Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Lands and Forests

Windham High Peak Wild Forest

Unit Management Plan

April 1994

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
MARIO M. CUOMO, *Governor* LANGDON MARSH, *Acting Commissioner*

WINDHAM HIGH PEAK
WILD FOREST
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN
APRIL, 1994

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Mario Cuomo
Governor

Langdon Marsh
Acting Commissioner

New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation

MEMORANDUM FROM

LANGDON MARSH,

MAY 16 1994

TO: The Record

FROM: Langdon Marsh

RE: Unit Management Plan
Windham High Peak Wild Forest

The Unit Management Plan for the Windham High Peak Wild Forest has been completed. It is consistent with the guidelines and criteria of a Catskill Park State Land Master Plan, involved citizen participation, is consistent with the State Constitution, the Environmental Conservation Law, rules, regulations and policy. The Plan includes management objectives for a five-year period and is hereby approved and adopted.

PREFACE

Article XIV of the New York State Constitution provides a basic guideline for management of the State's Forest Preserve lands in the Adirondacks and Catskills. Futhermore, the Environmental Conservation Law places responsibility for the care, custody and control of the Forest Preserve on the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Catskill Park State Land Master Plan establishes four classifications of State land: wilderness, wild forest, intensive use and administrative areas, each representing a different level of protection and public use. The Plan provides for establishment of geographic units, each falling into one of the four classifications. Unit management plans will be developed for each unit.

A Unit Management Plan identifies a segment (unit) of this Forest Preserve and provides direction for the management and use of that Unit.

The Windham High Peak Wild Forest is identified as such a Unit. A Wild Forest is a section of Forest Preserve where the resource, though protected, can withstand a higher degree of human use than a wilderness area; it can accommodate present and future public recreation needs in a manner consistent with Article XIV of the State Constitution and it lacks the sense of remoteness of a wilderness.

Protection and controlled use of this wild Forest Unit is necessary for full public enjoyment without degradation of a quality user-experience and the natural resources.

WINDHAM HIGH PEAK UNIT
MANAGEMENT PLANNING TEAM

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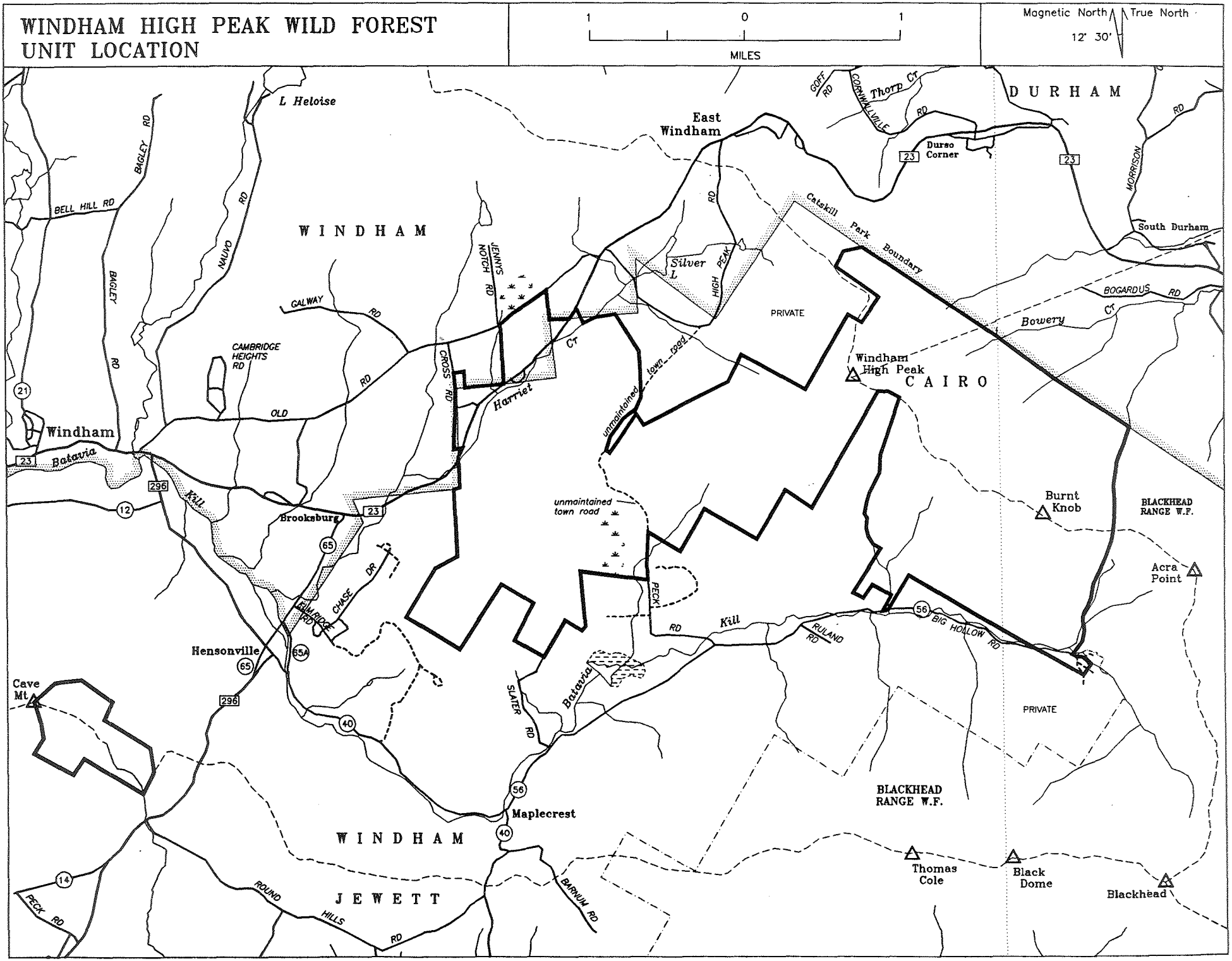
WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
UNIT LOCATION
1 0 1
MILES
Magnetic North
True North
12° 30'
L Heloise
East Windham
DURHAM
GOFF RD
CORNWALLVILLE RD
Thorp Cr
Durso Corner
MORRISON RD
BELL HILL RD
BAGLEY RD
NAUVO RD
WINDHAM
JENNYS NOTCH RD
Silver L
HIGH PEAK RD
Catskill Park Boundary
South Durham
BOGARDUS RD
Bowery Cr
CALWAY RD
CAMBRIDGE HEIGHTS RD
CROSS RD
Harriet Cr
PRIVATE
unmaintained town road
Windham High Peak
CAIRO
OLD RD
Windham
Batavia
Kill
Brooksburg
Burnt Knob
BLACKHEAD RANGE W.F.
Acra Point
CHASE DR
KIMRIDGE RD
PECK RD
Kill
RUILAND RD
BIG HOLLOW RD
Hensonville
Cave Mt
SLATER RD
Batavia
PRIVATE
BLACKHEAD RANGE W.F.
Maplecrest
WINDHAM
JEWETT
ROUND HILLS RD
PECK RD
BARNUM RD
Thomas Cole
Black Dome
Blackhead

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UNIT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

A. Location

The Windham High Peak Wild Forest Unit consists of 4,250 acres of New York State Forest Preserve and is situated at the northernmost edge of the Catskill Park. This is the northeast corner of the great eastern escarpment of the Catskill Mountains which rise abruptly to high elevation from the Hudson River and Catskill Creek valleys.

This Wild Forest is located in Greene County, primarily in the Town of Windham, but with lesser acreage in the Towns of Cairo, Durham and Jewett.

Town of Windham	3,115 acres
Town of Durham	230 acres
Town of Cairo	785 acres
Town of Jewett	120 acres

The western boundary is New York Route 23 between East Windham and Brooksburg, and the eastern boundary is a foot trail from the Black Dome Valley to the col between Burnt Knob and Acra Point, and from there to a north flowing tributary stream to Bowery Creek. A narrow parcel of land extends on the south to County Route 56. The north boundary is the northernmost boundary of the Catskill Forest Preserve; this boundary follows the Catskill Park "Blue Line" for over two miles. A separate parcel of Forest Preserve amounting to 203 acres on the summit of Cave Mountain, south of Windham, is included in this Unit.

B. Description

1. General

The northern terminus of the 23 mile Escarpment Trail begins at NY Route 23 in East Windham and travels the length of this Unit as a ridge trail for six miles. Elevations range from 1,500 feet near the northeast corner of the Unit to 3,524 feet at the summit of Windham High Peak. There are three major peaks on the Unit: Windham High Peak, the 3,180-foot Burnt Knob and the 3,180-foot Cave Mountain. A well-developed network of highways provides visitors with easy access to this Unit. This, along with abundant tourist-related services increases the Unit's popularity among hikers and other recreationists. The easy to moderately difficult hiking opportunities and the panoramic views available from the

ridge add much to this popularity. Vistas to the north and east overlook the Catskill and Hudson Valleys and the City of Albany; on clear days, hikers can see the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts, the Green Mountains of Vermont and sometimes even the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Just as spectacular are the views of other parts of the Catskills to the southeast, south and southwest, which include Acra Point, the Blackhead Mountains and the Black Dome Valley.

2. Wildlife

The Windham High Peak Wild Forest Unit lies at the northern edge of the Catskill Peaks ecozone. The area consists mostly of steep forested slopes with some areas of spruce and fir at the highest elevations. The extensive northern hardwood forests of the area provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species. In general, species which require open land and early successional forest stages would be less abundant in the Unit than species which use the older age forest. Chambers, in his handbook, Integrating Timber and Wildlife Management, 1983, (available at DEC Wildlife Offices in Stamford and Schenectady), compiled an extensive list of wildlife presumed to live within the Catskill Peaks ecozone, and further qualified his list by categorizing species by forest type, forest stage, and special habitat needs. Based on these criteria, 51 species of mammal and 39 species of reptiles and amphibians may be found in the Unit (Appendix B).

Records compiled from 1980-1985 for The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State (1988) list 116 bird species for the area which includes Windham High Peak Wild Forest. Sixty-five (65) species are listed as confirmed breeders, 32 as probable breeders, and 19 as possible breeders (Appendix B.)

White-tailed deer are an important component of the Unit's fauna. The DEC collects data from returned tags from successful hunters to determine the number of deer which were taken each hunting season. The five-year average buck take for the Town of Windham is 2.60 bucks per square mile and for the Town of Cairo, 2.48 bucks/sq. mi. Because of the mix of habitat and topography in the Towns, the deer herd is not uniformly distributed. Fewer deer would be expected in the mature forest of the Unit than in the mixed open and forest land at lower elevations where they would find more understory browse.

The Unit is within the occupied portion of the northern Catskill Black Bear range. Bears are regularly harvested by big game hunters in the Unit and adjacent lands. Overharvest is prevented by season timing and duration. Large tracts of state-owned land such as the Windham High Peak Wild Forest Unit are becoming more important to black bears as other areas become increasingly developed.

Fishers were transferred into the Catskills throughout a five year (1976-1980) trap and transfer program with the goal of establishing a self-perpetuating fisher population. Since the inception of a limited-bag trapping season in 1985, several fisher have been taken in the area. Sightings in the Town of Hunter suggest that fisher may presently inhabit this Unit also.

3. Fisheries

The area is bounded by or intersected by 11 separate water courses totaling 5.07 miles. These include Bowery Creek and three of its tributaries in the northeastern portion of the area, totaling 0.87 miles, all ultimately draining into Catskill Creek and the Hudson River. The remainder of the streams, totaling 4.2 miles, are part of the Batavia Kill system which is tributary to Schoharie Creek. Most of these waters are high gradient streams which may be dry for a part of the year. Nevertheless, all have the potential to serve as trout spawning and nursery waters while they are flowing. Neither Bowery Creek nor its tributaries are stocked with fish and the rainbow trout inhabiting those waters are all wild trout. Bowery Creek is also inhabited by blacknose dace, creek chubs and white suckers. Tributary 17 of the Batavia Kill, in the northwestern part of the area, is an important spawning tributary for brown trout from the main Batavia Kill. The Batavia Kill system is also inhabited by blacknose and longnose dace, creek chubs, white suckers, brown bullhead, slimy sculpin and pumpkinseed.

4. Forests

The Unit is entirely forested with a wide diversity of plant species. This diversity is determined by type and depth of soils, topography, climate, natural disturbance and human use. We can identify some of these determining factors more specifically:

- topography on the Unit ranges from 1,500 feet to 3,524 feet;

- the area of the Unit was lumbered repeatedly and part was cleared for agriculture;

- the entire area was glaciated;

- annual rainfall is significantly less than that of the mountains of the Catskills to the immediate south;

- the exposed peaks are prone to wind damage;

- some of the area was reforested through planting of trees.

The lowest elevation forest, at a 1,500-foot point on the northeastern slope of the Unit, is a blend of the Hudson River Carolinian Forest (oak-hickory) and the Northern Hardwood Forest (maple-birch-beech). From here, elevation rises more than 2,000 feet in just 1.25 miles; this is a significant factor climatically and is reflected in the vegetational diversity. The steep slopes in this vicinity precluded any farming or grazing and have always been forested. The slopes to the south and west are of gentler topography and were more disturbed. Here were the farms with cropland, pastureland and farm woodlots;and where now are found many even-aged stands of northern hardwoods on the upper slopes and, on the lower slopes, a mixture of northern hardwood species, red maple and pioneer hardwood species. Man-made conifer plantations are found on the formerly cleared lands.

