New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Lands & Forests

STEWART STATE FOREST
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

FINAL

Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh
and the Village of Maybrook

December 2006

Lead Agency:
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Region 3
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561

GEORGE E. PATAKI, *Governor* DENISE M. SHEEHAN, *Commissioner*

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12233-1010

DENISE M. SHEEHAN
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Record

FROM: Denise M. Sheehan

SUBJECT: Stewart State Forests Unit Management Plan

DATE: DEC 19 2006

The unit management plan for the "Stewart State Forests" has been completed. The Plan is consistent with Department policy and procedure, involved public participation and is consistent with the Environmental Conservation Law, Rules and Regulations. The plan includes management objectives for a ten year period and is hereby approved and adopted.

Preface

STEWART STATE FOREST
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

In August, 1998, Governor Pataki announced that at least 6200 acres of the forest lands west of Stewart International Airport would be transferred from the jurisdiction of the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or Department) to permanently preserve the lands. On March 4, 1999, the Governor announced the official transfer of 5264 acres from DOT to DEC. The land transferred to DEC is administered as a Reforestation Area called Stewart State Forest. On June 30, 2006, another approximately 1600 acres were transferred from DOT to Stewart State Forest, for a total of approximately 6700 acres.

In October, 1998, a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was appointed by then DEC Commissioner John Cahill. The CAC prepared a series of recommendations which were submitted to Commissioner Cahill on November 4, 1999 (Appendix D). Two public meetings were held on December 9, 1999 at the Little Britain Elementary School in the Town of New Windsor to describe the Unit Management Planning process and provide the public an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with DEC staff prior to the development of a Draft Unit Management Plan (UMP). (See Appendix D). On October 26, 2006, two public meetings were held at the Town of New Windsor Community Center to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Unit Management Plan leading to this final plan.

Most of the land in the current and future Stewart State Forest was formerly in farm and residential use. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) acquired the land by eminent domain in the 1970s to "establish, construct, expand, rehabilitate, improve, maintain, reconstruct and operate" Stewart Airport (Chapter 472 of the 1971 Laws of the State of New York), then being converted from military to civilian use. In 1982, the land was transferred to DOT including about 800 acres leased for agriculture. Agriculture continues, and six farmers currently farm more than 400 acres. The U.S. Postal Service leases a building along State Route 207. Five adjacent historic buildings along routes 207 and 208 are owned by the Orange County Historical Society.

The land supports diverse wildlife, including increasingly rare grassland and shrub land bird species, amphibians and reptiles. The old roads and fields provide superior access for hiking, biking, horseback riding and carriage driving, bird watching, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, and casual recreation. Since 1974, when the property was designated a Cooperative Hunting Area, it has provided small and big game hunters access to the property. Several small ponds provide warm-water fishing throughout spring and summer.

Dog clubs hold a series of field trials on the ponds and nearby open fields in late spring and summer to train and evaluate sporting breeds, drawing participants from all over the northeast and the country.

The property is currently closed to motor vehicles, except for hunters during the October to December hunting season or by special permit.

The Wildlife Conservation Society's 2000 biological survey of the area as well as information provided by Breeding Bird Surveys and the Natural Heritage program have been instrumental in the DEC's unit management planning process.

This UMP will govern the management activities on the site for 10 years following its final adoption by the Department. Some of the information and issues presented in this Draft are:

- An inventory of the natural resources and human-made facilities on the property
- Establishment of a formal trail system
- Parking and access
- Use of the property by different groups
- Interpretation, including kiosks and a brochure
- Use of the property by people with disabilities
- Farming
- Maintenance of fields and brush land to maintain plant and animal species diversity
- Forest inventory and management
- Historic sites
- State Police facility
- Management to protect natural resources while developing the area's potential for passive recreation
- Insuring a viable and sustainable State Forest by considering the impacts of key inholdings or adjacent parcels
- Budget and staffing

The Department manages State lands for multiple uses to serve the People of New York State. This UMP is the first step in carrying out this policy. However, factors such as budget constraints, unforeseen changes in circumstances, staffing, and forest health problems may require deviation from the scheduled management activities.

The Department's ecosystem management goal is to maintain a balanced ecosystem while providing for diverse human use. The basic objective of this UMP allows for compatible human use of the Stewart State Forest so that these lands are passed on to future generations in better condition than when they were acquired.

The following DEC Region 3 staff members serve on the Unit Management Team for the Stewart State Forest. These members are assigned to the DEC's New Paltz office:

Team Members	**Bureau**
George Profous, Forester, Coordinator	Forestry
Jeffrey Wiegert, Robert Messenger	Forestry
Charles Antzak	Real Property
Len Bouren	Operations
Dan Walsh/Greg Tyrell/Kenneth Gierloff	Forest Ranger
Wayne Elliot/Leslie Surprenant	Fisheries
Ted Kerpez/Pat Vissering/Nathan Ermer	Wildlife
Peg Duke/Larry Biegel	Environmental Permits
Rick Martin/Neil Watt	Law Enforcement
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Renee O'Connor	Administration
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Introduction

Careful balancing is required by the DEC to successfully manage the 6,700+ acre Stewart State Forest with the competing priorities of protecting the land's natural resources and rural character and encouraging public access and recreational uses. The management of the property is guided by its classification as State Reforestation Area, and by the 1999 and 2006 orders for transfer of jurisdiction from the DOT to DEC. The Department was also guided by Citizen's Advisory Committee's recommendations (December, 1999) and two public meetings held shortly afterward, as well as comments received from two public meetings on October 26, 2006. The property is heavily used, including illegal motor vehicle trespass. DEC must take steps to control users and manage habitat through permits, physical improvements to the property and special regulations. These are discussed in this UMP. Recommendations addressing the major issues are summarized below.

This UMP will govern DEC's management activities on Stewart State Forest for ten years following its final adoption by the Department.

Major Issues

Recreational Uses

- The property will be open to all users throughout the year, except during the big game hunting season (approximately mid-November to mid-December), when access will be limited to licensed hunters and their companions.
- Improvements to the property will be made to enhance access, including posting trail and internal roadway signs, and parking areas.
- A loop system of trails based primarily on designated existing trails.
- Camping and fires will be prohibited except by permit.
- Dog trials will be allowed through the Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) process. Limited mowing will be allowed to facilitate dog trials and other wildlife related recreational uses.
- All terrain vehicles (ATV's) will continue to be prohibited.
- Snowmobiles will continue to be permitted on designated trails.

Natural Resource Management

- Habitat will be managed to reduce exotic invasive species, promote native animal and plant species, maintain regionally rare grass and shrub land habitat and protect wetlands and vernal pools.
- Forest resources will be managed in a sustainable manner to enhance wildlife habitat, maintain biodiversity, and provide wood products.
- Steps are outlined to protect rare plants and animals on the property.
- The original land transferred to Stewart State Forest in 1999 is subject to the DOT Transfer of Jurisdiction which allows the property to be used to mitigate wetland impacts associated with the airport's development.

Public Access

- Existing gates will be maintained and new gates added to control motor vehicle access.
- Motorized access is limited to hunters during the October through December hunting season. Motorized access by other users is by permit only.
- Users with mobility impairments will be allowed motorized access by special permit on designated roads and access points.
- Six parking areas will be located on the periphery for a total of approximately 120 cars and 15 horse trailer spaces (snowmobile trailer spaces in winter).

Environmental Education and Interpretation

- Kiosks with interpretive materials will be developed and will include information about proper land use etiquette, brochures, maps, regulations and user information.
- The check station building on Weed Road will be improved to make room for limited interpretive displays, a small office and a bathroom. The post office building, if it becomes available, will also be considered for other DEC uses.

Farming

- Farming will continue at a scale similar to what has taken place in the past, as a tool to enhance biodiversity and foster the viability of farming at the local level. Currently, farming on the property takes place through TRPs by farmers who were cultivating fields at the time the property was transferred to DEC in 1999. Farming practices will be subject to DEC requirements for irrigation; wetlands; best management practices; plant, wildlife, and habitat concerns; soil disturbance, and access.

Public Safety

- No development or wildlife habitat alteration, which interferes with the safe operation of Stewart International Airport, will take place. The DEC will work closely with airport personnel to monitor the property.
- DEC will explore a Transfer of Jurisdiction to New York State Police of the small parcel of land east of Barron Road that State Police are presently using to detonate and burn explosives.

Land Acquisition

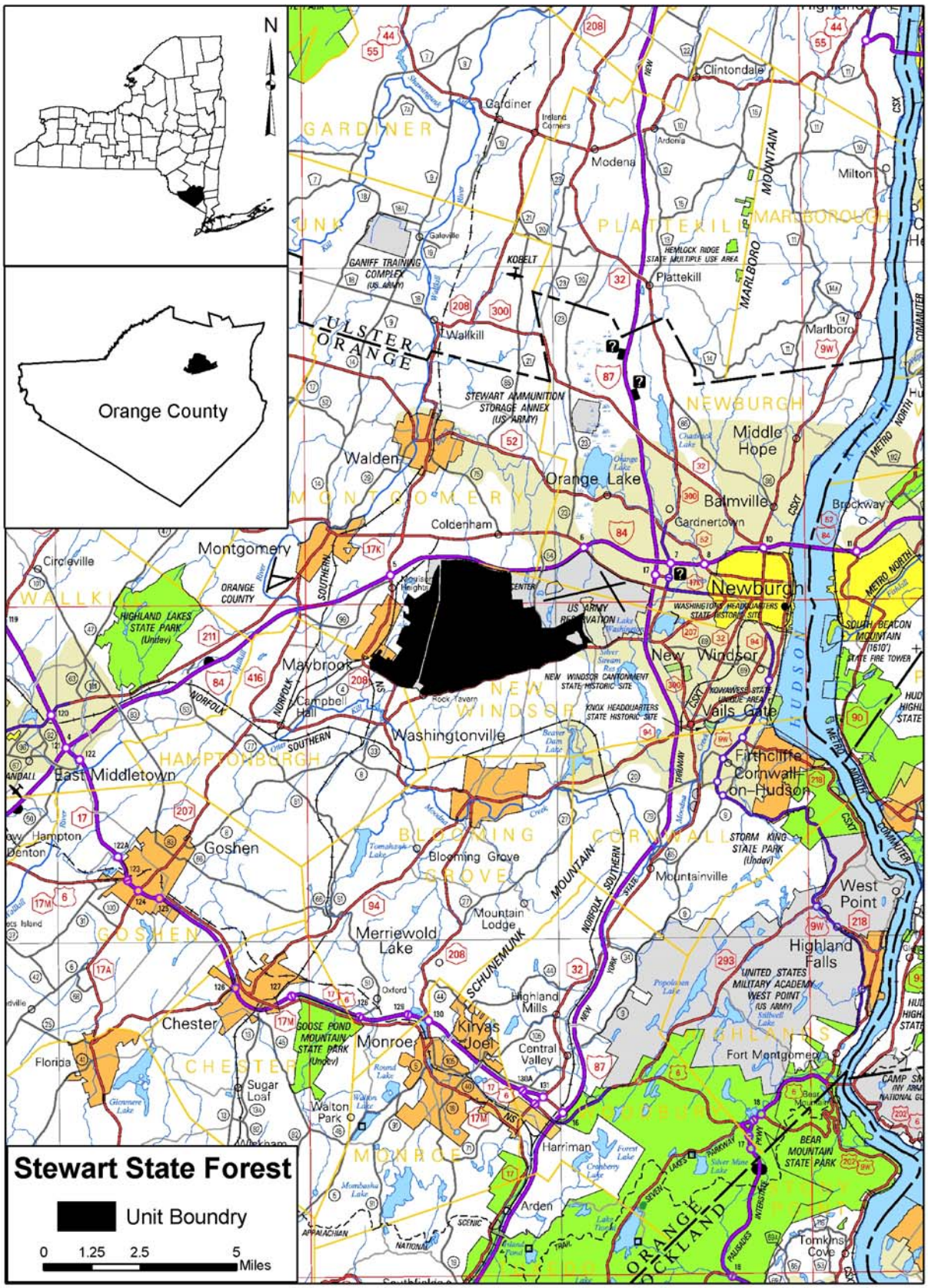
- Specific properties along South and North Baron Roads are of interest to the Department to ensure the integrity of Stewart State Forest. Any potential acquisition will be from willing sellers only. These properties are identified.

Funding/Staffing

- An annual maintenance budget is estimated at $197,950 dollars.
- Full Staffing requested is one Senior Forestry Technician, Grade 13 or above, and two Seasonal Assistant Forest Rangers (one May through December, one October through December).

- The total 10 year maintenance, capital improvements and personnel services budget is estimated at about 3 million dollars.

Stewart State Forest



I. INTRODUCTION

A. Location

The Stewart State Forest is located due west of Stewart International Airport, near Newburgh, Orange County, New York, in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh and the Village of Maybrook. It is accessed from the south via State Routes 207 and 208 and Forrester Road and from the north by Ridge and Barron Roads, off Route 17K.

B. Definition of Land Classification

The Stewart lands are classified as State Forest. The State Forest classification was initiated by the New York State Reforestation Law of 1929 and the Hewitt Amendment of 1931, the legislation which authorized the Conservation Department (predecessor agency to the DEC) to acquire land by gift or purchase for Reforestation Areas. These State Forests, consisting of not less than 500 acres of contiguous lands, were to be forever devoted to "reforestation and the establishment and maintenance thereon of forests for watershed protection, the production of timber, and for recreation and kindred purposes." This program is presently authorized under Article 9, Title 5 of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.

Today, there are nearly 710,000 acres of State Forests and Multiple Use Areas throughout the State. The use of these lands for a variety of purposes such as timber production, hiking, skiing, fishing, trapping and hunting is of tremendous importance economically, and to the health and well-being of the people of the State.

The Stewart State Forest consists of about 6,700 acres of gently rolling hills, wetlands, ponds, forests and fields. Manmade structures consisting of buildings, roads, trails, signs, gates and parking lots are located on this State Forest..

C. History of the State Forest and surrounding area

Pre-European History

Human occupancy of the Hudson Valley began at the end of the Pleistocene with the retreat of the Wisconsin Glacier. The first human populations in the valley, known as the Paleo-Indians, occupied a tundra environment to the south of the receding glacial margin from circa 10,500 BC to 8000 BC. Between 8000 BC and 1000 BC, known as the Archaic period, the sparse population (possibly due to a great reduction in the density of game that accompanied the shift from a spruce and tundra environment to a mixed deciduous/coniferous forest) slowly climbed with increasing use of coastal, riverine and plant resources. The Woodland period from 1000 BC to 1350 AD was characterized by increasing plant cultivation, including grain storage, although woodland hunting and gathering continued to provide a large part of the diet (NYSDOT, Stewart International Airport Properties Final Federal Environmental Impact Statement 1992)

At the time of European contact, the Native American groups who inhabited this portion of the Hudson Valley were Lenape or Delaware. The Lenape consisted of two related groups, the Munsee and Unami, who were characterized by distinct Algonquain dialects. The Munsee

occupied the territory that became northern New Jersey and southern New York. Among the Munsee-speaking groups, the Esopus occupied the area west of the Hudson River, between the Catskills and the highlands at West Point. Local subgroups included Waoranecks, the Warranwankongs, and the Wappingers (New York State DOT, 1992; Ruttenber and Clark 1981).

According to a summary on prehistoric occupation in Orange County produced by the Incorporated Orange County Chapter of the New York Archeological Association (1979), aboriginal sites were clustered on highlands bordering major streams and the margins of swamps, wetlands, and sinkholes. The heaviest prehistoric occupation in the county appears to have been during the Late Archaic period. There is also a good representation of Transitional Archaic sites. Woodland occupation in Orange County was relatively sparse and is restricted to upland rockshelters and flats along the Wallkill, Ramapo, Neversink, and Delaware rivers. No large Woodland base camps or villages have been located in the county.

European History

The first European settlers in this area were Dutch. Colonization increased after the territory came under English control in 1664. Orange County was established in 1683 as one of New York's original 12 counties. The original county boundaries included what is now the southern portion of Orange County and all of Rockland County (Ruttenber and Clark 1981).

Numerous land patents were issued in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century, following the purchase of Native American lands. The early settlers in this area were dispossessed of their land in 1694, when Captain John Evans obtained a patent from Colonel Fletcher, Governor of the New York Colony. The Evans Pattent consisted of 650,000 acres along the west shore of the Hudson, approximately from New Paltz on the north, Stony Brook on the south, and the Shawangunk Mountains on the West (Headley 1908:34-35). In 1699, the Evans Patent was annulled and the territory conveyed in small tracts by numerous patents issued between 1701 and 1775 (Ruttenber and Clark 1981). The early inhabitants of Orange County were characterized by diverse ethnicity, including Dutch, English, French, German, Irish and Scot and supported themselves through subsistence farming.

The southeasterly corner of Stewart State Forest , part of the western half of the Town of New Windsor has been known for over a century as Little Britain. This name probably comes from Peter Mullinar who bought 200 acres of land in 1729 and probably came from Little Britain, or Bretagne Street, in London, after which he named his farm. The cemetery near Bull Road was once part of his farm and bears his name (Orange County Post, September 14, 1978).

Rock Tavern is named after an early landmark - a tavern built on a large rock and owned and operated by John Humphrey in 1740 - once located near the intersection of present day Forrester Road and Route 207. At this tavern, plans were made for the organization of the present Orange County. Today, the former site of this tavern is somewhere near realigned Rt. 207. The ruins of Morris Tavern are on the property between Forrester Road and the Rock Tavern Post Office.

In 1798, the county lines of New York State were revised and Orange County annexed the towns of Newburgh, New Windsor, Wallkill, Montgomery and Deerpark.

The Stewart properties fall within the towns of New Windsor, Hamptonburgh and Montgomery. New Windsor was established as a town in 1798, the township became part of Orange County (Ruttenber and Clark 1981). The northwestern part of the town is a marshy area known as the Great Swamp. Until the Revolutionary War, New Windsor was the center of trade through Orange County. Local industries included brick and glass works, in addition to the many grain mills. During the nineteenth century, New Windsor lost much of its commercial trade to Newburgh, which had the advantages of Hudson River frontage.

Montgomery Township was originally part of the Precinct of Shawangunk, established in 1714, although the area became part of Wallkill in 1743 until the formation of Hanover Precinct in 1772. In 1782, the Hanover Precinct was renamed Montgomery, which then became a township 1789. Subsequently, the creation of Crawford in 1823 and Hamptonburgh in 1830 reduced the area of Montgomery Township by almost one half. Woolens manufacturing was established in Montgomery in 1830 and became a primary industry by the late nineteenth century. Other local manufacturers included cutlery and bricks.

Hamptonburgh was formed in 1830 from parts of the townships of Goshen, Blooming Grove, New Windsor, Montgomery and Wallkill (Ruttenber and Clark 1981:653). The area was originally part of Wawayanda Patent of 1703.

By 1830, the Erie Canal had a large impact on commerce in Newburgh. In response, Newburgh officials approached the New York and Erie Railroad in 1835 to make Newburgh the eastern terminus of the railroad. Construction of the Newburgh to New York railroad, however, was not completed until 1869.

The City of Newburgh was incorporated in 1865. Most of the township's manufacturing took place in this area and included saw and grist mills, iron works, and clothing manufactures.

Although the early communities supported themselves by subsistence farming, by the nineteenth century, corn, wheat, oats, rye and buckwheat were important crops. Fruits were also extensively grown in the Hudson River region (Headley 1908:638-639). The fine grasslands of Orange County also nurtured an early emphasis on horse-breeding. Dairy farming was intensively practiced and many areas in Orange County produced cheese and butter. In 1842 the New York and Erie Railroad carried Orange County's first milk consignment to New York City. Soon, creameries were established at each station in the dairy region. However, shipping liquid milk proved to be more profitable, and by the 1880's the county contained 70 milk shipping stations, three condenseries, two cheese and one butter and cheese factory (Headley 1908:764).

The rural economy of the county continued into the twentieth century, as the county increasingly felt the influences of an ever expanding New York City metropolitan area. However, the commercial hub in the area shifted from New Britain toward Newburgh. White Cloud Farms, 1917-1957, is an example of the interesting changes which have occurred throughout the region over the past century. Starting as an apple orchard/farm, it became famous for its pottery and tiles, and among other famous projects made the mosaic street signs for the New York City Subway System (Visakay, 2006; Marshall, personal communication). The farm acreage became part of the land for the Stewart Airport expansion. The area of

Stewart State Forest continues to be a crossroads where major arteries like the New York State Thruway and Interstate 84, railroads, air traffic and the Hudson River intersect, providing a link to major metropolitan areas.

The Stewart Property Since 1970

The *Stewart State Forest* is a large block of rural landscape surrounded by largely developed suburban and urban areas of eastern Orange County. In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its airbase and declared the property surplus. In March of 1970 the Air Force transferred title of the 1,600 - acre airport to the state Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). The land to the west of Stewart International Airport has been in public ownership since approximately 1971, when the MTA acquired and appropriated 802 parcels of land which totaled 8,076 acres in anticipation of the airport's expansion. State officials thought Stewart would become the fourth major airport serving the New York City metropolitan area. There is also some indication that the State intended to develop Stewart as the east coast's supersonic transport (SST) airport - hence, the very long runway and large buffer area. The State bought 802 parcels of land with 337 residences and farmhouses - mostly through eminent domain. About 1,200 people lived on these properties. Remnants of house foundations, driveways, and old orchards are still found on the land, testifying to the residential and agricultural uses which took place here.
The buildings on the property were demolished starting in 1972. The airport expansion was abandoned by 1982 and the state legislature transferred ownership from the MTA to the DOT. This allowed the MTA to return to its core business of providing mass transportation for the metropolitan area. Commercial passenger flights began at Stewart Airport in 1990.

On March 4, 1999, Governor Pataki announced the transfer of 5260 acres west of the Stewart International Airport from the DOT to the Department to be managed as a Reforestation Area - Stewart State Forest (subsequently revised to approximately 5100 acres to account for power line lands owned by Central Hudson passing through the property). A copy of the Transfer of Jurisdiction document is provided in the Appendix C. DOT retained certain rights on the property, including the use of the area as an aircraft noise buffer, and for wetland enhancement and creation as mitigation for DOT and airport expansion wetland impacts. Subsequently, approximately 1600 more acres were transferred from DOT to DEC on June 29, 2006, pursuant to a November, 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal, [No. 00-cv-1606, Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition, Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc and Sierra Club v. Rodney E. Slater (US Department of Transportation), et al.)]

Former DEC Commissioner Cahill set the stage for the property's management; when he said "We will make the Stewart lands a premier outdoor destination while providing maximum protection for its natural resources."

Management of Stewart International Airport was privatized to the National Express Group PLC of the United Kingdom in June, 2000.

II. INFORMATION ON THE STATE FOREST

A. Inventory of Real Property

This information should be used in conjunction with the "Transfer of Jurisdiction" maps and descriptions cited in Table 1 which provide more detail about the property, as well as the 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (No. 00-cv-1606, Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition, Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc and Sierra Club v. Rodney E. Slater (US Department of Transportation), et al.)

Table #1 Parcels included in the Stewart State Forest

Parcel	Acres	Date Acquired	Funding Source	Previous Owner
Orange 4	5100+	3/4/1999	T.O.J.*	NYSDOT/MTA
Orange 4	1600+	6/29/2006	T.O.J.*	NYSDOT
Total	6700+			

(* Transfer of Jurisdiction)

1. Burdens, Exceptions, Leases, Easements and Right-of-Ways

   a. Property Burdens
   - Wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and airport projects.

   b. Exceptions
   - Cemetery along Rt. 207 between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane.
   - Belknap Family Cemetery between Rt. 207 and Barrett Road.
   - United States military housing parcel.
   - Little Britain Elementary School.

   - Excepted Parcel No. 1
     Is a parcel of land located on Barron Road along the northwest border of Stewart State Forest. Although it is outside the State Forest, DOT retains access rights on northerly Barrron Road which may affect future access and parking in that vicinity.

   - Excepted Parcel No. 2
     A parcel of land being 600 feet along the westerly line of Barron Road and being 300 feet deep, containing approximately 4 acres of land, designated as "Excepted Parcel No. 2 for Division State Police" as generally shown upon O.G.S. Map No. 1751 revised March 4, 1999.

Together with a 50 foot wide right-of-way, for ingress and egress, along the existing Barron Road, from NYS Route 208, to along the above described Excepted Parcel No. 2.

- Excepted Parcel No. 3
  A parcel of land being 150 foot wide, located along the southerly boundary of said Interstate Route 84 containing approximately 32 acres of land, designated as "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be reserved by NYSDOT" as generally shown upon O.G.S. Map No. 1751 revised March 4, 1999.

- Village of Maybrook. The sections of Barron Road, Decker Road and Second Street that are within the Village limits were not appropriated by the DOT. These roads remain as Village property, in fee, with a 50 foot wide right-of-way.

c. Leases

- A five-year lease agreement between the United State Post Office and DOT was assumed by the DEC. The current agreement was entered into on December 1, 2004. The U.S. Postal Service has two additional five year lease options that will expire in 2014.

d. Easements/Rights-of-Way

- Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation owns and manages about 118 acres under transmission lines surrounded by the State Forest, along with another 41 acres in a transmission right-of-way.
- Access easement between the United States Military Housing and Little Britain Elementary School (Orange Co. Clerk filed map 1740, February 10, 1958.
- Easement for sewer and water lines between United States Military Housing and Jackson Avenue extension/airport (map 1740).
- Clark Street access easement (map 1740).
- Drainage easement north of United States military housing
- 33 foot right-of-way for a transcontinental coaxial underground telephone cable (kept free of trees and mowed) from Route 207 north, between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane.

2. Real Estate Taxes Paid on the Unit

New York State pays school, fire district and town taxes on State Forest lands of over 500 contiguous acres under Real Property Tax Law Section 534. Taxes are not paid to the County, or on buildings. Thus, recreational and open-space benefits are provided to the region with continued support of the local tax base. Taxes paid by the State in 2004 were approximately $800,000.

B. Geographical & Geological Information

1. Geology

The eastern part of Orange County is a complex of folded and faulted rocks ranging from the Pre-Columbian to the Triassic period. Metamorphic rock predominates the area. Orange County was moderately affected by glaciation. The movements of the glaciers modified the topography and soils. The last ice age started approximately 300,000 years ago and retreated 12,000 years ago. Glacial fill is the dominant overburden. Topographic relief in the area is moderate but irregular. Bedrock ridges reach elevations of approximately 600 feet above mean sea level (MSL) and in addition, there are areas of exposed bedrock. The highest point within the project area is Buchanan Hill, which is located between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane and reaches an elevation of 658 feet. Low lying areas between the ridges are 340 to 360 feet above MSL and are often swamps and marshes.

2. Soils

The primary soils of the Stewart State Forest consist of two major classifications, the Mardin-Erie series and the Nassau-Bath- Rock outcrop series.

The Mardin-Erie series can be described as a gravelly silt loam. These soils were formed by glacial till deposits in uplands. The Mardin component can be characterized as deep, moderately well drained, while the Erie component consists of deep, poorly drained soils.

The Nassau-Bath-rock outcrop series can be described as shaly silt loam. These soils were formed in thin glacial till deposits on bedrock controlled uplands. The Nassau soil is moderately drained and shallow over bedrock, the Bath soils are well drained and deeper over bedrock. The Nassau-Bath-rock outcrop soils are associated with Mardin and Erie soils. In contrast to the Mardin-Eric soils, these soils (Nassau-Bath) have better natural drainage and are deeper over fragipan.

Carlisle muck is found in the Great Swamp and East of Drury Lane, and is up to 96" deep. The seasonal high water table is near the surface in spring, but lowers quickly through the drainage network once upland runoff subsides. Trees are red maple, willow and alder.

Madalin Silt Loam, formed in glacial lake deposits of silt and clay, the predominant feature in the wetland east of Drury Lane. Partially drained, these areas were once used for pasture. Surrounding soils are very poorly drained and have prolonged wet periods, including:
- Canandaigua silt loam
- Histic humaquepts (Ponded soils commonly called freshwater marsh with typically 1-6 inches of water, muck from 4 to 16 inches thick).
- Limited areas of Palms muck (ponded organic deposits 16 to 50 inches thick over mineral soil deposits). Palms muck is found in depressions and bogs in uplands, and concave basins in lowlands plains.

Also, human activities form Udorthents, best described as soils formed in man-made cut-and-fill areas. Excavated cut and fill areas and soil stockpiles are typical examples (see Appendix A for soils list)

C. Climate

(Prepared by the National Climatic Center, Asheville, North Carolina)

Winters are cold in Orange County. Summers are moderately warm with occasional hot spells. Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year and is nearly always adequate for all crops. Winter snows occur frequently, occasionally as blizzards.

In winter the average temperature is 29 degrees F, and the average daily minimum temperature is 21 degrees. The lowest temperature on record, which occurred at West Point on February 8, 1963, is -11 degrees. In summer the average temperature is 73 degrees, and the average daily maximum temperature is 84 degrees. The highest recorded temperature , which occurred on September 2, 1953, is 105 degrees.

The total annual precipitation is 48 inches. Of this, 24 inches, or 50 percent, usually falls in April through September, which includes the growing season for most crops. In 2 years out of 10, the rainfall in April through September is less than 20 inches. The heaviest 1-day rainfall during the period of record was 4.76 inches at West Point on September 12, 1960. Thunderstorms occur on about 31 days each year, and most occur in summer.

Average seasonal snowfall is 43 inches. The greatest snow depth at any one time during the period of record was 40 inches. On an average of 25 days, at least 1 inch of snow is on the ground. The number of such days varies greatly from year to year.

The average relative humidity in mid-afternoon is about 60 percent. Humidity is higher at night, and the average at dawn is about 80 percent. The sun shines 60 percent of the time possible in summer and 40 percent in winter. The prevailing wind is from the southwest. Average wind-speed is highest, 10 miles per hour, in April.

D. Vegetative Types and Stages

Stewart State Forest is a 6,700 acre complex of second growth deciduous woodlands, agricultural and post-agricultural lands, and interconnected wetlands.

Virtually all the Stewart State Forest property has been subjected to some form of disturbance in the recent past. Most of this disturbance is the result of agricultural activities that have been the predominant land use throughout the region for hundreds of years. When agricultural activities cease, as they have on much of the Stewart property, ecological succession results in a variety of habitats that eventually revert to a mesic hardwood forest. Similar patterns of succession have taken place over much of the northeast with the decline of agriculture over the past century. The current forest is a result of soil type, past land use and time.

Table #2 Approximate Acreage of Vegetative Types and Land Uses in the Stewart State Forest.

Land Cover Type	Forest	Non-forest	Total Acres	Percent
Agriculture		519	519	7.7
Old Field-Grass/Forb		414	414	6.1
Brushy Fields		378	378	5.6
Open Wetlands		670	670	10.0
Brushy Wetland		384	384	5.7
Wetland Forest	1312		1312	19.5
Mature Upland Forest-Oak/ Hickory, N. Hdwd	1385		1385	20.6
Sapling Forest	1560		1560	23.2
Open Water		70	70	1.0
Roads/Bldg/Park Lot/Other		40	40	0.6
TOTAL	4257	2475	6732	100.0

The exact acreage of the property is not available at this time, but is estimated at around 6700 acres. The above estimates are within an acceptable margin of error, until exact boundaries are re-surveyed.

The two major forest types, Wetland Forest and Upland Forest, constitute 61% of the land classification of Stewart State Forest.

The Wetland Forest can be characterized as semi-permanently flooded with red maple (Acer rubrum) as the dominant tree species, associated with green ash (Fraxinus pennsylvania) and American elm (Ulmus americana). Pin oak (Quercus palustris) and swamp white oak (Quercus bicolor) are associated around the periphery of the wetland.

The oak-hickory upland forest type is dominated by black oak (Quercus velutina), white oak (Quercus alba), red oak (Quercus rubra), shag bark hickory (Carya ovata), pignut hickory (Carya glabra) and white ash (Fraxinus americana). Minor associates of this forest type are scarlet oak (Quercus coccinea), red maple (Acer rubrum), sweet birch (Betula lenta), sugar maple (Acer saccharum) and black cherry (Prunus serotina). On the driest locations and ridge tops chestnut oak (Quercus prinus) dominates.

In addition to the broad vegetative cover types, rare, threatened, endangered and species of special concern were identified (see Table #4).

Table #4 Rare, Threatened, Endangered Plants and Plant Species of Special Concern found on Stewart State Forest.

SPECIES			CLASSIFICATION
1.	Winged Monkey Flower	*Mimulus alatus*	State, Rare
2.	Small Flowered Agrimony	*Agrimony parviflora*	State, Rare
3.	Slender Knotweed	*Polygonum tenue*	State, Rare
4.	Purple Milkweed	*Asclepias purpurascens*	State, Special Concern

Also found within the broad vegetative cover types are invasive plants.

Table #5 Common Invasive plants of Stewart State Forest

1.	Mile-A-Minute Weed	(*Polygonum perfoliatum*)
2.	Japanese Knotweed	(*Polygonum cuspidatum*)
3.	Barberry	(*Berberis* spp.)
4.	Phargmites	(*Phragmites australis*)
5.	Purple Loose Strife	(*Lythrum salicaria*)
6.	Multiflora Rose	(*Rosa multiflora*)
7.	Norway Maple	(*Acer platanoides*)
8.	Autumn Olive	(*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
9.	Spotted Knapweed	(*Centaurea maculosa*)
10.	Wild grapes	(*Vitis* spp.)
11.	Japan. Honeysuckle	(*Lonicera japonica*)
12.	Privet	(Ligustrum vulgare)
13.	Leafy Spurge	(*Euphorbia esula*)

Invasive plants are plants not naturally found in an area. Their spread can harm native plants, animals and natural communities, and sometimes even people. Many invasive plants spread when forest areas are disturbed, or large openings are created in the canopy. Any silvicultural activities must be carefully assessed so as not to assist in the spread of invasives from other parts of the world, or other nuisance species such as Poison ivy (Rhus radicans) or wild grape (Vitis spp), which although native, can also become invaders when an area is disturbed.

E. Wildlife

Following extensive field work at the Stewart State Forest, the Metropolitan Conservation Alliance (a program of the Wildlife Conservation Society), provided scientific data on wildlife and their habitat. In addition, the NYS Breeding Bird Atlas, the DEC Reptile and Amphibian Atlas, Robert Chamber's list of species by ecosystem, and staff observations provided information on wildlife species of the unit. From this, wildlife management recommendations were formulated for this UMP. Information was also collected on species whose presence or absence gives important information regarding the health of the biological systems on the site,

as well as those threatened, endangered, or of special concern. The presence/absence of these species can allow the delineation of critical habitat zones that may require special management considerations. Another goal of this study was to understand the relative ecological importance of the contiguous properties that are at present outside the boundaries of the Stewart State Forest. Areas may be important ecologically because of the species that inhabit them or because they are part of the Stewart State Forest ecosystem. This information will be helpful in evaluating acreage for future inclusion in the State Forest.

