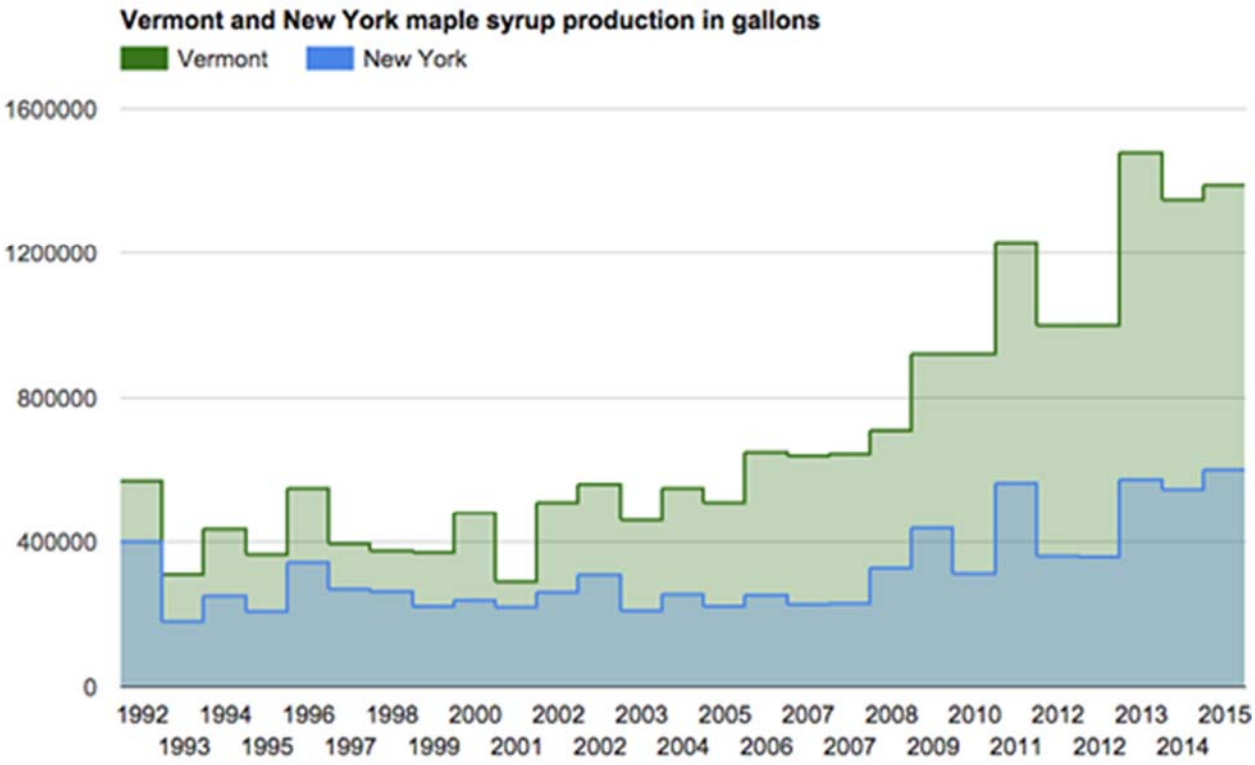
There have been no commercial timber harvests of any kind in the FCSFU since the year 2000. Future harvests will depend in part on market demand.

Non-Timber Forest Products

One stand in the unit has been identified as being a good candidate for maple tapping. Stand 9.2 in Compartment B of Peck Hill State Forest is a small 2 acre stand that contains an optimal density of large sawtimber sized sugar maple and red maple trees. Sugar maple makes up 43% of the species composition of the stand, while red maple comprises 24%. It is not only the species composition and maturity of the trees that make this stand a good candidate for maple tapping, and it is also accessible to motor vehicles. The stand is located on the north side of Burdick Road, 130 feet after it becomes a dirt road when entering Peck Hill State Forest from the east.

Maple syrup production relies heavily on the weather. Tree tapping occurs in late winter and early spring, making March a prime month for New York State sugar bush operators. The naturally-derived sweetener is made simply by removing water from the sap to concentrate the natural sugars and nutrients made by the maple trees.

New York State is home to over 2,000 maple sugar makers. As an abundant and sustainable crop, New York's maple industry is vibrant and growing on an annual basis. New York State produced more than 600,000 gallons of maple syrup in 2015, according to numbers from the US Department of Agriculture. This is the highest output for the state in 70 years, making New York the second highest maple syrup producing state after Vermont (as of 2015).



Uptown/Downtown Media. (2015, June 23).

Forest Health

A combination of both physical, biological, and chemical factors can influence the health of a plant community. Physical factors tend to be weather related, such as lightning fires, ice damage, landslides, severe winds, flooding, and drought. Biological factors that affect forest health are forest pests, such as native and invasive insects, fungi that feed on living wood, tree diseases that result from stresses caused by pests, beavers impounding streams, as well as deer and moose that feed on young tree buds and shoots. Chemical factors can be introduced intentionally by herbicide application, or inadvertently through farm runoff, and salt from roads. Often, it is a combination of more than one of these conditions that leads to a decline in a particular species that will be detrimental to the health of a forest.

The goal of forest health management is to pursue a state of harmony within a forest, facilitating the growth of as many natural communities as possible, creating a dynamic state of biological diversity. Any agent that decreases biodiversity can have a disastrous effect on the forest and its ability to withstand stress. Forest health in general should favor the retention of native species and natural communities or species that can thrive in the existing site conditions without interrupting biodiversity. Invasions by exotic diseases and insects are one of the largest threats to the productivity and biodiversity of forest ecosystems.

The most widespread tree disease currently affecting forest biodiversity in the Unit is beech bark disease. Beech bark disease is an insect-fungus complex that has caused extensive mortality of American beech throughout portions of the Adirondacks. The primary vector, an invasive scale insect originating from Europe, *Cryptococcus fagisuga*, attacks the tree creating entry sites for

the fungus, *Nectria coccinea var. faginata*. When infected beech become stressed by the disease, they grow root sprouts that are genetic clones of the original tree. As the diseased beech dies, the beech whips that grew from the same root system also develop beech bark disease, since they are all biologically identical clones. A similar situation occurs when a sawtimber sized diseased beech is salvaged during the dormant season; new shoots will sprout from the untreated stump (tree stumps are treated by injecting them with an herbicide such as glyphosate) when the growing season arrives. When beech bark disease goes unmanaged, the young shoots that sprout from the beech tree root systems can quickly overtake northern hardwood stands, shading out more desirable species and reducing the diversity of tree species within the stand. This cycle is then perpetuated when the American beech are overcome by the disease and die before reaching full maturity, which significantly reduces mast production for wildlife. (Smallidge and Nyland, 2009).

For more information on forest health, please see SPSFM page 277 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Invasive Species

As global trade and travel have increased, so have the introduction of non-native species. While many of these non-native species do not have adverse effects on the areas in which they are introduced, some become invasive in their new ranges, disrupting ecosystem function, reducing biodiversity and 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.

Researchers believe that roadsides are the primary avenues for spread of new terrestrial plant infestations into the area. Purple loosestrife and common reed were first documented in the county when found adjacent to NYS Route 30 and 30A in the towns of Mayfield and Johnstown in 2006. As of 2017, these invasive plants, as well as brown knapweed, garlic mustard, Japanese knotweed, Morrow's honeysuckle, and multi-flora rose are common and widespread throughout Fulton County.

There have been confirmed findings of two regulated invasive terrestrial plants present in the Unit. Mature Norway maple trees have been found growing in Stand 2 of Compartment C in Rockwood State Forest, and there is a black locust cover type in Stand 19 of Compartment F in Lassellsville State Forest. Regulated invasive plants cannot be knowingly introduced into a free-living state, although they are legal to propagate and transport. The Norway maple in Rockwood will be targeted during the scheduled thinning in the second 5-year period of the land management action schedule (Table III.F in the Appendix). The black locust in Lassellsville occupies a declining over-mature stand and has not spread beyond its boundaries since it was delineated in 1968; the stand is scheduled for a salvage operation within the first 5-year period of the land management action schedule.

Prohibited invasive plants are known to cause damage to native plant communities much faster and with greater consequences than regulated invasives. The existence of any unmanaged prohibited invasive plant infestations on nearby private lands and in adjacent areas of Forest Preserve could easily be introduced and pose a threat to the natural communities within the FCSFU, therefore the Department must be vigilant in identifying and documenting confirmed infestations. Protocols to minimize the introduction and transfer of invasive plant species should

be incorporated during routine operations and trail maintenance activities, which may include that all soils/straw/seed or sources of materials to be used as stabilization/cover for construction projects within the unit should be certified as weed-free.

DEC will take action to eradicate invasive species where and when it is feasible to do so. Certain invasive pests and diseases are impossible to eradicate while others can be contained if they are managed early in the establishment process. All accepted forms of Integrated Pest Management may be used to mitigate the ecological and economic impacts associated with these pests when possible. DEC will continue to work cooperatively with Federal, State and local governments as well as other interested organizations in managing invasive threats.

There is currently one confirmed finding of a prohibited invasive terrestrial plant in the FCSFU. Japanese knotweed was found spreading from a NYSDOT ROW along the southern shoulder of NY Route 29 into Rockwood State Forest on the edge of Stand 14 of Compartment C. The NYSDOT Maintenance Environmental Coordinator was notified on October 31st, 2017 that NYSDEC Forester Thomas witnessed a NYSDOT lawnmower cutting the plants while in bloom (when the plants spread most readily). In compliance, the NYSDOT Maintenance Environmental Coordinator applied for a TRP to treat the area with herbicide. The NYSDOT is being held responsible for eradicating the Japanese knotweed in this area because their workers were the cause of the introduction of the prohibited invasive plant onto the State Forest by failing to follow the NYSDOT's own Invasive Species Best Management Practices for Transportation and Utility Right-of-Ways: https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/environmental-analysis/repository/InvasiveSpeciesBMPs_Transp-UtilityROWs.rtf.

Table I.L – Invasive Species, Pests and Pathogens

Plants	Status
Brown knapweed	Common and widespread in Fulton County
Common reed	
Garlic mustard	
Japanese knotweed	
Morrow's honeysuckle	
Multi-Flora Rose	
Purple loosestrife	
Asian bittersweet	Lower abundance in Fulton County
Autumn olive	
Black swallow-wort	
Common buckthorn	
Daphne	
European barberry	
European buckthorn	
Giant knotweed	

FOREST HEALTH

Table I.L – Invasive Species, Pests and Pathogens	
Japanese barberry	
Mugwort	
Reed canarygrass	
Russian olive	
Wild parsnip	
Yellow iris	
Burning bush	Approaching Fulton County
Giant hogweed	
Pale swallow-wort	
Insects	**Status**
Balsam woolly adelgid	Confirmed in Fulton County
Gypsy moth	Common in Fulton County
Emerald ash borer	Approaching Fulton County
Hemlock woolly adelgid	
European woodwasp	
Diseases	**Status**
Chestnut blight	Confirmed in Fulton County
Beech bark disease	
Butternut canker	
Dutch elm disease	
Oak wilt	*Possibly Approaching Fulton County
Animals	**Status**
None	

* Oak Wilt Protective Zone established on 11/13/13 in Scotia-Glenville, NY (Schenectady County). In Protective Zones, aerial and ground survey monitoring efforts will continue for 5 years until no further oak wilt is detected. Schenectady County has fewer than four infection centers, therefor surveys will be focused within 2 miles of the (3) infected trees. (Kotary, Hassett, and Cole, 2017)

If terrestrial invasive plant infestations are confirmed within the FCSFU, targeted containment and/or eradication controls will be assessed on a site-by-site basis prior to implementation. The presence of sensitive native flora or the geophysical setting within the targeted infestation area may dictate the Best Management Practices (BMP's) and limitations of the control methodology. The species itself often dictates whether manual management controls, e.g. hand-pulling or cutting, or the judicious, surgical application of herbicides is warranted in order to best control that specific species in that exacting infestation and setting. No single BMP guarantees invasive plant containment or eradication. Many infestations require multiple, seasonal control efforts to reduce the density and biomass at that setting. Adaptive Management Protocols suggest that implementation of integrated control methodologies may provide the best overall efficacy at specific infestations.

FOREST HEALTH

An invasive insect tree pest species that has recently been confirmed in Fulton County is the balsam woolly adelgid. The balsam woolly adelgid, (*Adelges piceae*), is a tiny sucking insect that was introduced into North America from Europe in 1929 through Southeastern Canada. In the Northeastern US, balsam fir is susceptible to infestation by the insect. The adelgid attacks the twigs and stems of the balsam fir, appearing as small woolly white tufts. Stem infestations can kill a tree in 3-10 years, while twig infestations can linger for years depending on the vigor of the host. Infestation results in persistent chronic crown decline and tree mortality. DEC's Bureau of Forest Health does not currently recommend any specific forest management techniques to combat the balsam woolly adelgid.

