



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY.

**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

West of Hudson

UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

DRAFT

**Towns of Saugerties, Esopus, Plattekill, Ulster,
Hamptonburgh, Montgomery, Warwick, and New
Windsor**

Counties of Orange and Ulster

October 2018

DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS
Bureau of Forest Resource Management
NYSDEC Region 3
21 South Putt Corners RD
New Paltz, NY 12561

This page intentionally left blank

West of Hudson

Unit Management Plan

A planning unit consisting of approximately 8,000 acres encompassing 7 State Forests in Orange and Ulster Counties:

Mt. Peter Hawk Watch, Stewart State Forest, Pochuck Mountain State Forest, Highwoods MUA, Hemlock Ridge MUA, Turkey Point State Forest, Black Creek State Forest

October 2018

Prepared by the West of Hudson Unit Management Planning Team:

Matthew C. Paul, Senior Forester

Patrick Miglio, Real Property Surveyor

Nathan Ermer, Wildlife Biologist

Michael Disarno, Fisheries Biologist

William Bernard, Operations Manager

Evan Masten, Forester I

Pine Roehrs, Senior Natural Resource Planner

Acknowledgments

The West of Hudson Unit Management Planning Team would like to gratefully acknowledge the efforts of all those who contributed to this plan. We particularly would like to thank the following organizations for the information they provided:

Stewart Park and Reserve Coalition (SPARC), Stewards of Stewart (SOS), The John Burroughs Association, Fats in the Cats Bicycle Club, and Scenic Hudson

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Lands and Forests
Bureau of Forest Resource Management
Region 3

This page is intentionally left blank

DEC's Mission

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

Vision Statement

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STATE FOREST OVERVIEW

Table of Contents

WEST OF HUDSON	1
<i>Counties of Orange and Ulster</i>	1
DEC'S MISSION	2
VISION STATEMENT	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
PREFACE	5
STATE FOREST OVERVIEW	5
<i>Legal Considerations</i>	5
<i>CP-42 Contact Cooperation, and Consultation with Indian Nations</i>	5
MANAGEMENT PLANNING OVERVIEW.....	6
<i>Public Participation</i>	6
<i>Strategic Plan for State Forest Management</i>	6
DEC'S MANAGEMENT APPROACH AND GOALS.....	7
<i>Forest Certification of State Forests</i>	7
<i>Ecosystem Management Approach</i>	8
<i>Ecosystem Management Strategies</i>	8
<i>State Forest Management Goals</i>	9
LOCATION MAP	11
INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT	12
STATE LANDS IN THE UNIT	12
<i>Facilities Not Included in this UMP</i>	12
SOILS	14
WATER RESOURCES	15
<i>Major Streams, Rivers and Water Bodies</i>	16
BIODIVERSITY	19
<i>Common Species</i>	19
<i>Habitat</i>	21
<i>Representative Sample Areas</i>	21
<i>At-Risk Species</i>	25
HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES	36
<i>History of the Unit</i>	36
<i>Inventory of Resources</i>	41
<i>Historic and Archaeological Site Protection</i>	42
<i>Archaeological Research</i>	42
REAL PROPERTY.....	42
<i>Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions</i>	43
<i>Land Acquisition</i>	44
INFRASTRUCTURE	44
<i>Roads and Trails</i>	45
<i>Signs / Kiosks</i>	46
<i>Boating and Fishing Facilities</i>	48
<i>Dams</i>	48
<i>Designated Campsites and Lean-tos</i>	49
<i>Utility Transmission and Collection Facilities</i>	49
<i>Buildings</i>	50
AGRICULTURE	50
NON-RECREATIONAL USES:	51
FORMAL AND INFORMAL PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS	52
RECREATION.....	54

STATE FOREST OVERVIEW

<i>Exceptional Recreational Opportunities</i>	54
<i>Wildlife-related Recreation</i>	55
<i>Camping</i>	59
<i>Water-based Recreation</i>	60
<i>Trail-based Recreation</i>	61
<i>Other Recreational Activities</i>	66
<i>Overall Assessment of the Level of Recreational Development</i>	67
UNIVERSAL ACCESS	68
<i>Application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</i>	69
SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES	70
<i>Tourism</i>	70
<i>Taxes Paid</i>	71
FOREST PRODUCTS	72
<i>Timber</i>	72
FOREST HEALTH	73
<i>Invasive Species</i>	74
<i>Managing Deer Impacts</i>	75
SUMMARY OF ECO-REGION ASSESSMENTS	76
ECO-REGION SUMMARY	76
LOCAL LANDSCAPE CONDITIONS	76
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS	78
OBJECTIVES	78
<i>Ecosystem Management</i>	78
<i>Resource Protection</i>	78
<i>Infrastructure and Real Property</i>	85
<i>Public/Permitted Use</i>	86
<i>Forest Management and Health</i>	88
TEN-YEAR LIST OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS.....	90
<i>Unit-wide Actions</i>	90
<i>Orange 2-Mt. Peter Hawk Watch</i>	90
<i>Orange 4-Stewart State Forest Actions</i>	90
<i>Orange 6-Pochuck Mountain State Forest Actions</i>	91
<i>Ulster 2-High Woods Multiple Use Area Actions</i>	92
<i>Ulster 3-Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area Actions</i>	92
<i>Ulster 5-Turkey Point State Forest Actions</i>	92
<i>Ulster 9-Black Creek State Forest Actions</i>	92
FOREST TYPE CODES	93
MANAGEMENT DIRECTION	93
TREATMENT TYPE	93
SIZE CLASS	94
LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES.....	95
BIBLIOGRAPHY	119
APPENDICES & FIGURES	121
APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS	121
APPENDIX B - STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW (SEQR)	127
APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS.....	130
APPENDIX D – WILDLIFE HARVEST DATA.....	135
APPENDIX E - GUIDELINES FOR STEWART STATE FOREST TEMPORARY REVOCABLE PERMITS (TRP)	
APPLICANTS:	138
FIGURE 1 – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS	141
FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS.....	148
FIGURE 3---CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS	137
FIGURE 4.-- FIELD MANAGEMENT	163

Preface

State Forest Overview

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

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

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

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

Legal Considerations

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

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

CP-42 Contact Cooperation, and Consultation with Indian Nations

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

Nine Indian Nations reside within, or have common geographic borders with New York State: the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, Tonawanda Seneca, Tuscarora, Unkechaug, and Shinnecock. Communication between DEC and the Indian Nations should be

direct and involve two-way dialogue and feedback. Face-to-face meetings are generally desirable; however, phone calls, correspondence, and other methods of communication are also encouraged. Therefore, DEC staff should be reaching out to the respective Nations as early in the UMP planning process as possible. The Department wishes to ensure that its actions, with respect to the environment and cultural resources, are sensitive to the concerns of Indian Nations, and that the perspective of the recognized Indian Nations is sought and taken into account when the Department undertakes an action having implications for indigenous peoples, their territories, and their culture. The Department and Indian Nations share key roles in protecting and preserving natural and cultural resources important to all citizens, and early consultation and cooperation between the Department and Indian Nations will foster more comprehensive protection and preservation of those resources.

Management Planning Overview

The West of Hudson Unit Management Plan (UMP) is based on a long range vision for the management of the following state lands: **Mt. Peter Hawk Watch, Stewart State Forest, Pochuck Mountain State Forest, Highwoods Multiple Use Area (MUA), Hemlock Ridge MUA Complex, Turkey Point State Forest, and Black Creek State Forest**. This plan seeks to balance long-term ecosystem health with current and future demands. This Plan addresses management activities on this unit for the next ten years, though some management recommendations will extend beyond the ten-year period. Factors such as budget constraints, wood product markets, and forest health problems may necessitate deviations from the scheduled management activities.

