



**W H I T E F A C E**

**2018 Amendment to the 2004 Whiteface Mountain  
Unit Management Plan  
and  
Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement**



**Olympic Regional  
Development Authority**

**April 2018**

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Date of Acceptance of DGEIS: January 3, 2018

Date of Public Hearing: January 25, 2018

Date of Close of Comment Period: February 9, 2018

Date of Acceptance of FGEIS: April 4, 2018

Submitted: April 4, 2018

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### I. INTRODUCTION

This 2018 Unit Management Plan (UMP) Amendment for Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area has been prepared in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP or SLMP), addresses changes to the 1996 UMP Update and the 2004 UMP Update and Amendment thereto, and adds several new management actions. This 2018 UMP Amendment reviews the status of the 1987, 1996, 2004 and 2006 management actions and identifies those management actions that have been completed, those that are pending, and those that are to be modified or abandoned through this 2018 UMP Amendment. Previous UMP documents are incorporated by reference into this document.

Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act directs the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop, in consultation with the New York State Adirondack Park Agency (APA), UMPs for each unit of land under its jurisdiction classified in the APSLMP. Concurrent with the development of UMPs is the preparation of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which analyzes the significant impacts and alternatives related to each UMP. The Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA), pursuant to its enabling law and agreement with the NYSDEC for the management of Whiteface Ski Center, has prepared this UMP Amendment in cooperation with DEC and in consultation with APA.

### II. 2018 UMP AMENDMENT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

New management actions are identified and analyzed in this 2018 UMP Amendment. The potential environmental impacts and the attendant proposed mitigation measures for any new or modified management actions are also identified and discussed. The potential impacts and the identified mitigation measures for the previously approved UMP management actions remain in effect and will not be repeated here, but are incorporated by reference.

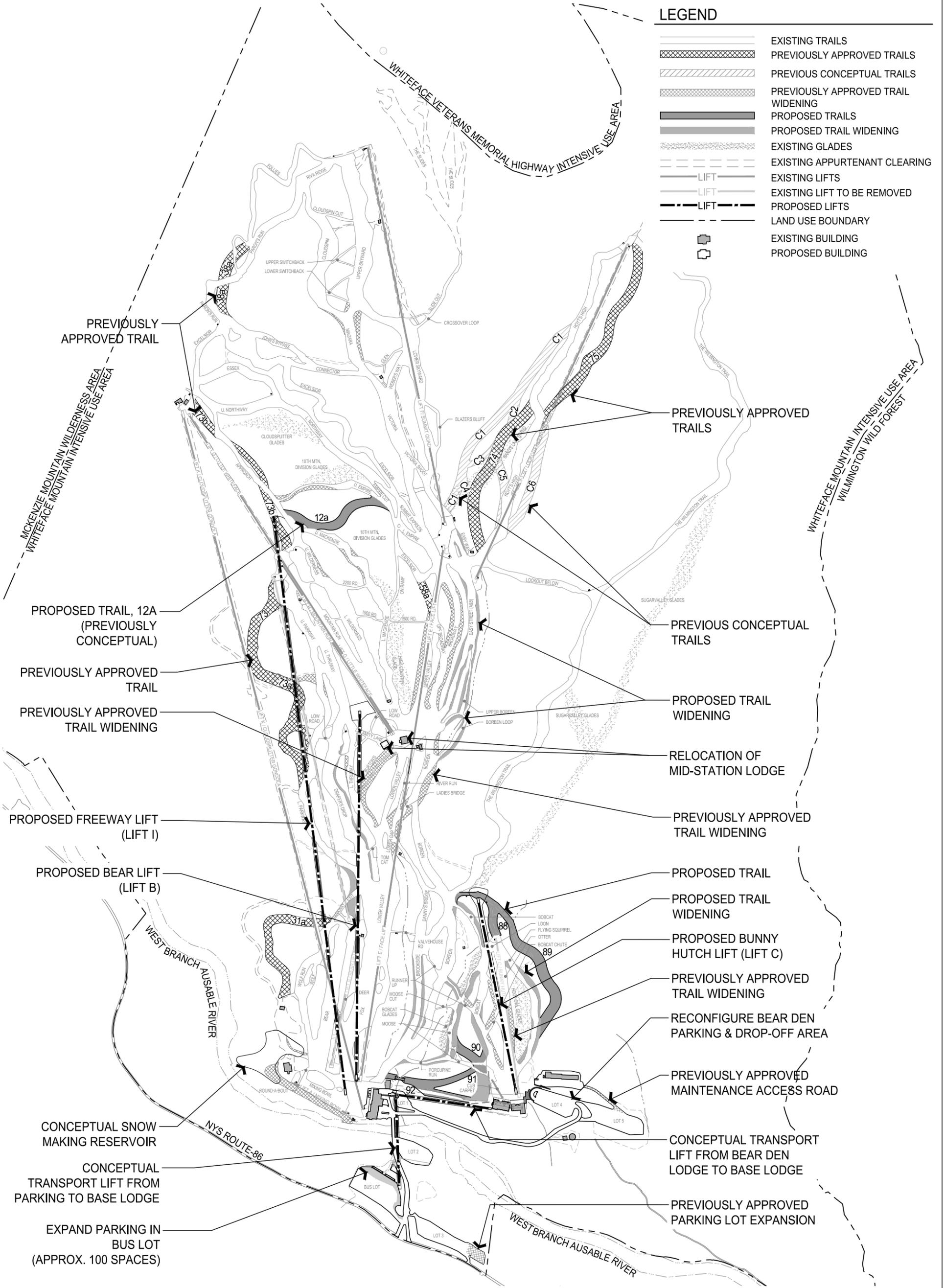
The following lists the New Management Actions that are the subject of this UMP Amendment and that can be undertaken after the UMP Amendment is adopted. See **Figure ES-1, 2018 Master Plan – Proposed & Previously Approved Actions**.

#### New Downhill Trails and Lifts

- Extend Bear Den's lift (Bunny Hutch or Lift C), with related trail work
- Widen Easy Way
- Widen Brookside
- Widen Easy Street
- Widen Upper Boreen
- Widen Boreen Loop
- Widen Parkway Exit
- Widen Drapers Drop
- Construct New Intermediate Trail 12a on Little Whiteface

**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING TRAILS
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAILS
-  PREVIOUS CONCEPTUAL TRAILS
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAIL WIDENING
-  PROPOSED TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAIL WIDENING
-  EXISTING GLADES
-  EXISTING APPURTENANT CLEARING
-  EXISTING LIFTS
-  EXISTING LIFT TO BE REMOVED
-  PROPOSED LIFTS
-  LAND USE BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING BUILDING
-  PROPOSED BUILDING



- Extend and Replace the Bear Lift (Lift B)
- Replace and Realign Freeway Lift (Lift I)

#### Parking and Vehicular Circulation

- Create additional parking
- Create a formal drop-off area at Bear Den
- Construct a base area bridge behind NYSEF building to replace existing culverts
- Possible second bridge over West Branch Ausable River (Conceptual Action)

#### Pedestrian Circulation

- Install a People Mover Between Parking and Base Lodge (Conceptual Action)
- Install a Base to Base transfer lift (Conceptual Action)

#### Snowmaking

Examine options for a snowmaking reservoir (Conceptual Action)

These management actions are discussed in the context of existing resources, facilities and use (Section 2) and ORDA's Management and Policy when it comes to the Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area (Section 3). The management actions themselves are described in detail in Section 4.

An introductory section (Section 1) first gives an overview of project purpose, a general facility description, the history of the ski area, a description of the UMP/GEIS process and a summary update of the status of actions contained in previous UMPs.

### III. SEQRA PROCESS

ORDA, as the Agency responsible for undertaking the actions in this 2018 UMP Amendment/FGEIS, completed a New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) Parts 1, 2, and 3. Based on the analysis in Part 3 of the FEAF, ORDA determined that the Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared to further assess the impacts and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce these impacts.

The SEQRA aspects of this document are presented as a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS). A GEIS may be used to assess the environmental effects of a sequence of actions contemplated by a single agency or an entire program or plan having wide application (6NYCRR 617.10(a)(2) and (4)). They differ from a site specific EIS in that it applies to a group of common and related activities which have similar or related impacts. It is the intent of this GEIS to provide sufficient, site-specific information for all aspects of the UMP. In conformance with SEQRA, these related actions are being considered in this FGEIS. No additional SEQRA analyses are anticipated to be required for any new management action in this UMP Amendment, provided that such actions are carried out in accordance with the

recommendations of this document. Conceptual actions contained in this UMP Amendment will be subject to future SEQRA analyses should they be pursued in the future.

A preliminary version of the UMP Draft Amendment/DGEIS was provided to NYSDEC and to the APA for their review on December 8, 2017. Comments from these agencies were received by ORDA, and ORDA revised the preliminary document accordingly. ORDA then declared the revised document to be complete for public review on January 3, 2018. Notice of ORDA's acceptance of the DGEIS, establishment of the public comment period, and directions for accessing this document were published in the January 10, 2018 issue of the Environmental Notice Bulletin. The Public Draft of this document was presented to the APA at their January 11, 2018 Agency meeting.

The 2018 UMP Amendment/DGEIS was open for public comment until February 9, 2018 including a SEQRA public hearing held on January 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Base Lodge at Whiteface Mountain. Responses were prepared to comments received at the public hearing and to written comments submitted during the public comment period. A transcript of the public hearing, copies of written comments and responses to comments are included in this FGEIS. Also included in this FGEIS is an errata section that summarizes the changes that were made to the DGEIS when preparing this FGEIS.

Part 3 of the FEAF identified those topics for which additional information was required within the GEIS. Primary concerns include steep slope soil erosion and water quality, water quality impacts and potential impacts to the Bicknell's thrush, a species of special concern in New York State. Potential impacts and mitigation measures for these topics and a range of other topics are discussed in detail in Section 5 of this UMP/FGEIS.

Section 6 considers alternatives to the new management actions including alternative trail improvements, lift configurations, parking and circulation and appurtenances.

#### IV. CONFORMANCE WITH THE APSLMP

It is stated in Section I of the APSLMP that "In accordance with statutory mandate, all [unit management] plans will conform to the guidelines and criteria set forth in the master plan ...."

The following is from Intensive Use Area portion of Section II of the APSLMP, and includes descriptions of how this UMP amendment conforms to the stated guidelines.

##### *Guidelines for Management and Use*

##### *Basic Guidelines*

1. *The primary management guideline for Intensive Use Areas will be to provide the public opportunities for family group camping, developed swimming and boating, downhill skiing, cross country skiing under competitive or developed conditions on improved cross country ski trails, visitor information and similar outdoor recreational pursuits in a*

*setting and on a scale that are in harmony with the relatively wild and undeveloped character of the Adirondack Park.*

The Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area will continue to provide opportunities for downhill skiing and similar outdoor recreational pursuits.

There are no new management actions in this UMP Amendment that change the current setting or scale of the facilities at Whiteface Mountain. All new management actions are proposed for the interior of the existing ski area. Three existing ski lifts will be realigned and replaced, while another surface lift (Magic Carpet) will be added in the Bear Den learning area. Selective trail widening will occur on existing trails. Some limited new ski trails are proposed to be constructed in between existing ski trails in order to provide connections from the relocated/realigned lifts to existing trails.

2. *All intensive use facilities should be located, designed and managed so as to blend with the Adirondack environment and to have the minimum adverse impact possible on surrounding state lands and nearby private holdings. They will not be situated where they will aggravate problems on lands already subject to or threatened by overuse, such as the eastern portion of the High Peaks Wilderness, the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness or the St. Regis Canoe Area or where they will have a negative impact on competing private facilities. Such facilities will be adjacent to or serviceable from existing public road systems or water bodies open to motorboat use within the Park.*

All of the new management actions proposed in this UMP Amendment in the Bear Den area are located low on the mountain where they will not cause a visual impact (see UMP section V.C.I). Those improvements and structures proposed higher on the mountain, such as trail 12a, the previously approved, but not yet constructed trail 73a, and the tops of the realigned Freeway and Bear lifts will blend in with the existing on-mountain facilities. (See UMP section V.C.I, featuring a visual simulation of the built condition looking into the mountain from NYS Route 86 at the entrance driveway.)