Though common in Fulton County, populations of gypsy moth caterpillars (larva) only periodically reach levels high enough to cause serious damage to forests. The gypsy moth *(Lymantria dispar)* is a non-native insect that was introduced from France into Massachusetts in 1869 with the intent to increase silk production for textiles. The larva eats the leaves of a large variety of trees; these include oak, maple, basswood, birch, apple, aspen, willow, mountain ash, pine and spruce. The populations of gypsy moth larva rise and fall in cycles, reaching outbreak levels periodically over several years. When populations are high, thousands of acres can be damaged. Gypsy moths eat young, tender leaves in the spring. Deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves each fall) can regrow a new set of leaves by July and can usually withstand 2-3 successive years of defoliation (removal of leaves) without being killed. However, defoliation does reduce the vigor and resistance of the tree; it becomes more susceptible to pests and diseases. Mortality can occur when other stresses such as disease or other insect outbreaks attack trees in the same year. Evergreens are eaten when populations of gypsy moths are very high. Evergreens do not regrow leaves as easily as deciduous trees and can die as a result of complete defoliation. For more information on gypsy moths, please refer to http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/83118.html.

Managing Deer Impacts

There is limited ability to manage deer impacts using silvicultural systems. The most effective method of keeping deer impacts in line with management objectives is to monitor impacts while working with the DEC's Bureau of Wildlife to observe and manage the herd. On properties where deer are suspected of impacting values and objectives associated with biodiversity and timber management, such impacts must be inventoried and assessed. For more information on managing deer impacts, please see SPSFM page 291 at http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html.

Preliminary assessments conducted during the forest inventory process of State Lands within the unit indicate that deer density levels are not having an adverse impact on the ability of the forest to regenerate. This is primarily because all DEC lands within the unit are open to public hunting. DEC has and will continue to monitor deer impacts within the FCSFU and take more aggressive action if necessary. Actions available are specified in the SPSFM. These actions include efforts to increase hunting access, work within deer management task force process to adjust antlerless harvest within the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU), and instituting a property specific deer reduction program using deer hunting as the primary tool of implementation.

Summary of Eco-Region Assessments

To practice ecosystem management, foresters, must assess the natural landscape in and around the management unit. State Forest managers utilized The Nature Conservancy Eco-Region Assessments to evaluate the landscape in and around this management unit. The Fulton County State Forest UMP falls within the Great Lakes Eco-Region.

Great Lakes Eco-Region

The Great Lakes Eco-Region encompasses 234,000 square miles in parts of eight Midwestern states and one Canadian province (The Nature Conservancy, Great Lakes Eco-regional Planning Team 1999). The ecoregion extends from northeastern Minnesota across to north-central New York, and south to northern Indiana and Ohio. The entire landscape was glaciated during the last Ice Age, and is characterized by level lake-plains, level to gently rolling lowlands, and hillier upland areas. Elevation across the eco-region ranges from 300 to over 2,000 feet.

In New York, the Great Lakes Eco-Region represents the Finger Lakes, Lake Ontario and Lake Erie watersheds, including the Mohawk River Valley. Historically, the northern part of the eco-region was dominated by northern hardwood forests, pine forests, and spruce-fir forests. The vast majority of these forests were cut over by 1910, and are now in second growth; some areas are even in third growth. Much of the Great Lakes Eco-Region in New York was dominated by tallgrass prairies and savannas, with some beech-maple and other hardwood forests mixed in. This area has been almost completely converted to agricultural and urban or residential uses. The primary disturbance events that helped to shape these ecosystems were fire, blowdowns, and insect and disease outbreaks in the forested parts of the eco-region, and fire in the grasslands and savannas.

Eco-Region Assessment

Table II.A. Land Use and Land Cover for the Landscape Surrounding ***the Fulton County State Forest Unit***		
Land Use and Land Cover	**Approximate Acreage**	**Percent of Landscape**
Conifer Forest	42,876	24.5%
Hardwood Forest	33,039	18.9%
Pasture/Hay	28,992	16.6%
Woody Wetlands	25,730	14.7%
Cultivated Crops	12,328	7.1%
Mixed Forest	9,922	5.7%
Developed, Open Space	9,203	5.3%
Developed, Low Density	3,498	2.0%
Shrub/Scrub (includes seedling/sapling type)	2,744	1.6%
Open Water	1,680	0.9%
Grassland/Herbaceous	1,493	0.9%
Developed, Medium Density	1,429	0.8%
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	1,027	0.58%
Developed, High Density	483	0.3%
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	253	0.1%
Total	**174,696**	**100**

Eco-Regional Landscape Assessment

A gap analysis was performed on the Nature Conservancy Eco-Regional Assessment to determine which of the above listed land covers are needed to provide/maintain biodiversity of habitat on the landscape. DEC utilizes this information to make land management decisions within management units to decide how these lands are to be managed. Within the Great Lakes Eco-Region, a number of different land covers were identified as being below average in their presence within the eco-region compared to the rest of the state. The land covers that are lacking in this eco-region are evergreen forest, deciduous forest, wooded wetlands, and early successional forest.

Local Landscape Conditions

The following conclusions were drawn using the eco-regional gap analysis and comparing the results to the vegetative cover types on the Fulton County State Forests by referring to Table: I.D. - *Vegetative Types and Stages within the Unit* on page 12 of this document.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CONDITIONS

Evergreen Forest: The Gap analysis lists evergreen forest as “needed” in the Great Lakes Eco-Region. Within the FCSFU, natural conifer forests represent 2.6% and softwood plantations make up 6.7% of the land cover. Evergreen cover is important to wildlife and attempts should be made to conserve, enhance and sustain it when possible.

Deciduous Forest: This land cover is listed as “potentially needed” within the Great Lakes Eco-Region. Deciduous forest cover is needed, especially to help conserve, protect and enhance habitat connectivity in the North Atlantic Coast and Great Lakes eco-regions, where forests are less dominant because of development, subdivision and continued agricultural land use. However, since the FCSFU is a reforestation area, deciduous forest makes up 80.62% of the overall land cover. This is much higher than the eco-regional estimate of 20.8%. For this reason, there will be no management actions intended to increase the presence of deciduous forest.

Wooded Wetlands: This land cover is listed as “needed” within the Great Lakes Eco-Region. The percentage of wooded wetlands within the FCSFU is approximately 7% (with emergent and wooded wetlands combined), 1% lower than the percentage across the eco-region. Increasing the area of wooded wetlands in the unit through the construction of wetlands would not be financially feasible.

Early Successional Forest: In the Great Lakes Eco-Region, land development and current agricultural land uses have reduced the quantity of high-quality, naturally occurring early successional shrub/scrub cover to below pre-settlement levels. This natural community type is considered a valuable biodiversity gap that needs to increase statewide. The Department has established a State Forest management goal to convert plantations to natural stands through even-aged management. As harvests occur on state forests in an effort to regenerate natural tree species, a steady supply of new early successional habitat will be created to offset this need.

Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives

Ecosystem Management

Table III.A. –Ecosystem Management Objectives and Actions

Objective	Actions
Active Forest Management	
AFM I – Apply sound silvicultural practices	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
AFM II – Use harvesting plans to enhance diversity of species, habitats & structure	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
AFM III – Fill eco-regional gaps to maintain and enhance landscape-level biodiversity	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. H, I)
AFM IV – Enhance matrix forest blocks and connectivity corridors where applicable	N/A
AFM V – Practice forest and tree retention on stands managed for timber	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
HCVF – Identify and maintain High Conservation Value Forests	HCVFs have been identified in Peck Hill and Rockwood State Forests and will have appropriate protections and buffers during harvest activities to maintain their integrity.

Resource Protection

Table III.B. –Resource Protection Objectives and Actions

Objective	Actions
Soil and Water Protection	
SW I – Prevent erosion, compaction and nutrient depletion	Use Best Management Practices when building new trails or conducting timber harvests, especially in HCVF.
SW II – Identify and map SMZ's and adapt management for highly-erodible soils	SMZ's have been mapped and will be used during recreational development and timber harvest planning
At-Risk Species and Natural Communities	
	•

OBJECTIVES

Table III.B. –Resource Protection Objectives and Actions

Objective	Actions
ARS III - Consider protection and management of Species of Greatest Conservation Need	**Early Successional Habitat** • Favor even-aged forest management whenever possible using harvesting strategies such as clearcutting or shelterwood cuts. Because early successional habitat types are ephemeral, developing a system of providing sustained availability of these habitats both temporarily and spatially is critically important. Maintaining 10% of the landscape in early successional forest (<10 years of age) or shrub habitat is an achievable objective. • If uneven-aged forest management is necessary to maintain a specific forest type, favor a group selection harvest technique which would create larger openings than single tree selection. • Maintain native shrub communities through the active removal of tree species. • Promote the development of a defined shrub layer in areas with an intact forest canopy by actively controlling white-tailed deer populations. • Develop signage and other literature to explain the importance of early successional habitats to the public.
Visual Resources and Aesthetics	
VR I – Maintain quality of visual resources where ever they may occur	Maintain and clean up areas of scenic vistas. Peck Hill SF – Action 7 Rockwood SF – Action 2, 3, 4
VR II – Use natural materials where feasible	Where appropriate, barriers will be created with stone. Rockwood SF- Action 2
VR III – Lay out any new roads/trails to highlight scenic vistas and unique natural features	New mountain bike trails planned to be constructed in Peck Hill SF after this UMP is approved, will be created with consideration to visual resources and user enjoyment. Peck Hill SF- Action 3
VR IV – Develop kiosks to provide education and reduce sign pollution	Kiosks will be placed at major access points to provide information about the property, its management, appropriate contact numbers, maps, and rules and regulations. Peck Hill SF – Action 4
Historic and Cultural Resources	

OBJECTIVES

Table III.B. –Resource Protection Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
HC I – Preserve and protect historic and cultural resources	During harvests, buffers will be placed around known historic and cultural resources to protect their integrity.
HC II – Inventory resources in GIS and with OPRHP	Historic and cultural resources that were discovered during forest inventory have been marked with a GPS and uploaded to the DEC assets GIS layer.

Infrastructure and Real Property

Table III.C. –Infrastructure and Real Property Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
Boundary Line Maintenance	
BL I – Maintain boundary lines	DEC Bureau of Real Property re-surveyed the southern boundary line of Lassellsville State Forest east of Schulenburg Road where a slight encroachment occurred. Real Property will develop a work schedule to maintain the remainder of the surveyed boundary lines as needed throughout the Unit.
BL II – Address encroachments and other real property problems	Real Property and Forest Rangers have been notified of encroachments and right-of-way issues associated with this Unit and actions have already been taken since this UMP was initiated. No further actions are required at this time.
Infrastructure	
INF I – Provide and maintain public forest access roads, access trails, haul roads, parking areas, and associated appurtenances	Access will be developed to accommodate a wide variety of uses within the Unit. Forest management operations will be planned to assist in developing parking areas and trail systems throughout the unit while achieving silvicultural objectives. Peck Hill SF – Action 1, 2, 3, 7
INF II – Upgrade, replace or relocate infra-structure out of riparian areas where feasible	Existing infrastructure found within riparian areas will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine the current impacts of the infrastructure within the riparian areas, the impacts associated with future use, replacement, and relocation.

OBJECTIVES

Public/Permitted Use

Table III.D –Public / Permitted Use Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
Universal Access	
UA I – Use minimum tool approach to provide universal access to programs	DEC will continually look for ways to increase public access to lands within the Unit as resources and other lands become available. Peck Hill SF - Action 1, 2, 4
Formal and Informal Partnerships and Agreements	
PRT I – Collaborate with local organizations and governments to reach mutual goals	Unit-wide Action 1, 2
PRT II – Consider full range of impacts associated with AANRs, VSAs and recurring TRPs	DEC will evaluate TRP's and other agreements on a case-by-case basis to consider the effects such agreements could have upon the resource and other uses of the property.
Recreation	
REC I – Accommodate public use while preventing illegal activity, reducing impacts and enhancing public safety	Lassellsville SF – Action 1, 2 Peck Hill SF – Action 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Rockwood SF – Action 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
REC II – Provide public recreation information	Peck Hill SF – Action 4, 7
REC III – Inventory recreational amenities and schedule recreation management actions	Peck Hill SF – Action 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 Rockwood SF – Action 2, 4
REC IV – Enhance fish & game species habitat	Use forest management techniques to achieve habitat goals for various fish and game species. Peck Hill SF – Action 8
Off-Highway and All-Terrain Vehicle Use	
ATV I – Enhance recreational access by people with disabilities under the MAPPWD program	Peck Hill SF – Action 4 and 9 Rockwood SF – Action 6
ATV II – Consider requests for ATV connector routes across the unit	Due to the damage created by unauthorized ATV use currently occurring within the unit and the mitigation efforts underway to prevent it, the authorization of ATV use beyond CP-3 permit holders will not be considered. Unauthorized ATV users within the FCSFU should expect to receive court appearance tickets issued by Forest Rangers patrolling the area.