Public Participation

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

Strategic Plan for State Forest Management

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

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

DEC's Management Approach and Goals

Forest Certification of State Forests

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

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

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

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

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



The mark of
responsible forestry

FSC® C002027



Ecosystem Management Approach

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

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

Multiple-use Management

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

Landscape Ecology

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

Ecosystem Management Strategies

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

Passive Management

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

Silviculture (Active Management)

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



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

State Forest Management Goals***Goal 1 – Provide Healthy and Biologically Diverse Ecosystems***

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

Goal 2 – Maintain Man-made State Forest Assets

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

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

State Forests are suitable for a wide variety of outdoor recreational pursuits. Some of these activities are entirely compatible with one another, while others are best kept apart from each other. Equally varied are the people who undertake these activities, as well as their abilities, and their desire to challenge themselves. While not all people will be able to have the experience

DEC'S MANAGEMENT APPROACH and Goals

they desire on the same State Forest, the Department will endeavor to provide recreational opportunities to all those who wish to experience the outdoors in a relatively undeveloped setting.

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

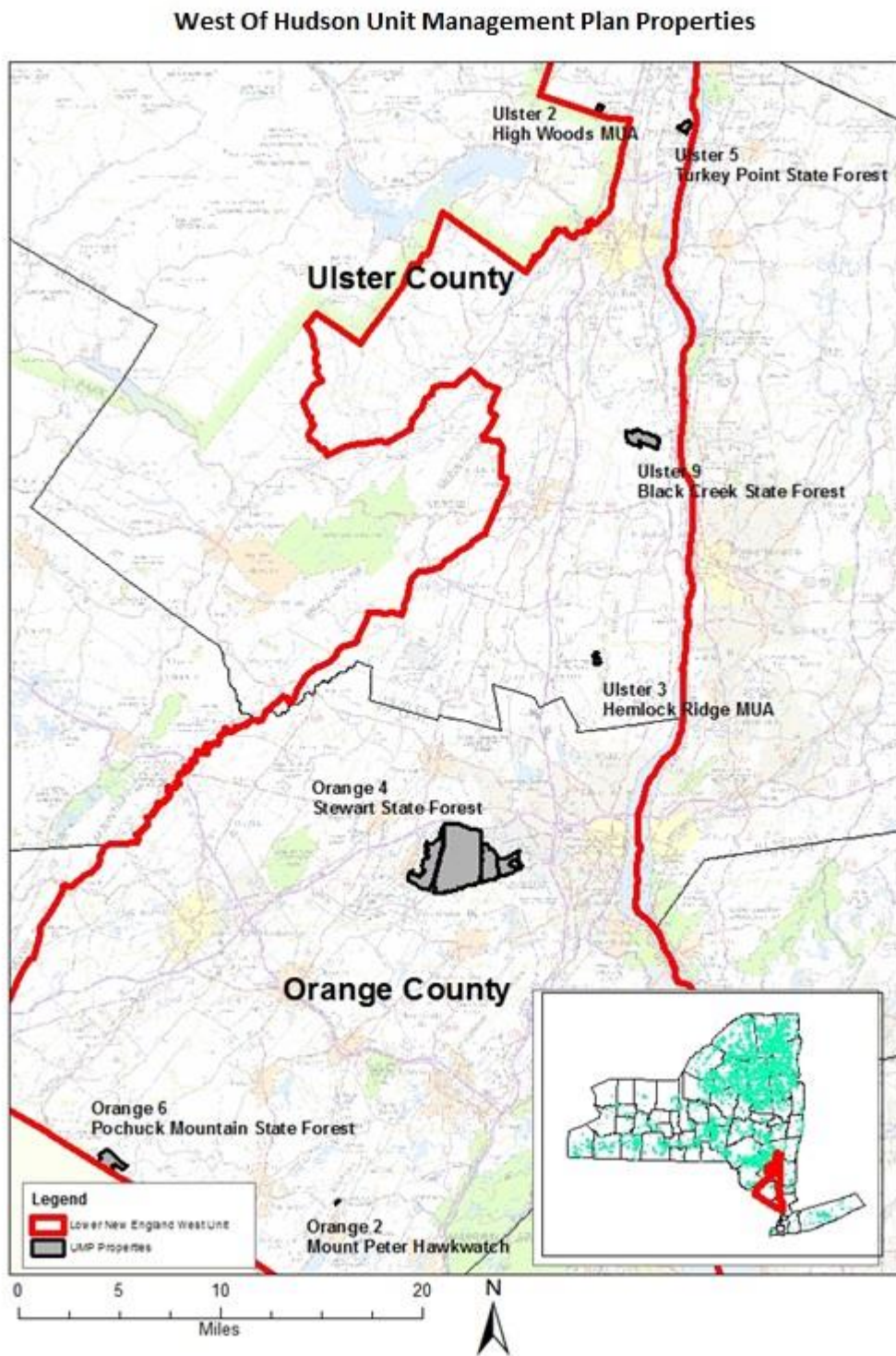
ECL §1-0101(1) provides in relevant part that “It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State of New York to conserve, improve and protect its natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall **economic** and social well-being.”

(Emphasis added) In considering all proposed actions, the Department will attempt to balance environmental protection with realizing potential economic benefit.

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

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

Location Map



Information on the West of Hudson Unit

State Lands in the Unit

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

<i>Table I.A. – State Lands in the Unit</i>	
Facility Name and Webpage	Acreage
Orange 2 – Mt. Peter Hawk Watch http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/82175.html	5
Orange 4 - Stewart State Forest http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/50095.html	6,635*
Orange 6 – Pochuck Mountain State Forest http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/40916.html	506*
Ulster 2 – Highwoods Multiple Use Area http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/104663.html	43
Ulster 3 – Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/104628.html	83
Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/74170.html	140*
Ulster 9 – Black Creek State Forest http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/104343.html	578*
TOTAL	7,990
*survey incomplete	

Facilities Not Included in this UMP

Listed below are other DEC lands in the planning unit managed by other DEC Divisions (Wildlife Management Areas, Fishing Access Sites, etc). Information on these properties is provided to show the scope of DEC managed lands and facilities in the planning unit. Further information can be obtained by contacting the regional facilities manager for the division listed.

Facility Name, Division, and Webpage	Acreage
Kowasese Unique Area, and Moodna Creek Estuarine Research Reserve, Lands and Forests http://www.orangecountynyparks.com/kowawese-unique-area-at-plum-point/	172.45
Detached Forest Preserve Parcels, Lands and Forests* http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/7811.html#K_Detached_Forest http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/45415.html	256.00*
Total Lands not included in West of Hudson Unit Management Plan	366.3

*Detached Forest preserve lands can be easily accessed and viewed by the public on DEC's interactive mapper. Detached Forest Preserve parcels are classified as Forest Preserve lands but are located outside of the Catskill and Adirondack Park boundaries. For more information on detached forest preserve parcels follow the link provided above.

High Conservation Value Forests

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

1. Rare Community - Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
2. Special Treatment - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, and refugia).
3. Cultural Heritage – Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and are critical to their traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).
4. Watershed - Forest areas that provide safe drinking water to local municipalities.
5. Forest Preserve* - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit,

where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

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

Portions of the West of Hudson Unit have been identified as having high conservation value. Acreage totals for designated HCVFs located within the unit can be found in the appropriate sections below. For more information on HCVFs please go to

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/42947.html>.