A historical reference * notes that the forests of this eastern Catskill area (from Overlook Mountain to Windham High Peak) have had a long and complex history of burns, logging and bark-peeling. People have disturbed the resources of this area more severely than in any other part of the Catskills. Much of this unit is going through the successional process of revegetation from cut-over woodland and open grazing land to dense woodland. Nature <u>does</u> reclaim the land through revegetation but the process takes decades. Most of the wooded area on this Unit is of the northern hardwood forest type.

*Kudish, Michael: <u>Vegetational History of the Catskill High Peaks, 1971</u>.

The area adjacent to NY Route 23 and Elm Ridge is in the early stages of reversion to woodland; much brush and pioneer hardwoods, such as paper birch, black and pin cherry, hophornbeam and aspen, are revegetating this area.
The pioneer hardwood type of forest blends with an older forest of northern hardwoods on the adjacent steeper slopes where sugar maple, American beech, yellow birch and some hemlock are prevalent. Farther up the slopes, the northern hardwoods blend with balsam fir, red spruce and hemlock in a boreal forest - most frequently called the "ridge forest". The ridge forest of the Catskills is significant because it is an area which has been relatively undisturbed by man. It is found generally above 3,000 feet in elevation. The ridge forest does not exist on Windham High Peak because of chronic blowdown there. Red spruce once existed here but in time was eliminated by the climate; this species will not dominate a summit where exposure to wind and periodic drought is severe. Scattered balsam fir does exist here, along with scrubby hardwoods composed of paper and yellow birch, black cherry, beech, and sugar maple; on the ledges and in the blowdown area are mountain ash, pin cherry and mountain maple. A few small red spruce still grow on the southwest slopes of Acra Point and Burnt Knob - near the summits but not upon them. Burnt Knob has the northernmost outpost of red spruce in the Catskills along the eastern escarpment. But there are "cove sites" of red spruce (with no balsam fir) at low elevations and in protected valleys between elevations of 1,900 feet and 2,300 feet. The area adjacent to the Batavia Kill in Big Hollow is one of these sites; red spruce, hemlock and northern hardwoods blend together in this moist cove.

Following the trail from NY Rte. 23 to Windham High Peak, one can find remnants of old growth forest at about 2850 feet in elevation; there are sugar maples in excess of 30 inches in diameter and yellow birch in excess of 27 inches. In this same stand are several Carpinus caroliniana (American hornbeam or musclewood); this may be the highest elevation for this species in the Catskills.

In 1934, there was a farm with open fields on Elm Ridge, where the unmaintained Ridge Road crosses over Elm Ridge. In the Spring of 1935, New York State planted 57,650 Norway spruce trees and 13,350 balsam fir trees in those open fields. The spruce is still very evident, but few fir can be found. Scotch pine is on the site also but no record exists of this species being planted here. Reforestation also occurred along the north side of the Batavia Kill near Big Hollow Road and the red-marked Black Dome hiking trail; 3,500 white spruce and 3,500 white pine were planted here. State policy at the time required that open land be converted as soon as possible to forest cover and thus reforestation was common. An inconsistency was that exotic tree species, such as Norway

spruce and Scotch pine, were planted in the Forest Preserve.

5. Soils

All of the Catskill Mountains were glaciated.

Most of the soils in this Unit are of the Arnot-Oquaga-Rock Outcrop Association. The Cave Mountain parcel is also in this Association which covers about 44% of Greene County and about 80% of this Unit.

The ridgetops and slopes are upland landscapes controlled by bedrock which is mostly within 10 to 40 inches of the surface. Rock outcrops are prominent features in some locations. The soils have formed in thin deposits of medium-textured glacial till derived from sandstone, siltstone, shale and some limestone. These are shallow to moderately deep soils and are excessively to moderately well-drained. Permeability is also moderate. Slopes range from nearly level on the thin-soiled ridges (Elm Ridge, Windham High Peak, Burnt Knob) to the very steep slopes of the same peaks. Historically, these soils have remained primarily in woodland and some upland pasture: elevation and steepness have been the deciding factors. The soils are entirely covered by woods today.

At the base of the steep slopes, where the land form becomes gently sloping, lies the Wellsboro Association, a deep soil with a fragipan developed in glacial till. These soils are derived from sandstone, siltstone and shale. They are deep, but drainage varies from well-drained to poorly-drained, depending on the depth of the fragipan. This hard layer in the soil impedes drainage and rooting and is from one foot to three feet in depth in the Wellsboro Association. About 9% of the soils in Greene County and 15% of the soils in this Unit are of the Wellsboro Association. Historically, this land was used as hayland, pasture and orchard land, depending upon slope and drainage. Most is in young forest today. On this Unit, this Soil Association is found on the land with gentle topography that is parallel to NY Route 23 and north of the Batavia Kill east of Maplecrest.

At the east end of the Black Dome Valley are small areas of two other soil associations. One is the extremely stony, deep and well-drained Lackawanna Association. This was formed in glacial till and is found on the steeper slopes immediately adjacent to the Batavia Kill stream valley. The second association is the level, Barbour-Tunkhannock that was formed in alluvium of floodplains and low terraces along the Batavia Kill. These soils are deep, well-drained and somewhat coarsely textured with sand and gravel. They are alluvial deposits from glacial streams and historically have been the best soils for agricultural uses in the Catskill Mountains.

C. Area History

1. Human Impact on the Resource

A history of the land unit itself is not complete without gaining some knowledge of the history of the surrounding valleys and hamlets. Whether farmers, tanners or lumbermen, the settlers who moved into the Catskill Mountains were oriented toward using the land and its resources as the means of obtaining wealth and social growth. Thus, as the more accessible land was occupied and its forests cut down, settlement and industry eventually reached the seemingly remote mountain areas.

No long lasting significant impact was left on the Windham area by prehistoric Native Americans who fished and hunted here nor by trappers, hunters, native Americans or mineral prospectors of more recent historic times. These were people who visited temporarily for specific purposes but who did not settle.

The farmer-settler of the 1600's in the Hudson Valley did not need to ascend to the upland valleys of the Catskills for livelihood or trade. In fact, any expansion was most likely to be on the Mohawk and upper Hudson Valleys.

In 1767, and again in 1772, under a royal bounty for veterans of the French and Indian Wars, Crown Lands were offered for settlement and development. What better way to keep England's frontier under control than to encourage skilled military men to settle there? In the Windham area, these lands were not immediately settled; many of the grantees used this wild land for speculation and for resale. Settlement began after the War for Independence. In 1781, the first settler arrived in what is now the hamlet of Windham. Others soon followed and settled mainly in two areas: North Settlement in the north of Windham Town and in Big Hollow in the Black Dome Valley. Lieutenant Lemuel Hitchcock, and his son, Thomas, walked into the mountains in 1794 to take possession of a square mile of land at the headwaters of the Batavia Kill; a house was built the next year in the vicinity of what is now Peck Road. Hitchcock descendants still live in the Catskills of Greene County. (Part of a Hitchcock farm became part of this Wild Forest Unit in 1934).

On the north side of the ridge, in the area of what is now East Windham to Brooksburg, came other settlers. Major Cornelius Fuller cleared a farm that was later owned by Linus Peck. In 1788, Captain Peter Van Orden built a pioneer home on a 200-acre site nearby. Another

owner later built an inn on that property which continued in operation under several succeeding owners until the late 1880's.

The 1790's saw a major influx of new settlers--Yankee farmers and businessmen from Massachusetts and Connecticut. Their New England influence on place names and on architecture in the northern Catskills of Greene County still remains today and pleasantly surprise many new visitors and travellers to the area.

Typically, the flatter, gentler landscape was cleared for farms, and the driest land near streams was cleared for human habitation and hamlets. Naturally, the water-dependent businesses built along streams wherever topography and water volume allowed. Sawmills and gristmills were common along all the streams in the area from the earliest settlement through those in the late 1800's. In 1810, a sawmill was built by Isaac Payne on the Batavia Kill in Big Hollow, east of Peck Road; it reportedly was the first sawmill in Big Hollow. Beers' 1884 Atlas of Greene County shows a sawmill on Harriet Creek between Silver Lake and Brooksburg on what is now NYS land; its site is documented but no ruins remain.

The tanning industry caused the first extensive human disturbance in the mountain area. Hemlock was cut and its bark peeled; the bark was then used in tanning leather. Tanning began on a small scale around 1800, but the period 1820 through 1860 brought growth of a huge industry that had a great impact on the forests of the Catskills and the economic growth of local communities. The hemlock logs were usually a glut on the market and often were left to rot in the woods. Much of the cut area was burned, some accidentally and some deliberately. Five tanneries eventually operated in the Windham area. One, the F. Holcomb Tannery, was located in the area of the upper Batavia Kill and operated from 1827 to 1854. It consumed 53,000 cords of bark in its 27-year operation. Three to ten trees, depending on size, were required to produce one cord of bark. The Holcomb Tannery was not the only tannery, nor the largest. Obviously, the industry had a large impact on the forest resources.

The lumber industry overlapped the last 20 years of the tanning industry. It was another big impact on the forest resources that changed the landscape and the character of the land and local communities. In 1845, there were reportedly 22 sawmills in Windham and they were mainly small one-man operations. No official census was taken of sawmills in the Catskills in the 19th

Century; one unsubstantiated record says that there were over 200 sawmills in the Catskills between 1870 and 1900. Windham had wood-turning and other wood products mills by 1850 and these lasted until the end of the Century.

Originally, agriculture had brought the earlier settlers and New England Yankees here. Cutting of the woods for tanbark and for logs assisted in opening more of the hill and mountain areas to an expansion of agriculture. Although the narrow valleys contained excellent soils for farming, the upper, formerly wooded slopes were marginally suited to agriculture other than grazing for livestock. The late 19th Century brought a decline in agriculture here, as it did in the rest of New York State. Farming stopped first in the less productive mountain areas, which then began reverting to forest.

Use of natural resources was changing again. Agriculture and cutting of timber for commercial use still existed, but at a much lower level. A new commercial era began--one that was based on the area's natural and man-made scenic resources. Windham was recognized as an area that could offer city dwellers a short escape to an idyllic landscape of quiet towns, small farms and wooded mountains. However, Windham's smaller family-oriented resorts differed greatly from the large luxury hotels of the rest of the Catskills. Windham's resorts were aimed at another market, catering to a less affluent clientele with simpler tastes. Some of these family-oriented resorts still exist today. Spectacular scenery, relative solitude and year-round recreational opportunities still attract the tourists and new residents to the area.

2. <u>The Forest Preserve</u>

The Forest Preserve was established in 1885 for the practical reasons of conserving land and water. Although other values of wild-land preservation and the concept of wilderness had nothing to do with the formation of the Adirondack and Catskill preserves, development of these ideas have been nurtured by the existence of the Preserve and its "forever wild" mandate in the New York State Constitution.

New York State didn't begin to acquire lands for Forest Preserve in the Windham High Peak Wild Forest until the twentieth century. No original Forest Preserve lands existed in this vicinity. The 203-acre Cave Mountain parcel was the first land to be acquired and was purchased in 1908; no other land was ever added to it to improve its accessibility. Acquisition in the main part of this Wild Forest Unit began in 1910 when 460 acres were purchased. Windham High Peak was purchased in 1924. By the time of the Great Depression, the

State owned about 1,000 acres of the highest ridge land in the area. The Depression saw many farmers more than willing to turn little-used land and forest into immediate cash and by the end of 1937 another 2,800 acres had been added to the Unit. From then to 1976, only 176 acres were bought and this was primarily to acquire access and to buy a parcel that was surrounded by Forest Preserve land.

Trails in this area before 1962 were non-existent except to experienced hikers who could walk the ridges and who knew the old, long-abandoned access roads. The segment of the Escarpment Trail that goes through the heart of this Unit from NY Route 23 at East Windham to the col at the Unit's east boundary, was built in 1962. (Dennis Martin, the DEC Forest Ranger for this part of the mountaintop at this time was, in 1962, a member of the trail crew that built the original trail.) Connecting trails were built about the same time: the road bed of Ridge Road was a natural trail, as was the old road out of Big Hollow to the Town of Cairo (locally known as the Bailey Road), and the paths of old roads once used for harvesting tanbark and timber led at least part of the way to Lockwood Gap between Blackhead and Black Dome Mountains(to the south of this Unit). The lean-to and privy at Elm Ridge were originally constructed in 1967. The parking area at Big Hollow was built in 1973. Three bridges at stream crossings were built in 1979: a foot trail and snowmobile bridge at Route 23 at East Windham, and two foot bridges on the Burnt Knob-Acra Point trail connection (one of these has since been removed because it was considered to be unnecessary).

II INVENTORY OF FACILITIES

A. Privies (1)

At Elm Ridge lean-to (To be replaced with new privy).

B. Trailheads with Maintained Parking (3)

1. NY Route 23 near East Windham. North terminus of the Escarpment Trail. Also serves the snowmobile trail. Accommodates 30± vehicles.

2. Peck Road near Maplecrest. Accommodates 12± vehicles.

3. Big Hollow at east end of County Route 56. ; services the trail systems to the east, south and north as well as servicing two management units. Accommodates 15± vehicles.

C. Parking Area - No Trail (1)

Access point only; no trail. Three-car parking spot on the north side of County Route 56, 1.25 miles east of Peck Road. (Badly gullied through water erosion; to be abandoned).