OBJECTIVES

Table III.D –Public / Permitted Use Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
Mineral Resources	
MR I – Provide for mineral exploration and development while protecting natural resources and recreation	No actions proposed at this time
Supporting Local Communities	
Provide revenue to New York State and economic stimulus for local communities	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
LC I – Provide revenue to New York State and economic stimulus for local communities	A multitude of actions listed in this plan facilitate this objective including recreational tourism, ecotourism, hunting opportunities, and production of forest products. All of these activities have proven to benefit the economies of the communities surrounding State Forest lands.
LC II – Improve local economies through forest-based tourism	See LC I
LC III – Protect rural character and provide ecosystem services to local communities.	See LC I

Forest Management and Health

Table III.E. –Forest Management and Health Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
Forest Products	
FP I – Sustainably manage for forest products	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
FP II – Educate the public about the benefits of silviculture	Develop signage for each forest management operation that describes the objectives and benefits of the treatment.
Plantation Management	
PM I – Convert plantation stands to natural forest conditions where appropriate	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)
PM II – Artificially regenerate plantations where appropriate	This is planned for Lassellsville SF Stand 23 of Compartment E.
Forest Health	
FH I – Use timber sales to improve forest health and the diversity of species	Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)

OBJECTIVES

Table III.E. –Forest Management and Health Objectives and Actions

Objective	Actions
FH II – Protect the unit and surrounding lands from introduced diseases and invasive plant and animal species	Japanese knotweed has been located at Rockwood State Forest and the NYSDOT will be applying herbicide to eradicate the invasive plant. After the knotweed is treated, the area will receive regular monitoring to document the success, or determine if further treatments are necessary for eradication.
Managing Deer Impacts	
DM I – Monitor impacts of deer browsing on forest health and regeneration	As needed within the Unit
DM II – Address issues of over-browsing	As needed within the Unit
Fire Management	
FM I – Support Forest Rangers in controlling the ignition and spread of wildfires	As needed and requested
FM II – Maintain naturally occurring fire-dependent communities	Fire may be used as a tool to regenerate and maintain fire-dependent communities when and where appropriate. There is no fire management scheduled to occur in the Unit.
Carbon Sequestration	
CS I – Keep forests as forests, where appropriate	Although some stands in the Unit are scheduled for timber harvests, all are intended to remain forests.
CS II – Enhance carbon storage in existing stands	As stands are treated and regenerated, their ability to store carbon will increase along with growth (accretion) and the development of a rapidly growing new cohort of trees in the understory.
CS III – Keep forests vigorous and improve forest growth rates	Commercial thinning and non-commercial treatments such as Forest Stand Improvements increase the efficiency of growth among residual stems. Refer to Land Management Action Schedule (Table III. F, G, H)

OBJECTIVES

Table III.E. –Forest Management and Health Objectives and Actions	
Objective	**Actions**
CS IV – Sequester carbon in forest products	As forest products are removed from the Unit and harvested wood is converted into value added products, their stored carbon is sequestered until the wood decays and it is released into the atmosphere in the form of methane (CH_4), or until it is combusted and released as carbon dioxide (CO_2) and carbon monoxide (CO). The more durable the goods created with wood, the longer they are able to act as carbon sinks.

Ten-Year List of Management Actions

Unit-wide Actions

Action 1

Develop and subsequently adopt this UMP with future amendments as needed and periodic updates at least every ten years.

Action 2

Create/update the web page for each State Forest in this unit, including an electronic, printable map showing the location of recreational amenities.

Fulton 01 – Lassellsville State Forest Actions

1. Gate construction: a work plan has been approved that mandates the installation of a gate to block public access to the snowmobile trail during the off season. The trailhead is located at the West Fical Road entrance. This action is in response to the request of the Oppenheim Trail Blazers snowmobile club who would like to reduce ATV access to prevent further trail damage.

Fulton 02 – Peck Hill State Forest Actions

1. Parking Area Maintenance: the parking area for the Willie Wildlife Marsh was recently improved by adding gravel and two large van-accessible reserved spots intended for unloading wheelchairs. The area was also enlarged to accommodate a total of 10 vehicles in preparation for a higher volume of visitors to the newly improved nature trail. The parking area will be maintained by DEC Operations and the snow will be plowed by the Johnstown Highway Department.
2. Trail Improvement: the Willie Wildlife Marsh Nature Trail has been improved with new boardwalks and a 0.38 mile universally accessible trail section. The project was completed on October 4th, 2017. The improved trail will be maintained by DEC Operations.
3. Trail improvement: The Adirondack Velo Club of Gloversville, NY was granted a Volunteer Stewardship Agreement that permits them to improve existing trails in Peck Hill State Forest in order to begin developing a mountain bike connector trail corridor. Once this UMP is approved, the group will then be permitted to construct new trails within Peck Hill State Forest, as well as establish a new corridor trail system. All new trails will be required to be approved by the Department prior to construction. The Velo Club would like to expand the corridor trail system from Peck Hill State Forest through Shaker Mountain Wild Forest, Ferris Lake Wild Forest, and Wilcox Lake Wild Forest. This trail corridor system will be contingent upon having UMP(s) in place for each of the locations, as well as the approval of each trail location from the individual land managers for each area prior to construction.
4. Gate replacement: the broken gate on the north side of Burdick Road in Compartment B will be replaced to prevent unauthorized ATV use.
5. Gate construction: a work plan has been submitted for approval that would mandate the installation of a locking steel gate to block public access to the entrance of Peck Hill East on “Elm Road South” (the trailhead on the south side of West Fulton Street Extension) to

prevent unauthorized ATV and 4x4 use. Combination locks will be placed on gates blocking MAPPWD routes, to grant access to CP-3 permit holders.

6. Tire removal: approximately 70 tires were removed from in and around a classified trout stream near Old Peck Hill Road by Forester Thomas in November of 2017. This is a natural scenic area that provides valuable brook trout habitat.

Fulton 03 – Rockwood State Forest Actions

1. Gate replacement: the damaged gate located on the west side of North Loop Road will be replaced.
2. Barrier: the existing rock barrier on the north side of the Cemetery Road Extension parking area will be reinforced with more stone to prevent unauthorized ATV and 4x4 use that has caused excessive rutting of the foot trail that leads to Rockwood Lake. It is the goal of this effort to improve the scenic vista from the foot trail overlooking the lake.
3. Trash removal: DEC Operations, with the help of a local volunteer, has been removing various trash, tires, and construction debris strewn along the forest roads and near the camping areas. This clean-up has and will continue to improve user enjoyment and scenic value within Rockwood State Forest.
4. Gate construction: a new gate has been installed to block public access to all roads on the south side of Rockwood State Forest at the entrance of D-Spur Road. This action was in response to the requests of several local individuals who commented at the UMP Scoping Meeting held in Johnstown, NY in regard to prohibiting public access to prevent further abuses of this state forest. The goal was to prevent illegal trash dumping, target shooting, camping in undesignated areas, and rutting of the forest roads and trails. A combination lock was placed on the gate to grant access to CP-3 permit holders.
5. Trail maintenance: repair North Loop “Road” by filling gullies and ruts to restore tread, and install water bars and ditches to divert water and prevent erosion in the future.
6. Road maintenance: repair D-Spur Road by filling gullies and ruts, reapply gravel to restore and crown the road surface, and install water bars and ditches to divert water and prevent erosion in the future.
7. Forest health: treat Japanese knotweed that was found spreading from the Route 29 ROW into Stand 14 of Compartment C. This action will be performed by NYSDOT through a TRP. This area will be routinely monitored after herbicide treatment to ensure that the invasive plant is eradicated.

Forest Type Codes

Natural Forest Types

10	Northern Hardwood
11	Northern Hardwood-Hemlock
13	Northern Hardwood-Spruce-Fir
12	Northern Hardwood-White Pine
14	Pioneer Hardwood
15	Swamp Hardwood
16	Oak
17	Black Locust
18	Oak-Hickory
19	Oak-Hemlock
20	Hemlock
21	White Pine
22	White Pine-Hemlock
23	Spruce-Fir
24	Spruce-Fir-Hemlock-White Pine
25	Cedar
26	Red Pine
27	Pitch Pine
28	Jack Pine
29	Tamarack
30	Oak-Pine
31	Transition Hardwoods (NH-Oak)
32	Other Natural Stands
33	Northern Hardwood-Norway Spruce
97	Seedling-Sapling- Natural
99	Non-Forest
-99	Null

Plantation Types

40	Plantation: red pine
41	Plantation: white pine
42	Plantation: scotch pine
43	Plantation: Austrian pine
44	Plantation: jack pine
45	Plantation: Norway spruce
46	Plantation: white spruce
47	Plantation: Japanese larch
48	Plantation: European larch
49	Plantation: white cedar
50	Plantation: douglas fir
51	Plantation: balsam fir
52	Plantation: black locust
53	Plantation: pitch pine
54	Plantation: misc. species (pure)
60	Plantation: red pine-white pine
61	Plantation: red pine-spruce
62	Plantation: red pine-larch
63	Plantation: white pine-spruce
64	Plantation: white pine-larch
65	Plantation: scotch pine-spruce
66	Plantation: scotch pine-larch
67	Plantation: larch-spruce
68	Plantation: bucket mixes
70	Plantation: pine-natural species
72	Plantation: misc. hardwood
98	Plantation: seedling-sapling

Management Direction

Wildlife (WL)
Experimental (EXP)
Recreation (REC)
Protection (PRO)
Non-management (NM)
Sugar Bush/Maple Tapping (SB)
Timber Management:
Even Age (T-EA)
Un-even Age (T-UE)
Non-silvicultural (T-NS)

Treatment Type

Harvest (HV)
Release (RL)
Salvage (SL)
Sanitation (SN)
Thinning (TH)
Regeneration (RG)
Habitat Management (HM)
Sale Stand (SS)

Tree Species of Concern

BE: American beech
NS: Norway spruce
NM: Norway Maple
RO: red oak
SM: sugar maple
WA: white ash
WP: white pine

Size Class

Seedling/Sapling <5” DBH (S-S)
Pole Timber 6”-11” DBH (PT)
Small Saw Timber 12”-17” DBH (SST)
Medium Saw Timber 18”-23” DBH (MST)
Large Saw Timber > 24” DBH (LST)

Land Management Action Schedules

Table III.F. -Land Management Action Schedule for First Five-Year Period **(by State Forest)**

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type (Note/Species of Concern)
				Current	Future		
Lassellsville State Forest (Fulton 01)							
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	1	31	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	18	7	SST	46	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	21	4	SST	46	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	25	53	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	28	25	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	29	34	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	32	22	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	35	3	MST	63	63	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	38	9	SST	40	40	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	8	15	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	11	11	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (high value RO; BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	12	18	SST	45	45	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	14	2	SST	60	12	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	15	32	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	21	38	MST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	22	9	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	23	13	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	25	13	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	1.1	7	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	1.2	2	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG

Fulton 01 Compartment 5	16	17	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	17	16	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	18	46	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (high value SM)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	19	16	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	24	16	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	26	23	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	1	22	PT	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	3	24	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	4	31	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	9	10	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	19	7	SST	17	10	T-EA	SL
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	22	4	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	24	7	SST	12	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	1	17	MST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	2	5	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	3	19	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	5	3	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	6	5	MST	14	14	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	10	5	PT	25	25	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	13	12	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	14	31	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Peck Hill State Forest (Fulton 02)							
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	1	45	SST	10	10	T-EA	SL (snags/BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	2	29	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	3	11	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)

Fulton 02 Compartment 1	13	38	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	14	42	MST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	15	46	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	16	5	SST	41	41	T-EA	RG
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	17	12	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	18	32	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	19	28	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	8	12	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (WA)
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	16	19	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (WA)
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	17	39	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	18	41	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	19	20	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	21	26	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	22	15	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	12	15	LST	10	10	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	18	8	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	19	64	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE, WA)
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	1	8	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	7	12	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	14	16	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	15	17	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	16	22	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	19	34	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	18	63	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02	3	7	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH

Compartment 6							
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	6	6	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (steep slope)
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	8	18	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	9	24	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	10	19	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 7	4	9	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 7	5	46	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 7	6	27	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 7	7	27	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	7	13	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	12	26	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	14	92	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	16	16	SST	19	19	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	17	16	MST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	3	13	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	5	11	SST	40	12	T-EA	HV
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	6	8	SST	32	12	T-EA	TH/SL
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	7	30	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	8	6	MST	19	19	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	9	52	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Rockwood State Forest (Fulton 03)							
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	11	11	SST	21	21	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	13	13	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	15	4	SST	40	10	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	19	29	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH

Fulton 03 Compartment 1	21	27	SST	30	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	4	7	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	7	6	PT	68	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	9	9	SST	41	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	12	7	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	9	3	MST	40	31	T-EA	RG (overstory removal)
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	11	25	MST	31	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	17	2	MST	41	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	2	15	MST	30	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	6	10	MST	30	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	7	16	MST	30	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	9	3	MST	21	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	12	8	MST	21	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	14	11	SST	30	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	15	20	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH

Table III.G. -Land Management Action Schedule for Second Five-Year Period **(by State Forest)**

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type (Note/Species of Concern)
				Current	Future		
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	3	27	SST	13	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	10	49	PT	13	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	3	14	PT	10	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	19	13	SST	13	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	22	22	SST	11	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01	23	17	PT	10	10	T-EA	TH (WA)