Soils

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

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

Facility Name	Predominant Soil Type(s)	Acres
Mt. Peter Hawk Watch	Rock outcrop-Hollis Complex Hollis	4 acres/66% 2 acres/34%
Stewart State Forest	Mardin Bath-Nassau Rock Outcrop Canandaigua Madalin	1,991 acres/30% 1,085 acres/16% 592 acres/9% 370 acres/6% 323 acres/5%
Pochuck Mountain State Forest	Hollis Rock Outcrop Swartswood Mardin	184 acres/36% 108 acres/21% 98 acres/19% 88 acres/17%
Highwoods Multiple Use Area	Lordstown-Arnot_Rock Complex	43 acres/100%
Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area	Bath-Nassau-Rock Outcrop Complex	65 acres/78%
Turkey Point State Forest	Nassau-Bath-Rock Outcrop Hudson	82 acres/58% 19 acres/14%

	Rhinebeck	19 acres/14%
Black Creek State Forest	Bath-Nassau-Rock Carlisle Muck	478 acres/82% 83 acres/14%

Water Resources

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

<i>Table I.C. – Water Resources (see Figure 2 for maps)</i>		
Watersheds		
Hydrologic unit(s)	Mid-Hudson-0202006 Rondout-0202007 Hudson-Wappinger-0202008 Lower Hudson-02030101 Hackensack-Passaic-02030103	
Watershed HCVF		1,822 ac
Wetlands		
All Wetlands		1298 ac.
Streams/Rivers *		
Intermittent streams		unknown
Perennial streams/rivers	AA or A	0 mi.
	B	6.2 mi.
	C	11 mi.
	D	1.4 mi.
Trout streams/rivers	AA (T), A (T), B (T) or C (T)	0.4 mi.
Water Bodies		
Water bodies (open-water ponds and lakes)		221 ac.

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

Major Streams, Rivers and Water Bodies

Freshwater Wetlands

Orange 4-Stewart State Forest:

Large wetland areas exist on the property. Twenty-one DEC mapped and regulated wetlands are located on the property. These wetlands range in size from 16.5 to 327 acres and have a total area of approximately 1,176 acres.

Human made wetlands have been created on the property as mitigation for impacts resulting from local NYSDOT projects and/or Airport projects. A 1999 Commissioner's order that transferred jurisdiction of 5300 acres of lands originally acquired by NYSDOT for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the purposes associated with the development of Stewart International Airport, reserved the use of what is now known as Stewart State Forest for "wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and Airport projects".

Three wetland projects exist on the property at this time. The first 1.5-acre wetland was created in 2001, west of New Road near the middle of the property. The second is a 13-acre wetland created in 2006 west of South Barron Road and the third is 3.5-acre wetland created in 2008 just south of I-84 between North Barron Road and New Road. Wetland mitigation projects are prohibited in the 1600+ acre addition east of Maple Avenue (transferred in June, 2006). See Figure 1. for a freshwater wetlands map of the Stewart State Forest.

As stated in the 2006 UMP for Stewart State Forest, DEC will work with DOT and/or airport officials to select mitigation sites most appropriate and beneficial to the environment. DEC will also encourage DOT to avoid construction of mitigation sites which would disrupt recreational use.

Also, the 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 13 Appendix C, Final Stewart State Forest UMP, December 2006) which is a part of the 2006 Transfer of Jurisdiction limits DOT to:

"construction of mitigation wetlands only for Airport projects and for NYSDOT projects located within Orange County, and only when it has exhausted all feasible and prudent alternatives at the site of the project in question, and only with the approval of NYSDEC and/or the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, as required by law."

The 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 14 Appendix C, Final Stewart State Forest UMP, December 2006) also states that the new lands transferred to Stewart State

Forest, east of Maple Ave, by NYSDOT to NYSDEC, shall not be used “for such wetland mitigation construction purposes and NYSDEC shall not grant such right to NYSDOT or any other person or entity.”

Orange 6-Pochuck Mountain State Forest:

Approximately 5 acres of non-state regulated wetlands occur on Pochuck Mountain State Forest. (See Figure 1 for a wetland map of the property.)

Ulster 2-Highwoods Multiple Use Area:

Non-regulated wetlands adjoin the property and special management zone buffers associated with these wetlands. (See Figure 1 for SMZ map of the property.)

Ulster 3-Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area:

Approximately 24 acres of state designated wetlands occur on Hemlock Ridge MUA. (See Figure 1 for a wetland map of the property.)

Ulster 5-Turkey Point State Forest:

Approximately 1/3 of an acre of non-state regulated wetland occurs on Turkey Point State Forest. (See Figure 1 for a wetland map of the property.)

Ulster 9-Black Creek State Forest:

Approximately 42 acres of state regulated wetlands occur with the Black Creek State Forest. Additionally, there are approximately 40 acres of smaller non-state regulated wetlands scattered throughout the property. (See Figure 1 for a wetland map of the property.)

Ponds or Lakes

Orange 4-Stewart State Forest:

1. Rowe's Pond-2 acres
2. Restoration Pond-10 acres
3. Beaver Pond-6 acres
4. Pittman-Robertson Pond-1 acre
5. Stick Pond 4 acres
6. Whalenburgh Pond-6 acres
7. Wilkens Pond-4 acres

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

Water Quality Classifications

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

- AA or A- Drinking Water
- B- Swimming and contact recreation but not for drinking
- C- Supports fisheries and suitable for non-contact activities
- D-Lowest classification

Orange 4-Stewart State Forest:

Two tributaries on the property are classified Class B

- H139-13-33-3 (Tributary 3 of Tin Brook, a tributary to the Wallkill River. Flows north under Ridge Road near north Scofield Lane).
- H139-13-33 (The Great Swamp is the headwaters of Tin Brook which flows north to the Wallkill River).

Two tributaries on the property are classified Class C:

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

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

One stream on the property is classified as C(T):

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

Ulster 5-Turkey Point State Forest:

The Hudson River is along the eastern boundary of the property. It is classified as "A".

Two streams on the property are classified as "D".

H-154 is actually the index number given for the two streams that come together to form a small Hudson River tributary flowing south into the county park before cascading down a small waterfall and entering the Hudson River.

Ulster 9-Black Creek State Forest:

One stream on this property is classified as a "B" class stream.

H-128 (Black Creek)- Black Creek is a "B" class stream that flows into the property from the south and exits the property to the north as it makes its way through the Burroughs Sanctuary and eventually into the Hudson River.

There are two streams on this property that are classified as “D” class streams.

H-128-4 is an unnamed tributary to the Black creek that flows from south to north through a network of wetlands between Martin Ave to its west and Chodikee Lake Road to its east. It enters the Black Creek approximately 1000 feet north (downstream) of the waterfalls associated with the abandoned mill site.

H-128-4-1 and it is unnamed/unindexed tributary enter H-128-4 approximately 1,800 feet before it's confluence with Black Creek.

Biodiversity

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

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

Common Species

Statewide wildlife survey efforts conducted by the NYSDEC have included two Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) projects (1980-1985 and 2000-2005) and the New York State Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project (1990-1995). These data provide a general indication of the species found throughout the unit and the adjacent region. Additionally, the Bureau of Wildlife collects harvest data on a number of game species (those that are hunted and trapped). Harvest data is not collected specific to State Forest units, but rather a town, county and wildlife management unit basis. Harvest data can provide some indication of wildlife distribution and abundance and is sometimes the only source of data on mammals.