1. Reptiles and Amphibians

Fifteen (15) species of amphibians (8 salamanders and 7 frogs) and 11 species of reptiles (5 turtles and 6 snakes) were observed by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS, 2000). The DEC Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Database (see appendix) and this research allows species to be broken down into those that are generally common and widespread in the region, and those that may be relatively common at present, but that are dependent on certain specific types of habitat or habitat complexes (for example, large grassland or shrub land areas) to satisfy their requirements. The habitat dependent species are vulnerable to sharp population declines when subjected to landscape-level changes such as wetland destruction and woody plant succession in abandoned meadows and grasslands) (Wildlife Conservation Society, 2000).

2. Breeding Birds

810 individuals comprising 60 species were observed during a breeding bird survey conducted in June 1999 . Additional bird species were recorded outside of the June survey window (see appendix for a list of breeding species from the 2000-2005 Breeding Bird Atlas). Many of the species that were documented are those that are generally common and widespread in the region. There are however, certain species and groups of species found in the Stewart State Forest that are regionally significant, primarily because the habitat they require is declining throughout the northeast. These include:

A. grassland and shrub land nesting species, which require early successional communities to persist;

B. neo-tropical migrant species, some of which require relatively large contiguous forest tracts to breed successfully;

C. and some wetland species, which either nest colonially, or have relatively specific habitat requirements.

Representatives of these regionally significant species groups are found on the Stewart property, making it important in maintaining many of the less common species in the region. Examples of these groups include Field and Song Sparrows (Spizella pusilla, Melospiza melodia) and Blue-winged and Prairie warblers (Vermivora pinus, Dendroica discolor), which nest in early successional habitats; Oven Bird (Seiurus aurocapillus), Scarlet Tanager (Piranga olivacea), and Veery (Catharus fuscescens) which nest in forest habitats; and the colonially nesting Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodius). No grassland breeding bird species were observed during the breeding bird survey in 1999. Additional surveys for grassland bird species should be made in suitable habitat.

A Blue Heron rookery was reported in the southern half of the Stewart State Forest between Ridge and Maple Avenues and east of Drury Lane in 2002. A Blue Heron rookery has also been found at the Armstrong Lane wetland east of Drury Lane.

3. Hawk Survey

Red-tailed Hawks (Buteo jamaicensis) were observed on 15 occasions (1-3 individuals). A Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus) was observed on two occasions, and a Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter cooperii) and Sharpshinned Hawk (Accipiter striatas) on one occasion each. Hawk survey results are not robust and few generalizations can be made from them. Red-tailed Hawks are generally common in the region and frequent observations in surveys are expected. There are many open areas for hunting and prey species are likely to be abundant. Northern Harrier were also observed on a number of occasions.

4. Mammals

Forty-two species of mammals have been verified on the property (See Appendix). The property has a great deal of promise regarding habitat for the federally endangered Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) (Alan Hicks, DEC Bureau of Wildlife).

The relatively large size of the property near large protected areas in the Hudson Highlands make it a potentially significant habitat for wide-ranging, area sensitive carnivores, including otter and black bear (Metropolitan Conservation Alliance, 2000).

A nuisance beaver release program was conducted on the property years ago by the DEC. As a result of this reintroduction effort, the property currently supports an active beaver population.

5. Game Species

Game species may be defined as species of interest for hunting, fishing or trapping. The Stewart State Forest has a long tradition of providing these sporting opportunities. Game species on Stewart State Forest are white-tail deer (Odocoileus virginianus), turkey (Meleagris gallopavo sylvestris), woodcock (Scolopax minor), ringneck pheasant (Phasianus colchicus torquatus), raccoon (Procyon lotor), short-tail and long-tail weasel (Mustela frenata), mink (Mustela vison), river otter (Lutra canadensis), striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis), coyote (Canis latrans), red and gray fox (Volpes fulva, Urocyon cinereoargenteus), bob cat (Lynx rufus), woodchuck (Marmota monax), eastern gray squirrel (Sciurus carolinensis), muskrat (Ondatra zibethica) , snowshoe hare (Lepus americanus) and eastern cottontail (Sylvilagus floridanus).

6. Fish

Ponds on the property contain warm water fish species, including largemouth bass, and pan fish (bluegill, pumpkinseed sunfish, yellow perch, bullheads and crappies). Trout fingerlings are supported on a section of tributary in the southwest corner of the property.

7. Butterflies and Invertebrates

On July 10, 11 and 26th, and again on September 8, 9, and 10, 2003, John Yrizarry and 3 observers, members of the North American Butterfly Association, sampled the Barron Road area specifically, as well as the larger property along existing roads (Maple Avenue west). Including skippers, over 30 different species were found, including several that are uncommon in Orange County (Pine elfin and Meadow fritillary). Also found, was a small population of Rufus-vented Tiger beetles east of Barron Road (a species rare south of Albany).

8. Rare, Threatened and Endangered Animals and Species of Special Concern

Threatened species are native species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future in New York (See Table 5). One such species, the Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis), has been found roosting within a quarter mile of the State Forest. Since it has a forage range of two miles from its roost, it is likely that it can be found on the property, although no individuals have yet been observed.

Table #6:
Rare, Threatened and Endangered Animal Species
of Special Concern found on Stewart State Forest

SPECIES	CLASSIFICATION
Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus)	State - Threatened
Upland Sandpiper (Bartramia longicauda)	State - Threatened
Least Bittern (Ixobrychus exilis)	State - Threatened
Grasshopper Sparrows (Ammodramus savannarum)	State - Threatened
Coopers Hawk (Accipiter cooperii)	State - Threatened
Red shoulder Hawk (Buteo lineatus)	State - Threatened
Sharpshinned Hawk (Accipiter striatas)	State - Threatened
Pied-billed Grebe (Podilymbus podicaps)	State - Threatened
Horned Lark (Eremophilia alpcstris)	State - Threatened
Yellow-breasted Chat (Icteria virens)	State - Threatened
Jefferson Salamander (Ambystoma jeffersonianum)	State - Threatened
Blue-spotted Salamander (Ambystoma laterale)	State - Threatened
Marbled Salamander (Ambystoma opacum)	State - Threatened

F. Wetlands and Water Resources

1. Freshwater Wetlands

Large wetland areas exist on the property. Twenty-one DEC mapped and regulated wetlands are located on the property. These wetlands range in size from 16.5 to 327 acres and have a total area of approximately 2,000 acres. Many smaller wetlands are found on the State Forest as well. These smaller wetlands include ephemeral or seasonal wetlands and an extensive complex of vernal pools, primarily located in the more topographically varied western part of the property. In total, all types of wetlands (including palustrine emergent, scrub and deciduous forest) make up about one-third of the State Forest (Stewart International Airport

Properties FEIS, 1992). The extensive wetland systems found on this property provide valuable wildlife habitats, as well as resources for educational, interpretive, recreation and research programs.

Vernal pools are essential to the survival of populations of many species of invertebrates and amphibians. These species rely on vernal pools to complete at least part of their life cycles. For example, wood frogs and spotted and marbled salamanders breed almost exclusively in these pool and spend the rest of their lives in the surrounding uplands.

Because some vernal pools may dry out before larval amphibians metamorphose, maintaining a complex of these ponds within a woodland matrix is critical in maintaining populations of these species over time. This allows the recolonization of pools that fail in some years with individuals from source ponds that have successful reproduction. This dynamic is an aspect of vernal systems that is often lacking in unprotected areas in the lower Hudson Valley where fragmentation and other types of disturbance tend to disrupt the connections between complexes of vernal pools.

Beavers currently control the water levels of the property's "Great Swamp," the extensive wetland between Maple Avenue and Ridge Road. Another wetlands system in the property's southwest corner, was expanded several years ago when a dam (Restoration Pond)was constructed between Drakes Lane and Rowe's Pond, north of Forrester Road. This project was undertaken to mitigate wetland destruction during the construction of the airport. Dam maintenance and control on existing water control structures is a DEC responsibility.

In the transfer of jurisdiction document between the DOT and DEC, Stewart State Forest is reserved as a land bank for "Wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and Airport projects." A mitigation wetland was created in 2001, west of New Road. In February 2006, the DOT began building a 13-acre wetland mitigation project west of Barron Road. However, wetland mitigation projects are prohibited in the 1600+ acre addition east of Maple Avenue (transferred in June, 2006).

See Appendix K. for a freshwater wetlands map of the Stewart State Forest.

2. Ponds or Lakes

Table #7

Ponds & Lakes on Stewart State Forest		
1.	Rowe's Pond	2 acres
2.	Restoration Pond	10 acres
3.	Beaver Pond	6 acres
4.	Pittman-Robertson Pond	1 acre
5.	Stick Pond	4 acres
6.	Whalenburgh Pond	6 acres
7.	Tenney's Pond (access)	12 acres
8.	Clark Ave (Pond 234n)	8 acres

Many smaller remnants of farm ponds are found on the property. These ponds contain warm water species including largemouth bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, yellow perch, crappie, brown bullhead and carp.

3. Surface Water Hydrology

The Stewart State Forest contributes storm water to the Moodna Creek and Wallkill River Basin Watersheds.

Two subbasins on the property contribute storm water runoff to the Wallkill River (via Tin Brook). The northwest corner of the Forest drains north along New Road, crossing under I-84 to the west of New Road. The center of the property, including the large wetland known as the Great Swamp, drains north along Maple Avenue passing under I-84 just east of Maple Avenue. This area includes approximately half the lands between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane.

The remaining areas of the Stewart State forest and adjacent properties drain toward Moodna Creek. In the southwest of the property a number of small wetlands drain south under NYS Route 208 to the Otter Kill, a tributary of Moodna Creek.

4. Water Quality Classifications

The DEC Division of Water Resources established water quality standards for water bodies in the State (6NYCRR Part 701). These standards classify streams according to their water quality and provide the basis for determining what uses are appropriate for these waters.

The minimum classification assigned to the waters on Stewart State Forest is C. Class "C" waters are suitable for fishing, and fish propagation and survival. The water quality is suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation even though other factors may limit the use for that purpose.

Two tributaries on the property are classified Class B - a more stringent classification than C - with a water quality suitable for swimming:

- H139-13-33-3 (Tributary 3 of Tin Brook, a tributary to the Wallkill River. Flows north under Ridge Road near north Scofield Lane).

- H139-13-33 (The Great Swamp is the headwaters of Tin Brook which flows north to the Wallkill River).

Two tributaries on the property are classified Class C:

H89-12-P234-1-4 (Tributary 4 of the main tributary of Beaverdam Lake flows from Tenney's Pond to Drury Lane and Route 207 south to Moodna Creek).

H89-12-P234-1 (Main tributary from the area south/southwest of Stewart International Airport flowing south to Beaverdam Lake and Moodna Creek).

A section of tributary H89-20-5 flowing into the Otter Kill, a tributary of Moodna Creek, in the southwest corner of the Stewart State Forest near Maybrook is designated C (T). It is capable of supporting trout for 1.4 miles of its length in Stewart State Forest. The remaining section of this tributary, to the outlet of Maybrook Reservoir, has a "C" classification.

G. Inventory of Man-made Facilities

The Stewart State Forest's roads, trails and water bodies are used for hiking, hunting, fishing, trapping , hunting dog training, group camping, bicycling, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, nature study, bird watching, and wildlife observation. These activities take advantage of trails, roads and water control structures that predominantly predate the establishment of Stewart State Forest.

1. Impoundment Structures (Dams)

- Restoration Pond - between Drakes Lane and Barron Road. 400' soil berm, 14' outflow structure, two 4' culverts.
- Wilkens Pond - 125' soil berm. Outflow over stones and soil about 15 feet in length.
- Rowe's Pond - 50' (no real berm, overflow is overland through a low wet spot).
- New Road Pond - 100' concrete/asphalt berm, 5' outflow.
- Beaver Pond - 220' berm.
- West of Ridge Road near Scofield Lane: 100' stone and soil berm with overflow.
- Great Swamp - 2/10 mile in 2 road berms, 5' outflow structure with 3-36" culverts.
- Whalenburgh Pond - 100' stone and soil berm with overflow.

Wetland H89-12-P234-1, east of Drury Lane.

2. Existing Road System

Table #8: Paved and gravel roads (11)

Name	Mileage
Ridge Road	3.2
Maple Avenue (Rte 207 to Ridge Road)*	3.05
Barron Road **	3.8
New Road (Ridge Road to Ridge Road North)	4.0
Weed Road	0.45
Lindsay Road	0.3
Orlando Drive	0.8
Giles Road	0.9
Drakes Lane	0.65
Decker Road ***(to railroad tracks in SW)	0.4
Total of Paved & Gravel Roads	17.55 miles

* DOT retains all roadway access

** DEC owns road, but State Police and the Barron Road Development Area (DOT) retain rights

*** The Village of Maybrook retains road right of way on Decker and Barron Roads that are located within the village boundaries.

3. Dirt Roads

Table #9 Dirt Roads (6)

Name	Mileage
• Old Creamery Road (stream crossing washed out)	0.4
• Unnamed road west of Drakes Lane	0.3
• Windsor Woods Road/Trail (Trail F)	1.0
• Road between the Fields (Ridge to New Roads) (Trail E)	1.0
• Forrester to Restoration and Beaver Ponds (Trail N)	0.8
• The Armstrong Lane Farm Trail (Rte 207, east of Drury, Trail P)	0.5
Total Dirt Roads	4.0 miles

4. Trails

Numerous multiple use trails crisscross the property. Some of the major trails are listed below. See the appendix for a map of trail locations. The trail system is used by equestrians, hikers, mountain bikers, cross-country skiers and snowmobilers. These trails are not intended for motor vehicle access. Descriptions of these trails systems and their designated uses can be found in Section VIIB5.

Table #10 Trails (20)

Trail/Name	Mileage
• Trail A/ Southern Maple Avenue to Weed Road connector	1.3
• Trail B/ New Road near Ridge Road intersect to Barron Road	2.9
• Trail B2/Spur connecting Trail B to Restoration Pond	0.6
• C Trails/New Road to Barron Road	1.0/0.5
• Trail D/Orlando Road to Barron connector	1.3
• Trail E/Northern Ridge Road to New Road connector (Pittmann-Robertson)	1.0
• Trail F1/Windsor Woods Road to Ridge Road	1.2
• Trail F2/New Road to Senior Hill	0.6
• Trail F3/Trail east of Windsor Woods Road to Senior Hill (Lindsay Rd.)	1.0
• Trail F4/Senior Hill Road to New Road	0.4
• Trail G/Windsor Woods to Pittman-Robertson Road near New Road	1.0
• Trail H/Scofield Lane Ridge Trail	2.0
• Trail I/Great Swamp Trail	0.8
• Trail L/Old Raincoat Factory to Barron Road and Lindsay	0.7
• Trail N/Farm Lane from Forrester to Restoration Pond to Beaver Pond	0.8
• Barron Rd wetland mitigation site to farm fields west of New Rd, S. of Lindsay Rd.	0.6
• Trail O/Buchanan Hill	1.8
• Trail P/Armstrong Land Farm Trail spur	0.8
Total Trails	20.3 miles

5. Facility Signs

- Kiosk (Weed Road Parking Lot)
- Kiosk (Ridge Road Parking Lot)
- Kiosk (Barron Road North)
- Various road signs

6. Structures (Buildings)

- Post Office Building on Rt. 207
- Old Barn ruins at Creamery Road
- DEC Hunter check station on Weed Road
- Shed on Rt. 208
- N. Barron Rd. Raincoat factory ruins

7. Boundary Lines

• Exterior		22.1 miles
• Interior (Electric transmission line ROW)		6.4 miles
	Total	28.5 miles

8. Group Camping Sites (1)

- West of Ridge Road in the old Orchard.

9. Gates (11)

- Barron Road south (at 208)
- Barron road north (at Route 84 underpass)
- Forrester Road (at Route 208)
- Giles Road (at Route 207)
- Ridge Road north (at Route 84 overpass)
- New Road (at Route 84 overpass)
- Maple Avenue (at Route 84 overpass)
- Ridge Road south (at 207)
- Weed Road (at Route 207)
- Weed Road (near Check Station Building)
- Maple Avenue (at Route 207)

10. Fences

- 300 feet chain link fence on lands behind the raincoat factory separating the State Forest from lands used heavily by ATVs.
- Along the length of I-84 on DOT land.
- Short lengths of plastic fencing closing off trails and openings adjacent to some main road entry gates.

11. Parking lots

- Weed Road/Route 207 (42 cars, 2 horse trailers)
- Ridge Road North (25 cars and 9 horse trailers)
- 76 seasonal hunter parking spaces (distributed throughout the State Forest).

12. Non-ambulatory Parking and Hunting Areas

- Orlando Drive at New Road
- Ridge Road (south of Weed Road intersection)
- Orchard to the west of Ridge Road.

13. CP-3 Access for People with Disabilities

- 14.2 miles of roads designated for access.
- 3 designated hunting sites.

III. RESOURCE DEMANDS

A. Multiple Use Recreation - General

In winter, the Stewart State Forest is used by snowshoers and cross-country skiers. During the rest of the year, the property is used by walkers, joggers, bicyclists and equestrians. Hunting, fishing and trapping takes place on the property during legally open seasons.

The State Forest is used by a diverse mix of people on primarily multiple use trails. However, this UMP proposes management strategies to separate some users to avoid conflict. These uses include hunting, mountain biking, dog trials, hiking, horseback riding and horse/carriage riding.

For many years, the property has hosted hunting dog training and field trial events sponsored by various dog clubs. Each year for the past several years over 150 days of these events were scheduled through Temporary Revocable Permits (TRPs). Birdwatching has also grown in popularity with visitors and bird counts scheduled by various organized groups.

Aside from recreational uses, other resource demands on the land unit include timber, wildlife and fisheries management. The harvesting of trees for wood products is a chief tool in the management of the land for various multiple-use purposes including forest health, wildlife habitat, and recreational use. All short-term and long-term forest treatments will be designed to integrate and benefit these varied uses.

B. Multiple Use Recreation - Specifics

1. Hunting

The Stewart State Forest was managed by the DEC as a Cooperative Hunting Area , under agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) and the DOT. *The 1974 Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Area Agreement*, which established the "Stewart Airport Cooperative Hunting Area," regulated public hunting on the property for 25 years. The agreement applied only to hunting, fishing and trapping. Under the terms of the Cooperative Area Agreement, hunting access was controlled during hunting seasons through the use of permits, allocated by either reservations or a "first-come, first-served" system. Since 1974 over 210,000 hunter visits have been recorded at the property's check station. Hunter parking was allowed in designated locations during this approximately 10-week period. Hiking, biking and other activities were allowed by special permit from the DOT during the non-hunting season, but the procedure was not widely publicized and use remained limited primarily to special events, such as dog trials or bicycle races, with a $100/day permit fee. The general public as well as groups with permits could use the property between March 1 and September 30. Winter recreational use was prohibited by DOT. Non-hunter public parking was and continues to be limited to the periphery of the property.

Initially, Stewart hunters were most interested in small game hunting as deer were uncommon. Pheasants were stocked by DEC's Region 3 Division of Wildlife and grey squirrels, turkeys and cottontail rabbits were abundant. However, as deer became more numerous, deer hunting increased in popularity. In 1983, 152 deer were taken. This was followed by a record take on the area in 1987, when 333 deer were harvested. By 1993, 258 deer were taken. During the 2000 archery and big game season, the last season on record, 332 deer were taken.

Hunters come from many different locations within New York and from neighboring states. Approximately 30 percent of the hunter visits recorded from 1974-1998 were by hunters residing in Orange County. Region 3 counties (Dutchess, Putnam, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan,

Ulster and Westchester) accounted for 60 percent of the recorded hunting trips. About 30% were made by hunters who reside in New York City or Long Island. The remaining 10 percent of the recorded trips were made by hunters from elsewhere in New York, neighboring states, Canada, England and Ireland.

There have been two hunting accidents on the property during the past 26 years that resulted in personal injuries.

In reviewing hunting history on the property, it became clear that the information gathered at the check station was interesting, but was not used for managing the deer herd or the property. The check station and parking system were created as a means of allowing hunting and trapping on the property while providing a level of hunter management requested by the former owners of the land, MTA and DOT. During periods of high hunting pressure, which occur roughly two weeks per year, the parking system continues to work well to disperse hunters throughout the property.

With the transfer of land to DEC, individual permits are no longer required for recreational use of the property, although DEC does require Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP's) for group uses.

Since the transfer, the property continues to be closed to all other uses during the height of the hunting season (October 1 through mid-December). Daily entry for hunting is limited to daylight hours for persons possessing a valid hunting license, and controlled by available parking. These restrictions achieve an overall hunter density of three hunters per 100 acres.

Hunting use is heaviest during the opening weekends of small game, duck and bow seasons, and through the first week of the regular deer season. Environmental Conservation Officers, Forest Rangers and Assistant Forest Rangers patrol the property.

2. Fishing

The ponds on the property are lightly fished, primarily by local residents. The best fishing waters on the property are Rowe's Pond, Wilkins Pond and Whalenburgh Pond, as well as adjacent Tenny's Pond.

3. Dog Club Training and Events

One to two dozen field trials and hunt tests are held on the State Forest each year, as well as over 100 days of dog training. These events are conducted through TRPs. Between five and ten clubs use the property.

The retriever and other dog clubs have in the past brushed or mowed the following areas pursuant to TRPs:

- West side of Beaver Pond and horseshoe-shaped edge on east side of pond.
- Southeast and SW side of Restoration Pond to farm fields (about 4 acres).

- Most of Franks Field around, but not within, the New Road wetland mitigation pond.
- Senior Hill (east end Lindsay Road).
- Area 53 south of Orlando (150 by 30 yards).
- Area 27 - right side of Ridge Road, north of road leading to Pittman Robertson Pond and to the east of the pond. Most of field on left side of road also.
- Sections of "Big Trees" area north of Wilkens Pond and the southern edge of Wilkens Pond.
- South-southwest shore of Rowes Pond.

4. Snowmobile Use

Currently the existing roadways, with sufficient snow cover, provide snowmobiling opportunities. Potential conflict exists between snowmobiles, cross-country skiers and snowshoers.

C. Multiple Use - Land Management

1. Farming

Prior to 1971, farming took place on much of Stewart State Forest. Agricultural use declined after the land came into public ownership. In 1980 almost 1,200 acres of the property was used for active agriculture, including the segment between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane. By 1989, only 890 acres were actively being farmed in potatoes, oats, alfalfa, squash, cabbage and strawberries.

In 1999, when DOT transferred jurisdiction of the property to DEC, 6 farmers were farming the property. DEC took over the management of this property subject to these agreements and allows this agricultural use through TRPs.

There are currently four Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP's) for Agriculture at various locations and two Sale of Products Agreements within the State Forest. Agricultural fields cover 458.5 acres of the State Forest (about 36 farm field acres are on lands owned by Central Hudson Gas and Electric).

2. Forest Management

A 1983 letter from DEC reported the following conditions on the property:

"Aerial photos and on the ground inspection of the property indicate a large portion of the 8,000-acre property is wooded. The size of the trees range from seedlings to mature sawtimber. Much of the woodland is in the immature stages and that is due in part to the prior agricultural use."

In 1986-87 most of the accessible forested acreage on Stewart State Forest was logged. Significant volumes of sawtimber and firewood were removed from 400 acres between New and Ridge Roads, and 75 acres between Ridge and Drury Lanes.

A fifteen-acre sale of black walnut trees was completed in late 2000/early 2001 to harvest maturing trees in the southwest corner of the forest.

3. Historic Sites

Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) currently has 5 historic properties (Tellford Tavern, James Clinton House, Denniston, Hawkins House, and Elmwood Schoolhouse) bordering the State Forest along Route 207/208. The properties (10.79 acres in total), once part of Stewart State Forest, were transferred to OCHS in 2005.

4. State Police Facility

The New York State Police retain a four-acre parcel to the west of Barron road surrounded by Stewart State Forest. The facility is used for target practice and training. The State Police also use an old gravel pit on roughly one acre of land to the east of their facility and Barron Road to detonate and burn explosives. This informal arrangement dates back to a time the Stewart Properties were controlled by the MTA and DOT.

5. Motorized Vehicles

A major objective of the Department is to ensure the safety of the public when visiting the forest. Motor vehicle operation, particularly at high speeds, is seen as incompatible and hazardous to people on foot, bicycles, and horses, as well as to other vehicle operators. DEC prohibits motorized vehicles within the Stewart State Forest except when authorized by permit, for farming operations, access for persons with with disabilities, recreational events, group camping, research, and maintenance of certain high-tension power lines. The roadway speed limit is 25 mph.

During the fall hunting season, DEC allows hunters and trappers to enter the area by vehicle to evenly distribute use while the area is closed to non-hunters (see 6NYCRR Part 92).

Police agencies enter the area to access their shooting range, generally from the gate at Barron Road off Rt. 208.

Persons with disabilities may apply for a permit to enter the area with motorized vehicles (no ATVs). Three hunting access sites are reserved for non-ambulatory hunters.

IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The Stewart State Forest Unit Management Plan has been developed in accordance with the Environmental Conservation Law, New York Code of Rules and Regulations, and applicable policies and procedures for the administration of State lands as promulgated by the Department of Environmental Conservation under the authority granted in appropriate sections of the ECL. The following is a list of applicable State laws, rules, regulations and Department policies governing the administration and management of State lands.

Environmental Conservation Law (ECL)

Article 9 Lands & Forests
Article 11 Fish & Wildlife
Article 15 Water Resources
Article 23 Mineral Resources
Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands
Article 33 Pesticides
Article 51 Implementation of Environmental Quality Bond Act of 1972.
Article 52 Implementation of Environmental Quality Bond Act of 1986.
Article 71 Enforcement

New York Code of Rules and Regulations
Title 6
Chapter I Fish & Wildlife
Chapter II Lands & Forests
(Management will be guided by 6NYCRR Part 190, Use of State Lands, except as proposed for amendment by "Special Regulations" for Stewart State Forest.)
Chapter III Air Resources
Chapter IV Quality Services
Chapter V Resource Management Services
Chapter X Division of Water Resources

Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law Article 14
Chapter 354 Cultural & Historic Resources

Federal
The Americans with Disabilities Act 1990 (ADA) along with the Architectural Barrier Act of 1968 (ABA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title U, Section 504.

Department Guidelines, Practices, Procedure, Rules& Regulations

Public Use
Temporary Revocable Permits
Motor Vehicle Use
Unit Management Plan
Pesticides
Prescribed Burning
Inventory
Acquisition
Road Construction
Fish Species Management
Habitat Management
Wildlife Management
CP-3 (Motorized Access for Persons with Disabilities)

V. GOALS FOR THE STEWART STATE FOREST

A. Introduction

The Department manages State Forests for multiple uses to serve the needs of the People of New York State. This management is on a landscape level, not only to ensure the biological diversity and protection of the forest ecosystem, but to optimize the many benefits these lands provide to the public. This goal will be accomplished by integrating compatible and sound land management practices.

State Forests are managed for multiple uses including watershed protection, wildlife, timber, recreational use, and other kindred purposes. The resource demands (Section III), along with a long time frame, allow us to envision a landscape that provides for the sustainability of diverse habitats, forest products and recreational opportunities. This forms the basis for the following schedule of management actions:

- Allowable use intensity will be guided by the monitoring of impacts on natural resources (carrying capacity). User permits, guidelines, and public education may be employed to manage public use of the property. Uses expected to cause unacceptable impacts will be curtailed or prohibited.

- Management of the land will be guided by the goal of protecting and enhancing the value and diversity of the property's wildlife habitat and animal species.

- Sustainable forestry practices will yield forest products, such as lumber, firewood, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreation, reflecting the properties designated purpose. The property will showcase best management forestry practices.

- Limited areas will be mowed year-round to keep grass short in order to facilitate dog trials and training while minimizing wildlife habitat conflicts. The main purpose of this mowing is to support permitted recreational use. Dog field trial mowing will be integrated with plans to maintain a diversity of habitats on the property.

- Management will enhance or protect all existing wetlands. All construction, mowing and farming practices must meet the requirements of ECL Article 24, the Freshwater Wetlands Law and the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Management proposals on the Stewart State Forest will consider development activities on adjacent lands as part of a landscape approach to management.

- An open water/upland mix of habitats will be maintained to benefit waterfowl and wildlife species, and improve opportunities for hunting, fishing and retriever field trials.

- Provide a safe and effective buffer for airport operations. All management decisions will take into account the unique public safety concerns raised by the proximity of the property to Stewart International airport. No management actions will be undertaken that will conflict with the safe operation of the airport.

- The State Forest's location immediately beyond the end of the airport's main runway dictates that the property continue to be accessible to vehicles in the event of an emergency. Any use which might prove a danger to airport operations will be prohibited.

- The DEC will enhance the existing trail system while ensuring environmental stability.

B. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Its Influence on Management Actions for Recreation and Related Facilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (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 applies to the Department and requires, in part, that reasonable modifications must be made to its services and programs, 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 an undue financial or administrative burden to the Department. Since recreation is an acknowledged public accommodation program of the Department, and there are services and activities associated with that program, the Department has the mandated obligation to comply with the ADA, Title II and ADA Accessibility Guidelines, as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The ADA requires a public entity to thoroughly examine each of its programs and services to determine the level of accessibility provided. The examination involves the identification of all existing programs and services and an assessment to determine the degree of accessibility provided to each. The assessment includes the use of the standards established by Federal Department of Justice Rule as delineated by the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG, either adopted or proposed) and/or the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, as appropriate. The development of an inventory of all the recreational facilities or assets supporting the programs and services available on the unit was conducted during the UMP process. The assessment established the need for new or upgraded facilities or assets necessary to meet ADA mandates, in compliance with the guideleines and criteria set forth in the Adirondack Park State Master Plan. The Department is not required to make each of its existing facilities and assets accessible. New facilities, assets and accessibility improvements to existing facilities or assets proposed in this UMP are identified in the "Proposed Management Recommendations" section.

The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines

The ADA requires public agencies to employ specific guidelines which ensure that buildings, facilities, programs and vehicles as addressed by the ADA are accessible in terms of architecture and design, transportation and communication to individuals with disabilities. A federal agency known as the Access Board has issued the ADAAG for this purpose. The Department of Justice Rule provides authority to these guidelines.

Currently adopted ADAAG address the built environment: buildings, ramps, sidewalks, rooms within buildings, etc. The Access Board has proposed guidelines to expand ADAAG to cover outdoor developed facilities: trails, camp grounds, picnic areas and beaches. The proposed ADAAG is contained in the September, 1999 Final Report of the Regulatory Negotiation Committee for Outdoor Developed Areas.

ADAAG apply to newly constructed structures and facilities and alterations to existing structures and facilities. Further, it applies to fixed structures or facilities, i.e., those that are attached to the earth or another structure that is attached to the earth. Therefore, when the Department is planning the construction of new recreational facilities, assets that support recreational facilities, or is considering an alteration of existing recreational facilities or the assets supporting them, it must also consider providing access to the facilities or elements for people with disabilities. The standards which exist in ADAAG or are contained in the proposed ADAAG also provide guidance to achieve modifications to trails, picnic areas, campgrounds, campsites and beaches in order to obtain programmatic compliance with the ADA.

ADAAG Application

Current and proposed ADAAG will be used in assessing existing facilities or assets to determine compliance to accessibility standards. ADAAG is not intended or designed for this purpose, but using it to establish accessibility levels lends credibility to the assessment result. Management recommendations in each UMP will be proposed in accordance with the ADAAG for the built environment, the proposed ADAAG for outdoor developed areas, the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, and other appropriate guiding documents. Until such time as the proposed ADAAG becomes an adopted rule of the Department of Justice, the Department is required to use the best information available to comply with the ADA; this information includes, among other things, the proposed guidelines.

VI. OBJECTIVES OF THE UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

A. Resource Protection

These objectives will facilitate protection of the cultural and biological resources from detrimental activities.

- Protect wetlands throughout the unit (both regulated and unregulated) through adherence to ECL Article 24 and implementation of silvicultural best management practices.
- Protect all streams on the unit through the use of silvicultural best management practices and riparian buffer zones.
- Protect the Stewart State Forest from nuisance wildlife, insects and diseases by monitoring and control.
- Protect State lands from trespass by maintaining 28.5 miles of boundary lines and patrol by DEC Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Officers.
- Protect cultural resources such as foundations, stonewalls and at least one known family cemetery on lands of the State Forest. This will be accomplished by avoiding these areas, leaving a buffer zone adjacent to these areas, and in certain instances, active vegetation management.

- Protect the native environment by determining the extent of invasive species, instituting control methods where possible, and monitoring for new population occurrences.
- Protect and enhance sites of rare & endangered species. Enhancement may involve vegetative manipulation to improve their chances of survival.

B. Public Use and Recreation

The opportunity for public use and recreation is one of the most direct benefits that this forest provides the average citizen. These objectives provide for a number of recreational opportunities that are compatible and consistent with the natural characteristics of the land.

- A variety of appropriate recreational uses should be encouraged including, but not limited to hiking, bicycling, hunting, fishing, trapping, nature study, cross-country skiing, horseback riding and dog training.
- Provide and improve public access.
- Improve and expand the existing trail system, while ensuring environmental stability.
- Provide maps and informational kiosks.
- Identify the State Forest through maintenance of boundary lines, posting of State signs along highways and maintaining State Forest identification signs.
- Limit public access or other recreational activities where degradation of the State Forest resources is occurring.

C. Wildlife

These objectives will enhance the diversity and recreational values as related to the various wildlife species on Stewart State Forest.

- Manage the State Forest to provide for a variety of wildlife (game and non-game) species in conjunction with management for forest products, within natural resource limits.
- Promote "watchable wildlife" viewing areas.
- Improve habitats for species of special concern, rare, threatened or endangered species, such as the Indiana bat, Myotis sodalis, and purple milkweed, Asclepias purpurascens.
- Designate a proportion of the State Forest as a Bird Conservation Area.
- Improve hunting opportunities for both ambulatory hunters and hunters with disabilities.

D. Fisheries

- Provide and improve fishing opportunities and access to the ponds on the State Forest.
- Work cooperatively with DOT to provide public access to Tenny's Pond.