All actions are located in the interior of the Intensive Use Area, removed from adjoining State and private lands. This UMP amendment is not proposing any significant enlargement of the ski area, so there is no potential for adversely affecting lands subject to or threatened by overuse or competing private facilities.

3. *Construction and development activities in Intensive Use Areas will:*

*-- avoid material alteration of wetlands;*

Impacts to wetlands have been avoided (see UMP section V.A.5).

*-- minimize extensive topographic alterations;*

No extensive topographic alterations are proposed (see UMP section V.A.3).

*-- limit vegetative clearing;*

Vegetative clearing will be limited and will be well within the limits established by

Article 14 of the NYS Constitution (see UMP section V.B.1).

*and,*

*-- preserve the scenic, natural and open space resources of the Intensive Use Area.*

See items 1 and 2 above.

4. *Day use areas will not provide for overnight camping or other overnight accommodations for the public.*

No overnight accommodations, camping or otherwise, are proposed.

5. *Priority should be given to the rehabilitation and modernization of existing Intensive Use Areas and the complete development of partially developed existing Intensive Use Areas before the construction of new facilities is considered.*

The actions contained in this UMP amendment are for the improvement and modernization of the existing Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area.

6. *Additions to the intensive use category should come either from new acquisitions or from the reclassification of appropriate wild forest areas, and only in exceptional circumstances from wilderness, primitive or canoe areas.*

No such additions are contemplated in this UMP Amendment.

7. *Any request for classification of a new acquisition or reclassification of existing lands from another land use category to an Intensive Use Area will be accompanied by a draft unit management plan for the proposed Intensive Use Area that will demonstrate how the applicable guidelines will be respected.*

No such requests are contemplated in this UMP Amendment.

8. *No new structures or improvements at any Intensive Use Area will be constructed except in conformity with a final adopted unit management plan for such area. This guideline will not prevent the ordinary maintenance, rehabilitation or minor relocation of conforming structures or improvements.*

None of the new management actions proposed in this UMP Amendment will be constructed unless and until they are included in the Final UMP Amendment adopted by NYSDEC.

9. *Since the concentrations of visitors at certain intensive use facilities often pose a threat of water pollution, the state should set an example for the private sector by installing modern sewage treatment systems with the objective of maintaining high water quality. Standards for the state should in no case be less than those for the private sector and in all cases any pit privy, leach field or seepage pit will be at least 150 feet from the mean*

*high water mark of any lake, pond, river or stream.*

No new in-ground wastewater treatment is proposed.

10. *Any new, reconstructed or relocated buildings or structures located on shorelines of lakes, ponds, rivers or major streams, other than docks, primitive tent sites not a part of a campground (which will be governed by the general guidelines for such sites set forth elsewhere in this master plan) boat launching sites, fishing and waterway access sites, boathouses, and similar water related facilities, will be set back a minimum of 150 feet from the mean high water mark and will be located so as to be reasonably screened from the water body to avoid intruding on the natural character of the shoreline and the public enjoyment and use thereof.*

No new buildings or structures are proposed near any shorelines.

## V. IMPACT ANALYSIS

### A. Geology

Bedrock is at or near the ground surface in many locations in the Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area.

The intermediate trail (73), previously approved but not yet constructed between the relocated Freeway Lift and the Gondola, is in an area that is predominantly Hogback-Knoblock complex soil series. Depth to bedrock is listed as 9-14 inches for this soil series. The proposed new intermediate trail (12a) that would connect Approach to the bottom of Upper Empire is in the same soil series as well as in the Ricker-Couchsachraga-Skylight complex with bedrock listed as 9 to 15 inches. The upper lift towers and the upper lift terminal for the relocated Freeway lift will be installed in these same soils. Blasting may be required during the construction of these trails and lift components.

The summit of Whiteface Mountain is characterized as a “Unique Geological Feature” and is described in the NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper as “cirques” and “aretes.” A cirque is an amphitheater-like valley formed by glacial erosion. Aretes are sharp created ridges in rugged mountains. No new management actions are proposed in proximity to the Whiteface Mountain summit, so there will be no impacts to this unique geological feature.

ORDA will employ the services of a professional, licensed and insured blasting company to perform any needed blasting. Blasters in New York State are required to possess a valid NY State Department of Labor issued Explosive License and Blaster Certificate of Competence. The Explosives License permits the licensee to purchase, own, possess or transport explosives. The Blaster Certificate of Competence permits the use of explosives.

If it is determined that blasting will be required, a written blasting plan will be developed by the

blasting company and approved by ORDA prior to the commencement of blasting. In general, the blast plan will contain information about the blasting methods to be employed, measures to be taken to protect the safety of the public, and how the applicable rules and regulations will be complied with. If, during the evolution of the project, there are significant changes in the blast design, a new blast plan will be required.

See Section V.A.1 for a full description of all of the measures ORDA will implement to mitigate potential impacts from any blasting that may be required.

## B. Soils

Erosion potentials for soils in the Intensive Use Area are provided in Section 2.A.1.b. Erosion potentials are slight, moderate or severe.

Activities in areas south of the FaceLift on the slopes of Little Whiteface are in soils with severe erosion potential. To the north of Freeway, and in all lower elevation areas, soils have mostly moderate erosion potentials. The C soils at the lowest elevations such as Monadnock and Adams have slight erosion potentials.

Disturbance of areas of steep slopes during construction for ski trails, lifts, etc., can lead to an increased vulnerability of the soils to erosion. Suitable measures must be implemented to first prevent soil erosion and then, second, to make sure that any soils that are eroded are contained and prevented from causing sedimentation in receiving waters.

ORDA is familiar with implementing proper erosion and sediment control practices when undertaking construction practices at their venues that oftentimes involve construction on steep slopes. These proper practices are set forth in the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control (last updated November 2016). These standards and specifications will be used to develop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) for construction activities in accordance with NYSDEC's SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharge from Construction Activity GP-0-15-002.

SWPPPs will detail those measures that will be implemented during construction to mitigate potential soil erosion and surface water sedimentation. SWPPP content will include such things as construction sequencing and phasing, temporary and permanent stabilization, structural erosion control practices and vegetative control practices. SWPPPs will include requirements for monitoring, inspections, data collection, and compliance documentation.

Section V.A.2 provides a lengthy and detailed description of mitigation measures that ORDA commonly and successfully employs during ski area construction activities that will be incorporated into pre-construction SWPPP plans and specifications, and installed, monitored and maintained during construction until soils become stabilized.

### C. Topography and Slope

Very limited grading is required for new ski trails, trail widening or ski lifts. Trails are laid out to follow natural fall lines. Lift grading is limited to the upper and lower terminals and at the tower foundations.

More significant grading will be required to create the additional 100 car parking spaces in the bus parking lot. Up to 15 feet of fill will be required to create the additional parking spaces on the west side of the lot. All of the graded area that is not actual parking lot surface will be revegetated.

Impacts associated with grading involve erosion and sediment control (see the previous section) and protection of water resources (see the following section).

### D. Water Resources

The stream crossing for Trail 89 will require installation of a bottomless arch culvert. Previously, there was a culverted crossing at this location, but those culverts were removed when the former trail was abandoned.

Trail 88 will require the removal of the existing culverted stream crossing and the installation of a longer bottomless arch culvert.

The existing "culvert 2" in the base area, which is actually 3 individual culverts next to each other, will be removed and replaced with a bridge crossing.

A skier bridge will be constructed for Trail 92 just above the NYSEF building.

Expansion of the Bus Lot may require a slight re-route of the diversion ditch previously constructed by NYSDOT.

### Mitigation Measures

- (1.) All efforts should be made to construct/reconstruct the Trail 88 and Trail 89 stream crossings when streams are not flowing.
- (2.) If natural streamflows don't allow for dry construction/reconstruction for Trails 88 and 89, then the crossings should be installed in the dry using temporary upstream damming (i.e. sandbags or similar) and a pump around.
- (3.) Any pump arounds shall be discharged to a stable streambed reach with minimal amounts of material that could become dislodged.
- (4.) If a mid-span abutment is still proposed in the construction drawings for the Trail 92

bridge, efforts shall be made to keep this (and all other bridge abutments) outside of the stream channels. Use of pre-cast abutments for bridges and arch culverts is preferred.

- (5.) No machinery shall operate from within the stream channel.
- (6.) Machinery should be regularly maintained and checked frequently for fluid leaks. Any machine found to have even a minor fluid leak shall be removed to a remote area for repairs.
- (7.) Machinery operating in the vicinity of streams shall be equipped with spill control materials including absorbent pads.
- (8.) Any concrete forms in proximity to surface waters shall be tightly sealed.
- (9.) Structural erosion controls shall be installed, inspected and maintained until areas of disturbance become fully stabilized with vegetation, stone or other materials.

#### E. Wetlands

No impacts to wetlands have been identified.

#### F. Climate and Air Quality

No new permanent sources of air emissions are proposed as part of this UMP.

Construction activities may result in localized increases in dust levels. However, areas of proposed construction are located within the interior of the intensive use areas, so no offsite areas are expected to be affected.

Many ORDA venues exist within the boundaries of State protected lands and the impact of climate change on our environment is recognized. ORDA will be a leader in environmental stewardship with consistent commitment to sustainability, responsible development practices, and continuous communication with DEC, APA, and other regulatory agencies to ensure we are taking the appropriate measures.

#### G. Vegetation

Essentially all of the new management actions proposed in this UMP Amendment will occur in the Northern Hardwood community. No management actions are proposed in areas of Spruce-Fir communities.

In summary, the following acreages of wooded areas will be affected:

- New Downhill Trails: 10.6 acres

- Widen Existing Trails: 9.2 acres
  - Realign/Extend Lifts: 6.4 acres
- Total: 26.2 acres

A total of 22,049 trees will be cut. Of this total, 9,466 will be between 3 and 4 inches dbh, and 12,583 will be greater than 4 inches dbh.

Tree cutting is proposed on approximately 1% of the Intensive Use Area, and falls within the capacity of the resource to absorb the impact.

All tree cutting will be done in compliance with the DEC tree cutting policy LF-91-2.

No rare, threatened or endangered plant species will be impacted.

Only areas absolutely necessary for construction of ski trails, ski lifts, and other proposed improvements will be cleared of vegetation. All other areas will be maintained in a natural state.

Erosion control measures will be used on cleared areas with disturbed soils to avoid affecting adjacent vegetation by erosion or siltation.

Upon the completion of clearing of new ski trails and ski lift corridors, they will be seeded with grass mixtures to promote rapid revegetation. Areas disturbed for any other improvements will also be landscaped and revegetated as soon as practicable.

Plants used to revegetate disturbed areas and planted as part of landscaping will be species indigenous to the region.

Continue to train staff working at Whiteface Mountain unit to identify and document the location of key invasive plant species.

Work toward a complete comprehensive inventory of the presence and extent of invasive plants in the unit.

Eliminate any identified populations of invasive plant species that are discovered in the unit. These actions may be carried out by DEC personnel or by members of APIPP or other volunteers under supervision of DEC through an Adopt-a-Natural Resource Agreement.

All equipment brought onto the site for earth moving, grading or excavating shall be washed off-site with high pressure hoses and hot water prior to being brought onto the site. The contractor shall provide Certifications of Washing to the SWPPP Qualified Inspector before such equipment can be used on site. The SWPPP Qualified Inspector will have the authority to refuse the off-loading of any earthwork equipment brought onto the site that they determine to be not sufficiently cleaned.

## H. Wildlife

The actions proposed in this UMP are expected to have minimal impacts on wildlife. Proposed management actions are interspersed within the landscape of the existing developed ski trails and lifts. For the most part, new management actions are proposed at low elevations on the mountain. (See Critical Habitat below for a discussion of activities above 2,800 feet elevation and Bicknell's thrush).