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

- NYS Breeding Bird Atlas Blocks: 5257B, 5257D, 5258B, 5258D, 5356A, 5356B, 5357A, 5357B, 5357C, 5357D, 5358A, 5358B, 5358C, 5358D, 5359C, 5359D, 5456A, 5456B, 5456C, 5456D, 5457A, 5457B, 5457C, 5457D, 5458A, 5458B, 5458C, 5458D, 5459A, 5459B, 5459C, 5459D, 5460B, 5460C, 5460D, 5555A, 5555B, 5356B, 5555D, 5556A, 5556B, 5556D, 5557A, 5557B, 5557C, 5557D, 5558A, 5558B, 5558C, 5558D, 5559A, 5559B, 5559C, 5559D, 5560A, 5560B, 5560C, 5560D, 5561A, 5562A, 5562B, 5563A, 5563C, 5563D, 5654B, 5655A, 5655B, 5655C, 5655D, 5656A, 5656B, 5656C, 5656D, 5657A, 5657B, 5657C, 5657D, 5658A, 5658B, 5658C, 5658D, 5659A, 5659B, 5659C, 5659D, 5660A, 5660B, 5660C, 5660D, 5661A, 5661B, 5661C, 5661D,

5662A, 5662B, 5662D, 5663A, 5663B, 5663C, 5663D, 5754A, 5754B, 5754C, 5754D, 5755A, 5755B, 5755C, 5755D, 5756A, 5756B, 5756C, 5756D, 5757A, 5757B, 5757C, 5757D, 5758A, 5758B, 5758C, 5758D, 5759A, 5759B, 5759C, 5759D, 5760A, 5760B, 5760C, 5760D, 5761A, 5761B, 5761C, 5761D, 5762A, 5762B, 5762C, 5762D, 5763A, 5763B, 5763C, 5763D, 5764B, 5764C, 5764D, 5853B, 5854A, 5854B, 5854C, 5854D, 5855A, 5855B, 5855C, 5855D, 5856A, 5856C, 5856D, 5857A, 5857C, 5858A, 5858C, 5859A, 5860A, 5860C, 5861A, 5861C, 5862A, 5862C, 5863A, 5863C, 5864A, 5864C

Breeding Bird Atlas blocks can be searched at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/xtapps/bba/>

- Herp Atlas Block (USGS Quad Names): ASHOKAN, CLINTONDALE, CORNWALL, GARDINER, GOSHEN, GREENWOODLAKE, HAVERSTRAW, HYDEPARK, KERHONKSON, KINGSTONEAST, KINGSTONWEST, MAYBROOK, MIDDLETOWN, MOHONKLAKE, MONROE, NAPANOCH, NEWBURGH, NYACK, OTISVILLE, PARKRIDGE, PEEKSKILL, PINEBUSH, PINEISLAND, POPOLOPENLAKE, POUGHKEEPSIE, ROSENDALE, SAUGERTIES, SLOATSBURG, THIELLS, UNIONVILLE, WALDEN, WAPPINGERSFALL, WARWICK, WAWAYANDA, WESTPOINT, WOODSTOCK, WURTSBORO

Herp Atlas information on amphibians, toads, frogs, turtles, lizards and snakes can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7140.html>

Wildlife Management Guidelines

The legal foundation for wildlife and fisheries management in New York State is embodied in Article 11 of the Environmental Conservation Law. Article 11 authorizes NYSDEC to insure the perpetuation of fish and wildlife species and their habitats and to regulate hunting and trapping through the issuance of licenses, the establishment of hunting and trapping seasons and manner of taking, and the setting of harvest limits. Game species will continue to be managed by appropriate regional or statewide hunting or trapping seasons.

Past wildlife management actions on the unit have been limited to those actions authorized under Article 11 of the ECL described above and statewide wildlife surveys (for example, BBA).

Wildlife Management Objectives

While all of the wildlife objectives and management actions outlined in the management actions section of this plan are important, a management priority should be placed on increasing our understanding of the occurrence and distribution of many wildlife species and their habitats within the unit. The following objectives will be used to guide future wildlife management actions:

1. To perpetuate, support, and expand a variety of wildlife recreational opportunities, including sustainable hunting and trapping and wildlife observation and photography as desirable uses of wildlife resources.
2. To assure that wildlife populations are of appropriate size to meet the demands placed on them, including consumptive and non-consumptive uses.
3. To increase our understanding of the occurrence, distribution, and ecology of game and nongame wildlife species and their habitats.
4. To minimize wildlife damage and nuisance problems.

To meet the public's desire for information about wildlife and its conservation, use, and enjoyment.**Habitat**

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

Vegetative Types and Stages

Table I.D. - Vegetative Types and Stages within the Unit (see Figure 4 for maps)					
Vegetative Type	Acres by Size Class				% of Total
	0 -5 in	6 - 11 in	12+ in	Other	
Natural Forest Hardwood	1295	3113	274		59.25
Natural Forest Conifer		35	2		0.5
Plantation Softwoods				11	0.14
Wetland				1127	14.26
Ponds				29	0.36
Open/Brush				1887.7	23.8
Other (Roads, Parking lots, etc.)				128.3	1.62
Total (Acres)	1295	3148	276	3183	100%

Representative Sample Areas

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

1. To establish and/or maintain an ecological reference condition; or
2. To create or maintain an under-represented ecological condition (i.e. includes samples of successional phases, forest types, ecosystems, and/or ecological communities); or

3. To serve as a set of protected areas or refugia for species, communities and community types not captured in other protection standards such as an endangered species or a High Conservation Value Forest.

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

There are no designated RSAs on the West of Hudson Unit.

Table I.E. – RSA and Rare Community HCFVs within the Unit				
Community Name	Vegetative Type/ HCVF classification	Facility Name / Stand Numbers	NYNHP Rank	Acreage
<i>Representative Sample Areas of Commonly Occurring Natural Communities</i>				
None				
<i>Rare Community HCVF</i>				
Purple Milkweed	Special Treatment Area	Orange 4: Stewart SF	S2S3	0.08
	Watershed Protection Area	Orange 6: Pochuck SF		506.15
Black Edge Sedge	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 2: Highwoods MUA	S2	0.08
Rizeniceks Sedge	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 2: Highwoods MUA	S1S2	0.08
	Watershed Protection Area	Ulster 9: Black Creek SF		1.32
	Watershed Protection Area	Ulster 3: Hemlock Ridge MUA		83.00
Shortnose Sturgeon	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 5: Turkey Point MUA	S1	3.15
Atlantic Sturgeon	Special Treatment	Ulster 5: Turkey Point MUA	S1	3.15

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

	Area			
Russet-tipped clubtail	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 5: Turkey Point MUA	S1	1.2
	Watershed Protection Area	Ulster 5: Turkey Point MUA		137.06
Northern Cricket Frog	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 9: Black Creek SF	S1	N/A
Large twayblade	Special Treatment Area	Ulster 9: Black Creek SF	S1	N/A
	Watershed Protection Area	Ulster 9: Black Creek SF		1.32

Resource Protection Areas

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

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

The identification of large, unfragmented forested areas, also called matrix forest blocks, is an important component of biodiversity conservation and forest ecosystem protection. In addition, securing connections between major forested landscapes and their imbedded matrix forest blocks is important for the maintenance of viable populations of species, especially wide-ranging and highly mobile species, and ecological processes such as dispersal and pollination over the long term.