D. Bridges (2) 1. Foot (2)
   a. NY Route 23
   b. End of County Route 56 at start of red Black Dome trail.

E. Fire Rings (1)

Elm Ridge lean-to.

F. Trails (8.75 miles)

1. Foot - 8.75 miles

The blue-marked Escarpment Trail travels 6 miles from East Windham to the col between Burnt Knob and Acra Point.

The 0.9-mile yellow-marked Elm Ridge Trail goes from Peck Road to the junction with the Escarpment Trail near the Elm Ridge leanto. The 1.1 -mile red-marked Black Dome Trail running from Big Hollow to the col between Burnt Knob and Acra Point is the east boundary of the Unit. The newly-constructed 0.75 mile blue-marked Long Path Extension starts at the NY Route 23 parking area and travels northeasterly to Old Road where it leaves State land.

The Escarpment Trail in this Unit serves as part of "The Long Path" of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, a trail conceived in the 1930's to go from the George Washington Bridge to the Adirondacks; it now extends north of this Unit through other State and private lands on its way to the Mohawk River.

The Trail Conference volunteers have adopted basic maintenance on all 8.75 miles of foot trail as well as the Elm Ridge leanto.

G. Lean-tos (1)

At Elm Ridge near the junction with the yellow-marked Elm Ridge trail and the blue-marked Escarpment Trail.

H. Public Roads

1. New York Route 23 travels through the northwest corner of the Unit for 1.25 miles.

2. Cross Road (Town of Windham highway) crosses the same northwest corner for 0.6 mile.

3. Old Road (Old NY 23) is the Unit's northwest boundary for about 0.4 mile.

4. County Route 56 in the Black Dome Valley passes through the Unit for 0.3 miles.

5. Ridge Road, an unmaintained Town of Windham Road (reportedly), travels through the Unit and across Elm Ridge for 1.5 miles; most of it is part of the foot trail system.

6. Slater Road (Town of Windham highway) is bordered by Forest Preserve for ± 100 feet.

I. Trail Registers (4) and Informational Bulletin Boards (3)

1. NY Route 23 at East Windham at the north end of the Escarpment Trail. Bulletin board at parking lot is new; a smaller, older board will be removed. The register for Long Path extension is 100' north of Cross Road. Register for Escarpment Trail is 0.2 miles south of NY Rte. 23.

2. Peck Road at the south end of the Elm Ridge trail. Bulletin board is at the parking lot; trail register is 0.1 mile north on the trail.

3. Big Hollow at the end of highway maintenance. The informational bulletin board is in the parking area and services another Unit as well. The trail register is on the red-marked Black Dome trail going north.

J. Signing

1. Directional signs (see Appendix)

K. Scenic Vistas (9)

1. Forest Preserve access parking lot on NY Route 23 in East Windham.

2. Four on-trail vistas near summit of Windham High Peak: views of the Catskill Valley and Albany City to the north, Hudson Valley and the Berkshires and Taconic Range to the east and a view of the upper Black Dome Valley and the Blackhead Mountain Range in the Catskill Forest Preserve to the south.

3. Vista to the south and west at a point on the trail 1.25 miles east of Windham High Peak summit.

4. Three Burnt Knob vistas on the trail. Two are on the west end: one viewing west and south, and the other northerly. One more is on the southeast, viewing the Black Dome Valley and Blackhead Mountains.

L. Spring (1)

Yellow-marked Elm Ridge trail from Peck Road. The spring is located 0.65- mile toward junction with the Escarpment Trail (0.25- mile south of the Escarpment Trail).

M. Private Easements(4)

1. A private parcel of land off the end of Slater Road has the right to pipe water from a spring on State land in Lot 89 of the State Land Tract. Rights were given through a 1934 Deed (267/315) when the land was purchased by NYS. Map No. 1927. Present owner is Mamaroneck Fish and Game Club.

2. A private parcel of land in Lot 59 of the State Land Tract and north of County Route 56 in the Town of Windham has a right to a common right-of-way (±2.5 chains) across Forest Preserve in the same Lot. This right was given in a 1953 deed between two private parties; this remained an exception when NYS acquired the land in 1965. (Reference: deed in Liber 422, Page 682).

3. A legal road easement from the end of Big Hollow Road (CR 56) across NYS land in Lot 52 of the State Land Tract (SLT) to private land in Lot 53 (SLT). Length is ±600 feet.

4. A legal road easement from the end of Big Hollow Road (CR 56) across NYS land in Lot 52 of the State Land Tract (SLT) to private land in Lot 62 (SLT). Length is ± 700 feet.

N. Exterior Boundary Lines

There are 19.4 miles of exterior boundary in the Unit.

III. MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

A. Special Constraints and Issues Affecting the Planning Area

1. General Constraints

a. Legal - This Unit Management Plan has been developed within the constraints set forth by Article XIV of the State Constitution, Article 9 of the Environmental Conservation Law, Title 6 of the Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, the Catskill Park State Land Master Plan, and established policies for the administration of Forest Preserve lands.

b. Rugged topography is a constraint to the development or extension of allowable uses within the Unit.

c. Wildlife

The "forever wild" clause of Article XIV of the New York State Constitution limits the possiblity of manipulating vegetation for wildlife habitat on Forest Preserve lands. On other state-owned lands administered and managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, it is legally possible to devise and conduct habitat modification to favor specific wildlife species. The forest vegetation of Forest Preserve lands progresses through a natural succession of plant life often ending eventually in an aging, mature forest. Wildlife populations may not be diverse under these conditions. Because the Forest Preserve concept provides a strategy of land management that places emphasis on the protection of natural processes (passive management), it, therefore, favors species that frequent mature forests.

Deer Management is not specific to the Wild Forest Unit, but is governed by the objectives of the Deer Management Unit (DMU) of which it is a part. All of the Windham High Peak Forest Unit lies within DMU 55. The current management objective for DMU 55 is to maintain a deer population which produces an annual harvest of 2.0 bucks per square mile. Because the number of female deer determines the potential size of the population, management is accomplished by regulated hunting of female deer as well as bucks.

Availability of quality deer winter habitat is one of the more critical factors influencing the population. Management efforts at this population level are directed towards preventing starvation and maintaining deer in good health and physical condition. A healthy deer population provides important recreational values and contributes highly to the state and local economies.

d. Fisheries - Fishing in waters of this Unit is regulated by statewide seasons, size and creel limits specified in 6NYCRR 10, as authorized by 11-1303-7 of the Environmental Conservation Law of New York.

2. Special Issues Considered in this Plan

a. Rugged topography restricts use to limited areas of the Unit. In turn, the most easily accessible parts of these limited areas are most intensely used. This gives rise to concentration of erosion, soil compaction, vegetative disturbance, noise, sanitation problems, safety hazards and general vandalism in relatively small, heavily used areas. The same topography has a reverse effect on the majority of the area in the Unit by keeping human use to a minimum in the less accessible portions.

b. General misuse can spoil the recreational experience and aesthetic sense of most users. Camping too close to waterways and trails, indiscriminate littering and violations of rules for sanitation cannot be entirely eliminated, but careful planning and budgeting can significantly reduce them. Misuse primarily occurs in specific areas. The Elm Ridge lean-to, being very accessible to users, is heavily-used. There is a littering problem at the East Windham trailhead.

c. Water Quality. All small streams in this Unit are tributaries to either the Batavia Kill or Bowery Creek. Maintenance of good water quality of these tributaries is necessary for the continued good quality of trout fisheries in the receiving water. Recreational uses and projects within the Forest Preserve portion of these watersheds must not compromise the quality of the water.

d. Vista cutting. Cutting of new vistas and the proper maintenance of old vistas are issues here, as they are in most management units.

e. Snowplowing and parking areas. Use of the Unit in winter is increasing and the Department has never budgeted for or funded snowplowing of trailhead parking areas.

f. Land acquisition. Key, preselected parcels are desirable and necessary to provide better access and consolidation. Access is desirable from the Towns of Cairo and/or Durham; northeast of the Unit, and to the 203-acre Cave Mountain parcel. The Unit is very narrow, especially in the vicinity of Windham High Peak, where the Unit is only 0.5 mile in width. There are many intrusions of private land into the interior of the Unit; this, coupled with considerable development of residential subdivisions in the area is a serious threat to the integrity of the Unit as Wild Forest. Both fee acquisitions and conservation easements should be made, but only from willing sellers.

g. Elm Ridge Lean-to is very accessible to two trailheads, East Windham and Peck Road. Misuse occurred in the area in the past, but has abated in recent years. Management alternatives are: retain the status quo, remove the facilities or move the facilities to another less-accessible location.

h. Pulloff, NY Route 23. This pulloff, a section of the old highway, lies south of Route 23 between Old Road and Cross Road. It is a convenient motorist rest area but it attracts considerable trash. Jurisdiction of the area can be determined for maintenance purposes or D.O.T. can be requested to abandon and barricade it.

i. Ridge Road is heavily eroded and has not been maintained by the Town for over 60 years. It crosses the Unit from north to south across Elm Ridge, west of Windham High Peak. Access to the lean-to area by four-wheel drive motor vehicles is too easy. Alternatives of management are: retain the status quo, barricade the road against motor vehicle use, or request an official abandonment of the road.

3. Natural Heritage Data

a. Plant

Because the Unit hasn't yet been surveyed, the existence of any endangered or threatened plant species and natural communities is unknown. Before any major

work is initiated, such as relocation of a trail or dispersed camping sites, the proposed site will be surveyed and inventories for environmental assessment purposes to ensure that no such species of plant or natural community will be destroyed. Locations of endangered or threatened species will not be disclosed in order to protect those species from collectors and the general public.

There are some uncommon wet-site species worth mentioning: Ilex verticillata (winterberry holly), Dryopteris cristorta (Crested shield fern) and Senecio aureus (Golden ragwort). (Kudish)

b. Animal

None of the currently listed endangered or threatened species (ECL 6NYCRR 182.5) are known to reside on the area. The peregrine falcon and bald eagle (Endangered) and the red-shouldered hawk (Threatened) may pass over the area during migration.

Species of Special Concern are those which are not yet recognized as endangered or threatened, but for which documented concern exists for their continued welfare in New York. No additional legal protection is derived from their listing. One such species, the eastern blue bird, has been "confirmed" as a breeder either in or adjacent to the Unit in the Breeding Bird Atlas. Other special concern species which may occur in the Unit are so noted in Appendix B.

The National Audubon Society's Blue List (indicating species for which there appear to be non-cyclical population declines or range contractions) includes the hairy woodpecker, which is a confirmed breeder in the Unit. Other species on the Blue List are noted in Appendix B.

The peaks of mountains over 3,500 feet within the Unit with red spruce-balsam fir-paper birch forest are considered potential habitat for the subspecies of the gray-cheeked thrush called Bicknell's thrush.

4. Significant Habitat Data

a. Deer Winter Concentration Area

Four deer concentration areas are located partially within the Unit. Locations are: northwest of Windham High Peak; southeast of Cave Mountain and west of NY Route 296; north of Slater Road; and upper Big Hollow around the end of road maintenance.

b. Wetlands

One protected wetland has been identified on the Greene County Wetlands Maps. This 22 acre wetland (H-8) is located southeast of Elm Ridge. It is potential habitat for beaver and it is likely that the site will be occupied by beaver from time to time.

5. Unique Ecosystems

a. Cliffs and escarpments.

Since the Unit's segment of the Escarpment Trail follows the ridgecrest of the northeastern escarpment of the Catskill Mountains, it offers some of the best views of the surrounding landscape. Nine scenic vistas are shown on the map of the Unit and documented in the Inventory (Part II of this Plan). The summit of Windham High Peak is particularly notable for its many magnificent vistas because of its exposure and rock outcrops.

6. Cultural Resources

There are no known State or National Register listed historic sites within the Wild Forest Unit. Neither are there any known archaeological sites here although there are numerous known sites along the Batavia Kill stream outside the Wild Forest. Although no cultural resources survey has been conducted within the study area, the NYS Museum thinks there's a higher than average probability of prehistoric occupation or use for hunting and fishing in some low lying areas. There is evidence of more recent agricultural settlement remaining in the form of stone walls and building foundations of the 19th and 20th century; some sites are within the State ownership.

7. Primary Public Use

The primary public use is recreation. The Unit's high scenic quality and its proximity to a good transportation system in a tourist area draw many serious hikers annually. Use is expected to increase in the future as the surrounding area continues to develop.

The "Long Path" of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference passes through the Unit on its way from the George Washington Bridge to (eventually) the Adirondacks. The Long Path Traverses 6.0 miles of the Escarpment Trail in the Wild Forest including a newly-constructed extension for 0.75 miles north of the NY Route 23 parking area.

Use is roughly measured from trail register statistics which indicates the number of people in a hiking party, their length of stay (days, overnight, several nights) and destination. Signing-in at registers is voluntary so figures can be assumed to be on the conservative side; and also registers and register sheets are periodically vandalized. However, the register tally shows approximate numbers of users and especially indicates trends over a period of time. (See Table 1.)

Table 1. Windham High Peak Wild Forest Trail Register Tally

Days of Use (Day-users plus overnights)

Register	1989	1990	1991	1992
East Windham (NY 23)	1473	1948	2542	2351
Peck Rd. (Elm Ridge)	785	998	1144	1250
Burnt Knob-Acra Point	683	786	705	824
Long Path Extension (new)	--	--	--	52(3 months)

(East Windham figures appear low; all users are not signing the registration sheets. There also has been more vandalism than expected to this register in the last three years).