E. Education and Research

- Encourage research and education by accommodating researchers and educators where possible and appropriate.
- Provide information to the general public about the unit through brochures, signs, press releases and woods walks.

F. Forestry

These objectives will provide for sustainable forestry that will yield forest products, both tangible and intangible without compromising the overall health and productivity of the forest ecosystem.

- Maintain a variety of tree species and age classes on the State Forest in order to provide for biodiversity of both flora and fauna.
- Establish an average allowable cut that will provide a sustained yield of forest products that is within the productive biological capacity of the forest and which does not compromise other resource values.
- Manage forest stands based on stand characteristics and data obtained in the inventory.
- Re-inventory every 10 years.
- Maintain sustainability and biodiversity.

G. Land Acquisition

- Actively pursue acquisition of contiguous private land for buffer and habitat protection. This land will be bought in fee from willing sellers.

H. Airport Safety

- Manage wildlife through habitat manipulation which will not pose an increased threat to airport operations
- Work with the airport to monitor any observed changes

VII. PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

A. Protective Actions

The Department will request information from the public, Natural Resources staff, Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Officers regarding changes in land uses or abuse of sites, water quality and plant and animal species. The Department may conduct inventories or delineate sample plots to monitor the habitats, plants and animals at Stewart State Forest.

1. Insect and Disease

The health of plant populations on the State Forest will be monitored and maintained through the integrated pest management approach. Observations and/or inventory of potential insect or disease outbreaks will be recorded. When warranted, appropriate control strategies will be developed to reduce health and aesthetic impacts. More common problems such as beech bark disease, hemlock wooly adelgid, ash decline, cankers, etc. will be controlled through individual tree selection (and harvesting) as a part of specific stand management.

2. Fire Control, State Land Security and Public Safety

Local fire districts having jurisdiction will provide initial response to all calls for fire response, be it structural or wildland. Forest Ranger staff will also respond as necessary for support and take an active role in wildland fire suppression. Under New York State Environmental Conservation law, all wildfires will be suppressed within New York State.

Reports of lost or injured persons will also initiate a response by both the Department's Forest Rangers and the local fire district having jurisdiction.

Enforcement of applicable laws governing Stewart State Forest will be conducted by the Department's Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Officers to promote the safe and secure enjoyment of the resource by the public.

3. Temporary Revocable Permits

Permits may be issued for the temporary use of State Lands by the public within stated guidelines and legal constraints so as to protect State Lands and their resources. Authority for this is authorized by Section 9-0105 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) and by provisions of the Policy and Procedures Manual, Section 8426, "Temporary Revocable Permits for the use of State Lands."

4. Wetlands

Wetlands will be maintained by adhering to the requirements of ECL Article 24 and 6 NYCRR Part 663. Silvicultural Best Management Practices will be followed during forest management activities. The Department will use appropriate state-of-the-art management strategies to protect special areas such as vernal pools and wetland mitigation sites.

5. Invasive Species

Staff will identify and monitor locations of invasive species, assess their impact and rate of spread and eradicate them whenever feasible and necessary. Mechanical removal, herbicide application, silvicultural treatments or a combination of these options may be applied.

The management strategy for invasives includes environmental assessment and long term monitoring. Mechanical and silvicultural treatments will be considered first, but if they fail to control the invasives outbreak or spread or if studies show that mechanical treatment is not effective, a herbicide application plan will be prepared.

A herbicide application plan describes the location and character of the site where invasives are present, the steps to be taken (and/or herbicides to be used), method of application, safety procedures, and alternative methods of control. Monitoring methods and post-application evaluations are also described. All provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) will be followed.

6. Rare and Endangered Species

Endangered, threatened, special concern, and other DEC-recognized rare species will be protected at Stewart State Forest through habitat and recreational user management; i.e. the needs of these species will take priority over other uses of the property, including recreational use. When developing management prescriptions, the requirements of these species will be considered and adverse effects avoided if at all possible. Furthermore, specific wildlife and forest management projects may be undertaken to improve habitat for these species.

Stewart State Forest is scheduled to be surveyed by the Natural Heritage Program in 2008. The survey will include an assessment of areas likely to contain rare plant and animal species, preliminary field surveys and screenings, and recommendations for further study based on the findings. The DEC will use this information for identifying locations for more detailed study and followup by professional biologists and botanists.

Indiana Bat

Indiana bats (Myotis sodalis) have been positively identified and monitored in the Maybrook/Cambell Hall/Rock Tavern/Middletown area Stewart State Forest provides suitable habitat for summer roost sites.

Indiana bats usually prefer large shagbark hickory (Carya ovata) and black locust trees (Robinia pseudoacacia) for their roosts. Roosting bats have been found on trees larger than 8 inches in diameter with 40% or more roosting on Shagbark hickory. Other trees with large cracks (10-12' long and ½ inch wide,) and flaky bark are also preferred roost sites. At the roost trees, at least several bats congregate, seeking warm shelter in direct sunlight. Therefore, cutting more trees to the south and west of potential roost trees will improve potential habitat for Indiana bats by reducing shading and warming the trees. Tree removals for forest management are best done in winter months when the bats are not using roost trees. However, forest management activities which are sensitive to managing the two key tree species in the forest stands of the area, will have little impact on the Indiana bat population, and can be used to improve their habitat.

Pied-billed Grebe

At least one nesting pair of pied-billed grebes was confirmed to be using Restoration Pond in 2006. The pied-billed grebe is listed as Threatened in New York State. No permits will be issued for any use of Restoration Pond before May 31, in order to determine whether or not the grebes are using the pond for nesting. If the grebes are not confirmed to be nesting on Restoration Pond, permits for use of the southern end of the pond will be issued if requested. If the grebes are confirmed to be nesting on the pond, such permits will be issued after such time as the young grebes have hatched and fully fledged. If pied-billed grebes are confirmed to be nesting on other ponds on the property, these same restrictions will be applied.

In the event that other rare, threatened or endangered species are confirmed on the property, similar measures, as appropriate, will be taken to encourage their success.

7. Cultural Resources

The Department has followed procedures established in concert with the New York State Office and Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) in determining the presence of cultural resources on this unit. This involved completion of the Structural-Archaeological Assessement Form (SAAF) and reviewing the New York State Archaeological Site Locations Map. OPRHP and the New York State Museum have been consulted in any instance where the Site Locations Map indicated an archaelogical or historic site may occur on management unit lands. The results of the SAAF evaluation indicate that there is a site located within the unit. DEC will consult with OPRHP before conducting any activities within one-half mile of the site, and will take those measures necessary to protect this resource.

Protection of the old house sites and stone walls will be provided when planning individual timber harvests, recreational activities, and/or construction projects.

Any archaeological sites located within Stewart State Forest are protected by the provisions of the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA - Article 14 PRHPL), Article 9 of the Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of the Education Law. No activities impacting these resources are proposed in this UMP. Future proposals will be reviewed in accordance with SHPA.

The archaeological sites located on this land unit as well as additional unrecorded sites that may exist on the property will be made available for appropriate research. All future archaeological research to be conducted on the property will be accomplished 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.
For additional management actions regarding cultural resources, see Section VII.C.4.

8. Mineral Resources

Any party desiring to procure minerals, rocks or oil & gas resources (or the use of the mineral estate in the case of gas or liquid storage in geological formations) from the mineral estate under state lands included in this UMP, must obtain contractual rights (such as a lease contract) to those minerals from the appropriate state entity administering those resources. The party must also obtain appropriate consent (temporary revocable permit) from the state to access the surface estate during operations. Prior to the commencement of operations the appropriate permits must be obtained. These procedures are further outlined below.

The Department has no plans to lease Oil and Gas rights or permit any commercial mining operations on the properties included in this UMP. Any change in this direction would require an amendment of this UMP including the opportunity for public review.

9. Soils

Protection of soils from erosion will be accomplished through the use of Best Management Practices (BMP) as well as other procedures such as winter logging on highly erodible soils, water bars, ditching, bridging and planting of cover crops or grasses to stabilize landings or log docks.

B. Recreational Management Actions

The property will be open to all users throughout the year, but will be limited to hunters and trappers during the regular big game season. Non-hunting companions will be permitted to accompany hunters during the big game season, but will be required to remain with the hunter at all times while on the property. Interior travel in the forest is expected to be by foot, bike or horse, except for special events under permit, persons with disabilities, and hunters and trappers from October 1 through December.

Replacing multiple trails or trail webs with clearly delineated loop trails connecting the main travelways on the property will improve recreation for all of the diverse users of the property. The existing network of formerly paved town roads will constitute the back bone of the trail network, while providing limited vehicle access to the forest for administrative and patrol purposes, farming operations, and specially permitted activities such as dog field trials and training, access for persons with disabilities, and hunting in the fall.

Horse club events, organized dog field trials, ongoing scientific research and education efforts, and other special or group uses will continue to be allowed under TRP, with appropriate conditions and restrictions. These uses enhance the property's value and are permitted when they do not impose unreasonable conflicts with other uses or pose a threat to its natural systems.

Permits for use of the trail system may be granted from time to time for organized group recreational activities like bike rallies, horse club rides, ski tours, group camping, military training, and other events of a similar nature. Permits will not be issued for motorized competitive events like motorcycle enduro runs or ATV races, as these uses would conflict with management objectives and other property uses. (See analysis in item #7, below)

1. Hunting

Hunting will be allowed throughout the property except for several restricted areas which include the one acre site east of Barrens Road that is used by the State Police and two small sites containing the remnants of the raincoat factory just west of Wilkens Pond and another site on Old Creamery Road in the southwest corner of the property. All hunting activities are subject to state-wide regulations regarding hours, seasons and bag limits. In 6NYCRR Part 92 the use of rifles and handguns is prohibited in the Stewart Airport Cooperative Hunting Area. This plan recommends that in the future, the use of .22 caliber rimfire handguns be allowed on the property while rifles and other handguns remain prohibited. It will be necessary to change pertinent regulations before this can become effective. Hunters will be allowed to use shotguns, bows, and muzzleloaders during the appropriate seasons

From October 1 through the end of the regular deer season, the main vehicle gate at Weed Road will be open, allowing hunters to drive into the property. In order to maximize hunting opportunities, consideration will be given to leaving the Weed Road gate open until the end of December if weather and staffing allow. Hunters will be allowed to drive or park vehicles on the internal roads and parking areas only from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. Hunters may not enter the property by vehicle at other times, unless they first obtain a TRP or CP3 permit. All other users may not enter the property by vehicle at any time, unless they first obtain a TRP or CP-3 permit.

As in the past, hunters will be required to use designated parking areas, hunt on the same side of the road as their vehicle, and will not be allowed to cross roads. The parking areas are located so that these regulations will keep hunters spread out on the property, providing a high quality hunting experience. In addition, the Department will continue patrols by Environmental Conservation Officers and Forest Rangers to maintain a high quality hunting experience on the property. Proposed changes to area hunting regulations include elimination of both the hunting party size restriction and restriction on number of dogs per hunting party.

In the past, reservations have been required during the first week of the regular deer season, and more recently with a Saturday opening, for the first nine days. The Department will consider reducing the number of days that reservations are required and may eliminate them altogether in the future, if that does not cause significant user conflicts.

Wheelchair or non-ambulatory hunters will be admitted to specially designated areas if they have a valid non-ambulatory hunting permit issued by the Department. A non-ambulatory hunter may be accompanied by one non-hunter. Hunters with other mobility impairments may access other hunter parking areas throughout the property open from October 1 through the regular deer season. If the need arises, several locations may be identified as more suitable for persons with less severe impairments.

2. Trapping

Trapping will be allowed throughout the property. Trapping for all legal game during open seasons will be permitted. Trappers will be allowed to access the property with a vehicle when the gates are open (October thru December). Trappers that want to enter the property with a vehicle at all other times must first obtain a TRP.

3. Fishing

New signs will give information about ponds nearest parking facilities. Only boats without motors or with electric motors will be allowed on ponds in the State Forest. Amendments to State Regulation, 6NYCRR 92.4(b), will be proposed to allow electric motor use. Boats must be carried or wheeled on dolleys from designated parking lots.

Ice fishing will be allowed on the ponds, limited to pedestrians. If a fish kill occurs on the shallower ponds, or sampling finds low fish populations, stocking will be considered.

Under special circumstances, such as providing fishing access for people with disabilities, TRPs may be issued for transport of car top boats to a pond. In these cases travel on interior roadways will be limited and cars may be required to park in peripheral parking lots during the event.

Through the Invasive Species Task Force the DEC will investigate use of appropriate signs at fishing and waterway access sites to reduce the spread of non-native or invasive plants.

Fishing opportunities will be described in a brochure about the property.

The parcel of land which contains 12-acre Tenney's Pond (north and east of Stewart State Forest, west of Drury Lane) remains under the jurisdiction of DOT. However, the 2005 Consent Decree (00-cv-1606) between the Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition (SPARC) et al and DOT et al provides the following:

"NYSDOT shall reserve to the State of New York public access to Tenney's Pond, including at a minimum: access from Drury Lane to the Pond, an area for launching boats, a 25 foot wide reserved access around the entire shoreline of the Pond, and the use of the entire waters of the Pond. Prior to any sale or other transfer of such lands, NYSDOT shall continue to allow such public access to Tenney's Pond."

The DOT also commits "to encourage SWFAA (SWFAirport Aquisition, Inc.) to continue to allow public access for fishing and other purposes to Maroney's Pond," which is located on leased lands.

4. Dog Trials and Training

The State Forest will continue to be used for field trials. Alternate sites in the region may be considered for some dog trials currently taking place at Stewart State Forest in order to reduce pressures on the area.
Limits and management guidelines for dog club concentration areas will continue to evolve as DEC assesses the situation over the next decade. Some activities will require modification or not be allowed at environmentally sensitive locations. However, the DEC encourages these and other long-term recreational uses of the property. Roads and trails will be shared with other users. Good public relations and communication fosters understanding and will be an increasingly important tool at Stewart State Forest to keep visitors informed.

TRPs for special activities, including dog field trials, are issued on a first come/first served basis. TRPs will include conditions so that special activities will not impact the resource.

To achieve a sustainable balance between natural processes and human disturbances, the following parameters will guide mowing on the property:

- Mowing will, whenever possible, be done in late summer, early fall, or late winter to early spring to avoid nest/habitat disturbances. When mowing is necessary on a limited number of fields, steps such as strip mowing and keeping cutting blades at least 5-6 inches high will be used to reduce wildlife disturbance.

-Mowing around ponds will continue to provide adequate access for dog trials and training while preserving long-term vegetational stability and wetland habitats. Mowing of no more than 30-40 per cent of the current grassland/wetland edges on a 2-3 year rotation will allow access as well as recovery time for the habitat.

-Access roads to certain mowed pond areas (Wilkens, Stick, Restoration and Pittman-Robertson) will be hardened to avoid rutting and prevent erosion.

Dog field trials and training share Stewart State Forest with other users, often in the same area. Notices on bulletin boards will be used to inform other visitors about the use of designated areas for dog training, but will not restrict visitors. Dog clubs as well as any other special groups under permit, should use the opportunity to acquaint other visitors about their activity.

5. Trails

A map of the proposed trail system is provided in Appendix K. In general, trails on the Stewart State Forest will be open for shared use i.e, hikers, bikers, horseback riders, and others will all be allowed on the trail system; however, some trails may be limited to single use to avoid user conflict. Visitors to the area will be expected to share use of all areas, and recognize and cooperate with the safe passage of one another. Our objective is to provide an extensive network of safe, well designed and maintained trails for the use and enjoyment of the public to replace the current maze of trails. However, new trails will not be designated for biking or equestrian use when nearby trails provide equivalent experiences.

In general, trails will be minimally marked, unless site conditions dictate otherwise. Signs will be posted where the trails enter or depart the roadways. All road intersections will be signed with the name(s) of the roads.
All trail systems and routes proposed for the property are currently usable except for parts of the Scofield Lane Trail, the Great Swamp Trail, and parts of the Maple Avenue to Weed Road Trail. The Maple Avenue to Weed Road trail will be reopened and widened with culverts for watercourses and gravel fill in wet or boggy sections. Reopening of trails will be a matter of improvement and maintenance of the existing trails, roads, culverts, and in some cases, hardening of surfaces to eliminate any possibility of future erosion. Proposed trails will be reviewed by the Bureau of Habitat and wetland permits obtained if necessary.
The Department will enhance the existing trails listed in this section and ensure their environmental stability by:

- Providing a mix of multiple-use and single use areas to avoid conflicts and give users a choice of trails to use.
- Limiting trail use to foot traffic in wetlands (the Great Swamp) and steep areas, to avoid conflicts with mountain bikes.
- Providing for continued snowmobile use on the main roads with four connector trails creating a series of long distance loops for riders at the same time providing for the needs of other users. Snowmobiles will be limited to designated trails including and west of Maple Avenue.

- Advising visitors to the area not to enter farm fields, trample or damage crops, and to keep all travel to the edge of the fields.
- Providing access to the varied terrain and major points of interest on the property.
- Enhancing views at a select number of sites - i.e. Great Swamp, views of the Shawangunks off Ridge Road, and pond and field views.
- Designating multiple use trails whenever appropriate.
- Providing access to the general public for as much of the year as possible.
- Providing well placed access on the periphery of the property.
- Giving priority to using existing trails.
- Closing duplicate, parallel, poorly-sited trails and removing trails in places where "trail webs" (dense concentrations of trails which have formed to avoid or bypass locations) have formed.

Descriptions of major trail systems: (Letters correspond to the Proposed Trail and Facilities Map in Appendix K). All trails are multiple use trails, unless specifically designated as single use.

A. Maple Avenue to Weed Road Trail (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and snowmobiling)

Sections of an existing old farm road and sections of an overgrown footpath with blowdown in places.

Proposed Actions:

- Rehabilitate to eight feet wide (approx. 1.3 miles) to complete the southern part of a loop between Maple and Ridge Roads.
- Widen to eight feet to complete a loop for snowmobiles (1 of 4 connector trails being proposed), equestrian carriages and horses, as well as for hikers and mountain bikers.

Constraints:

- There are several wet spots in the easterly ½ of the trail which will need four culverts as well as Item 4 gravel on 1/4 mile of the trail
- Portions of this trail will skirt farm fields and steps to minimize disturbance to farm operations will be needed.

Proposed Actions:

- Improve trail for multiple uses, including snowmobiles.

B. New Road to Barron Road (hiking and mountain biking, part of trail from intersection with Trail N to Barron Road for snowmobiling)

The 2.9 mile trail starts at New Road and proceeds west, tying into a trail spur east of Beaver Pond (B2, 0.7 miles), then traversing old farm field lanes intersecting with an old farm road (once called Woodruff Lane), and the dam forming Restoration Pond on its way to Barron Road. The trail will be routed to the edge of fields or within the tree line along the fields to an existing woods road linking to Barron Road.

- This trail exists, mostly as a well delineated single track winding at times through and around high tension electric wires. Currently used by mountain bikers.
- The trail completes a southern loop across Stewart State Forest and is linked to the improved access road to Beaver Pond from New Road and Forrester Lane.
- Trail west of Restoration Pond Road (N) can use the edge of farm fields.

Constraints:

- Careful siting near farm fields east of Rowes Pond will be needed to avoid conflict with farm operations. A single track bike loop exists within the woods to the north of the farm fields west of Restoration Pond, but has too many switchbacks for pedestrian use.
- A small 15' raised boardwalk (less than 2 feet above grade) will be needed to cross a stream entering Beaver Pond and connect the trail to existing road loops east of Beaver Pond (on B-2).
- Separation of snowmobile and bike/hike loop may be needed between the northerly boundary of farm fields and Barron Road.

Proposed Actions:

- The trail will be designated for hikers, mountain bikers and west of Trail N for snowmobilers (one of four connections for snowmobile loops).
- Construct boardwalk to connect to existing road loops.
- Adjust bike loop to eliminate some of the curves.

C. New Road to Barron Road North, 1.0 miles (north of Wilkens Pond, 2 spurs, hiking and mountain biking/horses)

Background:

- This trail lies 0.55 miles north of the Lindsay Road - New Road intersection and 0.8 miles north of the Lindsay Road-Barron Road intersection.
- This trail exists as a roughly 6-8 foot wide swath, probably formed by illegal ATV use. It is currently used by mountain bikers, hikers and horses.
- This trail will help enhance the loop system between New and Barron Roads.
- The trail spur leaves New Road from within 200 of the "Pittman-Robertson Pond Trail" (Trail E).
- Allows for separation of uses, such as mountain bike and horses.
- 3 wet spots in trail, but localized, not part of any wetland system.
- White pines and cedars on the ridge provide a change in scenery.

Constraints:

- Crosses stream in field on New Road side and will require a small pedestrian bridge at this location.
- Crosses at least two streams and one wet area toward the Barron Road half which will require trail improvement with gravel and culverts.
- The section of trail on Barron Road may one day need re-routing if the Barron Road Development Area interchange is built on DOT lands or lands formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company, and would necessitate a rerouting of the trail system.
- At times, retriever clubs using area near Wilkens Pond known as "Big Tree Field" will post area to warn users that field trials are going on. At these times, some trail use may be temporarily rerouted to avoid user conflicts.

Proposed Actions:

- Close the two (2) single track trails which head north from main trail.
- Construct small foot bridge (15–20 feet) near the New Road end of the trail.
- Install 3 culverts and gravel on trail on the westerly half of the trail nearer to Barron Road.
- Upgrade existing spur trail at New Road end to create an optional trail away from the mowed field used by farmers and retriever clubs.

D. Orlando Road to Barron Road, 1.3 miles (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, snowmobiles)

Background:

This trail follows old farm lanes and is located 1.3 miles north of Lindsay (0.5 mile south of the gate on Barron Road), connecting to the southerly turn of Orlando Drive.

- 6+ feet wide mountain bike path
- Wetlands skirted at several points, so trail work may require a wetlands permit.
- This is one of two trails in the area - the other is to be managed as a smaller secondary trail.

Constraints:

- Property to the west of Barron Road is not part of Stewart State Forest and is currently heavily used by illegal ATVs. Future development may impact use of this trail.

Proposed Actions:

- Maintain trail for current uses, insuring a minimum 8 foot width at all points.
- Improve signs
- One of 4 connector trails proposed to create trail loops for snowmobiles)

E. North Ridge Road to north New Road, past Pittman-Robertson Pond, 1.0 mile (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking)

Background:

- Located 0.7 miles south of Route 84/Ridge Road crossing and 1.15 miles south of New Road as it turns into the Rt. 84 parallel access Road. Excellent connector between Ridge Road and New Roads.
- An old one lane farm road through fields and woods near several farm ponds.
- The old farm road can be hardened to make it suitable for horse and buggies, and was tentatively marked as a horse trail in 2000.

Constraints:

- Will require gravel hardening along 1200 feet of its length.
- Will require replacement of at least one 10 inch culvert for wetland streams passing under the old road.
- Will require a wetlands permit for the work in or adjacent to the wetlands.

Proposed Actions:

- Gravel hardening along 1200 feet of its length
- Harden with gravel to make suitable for horse and buggy use.
- Replace 10-inch culvert.

F. Windsor Woods Road to Ridge Road (Multiple-use trail, possible for snowmobiles if chosen instead of connection to Ridge in the long term, or the connection to Ridge not available due to flooding). Ridge Road to New Road near Lindsay, 1.2 miles (F3/F4) for hiking, mountain biking (no snowmobiles), Ridge Road to New Road (hiking, biking, etc, including snowmobiles starting on F and proceeding on Trail G to New Road - 1.0 miles)

Background:

- Horse and buggy trail is 0.5 miles west of Ridge Road/Weed Road intersection on New Road. Marked as a horse trail in 2000. Beaver-caused flooding along Ridge Road in the past 3 years.
- Mountain bike trail parallels and proceeds to Ridge Road (F1). At intersection proceeds west to New Road just south of Lindsay Road.
- From "Senior Hill," single track mountain bike spur continues north to New Road, 0.35 miles away from the first intersection (F2).
- F3 single track trail links Senior Hill and Trail F (Steep, eroded and confusing in places occur needing renovating and relocating). F4 single track to New Road.
- F5 horse trail marked north to Pittman -Robertson Pond

Constraints:

- On the westerly end, toward New Road and Senior Hill (near Lindsay) there is a maze of ATV/mountain bike trails in a highly damaged and overused field and woodland setting.

- Spur trail is needed to reroute the woods road which has had long-term beaver flooding near Ridge Road.
- F5 marked horse trail is wet in many places and is not suitable for snowmobilkes or mountain bikes.

Proposed Actions:

- Route trail to skirt the field on an existing woods road to New Road and avoid the steep hill (a/k/a Senior Hill) leading to the Lindsay Road intersection.
- Construct spur trail to avoid beaver flooded area.
- The maze of ATV/mountain bike trails will be closed.
- Part of trail F from Ridge Road to intersect with Trail G will be for snowmobiles (8 feet minimum width). Windsor Woods Road may be used as an alternate.
- Marked horse trail (F5) passes through wet areas and will need to be monitored/improved/or rerouted to avoid damage rutting, enlarging and erosion.

G. Windsor Woods (Ridge Road to Pittman Robertson Pond Road connecting to New Road), 1.0 mile (horse, snowmobile, hiking & mountain biking)

Background:

- 2 small wet segments will require a stone culvert/rockwork.

Constraints:

- Trail also used by horses.
- A southerly spur off this trail runs through wet and steep areas before connecting to New Road to the south (This area has been damaged by bike and trail use.)

Proposed Actions:

- Will require 3 culverts with headwalls.
- Close southerly spur trail to New Road.
- Upgrade segments which are not 8 feet wide for snowmobiles. Existing old roads will be used whenever possible (one of four trails proposed to create snowmobile loops).

H. Scofield Lane Ridge Trail, 2.0 miles (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking)

Background:

- Starts at Scofield Lane, runs the ridge west of the Great Swamp, and ends at the Ridge Parking lot.
- 4 feet wide, cleared to appropriate height.
- In the south, trail starts as overgrown Scofield Lane and joins an existing trail on the ridge.

Proposed Actions:

- Maintain for current uses.

I. Great Swamp Trail/Ridge Road to Maple Avenue via Great Swamp, 0.8 miles (hiking only)

Background:

- Hiking trail from Scofield Lane across the Great Swamp via a boardwalk. Roughly 600 feet long, the boardwalk will be three to four feet above the water, and cross the swamp at its narrowest point.
- Excellent interpretive and wildlife viewing potential.

Constraints:

- Only pedestrian access.
- Boardwalk design depends on decisions regarding the repair and reconstruction of the water control structure affecting water levels in the Great Swamp.

Proposed Actions:

- Construct boardwalk.

J. Great Swamp Scenic Overlook, 0.4 miles (hiking only)

Background:

- Overlooks Great Swamp from a Peninsula near its northerly end.
- Siting depends on decisions made about water control structures for the Great Swamp.

Proposed Actions:

- Construct overlook and access trail.

K. 18 miles of existing roads are part of the multiple use trail systems

Background:

- **(Motorized use is only allowed for TRP holders, people with disabilities, and fall season hunters. Roads are also open to horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking and snowmobiling)**

Constraints:

- Development along Barron Road may impact its future use and available parking.
- Development of Penn Central Transport Company lands and access rights via Barron Road may also have an impact on the use of Barron Road.
- Development between Drury and Maple may impact Maple Avenue and curtail its use in the trail system, currently allowed by DOT.

- Development of the Barron Road and Drury lane interchanges may remove the northern access roads connecting Maple, Ridge, and New Roads. They are not part of Stewart State Forest. A 150 foot wide ROW was retained along the southerly boundary of Route 84 by DOT as part of this transfer, which includes roads surfaces within the Stewart State Forest.
- The Village of Maybrook owns all roads in fee within the village limits.

Proposed Actions:

- Rehabilitate roads to gravel surface and maintain for limited public motor vehicle access and administrative motor vehicle access.

L. Old Raincoat Factory/Wilkens Pond loop south to the Barron Road/Lindsay Road intersection, 1.4 miles (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking)

Background:

- Mountain biking on trail and disturbed areas, with some ponds to the west of Barron Road, and a mix of woodlands and wetlands to the east of Barron Road.
- Used to access Stick Pond and field, skirts Wilkens Pond to the west, old quarries, and bypasses Baron Road.
- Main purpose is to separate conflicting uses.

Constraints:

- Wetlands in area and ponding on old roads.
- The trail north of the factory ruins is heavily trespassed by ATVs.

Proposed Actions:

- Forty feet of trail between Barrow Road and Wilkens Pond (which is occasionally used for vehicle access for dog trial judges and administrative purposes) and a fifty foot section near the raincoat factory needs to be resurfaced with 18" of Item 4 gravel. All ditches need to be cleaned out. The finished road will be adequately graded to facilitate proper cross drainage.
- Maintain for current uses.

M. Decker Road Connector, 0.4 mile (hiking, mountain biking)

Constraints:

- Decker Road, Second Street and parts of Barron Road remain Village of Maybrook roads.

Proposed Actions:

- Designate for pedestrian and bicycle use only.

N. Farm Lane from Forrester Road to Restoration Pond to Beaver Pond, 0.8 mile (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, snowmobiles from Trail B north to New Road)

Background:

- Access for hikers and groups, including dog field trials and training.
- Reduces vehicle traffic on property by providing vehicle access to two frequently used dog training areas, bypassing the main roadway network.
- Old farm road

Constraints:

- Could disturb farming operations if used improperly.

Proposed Actions:

- Surfacing, ditching and grading are needed. Approximately 12" of Item 4 gravel will be spread over 1/3 of a mile on this road.
- Maintain road for limited public motor vehicle access and administrative access.
- North of Trail B, will be used to complete one of four snowmobile loops.

O. Buchanan Hill Trail, 1.8 miles (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking)

Background:

- 0.55 miles north of Maple Avenue and Route 207 intersection to Buchanan Hill and return to Maple Avenue at about 1.6 miles north of this intersection (across the dam of Whalenburgh Pond).
- Trail leads to highest point on the property (658 feet) with good views in all directions, especially southerly toward the Hudson River .

Constraints:

A small segment of the existing trail leaves the State Forest property and crosses a corner of the "Stewart Airport runway protection zone." Currently, access is unrestricted onto this parcel.

Proposed Actions:

- Reroute trail into State Forest to avoid the "Stewart Airport runway protection zone" if access is restricted in the future.

P. Armstrong Lane Wetland and Farm Trail, 0.5 mile (horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking), and old field and woodlands trail spur north to Clark Street, 0.8 mile (hiking only)

- Trail starts approximately 0.6 miles east of Drury Lane on Route 207, and uses an old roadway to access the peninsula heights east of wetland CO1.
- Trail uses a combination of old farm roads, existing paths through old fields, and woods roads, to reach Clark Street.

Constraints:

- Farm Trail , 0.5 miles, exists on old roadway and leads around wetland to old farm woods and fields. However, the two-car parking pad forthe spur connection to Clark Street will depend on the clarification of public access rights to Clark Street.
- A small parking area of 2-3 cars could be built near the northerly end of this trail once public access rights are clear.
- Approximately 200 feet requires resurfacing, landscape fabric and 12" of Item 4 gravel.

Summary of proposed trail use

Horseback Riding Trails

Horse trail designation allows hiking and mountain biking, unless otherwise indicated by DEC due to trail rehabilitation or safety. Horse trails will be six -eight feet wide with a 12 foot high clearance.

- 1.2 miles - Windsor Woods Road (no mountain biking) to Ridge Road (Trail F)
- 1.1 miles - Ridge Road to New Road (Trail G)
- 1.0 miles - Orlando Road to Barron Road connector (Trail D)
- 1.3 miles - Southern Maple Avenue to Weed Road connector (Trail A)
- 1.0 miles - Northern Ridge Road to New Road connector (Pittmann-Robertson) (Trail E)
- 0.7 miles - Old Raincoat Factory to Barron Road - Lindsay Road intersection (western half of loop Trail L))
- 0.7 miles - Farm Lane from Forrester to Restoration Pond to Beaver Pond (Trail N).
- 2.0 miles - Scofield Lane Ridge Trail (Trail H)
- 0.5 miles - Armstrong Lane Farm and Wetland Trail (Trail P)
- 1.8 miles - Buchanan Hill Trail (Trail O)
- 18 miles - Main Road Complex
- 0.5 mile - New Road to Barron (Trail spur, p/o Trail C).

  Total: 29.8 miles

Hiking only (no horses or bikes)

- 0.8 miles - Great Swamp Trail (Trail I)
- 0.6 miles - Barron Road Spur Trail (Mitigation site east to fields)
- 0.4 miles - Great Swamp Scenic Overlook (Trail J)
- 0.8miles - Armstrong Lane Woodland Trail Spur (East of Drury Lane)

  Total: 2.6 miles

Mountain Biking only

Biking trails in close proximity to one another will be closed and multiple tracks reduced to one path. This will also require the rerouting of certain trails, and depositing gravel, new culverts, or installing boardwalks to reduce the impacts.

- 1.0 miles - Trail east of Windsor Woods Road. (Trail F1)

Hiking and mountain biking only

- 1.0 miles - Windsor Woods to Pittman-Robertson Road near New Road (Trail F4,F3,F2)
- 0.4 miles - Senior Hill to New Road (Trail F2)
- 0.7 miles - Wilkens Pond south to Lindsay (East side of Trail Loop L)
- 2.9 miles- Weed Road to Barron Road (Trail B)
- 0.5 miles - New Road to Barron Road (Trail C, one spur)

Total: 5.5 miles

Ski Trails

All trails may be used for skiing when covered with snow or ice.

6. Snowmobiles

The Department has developed guidelines for snowmobiling in Stewart State Forest, and has delineated a snowmobile trail system in this UMP (See Appendix K), which will be put into place by the passing of Special Regulations for the property. The snowmobile system is designed to limit snowmobiles to the existing gravel/paved roadways (with street names), supplemented by 4 connector trails to create loops of significant length. These connector trails are: Trail D (Orlando Drive to Barron Road), Trail A (Maple Avenue to Weed Road), Trail F to G (Ridge Road to New Road), and Trail B to N (from Barron Road to New Road).

Other provisions for snowmobiles at Stewart State Forest are: 1) available wintertime parking will have an indirect limiting effect on the overall numbers of snowmobiles, 2) providing snowmobile access at four locations: North Barron Road, North Ridge Road and Weed Road, 3) Limiting maximum speed limits on the connector trails to 25 mph and stressing accepted etiquette for passing pedestrians, 4) posting snowmobiling Do's and Don'ts at all kiosks and major entrances, 5) Stressing the recommendations for a minimum compacted snow base of 2-3 inches (an absolute minimum of a 4-inch snowfall) and 6) continuing to enforce the substantial New York State registration, insurance and safety course requirements for snowmobiles already in place.