Maintaining or enhancing matrix forest blocks and connectivity corridors must be balanced against the entire array of goals, objectives and demands that are placed on a particular State Forest. Where matrix forest block maintenance and enhancement is chosen as a priority for a given property, management actions and decisions should emphasize closed canopy and interior forest conditions. The following areas have been identified to meet demands at the landscape level:

- Matrix Forest Block 577 acres
- Forest Landscape Connectivity Corridor 6253 acres

- USFWS Critical Habitat Area 0 acres

More information regarding Matrix Forest blocks, connectivity corridors and associated management considerations can be found in the SPSFM page 85 at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

At-Risk Species

The presence of at-risk species and communities on the West of Hudson Unit and in the surrounding landscape has been investigated to inform appropriate management actions and protections. The investigation was conducted in development of this UMP and the associated inventory of State Forest resources. There are no at-risk natural communities on the West of Hudson Unit and a more focused assessment will be conducted before undertaking specific management actions that may impact at-risk species. Appropriate protections for at-risk species may include reserving areas from management activity or mitigating impacts of activity. For more information on protection of at-risk species, please see SPSFM page 115 at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

Investigation of at-risk species and natural communities included:

- Review of Element Occurrence Records found on NYNHP's Biological and Conservation Data System
- Completion of a Biodiversity Inventory by NYNHP and review of NYNHP conservation guides
- Review of the NYS Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

Table I.E. lists the species confirmed or predicted on the State Forests that comprise this unit and in the larger landscape, as well as their required habitats.

Table I.E. - At-Risk Species*				
Species Name	NYNHP Rank	Habitat	Record Source	NYS Status
Confirmed or Predicted within the Unit				
Blue-spotted Salamander	S3	Seasonal wetlands	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN HP

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

Eastern Long-tailed Salamander	S2S3	Small streams, springs, and seepages	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Fowler's Toad	S4	Sandy woodlands (often near water)	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Jefferson Salamander	S3	Seasonal wetlands	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SPCN
Marbled Salamander	S3	Seasonal wetlands	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN
Northern Cricket Frog	S1	Perennial wetlands, seasonal wetlands	Herp Atlas, DEC R3 Data	Endangered, SGCN HP
Northern Red Salamander	S3S4	Small streams, springs, and seepages	Herp Atlas	SPCN
American Black Duck	S3B, SNRN	Perennial wetlands	BBA	SGCN HP, Game Species
American Bittern	S4	Emergent marsh	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN
American Kestrel	S5B	Meadows, Fields	BBA	SGCN
American Woodcock	S5	Shrublands, early successional habitats	BBA	SGCN, Game Species
Black-billed Cuckoo	S5B	Woodlands	BBA	SGCN
Black-throated Blue Warbler	S5	Deciduous woodland understory	BBA	SGCN
Blue-winged Warbler	S5	Shrublands	BBA	SGCN
Bobolink	S5B	Grasslands	BBA	SGCN HP
Brown Thrasher	S3S4B	Shrublands	BBA	SGCN HP

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

Canada Warbler	S5	Dense woodland understory	BBA	SGCN HP
Cerulean Warbler	S3B	Deciduous wetlands, Dry ridges	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN
Common Nighthawk	S2S3B	Woodlands, farmlands, suburban areas	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Cooper's Hawk	S4	Interior woodlands	BBA	Special Concern
Eastern Meadowlark	S5B	Grasslands	BBA	SGCN HP
Golden-winged Warbler	S3B	Shrublands, utility rights-of-way	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Horned Lark	S3S4B	Open Fields	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Least Bittern	S3B, S1N	Emergent marsh	BBA	Threatened, SGCN
Louisiana Waterthrush	S5	Woodland mountain streams	BBA	SGCN
Osprey	S5	Large waterbodies, wetlands	BBA	Special Concern
Pied-billed grebe	S3B, S1N	Emergent marsh	BBA, NHP	Threatened, SGCN
Prairie Warbler	S5	Shrublands	BBA	SGCN
Red-headed Woodpecker	S2B	Open Woodlands, Wooded Swamps	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Red-shouldered Hawk	S4B, SZN	Interior woodlands	BBA	Special Concern, SGCN

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

Ruffed Grouse	S5	Early successional habitats	BBA	SGCN, Game Species
Scarlet Tanager	S5B	Deciduous woodlands	BBA	SGCN
Sharp-shinned Hawk	S4	Interior woodlands	BBA	Special Concern
Wood Thrush	S5	Woodlands	BBA	SGCN
Worm-eating Warbler	S4	Woodland understory	BBA	SGCN
Common Snapping Turtle	S5	Permanent wetlands	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Eastern Hognose Snake	S3	Sandy woodlands (often near water)	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Eastern Musk Turtle	S5	Permanent wetlands	Herp Atlas	SGCN HP
Eastern Ratsnake	S4	Shrublands, woodland openings	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Eastern Ribbon Snake	S4	Aquatic woodland edges	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Northern Black Racer	S4	Shrublands, woodland openings	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Northern Copperhead	S3	Rocky woodlands	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Smooth Greensnake	S4	Woodland openings	Herp Atlas	SGCN
Wood Turtle	S3	Small streams, springs, and seepages	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Woodland Box Turtle	S3	Deciduous woodlands	Herp Atlas	Special Concern, SGCN HP
Eastern Pipistrelle	S3	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	SGCN HP
Eastern Red Bat	S5B	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	SGCN

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

Hoary Bat	S4B	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	SGCN
Indiana Myotis	S1	Riparian woodlands	NYS CWCS, NHP	Endangered, SGCN HP
Little Brown Myotis	NR	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	SGCN HP
Northern Myotis	S3S4	Woodlands	NYS CWCS, NHP	Threatened, SGCN HP
Silver-haired Bat	S4B	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	SGCN
Small-footed Myotis	S2	Woodlands	NYS CWCS	Special Concern, SGCN
Confirmed or Predicted in the Landscape and May Be Affected by State Forest Management				
Peregrine Falcon	S3B	Cliffs	NHP	Endangered, SGCN
Bald Eagle	S2S3B, S2N	Waterbodies, rivers, major streams	NHP	Threatened, SGCN

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

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

- * S1 - typically 5 or fewer occurrences
- S2 - typically 6-20 occurrences
- S3 - typically 21 - 100 occurrences
- S4 - apparently secure in NYS
- S5 - demonstrably secure in NYS
- SA - accidental species
- SH - historically known from NYS, but not seen in the past 15 years
- SX - apparently extirpated from NYS
- SR - reported to occur in NYS, but no specific locations documented
- SU - species unrankable due to uncertainty about number of occurrences
- SZ - species occurs in NYS, but generally not in specific locations
- S? - species not evaluated yet
- NR - not rated yet
- Modifiers - (B) signifies that the species breeds instate, (N) signifies it does not breed instate

Key to Codes

BBA - Breeding Bird Atlas

(PRED) - Predicted Species

(CONF) - Confirmed Species

Status

E - Endangered Species (New York)

T - Threatened Species (New York)

PSC - Protected, Special Concern Species (New York)

SGCN - Species of Greatest Conservation Need

DRAFT

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

BIODIVERSITY

Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species

New York has classified species at risk into three categories, endangered, threatened, and species of special concern (6 NYCRR §182). The following section indicates the protective status of some vertebrates that may be in the unit:

Endangered: Any species that is either native and in imminent danger of extirpation or extinction in New York; or is listed as endangered by the US Department of Interior.

Threatened: Any species that is either native and likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future in New York; or is listed as threatened by the US Department of the Interior.

Special Concern: Native species not yet recognized as endangered or threatened, but for which documented concern exists for their continued welfare in New York. Unlike the first two categories, they receive no additional legal protection under the Environmental Conservation Law; but, they could become endangered or threatened in the future and should be closely monitored.