8. Impacts of Land Use

a. Private lands adjacent to the Windham High Peak Wild Forest have generally become desirable properties because of their relative privacy and solitude. Public lands offer a "backyard" of open space on which no maintenance costs or taxes need be paid, yet are available for use by the bordering private owner and will never be extensively developed. The State pays full property taxes to

local governments based on the value of undeveloped land. Occasional negative impacts do exist where the adjacent public lands are used as trailheads for hikers and snowmobiles. Trespass, littering and noise pollution are annoyances that can occur, though infrequently.

b. Fully developed and/or incompatible private development adjacent to public lands may have a negative impact on them. Problems of littering, trespass, boundary disputes, conflicts with public users and dilution of recreational experience are all potential negative impacts.

9. Economic Impact

People are attracted to this area for a variety of recreational and cultural uses. These visitors have a positive impact on hotels, motels, campgrounds, grocers, service stations, restaurants and sporting goods stores. Many of the resorts in Greene County use the mountains indirectly as a passive setting for their recreational enterprises. Private campgrounds and resorts adjacent to public lands also benefit directly by using facilities provided on these public lands.

B. Goals and Objectives

1. Broad Goals for the Unit are to:

- Protect the natural setting of the Wild Forest as defined by the Catskill Park SLMP.

- Accommodate and provide for the broadest spectrum of public uses compatible with Wild Forest land-use criteria and in keeping with recognized legal and environmental constraints.

- Identify and actively protect any special unique and fragile areas within the Unit. This includes critical or unique plant and animal habitat, endangered or threatened plants or animals, highly scenic areas, historic sites, special geologic formations, archaeological sites, etc.

2. Objectives

a. Land Management Objectives

1. Adequately protect the Unit from wildfire.

2. Pursue an active boundary line maintenance program to maintain the integrity of public

ownership and to discourage trespass.

3. Selectively acquire lands and conservation easements from willing sellers on the peripheries of the Unit that will consolidate and protect unique natural features, enhance access and recreational opportunity and minimize administrative problems.

4. Identify critical habitat for rare or endangered species of plant or animal. Resulting records are to be used for scientific purposes only and will not be distributed to the general public nor identified in this plan.

5. Prior to site disturbance for maintenance or modification of recreational facilities it will be policy to: examine all areas involved for critical plant and animal habitat or species and investigate the nature and extent of archaeological resources that may be present.

6. Prevent and alleviate soil erosion and vegetative loss while conducting regular annual facilities management or when relocating any facilities.

7. Maintain, modify and construct facilities in strict conformance with legal NYCRR rules and regulations and with Department policies and procedures.

8. Pursue alternatives to remove motor vehicle use on Ridge Road where it passes through the Unit.

b. Wildlife Management Objectives

1. Maintain all native wildlife species at levels compatible with their natural environment.

2. Maintain hunting, trapping and other wildlife-related recreational activity.

c. Fisheries Management Objectives

1. Perpetuate fish as part of the wild forest environment in all streams within the Unit.

2. Maintain fishing as a valid recreational opportunity.

d. Public Use Management Objectives

1. Control adverse and illegal uses through enforcement of the Environmental Conservation Law and Department rules and regulations.

2. Educate users to the appreciation, value, enjoyment and management of the public land and its scenic and unique resources.

3. Maintain appropriate recreational facilities to facilitate access to and enjoyment of the Unit lands. This will be accomplished with existing staff and the use of volunteer maintainers.

4. Monitor the intensity of public recreational use and the condition of recreational facilities with the objective of preventing overuse or degradation of the Unit.

e. Water Quality Management Objectives

1. Maintain the water quality of streams emanating from the Unit.

2. Protect the waters of the Unit from pollution by controlling public uses of the stream corridors.

IV. PROJECTED USE AND MANAGEMENT PROPOSED

A. Facility Development and/or Removal

Action 1

Place new informational bulletin boards at the East Windham and Peck Road trailheads similar to the one at the Big Hollow trailhead. Remove old board at East Windham near Escarpment Trail register box.

Action 2

Place a "Forest Preserve Access" directional sign where State land borders County Route 56 about 1.1 miles east of Peck Road. On Slater Road, the

proper posting of State-owned land will suffice to identify the ownership

Action 3

Eliminate snowmobile use on the existing trail between East Windham and Peck Road. The trail is only 1.75 miles in length and doesn't meet even the minimum criteria for snowmobile trail designation.

Action 4

Remove the 3-car parking area where State land borders County Road 56 on the north (1.1 mile east of Peck Road). This has a limited and steep access to parking, is severely eroded, is difficult to maintain and is infrequently used.

Action 5

Designate the 1.9 mile trail between NY Route 23 and Peck Road parking area as a cross-country ski trail and maintain it to standards.

Action 6

Leave open the future option, within the 5-year life of the UMP, to possibly designate this same 1.9 mile section of trail for mountain bicycle use if needed as part of a larger bicycle route; the trail is too short to stand as a bike trail on its own. All other existing trails in the Unit are topographically unsuitable for good biking.

B. Maintenance and Rehabilitation of Facilities

Action 1

Leave the lean-to at its present location, but rehabilitate it. Replace the missing privy. Reset the fireplace. Monitor and document any misuse during a 5-year period.

Action 2

Rehabilitate the spring on the yellow trail to Peck

Road.

Action 3

Budget for limited snowplowing of two parking areas, East Windham and Peck Road. An alternative is to pursue agreements with governmental jurisdictions responsible for plowing adjacent roads, i.e., the Town of Windham and NYS Dept. of Transportation.

Action 4

Maintain all existing trails. Add no new trails at this time. Continue the cooperative agreement with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference for maintenance of the trails and leanto.

Action 5

Continue to maintain all existing vistas and add no new ones. Some unmarked vistas will be lost because several years of growth of vegetation has occluded the views.

C. Public Use Management and Control

Action 1

Eliminate motor vehicle use along the unmaintained section of Ridge Road passing through this Unit. Barricade the south end of the Road next to the Peck Road parking area. Discuss alternatives with the Town of Windham. If barricading is approved, do so with a gate so that the Ridge Road can still be used as an administrative access for purposes of periodic facility maintenance, law enforcement patrol and emergency uses only.

Action 2

Continue Forest Ranger and seasonal Assistant Forest Ranger patrols to educate and to control actions of users.

Action 3

Contact the NYS Department of Transportation regarding the Route 23 pulloff (see Issues) and determine a mutually agreeable solution for litter and dumping control. Options for discussion will be Departmental jurisdiction, maintenance responsbility and outright abandonment.

D. Fish and Wildlife

Fisheries

Action 1

Continue to manage all waters within this Unit under current Statewide regulations.

Action 2

Continue to stock the Batavia Kill with brown trout.

Wildlife

Manage and protect wildlife species through enforcement of the Environmental Conservation Law and pertinent Rules and Regulations.

Because of Forest Preserve constraints on traditional habitat management, active management of game wildlife populations will be accomplished primarily through hunting and trapping regulations developed for broad Wildlife Management Units and Deer Management Units.

E. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers

There are no water courses in this Unit classified under the provisions of Title 15, Article 27, of the Environmental Conservation Law (Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act).

F. Fire Management

The DEC is charged with protection from fire of all lands under its jurisdiction and by provisions of Article 9 of the Environmental Conservation Law. Department policy is to extinguish all wild fires regardless of land classification. This policy will dictate the fire management program for this Unit.

G. Staffing (Administrative)

There is adequate Lands and Forest supervisory staff to oversee this and other Forest Preserve Units within the Region.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife staff is currently adequate to handle the management activities of this Unit.

Forest Ranger staff (permanent) is insufficient to enforce the ECL in this and other Units. Maintenance or expansion of the Assistant Forest Ranger seasonal program will help.

The Division of Operations staff that administers all of the interior Forest Preserve work (with other duties) in Region 4 is presently a two-person team, one full-time and the other seasonal. This is inadequate to maintain this and other Units. Expand the Operations workforce by adding one full-time employee for interior work. Continue-and improve upon-the existing volunteer maintenance program with the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

H. Education

Action 1

Develop a brochure describing the Unit. It will include a map, rules of public use, sanitation and low-impact camping techniques. It will be for public distribution and for posting at trailhead information boards.

Action 2

Fully utilize any trailhead bulletin board to dispense any information about this Unit.

These Actions are supplemental to the personal contact of Forest Rangers and Assistant Forest Rangers.

I. Land Acquisition

Parking and public access are generally better in this Unit than in most of the Preserve. An exception is the separate Cave Mountain parcel which is surrounded by private lands and inaccessible to the public. Also, private lands

penetrate deeply into the Unit in three places, two of which are in the vicinity of Windham High Peak, and infringe on the integrity of the Wild Forest. Another access to the northeast of the Unit from the Towns of Cairo or Durham would be desirable.

Action 1

Acquire key parcels of private land from willing sellers when these become available. Meanwhile, maintain contact with owners of these parcels.

Action 2

Acquire a permanent easement or a parcel of land in fee for access to the Cave Mountain parcel.

J. SEQR Requirements

The provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act have been met. Actions proposed in this UMP will not result in any significant environmental impact. A negative declaration has been filed. A copy of the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) and the Negative Declaration can be found in the Appendices.

K. Relationship of Unit to Other Forest Preserve and Adjacent Areas

The Blackhead Range Wild Forest joins this Unit on the east. All other lands adjacent to this Unit are privately-owned rural lands and partially developed subdivisions.

L. Proposed Rules and Regulations

None

V. SCHEDULE FOR IMPLEMENTATION/BUDGET

A. Recurring Annual Maintenance Costs

ITEM	COST	FREQUENCY
Parking lot maintenance (includes mowing, litter p/u drainage, etc.-3 existing maintained lots)	$1,050	Annual
Litter pickup and disposal	300	Annual
Foot trail maintenance (8 miles) (includes spring and bridge)	1,000	Annual
Sign and register maintenance	200	Annual
Information bulletin board maint.	200	Annual
Maintenance of lean-to and fireplaces and privy	200	Annual
Vista maintenance	200	Annual
Boundary line maintenance-painting and posting (23 miles on a 7-year rotation)	400	Annual
Assistant Forest Ranger (seasonal-4 month) patrols	2,000	Annual

B. Non-Recurring Costs

ITEM	COST	FREQUENCY
Add Information Bulletin Boards (2)-E. Windham and Peck Road	$1,200	Year 1
Rehabilitate lean-to	1,500	Year 1
Add privy at lean-to	1,000	Year 1
Rehabilitate fireplace at lean-to	200	Year 1
Rehabilitate spring	150	Year 1
Rehabilitate all vistas	2,400	Year 1-3

Barricade Ridge Road	1,000	Year 1
Develop and print brochure	300	Year 1
Land Acquisition	Variable (Not a maintenance cost).	Year 1 - 5

C. Administrative Costs

There are Actions that will be accomplished by existing full-time personnel as a part of regular program duties. Thus, these costs will not be shown as part of the management costs in the Unit. The Actions pertain to administration of:

- law enforcement
- fire control
- wildlife management
- fisheries management
- Forest Preserve management, including volunteer coordination
- real property management

D. Cost Summary

a. Maintenance-Annual Cost $5,550
TOTAL 5 Years $27,750

b. Costs of planned projects (Actions)
TOTAL 5 Years $7,750

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APPENDICES

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

SEQR
Negative Declaration
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

Project # _____ Date _____

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Department of Environmental Conservation, as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Title of Action: Windham High Peak Wild Forest Unit Management Plan

SEQR Status: Type I [XX]
Unlisted [ ]

Description of Action:

The Department of Environmental Conservation will manage 4250 acres of Forest Preserve lands as Wild Forest within the constraints of the Catskill Park State Land Master Plan. The authority for program action is granted by the provisions of Article XIV of the New York State Constitution, Section 9 of the Environmental Conservation Law and various opinions of Attorneys General.

These Actions include maintenance of: boundary lines, trails, signs, a lean-to, a privy, scenic vistas, a spring, parking areas, foot bridges. Actions also include public use controls, public information effort, elimination of a snowmobile trail, abandonment of a motor vehicle road, removal of a parking area, acquisition of an easement to Cave Mountain, Forest Ranger patrols, fish management, enforcement of fish and wildlife laws, fire management and search and rescue operations.

Location: (Include the name of the county and town. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended)

Greene County:	Town of Windham	3115 acres
	Town of Cairo	785 acres
	Town of Durham	230 acres
	Town of Jewett	120 acres
		4250 acres

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

1. Planned Actions are not significantly different from those traditionally utilized for management of the Forest Preserve.

2. Minor physical disturbance such as that involved in maintenance will be limited in extent and will be aimed at public use safety and public enjoyment and with no degradation of the forest environment.

3. The objective of Plan development is the maintenance of a high-quality user experience and more efficient use of the resource with no natural resource degradation.

This Unit will be managed inaccordance with the Wild Forest Guidelines established in the Catskill Park State Land Master Plan as well as the constraints set forth in Article XIV of the NYS Constitution and Section 9 of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Commissioner's Organization and Delegation Memorandum #84-06 regarding tree cutting on Forest Preserve lands will be strictly adhered to if and when man-made facilities are newly-constructed or existing ones are modified.