7. All Terrain Vehicles

All Terrain Vehicle use will continue to be prohibited on Stewart State Forest. It has been determined that this State Forest will not be developed for public ATV use due to management objectives, resource carrying capacity, incompatibility with other public use, adequate existing access, maintenance issues and enforcement challenges.

a. Management Objectives- This UMP strives to maintain the natural character of the area by limiting public motor vehicle access to peripheral parking areas (with the exception of controlled motor vehicle (no ATV) access for hunters from October 1st to the end of regular deer season or other users by permit throughout the year). In addition the value of this property as a noise buffer for surrounding residents from Stewart Airport and Interstate Route 84 would be lost if motorized off road uses were permitted.

b. Resource Carrying Capacity - Over one-third of the acreage on Stewart State Forest is classified as wetlands or open water (2436 acres) with a significant acreage in poorly drained soils in the Erie component of the Mardin-Erie series. Together with other sensitive areas, appropriate buffers, and agricultural use, a majority of the land base on Stewart State Forest can not support ATV use.

c. Incompatability With Other Uses- Stewart State Forest is a popular recreational area for hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, birdwatching, cross country skiing, dog training, trapping, fishing and hunting. These non-motorized uses could not be enjoyed at the same level if ATV use by the general public was permitted. The property also supports over 400 acres of agricultural fields that could be negatively impacted by ATVs.

d. Existing Access - Public access to Stewart State Forest has been addressed by this plan and with the construction of additional parking opportunities and permits for individuals with disabilities and is considered adequate without the development of off road vehicle access.

e. Maintenance and Enforcement Issues - Historic illegal ATV use exists on adjacent private lands and on the Village of Maybrook Reservoir to the west of the property. Stewart State Forest presently suffers from a maze of deeply rutted and muddy trails caused by illegal ATV use. This situation has been a challenge to correct with existing enforcement and maintenance resources. These problems would only be aggravated by developing ATV use on the property. The experience of the Department and with sister agencies in adjoining States has proven that the development of designated ATV trails does not, in itself, solve problems with illegal use of designated trails.

8. Camping and Fires

As a Reforestation Area, Stewart is governed by 6 NYCRR Part 190, which allows for no more than 3 nights at one location, by fewer than ten people, at least 150 feet away from trail, road, or body of water. Longer stays and larger groups require a permit.

Due to the current level of public recreational use of the property, as well as anticipated significant increases over the next decade with improved signs and parking, and close proximity of Stewart Airport, the DEC will prohibit camping except by permit in two designated group camping areas on Ridge Road and Barron Road (See Appendix K, Proposed Trail and Facilities Map), and will not permit camping during big game hunting season. Fires will also be allowed only by permit. The property is surrounded by growing residential and commercial areas which increase the number of day-use people using the property, making it necessary to have additional control over camping and fires with permits. <u>These proposals require the adoption of special regulations.</u> Motor vehicles are not allowed entry for camping at any time, except under special permit. Large group camping and access with motor vehicles will be controlled through TRPs (Temporary Revocable Permits), smaller groups through Camping Permits for State Land issued by Forest Rangers.

A large group camping site is proposed in the orchard west of Ridge Road, which has been used for group camping in the past because its open, flat to gently sloping, lightly shaded, and relatively close to the Weed Road entrance. Another group campsite is proposed for the open fields behind the old raincoat factory, west of Baron Road and Wilkens Pond. The dirt access lanes to the sites will be hardened with Item 4 or other material. For large groups, Port-O-Johns will be required.

9. Youth Hunting and Fishing Opportunities

In recent years, the Department has conducted an annual Youth Hunting Day at Stewart State Forest during October to provide youth hunters (< 16 years in age) with a high quality introduction to hunting during which outdoor enjoyment and hunter safety are emphasized. To provide the best possible experience, the Department has generally stocked pheasants immediately prior to Youth Hunting Day and has limited access to the property for the day to hunting parties containing a youth hunter. Furthermore, adults accompanying youth hunters are encouraged to give youth hunters the first opportunity to harvest game.

In the future, the Department may conduct or sanction a fall Youth Hunting Day or other events to encourage youth participation in wildlife or fisheries recreation. These programs may involve restricting access for one day to all or part of the property for users other than youth participants.

C. Facilities Management Actions

1. Parking

Limiting parking to the property's perimeter protects the character of the State Forest and reduces conflicts between vehicles and recreational users. Multiple parking lots on the perimeter will improve access to different parts of the Forest, as well as provide for more even use of the property.

DOT will be consulted on the steps needed to improve safety at these parking areas. This may include improving road signs and providing turn lanes off route 207 at Weed Road, Barron Road, Lorraine Drive and at the East Drury Wetland Farm Trail.

Weed Road Parking

This parking area provides parking space at Weed Road and Route 207 for 42 cars and 2 horse trailers. Two spaces are reserved for people with disabilities. A sign standard "Stewart State Reforestation Area," is located at the entrance to the lot. An existing DOT sign on the north side of Rt. 207, "Check Station Ahead 500 feet" will be removed and replaced with a sign sign "Stewart State Forest, Weed Road Parking - 500 feet ahead" and appropriate cautions. A similar sign will be requested for the south side of Rt. 207.

The Weed Road area will be the primary site for absorbing additional parking on Stewart State Forest.

Ridge Road North Parking

A ½ acre gravel parking lot at Ridge Road, just south of the I-84 overpass, provides parking for 25 cars and 9 horse trailers. 2 parking spaces will be designated for persons with disabilities. Traffic islands delineate parking spaces. Gates on Ridge Road, Maple Road and New Road provide access for emergency vehicles and permit holders. A pass through structure allows easy access for horse carriages at the Ridge Road, Maple Road and New Road gates. Access for snowmobiles will be constructed for the site.

The parking facility uses the access road along I-84 and is substantially within a 150 foot wide parcel reserved by DOT, leaving it vulnerable to future roadway expansions. However, the 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (00-cv-1606) addresses this concern, stating:

"In the event that NYSDOT develops or conveys said 150 foot wide parcel, NYSDOT shall preserve access across I-84 and any new or modified transportation facility via said overpass and NYSDOT and NYSDEC shall relocate an equivalent parking area and equivalent road and trail access into the Stewart State Forest from said overpass, with determining what facilities are "equivalent" to be determined by NYSDOT in its reasonable discretion."

Of great concern , if relocating this parking becomes necessary, is a continuing connection from Ridge Road to Maple Avenue in the north - because of the severe limitations on access to the eastern half of the property posed by the Great Swamp. The DEC deems it essential to maintain a connection for recreational users, as well as for administrative access.

Barron Road North Parking

Currently, parking outside of the Barron Road North gate on land administered by DOT minimizes the need for providing parking on the State Forest in this area.
However, if this arrangement continues, a Concurrent Use and Occupancy Agreement with DOT needs to be formalized.

A 1/4 acre parking lot for 15 cars and two horse trailers will be constructed to the east of Barron Road, including one accessible parking space for users with disabilities. The parking area and portion of the property along Barron Road accessing the lot will be bordered with large boulders to block illegal entry of vehicles onto the property. The gate on Barron Road will be relocated to the south.

The construction of this parking facility may be affected by DOT's plans to develop Barron Road, as well as the development of privately-owned properties to the south. This and the currently available parking on the shoulder of Barron Road adjacent to the State Forest, makes this the lowest priority of all the parking areas proposed. However, the 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (00-cv-1606) states:

> "In the event that NYSDOT develops or conveys said 150 foot wide parcel [along Route 84], or if the lands to be retained by NYSDOT along Barron Road are ever developed, NYSDOT shall adopt feasible and prudent measures to maintain access to and parking for the Stewart State Forest in that vicinity. Until such time as such 150

foot wide parcel and such lands retained by NYSDOT along Barron Road are developed or transferred, access and parking in that vicinity shall be maintained at their existing levels."

Barron Road South Parking

Currently sections of Barron Road South, Decker Road and Second Street are retained by the Village of Maybrook. However, a parking lot for 15 cars will be constructed at Barron Road South (80 by 80 feet). This lot will include one accessible van parking space as regulated by ADA. The current entry gate will be moved north of the new parking facility on the west side of Barron Road, and will include a kiosk and sign standard. The parking facility will be as close as possible to Route 208, but still on the old field - minimizing cut and fill. Boulders will be placed around the lot and to reinforce the 120' of road edge and farm hedge south of the new lot. A Port-A-Jon may be installed during peak use season.

Forrester Road Parking

The Forrester - Beaver Pond Road is slated to become a significant entry for retriever club users accessing Restoration and Beaver Ponds. This entry would greatly reduce retriever club use of the major roadways within the property, especially during training. Other areas, nearby entrances to the state forest, such as Wilkens and Rowes Ponds are also slated for retriever club training in an effort to reduce the distances vehicles travel on interior roads.

The roadway to Restoration and Beaver Ponds will be gravel hardened, stabilized and encroaching vegetation removed. This will allow enough space for cars to pass each other safely. A gravel pad for five cars including one van accessible parking spot will be provided in the grassy field at least 250 feet away from the Restoration Pond. This pad will be used frequently by people training their dogs. At times, during infrequent larger events, the grassed area is adequate for parking.

The road will be improved up to Beaver Pond, where a gravel parking area for 10 cars already exists along the roadway on the west side of the pond. This parking lot is in an inconspicuous location and in compliance with freshwater wetlands laws.
Providing access from the south will also reduce the number of vehicles driving over the water control structure.

Lorraine Drive Parking

A gravel parking lot for 15 cars will be built to the east of Maple Avenue off Route 207 (approximately 80 by 110 feet), with a sign standard, kiosk, and one space for persons with disabilities. A gate will control access just beyond the parking lot. A Port-A-John will be available at this parking lot from Memorial Day to Columbus Day.

Armstrong Lane (Route 207) Parking

A gravel parking lot for 10 cars will be built along Route 207 to the east of Drury Lane (approximately 60 by 70 feet), with a sign standard, kiosk, access gate, and one space for persons with disabilities.

Drury Lane Parking

The 2005 Consent Decree provides that "NYSDEC shall provide suitable parking and access points/trailheads, to be located on Drury Lane and Route 207, for the lands east of Drury Lane." The large wetland east of Drury Lane prevents access to a large portion of the areas, so a formal parking area would not be beneficial on Drury. Therefore, one of the three hunter parking areas could be enlarged to provide space for up to three cars.

Other Parking

Vehicle access by hunters to the interior will continue during the small and big game hunting seasons (October to mid-December) through the Weed Road gate. Parking for hunters will be limited to no more than 83 parking spaces and hunter density will continue to be managed for a density of approximately three hunters for every 100 acres of land. Hunter parking spaces 77-83 will be added to the east of Drury Lane, and parking spaces 16-17 and 1-3 will eventually be relocated from the Tenney's Pond area, which is being retained by DOT.

During big game hunting season, parking spaces on the perimeter of the property may be used only by hunters.

Interior parking will be available to provide persons with disabilities access to the property, and to support research efforts or land management.

Parking for dog club members and group events will be limited to one shoulder of the road near training and event areas or as specified by the TRP. Limited parking, 2-3 spaces may be provided near ponds for judges and emergency vehicles. However, parking will not intrude on the ponds and be inconspicuous.

2. Access for People With Disabilities

DEC is guided by the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other laws to provide access and recreational opportunities at its sites to people with disabilities. Persons with mobility impairments may use motor vehicles with a CP-3 Permit on the paved and graveled roads on the Stewart State Forest under permit. Eligible persons will be provided combinations to the most appropriate gates. Applications for CP-3 permits are available from the New Paltz Regional DEC Office.

Non-ambulatory Hunter parking spaces are provided at New Road near Orlando Drive, on Ridge Road south of the Weed Road , and at the former apple orchards on Ridge Road.

Parking spaces for person's with mobility impairments will be provided at the Weed Road (3 spaces), Ridge Road North (2 spaces), Barron Road North (1 space), and Barron Road South (1 space), Lorraine Drive (1 space) and Rte 207-East of Drury (1 space) parking lots.

3. Sanitary Facilities

Groups using the property by TRP are required to provide one Port-a-John for every 40 persons. DEC will monitor the need for Port-a-Johns near major entry points. An accessible Port-a-John will be provided near the Weed Road Parking facility and at Ridge Road North. The need for additional Port-a-Johns inside the property will be evaluated annually.

4. Historic/Archaeologic Sites

The abandoned Benedict House in the southwest corner of Stewart State Forest was completely destroyed by a fire on August 13, 2000. The two small cemeteries along Rt. 207 and Barrett Drive are not part of Stewart State Forest.

A family cemetery, identified as the McClaughry Cemetery is located near the intersection of Drury Lane and Route 207 in the Town of New Windsor. In 1999, SPARC (The Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition) applied to the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) with the assistance of County Historian Theodore Sly, and Historian and Docent Barbara Clark to establish eligibility of the site for listing on the State and Federal Historic registers. On August 17, 1999, a determination was made by OPRHP that the property was eligible for inclusion on the Register. (Project Reference 96-PR-1641, USN 07115.000593), with this description:

"The McClaughry Burial Ground is historically significant as a highly intact example of a mid to late eighteenth century burial ground. The property derives additional significance in the area of Funerary Art from its fine collection of eighteenth century funerary motifs. Despite years of abandonment and neglect the site retains a high degree of integrity and is unquestionably a significant local landmark."

The 1971 appropriation of lands for Stewart Airport included an exception for lands "...now being used or dedicated for cemetery purposes, and the access thereto." The intent being to exclude such lands from State ownership. However, the DEC is prepared to work cooperatively with the Town of New Windsor and Orange County to help maintain and protect this cemetery and any others that may be found in the future. Historical records indicate a cemetery between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane (the Humphrey Cemetery), and other burial plots somewhere north of Telford Tavern, west of Maple Avenue.

Site testing and evaluation was conducted at four prehistoric sites in 1985 and 1987. An extensive program of cultural resource investigations established that ground disturbance in the vicinity of demolished structures has destroyed the integrity of associated archaeological remains (Stewart International Airport Properties FEIS, 1992). Additional areas with moderate potential for prehistoric sites have been identified in the FEIS, (Stewart International Airport Properties FEIS, 1992 Fig. 1V-15).

The Department has followed procedures established in concert with the OPRHP in determining the presence of cultural resources on this Unit. This involves reviewing the New York State Archaeological Site Locations Map. One site has been identified on the Stewart State Forest.

5. State Police Facility

The State Forest lands to the east of the Police facility on Barron Road are sometimes used to detonate and destroy hazardous materials. The continued use of this area hinges on the adoption of a special agreement between the DEC and the State Police, conforming with Environmental Conservation Law and DEC Regulations.

6. Post Office

The 727 square foot Rock Tavern Post Office is located on the periphery of the property along Route 207 (total site, including parking is 4,072 square feet). Its use as a Post Office has little impact on the State Forest. The basic lease term is for a period of ten years with the current lease beginning December 1, 2004 (with a five year renewal option for December 1, 2009) and expiring on November 30, 2014. If the U.S. Postal Service, decides to discontinue the lease of the Rock Tavern Post Office (12575), the building may be useful as a small information center with offices and storage for the property. Additional storage sheds could be built alongside the existing building

The Department lacks the authority to enter into future leases on Reforestation Areas.

7. Wildlife Check Station

The former check station building on Weed Road is used as a clearinghouse for hunter information and to manage a hunter reservation system during the first part of big game hunting season. The building will continue to support DEC management of the property. The building may be improved, making room for some interpretive displays and a small office.

8. Storage-Maintenance Facility

The Stewart Citizen Advisory Committee recommended new building construction be limited to the perimeter of the property, to preserve existing natural conditions and provide security for the structure (routes 207, 208 and Forrester Road).

A storage-maintenance facility is needed for staff and equipment. A three bay pole barn storage and maintenance building, with two open and one enclosed bay will provide secure storage and a work room for equipment used on the area. Electric and phone service will be needed as well, with a desk, chairs, files, etc. A gated fence will provide security.

One option, would be the reuse of the Post Office property along 207 if the lease is not renewed.

Another location for this facility is the southwest corner of the property along Route 208 or Forrester Road (between Barron Road and the farm shed on Forrester Road). This location is not used by the public, yet is visible and open to the highway and farmer nearby. Frequent entry by police to the firing range offers additional passive security. The proximity to Maybrook, and DOT near Stewart International Airport is convenient for fuel and supplies.

Before constructing this facility, the possibility of storing equipment in sheds on DOT property closer to Stewart International Airport will be pursued.

9. Roads

a. Culverts will be marked and cleaned, and roads ditched. Thereafter, they will be maintained every two to three years. All improvements or maintenance of culverts will be submitted for DEC Freshwater Wetlands Program review. Ditching near wetlands must be approved so proper specifications can be incorporated before work proceeds.
b. Roads will be graded and graveled. Deteriorating paved roads will be returned to gravel.
c. The shale pit south of New Road and west of Drakes Lane (along the unnamed road to Beaver Pond) may be used as a source of shale for small projects on the property. In the event that the shale pit is reopened, the requirements set forth under ECL Article 23, Title 27, Section 11 of the New York State Mined Land Reclamation Law will be followed.
d. Signs will be installed and upgraded at all road intersections. Brown and yellow directional signs with mileages will be posted at all major road and trail intersections.
e. Under the provisions of 6 NYCRR Section 190.8(k) the speed limits on all roads within the State Forest is 25 mph. Once graded and graveled, roads will be maintained, but not improved, in order to keep vehicle speeds low.

10. Gates

Maintain the 11 existing gates. Maintain the existing gate at Giles Road until the gate can be moved closer to the Post Office parking lot, where parking may be provided on part of or adjacent to the existing lot (for 5-6 cars). The existing Giles gate may be replaced with large stones in the future, as may Ridge Road South, when the gates reach the end of their usefulness. These gates are not essential for emergency vehicle access to the State Forest. Gates along Barron Road may need to be added or moved if access to DOT or private land holdings warrant. A new gate may be needed at the East Drury Farm Trail dirt road (Along Rt. 207).

11. Boundary Lines

A survey of the westerly property boundary of Stewart State Forest was completed in Summer, 2001 and the lines posted. A survey of portions of the property transferred in 2006 will be undertaken to clearly define the expanded state forest boundary.

12. Stewart International Airport Security

Wildlife

Stewart State Forest was a Cooperative Hunting Area from 1974 until transfer to the DEC, as the airport has grown to its current stature. DEC habitat management for hunting has not changed during that time, although the number of fields on the property has been reduced by 2/3. This decrease has greatly reduced the habitat for species most likely to be involved in airplane collisions as listed in Wildlife Management at Airports (Cleary andf Dolbeer, 2006) and Wildlife Strikes to Civil Aircraft in the United States (Cleary, Dolbeer and Wright, 2006).

The bird groups most frequently involved in aircraft strikes were gulls (23 percent of collisions), doves/pigeons (14 percent), raptors (13 percent), waterfowl (10 percent), sparrows (7 percent) and starlings (6 percent) (Cleary, Dolbeer and Wright, 2006). In this group, only raptors have

consistently maintained a presence at Stewart because at one time almost half of the property was farmed. Management of a maximum of 950 acres in some form of earlier succession or farming is a reduction of this habitat to about 14 percent of the property. Also, DEC has strived in its protocols guiding users of the property mowing near ponds to decrease the areas of open grass lawn near water which are known to attract nuisance geese and waterfowl.

In the sections on "Mowing and Habitat Enhancement for Wildlife Management ," some of DEC's management actions are described (In Section E. Resource Management Actions). Management for grassland and shrubland nesting birds benefits small, non-flocking songbirds that according to FAA publications do not pose a significant risk to aircraft. Many of the larger generalist species of birds that pose a hazard to aircraft, such as gulls, crows, raptors and Canada geese have been present at Stewart State Forest for many years and will continue to be present in the future. The proposed management of the property is not expected to increase populations of these species above current levels. Indeed, grassland management calls for the creation of larger blocks of grassland, reducing field edges and forested hedgerows which attract large raptors. None of the birds that cause the greatest threat to aircraft benefit from grassland management.

Several studies are available from Vermont and Massachussetts which discuss grassland birds, management options and safety issues/benefits at airports (Allen, 2000; Jones & Vickery, 1997; Mass Audubon [www.massaudubon.org/Birds_&_Beyond/grassland]). Massachussetts Audubon has worked with several large airports, including Westover Air Force Base, Fort Devons, and the Massachusetts Military Reservation at Cape Cod on grassland bird management (Wayne Petersen, personal. communication, Important Bird Area Program, Mass. Audubon).

In conclusion, although some non -target birds may be affected by grassland and shrubland management, its is not anticipated that bird populations of species posing any increased threat to the airport will result. DEC will work closely with airport management to assess and monitor the wildlife situation. If at any time, such an unlikely event arises, immediate steps will be taken to eliminate any safety hazard. The airport's wildlife damage management biologist might also review, in coordination with local farmers and producers, the seasonal land uses which could attract hazardous wildlife and incorporate them in the Airport's Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (WHMP).

Vegetation

Certain FAA regulations require the removal of potential obstructions to aircraft taking off or landing. DEC will coordinate with Stewart International Airport staff to ensure that all trees that constitute potential obstructions are removed from those portions of the flight path that traverse the State Forest.

Access/Security

Municipal emergency service agencies in the immediate area have been provided with lock combinations to all gates on the property. DEC through its Forest Rangers and Environmental Conservation Police and staff will continue an ongoing dialogue with the local police, fire and

emergency services, airport security, NYC Department of Environmental Protection police and the Orange County Office of Emergency Services to ascertain the best ways to deal with situations that may occur on or near Stewart State Forest. The poor conditions of the roadways on the State Forest are problematic. All existing roads on the property are to be graded and graveled so as to make travel by emergency vehicles easier.

13. Utility Right-of-Ways

The appropriation of lands creating Stewart Airport excluded all utilities: "Excepting all lands from appropriation held in public use... for transmission of or distribution of electricity, fluids, gasses, or messages by use of electricity."

The major high voltage power distribution line running between Barron Road and New Road down to the Forrester Road substations is retained in-fee by Central Hudson Gas and Electric. In the Town of Montgomery, the in-fee distribution line impacts about 48 acres, in New Windsor, 69.15 acres. Approximately 43 acres under the distribution lines are actively farmed. A 50 foot right-of-way parallels the in-fee line, originally part of a 125 foot right-of-way acquired in 1925-26 (approximately 13.1 acres). The in-fee line overlaps 75 feet of the original 1925-26 right-of-way. The in-fee line is 275 feet wide and was acquired in 1969 prior to the appropriation of lands for Stewart Airport.

Central Hudson has the right to cross and recross State Forest lands anywhere, but must use the most reasonable route. The original owners surrounding the Central Hudson ROW were given the right for roads to cross a set number of times. Such information is provided in each deed, generally dating back to 1969. The original owners were also given rights to cultivate land in the ROW without restriction as long as there was no interference with the towers.
The high voltage distribution lines running from Forrester Road to the vicinity of Weed Road are on a 150 foot right-of-way, acquired by Central Hudson Gas and Electric in 1954 (about 28 acres).

Central Hudson Gas and Electric will be required by the Department to obtain TRPs to perform maintenance on vegetation outside their fee holdings. Central Hudson's ROW management enhances habitat diversity. The power line corridors provide benefits as shrublands and open fields, and often cross wetlands. Areas subject to TRPs are limited to the Forrester/Weed Road right-of-way in the south and a narrow strip abutting Central Hudson's in-fee lands between New Road and Barron Road.

All lands under these power lines, not actively farmed, are hydroaxed by Central Hudson on an average 8 to 9 year cycle. Accord basal spray is used to suppress tree sprouting and encourage shrub closure at intervals. The shrubs become so dense that they exclude trees. Hydroaxing is not repeated unless access to an area becomes almost impossible for future tree and line clearing (McManus, pers. comm., 2001). The 8-9 year cycle is ideal for the maintenance of shrub lands on the property and meets most of the standards for creating good shrub land habitat (Askins, 1999). An active utility line runs down Weed Road, supplying power and telephone service to the check station.

Utility pole maps on the area supplied by Central Hudson indicate that all roads within Stewart State Forest have easements for electric distribution from the original landowners. The easements are still valid since they run with the land, but almost all the poles and conductors have been removed (McManus, pers. comm., 2001).

Starting at Route 207 and proceeding north between Maple Avenue and Drury Lane, a 33 foot ROW is kept free of trees and occasionally mowed by AT&T for a transcontinental coaxial underground telephone cable. The easements are filed at the Orange County Clerks office. Before heavy machinery or any digging crosses the ROW, AT&T should be contacted. (A DigSafely NY inquiry was made, Ticket # 03026-044-065, 1-800-962-7962, AT&T, 203-269-4338,M. Burkhart).

14. Wetland Mitigation

When the property was transferred to the Department, DOT retained the right to use Stewart State Forest as a wetland mitigation site for construction on Stewart Airport which unavoidably destroys wetlands. A 1.5 acre site, west of New Road, was constructed in the Summer 2001 and was planted with wetland plants. A 14.4-acre wetland along Barron Road was created under a DEC Freshwater Wetlands Permit starting in 2006, as mitigation for the Stewart Airport Access Road Project.

New Road Mitigation Wetland (2001)

New Road Mitigation Wetland (2005)

DEC will work with DOT and/or airport officials to select sites most appropriate and beneficial to the environment. DEC will also encourage DOT to avoid construction of mitigation sites which would disrupt recreational use.

The 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 13 Appendix C.) limits the DOT to:

"construction of mitigation wetlands only for Airport projects and for NYSDOT projects located within Orange County, and only when it has exhausted all feasible and prudent alternatives at the site of the project in question, and only with the approval of NYSDEC and/or the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, as required by law."
The 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 14 Appendix C.) also states that the new lands transferred to Stewart State Forest, east of Maple Avenue, by NYSDOT to NYSDEC, shall not be used "for such wetlands mitigation construction purposes and NYSDEC shall not grant such right to NYSDOT or any other person or entity."

15. Dams

The earthen dams at Stewart State Forest are hazard class A - no safety issue (as most are less than 6 feet high from toe to crest) and impound less than 3 million gallons. Although formal permits are not required for state-owned dams, all required steps must be followed as for the issuance of a permit. Maintenance of a dam does not require a permit for vegetation and brush removal of < 4 inch diameter.

Several of the earthen "dams" at the State Forest will be visually inspected by DEC's Dam Safety in 2007 (Whalenburgh Pond, Beaver Pond and Restoration Ponds). If needed, an engineering evaluation will be completed either by DEC's Division of Operations or an outside consultant in accordance with "Guidelines for Design of Dams."

These dams were chosen as they are either taller (6-15 feet high) or have larger impoundments, and in the case of Beaver Pond Dam, the outlet stream on the dam is crossed by cars. The DEC strives to maintain and preserve the ponds on the property. In the future, Tenney's Pond may require a similar evaluation.

D. Outreach Management Actions

1. Informational Kiosks

- Maintain three existing kiosks at Weed Road, North Barron Road and Ridge Road North.
- All new kiosks will be constructed to ADA accesibility standards.
- Construct 2-sided kiosk on proposed South Barron Road parking lot.
- Construct kiosk at the intersection of Weed and Ridge Roads (two-sided).
- Construct two-sided kiosks at proposed Maple Avenue Route 207 parking lots.
- Construct 2-sided kiosk at proposed Lorraine Drive parking lot.
- Construct 2-sided kiosk at Rt. 207, east of Drury Lane parking lot.

Each kiosk will contain a map, information on the property including rules and regulations, and contact information for DEC Forest Rangers, Environmemntal Conservation Officers and appropriate local emergency services. Each kiosk near areas used for special events will also have a small, easily accessible 11 inch by 17 inch water proof case to hold information about special events and permit users.

2. Interpretation

A brochure is needed to interpret the major features of the property. A map of the major trails and the key rules governing the use of the State Forest will be included. The goal is to educate users about Stewart State Forest, hunting, access to the property, and our goal of managing the land to protect and preserve transitional species, wildlife and game while encouraging compatible recreational opportunities. DEC may produce this brochure in conjunction with a volunteer organization as well as post the information on the DEC public web site.
No visitor center is needed at this time and the buildings on the property are not suitable for this purpose. Several environmental and interpretive centers in nearby communities might be interested in cooperating with the creation or delivery of interpretive programs on the site. A potential clearly exists for programs with nearby school districts.

If a storage-maintenance facility is established at Stewart State Forest, consideration will be given to allowing Sportsmen Education classes to be held at the facility, if it is conducive to such use and demand for such use exists.

3. Great Swamp Observation Boardwalk

A boardwalk (approximately 350-650 feet) to allow for wetland enjoyment and interpretation is proposed across the Great Swamp at an elevation appropriate to the water level fluctuations identified as most beneficial to the habitat. The boardwalk will be as short as possible, avoiding the island, which serves as a refuge for deer and other animals during wet years.

E. Resource Management Actions

1. Forest Management

A forest type map, inventory and stand treatment schedule has been completed for the property, and is provided in the Appendix.

Projects which meet the Department's management objectives for the property.

a. A total inventory of Stewart State Forest has been completed, delineating stands by describing species composition, age classes, wood volumes, and make silvicultural recommendations (See Stand Treatment Table).
b. Mowing, brush-hogging and silvicultural treatments to maintain a continuum of habitats ranging from field to brush to large diameter forest stands in an optimal mix on the property. The optimal mix is established using information from the Wildlife Conservation Society, State Wildlife Biologists and the New York Significant Habitat Unit.
c. Silvicultural practices (Forestry) to enhance existing woodland types, such as Sugar Maple or Black Walnut stands to provide wood products for society.

Stewart State Forest is a mix of different forests, both young and old because of its rich human history.

d. Silvicultural practices to enhance wildlife diversity through a more favorable mix of deciduous trees and conifers. The planting of native conifers to provide improved habitat for a wide range of animals, including turkeys and owls. White pine is suitable for soils and drainage types found on the property.
e. Silvicultural practices to enhance a diversity of native wildlife species will be implemented (for example, see Indiana Bats, Rare and Endangered Species, Section VII Proposed Resource Management actions.)

f. Management practices to remove invasive species where economical and practical.

Black Walnut Trees

Until recently, black walnut was the most valuable hardwood tree grown in the country. That position has been surpassed by Sugar Maple and black cherry, but walnut remains a highly valuable tree for furniture, veneer, gun stocks, and a variety of speciality products.
A measure of the fertility of some soils on the Stewart State Forest is the presence of numerous black walnut trees, in scattered and localized locations. Trees vary from seedlings and saplings to two feet in diameter. Most fall in between these sizes, and the vast majority are 10-16 inches in diameter.

Many walnut trees are found in the vicinity of old homesteads and nearby roads, and may reflect past plantings by farmers and early residents. Some of these trees contain hardware (clothesline pulleys, nails, bolts, etc.) lowering their value for timber.

Given its commercial and wildlife value, the DEC intends to manage all black walnut trees. Competing, poor quality trees of lesser value and vines shading black walnut trees will be removed. Low quality black walnut trees with poor form, decay, or other defects will also be removed when competing with better quality walnut trees. Low pruning of branches, to a height of 17 feet, will also be undertaken from time to time, to improve lower stem quality.

DEC will also consider planting this species in selected abandoned farm fields with appropriate soils. Five acres may be planted at a 12' by 12' spacing in field RM 30 along the southwestern edge of the Great Swamp.

A small sale of black walnut trees was completed in late 2000/early 2001, to harvest maturing trees in one location. The sale allowed DEC staff to gauge the market, and plan future management to keep it in the mix of trees on the property. The sale was done on an area of about 15 acres in the SW corner of the property where black walnut was growing in an area not ideal for its growth. The walnut (roughly 12-24 inches in diameter [DBH]) was removed releasing the understory. The main purpose of the timber sale was to remove black walnut from competition with the sugar maple, which is more suited to the site. Within this 15-acre sale area, patches of young and older black walnut trees on good soils were also released by removing poor quality cherry and white ash competition. These trees, released from competition, will grow more quickly and supply seeds for future walnut generations.

2. Farming

Farming is a long standing historic use of the property. DEC took over jurisdiction of the property subject to several agricultural leases. Currently, farming on the property takes place through TRP's, and is limited to farmers who were cultivating fields at the time the property was transferred to DEC in 1999. DEC will continue to support agricultural use on the property.

Current farmers will be allowed to continue farming. Farmers are required to locate their farm fields on a specially numbered map provided by DEC. The Department will require farmers to have an approved "Conservation Compliance Plan" prepared in conjunction with the Orange

County Soil and Water Conservation District. Because of the unique circumstances surrounding farming at Stewart State Forest, an "Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM)" plan addressing such issues as implementing best management practices for rare plants, wildlife and wetland protection, liability concerns for state land open to the public, outreach to the non-farm community, and supporting farmers in complying with existing and future environmental regulations will also be required. (The AEM Program is outlined in the Appendix or at www.nys.soilandwater.org). These two programs provide a clear accounting of all farming activities past, present and planned by describing the treatments and practices applied to each field.

Conditions such as new gates, seasonal mowing restrictions, field edge and wildlife habitat improvement measures, and avoiding critical wildlife areas will be included in the TRPs issued to farmers. Although most agricultural activities are exempt from Article 24 permitting, farmers leasing Stewart lands will be required to apply best management practices. Use of pesticides on the property requires approval from the DEC (see Part 190.0) and will be reported by the farmers in a yearly summary, will be a component of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach, and will be subject to applicable SEQRA reviews. The DEC's Division of Pesticide Enforcement requires farmers to maintain records for "restricted use pesticides"(Agricultural Use Observation Inspections), including dates applied, equipment used and crop treated. There is no requirement for farmers to be certified applicators or to record "general use pesticides" applied on lands they own or lease. However, since this is a State Forest, , the Division of Pesticides "Agricultural Use Observation Inspections" will be augmented with a requirement in the TRP for listing all 'general use' herbicides and pesticides used on the property, and farmers using Stewart State Forest will be "private applicator certified."

Farmers regularly use the existing ponds for irrigation during droughts, and have deepened some ponds for this purpose. A protocol will be established for ponds with special wildlife populations which might be impacted by drawdown during these periods. Farmers will be required to remove all barbed wire and cable gates, and replace with farm gates. Where fields are open to a road, a farm gate will be installed.

Stewart State Forest may be suitable for applying agro-forestry practices. Appropriate information will be researched and provided to farmers and staff.