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

Orange 2 - Mount Peter Hawk Watch: This scenic overlook provides an expansive view of the Warwick Valley through which record numbers of migrating raptors pass during fall migration. It's part of a network of hawk watches stretching from Florida to Canada. Broad-Wings, Sharp-Shins, Red-Shoulders, Goshawks, Kestrels and Golden and Bald Eagles are among the more than 16 hawk species sighted.

Orange 4 – Stewart State Forest: There are several scenic areas within Stewart State Forest. The working landscape and patchwork of agricultural fields and small ponds provide a wide assortment of bucolic landscapes for users to enjoy. Among the most notable features includes:

- The Great Swamp Boardwalk: Completed in 2014, the boardwalk provides users unprecedented access into one of the most distinguishing features of the property, the Great Swamp.
- Buchanan Hill: At 658 feet above sea level, Buchanan Hill is the highest point on the property. A series of open meadows provides great views throughout the Hudson Valley.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Ridge Road Bench: South of the intersection between Ridge Road and Pittman Robertson Trail is a roadside bench providing scenic views of the roadside field (NR-20).

Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest: The main point of interest on this property is the Hudson River. Spectacular view of Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge and Tivoli Bays can be found at the former Coast Guard dock that now serves as a fishing wharf.

Ulster 9 – Black Creek State Forest: Black Creek State Forest has a few notable points of interest for users.

- An upland swamp located near the Timber Line Trail Access Area provides a great opportunity to view wildlife.
- The crossing at the old mill site has a number of cascading waterfalls and pools.
- The ridge on the northeast of the Bear Vly swamp provides some great views looking west.

Historic and Cultural Resources

History of the Unit

The West of Hudson Unit has a rich and storied history. There have been many publications that have discussed the complex and rich history of these properties. This plan is by no means a complete history of the lands that encompass the West of Hudson unit. Historic information within the plan focuses on historic features, figures, events, and cultural resources that influence management decisions. In these instances management actions must be respectful of these resources and in some situations, where appropriate, highlight those features.

While there is a focus on events occurring post European discovery of the new world, it's largely due to the significant manipulation of the environment that occurred during this period and its impacts on the landscape. This historic manipulation influences current management decisions not only from a historic preservation stand point but directly influences forest management decisions due to large scale land clearing for timbering and agricultural uses that occurred. Some Pre-European history is included in the property specific histories in addition to the following summary that gives a general description of pre-European History of the area, but doesn't delve into the culture and complexities of the indigenous peoples of the West of Hudson Unit.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Pre-European History

The following History was taken from the Stewart State Forest UMP adopted 12/16/2006.

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

At the time of European contact, the Native American groups who inhabited this portion of the Hudson Valley were Lenape or Delaware. The Lenape consisted of two related groups, the Munsee and Unami, who were characterized by distinct Algonquin dialects. The Munsee occupied the territory that became northern New Jersey and southern New York. Among the Munsee-speaking groups, the Esopus occupied the area west of the Hudson River, between the Catskills and the highlands at West Point. Local subgroups included Waoranecks, the Warranwankongs, and the Wappingers (New York State DOT, 1992; Ruttenber and Clark 1981).

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

Historic figures, events, and structures that influence management decisions on lands within this unit will now be described for each specific property.

Orange 2 – Mt. Peter Hawk Watch: The Mount Peter Hawk Watch Trailway is a small 5-acre parcel on Mount Peter, a high point along the Bellvale Mountain Ridge. Mount Peter Hawk Watch is unique because of its small size, providing access for a scenic overlook, raptor viewing and birdwatching. This is one of several famous hawk watches in the northeast and is the third oldest in the country.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The property is named after the Mount Peter House, opened by Michael Batz in 1890. The 'Peter' was derived from Peter Conklin, the former landowner. In time, the mountain itself came to be known as Mount Peter. The Valley View Inn occupied part of the property until it was destroyed by fire in 1986. This property continues to host annual hawk watches, the view and viewing platform are features that could be considered the focus of management activities on this property and directly influenced by the history of the property.

Orange 4 – Stewart State Forest: The Stewart State Forest is a large block of rural landscape surrounded by largely developed suburban and urban areas of eastern Orange County. In 1969, the U.S. Air Force closed its airbase and declared the property surplus. In March of 1970 the Air Force transferred title of the 1,600 acre airport to the state Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). The land to the west of Stewart International Airport has been in public ownership since approximately 1971, when the MTA acquired and appropriated 802 parcels of land which totaled 8,076 acres in anticipation of the airport's expansion. State officials thought Stewart would become the fourth major airport serving the New York City metropolitan area. There is also some indication that the State intended to develop Stewart as the east coast's supersonic transport (SST) airport -hence, the very long runway and large buffer area. The State bought 802 parcels of land with 337 residences and farmhouses - mostly through eminent domain. About 1,200 people lived on these properties. Remnants of house foundations, driveways, and old orchards are still found on the land, testifying to the residential and agricultural uses which took place here. Farmers that were on the lands that currently make up Stewart State Forest continue to farm fields that were actively farmed prior to DEC ownership of the property under conditions that are outlined in temporary revocable permits.

The buildings on the property were demolished starting in 1972. The airport expansion was abandoned by 1982 and the state legislature transferred ownership from the MTA to the DOT. This allowed the MTA to return to its core business of providing mass transportation for the metropolitan area. Commercial passenger flights began at Stewart Airport in 1990.

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

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

Orange 6 – Pochuck Mountain State Forest: Pochuck Mountain State Forest is within the Hudson Valley Ecozone (Chambers 1983). This zone forms a narrow corridor lying on both sides of the Hudson River from Washington County to the north to Orange County in the south. It encompasses all of the New York portion of the Wallkill River Valley in which this property is located. The rolling hills and plains throughout this ecozone are interlaced with long narrow bottomlands which were formed by alluvial deposits.

Pochuck Mountain rises above what was once an impenetrable swamp known to those who settled the region as the Adrowned lands of the Wallkill. The swamp was formed nearly 12,000 years ago when the glaciers receded from southern New York. The glaciers left behind a deposit of granite in Denton, north of the Hamlet of Pine Island. This deposit acted as a natural dam inhibiting the slow and irregular flow of the Wallkill River. The river and its tributaries (Quacker, Pochuck and Rutgers Creeks) consequently backed up into the lowlands to the south and created a forty-thousand acre swamp.

Before European settlement, the area surrounding this great swamp was inhabited by the Munsee Tribe. The Munsee were one of the three principle confederate tribes of the Lenape or Delaware Tribe.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the swamp was drained and converted into agricultural uses which persists to this day. The Ablack dirt region, which this former swamp is now affectionately called because of the high organic content of its soil, consists of 22 square miles of some of the richest farmland in New York State. One-half of the onions grown in the state come from this region. Pochuck Mountain protrudes northward from New Jersey and divides the Ablack dirt region into two Alegs along the Wallkill River and Pochuck Creek. These legs come together at the confluence of these two water bodies to form the heart of this important agricultural region.

Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest: The Turkey Point Area is fairly rich in history due to its location on the Hudson River. There are references in several local history texts referring to an Indian Trail leading to the river at Kalkoene Hoeck, or Turkey Point. The earliest land deed to this area was made on February 13, 1688 when Governor Dongan granted 200 acres reaching along the river bank south to Turkey Point to Claus and Abel Westphalen.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The Knickerbocker Ice Company maintained an ice house at Turkey Point between 1900 and 1936. The remnants of the buildings associated with these activities can still be found on the river bank today.