Compartment 2							
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	27	20	SST	11	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	36	48	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	37	5	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	2	12	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	3	72	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	9	15	PT	12	12	T-EA	TH/SL (TH:WP/SL:WA)
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	13	52	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	12	9	SST	40	11	T-EA	RG (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	20	25	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	27	29	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	28	2	PT	40	11	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	29	10	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	30	19	SST	14	10	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	31	26	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	32	18	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	20	35	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	21	47	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	22	15	PT	60	12	T-EA	RG (seed tree)
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	23	2	PT	46	41	T-EA	RG (replant WP)
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	7	13	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	26	4	MST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	28	25	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	29	40	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	32	3	SST	40	11	T-EA	RG

Fulton 01 Compartment 7	11	4	SST	60	41	T-EA	RG
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	16	9	SST	14	10	T-EA	TH
Peck Hill State Forest (Fulton 02)							
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	21	12	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	22	15	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	23	10	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	11	16	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	12	24	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	13	16	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	3	13	SST	13	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	14	11	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	15	23	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	16	30	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH (WA)
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	18	15	PT	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	21	35	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	22	18	MST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	23	36	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	24	2	SST	10	10	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	25	48	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	13	16	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	7	38	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	8	30	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	9	20	SST	22	22	T-EA	TH
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	10	25	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	11	25	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH (BE)

Fulton 02 Compartment 10	12	74	SST	16	16	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	13	24	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH (BE)
Fulton 02 Compartment 10	14	10	SST	20	20	T-EA	TH
Rockwood State Forest (Fulton 03)							
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	6	6	SST	40	13	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	9	5	SST	40	31	T-EA	HV (BE)
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	10	33	SST	30	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	15	4	SST	40	10	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	16	11	SST	40	31	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	20	21	SST	11	11	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	22	4	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG (buffer wetland)
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	3	7	SST	40	31	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	8	13	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	10	3	SST	13	13	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	11	27	SST	13	31	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	13	23	SST	40	31	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	1	10	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG (NM)
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	2	17	SST	12	12	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	4	12	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	8	3	SST	40	31	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	14	68	SST	40	12	T-EA	RG (Shelterwood w/ Reserves)
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	1	17	SST	40	31	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	3	43	SST	42	30	T-EA	RG (Shelterwood w/ Reserves; BE)
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	4	15	SST	40	30	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	5	4	SST	40	30	T-EA	RG

Fulton 03 Compartment 4	8	3	SST	21	30	T-EA	TH
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	10	10	SST	40	30	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	11	8	SST	40	30	T-EA	RG
Fulton 03 Compartment 4	13	31	SST	31	31	T-EA	TH

Table III.H. –Stands without Scheduled Management within 10 Years **(by State Forest)**

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Lassellsville State Forest (Fulton 01)						
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	4	33	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	5	12	PT	14	14	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	6	16	SST	10	10	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	17	4	PT	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	24	96	SST	10	10	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	26	24	PT	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	30	30	SST	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	39	31	PT	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	4	25	PT	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	24	69	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 4	26	10	PT	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 5	25	17	S-S	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	6	5	SST	40	12	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	23	3	SST	10	10	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	25	37	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	27	25	PT	14	14	T-EA

Fulton 01 Compartment 7	15	20	SST	13	13	T-EA
Peck Hill State Forest						
Fulton 02 Compartment 1	20	19	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	9.1	15	SST	60	12	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	9.2	2	SST	10	10	T-EA (potential sugar bush)
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	14	35	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	15	63	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	23	7	SST	13	13	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	5	26	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	13	41	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 3	17	42	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	20	12	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 4	17	18	SST	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	6	16	SST	24	24	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	12	66	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	15	61	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	16	55	PT	11	11	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	17	34	PT	31	31	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	19	19	PT	20	20	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	1	28	SST	12	12	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	2	14	SST	14	31	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	4	33	SST	31	31	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	7	10	PT	12	12	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	11	10	PT	31	19	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 6	12	12	SST	31	31	T-EA

Fulton 02 Compartment 8	15	62	SST	19	19	T-EA
Fulton 02 Compartment 9	2	7.2	PT	12	12	T-EA
Rockwood State Forest (Fulton 03)						
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	4	27	PT	31	31	T-EA
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	16	11	SST	40	10	T-EA
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	18	52	PT	11	11	T-UE
Fulton 03 Compartment 2	11	27	SST	13	31	T-UE

Table III.I.–Resource Protection/Natural Areas **(by State Forest)**

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	8	16	PT	11
Fulton 01 Compartment 1	9	12	PT	11
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	31	7	PT	15
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	33	49	PT	15
Fulton 01 Compartment 2	34	10	PT	15
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	1	15	PT	15
Fulton 01 Compartment 3	10	32	PT	11
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	2	4	PT	13
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	30	4	PT	13
Lassellsville State Forest (Fulton 01)				
Fulton 01 Compartment 6	31	9	PT	15
Fulton 01 Compartment 7	12	20	PT	11
Peck Hill State Forest (Fulton 02)				

Table III.I.–Resource Protection/Natural Areas **(by State Forest)**				
State Forests	**Stand**	**Acres**	**Size Class**	**Forest Type**
Fulton 02 Compartment 2	20	9	PT	13
Fulton 02 Compartment 5	14	11	PT	24
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	13	59	SST	11
Fulton 02 Compartment 8	18	3	PT	11
Rockwood State Forest (Fulton 03)				
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	17	4	SST	10
Fulton 03 Compartment 1	23	12	PT	15
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	12	2	SST	15
Fulton 03 Compartment 3	15	18	MST	11

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Glossary of Acronyms

ADAAG: Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines

AANR: Adopt a Natural Resource program

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

ARPA: Archaeological Resources Protection Act

ATV: All-Terrain Vehicle

BA/AC: Basal Area per Acre

BBA: Breeding Bird Atlas

BMP: Best Management Practices

DEC: Department of Environmental Conservation

DLF: Department of Lands and Forests

ECL: Environmental Conservation Law

EIS: Environmental Impact Statement

FCSFU: Fulton County State Forest Unit

FSC: Forestry Stewardship Council

GEIS: Generic Environmental Impact Statement

GIS: Global Information Systems

GPS: Global Positioning System

HCVF: High Conservation Value Forest

IPM: Integrated Pest Management

MAPPWD: Motorized Access Program for People with Disabilities

NYCRR: New York Codes, Rules and Regulations

NYSDOT: New York State Department of Transportation

OPRHP: Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historical Preservation

PFAR: Public Forest Access Road

PFD: Personal Floatation Device

ROW: Right-of-Way

RSA: Representative Sample Area

SEQR: State Environmental Quality Review

SEQRA: State Environmental Quality Review Act

SFI: Sustainable Forestry Initiative

SGCN: Species of Greatest Conservation Need

SHPA: State Historic Preservation Act

SLIM: State Lands Interactive Mapper

SMZ: Special Management Zone

TRP: Temporary Revocable Permit

UMP: Unit Management Plan

UTV: Utility Task Vehicle

VSA: Volunteer Stewardship Agreement

WMA: Wildlife Management Unit

Glossary of Terms

Access trails:

Temporary, unpaved roads which do not provide all weather access within the state land. They are not designed for long term and repeated use by heavy equipment. These corridors were originally constructed for the seasonal removal of forest products by skidding to log landings or other staging areas. Constructed according to best management practices, these trails may be used to support other management objectives such as recreational access corridors. Maintenance is limited to activities which minimally support seasonal access objectives.

Adaptive management:

A dynamic approach to forest management in which the effects of treatments and decisions are continually monitored and used, along with research results, to modify management on a continuing basis to ensure that objectives are being met.

Age class(es):

Trees of a similar age originating from a single natural event or regeneration activity.

Basal area:

The cross-sectional area, measured in square feet, of a single stem, including the bark, measured at breast height (4.5 ft above the ground).

Best Management Practices (BMP's):

A practice or a combination of practices designed for the protection of water quality of water bodies and riparian areas, and determined to be the most effective and practicable means of controlling water pollutants.

Biodiversity:

1. The variety and abundance of life forms, processes, functions, and structures of plants, animals, and other living organisms, including the relative complexity of species, communities, gene pools, and ecosystems at spatial scales that range from local through regional to global —synonym biological diversity, diversity**.**

2. An index of richness in a community, ecosystem, or landscape and the relative abundance of these species.

Blowdown:

Tree or trees felled or broken off by wind.

Browse:

Portions of woody plants including twigs, shoots, and leaves consumed by animals such as deer.

Buffer zone(s)/buffer strip:

A vegetation strip or management zone of varying size, shape, and character maintained along a stream, lake, road, recreation site, or other vegetative zone to mitigate the impacts of actions on adjacent lands, to enhance aesthetic values, or as a best management practice.

Cavity tree/den tree:

A tree containing an excavation sufficiently large for nesting, dens or shelter; tree may be alive or dead.

Clearcut:

The cutting of essentially all trees, producing a fully exposed microclimate for the development of a new age class —note 1. regeneration can be from natural seeding, direct seeding, planted seedlings, or advance reproduction —note 2. cutting may be done in groups or patches (group or patch clearcutting), or in strips (strip clearcutting)—note 3. the management unit or stand in which regeneration, growth, and yield are regulated consists of the individual clearcut stand —note 4. when the primary source of regeneration is advance reproduction, the preferred term is overstory removal.

Coarse woody debris (CWD):

Any piece(s) of dead wood >6” in diameter including logs, limbs, and large root masses on the ground or in streams.

Cohort:

A population of trees that originate after some type of disturbance.

Community:

An assemblage of plants and animals interacting with one another, occupying a habitat, and often modifying the habitat; a variable assemblage of plant and animal populations sharing a common environment and occurring repeatedly in the landscape.

Conversion:

A change from one silvicultural system to another or from one tree species to another.

Corridor(s):

A linear strip of land identified for the present or future location of a designed use within its boundaries. Examples: recreational trails, transportation or utility rights-of- way. When referring to wildlife, a corridor may be a defined tract of land connecting two or more areas of similar management or habitat type through which a species can travel from one area to another to fulfill any variety of life-sustaining needs.

Cover type(s):

The plant species forming a majority of composition across a given area.

Cultural resources:

Significant historical or archaeological assets on sites as a result of past human activity which are distinguishable from natural resources.

Cutting interval:

The number of years between harvest or regeneration cuts in a stand.

Diameter (at) Breast Height (DBH):

The diameter of the stem of a tree (outside bark) measured at breast height (4.5 ft) from the ground.

Disturbance:

A natural or human-induced environmental change that alters one or more of the floral, faunal, and microbial communities within an ecosystem. Timber harvesting is the most common human disturbance. Wind or ice storms are examples of natural disturbance.

Early successional habitat:

The earliest stage of development in an ecosystem. An example: vegetative habitat where early successional is represented by old fields, brushy shrubby type plants, with species that are shade intolerant.

Ecosystem:

A spatially explicit, relatively homogeneous unit of the earth that includes all interacting organisms and components of the abiotic environment within its boundaries - note: an ecosystem can be of any size, e.g., a log, pond, field, forest or the earth's biosphere.

Ecosystem management:

The appropriate integration of ecological, economic, and social factors in order to maintain and enhance the quality of the environment to best meet current and future needs. Involves management at the landscape level, prompting the biodiversity of natural communities of plants, animals, and seeking to maintain healthy and productive environments.

Edge(s):

The boundary between two or more elements of the environment, e.g., a field adjacent to a woodland or the boundary of different silvicultural treatments.

Endangered species:

Any species of plant or animal defined through the Endangered Species Act of 1976 as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and published in the Federal Register.

Even-aged:

A class of forest or stand composed of trees of about the same age. The maximum age difference is generally 20 years.

Even-aged (silviculture):

A program of forest management directed to the establishment and maintenance of stands of trees having relatively little (10-20 years) variation in ages. The guidelines to be applied in using this system at all stages of tree development are uniquely different from the uneven-aged system.

Flood plain(s):

The level or nearly level land with alluvial soils on either or both sides of a stream or river that is subject to overflow flooding during periods of high water level.

Forest fragmentation:

The process by which a landscape is broken into small islands of forest within a mosaic of other forms of land use or ownership. Note- fragmentation is a concern because of the effect of noncontiguous forest cover on connectivity and the movement and dispersal of animals in the landscape islands of a particular age class (e.g., old growth) that remain within areas of younger-aged forest.

Forestry:

The profession embracing the science, art, and practice of creating, managing, using, and conserving forests and associated resources for human benefit and in a sustainable manner to meet desired goals, needs, and values.

Gaps:

Natural communities, habitats, successional stages, or organisms which have been identified as lacking in the landscape.

Geocaching:

An outdoor activity in which the participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers.

Geographic Information System (GIS):

An organized collection of computer hardware, software, geographic and descriptive data, personnel, knowledge and procedures designed to efficiently capture, store, update, manipulate, analyze, report and display the forms of geographically referenced information and descriptive information.

Group selection:

Trees are removed and new age classes are established in small groups —note 1. the width of groups is commonly approximately twice the height of the mature trees with smaller openings providing microenvironments suitable for tolerant regeneration and larger openings providing conditions suitable for more intolerant regeneration —note 2. The management unit or stand in which regeneration, growth, and yield are regulated consists of an aggregation of groups.