There are no identified historic or archaelogical sites within the Unit but, prior to site disturbance on any new or modified project in this Plan, an updated archaeological and historic review will be requested. Significant habitats and rare and endangered plant and animal species and habitats have also been researched. Because conditions change over time and new data is discovered, updated reviews will be requested prior to any site disturbance.

For Further Information:

Contact Person: John R. Sencabaugh, Senior Forester
Address: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
HC #3, Box 903, Cairo, NY 12413
Phone No.: (518) 622-9743

Copies of this Notice Sent to:

Commissioner-Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001
Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation
Office of the Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located
Applicant (if any)
Other involved agencies (if any)

NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS
BREEDING SPECIES OF : WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
1980-1985 DATA - AOU CHECKLIST ORDER

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NEW YORK LEGAL STATUS	NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM STATE RANK
CONFIRMED BREEDERS			
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	Protected	S5
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	Protected	S5
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	Game Species	S5
Wild Turkey	Meleagris gallopavo	Game Species	S5
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	Game Species	S5
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	Protected	S5
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia	Protected	S5
American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	Game Species	S5
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	Protected	S5
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus	Protected	S5
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	Protected	S5
Belted Kingfisher	Ceryle alcyon	Protected	S5
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	Protected	S5
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	Protected	S5
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	Protected	S5
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	Protected	S5
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	Protected	S5
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	Protected	S5
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	Protected	S5
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	Protected	S5
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia	Protected	S5
Cliff Swallow	Hirundo pyrrhonota	Protected	S5
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	Protected	S5
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	Protected	S5
Black-capped Chickadee	Parus atricapillus	Protected	S5
Tufted Titmouse	Parus bicolor	Protected	S5
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	Protected	S5
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	Protected	S5
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	Protected	S5
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	Protected-Special Concern	S5

NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS
BREEDING SPECIES OF : WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
1980-1985 DATA - AOU CHECKLIST ORDER

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NEW YORK LEGAL STATUS	NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM STATE RANK
Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	Protected	S5
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	Protected	S5
Gray Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis	Protected	S5
Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum	Protected	S5
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	Protected	S5
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	Unprotected	SE
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	Protected	S5
Blue-winged Warbler	Vermivora pinus	Protected	S5
Golden-winged Warbler	Vermivora chrysoptera	Protected	S4
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	Protected	S5
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica pensylvanica	Protected	S5
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Dendroica caerulescens	Protected	S5
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata	Protected	S5
Black-throated Green Warbler	Dendroica virens	Protected	S5
Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca	Protected	S5
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	Protected	S5
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	Protected	S5
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapillus	Protected	S5
Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis	Protected	S5
Louisiana Waterthrush	Seiurus motacilla	Protected	S5
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	Protected	S5
Scarlet Tanager	Piranga olivacea	Protected	S5
Rufous-sided Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	Protected	S5
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	Protected	S5
Field Sparrow	Spizella pusilla	Protected	S5
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	Protected	S5
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	Protected	S5
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	Protected	S5
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	Protected	S5
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	Protected	S5
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater	Protected	S5
Northern Oriole	Icterus galbula	Protected	S5
Purple Finch	Carpodacus purpureus	Protected	S5

NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS
BREEDING SPECIES OF : WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
1980-1985 DATA - AOU CHECKLIST ORDER

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NEW YORK LEGAL STATUS	NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM STATE RANK
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	Protected	SE
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	Unprotected	SE
PROBABLE BREEDERS			
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	Protected	S5
Ring-necked Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus	Game Species	SE
Rock Dove	Columba livia	Unprotected	SE
Black-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Protected	S5
Whip-poor-will	Caprimulgus vociferus	Protected	S4
Hairy Woodpecker	Picoides villosus	Protected	S5
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	Protected	S5
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Contopus virens	Protected	S5
Great Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	Protected	S5
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	Protected	S5
Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	Protected	S5
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	Protected	S5
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Polioptila caerulea	Protected	S5
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	Protected	S5
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	Protected	S5
Northern Mockingbird	Mimus polyglottos	Protected	S5
Solitary Vireo	Vireo solitarius	Protected	S5
Yellow-throated Vireo	Vireo flavifrons	Protected	S5
Warbling Vireo	Vireo gilvus	Protected	S5
Magnolia Warbler	Dendroica magnolia	Protected	S5
Prairie Warbler	Dendroica discolor	Protected	S5
Blackpoll Warbler	Dendroica striata	Protected	S3
Mourning Warbler	Oporornis philadelphia	Protected	S5
Canada Warbler	Wilsonia canadensis	Protected	S5
Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis	Protected	S5
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	Protected	S5
Indigo Bunting	Passerina cyanea	Protected	S5
Vesper Sparrow	Pooecetes gramineus	Protected-Special Concern	S5

NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS
BREEDING SPECIES OF : WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
1980-1985 DATA - AOU CHECKLIST ORDER

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NEW YORK LEGAL STATUS	NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM STATE RANK
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	Protected	S5
Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Protected	S5
Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna	Protected	S5
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	Protected	S5
POSSIBLE BREEDERS			
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	Protected	S5
Green-backed Heron	Butorides striatus	Protected	S5
Wood Duck	Aix sponsa	Game Species	S5
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	Game Species	S5
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	Protected	S4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	Protected	S4
Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii	Protected-Special Concern	S4
Northern Goshawk	Accipiter gentilis	Protected	S4
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	Game Species	S5
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	Protected	S5
Eastern Screech-Owl	Otus asio	Protected	S5
Barred Owl	Strix varia	Protected	S5
Chimney Swift	Chaetura pelagica	Protected	S5
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus borealis	Protected	S5
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	Protected	S5
Common Raven	Corvus corax	Protected-Special Concern	S4
Gray-cheeked Thrush	Catharus minimus	Protected	S3
Nashville Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla	Protected	S5
Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	Protected	S5

Appendix ___

Species list for Windham High Peak Wild Forest
(Chambers, 1983)

Mammals

masked shrew	Sorex cinereus	
smoky shrew	Sorex fumeus	
longtail shrew	Sorex dispar	
northern water shrew	Sorex palustris	
least shrew	Cryptotis parva	
shorttail shrew	Blarina brevicauda	
starnose mole	Condylura cristata	
hairytail mole	Parascalops breweri	
little brown myotis	Myotis lucifugus	
Keen's myotis	Myotis keenii	
small-footed myotis	Myotis subulatis	special concern
silver-haired bat	Lasionycteris noctivagans	
eastern pipistrelle	Pipistrellus subflavus	
big brown bat	Eptesicus fuscus	
red bat	Lasiurus borealis	
hoary bat	Lasiurus cinereus	
black bear	Ursus americanus	
raccoon	Procyon lotor	
fisher	Martes pennanti	
shorttail weasel	Mustela erminea	
longtail weasel	Mustela frenata	
mink	Mustela vison	
river otter	Lutra canadensis	
striped skunk	Mephitis mephitis	
coyote	Canis latrans	
red fox	Vulpes fulva	
gray fox	Urocyon cinereoargenteus	
bobcat	Lynx rufus	
woodchuck	Marmota monax	
eastern chipmunk	Tamias striatus	
gray squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	
red squirrel	Tamiasciurus hudsonicus	
southern flying squirrel	Glaucomys volans	
northern flying squirrel	Glaucomys sabrinus	
beaver	Castor canadensis	
deer mouse	Peromyscus maniculatus	
white-footed mouse	Peromyscus leucopus	
southern bog lemming	Synaptomys cooperi	
boreal red-backed vole	Clethrionomys gapperi	
meadow vole	Microtus pennsylvanicus	
yellownose vole	Microtus chrotorrhinus	
pine vole	Pitymys pinetorum	
muskrat	Ondatra zibethica	
meadow jumping mouse	Zapus hudsonius	
woodland jumping mouse	Napaeozapus insignis	
porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum	

snowshoe hare	*Lepus americanus*	
eastern cottontail	*Sylvilagus floridanus*	
white-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	

Reptiles

common snapping turtle	*Chelydra serpentina*	
wood turtle	*Clemmys insculpta*	special concern
northern water snake	*Natrix sipedon*	
northern brown snake	*Storeria dekayi*	
northern red-bellied snake	*Storeria occipitomaculata*	
eastern garter snake	*Thamnophis sirtalis*	
eastern ribbon snake	*Thamnophis sauritus*	
eastern hognose snake	*Heterodon platyrhinos*	special concern
northern ringneck snake	*Diadophis punctatus edwardsi*	
northern black racer	*Coluber constrictor*	
eastern smooth green snake	*Opheodrys vernalis*	
black rat snake	*Elaphe obsoleta*	
eastern milk snake	*Lampropeltis triangulum*	

Amphibians

Jefferson salamander	*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*	special concern
blue-spotted salamander	*Ambystoma laterale*	special concern
spotted salamander	*Ambystoma maculatum*	special concern
red-spotted newt	*Notophthalmus viridescens*	
northern dusky salamander	*Desmognathus fuscus*	
mountain dusky salamander	*Desmognathus ochrophaeus*	
redback salamander	*Plethodon cinereus*	
slimy salamander	*Plethedon glutinosus*	
four-toed salamander	*Hemidactylium scutatum*	
northern spring salamander	*Gyrinophilus porphyrictus*	
northern red salamander	*Pseudotriton ruber*	
northern two-lined salamander	*Eurycea bislineata*	
American toad	*Bufo americanus*	
northern spring peeper	*Hyla crucifer*	
gray treefrog	*Hyla versicolor*	
bullfrog	*Rana catesbeiana*	
green frog	*Rana clamitans melanota*	
wood frog	*Rana sylvatica*	
pickrel frog	*Rana palustris*	

Appendix B: List of fishes of the upper Catskill and Schoharie Creek drainage of which the Bowery and Batavia Kill systems are tributary. Some of the warm-water species would not be expected to be found in the waters of the Windham High Peak Unit.

spotfin shiner	Cyprinella spiloptera
satinfin shiner	Cyprinella analostoma
common carp	Cyprinus carpio
cutlips minnow	Exoglossum maxillingua
eastern silvery minnow	Hybognathus regius
common shiner	Luxilus cornutus
golden shiner	Notemigonus crysoleucas
comely siner	Notropis amoenus
bridle shiner	Notropis bifrenatus
spottail shiner	Notropis hudsonius
bluntnose minnow	Pimephales notatus
fathead minnow	Pimephales promelas
blacknose dace	Rhinichthys atratulus
longnose dace	Rhinichthys cataractae
creek chub	Semotilus atromaculatus
fallfish	Semotilus corporalis
longnose sucker	Catostomus catostomus
white sucker	Catostomus commersoni
northern hog sucker	Hypentelium nigricans
brown bullhead	Amerius nebulosus
redfin pickerel	Esox americanus americanus
chain pickerel	Esox niger
rainbow trout	Oncorynchus mykiss
brown trout	Salmo trutta
brook trout	Salvelinus fontinalis
banded killifish	Fundulus diaphanous
slimy sculpin	Cottus cognatus
rock bass	Ambloplites rupestris
redbreast sunfish	Lepomis auritus
green sunfish	Lepomis cyanellus
pumpkinseed	Lepomis gibbosus
bluegill	Lepomis macrochirus
smallmouth bass	Micropterus dolomieui
largemouth bass	Micropterus salmoides
white crappie	Pomoxis annularis
black crappie	Pomoxis nigromaculatus
tesselated darter	Etheostoma olmstedi
yellow perch	Perca flavescens

Protected Native Plants

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Lands & Forests
(518) 457-7370

New York State, for the first time, has given official recognition to truly rare plants. Four lists of plants are included in the new regulation. These lists are endangered, threatened, exploitably vulnerable and rare. The exploitably vulnerable list contains plants that are commercially exploited.

The regulation gives landowners additional rights to prosecute collectors that take plants without permission. Violators of the regulation are subject to fines of $25 per plant illegally taken.

Express Terms

A new Part 193.3 is adopted to read as follows: 193.3 Protected native plants.

(a) All plants enumerated on the lists of endangered species in subdivision (b) of this section, threatened species in subdivision (c) of this section, exploitably vulnerable species in subdivision (d) of this section, or rare species in subdivision (e) of this section are protected native plants pursuant to section 9-1503 of the Environmental Conservation Law. The common names contained on these lists are included for information purposes only; the scientific name shall be used for the purpose of determining any violation. Site means a colony or colonies of plants separated from other colonies by at least one-half mile.