3. The Great Swamp

a. Introduction

The Great Swamp is classified as palustrine deciduous forested wetland. The raising of the water levels by beavers has killed the trees and the swamp has been opening up over the years, leading to swamp forest, dead forest and open water. The Great Swamp is designated WD-48, Class II, and is estimated at 301 acres (page IV 257, Stewart International Airport Properties FEIS, 1992). The Great Swamp is hydrologically tied to wetland MD-11 (Class III, 96 acres), a swamp forest, via a stream corridor to its southwest. The wetlands are described in Appendix D, Vegetation Descriptions for the Stewart Property (Stewart International Airport Properties FEIS, 1992). Hydrological influences from changes in the Great Swamp water levels can

influence land as far south as Weed Road. The southern half of the area containing the Great Swamp between Maple Avenue, Ridge Road and Weed Road is considered a significant habitat as a deer concentration/wintering area.

Large segments of The Great Swamp are dominated by purple loosestrife and phragmites. Water levels are lower than in the past, but fluctuate radically from year to year, depending on weather conditions and beaver dam building activity.

The Great Swamp

Drainage from the swamp is to the north through a series of culverts under I-84. Currently, three 24" pipes drain the wetland, but only one is partially open. Beavers have dammed the culverts in the past and some damming is evident today. In the northern portion of the swamp, flooding once reached heights in excess of 10 to 12 feet above pre-flooded conditions. In the summer of 1988, the water in the northern half of the swamp stabilized at depths between six and eight feet above pre-flooded conditions (Stewart International Airport FEIS, 1992). Since then, new beaver dams and yearly changes have resulted in widely fluctuating water levels.

Because the bottom elevations of the Great Swamp are not uniform, the impacts of the flooding have not been universal over the swamp forest. The vegetation in the southern third of the swamp is intact with a strong tree, scrub and herbaceous layer. Here, there is little indication of excessive flooding beyond normal field conditions. The vegetation here is typical of permanently flooded forested wetland. Although the tree layer is still alive in the central third of The Great Swamp, the scrub and herbaceous layers have been severely impacted by the flooding and are sharply reduced or altered in composition. A mat of various duckweeds (Lemna, Spirodela, and Wolffia) is found floating on the water surface and there are extensive areas of arrow arum and bur reed. The northern third of the swamp is dead flooded forest with a mat of duckweeds on the water surface (Stewart International Airport FEIS, 1992). More recently, alternating drought in 1999 with wet periods in 2000, along with reduced beaver activity, have lowered overall Great Swamp water levels, allowing purple loosestrife to establish a significant presence in the wetland.

b. Purple Loosestrife Control

There have been several attempts to control purple loosestrife through the experimental release of *Hylobius transversovittatus*, a root-boring beetle and Galerucella beetles, which eat loosestrife leaves. Hylobius beetles were released at the Great Swamp and a wetland just west of the Stewart Airport runway and Drury Land in late Spring 2001. The leaf -eating beetles are doing well in the wetland along Drury Lane. In Spring 2006, purple loosestrife beetles were again released at the Great Swamp and for the first time at Wilkens Pond. Purple loosestrife control projects may continue on the property, as needed, for up to five consecutive years, especially in wetlands along Barron Road.

c. Water Control Structure

The merits of reconstructing the water control structure along the northerly boundary of the Great Swamp will be studied. The structure is on DOT land, along I-84. Any alterations to the Great Swamp will require a Freshwater Wetlands and Dam Safety Program permit.

An improved control structure would help create a limited area of open water habitat to benefit waterfowl and wildlife diversity, improve recreational and hunting opportunities and open water fishing without creating habitat for nuisance species, such as Canada Geese, swans, and seagulls. Raising water levels by 18 to 24 inches would also help eliminate nuisance invasive species such as purple loosestrife and phragmites to improve the wetland's diversity. However, raising water levels can have an impact on adjacent wetlands, vernal ponds and forest lands. On the other hand, the deterioration of beaver dams has caused a permanent lowering of water levels. Species dependent on vernal ponds and seasonally flooded woodlands could be adversely affected.

4. Mowing and Habitat Enhancement for Wildlife Management

Mowing on the Stewart State Forest will improve habitat diversity for grassland species. With the decline of agriculture, farm fields throughout the Hudson Valley region are reverting to forest and habitat diversity is decreasing. Techniques to improve habitat diversity will include maintaining a mix of agricultural land, mowing fields and managing brush land.

110 to 120 acres will be mowed per year on a 6 year rotation. The total area to be maintained over the long-term is about 950 acres. However, certain fields with high concentrations of multiflora rose may be mowed on a shorter 3-year rotation to get the infestation under control. Roughly 13-15 percent of the property will be maintained in early to mid-successional stages, including farm fields. Farmland - cultivated, fallow, and abandoned - will be an integral part of achieving the wildlife goals on the property. The mowing plan indicates priority locations for grassland and shrubland maintenance, as well as mowing locations for views, a group camping site, and retriever trials (which may be done annually over small areas). Mowing will be done by DEC Operations Staff or outside contractors supplemented by occasional supervised volunteer, farmer, or user groups. (See Mowing Plan in Appendix). Mowing will, whenever possible, be scheduled to avoid the grassland bird nesting season (May to July 15).

Throughout the property, early successional habitats include active farm fields (hay, cropped or cover-cropped), limited areas mowed near ponds, as well as abandoned farm fields in various successional stages. Some farm fields, if abandoned, will be mowed (See Agricultural Fields Map in the Appendix). Mowing is also a priority to maintain a balance of diverse habitats throughout the property, with continued mowing of smaller areas northern New Road (two fields) and Orlando Drive (the field here should be cleared of trees, retaining some shrubs), parts of the Ridge Road Orchard and several fields west of Maple Avenue near 207. Ridge Road and Buchanan Hill field complexes have been mowed in the past 3 years to maintain the existing fields.

In addition, Central Hudson Gas and Electric manages 158 acres of land within the State Forest which it owns in-fee or part of its transmission line right-of-way. About 116 acres are managed as shrublands, the remainder being farm fields. The Department proposes to rejuvenate and maintain between 7 and 11 acres of brushland per year in addition to the Central Hudson lands. This requires the removal of all tree species shading shrubs in designated locations.

In some cases, grassland management at Stewart SF may require activities more intensive than periodic mowing. This management might include the removal of hedgerows and forest patches within a grassland matrix, planting of appropriate native grasses and wildflowers within grasslands to improve habitat suitability for grassland-dependent wildlife, and annual breeding bird surveys to assess the success of this management.

The removal of trees from grassland landscapes is important because trees, especially linear rows of trees, fragment grassland habitats. Because most grassland bird species are area sensitive, meaning they require continuous habitat patches that meet some minimum size threshold, fragmented habitats without unbroken grassland areas of 100 acres or more are not ideal for grassland birds and, in many instances, simply not used for nesting. Ideally, within grasslands, all non-grassland habitats, including hedgerows, forest patches, and shrublands, are converted to grassland. This course of action is the preferred management option within the proposed grassland habitat complexes at Stewart State Forest. However, recognizing that the cost and effort of completely converting forest patches and/or hedgerows to grassland may be prohibitive, the periodic removal of the tallest vegetation (i.e. trees) while leaving stumps, large rocks, shrubs, and other short vegetation (anything <10 feet in height) provides a good lower cost alternative that minimizes both fragmentation and investment.

Because high intensity grassland management is not practical or prudent for all fields at Stewart SF, five areas were identified as good candidates for designation and management as grassland complexes. The criteria used for selecting these areas included size, configuration, current vegetative condition, and compatibility to grassland management. Within these complexes, connectivity will be improved to the greatest extent possible through removal of hedgerows and forest patches. As previously stated, whenever possible, these forested habitats will be converted to grassland. However, when conversion to grassland is impossible, these habitats will be managed as shrublands dominated by low-growing native shrubs such as dogwood and viburnum species. Actively farmed fields make up a significant portion of the four grassland complexes listed below. While grassland birds do not generally nest in agricultural fields aside from hayfields, pastures, and fallow cropfields, these areas add to the overall size of treeless grassland habitat complexes, and if farming of these fields is discontinued, they will be managed

as grasslands. On farms fields that are purposely being left fallow as part of an approved farm plan, certain management activities will be encouraged to increase their attractiveness to grassland wildlife, such as planting appropriate cover crops and delaying cultivation until after nesting season. Additionally, farmers will be encouraged to delay mowing of hayfields as long as possible to promote nesting success.

The four areas proposed for management as grassland complexes (including some shrublands) are as follows (acreage includes small areas of shrubland/woodland-hedgerow/wetland habitats, as well as mowed areas):

1. South Barron Road/Restoration Pond area fields (215 acres);
2. Barron Road mitigation wetland area fields (200 acres);
3. Northern Ridge Road fields (117 acres);
4. Route 207 fields east of Maple Avenue (105 acres).

These areas are listed in priority order; i.e. resources will be dedicated to improving the grassland habitat at the South Barron Road/Restoration Pond complex before the Barron Road mitigation wetland complex, and so forth. Lower priority fields may be mowed, but may not receive additional habitat improvements. All fields, particularly those east of Maple Avenue, will be monitored in cooperation with Stewart International Airport.

Roadway edges are also important travelways for many wildlife species species as well as needing to be mowed to keep roads passable, maintain visibility and views (Up to 6 foot shoulders wherever terrain, ditches and stone walls permit). Wet areas and steep slopes will be bypassed. Roadways will be mowed in the following order: Weed Road, Ridge Road, New Road, Lindsay Road, Barron Road North, Barron Road South, Maple Avenue, Drakes Lane, Giles Road, Ridge Road South to Route 207, and Orlando Drive. The following trails will be a mowing priority once the roadways are mowed: Windsor Woods Road, Buchanan Hill Trail, Armstrong Farm Lane, Scofield Lane, and the Barron Road to New Road Connector past Wilkins Pond.

Habitat enhancement will also include the planting of native conifers for diversity and habitat on suitable sites not exceeding 15 acres, and efforts to remove exotic plants.

Butterflies and Invertebrates

Areas have been tentatively identified which may need special consideration because of the presence of certain species, habitats or plants. In a small number of locations, the timing of mowing may need to be adjusted. Barron Road is particularly rich in specimens and numbers and offers excellent habitat, with Blue stem, Knapweed, Ironweed and substantial stands of Milkweed.

Barron Road South Purple Milkweed Field

In order to maintain the populations of purple milkweed (Asclepias purpurascens) near the DOT Barron Road Wetland Mitigation site, regular liming of the field may be needed. If high calcium and manganese levels are determined to be indicative of purple milkweed habitat, testing for these elements will be undertaken. If either element is lacking liming will be

undertaken. In order to maintain access to the purple milkweed, reduce competition which could impact the species and keep the area in the early successional stage preferred by the plant, the field and its adjacent upland will be mowed approximately once every 3 years (A drum brush hog should never be used).

Mowing at the site also serves to limit invasive species like purple loosestrife. Between mowing, purple loosestrife may be removed mechanically (snipping and pulling) or by applying an herbicide.

In 2005 purple milkweed seed was gathered at this site to be germinated and grown at the DEC Saratoga Tree Nursery. In July of 2006 DEC, the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) and volunteers planted 400 of these seedlings to enhance the existing population.

5. Bird Habitat Management

The diverse landscape at Stewart State Forest provides habitat for a broad variety of birds and as noted in the natural resources inventory, this includes habitat for certain groups of species whose habitat is declining throughout the northeast. Management as a state forest provides an opportunity to protect and enhance habitat for these and other bird species. However, due to the proximity of the forest to the Stewart International Airport the Department will limit management actions to those which will not result in unacceptable risks to airport operations.

The Department will continue to monitor bird populations including any potential threat they may pose to airport operations and work with DOT, the FAA and Airport managers to ensure management actions do not compromise airport safety. Management actions have been developed to enhance (favor) habitat for bird species which do not pose a threat to airport operations and actions to discourage use of the property by those species known to conflict with airport operations will be pursued.

Because this property has the potential to provide habitat for bird species at risk, including grassland and shrubland birds, neotropical migrant species and wetland dependant species, the Department will work in partnership with Audubon, the Wildlife Conservation Society's Metropolitan Conservation Alliance and other interest groups to undertake surveys and studies to determine the extent to which these species currently utilize the property, the importance of this habitat to their continued existence in the region and what management actions are appropriate. With this data the Department will also determine if portions of the property meet the criteria in Environmental Conservation Law Article 11 (section 2001) to be designated as a Bird Conservation Area (BCA). A recommendation to designate a portion of the property as a BCA would only be pursed if, after consultation with the FAA and airport managers, it is determined that designation would not conflict with airport operations.

F. Completing a Viable Stewart State Forest

"The transfer of jurisdiction of approximately 5264 acres from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Environmental Conservation" in 1999 is provided in the Appendix. An additional 1600 acres were transferred in June 2006. The Unit Management Plan recommends several properties be considered for addition to the State Forest. These properties will reduce

management costs and maintain the area's long term natural stability and recreational benefits. All proposed land acquisitions will be conservative, limited to key parcels of land which simplify management and insure the integrity of the State Forest.

The Department will pursue the acquisitions proposed in this plan where the existing owner is interested in selling and funding is available. The Department will only use eminent domain as a tool to clear a faulty title or to establish value in cases where the owner has expressed a willingness to sell, but an agreement on price cannot be reached. All land acquisitions will be reviewed and meet the criteria and "resource value rating systems" in the Conserving Open Space in New York State Plan. Notification will be made to the affected Town of the State's intent to acquire any parcels which are purchased with Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). A Town has 90 days from notification to reject a proposed acquisition. For more information on land acquisition proposed for New York State, please consult the "2006 New York State Open Space Conservation Plan."

1. Barron Road Development Area

The impact of developing the 100-acre North Barron Road, Road Development Area could be reduced with vehicle access limited to the north. A gate on Barron beyond the point of vehicle access to the Development Area along with roughly 0.75 mile of fence along the easterly edge of Barron Road, would successfully limit dumping and illegal access. Any new roadway development should include a parking and a bike/pedestrian walkway alongside Barron Road, to allow safe access to the State Forest.

All but 100 of the 300 acres of the Barron Road Development Area were transferred for inclusion to Stewart State Forest in 2006. However, some of the best kettlehole and vernal pool wetlands for amphibians are to the west of Baron Road, north of Wilkins Pond. Many species of amphibians depend on vernal ponds and kettlehole bogs at different stages in their life history, and are extremely sensitive to landscape-level disruptions that fragment or degrade habitat. The complex of ponds and vernal pools in this area, allows for recolonization after drought or other disturbance. (McDougal, WCS, pers. comm.). Development proposals should reflect the unique character of the area.

2. Barron Road - Easterly Parcels

Two parcels to the east of Barron Road and north of Decker Road are not part of the Barron Road Development Area and were not included in the original airport lands condemnation proceedings. They were part of the Penn Central Railroad at the time and were either in receivership or in quasi-public ownership and not subject to eminent domain proceedings. Parcel 6, 8.5089 acres is described in Liber 2272, page 833, 837-38 and the adjacent Parcel 7 (4.83 acres) is described in Liber 2272, page 820, 826-27. These parcels, totaling 13.3 acres, should be acquired from willing sellers to reduce the number of developable inholdings.
A large parcel between Stewart State Forest and the Village of Maybrook, fronts on the west shoulder of Barron Road. This parcel, part of the former Penn Central Railroad holdings (See DOT claim map 1470), has potential to significantly impact Stewart SF along North Barron Road near Wilkins Pond and Decker Road. Appropriate additions of adjacent properties will be pursued from willing sellers to enhance management and protect natural resources.

3. Forrester Road

Central Hudson Gas and Electric owns two lots along Forrester Road (Liber 1824, page 125; Liber 1825 page 1203) totaling 26.65 acres which include three long distance transmission lines. Central Hudson also owns in-fee a power transmission corridor with a power line stretching the length of the property from I-84 to Forrester Road, immediately adjacent to a second power line for which it has an easement through the property. If these lots are offered for sale for any reason, the state should acquire them to keep the property a cohesive unit bordering Forrester Road, keeping the boundary lines of the Forest simple and avoiding encroachment by development.

4. Maple Avenue to Drury Lane

This area, east of Maple Avenue and north of the runway protection zone of Stewart International Airport, remains with the Department of Transportation. However, the DOT in 2006 transferred to DEC the Maple Avenue right-of way, which insures access throughout this section of Stewart State Forest. Also, development setbacks agreed to in Consent Order No. 00-cv-1606, will preserve the viewshed of the entire State Forest, and hunting opportunities. The lands retained by DOT to the east of northern Maple Avenue "Reserved for Development", shall have "no construction of buildings or other action taken by NYSDOT, its successors and assigns, within 500 feet of Stewart State Forest, which would cause a limitation on hunting on the Stewart State Forest pursuant to New York Environmental Conservation Law 11-0931.(Consent Decree 00-cv-1606).

5. Barron Road, Decker Road and Second Street within the Village of Maybrook

The Village of Maybrook owns the roads, in-fee within the village limits. Decker Road, Second Street and a section of Barron Road remain the responsibility of the Village. The Village right-of-way is 50' wide. Acquisition of these roads from the Village should be considered in order to simplify management and access issues for the property.

6. Clark Street and Jackson Avenue

Public access rights to the easterly lands of Stewart State Forest require clarification. Clark Street and Jackson Avenue on the easterly boundaries may or may not provide public access for the use and enjoyment of the property.

G. Proposed Rules and Regulations

Special rules and regulations are needed to implement some of the management actions proposed under Section VII of the Stewart State Forest Unit Management Plan. Regulations will be updated or amended for:

- Hunting reservations, parking and vehicular access during hunting season.
- Fishing w electric/non-motorized craft
- Snowmobile use
- Camping and fires
- Firearms

The Cooperative Hunting Area Regulations for Public Use at Stewart (Part 92) which govern the property will be repealed and replaced with unit specific rules and regulations under Part 190. As proposed in this unit management plan, these rules and regulations are in addition to the general guidelines already codified in Title 6NYCRR, Part 190 of the Environmental Conservation Law and are necessary because of circumstances unique to the Stewart State Forest. Below is a chart which illustrates the existing regulations on the unit and also outlines the proposed changes to the current regulations put forth in the UMP.

Issue	**Existing regulations**	**Proposed regulations**
Firearms	Shotguns and muzzle loaders only; handguns and rifles prohibited	Shotguns, muzzle loaders and .22 caliber rimfire handguns permitted; rifles prohibited
Snowmobiles	Snowmobile use allowed	Snowmobile use limited to designated trails.
Camping	Camping allowed for no more than 3 nights in one location by fewer than 10 people and 150 feet away from trail, road or water. Longer stays and larger groups require a permit. Limited by current Coop Regulations.	Camping allowed by permit only. Camping prohibited during big-game hunting season.
Fires	Fires not allowed	Fires by permit only.
Fishing/boats	Use of boats prohibited on Wilkins, Rowe's, Tenny's and Maroney's Ponds. Fishing prohibited on Tenny's Pond from Sept. 1 through the end of February, and on Wilkins and Rowe's Ponds from October 1 through the end of February. Ice fishing by special permit during hunting season (10/1-3/1)	Fishing and non-motorized/electric motor boats allowed on all ponds in the State Forest.[1] Ice fishing permitted except during regular big-game hunting season.
Hunting/access	General public access limited to March 1 through September 30 with a special permit. A hunter permit system required for use of the property from October 1 through big-game hunting season. Hunting party size limited to three hunters and two dogs.	Property open to all users except during the regular big-game hunting season (approximately Mid-November to mid-December), when it is limited to hunters with valid hunting licenses. Non-hunting companions may accompany hunters, but must stay with hunter at all times while on property. No party size or dog restrictions.

[1] Tenny's Pond is located on NYS DOT property. Public access to the pond is allowed under the 2005 consent decree. Use of boats on the pond is under the jurisdiction of NYS DOT.

VIII. Update of the Unit Management Plan

The Final Unit Management Plan (UMP) will need updating 10 years after its adoption or if substantial changes or amendments are made due to changes in circumstances.

IX. MANAGEMENT BUDGET AND STAFFING: 10 YEAR SCHEDULE

A. Annual Maintenance Budget

The following tables outline a schedule for the implementation of proposed management actions and their estimated costs. Accomplishments are contingent upon sufficient staffing levels and funding. It is expected that most tasks will be done by Department Staff. To conform with program budgeting practices, estimated project costs are based on current costs for materials and wages for seasonal staff labor, excluding fringe benefits and indirect costs. The contruction or maintenance projects costs do not include permanent program staff salaries. Therefore costs are significantly lower than they would be for outside contractors.

- Yearly mowing of both sides of roughly 18 miles of truck roads and 4 miles of access roads to keep brush and shrubs from encroaching on the traveled ways with DEC staff & equipment . $ 6,000

- Mowing of an average of 115 acres per year on a 6 year rotation to maintain grassland habitat on the property with DEC staff and equipment. $ 7,000

- Manage a minimum of 7 acres per year for shrubs (Rowes Pond area, BN6, NR48, Ridge Road north, NR21, 37, 40, 38). (5 days per year). $ 2,000

- Invasive plant control. $ 1,500

- Hazardous tree removal. Contracting or DEC staff removal of trees damaged by disease, insects, lightening or other weather events which pose a potential hazard to visitors along roads or major travelways. $ 2,500

- Maintain/renovate 3.5 miles of roads per year (grade, drain, resurface). $ 130,000

- Yearly parking lot snow removal. $ 1,500

- Yearly parking lot maintenance. $ 1,500

- Yearly trail maintenance. $ 3,000

- Yearly property line maintenance. $ 1,000

- Maintain and repair gates, install/maintain one new gate every two years on average. $ 3,000

- Yearly upkeep and repair of forest headquarters building (former Cooperative Hunting Area Check Station). $ 1,200

- Mow and maintain six dams a year. $ 6,000

- Maintain Kiosks and information on a yearly basis. $ 1,000

- Reprint Stewart State Forest brochure for multiple users $ 2,000

- Install/Rent accessible Port-A-John at Weed Road, Ridge Road, and regular P-O-J at Barron Road and Lorraine Drive as needed from April 1 to mid-December. Totaling about 2.5 years of coverage every year. $ 3,750

Annual Maintenance Budget **$197, 950**

B. Construction and Projects Budget

Year 1-5

- Install parking facility at Baron Road South. $10,000

- Install parking facility at Rt. 207/Armstrong Lane trailhead. $ 10,000

- Install parking facility at Lorraine Drive (East of Maple Ave.). $ 15,000

- Install parking facility at Barron Road North. $19,000

- Small hardened parking areas at Restoration Pond and Beaver Pond. $ 8,000

- Construct 7 hunter parking spaces along Drury Lane and east, and two along Maple Avenue. $ 7,000

- Rebuild farm lane, 10-12' road surface cut brush to 25' wide, pull-offs every 250 feet or so, grade, fill and culverts. (Forrester to Restoration Pond, suitable for one-lane car access). $12,000
- Rebuild farm lane between New and Ridge Roads past Pittman-Robertson Pond to 8 feet wide, suitable for horse carriages (fill, culverts, permit, fabric and drainage). $14,000

- Demolish 20 by 35' shed off Forester Road. $ 3,000

- Storage/maintenance facility:A three bay pole barn storage/maintenance building, with three bays enclosed. $50,000

- Remove 2-story wood frame barn and other wood frame structures on Old Creamery Road (Old Route 208, Maybrook). $20,000

- Install DEC signs on 12.6 miles of boundary lines. $ 5,000
- Install five additional informational kiosks at major entry points (Barron Road South. Weed Road intersection with Ridge Road) ,Lorraine Drive South, and Rte 207-East Drury. Maintain existing three kiosks and bulletin boards. $15,000

- Install directional and trails signs at all major trail and road intersections. $ 1,500

- Install 3 sign standards at southerly Barron Road, northerly Ridge Road, and northerly Barron Road. $ 2,000

- Investigate and assess maintenance of other dams on ponds throughout the property. $ 1,000

- Removal of trash, debris, and old structures (one-time). $ 2,000

- Upgrade and complete 21 trail segments and loops as follows:

  - Costs per mile ($1,500) for 12 miles of foot trails $ 18,000
  - Cost per mile ($3,000) for 9 miles of horse and buggy, multiple use trails: $ 27,000
    (Costs include 2 culverts and small wooden footbridge on trail C and maintenance/upgrade of boardwalk on trail B2)

- Upgrade existing small hunter check station, by winterizing, and adding a restroom and septic system. Expand to provide an office/contact station for the visiting public. Electric and phone service exists already. $50,000

- Establish and maintain group camping area at Ridge Road Orchard (Mow areas, establish parking, harden access routes, provide area for horse tethering and buggies). $ 8,000

- Boardwalk over Great Swamp, maximum 600 feet (@ $20 foot) $12,000

- Plant 5 acres of black walnuts at 12x12 spacing (300 trees per acre with protective tubes, 300 trees per day = 5 person days.) $ 4,000

- Plant 5 acres of white pine (300 trees per acre, 12x12 spacing, 300 trees per day = 5 person days). $ 5,000

- Plant app. 5 acres of tree buffer along Forrester Road and route 208 (Sugar maple, oak, poplar, white pine, walnut and hickory) $ 2,000

- Demolish 150' by 150' one story masonry building west of Barron Road. $75,000

- Disposal of 150 'by 150' masonry building at approved C&D site. $397,000

- Install approximately 2 miles of chain link fence along Barron Road, if needed. $150,000

- Add parallel parking on one shoulder of Weed Road, if needed. $10,000

Total construction costs for years 1-5: $ 952,500

C. Equipment Budget

- 4-wheel drive truck for staff $25,000
- Loftness Timber Ax (80-93"blade) or equivalent (Allows mowing, larger brushing and tree removal in fields and on uneven ground. Purchase of this equipment would reduce yearly maintenance costs for mowing by up to an equivalent amount) $45,000
- 6-wheel ATV $ 8,000
- Two chain saws - one medium and one small $ 700
- Hand tools, including hammers, shovels, pickaxes, loppers, etc for a crew of six. $ 500
- Safety Equipment, including hard hats, with ear and face protection, chain saw chaps, gloves, etc. for a crew of three. $ 500
- Two two-way radios or cell phones $ 300

Equipment Budget Total: $80,000

D. Annual Budget for Personnel

- Senior Forestry Technician 1 staff year
- 2 Assistant Forest Rangers from October 1 through December and May to December 1 staff year

Annual Budget for Personnel 2 staff years

10 YEAR TOTAL $ 3,012,000

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XI. Public Comments and DEC Response

Wildlife

Comment: Unit Management Plan fails to provide adequate protection for nesting pied-billed grebes at Restoration Pond and other locations on the property from recreational user disturbance.

Response: Specific language has been added under the heading "Rare and Endangered Species" in the "Protective Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section to provide pied-billed grebes with additional protection from disturbance during the nesting season. Furthermore, general language has been added under this heading stating that the needs of rare, endangered, threatened, and special concern species supercede recreational use of the property.

Comment: Unit Management Plan fails to discuss butterfly surveys conducted on Stewart State Forest and proposed management for rare butterfly species found on the property.

Response: Language providing information about the butterfly surveys conducted on the property has been added to the "Wildlife" subsection of the "Information On The State Forest" section. Language has been added to the "Protective Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section under the "Rare and Endangered Species" heading stating that the needs of rare species will take priority over other uses of the property.

Comment: Because of the proximity of Stewart International Airport, management activities at Stewart State Forest, including its designation as a Bird Conservation Area, will increase the risk of bird-aircraft collisions.

Response: DEC will not pursue BCA designation at this time. However, the Department will consult with airport and FAA staff, and if deemed appropriate, may pursue designation of part or all of Stewart State Forest as a Bird Conservation Area (BCA) in the future.
Proposed habitat management at Stewart State Forest for birds focuses primarily on two groups of birds which are declining in the Northeast: grassland and shrubland nesting birds. In general, bird species that will benefit from this proposed management are small, non-flocking songbirds that do not represent a significant risk to aircraft. Many of the large, generalist species of birds that pose the greatest hazard to aircraft, such as gull species, crows, raptors, and Canada geese, have been present at Stewart State Forest for many years and will continue to be present there in the future. The proposed management of the property is not expected to increase populations of these species above current levels. Indeed, grassland management calls for the creation of larger blocks of grassland, reducing field edges and forested hedgerows which attract large raptors. None of the birds that cause the greatest threat to aircraft benefit from grassland management. DEC will also pursue management actions which discourage species which could cause a threat to the airport.
Language has also been added to address these concerns under Stewart International Airport Security (Wildlife) under Facilities Management, Section C and Proposed Management Actions, Section 7.

Comment: The Department should manage specific areas at Stewart State Forest for grassland dependent wildlife as this habitat type, and the wildlife that depends on it, is declining across the state, especially in the Hudson Valley.

Response: Because of the public support for grassland management, additional information regarding the management and enhancement of grasslands has been added under the "Mowing and Habitat Enhancement for Wildlife Management" heading in the "Resource Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section.

Comment: Appendix B-1 (the list of amphibians and reptiles in the vicinity of Stewart State Forest) contains references to species that were not observed during the Wildlife Conservation Society/Metropolitan Conservation Alliance biological survey of the property.

Response: Appendix B-1 lists amphibian and reptile species recorded in the vicinity of Stewart State Forest during the New York State Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project and does not reflect observations made by the Wildlife Conservation Society/Metropolitan Conservation Alliance. Because the New York State Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project uses large blocks to document the presence/absence of species, the data are not specific to the area encompassed by Stewart State Forest. A short list of amphibians and reptiles documented during the Wildlife Conservation Society/Metropolitan Conservation Alliance survey of Stewart State Forest has been added to Appendix B, and the comments will be reviewed by the Natural Heritage Program staff and biologists in future assessments of the property .

Comment: The New York State Breeding Bird Atlas data in Appendix B-3 are not specific to Stewart State Forest.

Response: The list of breeding bird species in Appendix B-3 is from the four Breeding Bird Atlas blocks that cover Stewart State Forest and surrounding areas rather than being exclusive only to Stewart. Therefore, it may contain breeding bird species that were not observed on the property, but in the nearby vicinity. The title of the table has been revised to eliminate any confusion. Clarifications noted will be kept on file for use by biologists in future surveys of the property.

Comment: Habitat management proposals specific to ruffed grouse should have been included in the UMP.

Response: While ruffed grouse are present at Stewart State Forest, they have never been abundant on the property and were not recorded there during the most recent Breeding Bird Atlas. Although not specifically mentioned as a species of management concern, ruffed grouse will benefit from the early successional habitat management proposed in the plan.

Hunting

Comment: Motor vehicle access to interior roads of Stewart State Forest for hunters should be available during all hunting seasons.

Response: Current and anticipated staffing levels do not allow the main gate at Weed Road to be open during all hunting seasons. However, language has been added under the "Hunting" heading in the "Recreational Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section that would allow for the Weed Road gate to be open until the end of December if conditions permit.

Comment: An area of Stewart State Forest should be dedicated to youth sportsperson education.

Response: A new heading has been added to the "Recreational Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section entitled "Youth Hunting and Fishing Opportunities" that addresses youth sporting events at Stewart State Forest, especially the annual Youth Hunting Day. Additionally, language has been added under the "Interpretation" heading in the "Outreach Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section stating that if a storage-maintenance facility was established at Stewart State Forest, consideration would be given to allowing sportsmen education classes to be held there.

Comment: Stewart State Forest should be open later than one half hour after sunset for motor vehicle access during hunting season to allow hunters more time to recover game and leave the property.

Response: Language under the "Hunting" heading in the "Recreational Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section regarding the hours when the property is open to motor vehicle access has been changed from "one half hour after sunset" to "one hour after sunset."

Comment: The hunting party size restriction (3 hunters per vehicle) should be eliminated in part to encourage youth participation in hunting. For example, under the current regulations, a parent with three children could not take all three children hunting with them simultaneously.

Response: The regulation restricting hunting party size to three hunters dates back to when Stewart State Forest was operated as a Cooperative Hunting Area. This regulation will be rescinded and hunting parties will no longer be limited to three hunters. Language has been added under the "Hunting" heading in the "Recreational Management Actions" subsection of the "Proposed Resource Management Actions" section that clarifies this change.

Comment: Limiting access to Stewart State Forest to licensed hunters during hunting season discourages youth participation in hunting because children under the age of 12 cannot obtain a hunting license and therefore cannot accompany an adult while hunting. This regulation should be eliminated.

Response: Non-hunting companions will be permitted to accompany hunters during the big game season, but must remain with the hunter at all times while on the property. During the rest of hunting season, all other users are allowed on the property, and therefore friends and relatives of hunters may accompany them without restriction.

General Management and User Considerations

Comment: Snowmobile Use should not be prohibited at Stewart State Forest (45 comments and several petitions). Snowmobile Use should be prohibited (13 Comments).

Information was presented - in support of and objecting to - snowmobiles. Most reservations about snowmobiles were about their noise, exhaust, large numbers at one time, and inconsiderate behavior by what appears to be a small minority of riders. The Section under Snowmobiles was changed to allow snowmobiles on the main roadway system and four connector trails on the property. Snowmobiles will not be allowed east of Maple Avenue and on non-designated trails. These steps and others, designed to provide a balance among users, are outlined under Section VII Proposed Resource Management Actions, B. Recreational Management Actions, Snowmobiles in the UMP.

Comment: Farming should continue and be encouraged (13 comments received). Farming should sunset with the current farmers (2).

Current farmers will continue farming.. The DEC supports agricultural use of the property and has been working, whenever possible within the framework the regulations governing the management of State Forests toward this goal. DEC will consider agro-forestry and bio-fuels research proposals, in cooperation with universities and research institutes, with existing farmers, as long as it is compatible with protecting the long term sustainability of the natural resources on the property. Legislative guidance for agricultural use is required over the longer term. Farm fields east of Maple Avenue will continue to be farmed under TRP by the present farmer and have been added to the inventory of farm fields on the property.

Comment: The property should make provisions for ATV use/should not make provisions for ATV use.

The DEC stands by the guidelines prohibiting ATV's presented in the Draft UMP.

Comments: Describe and define "camping permit" and the reasoning behind the proposed camping guidelines.

Clarification has been added under Section VII Proposed Resource Management Actions, Recreational Management Actions-Camping.

Comments: On public use, hunting practices, volunteers, dedicated funding and management, the property description, alternative development and Norway spruce trees to name just a few.

These comments were all considered in the creation of the Final UMP. Some of the comments are within the purview of the goals and objectives outlined in the UMP and will be kept on file and considered as management options. Your support through the comments on funding, management and volunteers is greatly appreciated.