Almost all of the actions proposed in this UMP will occur in the Northern Hardwood community.

Trail widening projects, including the green trails in the Bear Den area, involve existing trails. This will result in the loss of some currently treed areas along the edge of existing ski trails and will move the forest edge slightly inward.

New Trails 88 and 89 are in areas that were previously disturbed with a lift and trail before the upper terminal for the Bunny Hutch lift was moved down the mountain.

The relocation/realignment of the Bear and Freeway lifts will take place in the area that is north of the gondola line and south of the Face Lift, an area already highly dissected by existing ski trails and lift lines.

Additional parking at the bus parking lot is an expansion of the current parking lot.

The creation of the formal drop-off at Bear does not involve any impacts to wildlife habitat.

## I. Fisheries

ORDA will continue to comply with its MOU with DEC that regulates water withdrawals from the West Branch AuSable River that was developed to be protective of fisheries resources.

## J. Unique Areas

There are no unique biological areas present in the Intensive Use Area.

## K. Critical Habitat

The upper portion of the relocated Freeway Lift and the new trail 12a are proposed on lands 2,800 feet in elevation or higher. The upper portion of the previously approved, but not yet constructed, trail 73 is also located above 2,800 feet. Most of these proposed improvements or related structures are not located in spruce-fir habitat.

ORDA will continue to implement the comprehensive set of measures designed to mitigate impacts to Bicknell's thrush contained in section II.B of the 2006 UMP amendment. These

mitigation measures include, but are not limited to, prohibiting tree cutting above elevation 2,800 feet between May 15 and August 1, limiting the width of new trails above 2,800 feet to 115 to 131 feet (35-40m), and maintaining trails and lifts with feathered vegetation on wind exposed sides.

#### L. Visual Resources

The Bear Den portion of Whiteface is blocked from view from surrounding areas by intervening landforms. None of the activities in the Bear Den area will be visible from offsite.

Higher elevation activities that include the realignments of the Bear and Freeway lifts, construction of the approved, but not yet constructed, Trail 73 and possibly the new Trail 12a may be visible from three locations. These three locations are: VP2, NYS Route 86 overlooking Beaver Brook Meadow; VP5, Fox Farm Road; and VP6 NY Route 86 at the entrance to Whiteface.

A visual simulation of the built condition was created for the “worst case” view which is looking into the ski area from the entrance on NYS Route 86 (VP6). The proposed components, with the exception of Trail 12a which is not visible, are visible within the context of the existing ski area trails and lifts and do not cause a significant change in the character of the view.

#### M. Transportation

None of the proposed new management actions are intended to significantly increase the carrying capacity of Whiteface. The addition of 100 spaces to the bus lot only represents a 5% increase in the amount of available parking. The new proposed management actions will not result in significantly higher traffic generation over what currently exists.

#### N. Community Services

There will be some increase in demand for community services such as fire, EMS, police, rescue, solid waste and health care. However, Whiteface presently makes very little demand on such services and the increase in such demand is anticipated to be minimal.

#### O. Local Land Use Plans

The actions in the UMP Amendment are entirely consistent with local, regional and ORDA efforts to enhance an attractive year-round day use recreation area.

#### P. Historical and Archaeological Resources

On November 9, 2017 NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation issued a letter stating that the project will not impact historical or archeological resources.

## VI. ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

Section 6 of the UMP contains an analysis of alternatives to the proposed management actions. Alternatives were examined for trail improvements, lift configurations, parking and circulation improvements, and the no-action alternative. Information is provided as to why the proposed management actions are the preferred alternatives from a ski area operations standpoint, while at the same time the proposed actions have avoided significant adverse environmental impacts as compared to other alternatives considered.

Whiteface Mountain  
2018 Amendment to the 2004 Unit Management Plan and  
Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement

Executive Summary

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### **List of Abbreviations**

AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic
ACOE	US Army Corps of Engineers
APA	NYS Adirondack Park Agency
APSLMP	Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan
CCC	Comfortable Carrying Capacity
cfs	Cubic Feet per Second
DEC	NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
ENB	Environmental Notice Bulletin
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FEAF	Full Environmental Assessment Form
GEIS	Generic Environmental Impact Statement
Mgal	Million Gallons
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NPS	Net Promoter Score
NYNHP	New York Natural Heritage Program
NYS DOT	New York State Department of Transportation

NYSEF	New York Ski Education Foundation
NYSEG	New York State Electric and Gas
ORDA	NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority
SEQRA	NY State Environmental Quality Review Act
SPDES	State Pollution Discharge Elimination System
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
UMP	Unit Management Plan
USDA NRCS	US Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service

## SECTION I INTRODUCTION

### A. Project Purpose

ORDA, the Olympic Regional Development Authority, is amending the 2004 Unit Management Plan (UMP) for Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area (Whiteface) located in the Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York. Included in this UMP Amendment, is a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which evaluates potential impacts of identified improvements along with an evaluation of viable alternatives.

Section 816 of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP or SLMP) directs the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to develop UMPs for State lands in the Adirondack Park. This UMP Amendment satisfies requirements to develop a Unit Management Plan for each unit of land classified under jurisdiction of the APSLMP in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA).

This UMP Amendment is a tool used to assess existing natural resources, facilities, lifts, ski trails, management objectives, operations and systems of Whiteface. UMP Amendments are to be used as the basis for actions that meet the projected needs of competitive year-round recreational day-use facilities. The GEIS has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and in compliance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law. The level of site-specific information and impact analysis for the proposed management actions is sufficient to satisfy site-specific SEQRA requirements. Similarly, this document meets the standards and regulations pertaining to the APSLMP.

The GEIS meets the requirements set forth by SEQRA by analyzing the proposed new management actions and their potential to cause significant, adverse environmental impacts. The purpose of a GEIS is to produce a written document that can be used to assess the environmental implications of a broad-based action. In this case, the action involves proposed improvements within the Intensive Use Area boundaries of Whiteface. A unique feature of a GEIS is that it allows the identification and analysis of the cumulative effects of a group of actions or combination of effects from a single action. More specifically, these include the effects ranging from a single action to a group of actions regarding the proposed improvements to Whiteface in terms of ski trails, lifts, facilities and management operations system. As a GEIS, the document takes a hard look at all of the actions contemplated in this UMP. However, as individual actions are implemented, if additional permits or approvals are required, additional environmental review will occur to determine if any environmental impacts exist that have not been evaluated in this GEIS. A separate determination under SEQRA will be made for each such project or activity that requires a permit or approval. Conceptual actions in this UMP Amendment will require further SEQRA analysis if they are pursued in the future.

This UMP Amendment presents prioritized management actions to update facilities, lifts, ski trails, management, operations and systems at Whiteface. The primary objective of the UMP/GEIS is to continue the maintenance and operation of Whiteface at a constant level over the ensuing five-year management period in such a way that will contribute to stabilizing Olympic Region employment, economics, public recreation and governmental administration. Additional objectives include improving facilities that will add to intermediate and beginner terrain on the mountain, increase user safety, and enhance recreational pursuits. Many of the improvements listed in this UMP Amendment are safety-related and pertain directly to present needs of the mountain in terms of customer expectations and the safety of all levels of skiers. Primarily, the proposed improvements are designed to spread traffic out in order for skiers and riders to experience less congestion on trails, which makes it safer and more enjoyable for all.

The purpose of the UMP Amendment/GEIS is to update the 2004 UMP with regards to the environmental setting, management objectives, and management actions, along with the analysis of the associated environmental impacts of those objectives and actions. This document will provide the foundation for ORDA's management decisions and capital expenditures through the year 2022.

## **B. Brief Overview**

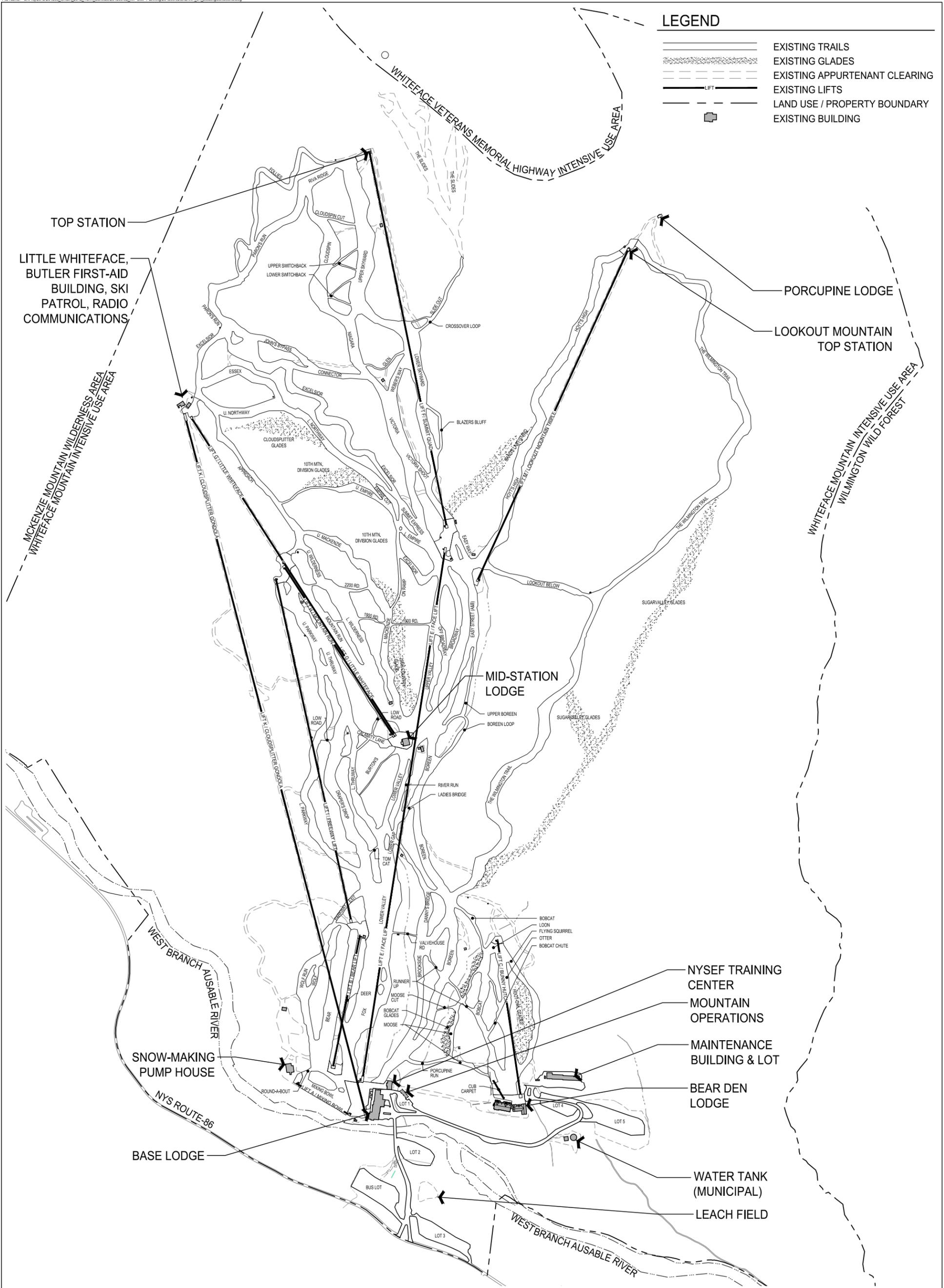
Whiteface Mountain Ski Center (a.k.a. Whiteface, the Ski Center) is a New York State-owned facility operated by ORDA to provide the public with an intensive form of recreation for both the spectator and participant.

Host of the alpine skiing events of the 1980 Olympic Winter Games, Whiteface is located nine miles northeast of Lake Placid. Whiteface provides diverse opportunities for year-round public use including competitive and recreational downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, hiking, mountain biking and summer scenic gondola rides.