(b) The following are endangered native plants in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges within the state and requiring remedial action to prevent such extinction. Listed plants are those with 5 or fewer extant sites, or fewer than 1,000 individuals, or restricted to fewer than 4 U.S.G.S. 7½ minute series maps, or species listed as endangered by the United States Department of Interior in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Species	Common name
Agalinis acuta	Sandplain Gerardia
Amelanchier x nantucketensis	Nantucket Juneberry
Angelica lucida	Angelica
Arnica lanceolata	Arnica
Asplenium viride	Green Spleenwort
Aster concolor	Silvery Aster
Betula glandulosa	Tundra Dwarf Birch
Betula minor	Dwarf White Birch
Botrychium lunaria	Moonwort
Botrychium minganense	Mingan Moonwort
Botrychium rugulosum	Rugulose Grape Fern
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side-oats Grama
Calamagrostis porteri ssp. perplexa	Wood Reedgrass
Calamagrostis stricta ssp. stricta	Northern Reedgrass
Carex atratiformis	Black Sedge
Carex barrattii	Barratt's Sedge
Carex hyalinolepis	Shore-line Sedge
Carex mitchelliana	Mitchell Sedge
Carex wiegandii	Wiegand Sedge
Corallorhiza striata	Striped Coralroot
Corema conradii	Broom Crowberry
Cyperus ovularis	Globose Flatsedge
Cypripedium candidum	Small White Ladyslipper
Cystopteris protrusa	Lowland Fragile Fern
Dicentra eximia	Bleeding-heart
Draba glabella	Rock-cress
Eleocharis engelmannii	Engelmann Spikerush
Epilobium hornemannii	Alpine Willow-herb
Eupatorium leucolepis	White Boneset
Gentianopsis procera	Fringed Gentian
Geum triflorum	Prairie-smoke
Hydrocotyle verticillata	Water-pennywort
Hypericum adpressum	Creeping St. John's-wort
Hypericum densiflorum	Bushy St. John's-wort
Hypericum denticulatum	Coppery St. John's-wort
Hypericum hypercoides ssp. multicaule	*St. Andrew's Cross*
Juniperus horizontalis	Prostrate Juniper
Ligusticum scothicum	Scotch Lovage
Lilium michiganense	Michigan Lily
Listera auriculata	Auricled Twayblade
Loiseleuria procumbens	Alpine Azalea
Lycopodium carolinianum	Carolina Clubmoss
Lycopodium sitchense	Sitka Clubmoss
Lygodium palmatum	Climbing Fern
Lythrum lineare	Saltmarsh Loosestrife
Oryzopsis canadensis	Canada Ricegrass
Phyllitis scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue Fern
Pinus virginiana	Virginia Pine
Poa paludigena	Slender Marsh Bluegrass
Polygala lutea	Yellow Milkwort
Potamogeton ogdenii	Ogden's Pondweed
Potentilla paradoxa	Bushy Cinquefoil
Prenanthes boottii	Boott's Rattlesnake-root
Pterospora andromedea	Giant Pine-drops
Pycnanthemum torrei	Torrey's Mountain-mint
Pyxidanthera barbulata	Pixies
Quercus phellos	Willow Oak
Ranunculus cymbalaria	Seaside Crowfoot
Rhynchospora inundata	Drowned Horned Rush
Sabatia angularis	Rose-pink
Sabatia campanulata	Slender Marsh-pink
Sagittaria teres	Quill-leaf Arrowhead
Salix herbacea	Dwarf Willow
Schizaea pusilla	Curlygrass
Scirpus clintonii	Clinton's Clubrush
Scirpus cylindricus	Saltmarsh Bulrush
Scleria minor	Slender Nutrush
Scleria verticillata	Low Nutrush
Sedum integrifolium ssp. leedyi	*Rose Sedum*
Sedum rosea	Roseroot
Sesuvium maritimum	Sea Purslane
Smilax pseudo-china	False China-root
Smilax pulverulenta	Jacob's-ladder
Solidago houghtonii	Houghton's Goldenrod
Thalictrum venulosum	Veiny Meadow-rue
Tillaea aquatica	Pigmyweed
Tofieldia glutinosa	Sticky False Asphodel
Trillium sessile	Toad-shade
Trisetum melicoides	Melic-oats
Uvularia puberula	Mountain Bellwort
Vaccinium cespitosum	Dwarf Blueberry
Viola brittoniana var. brittoniana	Coastal violet
Viola novae-angliae	New England Violet
Viola stoneana	Stone's violet
Vittaria spp.	Appalachian Vittaria
Wolffia braziliensis	Watermeal
Woodsia alpina	Alpine Woodsia
Woodsia cathcartiana	Oregon Woodsia
Woodsia glabella	Smooth Woodsia

(c) The following are threatened native plants that are likely to become endangered within the forseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges in the state. Listed plants are those with 6 to fewer than 20 extant sites, or 1,000 to fewer than 3,000 individuals, or restricted to not less than 4 or more than 7 U.S.G.S. 7½ minute series maps, or species listed as threatened by the United State Department of Interior in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Species	Common name
Aconitum noveboracense	Northern Monk's-hood
Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel
Agrostis mertensii	Northern Bentgrass
Asclepias purpurascens	Purple Milkweed
Asclepias variegata	White Milkweed
Asplenium montanum	Mountain Spleenwort
Bidens bidentoides	Estuary Beggar-ticks
Bidens hyperborea	Estuary Beggar-ticks
Blephilia ciliata	Downy Wood-mint
Calamagrostis strict ssp. inexpansa	Northern Reedgrass
Cardamine rotundifolia	Mountain Watercress
Carex backii	Rocky Mountain Sedge
Carex bullata	Button Sedge
Carex crawei	Crawe Sedge
Carex sartwellii	Sartwell Sedge
Carex scirpoidea	Canadian Single-spike Sedge
Castilleja coccinea	Scarlet Indian-paintbrush
Ceanothus herbaceus	Prairie Redroot
Cornus drummondii	Rough-leaf Dogwood
Corydalis aurea	Golden Corydalis
Cynoglossum virginianum var. boreale	*Northern Wild Comfrey*
Cypripedium arietinum	Ram's-head Ladyslipper
Desmodium ciliare	Tick-trefoil
Desmodium glabellum	Tall Tick-clover
Diapensia lapponica	Diapensia
Dryopteris fragrans	Fragrant Cliff Fern
Eleocharis equisetoides	Knotted Spikerush
Eleocharis quadrangulata	Angled Spikerush
Eleocharis tricostata	Three-ribbed Spikerush
Eleocharis tuberculosa	Long-tubercled Spikerush
Euonymus americanus	American Strawberry-bush
Fimbristylis castanea	Marsh Fimbry
Geocaulon lividum	Purple Comandra
Halenia deflexa	Spurred Gentian
Hedyotis uniflora	Clustered Bluets
Helianthemum dumosum	Bushy Rockrose
Helianthus angustifolius	Swamp Sunflower
Hierochloe alpina	Alpine Sweetgrass
Hottonia inflata	Featherfoil
Hydrastis canadensis	Golden-seal
Hypericum prolificum	Shrubby St. John's Wort
Juncus debilis	Weak Rush
Juncus trifidus	Arctic Rush
Lachnanthes caroliniana	Carolina Redroot
Lechea pulchella var. moniliformis	Pinweed
Linum intercursum	Sandplain Wild Flax
Linum medium var. texanum	Southern Yellow Flax
Lycopodium sabinifolium	Cypress Clubmoss
Lysimachia hybrida	Lance-leaved Loosestrife
Minuartia glabra	Appalachian Sandwort
Panicum flexile	Panic Grass
Pellaea glabella	Smooth Cliff Brake
Plantago cordata	Heart Leaf Plantain
Platanthera ciliaris	Orange Fringed Orchis
Platanthera cristata	Crested Fringed Orchis
Polemonium vanbruntiae	Jacob's-ladder
Polymnia uvedalia	Bear's-foot
Populus heterophylla	Swamp Cottonwood
Potamogeton hillii	Hill's Pondweed
Prenanthes nana	Dwarf Rattlesnake-root
Primula mistassinica	Bird's-eye Primrose
Pycnanthemum verticillatum var. verticillatum	*Whorled Mountain-mint*
Rhododendron lapponicum	Lapland Rosebay
Rumex hastatulus	Heart Sorrel
Rumex maritimus	Golden Dock
Salix cordata	Sand Dune Willow
Salix uva-ursi	Bearberry Willow
Saxifraga aizoides	Yellow Mountain-saxifrage
Scirpus cespitosus	Tufted Bulrush
Scleria pauciflora var. caroliniana	Fewflower Nutrush
Solidago rigida	Stiff-leaf Goldenrod
Sporobolus heterolepis	Northern Dropseed
Tipularia discolor	Crane fly Orchid
Trollius laxus ssp. laxus	Spreading Globeflower
Valeriana sitchensis ssp. uliginosa	Marsh Valerian
Verbesina alternifolia	Wingstream
Viburnum nudum	Possum-haw
Zigadenus elegans ssp. glaucus	White Camas

(d) The following are exploitably vulnerable native plants likely to become threatened in the near future throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges within the state if causal factors continue unchecked.

Species	Common name
Arisaema dracontium	Greendragon (dragonroot)
Asclepias tuberosus	Butterflyweed (Chiggerflower, Orange milkweed; Pleurisyroot)
Campanula rotundifolia	Bluebell of Scotland (Harebell)
Celastrus scandens	American Bittersweet (Waxwork)
Chimaphila spp.	Pipsissewa (Prince's pine; Waxflower)
	Spotted evergreen (Spotted wintergreen)
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood
Drosera spp.	Sundew (Dailydew; Dewthread)
Epigaea repens	Trailing Arbutus (Ground-laurel; Mayflower)
Euonymus spp. (native)	Burningbush (Wahoo)
	Strawberry bush (Bursting heart)
Ophioglossaceae	All native ferns including
Osmundaceae	Adder's-tongue
Polypodiaceae	Azolla
Schizaeaceae	Bracken
Adiantaceae	Buckhorn
	Cliff brake
Vittariaceae	Curly grass
Hymenophyllaceae	Fiddleheads
Aspleniaceae	Hart's-tongue
(but excluding Onoclea sensibilis)	
Azollaceae	Maidenhair
	Moonwort
	Polypody
	Rock Brake
	Salvinia
	Spleenwort
	Walking-leaf
	Wall-rue
	Water-spangle
	Woodsia
	But excluding Bracken
	Hay-scented Fern
	Sensitive Fern
Gentiana spp., Gentianella spp.,	Ague-weed
Gentianopsis spp.	Blue-Bottles
	Gentian (Gall-of-the-earth
Ilex spp. (Native)	Holly (Hulver)
	Inkberry (Bitter Gallberry
	Winterberry (Black Alder)
Kalmia spp.	Laurel
	Spoon wood (Calico-bush)
	Wicky (Lambkill)
Lilium spp. (Native)	Lily
	Turk's-cap
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal-flower
	(Red Lobelia)
Lycopodium spp.	All Clubmosses, including:
	Bear's-bed (Christmas-gree
	Running Evergreen;
	Trailing Evergreen; Ground Pine)
	Bunch Evergreen
	Feston Pine (Coral Evergre
	Buckhorn; Staghorn
	Evergreen; Wolf's-claw)
	Ground Cedar (Creeping Jenny)
	Ground Fir
	Heath Cypress
Malus coronaria	Wild Crab Apple
Mertensia virginica	Bluebell (Roanoke-bells);
	Tree Lungwort; Virginia
	Lungwort; Virginia Cow-sli
	Virginia Bluebell
Monarda didyma	American Bee-balm
	Oswego Tea (Indian-heads;
	Scarlet Bee-balm)
Myrica pensylvanica	Bayberry (Candleberry)
Opuntia humifusa	Prickly Pear (Wild Cactus; Indian Fig)
Orchidaceae	All Native Orchids, includin
	Adder's-mouth (Malaxis)
	Arethusa (Dragon's-mouth)
	Bog-candle
	Calopogon (Grass-pink; Swamp-pink)
	Calypso (Fairy-slipper)
	Coral-root
	Cypripedium (Lady's-slippe
	Goodyera (Lattice-leaf; Rattlesnake-plantain)