Comments: The State is urged to incorporate public uses such as a golf course, tennis and ball fields in its plans for the property.

The consideration of such uses is beyond the scope of this Unit Management Plan and the legislation authorizing the creation of Stewart State Forest under the category of State Reforestation Area.

The State is urged to take into account the emergency planning process for emergency responders accessing the property.

Access to the property by emergency responders and fire services is coordinated through DEC's Forest Rangers (Division of Forest Protection and Fire Management) and Environmental Conservation Officers (ECO's). Forest rangers monitor the daily use of the property through patrols and through the monitoring of Temporary revocable Permits (TRP's) issued to groups and for special uses. Forest Rangers and Assistant Forest Rangers also provide additional monitoring during the fall hunting season and will control the enforcement and/or issuance of camping permits in the future. This coordination should continue with improvements in communication as a need is identified. A Section has been added under Facilities Management actions entitled 'Stewart International Airport Security" (Under VII. Proposed Resource Management Actions, C. Facilities Management Actions).

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Soils of the Stewart State Forest

Appendix B: Wildlife

B-1 Amphibians/Reptiles

B-2 Mammals

B-3 New York Breeding Bird Atlas for Stewart State Forest Blocks 5659 (A-D)

Appendix C: 2006 Transfer of Jurisdiction and Consent Decree

Appendix D: Report to Commissioner John P. Cahill of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation from the Stewart Lands Citizen's Advisory Committee:

Recommendations regarding the management and use of the Stewart State Forest, Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh, Orange County, November 4, 1999

Appendix E: Features of ECL Title 20 New York State Bird Conservation Area program

Appendix F: State Environmental Quality Review - Negative Declaration

Appendix G: Forest Stand Mosaic Map

Appendix H: Forest Stand Inventory Table and Treatment Schedule

Appendix I: Stewart State Forest Mowing and Shrubland Management Map

Appendix J : Stewart State Forest Agricultural Fields Map

Appendix K: Proposed Trails System and Facilities Map/ Wetlands Map

Appendix L: Hunter Parking Map for Stewart State Forest

Appendix A

APPENDIX A: SOILS WITHIN THE STEWART STATE FOREST

The following list of soil types are believed to occur within the Stewart State Forest as documented in "Soil Survey of Orange County, New York, U.S. Agriculture, Soil Conservation Services in Cooperation with Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station", published in 1975. Abbreviations represent the following soil names as found on Soil Maps18, 19, 29, 30.

UPLAND SOILS

ABAlden silt loam, broadly defined

abAlden silt loam

ACAlden extremely stony soils

BmBBath-Nassau shaly loams 3 to 8 percent slopes

BmCBath-Nassau shaly loams 8 to 15 percent slopes

CaCanandagua silt loam

CmBChenango gravelly silt loam 3 to 8 percent slopes

ErAErie gravelly silt loam 0 to 3 percent slope

ErBErie gravelly silt loam 3 to 8 percent slope

ESBErie extremely stony soils, gently sloping

HoBHoosic gravelly sandy loam 3 to 8 percent slope

MaMadalin silt loam

MdBMardin gravelly silt loam 3 to 8 percent slope

MdCMardin gravelly silt loam 8 to 15 percent slope

MdDMardin gravelly silt loam 15 to 25 percent slope

MyMiddleburg silt loam

OtBOtisville gravelly sandy loam 8 to 15 percent slope

RaRaynham silt loam

RhBRiverhead sandy loam 3 to 9 percent slope

SXCSwartswood and Mardin very stony soild, very steep

UHUdorthents, smoothed

WdWayland silt loam

WETLAND SOILS

CeCarlisle muck, very deep
CfCarlisle muck, ponded

HHHistic Humaquepts, ponded

PaPalms muck
PbPalms much, ponded

GRAVEL/ROCK OUT CROP

PgGravel pits

RSDRockout Crop - Nassau Complex - hilly

Appendix B.

Appendix B-1:Stewart State Forest Vicinity

Preliminary New York State Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project Data

April 1, 2002

Town	Species	Common Name
Hamptonburgh	Thamnophis sirtalis	Common Garter Snake
Hamptonburgh	Diadophis punctatus edwardsii	Northern Ringneck Snake
Montgomery	Elaphe o. obsoleta	Black Rat Snake
Montgomery	Rana catesbeiana	Bullfrog
Montgomery	Thamnophis sirtalis	Common Garter Snake
Montgomery	Sternotherus odoratus	Common Musk Turtle
Montgomery	Chelydra s. serpentina	Common Snapping Turtle
Montgomery	Bufo a. americanus	Eastern American Toad
Montgomery	Hyla versicolor	Gray Treefrog
Montgomery	Rana clamitans melanota	Green Frog
Montgomery	Ambrystoma jeffersonianum	Jefferson Salamander
Montgomery	Ambystoma opacum	Marbled Salamander
Montgomery	Storeria d. dekayi	Northern Brown Snake
Montgomery	Plethodon cinereus	Northern Redback Salamander
Montgomery	Plethodon glutinosus	Northern Slimy Salamander
Montgomery	Pseudacris c. crucifer	Northern Spring Peeper
Montgomery	Eurycea bislineata	Northern Two-lined Salamander
Montgomery	Nerodia s. sipedon	Northern Water Snake
Montgomery	Chrysemys picta	Painted Turtle
Montgomery	Rana palustris	Pickerel Frog

Montgomery	Notophthalmus v. viridescens	Red-spotted Newt
Montgomery	Liochlorophis vermalis	Smooth Green Snake
Montgomery	Ambystoma maculatum	Spotted Salamander
Montgomery	Clemmys guttata	Spotted Turtle
Montgomery	Rana sylvatica	Wood Frog
New Windsor	Rana catesbeiana	Bullfrog
New Windsor	Thamnophis sirtalis	Common Garter Snake
New Windsor	Chelydra s. serpentina	Common Snapping Turtle
New Windsor	Bufo a. americanus	Eastern American Toad
New Windsor	Lampropeltis t. triangulum	Eastern Milk Snake
New Windsor	Rana clamitans melanota	Green Frog
New Windsor	Ambystoma jeffersonianum x laterale	Jefferson Salamander Complex
New Windsor	Coluber c. constrictor	Northern Black Racer
New Windsor	Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen	Northern Copperhead
New Windsor	Plethodon cinereus	Northern Redback Salamander
New Windsor	Pseudacris c. crucifer	Northern Spring Peeper
New Windsor	Nerodia s. sipedon	Northern Water Snake
New Windsor	Chrysemys picta	Painted Turtle
New Windsor	Rana palustris	Pickerel Frog
New Windsor	Notophthalmus v. viridescens	Red-spotted Newt
New Windsor	Ambystoma maculatum	Spotted Salamander
New Windsor	Clemmys guttata	Spotted Turtle

Appendix B-2. Status and occurrence of New York mammals in the Stewart State Forest, Orange County in the southern ecozone, Hudson Valley ecological subzone as listed in "Integrating Timber and Wildlife Management Handbook" (Robert Chambers, 1983, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry & NYSDEC).

SPECIES	STATUS
Masked Shrew	
Smoky Shrew	
Longtail Shrew	
Northern Water Shrew	
Least Shrew	
Shorttail Shrew	
Starnose Mole	
Hairy-tailed Mole	
Eastern Mole	
Easter Woodrat	Threatened
Pygmy Shrew	
Little Brown Bat	
Keen's Bat	
Indiana Bat	Endangered
Small-Footed Bat	Special Concern
Silver-Haired Bat	
Eastern Pipistrelle	
Big Brown Bat	
Red Bat	
Hoary Bat	
Snowshoe Hare	Game Species
Raccoon	Game Species
White-tailed Deer	Game Species
Shorttail Weasel	Game Species
River Otter	Game Species
Striped Skunk	Game Species
Red Fox	Game Species
Bobcat	Game Species
Eastern Chipmunk	
Gray Squirrel	Game Species

Red Squirrel	
Southern Flying Squirrel	
Northern Flying Squirrel	
Beaver	Game Species
Deer Mouse	
White-Footed Mouse	
Woodland Jumping Mouse	
Yellownose Vole	
Pine Vole	
Southern Bog Lemming	
Meadow Jumping Mouse	
Southern Red-Backed Vole	
Meadow Vole	
Woodland Vole	
Muskrat	Game Species
Gray Fox	Game Species
Woodchuck	Game Species
Porcupine	
Opossum	Game Species
Eastern Cottontail	Game Species
Mink	Game Species
Longtail Weasel	Game Species
Coyote	Game Species

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	CODE	TYPE
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	NE	Confirmed
Mute Swan	Cygnus olor	NE	Confirmed
Wood Duck	Aix sponsa	ON	Confirmed
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	X1	Possible
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	FL	Confirmed
Mallard x Am. Black Duck Hybrid	Anas platyrhynchos x A. rubripes	X1	Possible
Hooded Merganser	Lophodytes cucullatus	P2	Probable
Ring-necked Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus	FL	Confirmed
Wild Turkey	Meleagris gallopavo	NE	Confirmed
Northern Bobwhite	Colinus virginianus	FL	Confirmed
Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps	S2	Probable
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus	X1	Possible
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	NY	Confirmed
Green Heron	Butorides virescens	FY	Confirmed
Black Vulture	Coragyps atratus	X1	Possible
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	D2	Probable
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	T2	Probable
Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	T2	Probable
Red-shouldered Hawk	Buteo lineatus	X1	Possible
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	T2	Probable
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	NY	Confirmed
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	D2	Probable
Virginia Rail	Rallus limicola	T2	Probable
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	T2	Probable
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	FL	Confirmed
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia	P2	Probable
American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	S2	Probable
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	NY	Confirmed
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	NE	Confirmed
Black-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	X1	Possible
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	S2	Probable
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus	NY	Confirmed
Barred Owl	Strix varia	T2	Probable
Chimney Swift	Chaetura pelagica	NY	Confirmed
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	T2	Probable
Belted Kingfisher	Ceryle alcyon	FY	Confirmed
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Melanerpes carolinus	NY	Confirmed
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	NY	Confirmed
Hairy Woodpecker	Picoides villosus	NY	Confirmed
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	NY	Confirmed
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	NY	Confirmed
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Contopus virens	FY	Confirmed
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	X1	Possible
Willow Flycatcher	Empidonax traillii	FY	Confirmed
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	NY	Confirmed
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	NY	Confirmed
Great Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	NY	Confirmed
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	NY	Confirmed
White-eyed Vireo	Vireo griseus	D2	Probable

Yellow-throated Vireo	Vireo flavifrons	FY	Confirmed
Warbling Vireo	Vireo gilvus	FY	Confirmed
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	FY	Confirmed
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	NE	Confirmed
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	NY	Confirmed
Horned Lark	Eremophila alpestris	X1	Possible
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	NY	Confirmed
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	ON	Confirmed
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia	FY	Confirmed
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	NY	Confirmed
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	FY	Confirmed
Tufted Titmouse	Baeolophus bicolor	NY	Confirmed
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	FY	Confirmed
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	FY	Confirmed
Carolina Wren	Thryothorus ludovicianus	FL	Confirmed
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	NY	Confirmed
Marsh Wren	Cistothorus palustris	FY	Confirmed
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Polioptila caerulea	FY	Confirmed
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	NY	Confirmed
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	FY	Confirmed
Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	NE	Confirmed
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	NY	Confirmed
Gray Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis	NE	Confirmed
Northern Mockingbird	Mimus polyglottos	NY	Confirmed
Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum	FY	Confirmed
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	NY	Confirmed
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	FY	Confirmed
Blue-winged Warbler	Vermivora pinus	FY	Confirmed
Golden-winged Warbler	Vermivora chrysoptera	X1	Possible
Brewster's Warbler	Vermivora pinus x V. chrysoptera	X1	Possible
Lawrence's Warbler	Vermivora chrysoptera x V. pinus	X1	Possible
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	NY	Confirmed
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica pensylvanica	FY	Confirmed
Prairie Warbler	Dendroica discolor	FY	Confirmed
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	FY	Confirmed
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	NY	Confirmed
Worm-eating Warbler	Helmitheros vermivorus	FY	Confirmed
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	FY	Confirmed
Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis	T2	Probable
Louisiana Waterthrush	Seiurus motacilla	T2	Probable
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	NE	Confirmed
Scarlet Tanager	Piranga olivacea	FY	Confirmed
Eastern Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	FY	Confirmed
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	FY	Confirmed
Field Sparrow	Spizella pusilla	FY	Confirmed
Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	T2	Probable
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	FY	Confirmed
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	FL	Confirmed
Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis	FY	Confirmed
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	NY	Confirmed
Indigo Bunting	Passerina cyanea	FY	Confirmed
Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	FY	Confirmed
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	NY	Confirmed

Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna	FY	Confirmed
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	NY	Confirmed
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater	FY	Confirmed
Orchard Oriole	Icterus spurius	NY	Confirmed
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula	NY	Confirmed
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	NY	Confirmed
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	NY	Confirmed
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	NY	Confirmed

CODES

D2	Courtship and display, agitated behavior or anxiety calls from adults suggesting probable presence nearby of a nest or young; well-developed brood-patch or cloacal protuberance on trapped adult. Includes copulation
FL	Recently fledged young
FY	Adult(s) with food for young
NE	Identifiable nest and eggs, bird setting on next or egg, identifiable eggshells found beneath nest, or identifiable dead nestling(s)
NY	Nest with young.
ON	Adult(s) entering or leaving nest site in circumstances indicating occupied nest
P2	Pair observed in suitable habitat in breeding season
S2	Singing male present (or breeding calls heard)
T2	Bird (or pair) apparently holding territory. In addition to territorial singing, chasing of other individuals of same species often marks a territory
X1	Species observed in possible nesting habitat, but no other indication of breeding noted; singing male(s) present (or breeding calls heard) in breeding season

Appendix C.

STATE OF NEW YORK - EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES

---X

In the Matter of the Application :

of the :

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION : ORDER

for a transfer of jurisdiction of certain lands situate in the Towns of Montgomery and New Windsor in the County of Orange :

---X

The Department of Environmental Conservation has agreed to accept a transfer of jurisdiction of certain lands located in the Towns of Montgomery and New Windsor in the County of Orange from the Department of Transportation. The parcels of land comprise approximately 1,600 acres, more or less, and are a portion of the lands acquired by the New York State Department of Transportation for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the purposes associated with the development of Stewart International Airport pursuant to Chapter 472 of the Laws of 1971. Transfer of the property is a condition of the December 7, 2005 Consent Decree settling Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition v. Slater, et al., Civil Action No. CV-00-1606 (N.D.N.Y). The Consent Decree is attached as Schedule A and its provisions as they relate to the subject lands are incorporated by reference.

The Department of Transportation has indicated that the land is excess to the needs of the State and Stewart International Airport, and should be transferred subject to the uses and/or exceptions set forth in Schedule B, "New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Sketch Map in Compliance with the December 7, 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal settling Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition v. Slater, et al., Civil Action No. CV-00-1606

(N.D.N.Y.) in the United States District Court for a Transfer of Jurisdiction of Certain Lands at Stewart Airport to the Department of Environmental Conservation from the Department of Transportation Situate in the Towns of Montgomery and New Windsor, County of Orange – State of New York" designated as Project: Transfer of Jurisdiction Orange 26-03 (June 14, 2006), on file in the Office of General Services in Albany, New York as OGS Map No. 2080, and in Schedule C, a general description of the land boundaries of the parcels totaling approximately 1,600 acres, which are attached and incorporated by reference. The map and description are subject to any state of facts that an accurate survey may show.

Pursuant to the Consent Decree, DEC will manage the land as a reforestation area consistent with the Environmental Conservation Law Article 9, Title 5 in order to ensure public access while protecting the forested area and other natural resources. As set forth in the Consent Decree, wetlands mitigation is prohibited on the parcels transferred by this document. The planned management will not create uses incompatible with existing and future airport operations, and will be consistent with noise buffer usage for which the land was, in part, acquired.

THEREFORE, pursuant to subdivision 4 of Section 3 of the Public Lands Law, it is

ORDERED, that the jurisdiction over the aforesaid land is transferred to the Department of Environmental Conservation, subject to the above uses and exceptions.

ACTING COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL SERVICES

Dated: JUNE 29, 2006

Robert J. Fleury

STATE OF NEW YORK }
: SS.:
COUNTY OF Albany }

On the 29th day of JUNE, in the year 2006, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared ROBERT J. FLEURY, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual(s) whose name(s) is (are) subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument, the individual(s), or the person upon behalf of which the individual(s) acted, executed the instrument.

Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in County of:
My Commission Expires

THOMAS A. POHL
Notary Public, State of New York
Appointed in Saratoga County
My Commission Expires 7/28/09
02P05062511

SCHEDULE A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

STEWART PARK AND RESERVE COALITION, INCORPORATED (SPARC), ORANGE COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, INC. and SIERRA CLUB,

Plaintiffs,

v.

RODNEY E. SLATER, as United States Secretary of Transportation; UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; KENNETH R. WYKLE, as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration; HAROLD J. BROWN, as New York Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration; FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION; LOUIS R. TOMSON, as Chairman of the New York State Thruway Authority; NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AUTHORITY; JOSEPH H. BOARDMAN, as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation; and NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION

No. 00-cv-1606

(RFT)

CONSENT DECREE AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL

Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition, Incorporated (SPARC), Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. and Sierra Club (hereinafter collectively "Plaintiffs"); and Louis R. Tomson, as Chairman of the New York State Thruway Authority, by his successor, John L. Buono; New York State Thruway Authority; Joseph H. Boardman, as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation, by his acting successor, Thomas J. Madison, Jr.; and New York State Department of Transportation (hereinafter "NYSDOT")(hereinafter collectively "State Defendants"), and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and its acting Commissioner, Denise M. Sheehan (hereinafter collectively "NYSDEC"), which is not a party to this action, but is a party to this agreement for the purpose of settling this action and related litigation involving the Project brought by Plaintiffs; hereby agree as follows:

WHEREAS, the State Defendants and Rodney E. Slater, as United States Secretary of Transportation, by his successor, Norman Y. Mineta; United States Department of Transportation; Kenneth R. Wykle, as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, by his acting successor, J. Richard Capka; Harold J. Brown, as New York Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, by his successor, Robert E. Arnold; and

Federal Highway Administration; (hereinafter collectively "Federal Defendants"); (hereinafter collectively "Defendants") seek to construct a highway interchange between Interstate Highway 84 (hereinafter "I-84") and Drury Lane in Orange County, New York, to widen Drury Lane, to construct certain access roads between Drury Lane and the Stewart International Airport (hereinafter "the Airport"), and to construct a mitigation wetland for this construction, all as described in the Stewart Airport Access Improvement ... Administrative Analysis: Section 4(f)(49 U.S.C. 303) and Consultation 23 CFR 771.129(c) (hereinafter "2004 Section 4(f) Analysis"), adopted by defendant Federal Highway Administration and defendant NYSDOT, dated April 20, 2004 (hereinafter "the Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project was found by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in SPARC v. Slater, 352 F.3d 545 (2d Cir. 2003) to be subject to review under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. § 303 (hereinafter "Section 4(f)"); and

WHEREAS, the State of New York acquired approximately 8,675 acres of land located in the vicinity of the Airport in and about 1971, said lands being known as both the "Stewart Buffer Lands" and the "Stewart Properties", and referred to herein as the "Stewart Lands"; and

WHEREAS, the Project will be located on or near certain parts of the Stewart Lands; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs commenced this action seeking, *inter alia*, to enforce Section 4(f) with regard to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit has held that all or part of the Stewart Lands are parklands protected under Section 4(f); and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have alleged in this action that the Project as currently designed will use public parklands which are protected by Section 4(f), and Defendants have denied these allegations; and

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs, their members and other members of the general public, are frequent users of the Stewart Lands for recreational purposes and all parties hereto wish to protect those lands and enhance public access thereto and recognize the benefits of doing so; and

WHEREAS, NYSDEC currently has jurisdiction over approximately 5,264 acres of the Stewart Lands, now known as the Stewart State Forest, which were transferred to NYSDEC by NYSDOT in 1999; and

WHEREAS, defendant NYSDOT currently retains jurisdiction over more than 2,000 acres of the Stewart Lands; and

WHEREAS, in order to protect those lands and enhance public access to the Stewart State Forest and portions of the Stewart Lands remaining under the jurisdiction of NYSDOT, which have been managed for recreational use by agreement between NYSDOT and NYSDEC, the parties hereto have agreed that NYSDOT will transfer jurisdiction over certain parcels of the Stewart Lands to the jurisdiction of NYSDEC to be part of the Stewart State Forest, and NYSDEC has agreed to accept such transfer and to enter into this Consent Decree and to be bound by it, even though NYSDEC is not a party to this action; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiffs herein have also commenced a New York CPLR Article 78 proceeding in New York State Supreme Court, Orange County, against NYSDEC and NYSDOT, entitled Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition v. NYSEC and NYSDOT, Index No. 5235-2005 (Sup. Ct. Orange Co.), regarding the modification of the New York Freshwater Wetlands Act permit for the Project issued on or about June 29, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiffs and the Defendants have previously agreed to have Magistrate Judge Randolph F. Treece decide all substantive motions in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c); and

WHEREAS the parties hereto wish to resolve this action and the CPLR Article 78 proceeding in an equitable manner, to avoid

further potentially lengthy and costly litigation, to protect as part of the Stewart State Forest portions of the Stewart Lands now remaining under the jurisdiction of NYSDOT, to enhance public access thereto, and to allow construction of the Project to go forward expeditiously; and

WHEREAS the Court has considered these matters and the issues; now,

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AMONG THE PARTIES, AND ORDERED AND DECREED BY THE COURT, AS FOLLOWS:

I. Substantive Provisions

A. General Descriptions of Stewart Lands to Be Transferred From NYSDOT to NYSDEC

1. PARCEL 1. Annexed hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein is a copy of a map dated June 2005 entitled "Stewart Properties". NYSDOT shall transfer to the jurisdiction and control of NYSDEC for inclusion in the Stewart State Forest all land marked in red cross-hatching on said map and labeled as "Area to Preclude Development -(1400+/- Acres)". Said lands are generally described (to be confirmed by a survey), as follows:

a. PARCEL 1A. Beginning at a point 75 feet east of the proposed centerline of the realigned Drury Lane (as shown on Sheet Number 35 from the Contract Plans for the Project, NYSDOT Contract Number D259814, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein) at its intersection with NYS

Route 207; thence easterly along the current northern boundary of NYS Route 207 to the Catskill Aqueduct; thence northerly along the Catskill Aqueduct to the southern boundary of the lands which have been leased by NYSDOT to SWF Airport Acquisition, Inc. (hereinafter "SWFAA") pursuant to a lease dated September 24, 1999; thence westerly along the southern boundary of said leased lands to a point 150 feet east of the western boundary of the current Drury Lane right-of-way; thence southerly along a line parallel to, and 150 feet east of, the western boundary of the current Drury Lane right-of-way, as it winds and turns, to a point 1,600 +/- feet north of the current northern boundary of NYS Route 207; thence southerly along a line parallel to, and 75 feet east of, the proposed centerline of the realigned Drury Lane (as shown on Exhibit B), as it winds and turns, to the point and place of beginning; excepting for the United States military housing parcel, the Little Britain School parcel and a small cemetery, as shown on Exhibits A and C (described below), and any other such cemeteries, historic houses and the like which are no longer under the jurisdiction of NYSDOT as of the date hereof; BEING all of the Stewart Lands located east of Drury Lane, and south of the lands which have been leased by NYSDOT to SWFAA, excepting a parcel of land being 150 feet wide, located on and to

the east of the current boundaries of Drury Lane, intended to be used for the realigned Drury Lane; and

b. PARCEL 1B. Beginning at a point 75 feet west of the proposed centerline of the realigned Drury Lane (as shown on Exhibit B) at its intersection with NYS Route 207; thence northerly along a line parallel to, and 75 feet west of, the proposed centerline of the realigned Drury Lane (as shown on Exhibit B), as it winds and turns, to a point 1,600 +/- feet north of the current northern boundary of NYS Route 207; thence along the current western boundary of the current Drury Lane right-of-way to the southern boundary of the Airport's Runway Protection Zone (shown in light blue on Exhibit A); thence generally southerly, westerly and northerly along the boundaries of the Runway Protection Zone to the southern edge of the area depicted as "Area to be Reserved for Development" on Exhibit A; thence westerly along said boundary to Maple Avenue; thence southerly along Maple Avenue to the current northern boundary of NYS Route 207; thence easterly along the current northern boundary of NYS Route 207 to the point and place of beginning; BEING all of the Stewart Lands located between Drury Lane and Maple Avenue south of the Runway Protection Zone and the "Area to be Reserved for Development" shown on Exhibit A; and including the current Drury Lane for a distance of approximately 1,600 feet

north from NYS Route 207 (from which the pavement shall be removed as shown on Exhibit B), and the area near NYS Route 207 between the current Drury Lane and the proposed realigned Drury Lane; and excepting a small cemetery as shown on Exhibit C (defined below), and any other such cemeteries, historic houses and the like which are no longer under the jurisdiction of NYSDOT as of the date hereof. The parties acknowledge that the realignment of the Drury Lane intersection with NYS Route 207 as part of the Project will require NYSDOT to remove the existing road and conduct grading in the vicinity of that intersection, including on lands to be transferred to NYSDEC.

2. PARCEL 2. Annexed hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein is a copy of a map dated March 4, 1999 and labeled "OGS Map No. 1751". NYSDOT shall transfer to the jurisdiction and control of NYSDEC for inclusion in the Stewart State Forest the southern part of the land shown on said map as "Excepted Parcel No. 1", which part consists of all lands located south and east of the lands shown on said map as "Lands now or formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company", and is on both sides of Barron Road, and is generally described as follows: Beginning at the southernmost point where the said "Lands now or formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company" intersect with Barron Road; thence westerly and southerly along the boundary of said "Lands

now or formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company"; thence southerly and westerly through the Stewart Lands, thence southerly and easterly to Barron Road and crossing Barron Road, to the boundary line between the Towns of Montgomery and New Windsor; thence northerly along said town line; thence northerly through the Stewart Lands to and along Barron Road; thence crossing Barron Road to the northernmost point where the said "Lands now or formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company" intersect with Barron Road; thence southerly along the western boundary of Barron Road, to the point and place of beginning.

3. PARCEL 3. The entire right-of-way of Maple Avenue located within the Stewart Lands, as shown on Exhibits A and C, shall be transferred from NYSDOT to the jurisdiction and control of NYSDEC for inclusion in the Stewart State Forest.

4. PARCEL 4. The entire right-of-way of Barron Road located within the Stewart State Forest shall be transferred from NYSDOT to the jurisdiction and control of NYSDEC for inclusion in the Stewart State Forest, excepting and reserving:

a. Annexed hereto as Exhibit D and incorporated herein is a copy of an Order of transfer by the New York State Office of General Services dated March 4, 1999, which transferred jurisdiction over the current Stewart State Forest to NYSDEC. Said Order reserved to NYSDOT a right-of-way along a portion of

Barron Road for ingress and egress to the parcel reserved for the use of the Division of State Police, as shown on Exhibit C. Said rights shall continue to be reserved by NYSDOT.

b. That portion of Barron Road located within the lands along Barron Road to be retained by NYSDOT, ending at the northernmost point where the boundary of the said "Lands now or formerly of Penn Central Transportation Company", as shown on Exhibit C, intersects with Barron Road.

5. PARCEL 5. NYSDOT shall expressly convey and surrender to NYSDEC for inclusion in the Stewart State Forest the right-of-way on Barron Road reserved by it in Exhibit D for ingress and egress from NYS Route 208 to said Excepted Parcel No. 1.

6. All of the parcels of land and rights-of-way described above shall be transferred by NYSDOT to NYSDEC no later than June 30, 2006. On or before said date, NYSDEC shall add all such parcels of land to the Stewart State Forest, as a Reforestation Area, pursuant to New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 9, Title 5.

7. Plaintiffs shall be provided, with 30 days prior notice, a copy of the proposed order of transfer of said lands so that they may review it, in advance, for compliance with this Consent Decree.

B. Access to and Management of Lands Retained by NYSDOT

8. On the lands labeled as "Area to be Reserved for Development" on Exhibit A, there shall be no construction of buildings or other action taken by NYSDOT, its successors and assigns, within 500 feet of the Stewart State Forest, which would cause a limitation on hunting on the Stewart State Forest pursuant to New York Environmental Conservation Law § 11-0931. In the event that NYSDOT leases, sells, or otherwise conveys ownership or other jurisdiction or control over such lands, this limitation shall be made a permanent condition of and limitation upon such transfer and the title to the lands conveyed by NYSDOT.

9. The area of land labeled as "Area to be Reserved for Development" on Exhibit A contains a pond known as "Tenney's Pond", which pond is currently used for fishing and other purposes by the public, including Plaintiffs' members, under the management of NYSDEC. In the event that NYSDOT leases, sells, or otherwise conveys ownership or other jurisdiction or control over such lands containing Tenney's Pond, NYSDOT shall reserve to the State of New York public access to Tenney's Pond, including at a minimum: access from Drury Lane to the Pond, an area for launching boats, a 25 foot wide reserved access around the entire shoreline of the Pond, and the use of the entire waters of the

Pond. Prior to any sale or other transfer of such lands, NYSDOT shall continue to allow such public access to Tenney's Pond.

10. NYSDOT has leased certain parts of the Stewart Lands to SWFAA, pursuant to a certain lease effective September 24, 1999. NYSDOT shall continue to encourage SWFAA to continue to allow public access for fishing and other purposes to Maroney's Pond, which pond is located on said leased lands. NYSDOT shall also continue to encourage SWFAA to continue to lease for public park purposes the Crestview Lake Recreation Area, as such lands are described in a certain lease (now expired) between the Stewart Airport Land Authority and the Town of New Windsor and dated April 30, 1982.

11. As depicted in Exhibit C and pursuant to Exhibit D, in 1999 NYSDOT reserved a parcel of land 150 feet wide along the southerly boundary of I-84. I-84 and said 150 foot parcel are currently crossed by an overpass at Ridge Road and access roads leading from said overpass into the Stewart State Forest and there is a related NYSDEC parking area at the end of said overpass. In the event that NYSDOT develops or conveys said 150 foot wide parcel, NYSDOT shall preserve access across I-84 and any new or modified transportation facility via said overpass and NYSDOT and NYSDEC shall also relocate an equivalent parking area and equivalent road and trail access into the Stewart State

Forest from said overpass, with determining what facilities are "equivalent" to be determined by NYSDOT in its reasonable discretion.

12. I-84 and said 150 foot parcel are also currently crossed by an underpass at Barron Road, providing access into the Stewart State Forest and there is a NYSDEC parking area at that location. In the event that NYSDOT develops or conveys said 150 foot wide parcel, or if the lands to be retained by NYSDOT along Barron Road are ever developed, NYSDOT shall adopt feasible and prudent measures to maintain access to and parking for the Stewart State Forest in that vicinity. Until such time as such 150 foot wide parcel and such lands retained by NYSDOT along Barron Road are developed or transferred, access and parking in that vicinity shall be maintained at their existing levels.

C. Access to and Management of Stewart State Forest

13. Pursuant to Exhibit D hereto, NYSDOT reserved the right to use the lands in the Stewart State Forest which were transferred to NYSDEC in 1999 for purposes of "wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and Airport projects". With respect to such lands, NYSDOT shall use them for construction of mitigation wetlands only for Airport projects and for NYSDOT

projects located within Orange County, and only when it has exhausted all feasible and prudent alternatives at the site of the project in question, and only with the approval of NYSDEC and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (hereinafter "USACOE"), as required by law.

14. When transferring jurisdiction over the lands to be transferred pursuant hereto to NYSDEC, NYSDOT shall not reserve the right to use such lands for such wetlands mitigation construction purposes, and NYSDEC shall not grant such right to NYSDOT or any other person or entity.

15. When preparing the Unit Management Plan for the Stewart State Forest, NYSDEC shall provide the Plaintiffs with reasonable advance notice of the commencement of the Unit Management Plan process. If NYSDEC forms any advisory committee or other such body for the Stewart State Forest or its Unit Management Plan, then each of the three Plaintiffs shall be invited to be a member thereof.

16. NYSDEC shall recommend suitable bowhunting access to the lands east of Drury Lane in the Draft Unit Management Plan for the Stewart State Forest.

17. NYSDEC shall provide suitable parking and access points/trailheads, to be located on Drury Lane and Route 207, for the lands east of Drury Lane, to be designated in NYSDEC's Unit

Management Plan for the Stewart State Forest, and NYSDOT shall permit same from such roads as are under its jurisdiction.

18. NYSDEC shall complete the preparation and adoption of a final Unit Management Plan for the Stewart State Forest, including the lands to be added thereto pursuant to this Consent Decree, no later than December 31, 2006.

II. General Provisions

19. Army Corps Permit. Plaintiffs agree that they will not file or financially support in any way any future court claims or court complaints, or commence or financially support litigation, under the United States Constitution or other statute or common law relating to the currently pending application to modify the USACOE Clean Water Act permit for the Project for the placement of fill in wetlands or other waters of the United States.

20. Article 78 to be Discontinued. Within 10 days of the entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, the Plaintiffs herein, NYSDEC and NYSDOT shall enter into a stipulation discontinuing the current Article 78 proceeding, Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition v. NYSEC and NYSDOT, Index No. 5235-2005 (Sup. Ct. Orange Co.), regarding the New York Freshwater Wetlands Act and other issues, with prejudice. A fully executed copy of this

Consent Decree will be attached thereto and incorporated therein, as the terms of settlement of that case.

21. Effect of Consent Decree. By entering into this Consent Decree, Defendants make no admission of any liability with respect to any of the claims asserted by Plaintiffs, nor of any fact asserted by Plaintiffs, nor of the validity of any of the claims asserted by the Plaintiffs. By entering into this Consent Decree, and contingent upon the Court making an order dismissing the action pursuant to FRCP 41(a)(2), which order shall be subject to the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree, Plaintiffs agree to, and hereby do, discontinue this action with prejudice, agree to discontinue the pending Article 78 proceeding, and agree that they will not file or financially support in any way any future court claims or court complaints, or commence or financially support litigation under Section 4(f), the United States Constitution, any federal or state statute, or common law relating to the construction of the Project, as "Project" is defined above.