Whiteface Mountain derived its name from the white anorthositic bedrock exposed on the northern flanks and summit of the mountain. The unique topography of Whiteface is unparalleled in the northeast ski industry with the greatest vertical drop east of the Mississippi: 3,430 feet. The unique terrain accommodates all levels of skiing abilities in this natural and scenic setting. There are a total of 80 trails that are suitable for all skier ability levels from beginner to expert. Snowmaking covers approximately 99% of the trails at Whiteface, or 223 acres. Whiteface has a total of eleven lifts including one gondola, one high speed detachable quad chairlift, one fixed quad chairlift, two triple chairlifts, five double chairlifts and one surface conveyor lift. The mountain mass (Whiteface Mountain) is characterized by three separate peaks, Whiteface, Little Whiteface and Lookout, and contains separate, but interconnected, ski terrain on the lower mountain called Bear Den. See **Figure 1**, Existing Conditions.

**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING TRAILS
-  EXISTING GLADES
-  EXISTING APPURTENANT CLEARING
-  EXISTING LIFTS
-  LAND USE / PROPERTY BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING BUILDING



## **C. General Facility Description**

### **1. Location Description**

Whiteface Mountain, located in the Town of Wilmington, Essex County, is approximately nine miles northeast of the Village of Lake Placid on New York State Route 86 (NYS Route 86). The Ski Center rests in the northeastern portion of the Adirondack Park approximately 2 ½ hours north of Albany and 2 hours south of Montreal (see **Figure 2**, Regional Location Map). A paved access road leads from Whiteface to Route 86. Route 86 runs northeast/southwest in this general vicinity and connects the Town of Wilmington to the heart of the Olympic Village in Lake Placid. This road also follows the general configuration of the West Branch of the Ausable River. See **Figure 3**, Site Location Map.

### **2. Property Description**

Whiteface Mountain Ski Center, as identified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, is classified as an Intensive Use Area. See **Figure 4**, Intensive Use Area Boundary. The property covers a total of 2,910 acres. Approximately 8% or 242.7 acres (the slide area is an additional 35 acres) of the site has been developed for ski trails, lifts, lodge facilities, roads and parking.

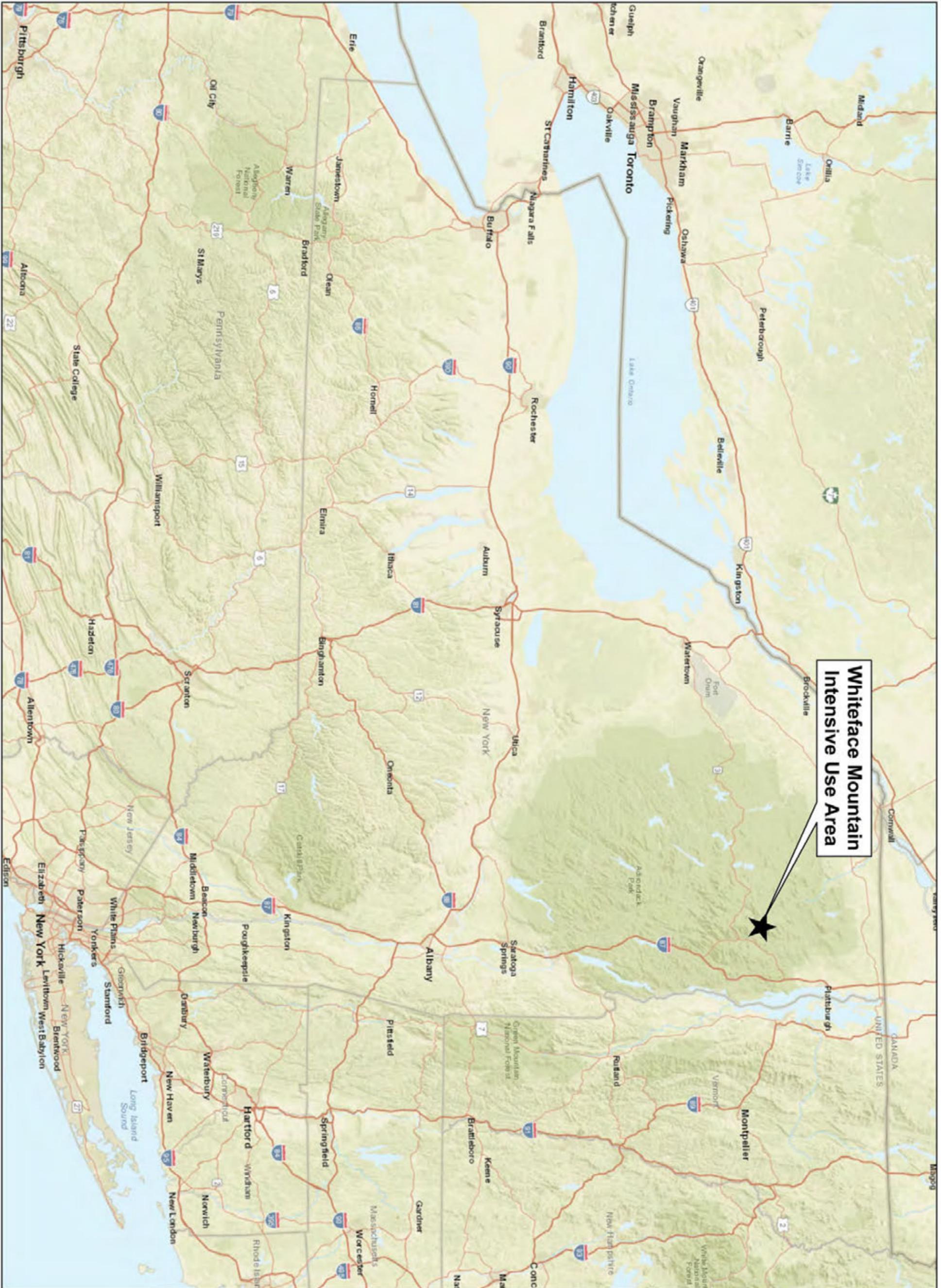
Whiteface is significant in that it is designated as Forest Preserve Land and, as such, must be managed consistent with Article 14 of the New York State Constitution. Adjacent land use classifications include State and private land. State land classified as Wild Forest is located to the north of Whiteface, while Wilderness is located to the south and west. Some private land uses adjacent to Whiteface are located toward the Hamlet of Wilmington. Such private land uses classified by the APA include Resource Management, Rural Use, Low Intensity Use, and Moderate Intensity Use. See **Figure 5**, Surrounding Land Use Classifications, that illustrates Whiteface boundaries and surrounding property.

## **D. Historical Overview**

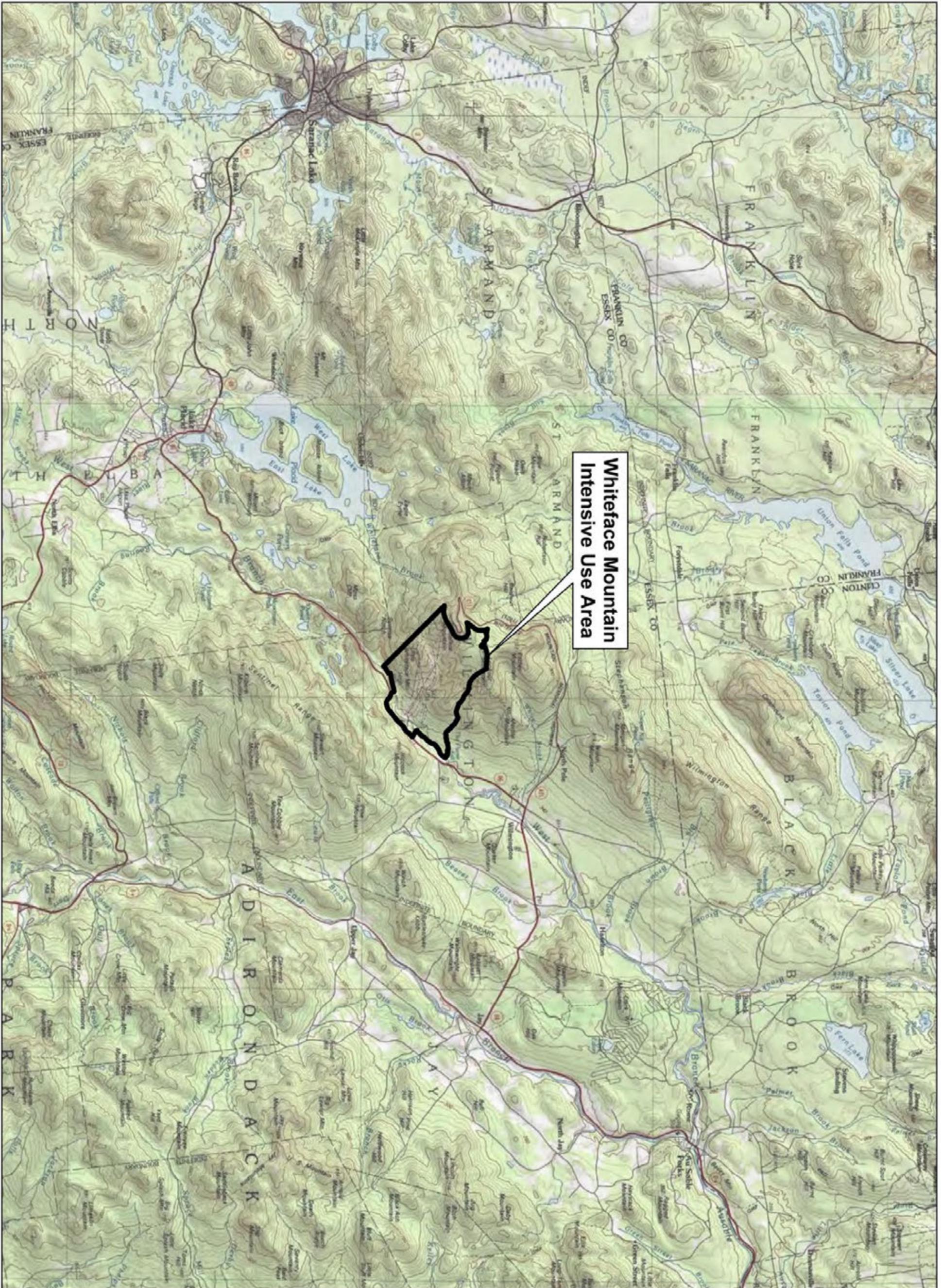
### **1. Constitutional Amendment**

Whiteface is located on NYS State Forest Preserve lands and is, therefore, governed by Article 14 of the NYS Constitution (the "forever wild" provision).