Habitat:

The geographically defined area where environmental conditions (e.g., climate, topography, etc.) meet the life needs (e.g., food, shelter, etc.) of an organism, population, or community.

Hardwoods:

Broad-leafed, deciduous trees belonging to the botanical group Angiospermae.

Haul roads:

Permanent, unpaved roads which are not designed for all-weather travel, but may have hardened or improved surfaces with artificial drainage; they are constructed according to best management practices primarily for the removal of forest products, providing limited access by log trucks and other heavy equipment; these roads may or may not be open for public motor vehicle use, depending on management priorities and objectives; they may

serve as recreational access corridors, but are not maintained according to specific standards or schedules

Improvement thinning(s):
The removal of less desirable trees of any species in a stand of poles or larger trees, primarily to improve composition and quality.

Intermittent stream:
A stream, or portion of a stream, that does not flow year-round but only when it (a) receives base flow solely during wet periods, or (b) receives groundwater discharge or protracted contributions from melting snow or other erratic surface and shallow subsurface sources. Intermittent Streams have definable banks and bed with widths between banks greater than 12" and a depth from high water mark to the bed greater than 4".

Invasive species:
Species that have become established outside their natural range which spread prolifically, displacing other species, and sometimes causing environmental damage.

Keystone species:
A plant or animal species that strongly influences the functioning of an entire ecosystem; for example, the way eastern hemlock influences stream flow rates and temperature in riparian forests.

Landscape:
A spatial mosaic of several ecosystems, landforms, and plant communities across a defined area irrespective of ownership or other artificial boundaries and repeated in similar form throughout.

Landscape ecology:
The study of the distribution and abundance of elements within landscapes, the origins of these elements, and their impacts on organisms and processes.

Large poles:
Trees that are 9 to 11 inches in diameter at breast height.

Large sawtimber:
Trees that are 24 inches or greater in diameter at breast height.

Late successional habitat:
Habitats predominated by forests with older and larger trees, having more structural complexity than mature forest, and being either in the process of developing or have developed old growth characteristics; they may exhibit evidence of past human or natural disturbances; these forests may exist as entire stands or as smaller patches within younger stands.

Log landing:
A cleared area to which logs are skidded and are temporarily stored before being loaded onto trucks for transport.

Mast:

All fruits of trees and shrubs used as food for wildlife; hard mast includes nut-like fruits such as acorns, beechnuts and chestnuts. Soft mast includes the fleshy fruits of black cherry, dogwood and serviceberry.

Medium sawtimber:

Trees that are 18-23 inches in diameter at breast height.

Multiple use:

A strategy of land management fulfilling two or more objectives, e.g. forest products removal and recreation.

Natural regeneration:

The establishment of a forest stand from natural seeding, sprouting, suckering or layering.

Northern hardwood forest:

A forest type usually made up of sugar and red maple, American beech, yellow birch, and to a lesser extent black cherry and white ash.

Overstory:

The portion of the trees in a forest forming the upper or uppermost canopy layer.

Overstory removal:

The cutting of trees constituting an upper canopy layer to release adequate desirable advanced regeneration in the understory.

Parcelization:

The subdivision of land into smaller ownership blocks.

Patch clearcut:

A type of clearcut where the cut area consists of a small part of a stand or forest —note 1. the minimum size of a patch depends primarily on (a) the creation of microclimate conducive to establishment of desired regeneration of particular tolerance, and (b) the area needed for safe felling and yarding of harvested trees.

Perennial stream:

A portion of any fresh surface watercourse that has continuous flow all year-round during years of normal rainfall.

Pioneer species:

A plant capable of invading bare sites (newly exposed soil) and persisting there or colonizing them until supplanted by later successional species.

Plantation:

A stand composed primarily of trees established by planting or artificial seeding – a plantation may have tree or understory components that have resulted from natural regeneration.

Poletimber:

Trees that are generally 6-11 inches diameter at breast height.

Protection area:

Land excluded from most active management to protect sensitive sites. These sites most often include steep slopes, wet woodlands and riparian zones along stream corridors.

Protection buffer:

A vegetation strip or management zone a minimum of fifty feet wide maintained to mitigate the impacts of actions on adjacent lands, to enhance aesthetic values, or as a best management practice. Protection buffers should be generally allowed to develop naturally. Any vegetation to be removed or disturbed within protection buffers for any purpose must have appropriate justification with documentation in an approved prescription.

Public Forest Access Roads (PFAR):

Permanent, unpaved roads which may be designed for all-weather use depending upon their location, surfacing and drainage. These roads provide primary access for administration and public use within the Unit. The design standards for these roads are those of the Class A and Class B access roads as provided in the Unpaved Forest Road Handbook (8/74). As a general guideline, sufficient access is typically achieved when 1 mile of PFAR is developed for each 500 acres of state land, and no position within the Unit lies more than one half-mile from a PFAR or public highway.

Pulpwood:

Low grade or small diameter logs used to make paper products, wood chips.

Regeneration:

Seedlings or saplings of any origin.

Release:

A treatment designed to free trees from undesirable, usually overtopping, competing vegetation a treatment designed to free young trees not past the sapling stage from undesirable competing vegetation that overtops or closely surrounds them.

Riparian area:

The area of land and water forming a transition from aquatic to terrestrial ecosystems along streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands and vernal pools.

Rotation:

The period of years between stand establishment and final harvest as designated by management decisions.

Salvage cutting:

The removal of dead trees or trees damaged or dying because of injurious agents other than competition, to recover economic value that would otherwise be lost.

Sapling:

A small tree, usually defined as being between 1 and 5 inches in diameter at breast height.

Sawtimber:

Trees that are 12 inches and larger diameter at breast height.

Seed tree:

A regeneration method consisting of cutting all trees except for a small number of widely dispersed trees retained for seed production and to produce a new age class in fully exposed microenvironment a tree retained for seed production —note seed trees are usually removed after regeneration is established.

Seedling:

A young tree originating from seed that is less than one inch in diameter.

Seedling(s)/sapling(s):

Trees less than 6 inches diameter at breast height.

Shade tolerance:

The ability of a tree species to germinate and grow at various levels of shade; shade tolerant: having the capacity to compete for survival under shaded conditions, shade intolerant: having the capacity to compete for survival only under direct sunlight conditions; light demanding species.

Shelterwood:

An even-aged method of natural regeneration designed to regenerate and maintain a stand with a single age class; the cutting of most trees, leaving those needed to produce sufficient shade to produce a new age class in a moderated microenvironment —note the sequence of treatments can include three types of cuttings: (a) an optional preparatory cut to enhance conditions for seed production, (b) an establishment cut to prepare the seed bed and to create a new age class, and (c) a removal cut to release established regeneration from competition with the overstory; cutting may be done uniformly throughout the stand (uniform shelterwood), in groups or patches (group shelterwood), or in strips (strip shelterwood); in a strip shelterwood, regeneration cuttings may progress against the prevailing wind.

Silviculture:

The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis.

Single tree selection:

Individual trees of all size classes are removed more or less uniformly throughout the stand, to promote growth of remaining trees and to provide space for regeneration — synonym individual tree selection.

Site:

The area in which a plant or forest stand grows, considered in terms of its environment, particularly as this determines the type and quality of the vegetation the area can support.

Skid trail(s):

A temporary or permanent trail used to skid or forward felled trees from the stumps to the log landing.

Small poles:
Trees 6-8 inches diameter at breast height.

Small sawtimber:
Trees 12-17 inches in diameter at breast height.

Snags:
Standing, dead trees, with or without cavities; function as perches, foraging sites and/or a source of cavities for dens, roosting and/or nesting for wildlife.

Softwoods:
Generally refers to needle and/or cone bearing trees (conifers) belonging to the botanical group Gymnospermae.

Spatial analysis:
An examination of data in the context of where it occurs geographically or “on the ground;” This is usually accomplished by tying database information to GIS based maps.

Species:
The main category of taxonomic classification into which genera are subdivided, comprising a group of similar interbreeding individuals sharing a common morphology, physiology and reproductive process.

Special Management Zone (SMZ):
A vegetation strip or management zone extending from wetland boundaries, high-water marks on perennial and intermittent streams, vernal pool depressions, spring seeps, ponds and lakes, and other land features requiring special consideration. Portions of a Special Management Zone may include Protection Buffers where applicable.

Spring seep:
A permanent spring where water emerges from the ground and flows across the soil surface without defined bed and banks. The limits of the seep are demarked by the extent of surface water. The presence of wetland indicator plants, and the lack of snow in the winter are also indications of a permanent spring.

Stand:
A contiguous group of trees sufficiently uniform in age-class distribution, composition, and structure, and growing on a site of sufficiently uniform quality, to be a distinguishable unit.

Stand structure:
The horizontal and vertical distribution of components of a forest stand including the height, diameter, crown layers and stems of trees, shrubs, herbaceous understory, snags and down woody materials.

State Forest / State Reforestation Area:
Lands owned by the State of New York, administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Lands & Forests, and authorized by Environmental Conservation Law to be devoted to the establishment and maintenance of forests for watershed protection, the production of timber and other forest products, and for recreation and

kindred purposes. These forests shall be forever devoted to the planting, growth, and harvesting of such trees (Title 3 Article 9-0303 ECL).

Succession:

The gradual supplanting of one community of plants by another —beginning with pioneer plant communities consisting of shade-intolerant species requiring full sun. They begin to colonize when agricultural lands are abandoned, or there is a disturbance in the forest that provides new growing space. As they grow, the pioneers create a shadier environment unsuitable for their own seedlings, opening opportunities for mid-tolerant species capable of growing in partial shade. These plants, in turn, yield to species able to grow in dense shade. Eventually a relatively stable mix of long-lived, shade-tolerant trees develops. This mature forest is sometimes referred to as a climax community, but it is important to remember that mature forests are themselves continuing to respond and adapt to ongoing disturbances in their environment, both natural and manmade.

Sustainable forest management:

Management that maintains and enhances the long-term health of forest ecosystems for the benefit of all living things, while providing environmental, economic, social and cultural opportunities for present and future generations.

Temporary revocable permit (TRP):

A Department permit which authorizes the use of state land for a specific purpose for a prescribed length of time.

Thinning(s):

A silvicultural treatment made to reduce stand density of trees primarily to improve growth of remaining trees, enhance forest health, or recover potential mortality.

Threatened species:

A species likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future, throughout all or a significant portion of its range, unless protected.

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI):

Pre-commercial silvicultural treatments, intended to regulate stand density and species composition, while improving wood product quality and fostering individual tree health and vigor through the removal of undesirable trees.

Understory:

The smaller vegetation (shrubs, seedlings, herbaceous plants, small trees) within a forest stand, occupying the vertical zone between the overstory and the forest floor.

Uneven-aged system:

A planned sequence of treatments designed to maintain and regenerate a stand with three or more age classes.

Uneven-aged stand/forest:

A stand with trees of three or more distinct age classes, either intimately mixed or in small groups.

Universally Accessible Trail:

A trail designed to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without separate or segregated access for people with disabilities.

Vernal pool:

A seasonal body of standing water that typically forms in the spring from melting snow and other runoff, usually dries in the hotter months of summer, and often refills in the autumn. They normally are free of fish and provide important breeding habitat for many terrestrial or semi-aquatic species such as frogs, salamanders, and turtles.

Watershed:

A region or area defined by a network of stream drainage. A watershed includes all the land from which a particular stream or river is supplied.

Wetland(s):

A transitional area between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that is inundated or saturated for periods long enough to produce hydric soils and support hydrophytic vegetation.

Appendices & Figures

Appendix A - Summary of Comments During Public Scoping Sessions

The following comments were taken from the Fulton County UMP Scoping Meeting at Johnstown Town Hall on 11/15/2016. All the comments pertain to Rockwood State Forest.

- **Comment**: Rockwood trails need maintenance, especially North Loop Road.
  - *Response*: the trail maintenance schedule is identified in the 10-year list of management actions.

- **Comment**: Campers are staying longer than 3 nights at primitive campsites.
  - *Response*: This will be reported to Forest Rangers for increased monitoring

- **Comment**: Trash is being dumped near campsites, lake, and parking areas
  - *Response*: A VSA has been created for a local volunteer to pick up the trash and DEC Operations will remove it from the site.

- **Comment**: A new unauthorized campsite is being created on the south side of Spring Road.
  - *Response*: Public motor vehicle access to the south side of Rockwood State Forest will be blocked by locked gates.

- **Comment**: Horseback riders are complaining about ruts on the south side of Rockwood State Forest.
  - *Response*: Requesting that the south side of Rockwood be gated off to motor vehicle access by the general public.
  - *Response*: Necessary road maintenance has been identified in the 10-year list of management actions.

- **Comment**: Rockwood State Forest needs more enforcement and patrolling to mitigate abuse by ATV riders, partiers, and extended campers.
  - *Response*: The Forest Rangers were notified of the need to increase patrols.

- **Comment**: Does the town/county still groom ski trails?
  - *Response*: The trails that were groomed for skiing were C-North Trail, C-4 Loop Road, C-Connector Road, and D-Spur Road. However, the County Highway Department has not applied for a TRP since 2015. The Fulton County Highway Superintendent stated over the phone that he will continue to plow Rockwood parking area and groom the cross-country ski trails, explaining that there was not enough snow last year.