22. Force Majeure.

a. Defendants and NYSDEC shall not be in default regarding the provisions of this Consent Decree if they are unable to comply with any provision because of an act of nature, war, terrorism, insurrection, strike, judicial injunction or other

court order, contract default, budget delay, catastrophic condition, or other circumstance beyond their control. Defendants and/or NYSDEC, as the case may be, shall notify Plaintiffs in writing, within 30 days, of any occurrence of any of the above events that lead to delays in compliance, or the prospective inability to comply with this Consent Decree, and shall request modification of this Consent Decree, where appropriate. Failure to timely satisfy any requirement of this Consent Decree shall be excused, and/or extensions of milestones provided, under the terms of this section if Defendants and/or NYSDEC, as the case may be, show that they took steps reasonably necessary to avoid or mitigate the delay or other noncompliance, and complied with the notice requirements of this section.

b. Plaintiffs' remedy for any failure or default by Defendants with respect to performance under one or more provisions of this Consent Decree, where such failure is not otherwise excused pursuant to paragraph 22(a) of this Consent Decree, shall include specific performance of such provision, as ordered by the Court, or rescission, in whole or in part, of other provisions of this Consent Decree.

23. Continuing Jurisdiction. For the purpose of enabling the parties hereto to apply to the Court for any further order that may be needed to carry out or enforce compliance with the

specific commitments made by the parties to this Consent Decree, the Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter until three years after the construction of the Project (as defined above) is complete, or five (5) years from the date of entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, whichever comes later, and until any motion to enforce this Consent Decree filed before the date of termination is finally determined.

24. Continuing Effect/Termination. After the Court's jurisdiction terminates pursuant to paragraph 23 above, this Consent Decree shall continue to be binding on the parties hereto as a settlement agreement, unless and until it is terminated by Order of the Court or further agreement of the parties hereto, and the parties hereto may commence a new action in this Court or any other court with jurisdiction to enforce this Consent Decree/settlement agreement.

25. Notice. Notice of the actions to be taken or exchange of information pursuant to this Consent Decree shall be provided to the following:

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

John W. Caffry
Caffry & Flower
100 Bay Street
Glens Falls, New York 12801
jcaffry@caffrylawoffice.com

Counsel for Federal Defendants:

Kenneth Dymond, Esq.
Federal Highway Administration
Leo O'Brien Federal Building
Albany, NY 12207
Ken.Dymond@fhwa.dot.gov

Counsel for State Defendants and NYSDEC:

Lisa M. Burianek
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Bureau
State of New York
Department of Law
The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224-0341
Lisa.Burianek@oag.state.ny.us

The parties hereto may, from time to time as necessary, modify the address or designee for purposes of notice and exchange of information. Notice of such a modification shall be provided in writing to the then-existing designees under this provision.

26. Severability. If any provision of this Consent Decree is determined, by court ruling, order, decision, memorandum and/or opinion, to be invalid, unenforceable, or otherwise contrary to law, such ruling, order, decision, memorandum and/or opinion shall not affect the continuing validity of the remaining provisions of this Consent Decree.

27. Entire Agreement. This Consent Decree, with Exhibits A, B, C and D incorporated by reference and attached hereto,

constitutes the entire agreement entered into by the parties to settle this matter. By signing this Consent Decree, each party, or its counsel, as the case may be, acknowledges that, except as set forth in paragraphs 23 and 24 hereof concerning the continuing jurisdiction of the Court, entry of this Consent Decree will result in complete termination of this action including extinguishing all claims asserted in this action and any pending and potential appeals, with prejudice.

28. Binding Effect. The terms and conditions of this Consent Decree shall be binding on the parties hereto, their agents, successors and assigns, and shall run with the land and be binding upon any future owners of all or part of the lands affected by this Consent Decree.

29. Status of Federal Defendants. The parties hereto acknowledge that the Federal Defendants have consented to the dismissal of the Plaintiffs' appeal herein, but because this Consent Decree imposes no obligations on them, they have not signed it, and the parties hereto have no objection to that.

30. Amendment. This Consent Order may not be amended except in writing signed by the parties, or in the case of persons named in their official capacities, by their successors. The consent of the Federal Defendants shall not be required to

amend this Consent Decree, except if any provision thereof affects them.

31. Execution. This Consent Order may be executed in multiple counterpart originals, each of which (if one or more copies bear original signature by all of the parties hereto, or copies of such signatures) shall be deemed an original and fully effective, and all of which together shall be considered one in the same document.

31. Authority. The undersigned representatives for each party each certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party or parties whom he or she represents to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to bind them to it.

Caffry & Flower
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: 11/11/05 By: _____

John W. Caffry
100 Bay Street
Glens Falls, New York 12801
(518) 792-1582

Stewart Park and Reserve
Coalition, Incorporated

Dated: 11/9/05 By: _____

Sandra Kissam, President
P.O. Box 90
Blooming Grove, NY 10914

Sierra Club

Dated: 11/9/05 By: _____

Jürgen Wekerle, Vice Chair
Atlantic Chapter
353 Hamilton Street
Albany, New York, 12210

Orange County Federation of
Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

Dated: 11/9/05 By: _____

Carmen Heitczman, President
P.O. Box 784
Monroe, New York 10950

Eliot Spitzer
Attorney General

Dated: 11/16/05 By: _____
Lisa M. Burianek
Environmental
Protection Bureau
Department of Law
The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224-0341
(518) 486-7398

New York State Department
Of Environmental Conservation
and its Commissioner

Dated: _____ By: _____
Denise M. Sheehan
Acting Commissioner
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233

New York State
Department of Transportation
and its Commissioner

Dated: _____ By: _____
Thomas J. Madison, Jr.
Acting Commissioner
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12232

New York State
Thruway Authority
and its Chairman

Dated: _____ By: _____
Michael Fleischer
Executive Director
200 Southern Boulevard
Albany, New York 12209

Eliot Spitzer
Attorney General

Dated: _____ By: _____
Lisa A. Burianek
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Protection Bureau
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Dated: _____ By: _____
Thomas J. Madison, Jr.
Acting Commissioner
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12232

New York State
Thruway Authority
and its Chairman

Dated: 11/15/05 By: _____
Michael Fleischer
Executive Director
200 Southern Boulevard
Albany, New York 12209

IT IS SO ORDERED that the action is hereby dismissed pursuant to FRCP 41(a)(2), subject to the terms and conditions set forth above, which terms and conditions are incorporated into this order, and subject to the continuing jurisdiction of this Court pursuant to ¶23 and ¶24 above.

DATE: December 7, 2005

Hon. Randolph F. Treece,
U.S. Magistrate Judge

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EXHIBIT
A

LEGEND

- AREA TO BE RETAINED FOR DEVELOPMENT - (400 ± ACRES)
- AREA TO PRECLUDE DEVELOPMENT - (1900 ± ACRES)

NOT TO SCALE

STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ACCESS IMPROVEMENT	
STEWART PROPERTIES	
SEPTEMBER, 1999	14

EXHIBIT
B

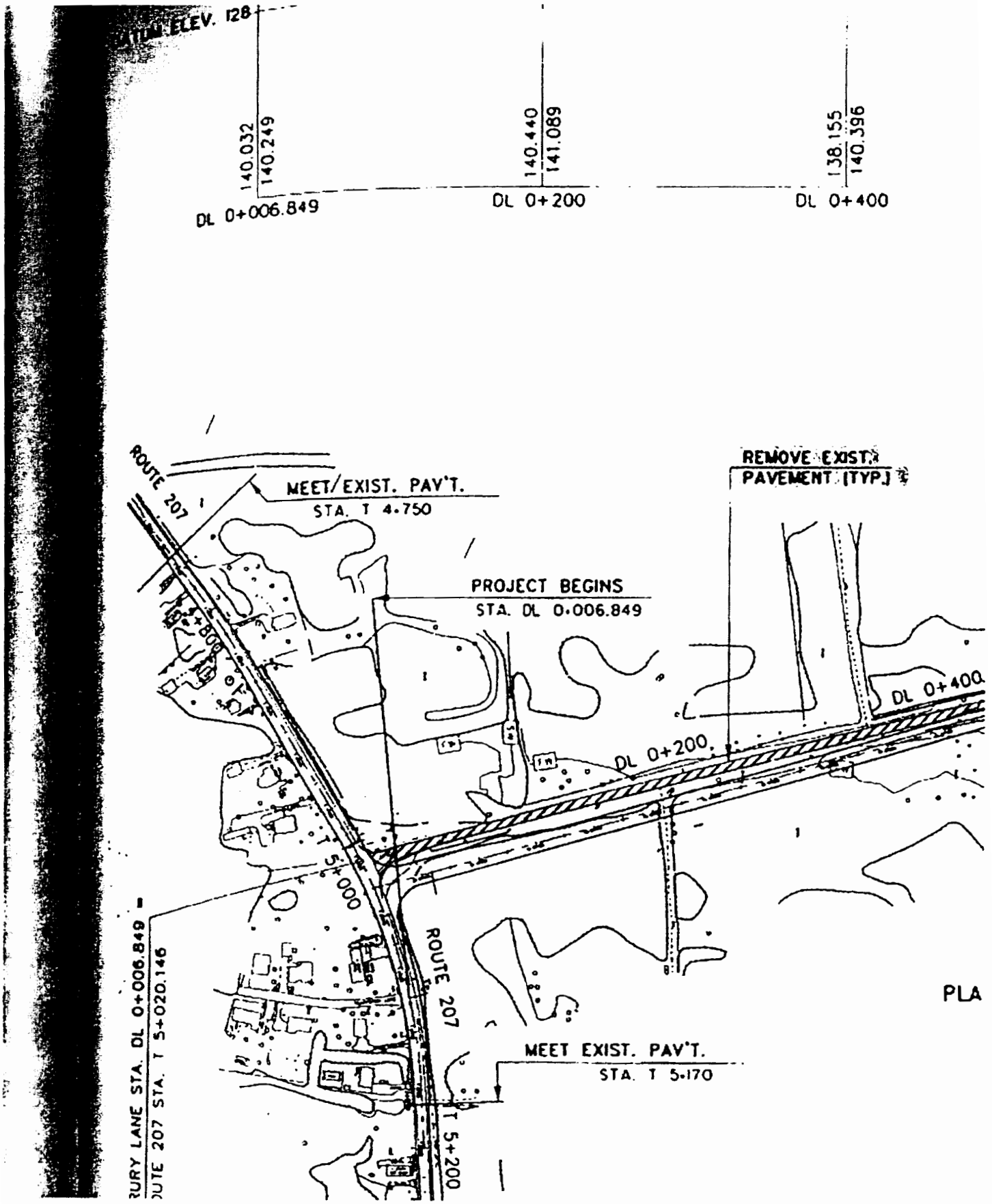

ELEV. 128
140.032
140.249
140.440
141.089
138.155
140.396
DL 0+006.849
DL 0+200
DL 0+400
ROUTE 207
MEET/EXIST. PAV'T.
STA. T 4+750
REMOVE EXIST.
PAVEMENT (TYP.)
PROJECT BEGINS
STA. DL 0+006.849
DL 0+400
DL 0+200
5+000
ROUTE 207
MEET EXIST. PAV'T.
STA. T 5+170
T 5+200
RURY LANE STA. DL 0+006.849 =
OUTE 207 STA. T 5+020.146
PLA

EXHIBIT
C

Exhibit C
Oversized document
available for viewing in the
Clerk's Office

EXHIBIT
D

STATE OF NEW YORK - EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES

---X

In the Matter of the Application :

of the :

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION : ORDER

for a transfer of jurisdiction of certain lands situate in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh in the County of Orange :

---X

The Department of Environmental Conservation has applied pursuant to Section 3, subdivision 4 of the Public Lands Law for a transfer of jurisdiction of certain lands located in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh in the County of Orange. The parcel of land comprises 5,300 acres, more or less, and is a portion of the lands acquired by the N.Y.S. Department of Transportation for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the purposes associated with the development of Stewart International Airport pursuant to Chapter 472 of the Laws of 1971.

The Department of Transportation has indicated that subject to the following uses and/or exceptions, the identified lands are excess to the needs of the Stewart International Airport:

- Aircraft noise buffer area.
- Wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and Airport projects.
- Exception of the I-84 transportation corridor.
- Exception of the Barron Road Development Area.
- Exception of parcel for use of the Division of State Police.

John P. Cahill, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, advises that the parcel will be managed as a reforestation area in order to ensure maximum public access while protecting the land's forested areas and other natural resources. Commissioner Cahill also advised that such planned management will be in conformance with grant assurances given by the Department of Transportation to the Federal Aviation Administration and will not create uses incompatible with existing and future airport operations. Such management will also be consistent with noise buffer usage for which the land was, in part, acquired, and that the Department of Transportation will be afforded reasonable access thereto for wetland creation and enhancement purposes.

The land and its boundaries are generally shown on a map entitled "Map in the Matter of the Application of the Department of Environmental Conservation for a Transfer of Jurisdiction of Certain Lands Situated in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and

Hamptonburgh, County of Orange" dated March 4, 1999, and on file in the Office of General Services in Albany, New York as OGS Map No. 1751, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof (Schedule A). Also attached is a general description of the boundaries of the 5,300 acre parcel (Schedule B). The map and description are subject to any state of facts that an accurate survey may show.

THEREFORE, pursuant to subdivision 4 of Section 3 of the Public Lands Law, it is

ORDERED, that the application is approved and jurisdiction over the aforesaid land is transferred to the Department of Environmental Conservation, subject to the above uses and exceptions.

Dated: MARCH 4, 1999

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL SERVICES

Joseph J. Seymour

by EDMOND F. SCHORNO
FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

SCHEDULE "B"

All that piece or parcel of land situated in the Towns of Montgomery, Hamptonburgh and New Windsor in the County of Orange and State of New York, being generally described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the existing northern highway boundary of State Highway No. 153 (N.Y.S. Route 207) at its intersection with the existing westerly street line of Maple Avenue, said point being 25 feet westerly measured at right angles from the existing center line of Maple Avenue; thence in a generally westerly direction along the northerly boundary of State Highway No. 153 to a point of intersection with the northerly boundary of Forrester Road; thence in a generally northwesterly direction 4,576 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the northerly boundary of New York State Highway No. 414 (also known as NYS Route 208); thence in a northwesterly direction along the said northerly boundary of State Highway No. 414, 3,991 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with the easterly division line of land now or formerly of the Penn Central Transportation Company; thence in a generally northerly direction along said division line 2,010 feet, more or less, to a point, said point being distant 335 feet, more or less, easterly measured at right angles from Station 3748 + 36 of the monumented railroad centerline; thence generally in a easterly and northerly direction along the easterly division line of the Penn Central Transportation Company as shown on Claim Map No. 1470, for the "Acquisition of Land for Establishment of an Airport at Stewart Airport", dated September 6, 1972 and filed in the New York State Department of Transportation at Albany, New York to its intersection with the southerly boundary of Interstate Route 84 (N.Y.S. Highway No. 503-1-6.2); thence in an easterly direction along said southerly boundary of said Interstate Route 84 to a point 25 feet westerly measured at right angles from the intersection of the centerline of the Maple Avenue as it existed prior to the construction of Interstate Route 84; thence in a southerly direction along a line 25 feet westerly and parallel to the centerline of Maple Avenue to the point or place of beginning, containing approximately 5,600 acres.

EXCEPTING therefrom the following three described parcels of land

Excepted Parcel No. 1
A parcel of land located along Barron Road containing approximately 300 acres of land, designated as "Excepted Parcel No. 1 for Barron Road Development Area" as generally shown upon O.G.S. Map No. 1751 revised March 4, 1999.

Together with a 50 foot wide right-of-way, for ingress and egress, along the existing Barron Road, from NYS Route 208, to and along the above described Excepted Parcel No. 1.

Excepted Parcel No. 2
A parcel of land being 600 feet along the westerly line of Barron Road and being 300 feet deep, containing approximately 4 acres of land, designated as "Excepted Parcel

No. 2 for Division of State Police" as generally shown upon O.G.S. Map No. 1751 revised March 4, 1999.

Together with a 50 foot wide right-of-way, for ingress and egress, along the existing Barron Road, from NYS Route 208, to and along the above described Excepted Parcel No. 2.

Excepted Parcel No. 3
A parcel of land being 150 foot wide, located along the southerly boundary of said Interstate Route 84 containing approximately 32 acres of land, designated as "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be reserved by N.Y.S.D.O.T." as generally shown upon O.G.S. Map No. 1751 revised March 4, 1999.

Intending to describe a portion of the lands acquired by the People of the State of New York for the use of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and shown on the Map No. 1000, entitled "Office of Metropolitan Transportation Authority Description and Map for the Acquisition of Property at Stewart Airport, Orange County, New York for the Establishment of an Airport Pursuant to Chapter 472, Laws of New York for 1971, as Amended" which lie westerly of a line drawn 25 feet westerly of the centerline of Maple Avenue, and excepting therefrom lands now or formerly of the Penn Central Transportation Company and the above described three excepted parcels of land containing approximately 5264 acres. Subject to the above described 50 foot wide right-of-way.

This description is subject to any statement of facts that an accurate survey may show.

All as shown on a map entitled "Map in the Matter of the Application of the Department of Environmental Conservation for a Transfer of Jurisdiction of Certain Lands Situated in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh, County of Orange" dated March 4, 1999 and on file in the Office of General Services in Albany, New York as OGS Map No. 1751.

Revised 3/4/99, RWB
Q:\tap\stewart AFB-desc3.doc

SCHEDULE C

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Lands & Forests
Bureau of Real Property
21 South Putt Corners Road, New Paltz, New York 12561-1620
Phone: (845) 256-3010 • **FAX:** (845) 255-4659
E-mail: gccoutu@gw.dec.state.ny.us
Website: www.dec.state.ny.us

PROPOSED DESCRIPTION
FOR THE TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION OF CERTAIN LANDS
AT STEWART AIRPORT
FROM N.Y.S. D.OT. TO N.Y.S. D.E.C.

ALL THOSE CERTAIN pieces or parcels of land situate, lying and being in the Town of Montgomery and the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange and State of New York being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

PARCEL 1A:

BEGINNING at a point on the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) 75 feet easterly of the proposed centerline of the to be re-aligned Drury Lane (County Highway number 54), as shown on sheet number 35 of 601 sheets, volume 1 of 2, contract number D259814 for the Stewart International Airport Access Improvement Project, dated November 2004 and filed in the New York State Department of Transportation office at 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12205;

THENCE in a generally easterly and northeasterly direction along the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 to a point in the easterly bounds of lands conveyed by Herman H. Crome and Ethel L. Crome to the Board of Education of Central School District No. 2 of the Town of Blooming Grove, et al., (a.k.a. the Little Britain School parcel) by deed dated August 05, 1954 and recorded in the Orange County Clerk's Office on August 05, 1954 in Deed Liber 1351 at Page 309;

THENCE in a generally northerly direction along the easterly bounds of Central School District 2 to a point in the westerly bounds of lands of the City of New York for the Northern Catskill Aqueduct;

THENCE in a generally northwesterly direction along the easterly bounds of Central School District 2 and the westerly bounds of lands of the City of New York for the Northern Catskill Aqueduct to a point;

THENCE leaving the lands of Central School District 2 and running in a generally northwesterly and northerly direction along the westerly bounds of lands of the City of New York to a point in the southerly line of lands leased by the New York State Department of Transportation to SWF Airport Acquisition, Inc., pursuant to a lease dated September 24, 1999, the said southerly line of lands leased to SWF Airport Acquisition, Inc., is also the southerly line of "Parcel C, Area West of Catskill Aqueduct" as shown on a map entitled "Stewart International Airport, Towns of Newburgh and New Windsor,

County of Orange, State of New York, Boundary Survey", prepared by Joanne Darcy Crum, L.S., being drawing number B/103B/98 and dated April 24, 1998;

THENCE in a southwesterly and westerly direction along the southerly line of lands leased to SWF Airport Acquisition, Inc., and the southerly line of "Parcel C, Area West of Catskill Aqueduct" to a point being 150 feet easterly of the existing westerly bounds of Drury Lane;

THENCE in a generally southerly direction along a line parallel with and at all times 150 feet easterly of the existing westerly bounds of Drury Lane to a point 75 feet easterly of the proposed centerline of the to be re-aligned Drury Lane, being approximately 1,600 feet northerly of the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207;

THENCE in a generally southerly direction along a line parallel with and at all times 75 feet easterly of the proposed centerline of the to be re-aligned Drury Lane to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING, by approximation, 525 acres.

EXCEPTING from the above described piece or parcel of land all right, title and interest recited in a Declaration of Taking by the United States of America recorded February 10, 1958 in the Orange County Clerk's Office in Deed Liber 1453 at Page 529. Schedule B of said Declaration of Taking being a map entitled "Real Estate, Stewart Family Housing Annex" prepared by the Department of the Army, Office of the New York District Engineer, North Atlantic Division, dated April 22, 1957 and filed February 10, 1958 in the Orange County Clerk's Office as map number 1740.

EXCEPTING from the above described piece or parcel of land the premises conveyed by Herman H. Crome and Ethel L. Crome to the Board of Education of Central School District No. 2 of the Town of Blooming Grove, et al., (a.k.a. the Little Britain School parcel) by deed dated August 05, 1954 and recorded in the Orange County Clerk's Office on August 05, 1954 in Deed Liber 1351 at Page 309.

EXCEPTING from the above described piece or parcel of land "the possible rights of others in the cemetery . . ." as recited in a conveyance by Herman H. Crome and Ethel L. Crome to Erhard E. Baeuerle et al., by deed dated July 22, 1970 and recorded in the Orange County Clerk's Office on July 28, 1970 in Deed Liber 1815 at Page 787.

The above three exceptions are shown on sheet 1 of 2 sheets of a map entitled "Office of Metropolitan Transportation Authority, description and map for the acquisition of property at Stewart Airport, Orange County, New York for the establishment of an airport pursuant to Chapter 472, Laws of New York for 1971, as amended", being map number 1000, being designated "Excepted Parcel 'A'", "Excepted Parcel 'B'" and "Excepted Parcel 'G'", respectively, and are further described on sheet 2 of said map. Said map was officially filed in the office of the New York State Department of Transportation on August 12, 1971.

SUBJECT TO certain easements set forth in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America, recorded February 10, 1958 in the Orange County Clerk's Office in Deed Liber 1453 at Page 529. Said easements also being shown on Schedule B of said taking, being a map entitled "Real Estate, Stewart Family Housing Annex", being filed map number 1740 as mentioned above.

SUBJECT TO any and all other easements and rights of way of record.

RESERVING however, to the New York State Department of Transportation, a permanent easement for the purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing or replacing a natural gas line or lines and appurtenances thereto over a parcel of land situate in the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange and State of New York being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point on the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) at the southwest corner of a parcel of land conveyed by Herman H. Crome and Ethel L. Crome to the Board of Education of Central School District No. 2 of the Town of Blooming Grove, et al., (a.k.a. the Little Britain School parcel) by deed dated August 05, 1954 and recorded in the Orange County Clerk's Office on August 05, 1954 in Deed Liber 1351 at Page 309;

THENCE along the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) South 76 degrees 55 minutes 49 seconds West a distance of 508.00 feet to a point marking the southeasterly corner of easement number C 302 E-1 recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740, said point being the **POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING;**

THENCE along the easterly bounds of said easement number C 302 E-1 North 02 degrees 03 minutes 14 seconds West a distance of 174.11 feet to a point;

THENCE through the lands now or formerly of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.1898 P.319) North 87 degrees 56 minutes 46 seconds East a distance of 95.45 feet to a point;

THENCE continuing through the lands now or formerly of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.1898 P.319) South 02 degrees 03 minutes 14 seconds East a distance of 155.53 feet to a point on the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153);

THENCE along the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) South 76 degrees 55 minutes 49 seconds West a distance of 97.24 feet to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING 15,732 square feet or 0.361 acres of land.

BEARINGS are with reference to the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and filed map number 1740.

ALL AS SHOWN on a map entitled "Proposed Gas Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing, Town of New Windsor, Orange County, New York" prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Rochester, New York, as drawing number V-4, project number 193500284 and having a first issue date of April 21, 2006.

ALSO RESERVING to the New York State Department of Transportation a permanent drainage easement over a parcel of land situate in the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange and State of New York being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point marking the southeasterly corner of parcel number C 302 and the northeasterly corner of easement number C 302 E-1 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along the easterly line of parcel number C 302, North 02 degrees 03 minutes 14 seconds West a distance of 631.95 feet, more or less, to a point marking the southwesterly corner of easement number C 302 E-2 as

recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along the southerly line of easement number C 302 E-2, South 73 degrees 55 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of 69.03 feet, more or less, to a point marking the northwesterly corner of easement number C 308 E recited in Deed Liber 1602 at Page 1036;

THENCE along the westerly line of easement number C 308 E, South 24 degrees 26 minutes 17 seconds East a distance of 647.01 feet, more or less, to a point on the easterly prolongation of the southerly line of parcel number C 302 and the northerly line of easement number C 302 E-1;

THENCE along the easterly prolongation of the southerly line of parcel number C 302 and the northerly line of easement number C 302 E-1, South 85 degrees 42 minutes 23 seconds West a distance of 312.23 feet, more or less, to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING 2.653 acres of land, more or less.

BEARINGS are with reference to the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and filed map number 1740.

ALL AS SHOWN on a map entitled "Proposed Drainage Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing, Town of New Windsor, Orange County, New York" prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Rochester, New York, as drawing number V-5, project number 193500284 and having a first issue date of April 21, 2006.

ALSO RESERVING to the New York State Department of Transportation a permanent easement 30.00 feet in width for the purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing or replacing a water line or lines and appurtenances thereto over a parcel of land situate in the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange and State of New York being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point marking the westerly corner of parcel number C 300 and the northwesterly corner of parcel number C 304 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE through the lands now or formerly of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.1315 P.309) the following four (4) courses and distances:

1.) North 14 degrees 05 minutes 10 seconds West 30.00 feet to a point;

2.) along a line parallel with and at all times 30.00 feet northerly of the northerly line of parcel number C 300, North 75 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds East 1202.20 feet to a point;

3.) along a line parallel with and at all times 30.00 feet westerly of the westerly line of parcel number C 301 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740, North 19 degrees 19 minutes 10 seconds West 253.79 feet to a point; and

4.) North 67 degrees 41 minutes 52 seconds East 28.74 feet, more or less, to a point marking the northwesterly corner of easement number C 300 E as recited in the

Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along the westerly line of easement number C 300 E, South 22 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds East a distance of 25.00 feet to a point marking the southwesterly corner of easement number C 300 E and the northwesterly corner of parcel number C 301 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along a portion of the westerly line of parcel number C 301, South 19 degrees 19 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 263.19 feet to a point marking the northerly corner of parcel number C 300;

THENCE along the northerly line of parcel number C 300, South 75 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds West a distance of 1235.07 feet to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING 1.026 acres of land, more or less.

BEARINGS are with reference to the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and filed map number 1740.

ALL AS SHOWN on a map entitled "Proposed Water Main Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing, Town of New Windsor, Orange County, New York" prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Rochester, New York, as drawing number V-6, project number 193500284 and having a first issue date of April 21, 2006.

ALSO RESERVING to the New York State Department of Transportation a permanent easement 30.00 feet in width for the purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing or replacing a sanitary sewer line or lines and appurtenances thereto over a parcel of land situate in the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange and State of New York being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point marking the westerly corner of parcel number C 300 and the northwesterly corner of parcel number C 304 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along the northerly line of parcel number C 300, North 75 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds East a distance of 74.73 feet to the **POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING;**

THENCE through the lands now or formerly of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.1315 P.309) the following seven (7) courses and distances:

1.) North 34 degrees 58 minutes 47 seconds East 76.71 feet to a point:
2.) North 39 degrees 53 minutes 18 seconds East 246.92 feet to a point:
3.) North 61 degrees 12 minutes 55 seconds East 246.15 feet to a point:
4.) North 75 degrees 44 minutes 49 seconds East 292.32 feet to a point:
5.) North 74 degrees 22 minutes 28 seconds East 109.00 feet to a point:
6.) North 74 degrees 49 minutes 51 seconds East 238.75 feet to a point on the westerly line of easement number C 300 E as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740: and

7.) along the westerly line of easement number C 300 E, South 22 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds East 4.19 feet to a point marking the northwesterly corner of parcel number C 301 as recited in the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and as shown on filed map number 1740;

THENCE along the westerly line of parcel number C 301, South 19 degrees 19 minutes 10 seconds East a distance of 25.91 feet to a point;

THENCE along a line parallel with and at all times 30.00 feet southerly from the above first six courses and distance the following six (6) courses and distances:

1.) South 74 degrees 49 minutes 51 seconds West 241.03 feet to a point:
2.) South 74 degrees 22 minutes 28 seconds West 109.24 feet to a point:
3.) South 75 degrees 44 minutes 49 seconds West 288.85 feet to a point:
4.) South 61 degrees 12 minutes 55 seconds West 236.67 feet to a point:
5.) South 39 degrees 53 minutes 18 seconds West 239.99 feet to a point: and
6.) South 34 degrees 58 minutes 47 seconds West 40.83 feet to a point on the northerly line of parcel C 300;

THENCE along the northerly line of parcel C 300, South 75 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds West a distance of 45.79 feet to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING 0.815 acres of land, more or less.

BEARINGS are with reference to the Declaration of Taking by the United States of America (L. 1453 P. 529) and filed map number 1740.

ALL AS SHOWN on a map entitled "Proposed Sanitary Sewer Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing, Town of New Windsor, Orange County, New York" prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Rochester, New York, as drawing number V-7, project number 193500284 and having a first issue date of April 21, 2006.

PARCEL 1B:

BEGINNING at a point on the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) 75 feet westerly of the proposed centerline of the to be re-aligned Drury Lane (County highway number 54), said proposed centerline as shown on sheet number 35 of 601 sheets, volume 1 of 2, contract number D259814 for the Stewart International Airport Access Improvement Project, dated November 2004 and filed in the New York State Department of Transportation office at 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12205;

THENCE in a generally northerly direction along a line parallel with and at all times 75 feet westerly of the proposed centerline of the to be re-aligned Drury Lane a distance of approximately 1,600 feet to a point on the existing westerly bounds of Drury Lane;

THENCE in a generally northerly direction along the existing westerly bounds of Drury Lane to a point in the southerly line of "Parcel F, Runway Protection Zone Easement" as shown on a map entitled "Stewart

International Airport, Towns of Newburgh and New Windsor, County of Orange, State of New York, Boundary Survey", prepared by Joanne Darcy Crum, L.S., being drawing number B/103B/98 and dated April 24, 1998;

THENCE in a generally southwesterly direction along the southerly line of "Parcel F, Runway Protection Zone Easement" to a point marking the southwesterly corner of said Parcel F;

THENCE in a generally northerly direction along the westerly line of "Parcel F, Runway Protection Zone Easement" to a point marking the northwesterly corner of said Parcel F;

THENCE in a generally westerly direction along an extension of the northerly line of "Parcel F, Runway Protection Zone Easement" to a point in the easterly bounds of Maple Avenue;

THENCE in a generally southerly direction along the easterly bounds of Maple Avenue to a point in the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207;

THENCE in a generally easterly direction along the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 to the point or place of beginning.

CONTAINING, by approximation, 825 acres.

EXCEPTING from the above described piece or parcel of land "the burying ground" as recited in a conveyance by Mollie Schubert Gratz et al., to Mollie Schubert Gratz (a.k.a. Martha L. Gratz) by deed dated November 06, 1953 and recorded in the Orange County Clerk's Office on September 09, 1954 in Deed Liber 1319 at Page 301.

The above exception is shown on sheet 1 of 2 sheets of a map entitled "Office of Metropolitan Transportation Authority, description and map for the acquisition of property at Stewart Airport, Orange County, New York for the establishment of an airport pursuant to Chapter 472, Laws of New York for 1971, as amended", being map number 1000, being designated "Excepted Parcel 'E'" and is also describe on sheet 2 of said map.

EXCEPTING from the above described piece or parcel of land a parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon known as the "Elmwood School" as shown on a map entitled "Survey of Lands to be Transferred to the Orange County Historical Society" by Richard DeKay, L.S., dated April 08, 2002 and revised December 31, 2002.

SUBJECT TO all easements and rights of way of record.

PARCEL 2:

All that piece or parcel of land being the southerly portion of "Excepted Parcel No. 1 for Barron Road Development Area" as shown on sheet 1 of 2 sheets of a map entitled "Office of Metropolitan Transportation Authority, description and map for the acquisition of property at Stewart Airport, Orange County, New York for the establishment of an airport pursuant to Chapter 472, Laws of New York for 1971, as amended", being map number 1000, revised by N.Y.S. Office of General Services, Bureau of Land Management on March 04,1999 to be entitled "Map in the Matter of the Application of the Department of Environmental Conservation for a Transfer of Jurisdiction of Certain Lands situate in the Towns of Montgomery, New Windsor and Hamptonburgh, Orange County" and also revised as to be OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

CONTAINING, by approximation, 200 acres.

PARCEL 3:

All that piece or parcel of land comprising of Maple Avenue, in its entirety, from its intersection with the northerly bounds of New York State Route 207 (State Highway number 153) to its intersection with the southerly bounds of a strip of land 150 feet in width adjoining the southerly bounds of Interstate Route 84 (Interstate Highway number 503), said 150 foot strip of land being "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be Retained by N.Y.S.D.O.T." as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A" .

PARCEL 4:

All that piece or parcel of land comprising of Barron Road, in its entirety, from its intersection with the northerly bounds of New York State Route 208 (State Highway number 414) to its intersection with the southerly bounds of a strip of land 150 feet in width adjoining the southerly bounds of Interstate Route 84 (Interstate Highway number 503), said 150 foot strip of land being "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be Retained by N.Y.S.D.O.T." as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

SUBJECT TO a 50 foot wide right-of-way for ingress, egress and regress from the intersection of Barron Road with the northerly bounds of New York State Route 208 (State Highway number 414) to "Excepted Parcel No. 2 for Division of State Police" as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

SUBJECT TO a 50 foot wide right-of-way for ingress, egress and regress from the intersection of Barron Road with the southerly bounds of a strip of land 150 feet in width adjoining the southerly bounds of Interstate Route 84 (Interstate Highway number 503), said 150 foot strip of land being "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be Retained by N.Y.S.D.O.T." as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A", to the southerly bounds of the northerly portion of "Excepted Parcel No. 1 for Barron Road Development Area" as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

PARCEL 5:

All that certain right of way on Barron Road reserved in an Order of transfer of jurisdiction by the New York State Office of General Services, dated March 04, 1999, for ingress and egress from New York State Route 208 to and along Excepted Parcel No. 1 of said order.