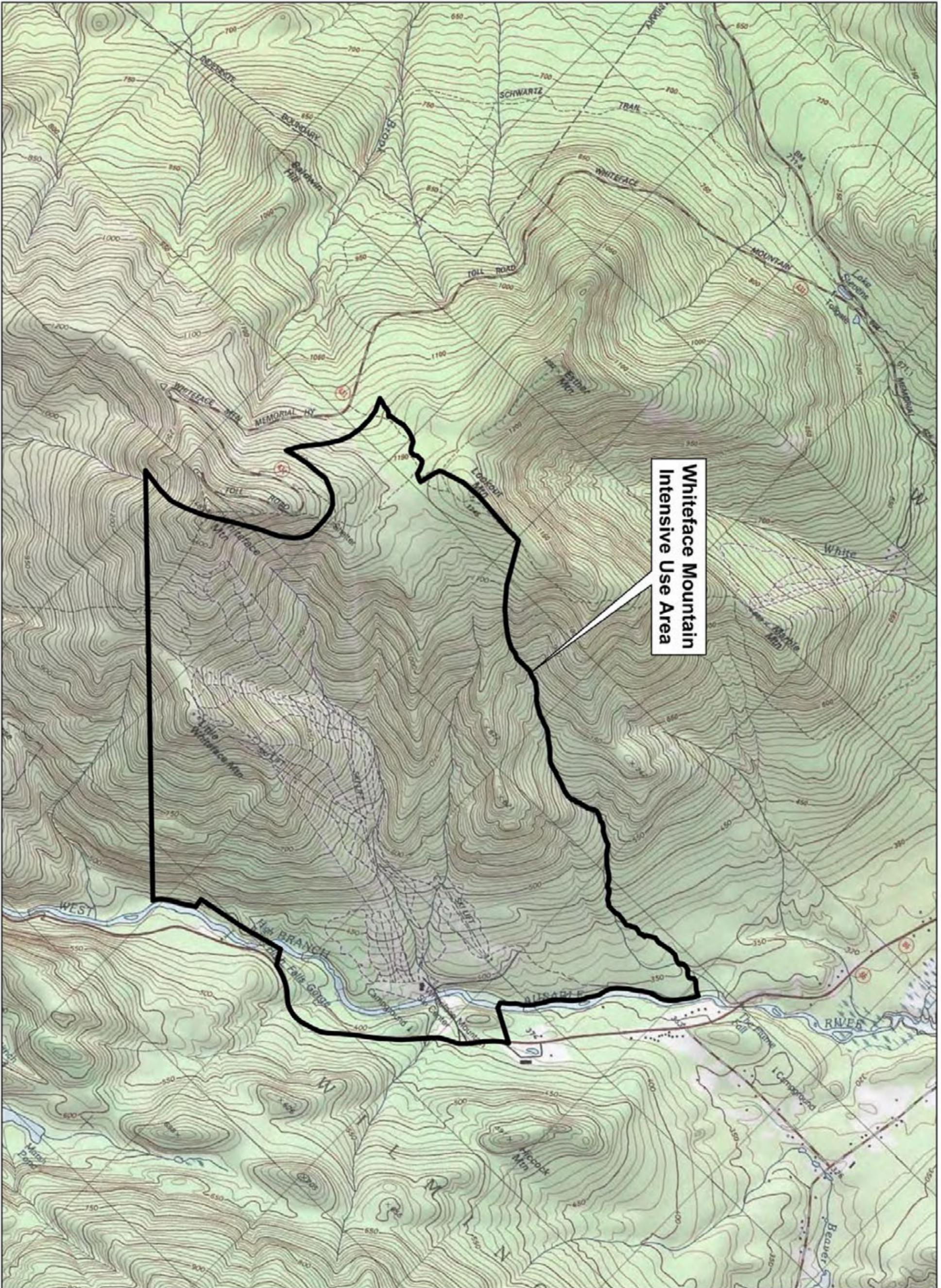
Article 14 strictly controls the use of Forest Preserve lands, allows for no alienation of these lands, and prohibits the cutting or removal of vegetation. Vegetative cutting for the ski trails at Whiteface Mountain is allowed pursuant to a specific amendment to Article 14, which allows a specified width and a specified number of linear miles for ski trails on the north, east and northwest slopes of the mountain.



**Whiteface Mountain  
Intensive Use Area**



Whiteface Mountain  
Intensive Use Area



Whiteface Mountain  
Intensive Use Area



This amendment was approved by a State referendum in November 1941 and became effective on January 1, 1942. It allowed for the construction and maintenance of 20 miles of ski trails on the northern, eastern and northwestern slopes of Whiteface Mountain. Additional limitations included that trails be restricted to a minimum of 30 feet wide to a maximum of 80 feet wide. This was amended in 1988 to allow for up to 25 miles of trails with related amendments to allowable trail widths.

Following World War II, during the administration of Governor Dewey, development was undertaken on the northeast flank of Whiteface Mountain outside of the present-day Intensive Use Area. This site was used briefly as a ski center then was later abandoned. It currently houses the State University of New York Atmospheric Sciences Research Center.

## 2. Adirondack Mountain Authority

Governor Harriman signed into law the Main-McEwen bill in 1957 authorizing development of the ski center. Whiteface was officially opened on January 25, 1958 and dedicated to the Mountain Ski Troops of World War II. The Ski Center opened with two chairlifts and has been operating as a recreational area open to the public during seasonal recreation periods.

The Adirondack Mountain Authority built and operated the Ski Center until 1968. A 1,500-foot T-bar lift was added in 1960 with associated trails. In 1961 snowmaking was extended from mid-station to the top of lift E (#1) and a J-bar was added to the lift facilities. Further extension of snowmaking was made in 1964 on the J-bar practice slope. Another chairlift was opened in 1966 serving novice trails in the "Olympic Acres" area and lift F (#6) was completed in 1967, rising to the highest elevation (4,386 feet) of any lift in the northeast. Expansion of the Main Lodge was also completed in 1967. Another compressor was added to the snowmaking equipment in 1968 along with additional water capacity from the West Branch of the Ausable River. In 1968, operation of Whiteface was taken over by NYSDEC.

## 3. Department of Environmental Conservation

The NYS Legislature terminated the Adirondack Mountain Authority in 1968 and transferred authority of the Whiteface facilities to the NYSDEC beginning on October 1 of that year. The NYSDEC has had a long-term plan to improve its facilities at Whiteface to better accommodate the recreational skier. The facility gradually improved over the years, as funds were made available.

Whiteface has frequently been the site of major international alpine events including the 1971 pre-FISU Races and the 1972 World University Alpine events. The Canadian-American Slalom, Giant Slalom and the United States National Downhill races were held at Whiteface in 1974. The Empire Cup, the Governor's Cup and the Can-Am Finals were held in 1975 and 1976. In 1978, Whiteface hosted the Nor-Am and U.S. National Alpine Championship events.

Beginning in 1976, an extensive construction program was undertaken in order to host the Alpine Events for the XIII Olympic Winter Games. The Main Lodge was expanded and new water and sewer systems were constructed. An additional lodge was also constructed in an effort to serve the Olympic Acres area. Additional buildings were constructed which served the men's and women's downhill and slalom start and finish areas. This included the slalom area on "Mountain Run" and the common finish area for the men's and women's downhill and giant slalom runs.

Continuing the 1976 program, a new maintenance shop was built on the eastern portion of the Olympic Acres area while the existing shop was razed to improve the aesthetics of the area. A new snowmaking system was also installed to serve the trails scheduled for the Olympic events. Lift E was rebuilt as a "double-double" lift, Lift G was rebuilt, Lift F was shortened and a surface lift added to reach its former upper terminal. An additional lift, Lift I, was added to serve the new Giant Slalom "Parkway" trail.

The alpine events of the XIII Winter Olympic Games were staged at Whiteface Mountain during February 1980. Immediately prior to the 1980 XIII Winter Olympics, actions at Whiteface were thoroughly evaluated in an EIS. This EIS did not, however, address the important issue of development beyond the 1980 Winter Olympics.

#### 4. Olympic Regional Development Authority

After the 1980 (XIII) Winter Olympic Games, the New York State Legislature determined and declared in 1981 that there was an immediate need to institute a comprehensive, coordinated program of activities utilizing the optimum year-round operation, maintenance and use of Winter Olympic venues. Article Eight of the Public Authorities Law was amended in 1981 by adding Title Twenty-Eight effectuating the declared policy and creating the "New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority" (ORDA). ORDA currently operates and manages Whiteface Mountain under an agreement with the NYSDEC.

This agreement was entered into on October 4, 1982 pursuant to the Public Authorities Law, Section 2614. This agreement is now part of the 2013 DEC/ORDA Consolidation Agreement that covers Whiteface Mountain, the Whiteface Memorial Highway, Gore Mountain, and Mount Van Hoevenberg. Appendix 1 of this UMP Amendment contains a copy of this Consolidation Agreement.

#### 5. Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan

The APSLMP was adopted in 1971 and provides guidelines for the preservation, management and use of State-owned lands by State Agencies within the Adirondack Park. Whiteface Mountain is classified under the plan as an "Intensive Use Area." The plan states that the

primary management guideline for Intensive Use Areas is to provide the public opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreational pursuits in a setting and on a scale in harmony with the relatively wild and undeveloped character of the Adirondack Park. An Intensive Use Area, according to the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, is defined as follows:

“These areas provide overnight accommodations or day use facilities for a significant number of visitors to the Park and often function as a base for use of Wild Forest, Wilderness, Primitive and Canoe Areas.”

Language in the APSLMP that pertains specifically to Whiteface Mountain states “Existing downhill ski centers at Gore and Whiteface should be modernized to the extent physical and biological resources allow. Cross-country skiing on improved cross-country ski trails may be developed at these downhill ski centers.”

## 6. 1987 Constitutional Amendment

The number of miles of ski trails that may be constructed on the north, east and northwest slopes of Whiteface Mountain were increased by an amendment to Article 14, effective on January 1, 1988, from 20 to 25 miles. The maximum width of trails was increased from 120 to 200 feet provided that no more than 5 miles can be used in excess of 120 feet width. Currently, there are 19.82 miles of trails constructed. There are an additional 1.98 miles of trails approved in previous UMP Amendments that have not yet been constructed.

## E. Description of UMP/GEIS Process

Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act directs the DEC to develop, in consultation with the APA, Unit Management Plans for each unit of land under its jurisdiction classified in the APSLMP. Pursuant to its enabling law and agreement with the DEC for the management of Whiteface, ORDA works with the DEC, in the consultation of the APA, to update and amend the Whiteface UMP. The original UMP for Whiteface Mountain was prepared in 1987. UMP amendments and updates for Whiteface Mountain were prepared 1996, 2004, 2006, 2013 and 2015.

Specific requirements pertaining to the development of UMPs for ORDA venues was specified in the March 9, 1981 DEC/ORDA MOU and were then expounded upon in the November 2013 DEC/ORDA Consolidation Agreement. Section 2 of the Consolidation Agreement (copy of Consolidation Agreement in **Appendix 1**) provides specifics regarding the preparation of UMPs for ORDA venues, including the following topics:

- UMP Content,
- APSLMP Compliance,
- Consultation with NYSDEC Prior to and During UMP Preparation,
- Procedural Steps for preparation of Preliminary Draft UMPs, Public Review Draft UMPs,

- and Final UMP's,
- Consultation with APA,
- APA SLMP Consistency Review,
- APA Resolution on SLMP Conformance, and
- Commissioner Approval of UMPs

The Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) included in this document in prepared in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA, 6 NYCRR Part 617 and Implementing Regulations). In the March 8, 1991 DEC/ORDA MOU, which is now incorporated as part of the November 2013 DEC/ORDA Consolidation Agreement states that, "ORDA will normally serve as Lead Agency for State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) and the Department and the Agency will participate in the SEQRA process as involved agencies."

ORDA, as Lead Agency, completed a SEQRA Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) Parts 1, 2, and 3 (See **Appendix 2**). Based on the analysis in Part 3 of the FEAF, ORDA determined that the new management actions proposed in this UMP Amendment may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared to further assess the potential impacts and possible mitigation measure to offset potential impacts, as well as the exploration of alternatives of the new management actions need to be examined to reduce these impacts.

The SEQRA aspects of this document are presented as a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS). A Generic EIS may be used to assess the environmental effects of a sequence of actions contemplated by a single agency or an entire program or plan having wide application (6NYCRR 617.10(a)(2) and (4)). They differ from a site specific EIS in that it applies to a group of common and related activities which have similar or related impacts. It is the intent of this GEIS to provide sufficient, site-specific information for all aspects of the UMP. In conformance with SEQRA, these related actions are being considered in this FGEIS. No additional SEQRA analyses are anticipated to be required for any management action in this UMP, provided that such actions are carried out in accordance with the recommendations of this document. Conceptual actions in this UMP Amendment will require further review under SEQRA if they are pursued in the future.