- **Comment**: If cross-country skiing is no longer a high priority, then open trails back up to snowmobiles.
  Response: I have received comments from local users that skiing is still a priority and that they would like cross-country ski trails to be groomed in the future.

- **Comment**: Could there be a snowmobile trail connector from Peck Hill State Forest through Knapp Road to Rockwood?
    - *Response*: No, this route crosses private property
    - *Response*: No, snowmobiles remain prohibited in Rockwood

- **Comment**: There is a headstone/grave site just northwest of the chimney ruin at the top of Camp Road in Rockwood State Forest.
    - *Response*: The location of the headstone has been marked on the DLF assets layer.

- **Comment**: There is a "No motorized access" sign at the entrance of D-Spur Rd, is this correctly marked: is motor vehicle access currently allowed?
    - *Response*: Public motor vehicle access is currently allowed on the south side of Rockwood State Forest, although it is not encouraged. The sign has been removed, but a new "No motorized access" sign will be installed with the locked gates when public motor vehicle access is prohibited. Although motor vehicle access will be prohibited for the general public, CP-3 permit holders will still have access for motorized use on designated roads and trails.

- **Comment**: Will recreation be limited during the harvesting of Rockwood State Forest.
    - *Response*: Buffers may be created around trails, but forest management takes precedence over recreation

- **Comment**: Will trails be closed during harvesting?
    - *Response*: Trails may be closed, but that depends on the treatment and the location.

- **Comment**: With EAB approaching, will you be cutting all the ash trees?
    - *Response*: Some healthy ash will be left in hopes of developing a resistance.

- **Comment**: Could the DEC please clean up Rockwood?
    - *Response*: A neighboring landowner has volunteered to clean up the state forest and was issued a Volunteer Stewardship Agreement authorizing him to use an ATV to pick up and consolidate the trash. The trash that he collects will be removed from the site by DEC Operations.

- **Comment**: Are there endangered species present in Rockwood State Forest?
    - *Response*: There are no documented occurrences of endangered species on Rockwood.

- **Comment**: Were forest stand maps created, and are they available?
    - *Response*: Forest stand maps were created for the UMP and will be included in the final draft that will be available to the public.

- ***Comment***: Please do not create more trails in the FCSFU. Trappers must set traps 100 feet away from public trails.
    - *Response*: The goal of the Adventure NY initiative is to increase public awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities available in New York State and to encourage NY families to recreate on state lands. New bicycle trails would

serve more individuals and provide greater opportunities for families to enjoy the lands in this unit, therefore some new trails will be encouraged.

Appendix B - State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)

State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)

This Plan and the activities it recommends will be in compliance with State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR), 6NYCRR Part 617. The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requires the consideration of environmental factors early in the planning stages of any proposed action(s) that are undertaken, funded or approved by a local, regional or state agency. The SPSFM serves as the (GEIS, regarding management activity on State Forests. To address potential impacts, the SPSFM establishes SEQR analysis thresholds for each category of management activity.

Management actions in this Plan are within the thresholds established in the SPSFM, therefore these actions do not require additional SEQR. Any future action that does not comply with established thresholds will require additional SEQR prior to conducting the activity.

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT

This UMP does not propose pesticide applications of more than 40 acres, any clearcuts of 40 acres or larger, or prescribed burns in excess of 100 acres. Therefore, the actions in the plan do not exceed the thresholds set forth in the Strategic Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement for State Forest Management**.**

This Unit Management Plan also does not include any of the following:

1. Forest management activities occurring on acreage occupied by protected species ranked S1, S2, G1, G2 or G3

2. Pesticide applications adjacent to plants ranked S1, S2, G1, G2 or G3

3. Aerial pesticide spraying by airplane or helicopter

4. Any development of facilities with potable water supplies, septic system supported restrooms, camping areas with more than 10 sites or development in excess of other limits established in this plan.

5. Well drilling plans

6. Well pad densities of greater than one well pad in 320 acres or which does not comply with the limitations identified through a tract assessment

7. Carbon injection and storage or waste water disposal

Therefore, the actions proposed in this UMP will be carried out in conformance with the conditions and thresholds established for such actions in the Strategic Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement, and do not require any separate site specific environmental review (see 6 NYCRR 617.10[d]).

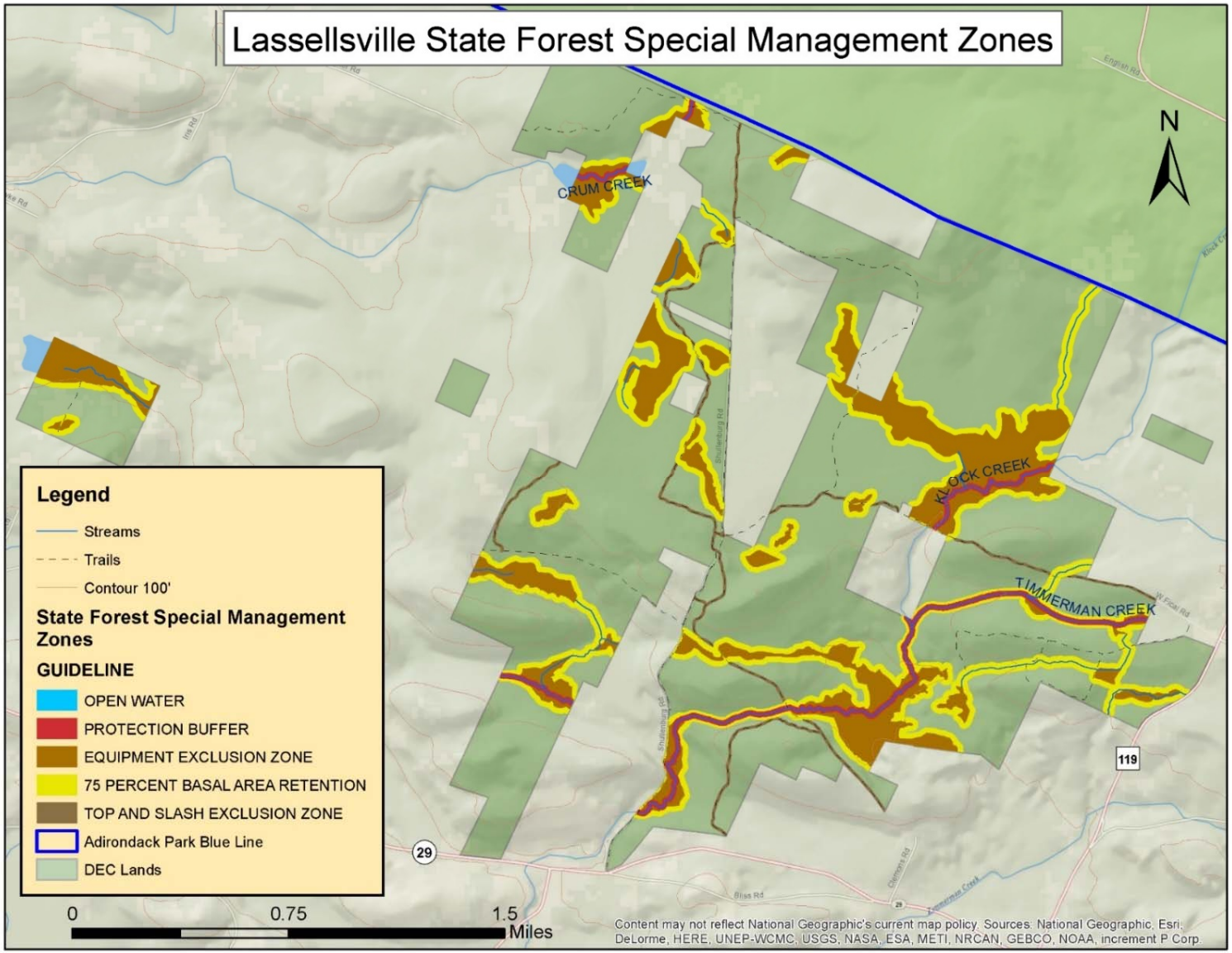
Actions not covered by the Strategic Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement

Any action taken by the Department on this unit that is not addressed in this Unit Management Plan and is not addressed in the Strategic Plan/Generic Environmental Impact Statement may need a separate site specific environmental review.

Either/Or (2): Certain proposed actions in this Plan do not fall within the thresholds established in the SPSFM. Therefore, this Plan has been submitted for an additional SEQR process. The following proposed actions have triggered additional review: cite proposed actions that triggered additional SEQR. The Division of Lands and Forests has initiated this process by preparing a Long Environmental Assessment Form (LEAF). A LEAF is used to identify and analyze relevant areas of environmental concern based upon the management actions in the draft unit management plan. For this plan, SEQRA review has been initiated with the preparation of the LEAF.

FIGURE 1. – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS

Figure 1. – Water Resources, Special Management Zones and Topography Maps



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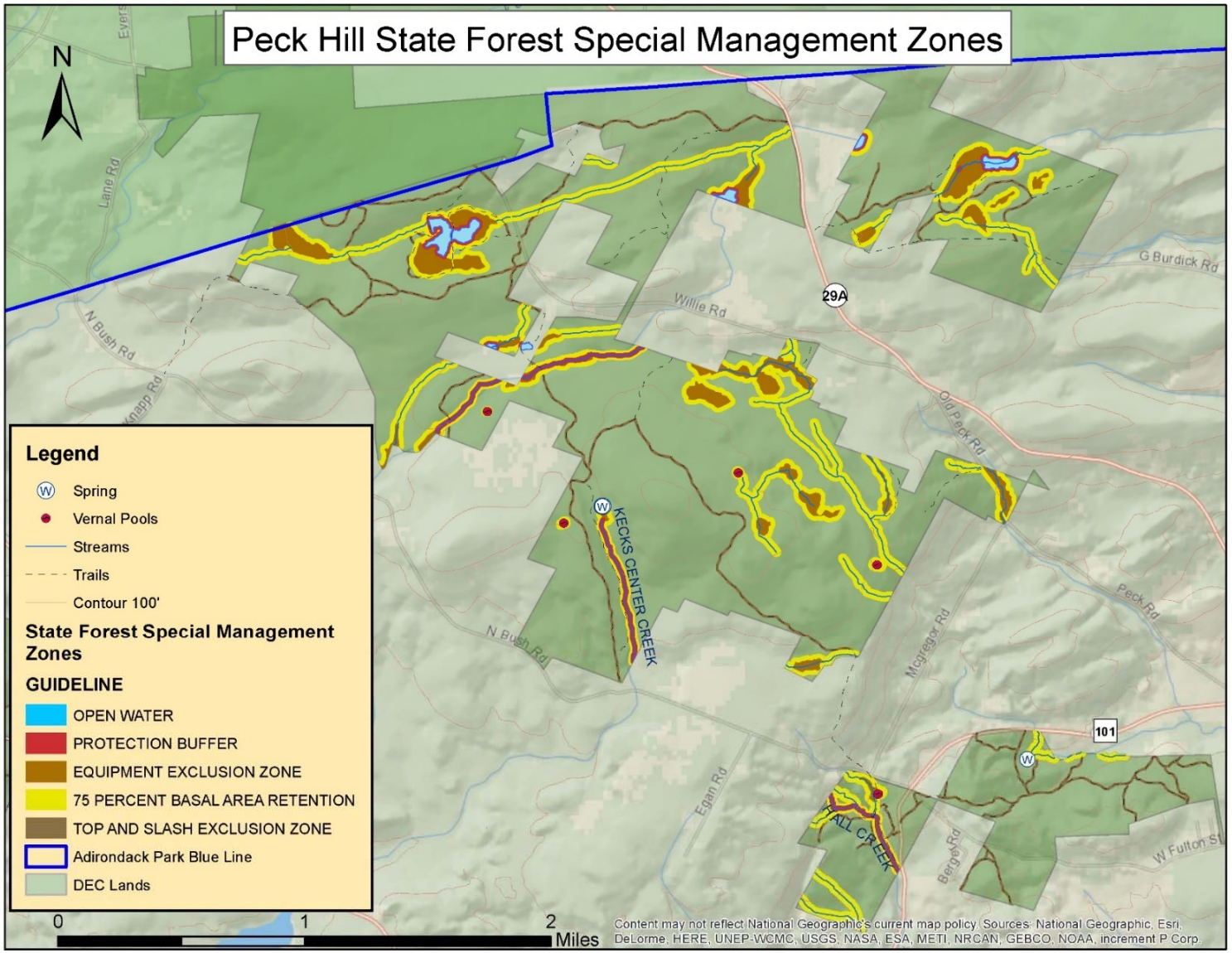