SUBJECT TO a 50 foot wide right-of-way for ingress, egress and regress from the intersection of Barron Road with the southerly bounds of a strip of land 150 feet in width adjoining the southerly bounds of Interstate Route 84 (Interstate Highway number 503), said 150 foot strip of land being "Excepted Parcel No. 3 to be Retained by N.Y.S.D.O.T." as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A", to the southerly bounds of the northerly portion of "Excepted Parcel No. 1 for Barron Road Development Area" as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

SUBJECT TO a 50 foot wide right-of-way for ingress, egress and regress from the intersection of Barron Road with the northerly bounds of New York State Route 208 (State Highway number 414) to "Excepted Parcel No. 2 for Division of State Police" as shown on the above referenced OGS Map 1751, Schedule "A".

ALL OF THE ABOVE five parcels of land are shown on a map entitled "New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Sketch Map in Compliance with the December 07, 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal settling Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition v. Slater, et al., Civil Action No. CV-00-1606 (N.D.N.Y.) in United States District Court for the Transfer of Jurisdiction of certain lands at Stewart Airport to the Department of Environmental Conservation from the Department of Transportation situate in Towns of Montgomery and New Windsor, County of Orange designated as

Project: TOJ Orange 26.03", prepared by the Bureau of Real Property, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 3, on April 25, 2006 and revised on May 08, 2006 and June 14, 2006 as OGS Map number 2,080 and DEC Map number 11,953.

Revised on June 26, 2006.

Appendix D.

Executive Summary and Membership List, Stewart Lands Citizens Advisory Committee Report to Commissioner John P. Cahill

Executive Summary

The 23-member *Stewart Lands Citizens Advisory Committee* has carefully evaluated issues of public access, recreational uses, natural resources management, environmental education & interpretation, farming, historic preservation, public safety, and funding related to the future use and management of the *Stewart State Forest*. A total of 34 specific recommendations were developed. In summary, the Committee recommends that:

- The *Stewart State Forest* should be managed in a manner which fosters appropriate recreation, research and environmental education & interpretation, but which also protects the land's natural resources and rural character.
- A variety of appropriate recreational uses should be encouraged, including hiking, bicycling, hunting, nature study, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, etc.
- Camping should be allowed only for organized groups, and by special permit.
- The recreational use of motorized vehicles should not be allowed.
- Golf courses, ball fields and similar recreational facilities should not be developed on the *Stewart State Forest*.
- A diverse wildlife population should be encouraged, through the protection and enhancement of diverse wildlife habitat.
- Partnerships should be developed to foster interpretation of the land.
- Farming should be encouraged to continue on the property.
- Ownership of historic properties should be transferred to the Orange County Historical Society.
- Special attention must be given to unique public safety concerns raised by the *Stewart State Forest's* location immediately adjacent to an international airport.
- Funding should be adequate to support management of this land and to promote modest educational, interpretive and research efforts.

Membership List

George P. Bucci, Jr. - Supervisor, Town of Newburgh
John Buttarazzi - Vice President, Empire State Development Corp.
Nancy Calhoun - New York State Assemblywoman
William R. Conners - Director, Board of Directors, Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs
Howard Cushing - President, New York State Conservation Council
Dr. John A. D'Ambrosio - President, Chamber of Commerce of Orange County
Deborah Meyer DeWan - Program Director, Riverfront Committee, Scenic Hudson Inc.

Louis Heimbach - President, Sterling Forest Corp.
Carl Helstrom - Supervisor, Town of Montgomery
Thomas J. Kirwan - New York State Assemblyman
Dr. Michael W. Klemens - Director, Metropolitan Conservation Alliance, Wildlife Conservation Society
William J. Larkin, Jr. - New York State Senator
John Lupiniski - President, Orange County Farm Bureau
James McGuinness - New York State Department of Transportation, Stewart International Airport
Barnabas McHenry - Chairman, Hudson river Valley Greenway Council
George J. Meyers - Supervisor, Town of New Windsor
David Miller - Executive Director, New York State Office National Audubon Society
Marc Moran - Region 3 Director, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Chair, Stewart Lands Citizens Advisory Committee
Tim Quilty - Board of Directors, New York Bicycle Coalition
Joseph Rampe - County Executive, Orange County
Rudy Vallet - Secretary, Orange County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
Art Wilcox - Director of Public Employees Division, New York State AFL-CIO
James C. Wright - Chairman, Stewart Airport Commission

Appendix E.

Bird Conservation Area Program

ECL §11-2001

Legislation establishing the Bird Conservation Area (BCA) program was enacted by the New York State Legislature, and signed into law by Governor Pataki on September 5, 1997. The features of it are as follows:

Creates the Bird Conservation Area Program on state-owned lands and waters to "safeguard and enhance populations of wild birds native to New York State and the habitats therein that birds are dependent upon for breeding, migration, shelter, and sustenance."

Designated properties are to be mapped, and copies of all pertinent documents forwarded to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) "for inventory, research, and reference purposes for the general public."

A master inventory list and maps of BCAs shall be kept on file by DEC, with duplicates at the New York State Museum and Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

Defines BCAs: waterfowl concentration site, pelagic seabird site, shorebird concentration site, wading bird concentration site, migratory concentration site, diverse species concentration site, individual species concentration site, species at risk site, and bird research site.

BCAs to be designated by DEC Commissioner, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) Commissioner, or Secretary of State, for appropriate properties under their jurisdictions and consistent with their respective missions.

Establishes an Advisory Committee - no pay, meet at least two times annually.

States the purpose of the BCA Program: to advise as to the designation, management, educational research and utilization of those sites that are individually designated as part of and collectively comprise the New York State Bird Conservation Area Program. Provided, however, the utilization of such sites shall be consistent with the respective missions of the Department, the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Department of State.

Bird Conservation Area Program Criteria

According to ECL §11-2001, a site must meet one or more of the following criteria to be designated as a Bird Conservation Area:

1. **Waterfowl Concentration Site**; a location that regularly supports at least 2,000 birds such as loons, grebes, cormorants, geese, ducks, coots and moorhens.

2. **Pelagic Seabird Site**; a location that regularly supports at least 100 birds of open water such as shearwaters, storm-petrels, terns, fulmars, gannets, jaegers, alcids and other like birds and/or 10,000 gulls at one time during some part of the year so long as the primary food source for such birds is not anthropogenic (created by humans, e.g. garbage dumps).

3. **Shorebird Concentration Site**; a location that supports at least 300 birds such as plovers, sandpipers, and other like birds during some part of the year.

4. **Wading Bird Concentration Site**; a location that supports at least 100 birds such as bitterns, herons, egrets, ibises and other like birds during some part of the year.

5. **Migratory Concentration Site**; a location that is a flight corridor stopover site for an exceptional number or diversity of migratory songbirds during either spring or fall seasons.

6. **Diverse Species Concentration Site**; a location that supports a distinctive group of indigenous bird species that is the consequence of local habitats which result from unique vegetational, geological, geographical, topographical, or microclimatological circumstances.

7. **Individual Species Concentration Site**; a location that supports at least one bird species during one or more seasons of the year as a regionally unique, dense (for the species) population.

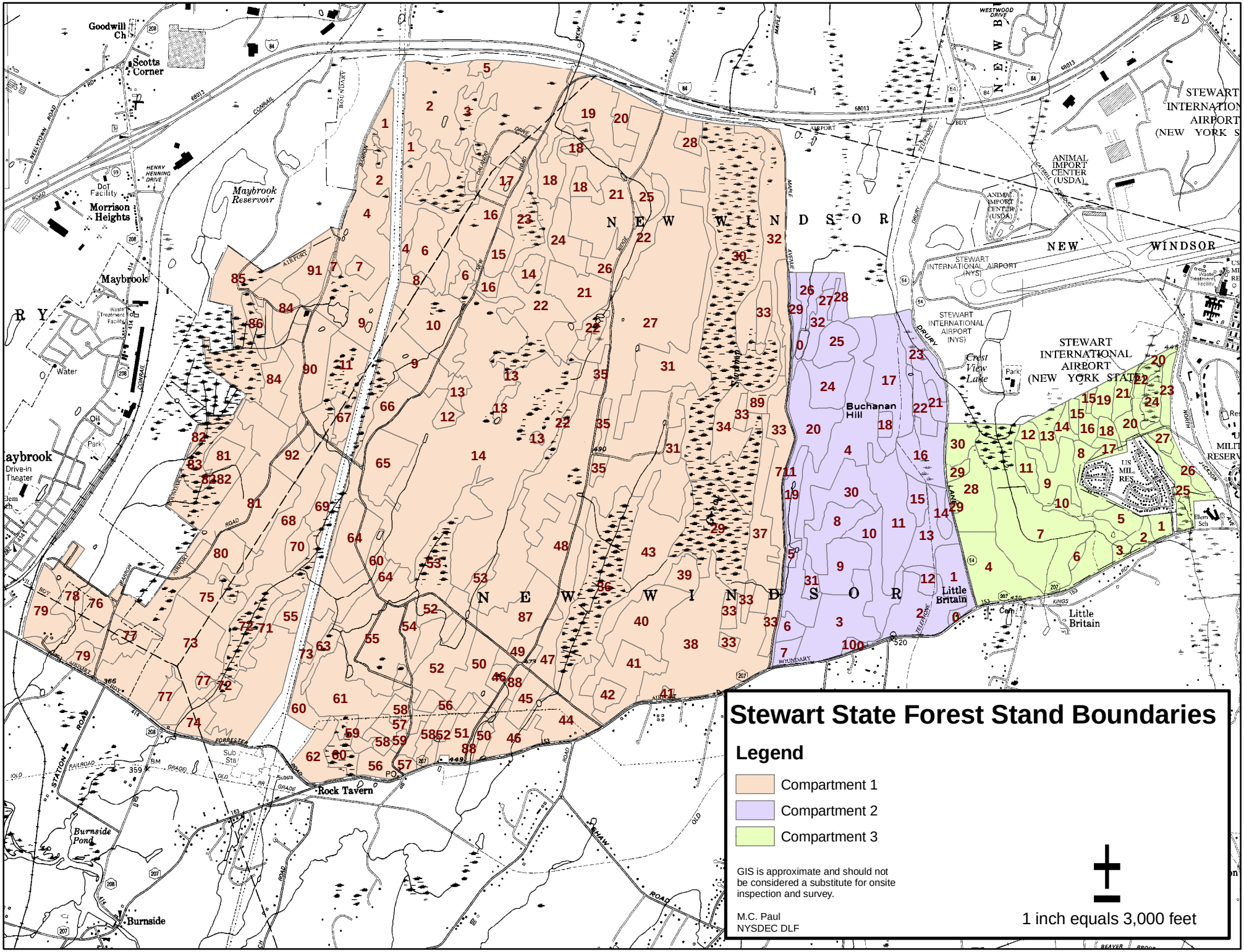
8. **Species at Risk Site**; (1) a location that supports a significant population of a species that is listed either federally or by New York as endangered, threatened, or of special concern, or (2) which supports a species that is verified by either the commissioner or the state ornithologist as being rare or declining within New York state, or (3) an exceptional, rare, or remnant native habitat, vegetative community, or landscape segment that supports one or more significant habitat dependent populations of wild bird species.

9. **Bird Research Site**; a location where a wild bird population research and/or monitoring project of at least five consecutive years' duration is conducted and contributes to the science of ornithology

Appendix F.

SEQR review for this unit management plan (UMP) has been initiated with the preparation of the Long Environmental Assessment Form (LEAF), the preparation of this document and the public review process. Non-significant impacts will be addressed in a Negative Declaration that will be included as a appendix in the final UMP

Appendix G.


Stewart State Forest Stand Boundaries
Legend
Compartment 1
Compartment 2
Compartment 3
GIS is approximate and should not be considered a substitute for onsite inspection and survey.
M.C. Paul
NYSDEC DLF
1 inch equals 3,000 feet
NEW WINDSOR
Buchanan Hill
Little Britain
Rock Tavern
Maybrook
Maybrook Reservoir
Burnside Pond
Burnside
Morrison Heights
Goodwill Ch
Scotts Corner
STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (NEW YORK STATE)
STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (NYS)
ANIMAL IMPORT CENTER (USDA)
Crest View Lake
US MIL RES

Appendix H.

2006
STEWART STATE FOREST
Forest Management Recommendations
Compartment 1

Stand #	Acres	Type	B.A.	Top 3 Species	D Class	Mgmt.	Recommendation	Date
1	20	Forest	142	WP/RM/WO	C	Even	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
2	258	Forest	103	RM/RO/HM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
3	51	Non-Forest					Protect	
4	68	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
5	7	Non-Forest					Maintain brushy fields for wildlife	
6	42	Forest	87	PH/RO/CO	C	Even	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
7	9	Non-Forest					Mow fields for wildlife	
8	7	Forest	100	WP/PH/RO	C	Even	No treatment due to low stocking levels	
9	69	Non-Forest					Maintain as field for farming/wildlife	
10	59	Non-Forest					Maintain as brushy fields for wildlife	
11	33	Forest	90	RM/ELM/SH	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
12	7	Forest	112	WP/RO/PH	D	Even	No treatment due to low stocking levels	
13	17	Forest	126	HEM/CO/RO	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
14	477	Forest	94	RO/RM/WO	C	Even	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
15	13	Non-Forest					Mow fields for wildlife	
16	73	Forest					Re-Evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
17	10	Non-Forest					No treatment, allow for growth, manage for wildlife	
18	36	Forest	91	RO/RM/PH	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and presence of barberry	
19	44	Forest				Even	Re-Evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016

20	18	Forest	84	RM/ELM/SWO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
21	128	Non-Forest					Mow fields for wildlife	
22	182	Forest	121	RM/ELM/SWO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and very poor drainage	
23	24	Non-Forest					Protect	
24	25	Forest	99	RM/ELM/WA	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
25	17	Non-Forest					Protect	
26	14	Forest				Even	Re-Evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
27	444	Forest				Even	Re-Evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
28	11	Non-Forest					Maintain as field for farming/wildlife	
29	82	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
30	280	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
31	88	Forest	99	RM/HM/BC	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
32	81	Forest	102	RM/HM/WO	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
33	107	Non-Forest					Mow fields for wildlife	
34	27	Forest	138	RM/YP/RO	C	Uneven	Thinning - Selection Cut - bring stand down to a B.A. of 75	2009
35	19	Non-Forest					Mow fields for wildlife	
36	112	Non-Forest					Protect	
37	51	Forest	115	RM/WA/ELM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
38	147	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
39	14	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
40	56	Forest	89	RM/HM/PO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
41	45	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
42	11	Forest	106	PH/HM/RO	C	Uneven	Thinning - Selection Cut - bring stand down to a B.A. of 75	2009
43	73	Forest	86	RM/YP/HM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
44	47	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
45	17	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	

46	32	Forest	93	HM/BC/RO	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and presence of invasives	
47	27	Forest	96	PO/RM/BC	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
48	48	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
49	14	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
50	40	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
51	22	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
52	64	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
53	75	Forest	131	RM/ELM/WA	C	Uneven	B.A. is very high, but no thinning recommended in wetland	
54	10	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
55	128	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
56	30	Forest	112	RM/HM/PO	C	Uneven	Thinning - Selection Cut - bring stand down to a B.A. of 65	2009
57	18	Forest					Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
58	26	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
59	11	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
60	100	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
61	59	Forest	91	RO/PO/RM	C	Even	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
62	26	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
63	11	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
64	44	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
65	40	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
66	22	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
67	13	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
68	88	Forest				Even	Wetland/swamp woods. Harvesting limited/selective due to constraints. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature.	2016
69	14	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
70	13	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016

71	13	Forest	103	RM/BC/PO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
72	42	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
73	192	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
74	19	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
75	41	Forest	99	PO/RM/BC	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
76	56	Forest	115	RO/HM/PH	D	Uneven	Thinning - Selection Cut - bring stand down to a B.A. of 65	2009
77	41	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
78	45	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
79	38	Forest	99	PO/BC/HM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
80	27	Non-Forest					Other	
81	78	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
82	51	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
83	22	Non-Forest					Manage for wildlife	
84	27	Non-Forest					Mow fields and manage for wildlife	
85	86	Forest	135	RM/WA/BA	C	Uneven	Swamp - too wet to harvest	
86	11	Non-Forest					Wetland and open water. Manage for wildlife	
87	48	Forest	91	PO/BC/RM	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
88	19	Forest	110	RM/ELM/WA	C	Uneven	Thinning - Selection Cut - bring stand down to a B.A. of 65	2009
89	10	Forest				Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
90	54	Forest	94	RO/RM/SM	C	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
91	30	Forest	80	SM/RM/PO	C	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years, when stand is more mature	2016
92	13	Forest				Even	Manage for wildlife (shrubs). Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years.	2016

2006 STEWART STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
Compartment 2

Stand #	Acres	Type	B.A.	Top 3 Species	D Class	Mgmt.	Recommendation	
1	25	Forest	N/A	WA, RM, E	A	Even	Seedling and sapling. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
2	45	Forest	N/A	RM, BW, E	A	Even	Grassy fields in first stage of forest establishment.. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
3	59	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Farm fields or mow fields for wildlife	
4	111	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mow fields for wildlife	
5	5	Forest	160	WA, E, BA	A	Uneven	BA is very high, but no thinning recommended in wetland, Invasives present.	
6	9	Forest	77	RM, SM, WO	B	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years. No treatment. Highly variable area. Invasives present	2016
7	9	Forest	60	BL, BW, BHick	A	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature and invasive species diminish	2016
8	30	Forest	92	RM, E, WA,	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and the presence of invasives and wet soils	
9	30	Forest	56	PO, RM, E	C	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature. High density of invasives.	2016
10	39	Forest	78	RM, PO, SWO	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
11	56	Forest	96	SM, B, WA	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and invasives present on 50% of plots	
12	8	Forest	92	PO, RM, Hick	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
13	27	Forest	104	PO, RM, SM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels. Wetter soils.	
14	8	Forest	90	PO, RM, WA	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels	
15	11	Forest	123	RM, PO, E	C	Uneven	B.A. is very high, but thinning is not recommended in the wetland. Invasives present on 50% of the stand	
16	34	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Protect	
17	59	Forest	69	SM, PHick, BC	C	Uneven	No treatment due to low stocking levels and high densities of invasives. Re-evaluate in 10 years.	2016

18	5	Forest	158	WP, RP, BC	D	Even	Protect, Manage for wildlife	
19	17	Forest	N/A	WA, E, RM	A	Even	Seedling/Sapling. Re-evaluate management objective in 10 yrs when stand is more mature. Invasives present. Highly variable	2016
20	42	Forest	N/A	WA, E, RM	A	Even	Seedling/sapling. High variability. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years. Invasives present	
21	8	Forest	90	BL, BW, BC	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
22	15	Forest	103	ASP, BL, PHick	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
23	25	Forest	37	BL, E, BW	N/A	N/A	Protect. Manage for wildlife (brush, grass, wetland w/few trees)	
24	26	Forest	111	SM, PH, WA	C	Uneven	Thinning - selection cut. Bring stand down to BA of 75. Re-evaluate role of invasives before cut	2011
25	22	Forest	81	SM, PH, WB	B	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
26	16	Non-Forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Manage for wildlife (brushy wetland and open water)	
27	3	Forest	N/A	WA, E, RM	A	Even	Old field Seedling/sapling. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
28	10	Forest	116	PHick, E, RO,	C	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels. Re-evaluate in 5 years	2011
29	10	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mow fields for wildlife	
30	33	Forest	91	RM, WA, SM,	C	Uneven	No treatment due to high densities of invasives and variability. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 yrs when stand more mature	2016
31	7	Forest	37	PO, RM, shrubs	C	Uneven	Protect, Manage for wildlife	
32	14	Forest	123	RM, RO, BO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to high densities of invasives on nearby sites. Re-evaluate mngmt obj in 10 yrs . Selection cut due to proximity of pond	2016
0	6.0	Open Water	- - - -	- - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	Wahlenburgh Pond, Manage for wildlife/Open water/wetland on perimeter	

2006 STEWART STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
Compartment 3

Stand #	Acres	Type	B.A.	Top 3 Species	D Class	Mgmt.	Recommendation	
1	8	Forest	40	RM/PO/SM	C	Uneven	No treatment due to low stocking levels and high densitites of invasives	
2	8	Forest	100	PO/BC/WA	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives	
3	5	Forest	98	WA/RM/SWO	C	Uneven	No treatment due to very poor drainage and high densities of invasives	
4	76	Forest	54	WA/E/PO	B	Uneven	Seedling/Sapling. No treatment due to low stocking levels and high densities of invasives. Highly variable.	
5	13	Forest	76	BC/PO/RM	B	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives on periphery.	
6	3	Forest	130	PO/RM/SWO	C	Uneven	Management w/selective cut due to proximity of wetland. Re-evaluate in 5 years.	2011
7	128	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Wetland - Manage for wildlife	
8	18	Forest	102	SM/BC/RM	D	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels. Invasives on edge. Control Ailanthus.	
9	27	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	Even	Old field with invasives. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
10	9	Forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	Uneven	Extremely high density of invasives. No treatment due to low stocking levels and former farmstead sites.	
11	11	Forest	121	PO/RM/WA	C	Uneven	Oak regeneration in some places may suggest even-aged management.. Thinning possible, but re-evaluate due t high levels of peripheral invasives.	2011
12	7	Forest	98	RM/PO/E	B	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature. Old orchard with high density of invasives.	2016
13	16	Forest	112	RM/WA/E	C	Uneven	Poor drainage, appropriate levels of stocking	
14	7	Forest	100	RM/GBirch/PO	B	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
15	7	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	Even	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature	2016
16	10	Forest	121	RM/E/Shrub	B	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature, High invasive density and wet soils.	2016
17	8	Forest	75	RC/WA/RM	B	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature, High invasive density	2016

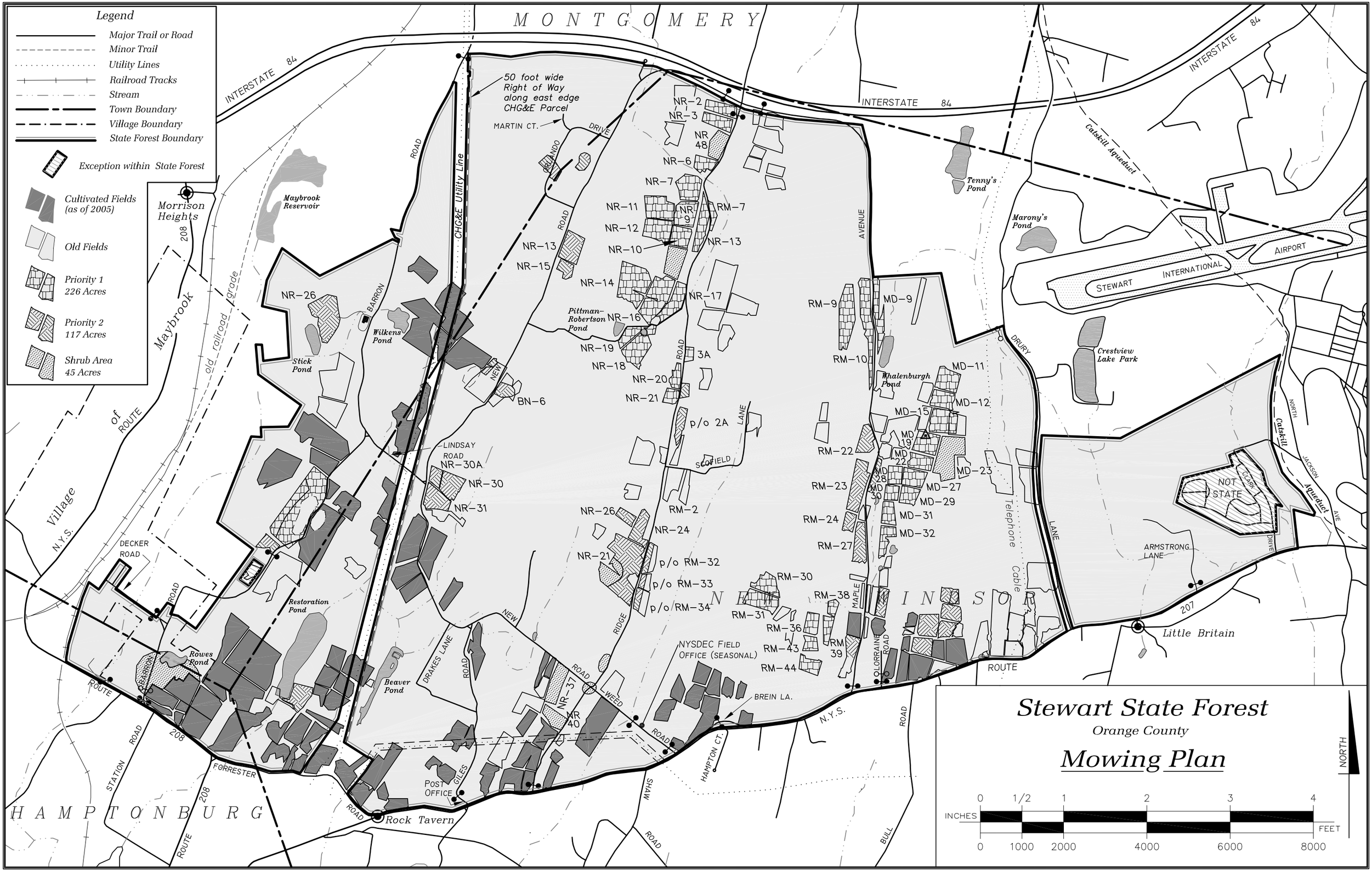
18	6	Forest	165	NS/RM/BC	C	Even	Thinning - bring stand down incrementally to a basal area of 80. Re-evaluate in 10 years. Wind-throw issues	2009
19	11	Forests	70	ASP/PO/BCr	B	Uneven	No treatment due to low stocking levels and high densitites of invasives. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 yrs	2016
20	12	Non-forest Open waterl	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Manage for wildlife-open water, shrub and emergent wetland.	
21	13	Forest	120	RM/PO/E	C	Uneven	No treatment due to low or appropriate stocking levels and very poor drainage	
22	7	Forest	88	RM/BC/PO	C	Uneven	Protect, Access limitations to the peninsula due to stream and nearby wetland.	
23	10	Forest	99	WA/E/BC	C	Uneven	No treatment allow for growth, high densities of invasives, high variability	
24	- - - -	- - - - - - - - -	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Cancelled	
25	24	Forest	110	RM/WA/E	C	Uneven	Wetland woods, very poor drainage and wet soils. Protect, manage for wildlife	
26	9	Forest	72	WA/Shr/E	B	Uneven	No treatment due to low stocking levels and high densitites of invasives	
27	6	Non-forest	N/A	N/A	N/A	Even	Field. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years	2016
28	39	Forest	73	E/BL/BW	C	Uneven	Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature; high densities of invasives	2016
29	7	Forest	N/A	RO/SM/BL	N/A	Uneven	Highly variable former homestead site with landscaped field/trees. Re-evaluate management objectives in 10 years when stand is more mature; high levels of invasives.	2016
30	16	Forest	94	RM/SM/RO	B	Uneven	No treatment due to appropriate stocking levels and high densities of invasives. Control Ailanthus.	

Appendix I.

Stewart State Forest

Orange County

Mowing Plan



Appendix J.

Stewart State Forest

Orange County

Agricultural Fields

Legend

- Major Trail or Road
- Minor Trail
- Utility Lines
- Railroad Tracks
- Stream
- Town Boundary
- Village Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Exception within State Forest
- These currently farmed fields (368 Acres) will be maintained as grassland if farming stops
- Other currently farmed fields
- Shrubs - 11 Acres (currently farmed)
- Old Fields

MONTGOMERY

HAMPTONBURG

NEW WINDSOR

Village of Maybrook

INTERSTATE 84

50 foot wide Right of Way along east edge CHG&E Parcel

CHG&E Utility Line

Maybrook Reservoir

Morrison Heights

old railroad grade

MARTIN CT.

ORLANDO DRIVE

ROAD

BARRON ROAD

Wilkens Pond

Stick Pond

Pittman-Robertson Pond

Tenny's Pond

Marony's Pond

Catskill Aqueduct

AVENUE

DRURY LANE

Whalenburgh Pond

Crestview Lake Park

AIRPORT

STEWART INTERNATIONAL

NOT STATE

CLARK DRIVE

NORTH Catskill Aqueduct JACKSON AVE

ARMSTRONG LANE

Telephone Cable

MAPLE LANE

LORRAINE ROAD

BN-1

BN-60

BN-2

BN-5A

BN-4

BN-8

BN-57

BN-53

BN-59

BN-51

BN-17

NR-32

BN-13&14

BN-42

Rowes Pond

BN-44

BN-43

BN-43A

BN-19 thru 24

Restoration Pond

Beaver Pond

DRAKES LANE

NR 50

NR-35

NR-36

NR-41

NR 49

BN-28

BN-39

NR-44

BN-29

POST OFFICE

GILES

NR 47

NR 46

NR 45

RM-56

LWEED ROAD

RIDGE ROAD

NEW ROAD

LINDSAY ROAD

SCOFIELD LANE

SHAW ROAD

BULL ROAD

HAMPTON CT.

BREIN LA.

NYSDEC Field Office (seasonal)

Rock Tavern

Little Britain

DECKER ROAD

STATION ROAD

FORRESTER ROAD

ROUTE 208

ROUTE 207

N.Y.S. ROUTE

INCHES 0 1/2 1 2 3 4

FEET 0 1000 2000 4000 6000 8000

NORTH

Appendix K.

Stewart State Forest

Orange County

Proposed Trail and Facilities Map

Legend

- Major Trail or Road
- Minor Trail
- Utility Lines
- Railroad Tracks
- Stream
- Town Boundary
- Village Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- N.Y.S.D.E.C. Regulated Wetland
- Exception within State Forest
- Gate or Barrier
- Proposed Gate or barrier
- Parking Area with Information Kiosk
- Proposed Parking Area with Kiosk
- Bridge
- View
- 3-5 Car Parking (permit only)

MONTGOMERY

NEW WINDSOR

HAMPTONBURG

INTERSTATE 84

50 foot wide Right of Way along east edge CHG&E Parcel

CHG&E Utility Line

Maybrook Reservoir

Morrison Heights

Maybrook

Village of Maybrook

N.Y.S. ROUTE 208

old railroad grade

MARTIN CT.

ORLANDO DRIVE

1.3 MILES

ROAD

BARRON ROAD

1.0 MILES

Wilkens Pond

Stick Pond

1.4 MILES

Wetland Mitigation Area

NEW WINDSOR ROAD

Pittman-Robertson Pond

1.0 MILES

LINDSAY ROAD

1.0 MILES

Wetland Mitigation Area

DECKER ROAD

Rowes Pond

Restoration Pond

0.8 MILES

Beaver Pond

0.7 MILES

2.9 MILES

POST OFFICE

GILES ROAD

Rock Tavern

FORRESTER ROAD

STATION ROAD

ROUTE 208

1.2 MILES

WOODS TRAIL proposed

WINDSOR RIDGE ROAD

DRAKES LANE

NEW WINDSOR ROAD

WEED ROAD

Beaver Flooding

150' wide Utility Right of Way

NYSDEC FIELD OFFICE (SEASONAL)

1.3 MILES

BREIN LA.

HAMPTON CT.

SHAW ROAD

BULL ROAD

SCOFIELD LANE

2.0 MILES

0.8 MILES

Great Swamp

AVENUE

Buchanan Hill (658')

Telephone Cable

MAPLE LANE

LORRAINE ROAD

ROUTE 207

Little Britain

Tenny's Pond

Marony's Pond

Catskill Aqueduct

STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

DRURY LANE

Whalenburgh Pond

1.8 MILES

Crestview Lake Park

NORTH Catskill JACKSON Aqueduct AVE

0.8 MILES

NOT STATE

CLARK DRIVE

ARMSTRONG LANE

0.5 MILES

INCHES 0 1/2 1 2 3 4

FEET 0 1000 2000 4000 6000 8000

NORTH

Appendix L.

Stewart State Forest

Orange County

Hunting Map

Legend

- Utility Lines
- Railroad Tracks
- Stream
- Town Boundary
- Village Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Restricted Area for hunters with disabilities (by permit only)
- Exception within State Forest
- Gate or Barrier
- Proposed Gate or Barrier
- p35 Designated Parking Area & ID Number

MONTGOMERY

NEW WINDSOR

HAMPTONBURG

INTERSTATE 84

Maybrook Reservoir

Morrison Heights

Maybrook

old railroad grade

Village of Maybrook

N.Y.S. ROUTE 208

CHG&E Utility Line

50 foot wide Right of Way along east edge CHG&E Parcel

MARTIN CT.

DRIVE

ORLANDO ROAD

RESTRICTED AREA

BARRON ROAD

Wilkens Pond

Stick Pond

NEW ROAD

LINDSAY ROAD

Pittman-Robertson Pond

ROAD

LANE

SCOFIELD

RESTRICTED AREA

DECKER ROAD

Restoration Pond

Rowes Pond

Beaver Pond

DRAKES LANE

RIDGE ROAD

WEED ROAD

NYSDEC Field Office (seasonal)

RESTRICTED AREA

BREIN LA.

HAMPTON CT.

N.Y.S. ROUTE 208

STATION ROAD

FORRESTER ROAD

POST OFFICE

GILES ROAD

Rock Tavern

SHAW ROAD

BULL ROAD

MAPLE AVENUE

LORRAINE ROAD

Tenny's Pond

Marony's Pond

Whalenburgh Pond

Catskill Aqueduct

STEWART INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

DRURY LANE

Crestview Lake Park

NOT STATE

CLARK DRIVE

NORTH Catskill Aqueduct AVE

JACKSON LANE

ARMSTRONG LANE

207

Little Britain

ROUTE 6

p57,58 p59 p55,56 p54 p60,61 p62 p63 p64 p65 p66 p67 p47 p68 p69 p70 p71,72 p73,74 p75 p76 p53 p52 p51 p50 p49 p48 p46 p45 p44 p43 p42 p41 p40 p39 p38 p37 p36 p35 p33,34 p31,32 p29,30 p28 p27 p26 p24,25 p23 p22 p21 p19,20 p18 p17 p16 p15 p14 p13 p12 p11 p10 p8,9 p7 p6 p5 p4 p3 p1,2 p77 p78 p79 p80 p81 p82 p83

0 1/2 1 2 3 4 INCHES FEET

0 1000 2000 4000 6000 8000

NORTH