A preliminary version of the UMP Draft Amendment/DGEIS was provided to NYSDEC and to the APA for their review on December 8, 2017. Comments from these agencies were received by ORDA, and ORDA revised the preliminary document accordingly. ORDA then declared the document to be complete for public review on January 3, 2018. Notice of ORDA's acceptance of the DGEIS, establishment of the public comment period, and directions for accessing this document were published in the January 10, 2018 issue of the Environmental Notice Bulletin. The Public Draft of this document was presented to the NYS APA at their January 11, 2018 Agency meeting.

The 2018 UMP Amendment/DGEIS was open for public comment until February 9, 2018 including a SEQRA public hearing held on January 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Base Lodge at Whiteface Mountain. Responses were prepared to comments received at the public hearing and to written comments submitted during the public comment period. A transcript of the public hearing, copies of written comments and responses to comments are included in this FGEIS. Also included in this FGEIS is an errata section that summarizes the changes that were made to the DGEIS when preparing this FGEIS.

Following the completion of the public comment period, ORDA, in consultation with NYSDEC and in cooperation with the APA, prepared this FGEIS in accordance with the requirements of SEQRA.

This proposed final UMP Amendment/FGEIS is available online at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/90459.html>. Hard copies of the document are available at ORDA offices in Lake Placid and Wilmington Town Hall. CD copies are available upon request.

This proposed final UMP Amendment/FGEIS will be presented to the APA at their March 8, 2018 meeting for a first reading.

#### **F. Status of 2004 UMP Update and Amendment**

**Figure 6**, Previously Approved Actions, Not Yet Constructed, shows the locations of the previously approved actions in the Table below that have not yet been constructed.

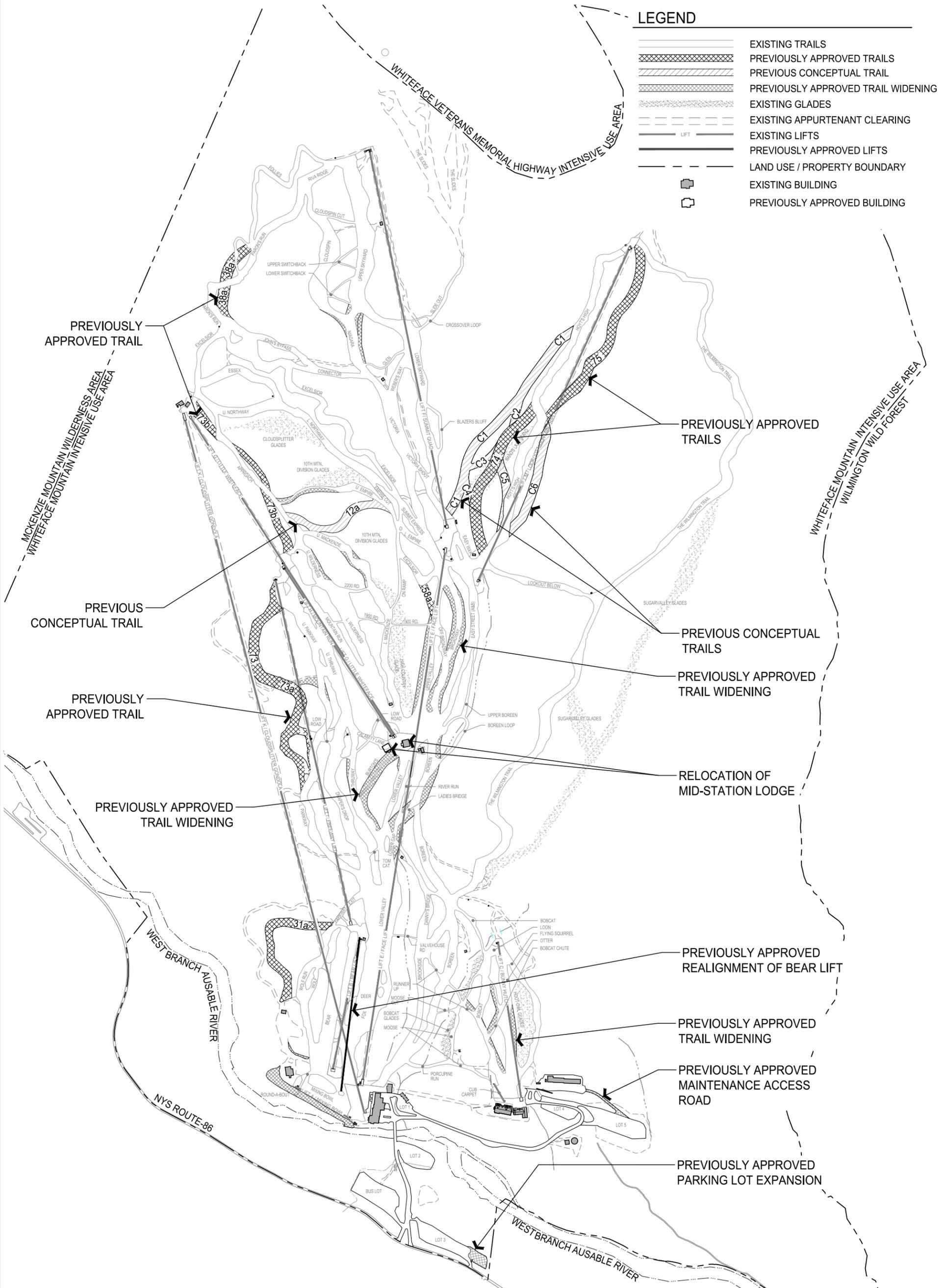
**Figure 7**, 2018 Proposed Actions, shows those the locations of the New Management Actions in the Table below that are proposed in this UMP Amendment.

**Figure 8** is a combination of these two previous figures and is the 2018 Master Plan – Proposed and Approved Actions for this UMP Amendment.

The following table provides the current status of past and present UMP management actions.

**LEGEND**

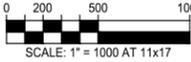
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-  PREVIOUS CONCEPTUAL TRAIL
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAIL WIDENING
-  EXISTING GLADES
-  EXISTING APPURTENANT CLEARING
-  LIFT
-  EXISTING LIFTS
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED LIFTS
-  LAND USE / PROPERTY BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING BUILDING
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BUILDING



  
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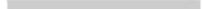
Prepared for:  
  
**OLYMPIC REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
 Olympic Regional Development Authority  
 2634 Main Street  
 Lake Placid, New York 12946

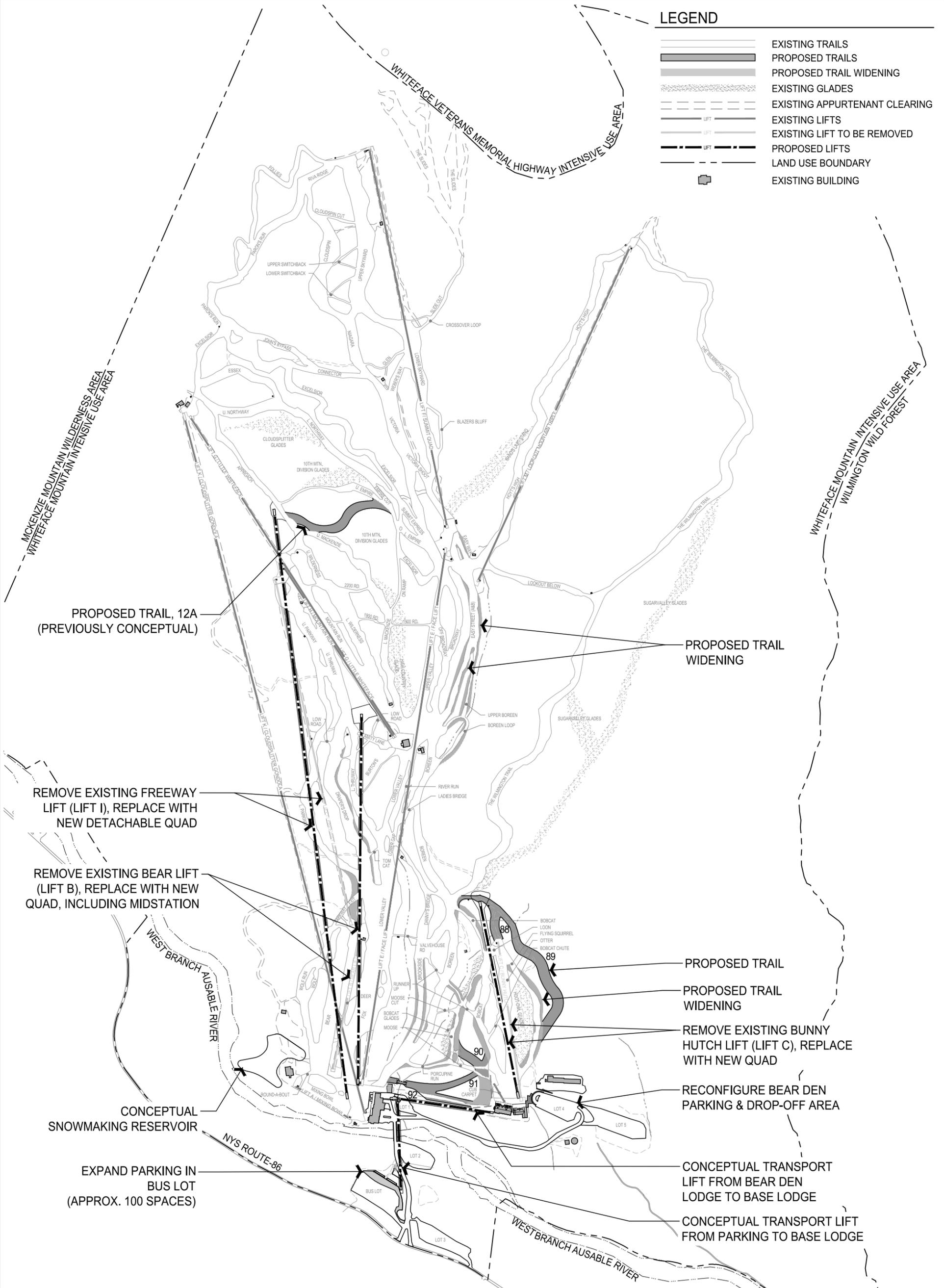
  
**WHITEFACE LAKE PLACID**  
 Project Title:  
**Whiteface Mountain: 2018 Unit Management Plan Draft Amendment & Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement**

Drawing Title  
**Previously Approved Actions, Not Yet Constructed**  
  
 SCALE: 1" = 1000 AT 11x17  


Date: April 3, 2018  
 Scale: As Noted  
 Design: MJT  
 Drawn: KMK  
 Ch'k'd: KJF  
 Project No.: 201263  
 Drawing No.:  
**Figure 6**

**LEGEND**

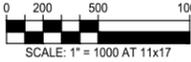
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-  PROPOSED TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAIL WIDENING
-  EXISTING GLADES
-  EXISTING APPURTENANT CLEARING
-  EXISTING LIFTS
-  EXISTING LIFT TO BE REMOVED
-  PROPOSED LIFTS
-  LAND USE BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING BUILDING