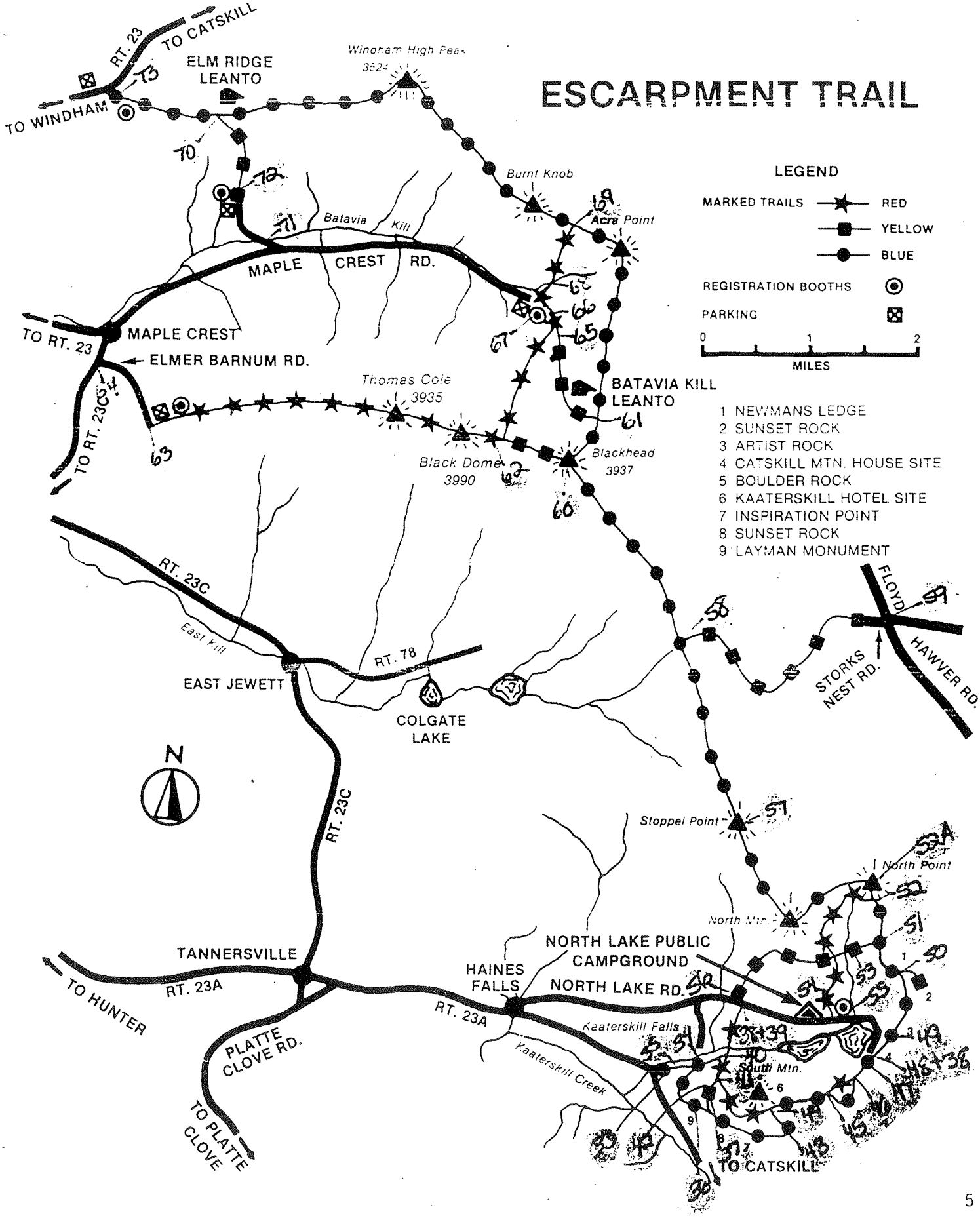
	Kirtle-pink
	Ladies'tresses (Pearl-twist; Screw-auger)
	Moccasin-flower (Neve-root)
	Orange-plume
	Orchis
	Putty-root (Adam-and-Eve)
	Pogonia (Beard-flower; Snake-mouth; Scent-bottle)
	Soldier's-plume
	Three-birds
	Twayblade
	Whipporwill-shoe
Orontium aquaticum	Golden club
Panax quinquefolius	Ginseng (Sang)
Rhododendron spp. (Native)	Azalea
	Great Laurel (White Laurel
	Honeysuckle
	Pinkster (Election-pink; Pinkster-bloom)
	Rhododendron (Rosebay)
	Rhodora
Sabatia. spp.	Bitterbloom (Marsh-pink; Rose pink; Sabatia; Sea-pink)
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot (Puccoon-root; Red Puccoon)
Sarracenia purpurea	Pitcher-plant (Huntsman's-cup; Sidesaddle-flower)
Silene caroliniana	Wild Pink
Trillium spp.	Bethroot (Birthroot; Squawroot; Stinking Benjamin; Wake-robin)
	Toadshade
	Trillium
Viola pedata	Bird's-foot Violet

(e) The following are rare native plants that have from 20 to 35 extant sites or 3,000 to 5,000 individuals statewide.

ecies	Common name
linis virgata	Pine-barren Gerardia
grimonia parviflora	Agrimony
Agrimonia rostellata	Woodland Agrimony
Allium cernuum	Wild Onion
Arabis divaricarpa	Purple Rock-cress
Arabis missouriensis	Green Rock-cress
Arethusa bulbosa	Swamp Pink
Armoracia aquatica	Lake-cress
Asclepias viridiflora	Green Milkweed
Asimina triloba	Pawpaw
Aster nemoralis	Bog Aster
Betula pumila	Swamp Birch
Bidens laevis	Smooth Bur-marigold
Cacalia suaveolens	Sweet-scented Indian-plantain
Calamagrostis pickeringii	Pickering's Reedgrass
Calamagrostis porteri ssp. porteri	*Porter's Reedgrass*
Carex bicknellii	Bicknell Sedge
Carex bigelowii	Bigelow Sedge
Carex bushii	Sedge
Carex buxbaumii	Brown Bog Sedge
Carex chordorrhiza	Creeping Sedge
Carex collinsii	Collins Sedge
Carex complanata	Hirsute Sedge
Carex cumulata	Clustered Sedge
Carex davisii	Davis Sedge
Carex emmonsii	Emmons Sedge
Carex flaccosperma var. glaucodea	Sedge
Carex formosa	Handsome Sedge
Carex garberi	Elk Sedge
Carex gravida	Heavy Sedge
Carex gynocrates	Northern Bog Sedge
Carex hormathodes	Sedge
Carex houghtonii	Sedge
Carex lupuliformis	False Hop Sedge
Carex merritt-fernaldii	Sedge
Carex molesta	Troublesome Sedge
Carex nigromarginata	Black-edge Sedge
Carex schweinitzii	Schweinitz Sedge
Carex seorsa	Weak Stellate Sedge
Carex typhina	Cat-tail Sedge
Carex vaginata	Sheathed Sedge
Carex venusta var. minor	Sedge
Carex willdenowii	Willdenow Sedge
Chamaecyparis thyoides	Atlantic White Cedar
Chamaelirium luteum	Blazing-star
Coreopsis rosea	Rose Coreopsis
Corydalis flavula	Yellow Harlequin
Crotalaria sagittalis	Rattlebox
Cuscuta campestris	Field-dodder
Cuscuta pentagona	Field-dodder
Cuscuta polygonorum	Smartweed Dodder
Cyperus erythrorhizos	Red-rooted Flatsedge
Cyperus houghtonii	Houghton Umbrella-sedge
Cyperus polystachyos var. texensis	*Cyperus*
Cyperus schweinitzii	Schweinitz Flat-sedge
Digitaria filiformis	Slender Crabgrass
Diospyros virginiana	Persimmon
Draba arabisans	Rock-cress
Draba reptans	Carolina Whitlow-grass
Dracocephalum parviflorum	American Dragonhead

Eleocharis fallax	Creeping Spikegrass
Eleocharis halophila	Salt-marsh Spikerush
Eleocharis obtusa var. ovata	Blunt Spikerush
Empetrum nigrum ssp. hermaphroditicum	Black Crowberry
Equisetum palustre	Marsh Horsetail
Equisetum pratense	Meadow Horsetail
Frasera caroliniensis	Green Gentian
Gentiana saponaria	Soapwort Gentian
Geranium carolinianum var. sphaerospermum	Carolina Cranebill
Gnaphalium purpureum	Purple Everlasting
Gymnocladus dioicus	Kentucky Coffee Tree
Hedeoma hispidum	Mock-pennyroyal
Hemicarpha micrantha	Dwarf Bullrush
Heteranthera reniformis	Kidneyleaf Mud-plantain
Hydrangea arborescens	Wild Hydrangea
Isoetes macrospora	Large-spored Quillwort
Jeffersonia diphylla	Twin-leaf
Juncus subcaudatus	Woods-rush
Lathyrus ochroleucus	Wild-pea
Lechea racemulosa	Pinweed
Lechea tenuifolia	Slender Pinweed
Lespedeza stuevei	Lespedeza
Lespedeza violacea	Lespedeza
Liatris scariosa var. novae-angliae	New England Blazing-star
Linum sulcatum	Yellow Wild Flax
Liparis liliifolia	Large Twayblade
Listera australis	Southern Twayblade
Lobelia nuttallii	Nuttall's Lobelia
Ludwigia sphaerocarpa	Ludwigia
Lythrum hyssopifolia	Loosestrife
Malus glaucescens	American Crab
Mimulus alatus	Winged Monkeyflower
Minuartia caroliniana	Pine-barren Sandwort
Monarda fistulosa var. clinopodia	*Basil-balm*
Myriophyllum alterniflorum	Water Milfoil
Najas guadalupensis var. olivacea	Naiad
Najas marina	Holly-leaved Naiad
Nelumbo lutea	Yellow Lotus
Onosmodium virginianum	Virginia False Gromwell
Pedicularis lanceolata	Swamp Lousewort
Phlox maculata	Wild Sweet-william
Physocarpus opulifolius var. intermedius	Ninebark
Pinguicula vulgaris	Butterwort
Pinus banksiana	Jack Pine
Podostemum ceratophyllum	Riverweed
Polygonum buxiforme	Knotweed
Polygonum douglasii	Knotweed
Polygonum tenue	Slender Knotweed
Potamogeton alpinus	Northern Pondweed
Potamogeton confervoides	Pondweed
Potamogeton filiformis var. occidentalis	Sheathed Pondweed
Potentilla anserina ssp. pacifica	Silverweed
Proserpinaca pectinata	Mermaid-weed
Prunus pumila var. depressa	Sand-cherry
Prunus pumila var. pumila	Sand-cherry
Psilocarya nitens	Short-beaked Bald-rush
Psilocarya scirpoides	Long-beaked Bald-rush
Ptelea trifoliata	Wafer-ash
Quercus marilandica	Blackjack Oak
Rhododendron canadense	Rhodora
Rosa acicularis ssp. sayi	Prickly Rose
Rotala ramosior	Tooth-cup
Sagittaria calycina var. spongiosa	Spongy Arrowhead
Scirpus heterochaetus	Slender Bulrush
Scleria reticularis var. reticularis	Reticulated Nutrush
Scleria triglomerata	Whip Nutrush
Scutellaria parvula var. leonardii	Small Skullcap
Solidago elliottii	Coastal Goldenrod
Solidago ohioensis	Ohio Golderod
Spiranthes vernalis	Spring Ladies'tresses
Stellaria longipes var. longipes	Starwort
Subularia aquatica ssp. americana	Water Awlwort
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort
Triglochin palustre	Marsh Arrow-grass
Utricularia biflora	Two-flowered Bladderwort
Utricularia fibrosa	Fibrous Bladderwort
Utricularia geminiscapa	Hiddenfruit Bladderwort
Utricularia juncea	Rush Bladderwort
Utricularia radiata	Small Floating Bladderwort
Vaccinium boreale	High-mountain Blueberry
Vaccinium uliginosum ssp. pubescens	Bog Bilberry
Viburnum edule	Squashberry
Viola nephrophylla	Northern Bog Volet

(f) It is a violation for any person, anywhere in the state, to pick, pluck, sever, remove, damage by the application of herbicides or defoliants, or carry away, without the consent of the owner, any protected plant. Each protected plant so picked, plucked, severed, removed, damaged or carried away shall constitute a separate violation.


ESCARPMENT TRAIL
LEGEND
MARKED TRAILS
RED
YELLOW
BLUE
REGISTRATION BOOTHS
PARKING
0
1
2
MILES
1 NEWMANS LEDGE
2 SUNSET ROCK
3 ARTIST ROCK
4 CATSKILL MTN. HOUSE SITE
5 BOULDER ROCK
6 KAATERSKILL HOTEL SITE
7 INSPIRATION POINT
8 SUNSET ROCK
9 LAYMAN MONUMENT
TO CATSKILL
RT. 23
TO WINDHAM
ELM RIDGE
LEANTO
Windham High Peak
3524
Burnt Knob
Acra Point
Batavia Kill
MAPLE CREST RD.
TO RT. 23
MAPLE CREST
ELMER BARNUM RD.
TO RT. 23C
Thomas Cole
3935
Black Dome
3990
Blackhead
3937
BATAVIA KILL
LEANTO
RT. 23C
East Kill
EAST JEWETT
RT. 78
COLGATE
LAKE
FLOYD
HAWVER RD.
STORKS
NEST RD.
Stoppel Point
North Point
North Mtn.
N
RT. 23C
TANNERSVILLE
RT. 23A
TO HUNTER
HAINES
FALLS
NORTH LAKE PUBLIC
CAMPGROUND
NORTH LAKE RD.
RT. 23A
Kaaterskill Falls
Kaaterskill Creek
South Mtn.
PLATTE
CLOVE RD.
TO PLATTE
CLOVE
TO CATSKILL

TRAIL SIGNS CATSKILL

Sign No.	Arrow	Marker	Legend	Miles	Location	Trail Junction No.
(143)	R&L	R	Trail to			
			Black Dome Mt.	2.26	Parking Lot	67
			Thomas Cole Mt.	3.05	Big Hollow Rd.	
			Elmer Barnum Rd.	5.92		
(144)	L&R	R	Trail to			
			Acra Point	1.69	Big Hollow Rd. on	68
			Burnt Knob Mt.	1.95	trail to Acra Point	
			Windham High Peak	3.72	Camp lot on left	
			Jct. of Ridge Rd. (Yellow)	7.79		
			Route #23	6.95		
			Maple Crest Rd. via Peck Road	6.64		
145	R	B	Acra Point	.67	Jct. of Blue Trail	69
			Jct. of Yellow Trail	2.50	& Red Trail on the	
			Batavia Kill Lean-to	2.73	NW side of Acra Point	
			Black Head Mt.	3.42		
			North Lake Campsite	12.49		
146	R	R	Big Hollow Rd.	1.02	Same	
147	L	B	Burnt Knob	.93	Same	
			Windham High Peak	2.70		
			Jct. of Ridge Road Trail	4.90		
			Route #23	6.03		
			Maplecrest Rd. via Peck Rd.	5.75		
148	L	B	Route #23	1.16	Jct. of Blue & Yellow Trails on Old Ridge Road	70
149	R	Y	Maplecrest Rd. via Peck Rd.	1.70	Same	
150	R	B	Windham High Peak	2.17	Same	
			Burnt Knob	3.97		
			Acra Point	5.57		
			Big Hollow Road	5.79		
151	R	B	Elm Ridge Lean-to	0	Same	
152	L	B	Elm Ridge Lean-to	0	Same	
153	L&R	Y	Jct. of Blue Trail	1.70	Corner of Maplecrest	71
			Route #23	2.70	Road & Peck Road	
			Elm Ridge Lean-to	1.75		
154	L&R	Y	Trail to			
			Jct. of Blue Trail	.85	Parking Lot below	72
			Route #23	2.00	Elm Ridge on Peck Rd.	
			Windham High Peak	3.02		
			Big Hollow Road	6.74		
			N. Lake Campsite	18.11		
(155)	L	R	EXCARPMENT TRAIL			
			Maplecrest Rd. via Peck Rd.	2.60	Route 23 start of	73
			Windham High Peak	3.33	Trail East	
			Big Hollow Rd. via Red Trail	7.05	Windham	
			North Lake Campsite	18.52		

MINUTES

Meeting on Windham High Peak Draft UMP

Hensonville, NY

September 14, 1993

The meeting opened about 7:10 PM and was sparsely attended. Ten interested persons participated (one was from the press). Five D.E.C. staff attended; one from Region 3 and the remainder from Region 4. Comments made are noted below in coordination with the UMP outline.