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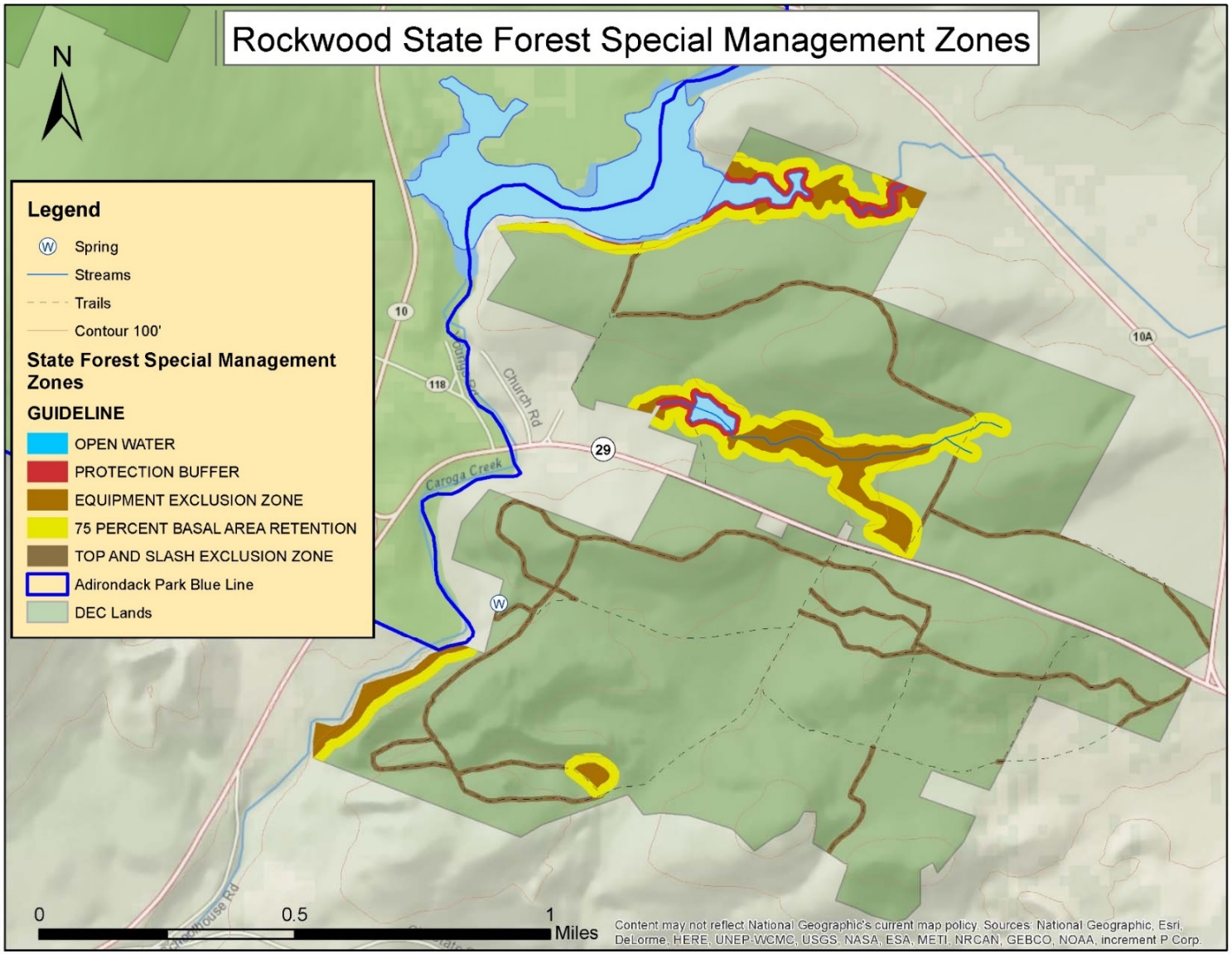
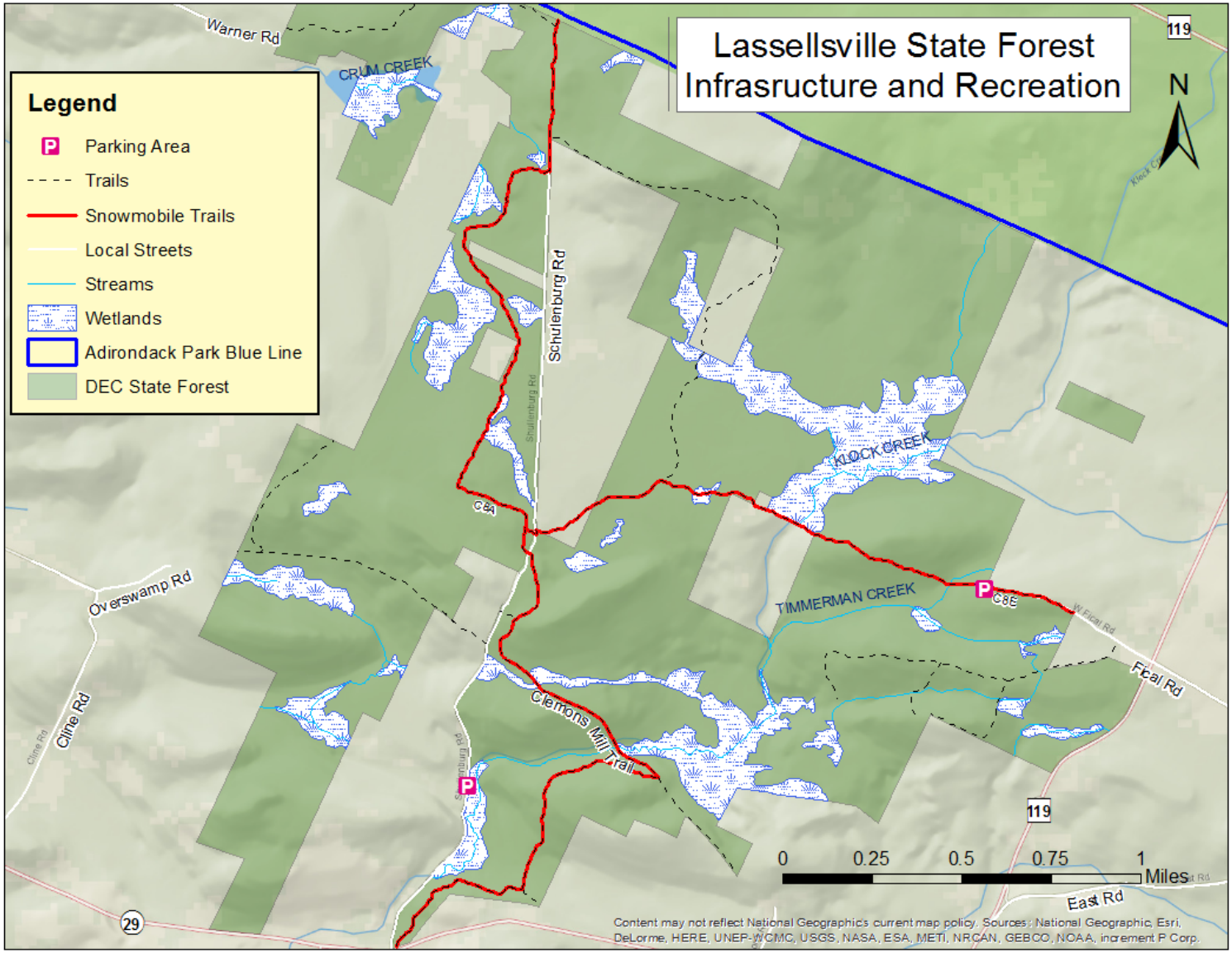


Figure 2. – Infrastructure and Recreation Maps



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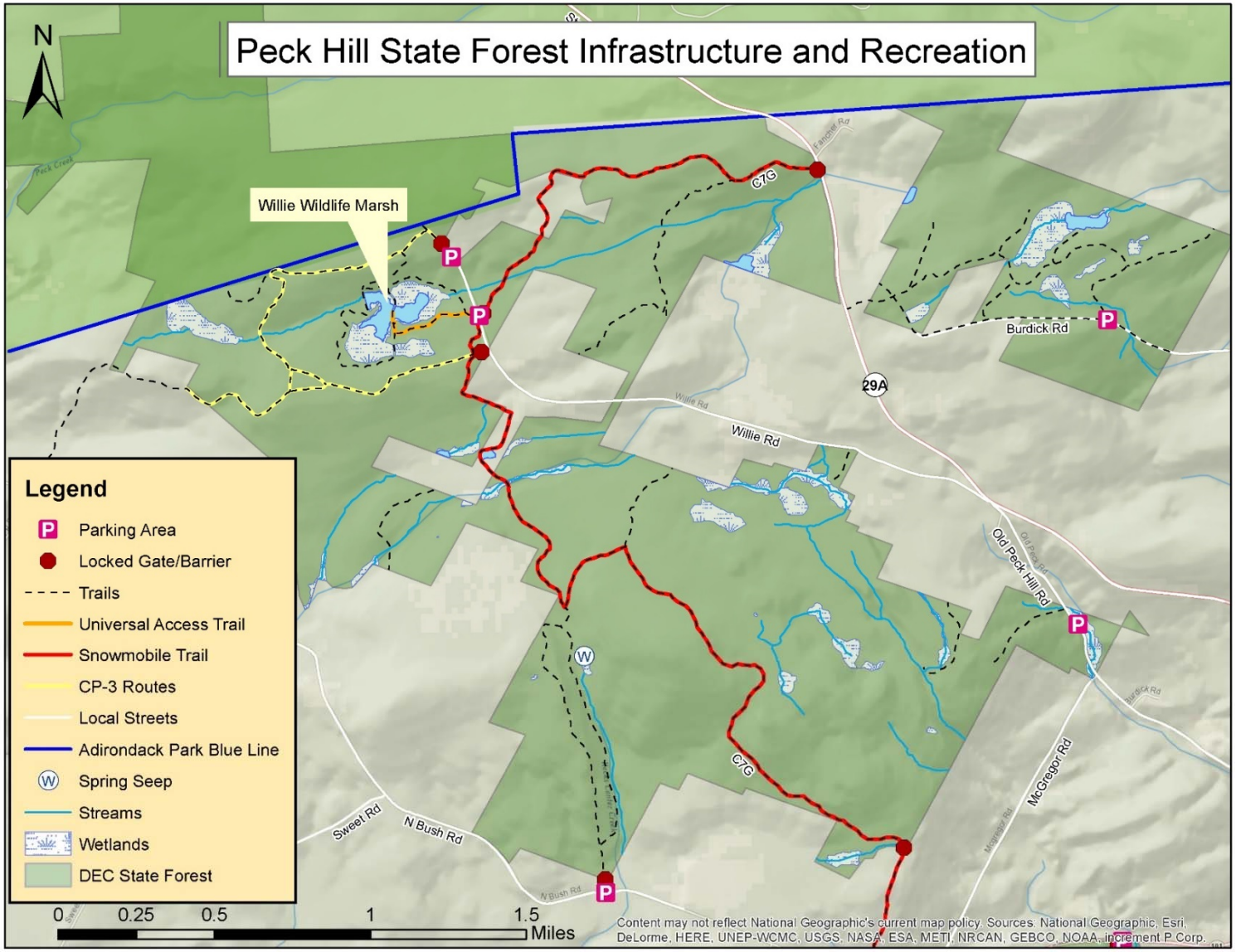

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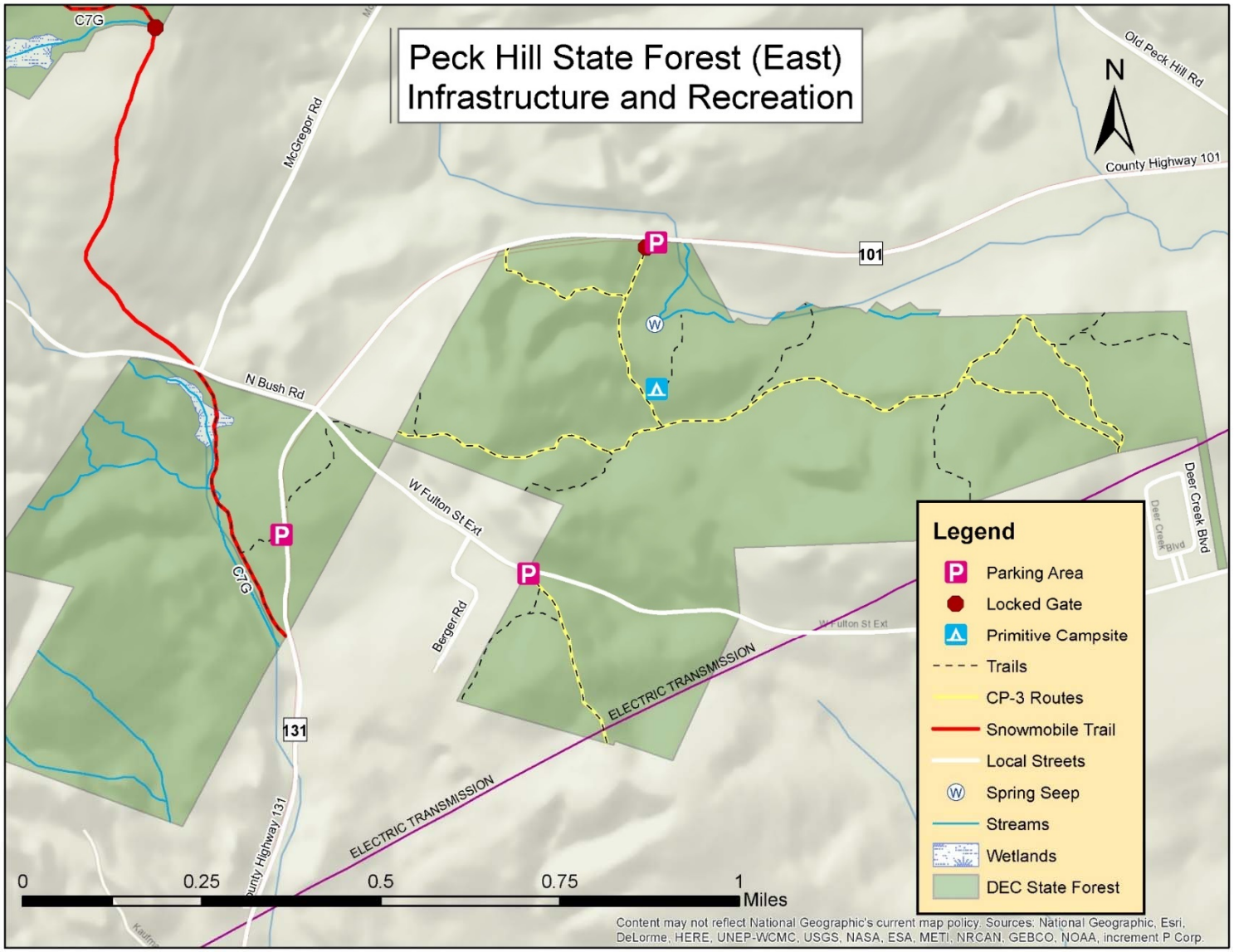