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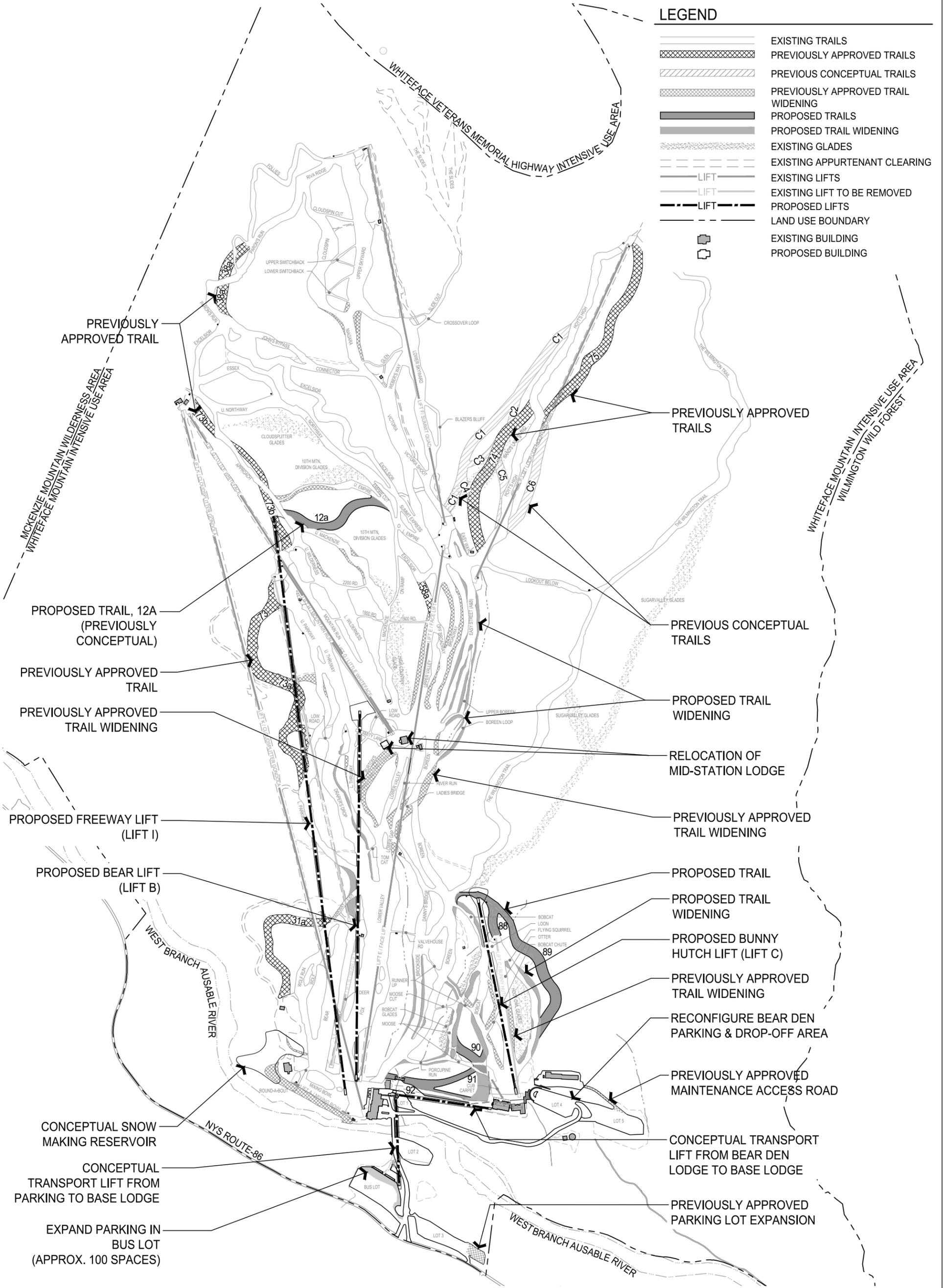
  
**WHITEFACE LAKE PLACID**  
 Project Title:  
**Whiteface Mountain: 2018 Unit Management Plan Draft Amendment & Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement**

Drawing Title  
**2018 Proposed Actions**  
  


Date: April 3, 2018  
 Scale: As Noted  
 Design: MJT  
 Drawn: KMK  
 Ch'k'd: KJF  
 Project No.: 201263  
 Drawing No.:  
**Figure 7**

**LEGEND**

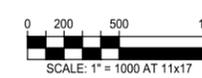
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-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAILS
-  PREVIOUS CONCEPTUAL TRAILS
-  PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TRAIL WIDENING
-  PROPOSED TRAILS
-  PROPOSED TRAIL WIDENING
-  EXISTING GLADES
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-  PROPOSED BUILDING



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**WHITEFACE LAKE PLACID**  
 Project Title:  
**Whiteface Mountain: 2018 Unit Management Plan Draft Amendment & Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement**

Drawing Title  
**2018 Master Plan - Proposed & Previously Approved Actions**  
  


Date: April 3, 2018  
 Scale: As Noted  
 Design: MJT  
 Drawn: KMK  
 Ch'k'd: KJF  
 Project No.: 201263  
 Drawing No.:  
**Figure 8**

**Table 1  
Status of Management Actions**

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
<b>1</b>	<b>Ski Trails</b>		
	Trail #	Trail Name	
	45	Easy Way	Widen to approximately 80' to improve beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	26	Easy Street	Widen to between 100-120' to improve beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	46	Upper Boreen	Trail is currently very narrow, less than 30' wide. Widen to between 40'-100' where adjacent terrain allows New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	82	Boreen loop	Widen up to 80' where terrain allows, to improve beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	72	Parkway Exit	Widen up to 120' to improve congestion at the bottom of Draper's Drop during race training New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	71	Draper's Drop	Widen up to 135' (40m) to meet FIS homologation standards. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	34	Bobcat	Widen to between 70-120' to improve connection from Boreen and beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	36	Flying Squirrel	Widen up to approximately 100' to improve beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	42	Runner Up	Widen narrow connector between Boreen and Moose to improve connection New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	43	Moose	Widen to between 100-120' to improve beginner skiability. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	37	Porcupine pass	Widen where possible to improve skiability and connection from learning area to Base area. New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
-	Learning Area	Widen learning area to accommodate new surface lift, improve fall line and expand learn to ski area and operations	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
88	New Trail	New beginner trail to service extended Lift C	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
89	New Trail	New beginner to low-intermediate trail to increase learning area terrain	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
90	New Trail	New connection from bottom of Moose to Bobcat will avoid/eliminate existing flat portion of Moose, improve beginner skiability.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
91	New Trail and Ski Bridge	Better beginner connection from Learning Area to Base Area, less steep than only existing connection. Includes Ski Bridge over stream.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
92	New Trail	Connection from Bear Den Lodge to Base Lodge	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
12a	New Trail	New Intermediate trail from Approach near Upper Mackenzie to bottom of Empire.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment, (Conceptual Action in 2004)
<b>Previously Approved Actions - Ski Trail and Glade Construction</b>			
5a	New Glade	A new 9.8-acre expert glade, Trail 5a, between Paron's Run (5), Excelsior (6), Connector (10) and Upper Cloudspin (1).	Conceptual Action in 2004, remains conceptual.
74 (Upper), 75 (Lower), 77	Hoyt's High	New trails in the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006. Completed.
76	New Trail	New trails in the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006. Constructed as a work road only, not available for skiing.
78	The Wilmington Trail	New trails in the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006. Completed.
79	Lookout Below	New trails in the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006. Completed.
80	Sugar Valley Glades	New glade in the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006. Completed.

Item #	Facility		Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
	74 (Lower)	New Trail	New trail within the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006, Lower portion not yet constructed.
	75 (Upper)	New Trail	New trail within the Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006, Upper portion not yet constructed.
	4b	Blazer's Bluff	New bypass trail along Lower Skyward	Approved in 2006. Completed.
	73, 73a, 73b	New Trail	New trail (73b) from Gondola unloading to Approach, New intermediate trails (73, 73a) from Upper Parkway to Lower Parkway.	Approved under June 2001 amendment to 1996 UMP. VINS report and field study of Bicknell's Thrush for portions above 2,800 feet completed and approved in 2006 UMP Amendment. Anticipated construction in 2018 / 2019.
	86 (27a in 2004)	New Glade	A new 5.7-acre intermediate glade, 27a (now 86) between Boreen (27) and Medalist (Now Moose, 43).	Approved in 2004, Completed.
	87 (36a in 2004)	New Glade	A new glade, 36a (now 87) in the area between Otter and Flying Squirrel	Approved in 2004, Completed.
	6a	John's Bypass	New Bypass trail from Excelsior to Connector	Approved in 2004, confirmed in 2006 UMP Amendment after VINS study. Completed.
	C1-C6	New Trails	Conceptual ski trails within the Tree Island Pod, consisting of several weaving and interconnected narrow (40- 80 foot wide) expert trails.	Conceptual Action in 2004. Portion of the tree island pod that was not included as a formal action in 2006. Remains conceptual.
	31a	New Trail	A new trail (31A) to be built between Wolf (31) and Wolf Run (66).	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
	38a	Paron's Run (Re-Alignment)	Re-alignment of the lower section of Paron's Run	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
	58a	New Trail connector	Provide connection from Excelsior to Upper Valley to replace Lower Empire	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
<b>Previously Approved Action - Ski Trail Widening</b>				
	81 (3a in 2006)	Niagara	Widen to 170' to meet FIS Downhill Homologation Standards.	Approved in 2006. Not yet completed
	48	Ladies Bridge	Widen to meet homologation standards	Approved in 2004, Not yet completed
	49	Lower Gap	Widen to meet homologation standards	Approved in 2004, Not yet completed
	12	Upper Empire	Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Not yet completed

Item #	Facility		Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
13	Upper Mackenzie		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Not yet completed
15	Upper Wilderness		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Not yet completed
18	Upper Parkway		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Completed.
19	Lower Parkway		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Completed.
20	Upper Thruway		Widen to meet homologation standards	Approved in 1996, Completed.
21	Lower Thruway		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Not yet completed
22	Upper Valley		Widen to 120' to improve skiability, relieve bottleneck.	Approved in 1996, Completed
23	Lower Valley		Widen short section near Mid-Station	Approved in 1996, 2004, partially completed
24	Burton's		Widen from approx. 30' to 100' to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, 2004, Not yet completed
28	Danny's Bridge		Widen to improve skiability.	Approved in 1996, Completed.
30	Mixing Bowl		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Work Approved in 1996 Completed. Work approved in 2004 not yet undertaken.
25	Broadway		Widen to meet homologation standards	Approved in 1996, 2004, Not yet completed
27	Boreen		Widen to meet homologation standards	Approved in 1996, 2004, Not yet completed
34	Bobcat		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Approved in 1996, partially completed
35	Otter		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Approved in 1996, partially completed
36	Flying Squirrel		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Approved in 1996, completed.
40	Bobcat Chute		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Approved in 1996, not yet undertaken.
42	Runner Up		Widen to improve beginner skiability.	Approved in 1996, not yet undertaken.
<b>2</b>	<b>Ski Lifts</b>			
Lift B	Bear Lift		Replace existing Bear Lift with new Quad chair extending from the Base Area, with a mid-station terminal near the existing top of Bear lift, to an area west of Calamity Lane	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
		near Mid-Station Lodge.	
Lift C	Bunny Hutch	Replace existing lift with new Quad chair, re-align and extend upper terminal uphill approximately 500'.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
Lift I	Freeway Lift	Replace existing Freeway lift with new Quad chair extending from the Base area to the top of Upper Empire	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
Lift J	Cub Carpet	Re-align to improve learning area.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
Lift L	New surface conveyor lift	Add new beginner conveyor lift	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
Lift N	Bear Den Transport Lift	Install transport lift from Bear Den Lodge to Base Lodge	Conceptual Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
Lift O	Parking Lot Transport Lift	Install transport lift from the Bus Lot to Lot 1 next to Base Lodge	Conceptual Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
<b>Previously Approved Action - Lift Installation</b>			
Lift A	Mixing Bowl	Upgrade from double chair to triple chair	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
Lift B	Bear Lift	Upgrade from double chair to quad, lower base terminal	Approved in 1996, not implemented. Superceded by proposed 2018 Action.
Lift D	Mid-Station Shuttle	Remove lift	Approved in 1996, completed.
Lift E	Face Lift	Replace Valley Triple chair with high-speed detachable quad.	Approved in 1996, completed.
Lift G	Little Whiteface	Replace double chair with quad.	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
Lift H	Mountain Run	Replace double chair with quad.	Approved in 1996, not yet implemented.
Lift I	Freeway Lift	Lower 60 vertical feet and shorten 500 ft.	Approved in 1996, not implemented. Superceded by proposed 2018 Action.
Lift M	Lookout Mountain Triple	Install new lift to service proposed Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2006, completed.