Facility Development and/or Removal

a. Say that old bulletin board will be removed.

b. Local residents attending do not like the "Forest Preserve Access" signs if there are no D.E.C. maintained parking facilities. (See d.)

c. No feeling pro or con on snowmobile trail closing.

d. Local residents and other attendees want us to replace the small parking lot at the access point along C.R. 56 mid-way in the valley. Especially so when explained that stream work had recently been done to deter adjacent stream from jumping its banks. (See b)

e. One request for 3 to 4 mile "family loop" trails in the vicinity.

f. Requests for another trail emanating from C.R. 56 in mid-valley north to the Escarpment Trail between Windham High Peak and Burnt Knob.

g. General comments centered on trespassing, assumed to be compounded by the vicinity of public lands. There was widespread feeling that if all users knew where State land was located, such trespassing would stop. There's confusion as to the law regarding posting and any rights of access. Considerable time was spent on this subject only peripherally related to UMPs.

Maintenance and Rehabilitation of Facilities

a. Negative comments made on the condition and design of the "disposable" privy at the lean-to.

b. Favorable response to snowplowing of parking areas in winter. Consensus is that D.E.C. should contract with Town of Windham and/or D.O.T. to do the plowing. It was assumed that D.E.C. would pay to have this done.

c. Add a new trail - see "Facility Development, f.." (Note: It is D.E.C. policy that any new trail facility will require associated parking.)

Public Use Management and Control

a. Eliminating motor vehicle use on Ridge Road with Town assistance was considered a positive aspect considering the condition of the road. We're requested to barricade the south end also.

b. In reference to the N.Y. Route 23 pulloff, there were two preferences considered. One was a cooperative effort between D.E.C. and D.O.T. to clean the area up and to maintain it. Another option discussed was to request D.O.T. to close it off to public use; it was a D.O.T. dumping area and is still seriously littered by individuals.

Education

a. The brochure idea was well received. We are requested to supply the Town Clerk with copies when completed for distribution to visitors (especially hunters, fishermen, and hikers). Further discussions led eventually to a general agreement that a generic Catskills brochure is needed and that the brochures for various Units would supplement that.

Land Acquisition

a. D.E.C. asked not to limit itself to pre-chosen "key parcels" but to be receptive to any gifts or offers of land. The reasons for wanting to acquire the key parcels was supported, too.

b. Include access from Durham, a viable objective in place of or as well as access from Cairo.

c. Don't overlook use of third parties in acquiring the key parcels in view of the fact D.E.C. has not acquisitioned funds at present.

Other General

a. Suggestion we monitor the water quality of Harriet Creek flowing out of Silver Lake. It is a good trout spawning stream.

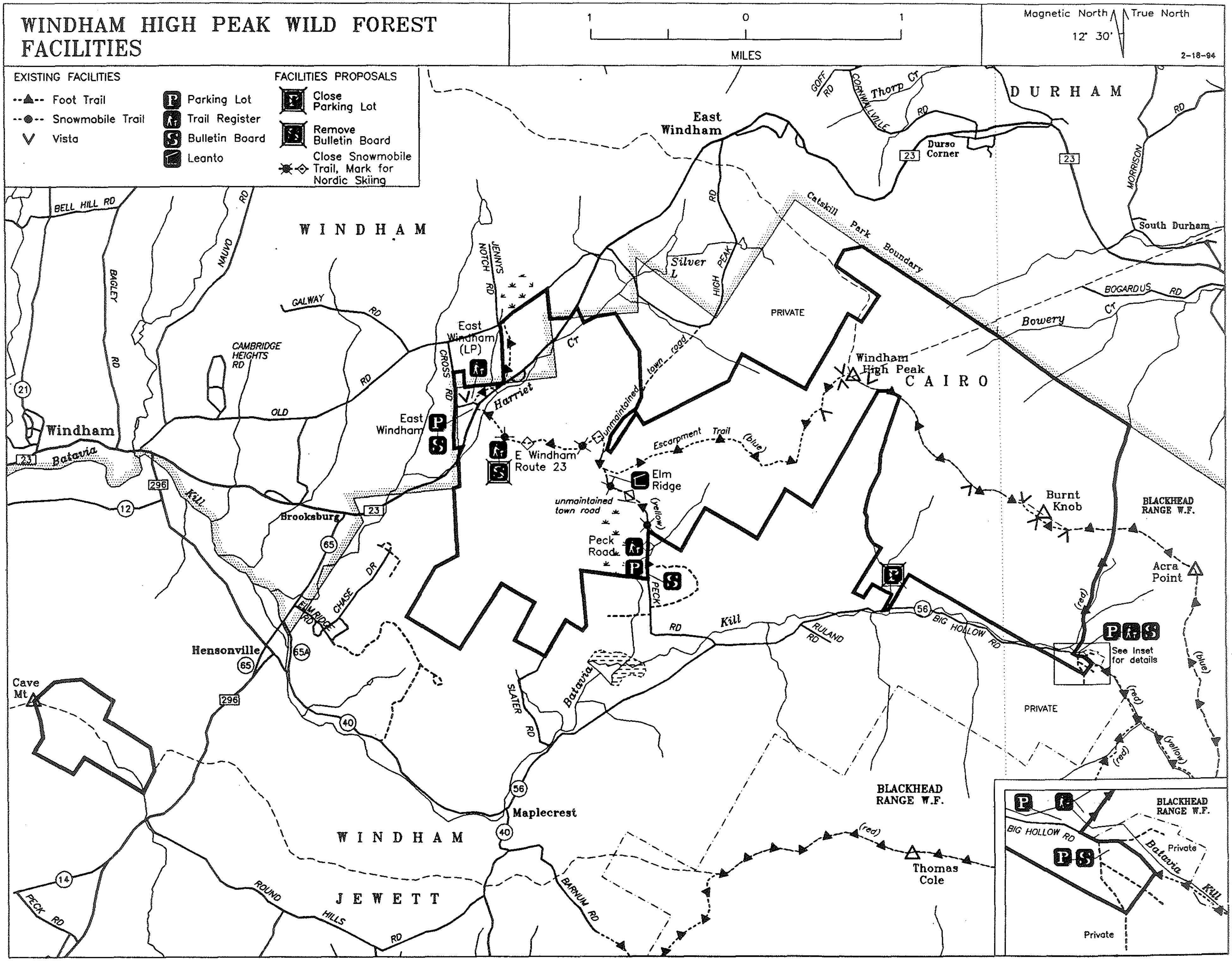
b. Too little emphasis in UMPs on historic, cultural and archaeological resources. Also, D.E.C. is criticized for ignoring the value of these resources. (D.E.C. documents any historic, cultural or archaeological information which is regularly solicited from O.P.R.H.P. and the N.Y.S. Archaeological Society, but this site-specific information is not given in the UMP. We are not geared to doing studies or digs, but the land is protected from major intrusions and is always available for research.)

The meeting closed about 9:30 PM.

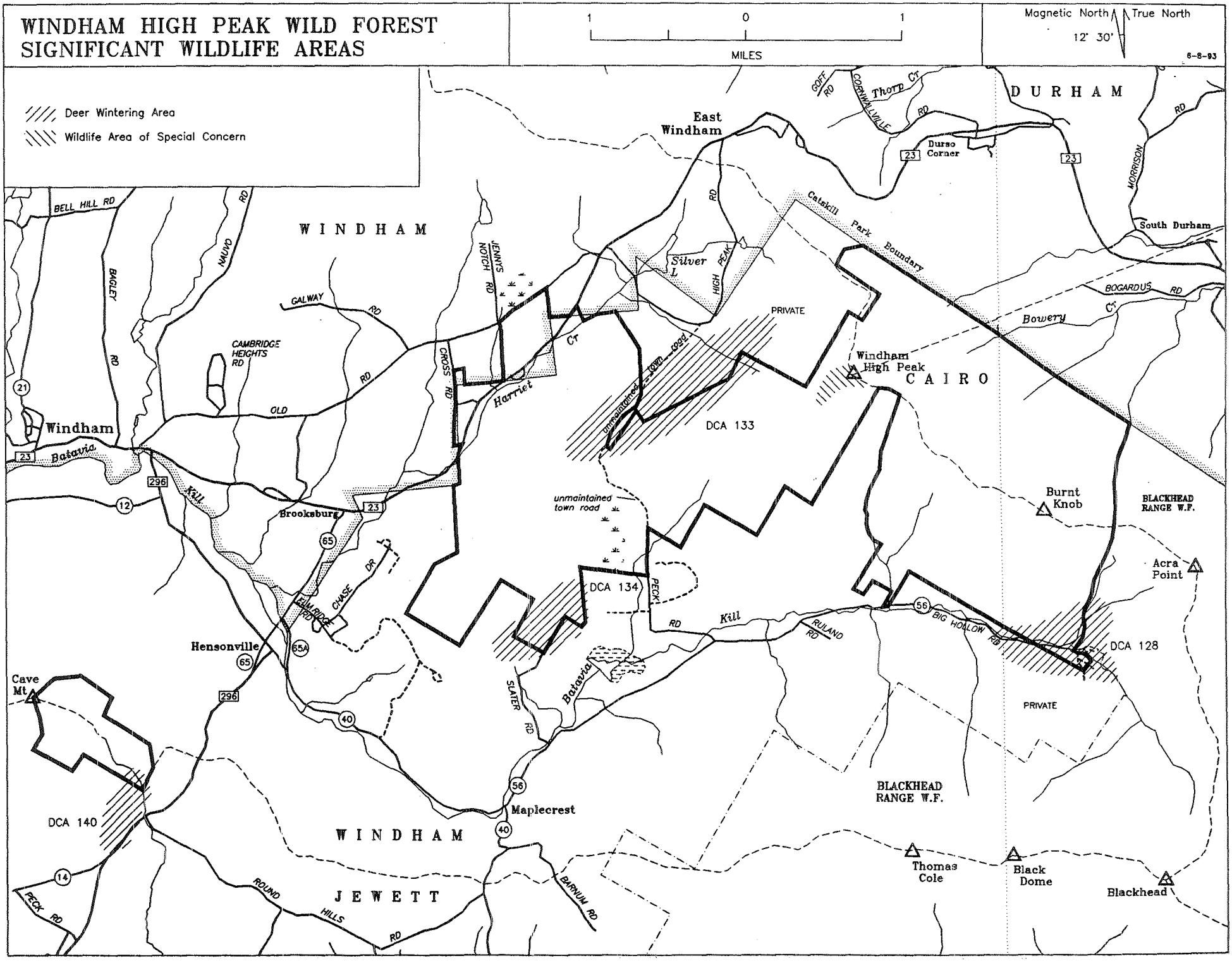
John R. Sencabaugh
Senior Forester

JRS/lr

October 28, 1993


WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST FACILITIES
1
0
1
MILES
Magnetic North
True North
12° 30'
2-18-94
EXISTING FACILITIES
Foot Trail
Snowmobile Trail
Vista
Parking Lot
Trail Register
Bulletin Board
Leanto
FACILITIES PROPOSALS
Close Parking Lot
Remove Bulletin Board
Close Snowmobile Trail, Mark for Nordic Skiing
WINDHAM
DURHAM
CAIRO
JEWETT
East Windham
Durso Corner
South Durham
Catskill Park Boundary
Silver L
PRIVATE
Windham High Peak
Escarpment Trail (blue)
Elm Ridge
East Windham (LP)
East Windham
E Windham Route 23
Peck Road
unmaintained town road
Burnt Knob
Acra Point
BLACKHEAD RANGE W.F.
See Inset for details
Windham
Brooksburg
Hensonville
Cave Mt
Maplecrest
Thomas Cole
Harriet Cr
Batavia Kill
BELL HILL RD
NAUVO RD
BAGLEY RD
GALWAY RD
CAMBRIDGE HEIGHTS RD
OLD RD
CROSS RD
JENNYS NOTCH RD
HIGH PEAK RD
GOFF RD
CORNWALLVILLE RD
Thorp Cr
MORRISON RD
BOGARDUS RD
Bowery Cr
CHASE DR
ELM RIDGE RD
SLATER RD
PECK RD
RULAND RD
BIG HOLLOW RD
ROUND HILLS RD
BARNUM RD
Private
(red)
(yellow)
(blue)

WINDHAM HIGH PEAK WILD FOREST
SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE AREAS



WINDHAM HIGH PEAK UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN - TOPOGRAPHY