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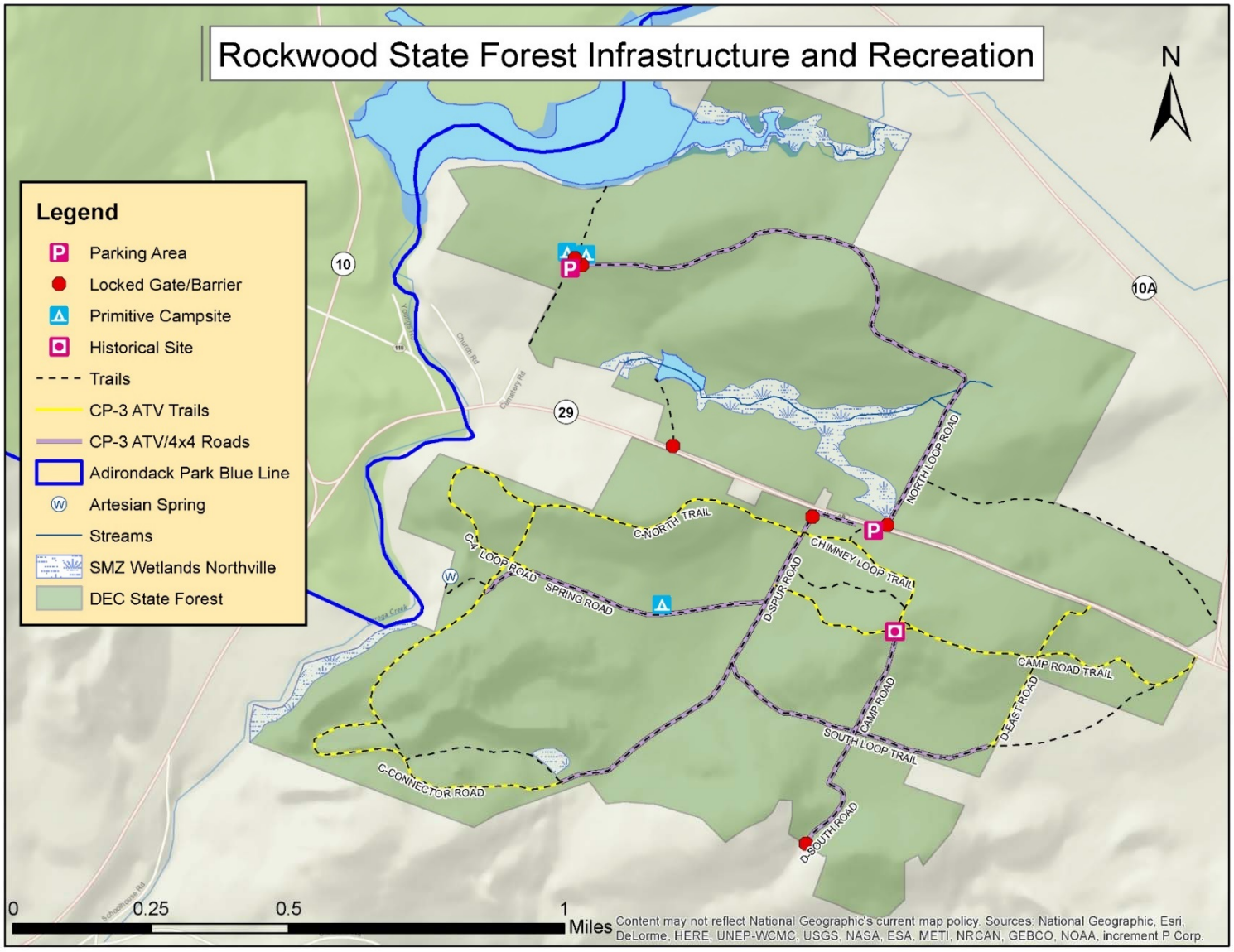
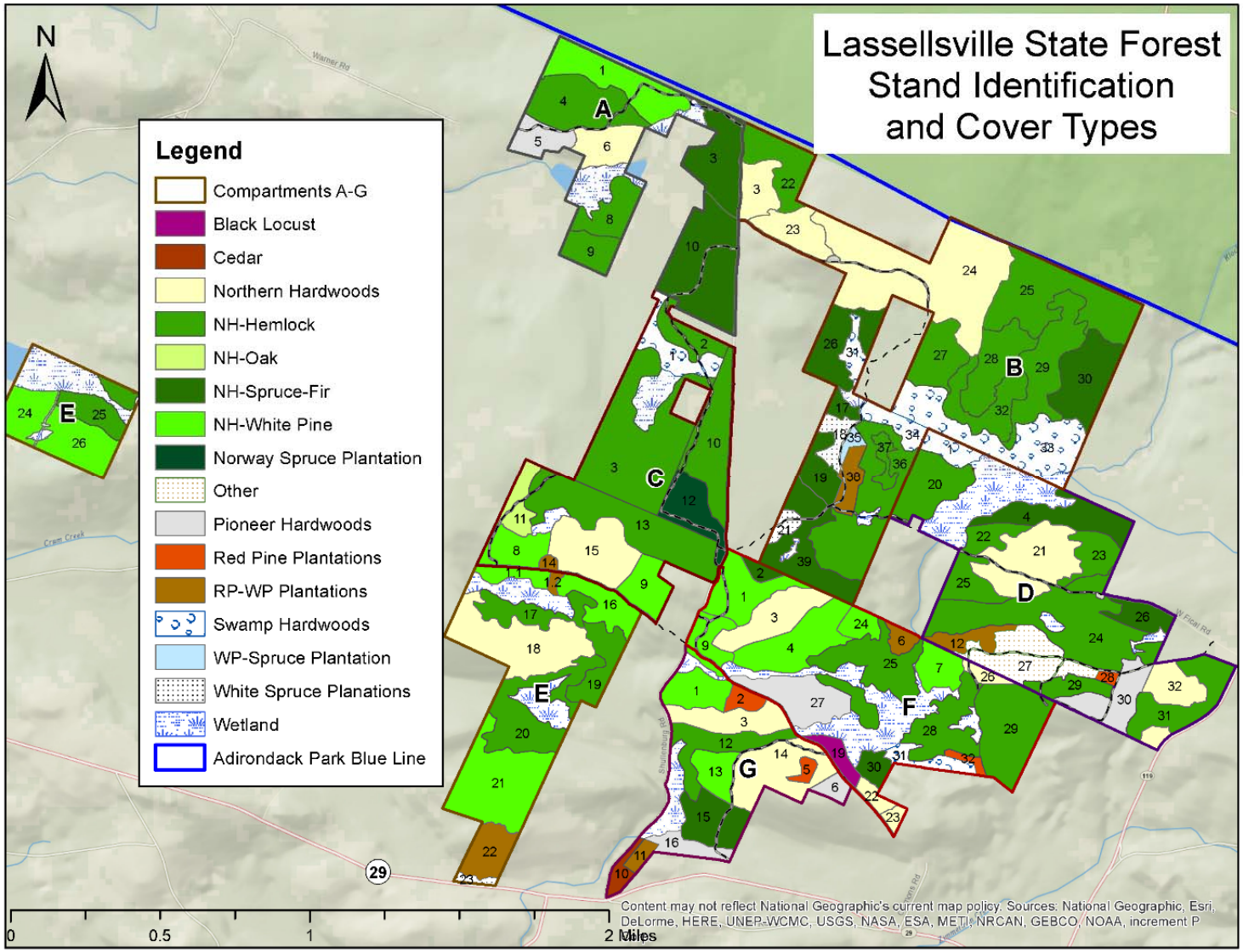


FIGURE 3. – CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND FOREST STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

Figure 3. – Current Forest Type and Forest Stand Identification Number Maps



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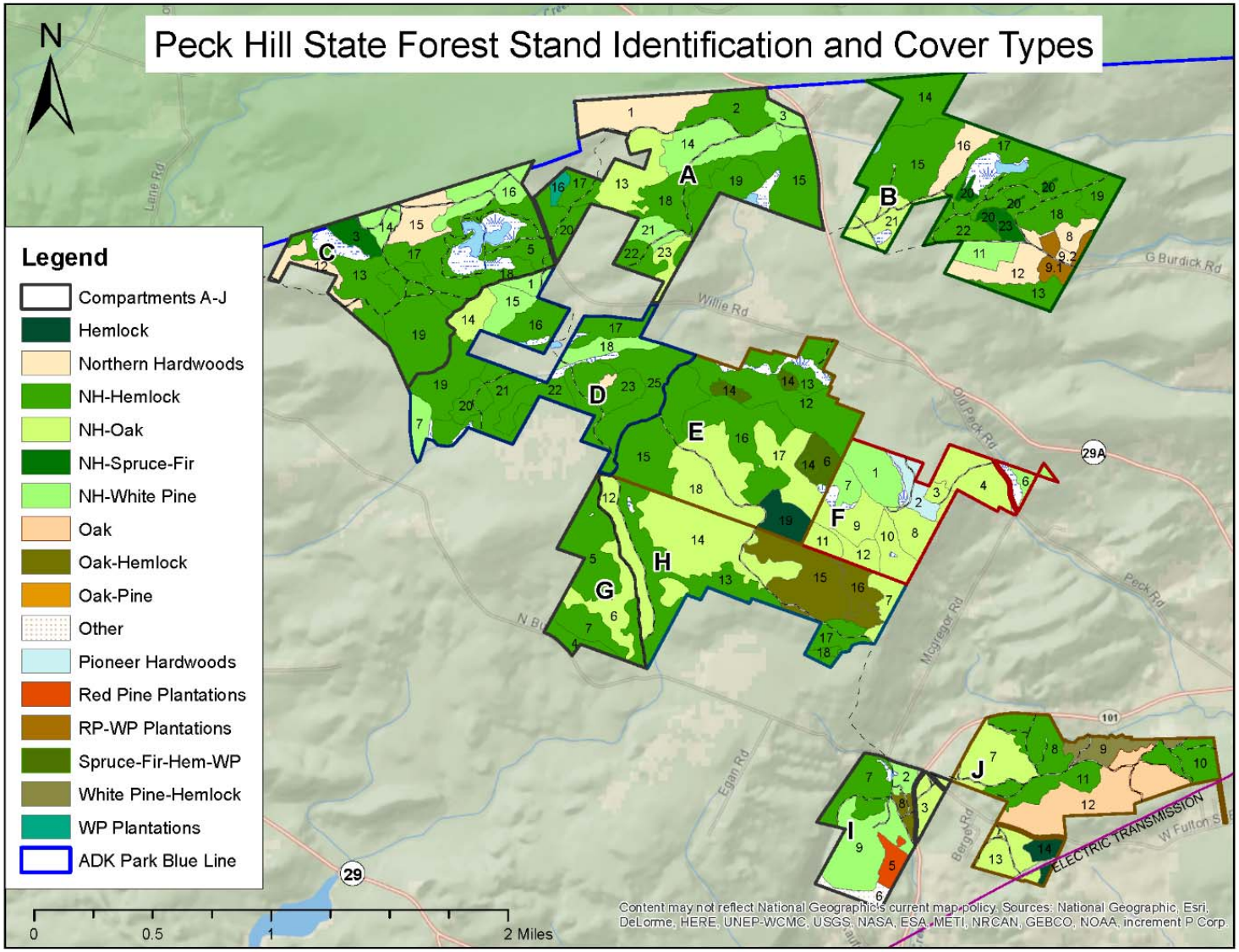

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