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
3	<b>Buildings</b>		
	Operations Building (Formerly NYSEF/Alpine Training Center)	Demolish Building	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	Base Lodge		
		(a) Larger reception and ticket area (4,000sf.)	In Progress
		(b) Enclose existing deck area to provide additional cafeteria space (2,500 sf.)	Approved in 1996, Completed.
		(c) a second retail shop (replacing 860sf. administration space)	Approved in 1996, not yet started.
		(d) Relocation of the ski school operations (replacing 880sf. of locker and ticketing space and adding 770sf.)	Approved in 1996, Completed.
		(e) a VIP room (700sf.) and coffee shop (700sf.) to be established in the relocated ski school space	Approved in 1996, Completed.
		(f) additional rest rooms (utilizing 750sf. of the retail shop space)	Approved in 1996, Completed.
		(g) Expansion of the ski patrol/first aid space (680sf.)	Approved in 1996, not yet started.
		(h) Additional offices, storage and conference space for administration (350sf.)	Approved in 1996, not yet started.
		(i) Relocation of employee lockers/lounge space to the breezeway storage space (950sf.)	Approved in 1996, not yet started.
		(j) Expansion of employee lockers/lounge space, (336sf.)	Approved in 1996, not yet started.
		(k) Updating the computer ticketing system, creating more efficient sales points	Approved in 1996, Completed.
		(l) Updating the drop-off area to reflect the reception/ticketing area	Approved in 1996, Completed.

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
		addition.	
	Bear Den Lodge (Formerly Easy Acres)	Renovate existing building to total 16,580 Sq. Ft., Add new building as connected addition, up to 30,920 Sq. Ft, for total floor area of 47,500 sq. ft. Total Footprint is 36,335 sq. ft.	Approved in 1996, 2004, 2006. Connected Building Addition currently under construction. Total new footprint (existing lodge plus addition) = 28,310 sq. ft. total Floor Area = 31,110 sq. ft.
	New NYSEF Training Bldg.	Construct new bldg. adjacent to Operations Bldg. and Base Lodge	Approved in 2004, Completed.
	Fox Pole Barn	Relocate Fox Pole Barn, double the size to 3,400sf.	Approved in 2004. Not yet undertaken.
	Lot 5 Pole Barn	Relocate the Lot 5 Pole Barn to the maintenance facility, double the size to 2,400sf.	Approved in 2004, Completed.
	New Maintenance Bldg	Create an additional maintenance building (1,200sf.) to accommodate two vehicle bays for equipment storage.	Approved in 2004, Completed.
	Cloudsplitter Lodge	A new on-mountain restaurant with 355 seats (13,500 sf.) is proposed at the summit of Little Whiteface.	Conceptual Action in 2004
	Operations Building (Formerly NYSEF/Alpine Training Center)	Improvements to first floor level without increasing floor space; Addition of approximately 960 sf. to the second floor plan; Addition of an approximately 940 sf. conference space to the upper level floor; Improvement to the façade.	Approved in 1996, not yet started. (Superceeded by 2018 proposed action)
	Mid Station Lodge	Relocate Mid-station Lodge approximately 150 feet to the south of its current position.	Approved in 1996. Not yet undertaken.
	Don Straight's Bldg.	Double the size of Don Straight's building to 720sf.	Approved in 1996. Not yet undertaken.

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
4	<b>Snowmaking</b>		
	Water System Improvements		
		Build New Reservoir near Snowmaking Pump House	New Conceptual Action Item, 2018 UMP Amendment
		Reconfigure PH 1 Intake	Approved in 2004, Completed
		Increase System Pumping Capacity, PH 2 Water	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Electrical revisions to achieve 6,000 gpm	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Monitoring and Control Revisions	Approved in 1996, Completed
		PH 1 water pressure increase	Approved in 2004, not yet undertaken
		PH 3 Water, Electrical revisions to achieve 6,000 gpm.	Approved in 1996, not yet completed
		New snowmaking reservoir adjacent to Upper Boreen	Conceptual action in 2004
		New Pump House to service Tree Island Pod	Approved in 2004, Completed
		Pump House 1 improvements, new wet well and pump	Approved in 2006, Completed
	Air System Improvements		
		Replace existing rotary screw compressors	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Air to Air Aftercooler repair	Approved in 2004, Completed
		Install additional cooling water system	Approved in 1996, Completed
	Mountain Infrastructure		
		Piping Upgrades	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Valve House Upgrades	Approved in 1996, Completed
	Snow Guns and Hose		
		Fan guns and Fan support	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Tower Guns (300)	Approved in 1996, Completed
		Hose repair / replacement	Approved in 1996, Ongoing
5	<b>Utilities</b>		

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
	Drainage	Replace Culvert #2 with a vehicular bridge	New Action Item, 2018 UMP Amendment
		Replace Culvert #2 with single large culvert	Approved in 2004, completed.
		Install Debris Control Structures upstream of culverts in accordance with plans	Approved in 2004, not yet implemented.
	Potable Water	Develop new source of water for Base Lodge	Now served by Town of Wilmington municipal water supply system.
		Develop new source of water for Cloudsplitter Lodge	Conceptual Action in 2004.
	Sanitary Wastewater	Develop new wastewater disposal system for the Cloudsplitter Lodge	Conceptual Action in 2004.
<b>6</b>	<b>Parking / Circulation</b>		
	Lot #4, Bear Den Lodge Drop Off Area	Improve circulation at Bear Den Lodge drop off area, reconfigure parking.	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	Bus Lot	Expand Lot to accommodate approx. 100 additional cars	New Action Item, 2018 UMP amendment
	Maintenance and Staff Access Road	New access road from Lot 5 to Maintenance	Approved in 2006, not yet constructed
	Lot #5	Additional 350 car parking lot	Approved in 2004, Completed
	Bus Drop Off	Structure a bus drop off lane along access road on right, after bridge	Approved in 2004, not yet implemented.
	Lot #3	3-Acre expansion on North End	Approved in 1996, not undertaken. (Note: A large portion of the proposed expansion area is not within the Whiteface Intensive Use Boundary. The area within the boundary available for expansion is 0.83 acres (50-75 cars)
	Entrance and Base Lodge Arrival	Various alternatives to improve pedestrian and vehicular circulation between the Base Lodge and parking areas	Conceptual Action in 2004
	Bus Parking Lot	Built new Bus Lot	Conceptual Action in 2005

Item #	Facility	Management Action / Improvements	Current Status
7	<b>Other Recreational Trails</b>		
	Hiking Trails	A 0.7-mile hiking/cross country skiing/snowshoeing trail along the Ausable River on the south side of the base area; 0.5 miles of hiking trails on the north side of the Easy Acres base area; A 2.5-mile hiking loop trail to Bear Den Mountain.	Approved in 2004, completed.

Table 1A that follows is derived from Table 1 above, and provides the amounts of ski trails at Whiteface Mountain that (1) currently exist, (2) were previously approved but have not yet been constructed, and (3) are proposed in this UMP Amendment. Locations of trails are shown on **Figure 8**. Appendix 5, Trail Analysis and Inventory, provides additional detail on the information tabulated below.

**Table 1A  
Trail Length Data**

	Trail Ref #	Trail Name	Trail Length (LF)
<b>Existing Trails</b>			
	60	1900 Road	806
	61	2200 Road	373
	11	Approach	1,953
	32	Bear	1,609
	76	Blazers Bluff	591
	34	Bobcat	2,318
	40	Bobcat Chute	656
	27	Boreen	3,896
	82	Boreen loop	982
	25	Broadway	1,820
	68	Brookside	2,062
	24	Burton's	700
	47	Calamity Lane	375
	1	Cloudspin	1,721
	51	Cloudspin Cut	335
	10	Connector	814
	55	Crossover Loop	434
	28	Danny's Bridge	1,466
	33	Deer	977
	71	Draper's Drop	2,129
	26	Easy Street	2,140
	45	Easy Way	427
	85	Empire cut	270
	7	Essex	1,062
	6	Excelsior	5,162
	36	Flying Squirrel	1,407
	38	Follies	2,590
	84	Fox	2,128
	56	Glen	520
	77	Hoyt's High	4,048
	52	John's Bypass	727

	Trail Ref #	Trail Name	Trail Length (LF)
	48	Ladies Bridge	185
	79	Lookout Below	1,238
	41	Loon	112
	63	Low Road	572
	58	Lower Empire	300
	49	Lower Gap	138
	14	Lower Mackenzie	1,273
	9	Lower Northway	1,554
	19	Lower Parkway	2,205
	4	Lower Skyward	2,207
	54	Lower Switchback	550
	21	Lower Thruway	1,240
	23	Lower Valley	2,128
	16	Lower Wilderness	723
	30	Mixing Bowl	624
	43	Moose	1,555
	83	Moose Cut	200
	17	Mountain Run	2,115
	81	Niagara	1,135
	73	Off Broadway	285
	65	On Ramp	600
	35	Otter	1,703
	72	Parkway Exit	466
	5	Paron's Run	2,421
	37	Porcupine pass	471
	50	Riva Ridge	708
	29	River Run	1,019
	44	Round-a-Bout	586
	42	Runner Up	678
		Slide Out	775
	67	Summit Express	228

	Trail Ref #	Trail Name	Trail Length (LF)
	78	The Wilmington Trail	9,400
	64	Tom Cat	116
	46	Upper Boreen	792
	12	Upper Empire	1,517
	13	Upper Mackenzie	1,487
	8	Upper Northway	973
	18	Upper Parkway	1,934
	3	Upper Skyward	2,222
	53	Upper Switchback	550
	20	Upper Thruway	1,174
	22	Upper Valley	2,127
	15	Upper Wilderness	976
	39	Valve House Road	275
	2	Victoria	1,986
	57	Victoria Shoot	183
	59	Weber's Way	415
	31	Wolf	1,595
	66	Wolf Run	420
		<b>Totals (LF)</b>	<b>104,634</b>
		<b>Totals (MILAGE)</b>	<b>19.82</b>
<b>Trails Approved, Not Yet Constructed</b>			
	38a Lower	Approved, not yet constructed	0
	38a Upper	Approved, not yet constructed	450
	58a	Approved, not yet constructed	300
	31a	Approved, not yet constructed	1580
	73	Approved, not yet constructed	1136
	73a	Approved, not yet constructed	1540
	73b	Approved, not yet constructed	1536
	74	Approved, not yet constructed	1793
	75	Approved, not yet constructed	2145
		<b>Totals (LF)</b>	<b>10,480</b>
		<b>Totals (MILAGE)</b>	<b>1.98</b>

	Trail Ref #	Trail Name	Trail Length (LF)
<b>Trails Proposed in 2018 UMP</b>			
	88	Proposed	670
	89	Proposed	1030
	90	Proposed	408
	91	Proposed	545
	92	Proposed	970
	12a	Proposed	1060
		<b>Totals (LF)</b>	<b>4,683</b>
		<b>Totals (MILAGE)</b>	<b>0.89</b>
<b>Conceptual Trails and Glades from Previous UMP's</b>			
	C1	Conceptual Action	2,480
	C2	Conceptual Action	100
	C3	Conceptual Action	280
	C4	Conceptual Action	80
	C5	Conceptual Action	320
	C5	Conceptual Action	1,235
	5a	Conceptual Action	1,530
		<b>Totals (LF)</b>	<b>6,025</b>
		<b>Totals (MILAGE)</b>	<b>1.14</b>

<b>Summary of Totals</b>	<b>(In Miles)</b>
Total Existing Trails	19.82
Total Approved/Not Constructed Trails	1.98
<b>Total Existing and Approved Trails</b>	<b>21.80</b>
Total Proposed Trails	0.89
<b>Total Existing/Approved and Proposed Trails</b>	<b>22.69</b>
Constitutional Trail Mileage Limit	25.00
Total Existing/Approved and Proposed Trails	22.69
Total Existing Glades	2.14
<b>Total Existing/Approved and Proposed Trails and Glades</b>	<b>24.83</b>
<i>Conceptual Trails and Glades from Previous UMP's</i>	<i>1.14</i>