In 1938, the U.S. Coast Guard built a large, deep water concrete dock at Turkey Point to service the area. DEC acquired the property through the National Park Service's Federal Lands to Parks program in 2003. The storage building has since been removed and replaced with a parking area for people with disabilities. The dock now serves as a Hudson River Access Point and Water Trail Site.

During the 1940's and 50's, a summer camp for children was established on the portion of the property beyond the parking area at Flatbush Camp Road. Building associated with the camp were removed in 1996 by DEC.

Aside from the 8.2 acre coast guard acquisition in 2003, the main portion of the property was acquired by Scenic Hudson in two purchases in November 1989 and March 1990. NYSDEC purchased the property from Scenic Hudson in October 1997. The property was acquired under the "Open Space" category through the Environmental Quality Bond Act of 1986. To protect the scenic resources, two conservation easements were developed on private properties located north of Turkey Point State Forest.

Ulster 2-Highwoods MUA & Ulster 3 – Hemlock Ridge State MUA:

Highwoods and Hemlock ridge multiple use areas are originally detached forest preserve parcels. Under the NYS constitution section 3 article 14, detached forest preserve parcels that are outside of the Catskill Park and less than 100 acres in size can be rededicated by the Department. Both properties were rededicated, Hemlock Ridge MUA in 1980 and Highwoods MUA in 1979 to Multiple Use Areas. This is particularly significant since multiple use areas can be actively managed for recreation, timber, wildlife, and water quality.

Ulster 9 – Black Creek State Forest: The area surrounding Black Creek State Forest has an extensive history. One of the most distinguishing features of the property are the series of waterfalls located toward the southern end of the property near the outlet of Chodikee Lake. The remnants of a historic mill can be found there. The area surrounding the mill near the town line of Lloyd was an area called Shattigay by Native Americans. In a deed from 1852 the name derivation was spelled Shattigay to Shataca to Chodikee. The mill was widely thought to have played a role in the revolutionary war and for this reason John Burroughs would bring Henry Ford and other guests to visit its remains. There was speculation that the mill supplied flour to the West Point Garrison, but according to historian Warren G. Sherwood the mill was originally a sawmill and was converted to a gristmill in 1800. (Town of Esopus story, 3000 B.C.-1978 A.D., Ulster County, New York. 1978)

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Burroughs purchased land to the north of present day Black Creek State Forest in 1897 and built the well-known Slabsides house. (John Burroughs' Slabsides, Elizabeth Burroughs Kelley, 1987.) As was the case when Burroughs used the property, the falls and the Mill site continue to be a popular destination for hikers accessing from the John Burroughs Nature Sanctuary.

Inventory of Resources

The term cultural resources encompass a number of categories of human created resources including structures, archaeological sites and related resources. The Department is required by the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) (PRHPL Article 14) and SEQRA (ECL Article 8) as well as Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law, 6NYCRR Section 190.8 (g) and Section 233 of Education Law to include such resources in the range of environmental values that are managed on public lands. For more information on protection of historic and cultural resources, please see SPSFM page 139 at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>. Archaeological sites are, simply put, any location where materials (artifacts, eco-facts) or modifications to the landscape reveal evidence of past human activity. This includes a wide range of resources ranging from pre-contact Native American camps and villages to Euroamerican homesteads, cemeteries and graves as well as mills and other and industrial sites. Such sites can be entirely subsurface or can contain above ground remains such as foundation walls or earthwork features.

The quality of the site inventory information varies a great deal in all respects. Very little systematic archaeological survey has been undertaken in New York State, especially on public lands. Therefore all current inventories must be considered incomplete. Even fewer sites have been investigated to any degree that would permit their significance to be evaluated. Many reported site locations result from 19th century antiquarian information, artifact collector reports that have not been field verified. Often very little is known about the age, function or size of these sites. This means that reported site locations can be unreliable or be polygons that encompass a large area. Should systematic archaeological inventory be undertaken at some point in the future it's very likely that additional resources will be identified.

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

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

REAL PROPERTY

Historic and Archaeological Site Protection

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

Archaeological Research

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

Real Property

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

Table I.G. – Status of Boundary Lines

Facility Name	Length of Boundary (mi.)	Length Needing Maintenance	Length Needing Survey
Mt. Peter Hawk Watch	0.54	0.54	0.54
Pochuck Mountain State Forest	4.67	4.67	4.67
Stewart State Forest	28.5	28.5	23.9
Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area	1.83	1.83	0.82
Highwoods Multiple Use Area	1.04	1.04	1.04
Black Creek State Forest	5.42	5.42	5.42

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

REAL PROPERTY

Table I.G. – Status of Boundary Lines

Facility Name	Length of Boundary (mi.)	Length Needing Maintenance	Length Needing Survey
Turkey Point State Forest	2.27	2.27	2.27

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

Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Please see list in Appendix C

Use and Demand Related to Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

In some cases, public access to state lands may require the use of deeded right of ways over private land. These right of ways can include a former town highway, a private road, or an old woods road that at one time provided historical access to the state lands. Neighboring landowners may have deeded right of way access across state lands to access properties that may otherwise have no means of access.

Ulster 2 – High Woods Multiple Use Area: This property was acquired by New York State in 1902 as a Detached Parcel of Forest Preserve. There is evidence of a historical forest access road that leads through the state property and provides access to private lands that would otherwise be land locked. DEC Real Property is in the process of researching its status as a private right of way across state land to access the private parcels.

Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest: Turkey Point State Forest has two major right of ways that substantially effect public access and management on the property.

- Turkey Point Drive: As described above, the state has a 50 foot wide right of way across Turkey Point Drive to access the State Forest. This serves as the main access to the property and affords users the most direct route to the Hudson River via the CP3 road that leads to the coast guard wharf.
- Ulster Landing Road: There is a Right of Way Access across the private farm on Ulster Landing Road. DEC uses this right of way for administrative purposes only.

Ulster 9 – Black Creek State Forest: There are three main easements described above providing access to Black Creek State Forest that are important to current and future administrative and public access.

- Chodikey Lake Road: As described above and on filed map 06-246A (see appendix C), the acquisition of Black Creek State Forest included a right of way access along the former town highway known as “Camp Stuts Road” laid out in

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

1806 that extends beyond the current maintained portion of Chodikee Lake Road. This public access right of way provides users the most direct route to the most distinguishing feature of the property, Black Creek. As described by the management action section of this plan, DEC intends to further develop this public access right of way by constructing a parking area and formalizing a multiple use trail to the waterfalls.

- **Martin Avenue:** The Martin Avenue access is similar to the Chodikee Lake Road access because it includes a former town highway simply known as “West Park to Hawley’s Corners” that extends beyond the maintained portion of Martin Ave. Currently, the public parks on the paved portion of Martin Ave beyond the posted “no parking” signs. As described by the management action section of this plan, DEC intends to further develop this public access right of way.
- **Timberline Trail:** The primary access to the eastern portion of Black Creek State Forest is from a small parking area located on the west side of Timberline Trail. Timberline Trail is accessed via Burroughs Drive. The acquisition of Black Creek State Forest included a right of way access via Timberline Trail which is a private road. As described by the management action section of this plan, DEC intends to further develop parking opportunities at this access point.

Land Acquisition

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

- In-holdings and adjoining properties that would reduce management costs and benefit resource protection and public access goals
- the mineral estate wherever it’s split from a State Forest tract
- properties within identified matrix forest blocks and connectivity corridors
- forested lands in underserved areas of the state
- forested lands in areas that are in need of watershed protection

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

Infrastructure

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

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads and Trails

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

Category	Total Amount	Needing Improvement
Public Forest Access Roads	21.3 mi.	ongoing
Haul Roads	NA	ongoing
Trails	35.8 mi.	ongoing
Stream Crossings		
Bridges	7	4
Culverts	unknown	unknown
Related Infrastructure		
Parking Areas / Trailheads	93*	Ongoing
Gates / Barriers	17	5

*Includes 78 hunter parking spots (1 car capacity) at Stewart State Forest.

Use and Demand on Roads, Haul Roads, Trails and Parking Areas

Roads: There is approximately 21.3 miles of Public Forest Access Roads (PFAR's) on the unit. These roads are open to the public for certain uses of the property during specific periods of the year

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – With 20.6 miles of PFAR's, Stewart contains the majority of publicly accessible roads in the Unit. The roads are owned and maintained by DEC.

Paved and Gravel Roads at Stewart Include:

- Ridge Road – 3.38 miles
- Maple Avenue – 3.14 miles
- Barron Road* – 3.64 miles
- New Road – 3.94 miles
- Weed Road – 0.45
- Lindsay Road – 0.37
- Orlando Drive – 0.64
- Giles Road – 0.88
- Drakes Lane – 0.63
- Decker Road – 0.34
- Great Swamp Road - .515
- Krahn Lane (Forrester to New Road) – 1.25

In addition to the PFARs listed above, Stewart also contains some historical woods/dirt roads that are used for non-vehicular access and trail based recreation.

- Old Creamery Road – 0.17 miles
- Unnamed Road West of Drakes Lane – 0.3 miles
- Windsor Woods Road/Trail (Trail F) – .86 miles
- Pittman-Robertson Trail (Trail E) - .88
- Armstrong Lane – 0.5 miles
- Lang Farm Trail – 1.3 miles
- Camping Trail Road (Ridge Road) - .11
- Bomb Road – 0.15
- Raincoat Factory Road – 0.17
- Scofield Lane - .65

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: Turkey Point State Forest has a gravel access road that is open to MAPPWD Permit Holders to access the former US Coast Guard Wharf on the Hudson River. The road is open from late April to late October.

Signs / Kiosks

Kiosks: There are 9 kiosks within the unit:

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – There are six kiosks at Stewart State Forest.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

- South Barron Road Parking Area contains a six foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation, a map of the property including the bike trails, and monthly calendars detailing the events being held on the property.
- North Barron Road Parking Area contains a four foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation, a map of the property including the bike trails, and monthly calendars detailing the events being held on the property.
- Ridge Road Parking Area contains a four foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation, a map of the property including the bike trails, and monthly calendars detailing the events being held on the property.
- Weed Road Parking Area contains a six foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation, a map of the property including the bike trails, and monthly calendars detailing the events being held on the property.
- Lorraine Drive Parking Area contains a four foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation, and a map of the property including the bike trails.
- Boardwalk Access Parking Area for People with Disabilities contains a four foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulation and a map of the property including the bike trails.

Orange 5, Pochuck Mountain State Forest – There is one six foot kiosk at Pochuck Mountain State Forest located in the Liberty Corners Road Parking Area.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest – There are two kiosks located at Turkey Point State Forest.

- Turkey Point Drive parking area contains a four foot kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulations and information describing some of the animal species users may encounter on the property.
- The area formerly used as a coast guard wharf contains a kiosk that provides information regarding the rules and regulations and information describing some of the animal species users may encounter on the property

Facility Signs: There are currently nine facility signs within the unit:

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – Stewart has five facility signs at different access point along the exterior boundary of the property.

- South Barron Road Parking Area
- North Barron Road Parking Area
- Ridge Road Parking Area
- Weed Road Parking Area
- Lorraine Drive Parking Area

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

Orange 6, Pochuck Mountain State Forest: There is one facility sign at the entrance to the parking area on Liberty Corners Road

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest – There is one facility sign located at the entrance of property on Turkey Point Drive.

Ulster 2, High Woods Multiple Use Area – There is one facility sign located at the parking area along Dutchtown Road.

Ulster 3, Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area – There is a facility sign at the parking lot entrance located on Lewis Lane.

Mount Peter Hawk watch Trailway – There is one facility sign located at the parking area along 17A.

Trail Signage

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – There are 116 unique signs at Stewart State Forest that provide users with assistance navigating the multitude of trails located throughout the property.

The other properties situated within this unit have traditional red, blue, and yellow trail markers used throughout the state on DEC state forest lands. Unique signage may be used where appropriate, in-coordination with long distance trail systems within and outside of DEC jurisdiction in-cooperation with other interested organizations.

Boating and Fishing Facilities

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest - There is a developed fishing wharf that offers anglers fishing opportunities on the Hudson River from shore. People with disabilities that have obtained a permit may drive directly to the wharf.

Additionally, DEC has placed two kayak storage lockers near a small beach close to the wharf. These lockers are available to paddlers who wish to stow their gear while they use the property.

While there are no formal boating facilities on other state lands within the West of Hudson Unit, non-motorized boating is allowed on all water bodies within the unit. More information can be found in the “Wildlife Based Recreation” section of this plan.

Dams

State Land Name	Facility
Stewart State Forest	Wilken’s Dam, Hazard Classification D
Stewart State Forest	Whalenburg Dam, Hazard Classification A, Low Hazard
Stewart State Forest	Beaver Pond Dam, Hazard Classification A, Low Hazard

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

INFRASTRUCTURE

State Land Name	Facility
Stewart State Forest	Rock Tavern Dam, Hazard Class A, Low Hazard

Designated Campsites and Lean-tos

State Land Name	Facility
Stewart State Forest	Campsite #1: Ridge Road campsite is located on the southern portion of Ridge Road. The campsite is ideal for small groups.
Stewart State Forest	Campsite #2: North Barron Road Campsite is ideal for large groups. It's located in the field behind the former raincoat factory.

Camping facilities, as well as their use and demand are discussed under Recreation.

Utility Transmission and Collection Facilities

State Land Name	Utility Transmission and Collection Facilities
Stewart State Forest	Central Hudson Gas and Electric retains the right to cross and recross State Forest lands anywhere via the most reasonable route to service the high voltage power line running from the North Barron Road Parking Area down to the Forester Road substations. This line and the land that it occupies is owned by Central Hudson in fee.
Stewart State Forest	Central Hudson Gas and Electric also maintains a 150 right-of-way that services high voltage distribution lines running from Forrester Road to the vicinity of Weed Road. This line is not owned by Central Hudson in Fee and is not subject to the same level of access afforded for the maintenance of their in-fee holdings. Management of this right-of-way will require the issuance of a Temporary Revocable Permit.
Turkey Point State Forest	Central Hudson Gas and electric have a power line right-of-way that traverses the property from north to south. A tide station was recently installed in collaboration with NOAA.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

State Land Name	Utility Transmission and Collection Facilities
Black Creek State Forest	<p>No active power lines currently exist on the interior of Black Creek State Forest. There are four utility Right of Ways referenced in the Real Property Section of this Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility ROW north south through the subject property (shown on filed map). It's not known if this utility Right of Way extends to Chodikee Lake Road along the public access Right of Way formerly known as Camp Stuts Road. • Utility easement from Route 9W west to Black Creek (no evidence on subject property). • Utility Easement along all roads present and future in Timberline Subdivision.

Buildings

State Land Name	Facility
Stewart State Forest	Rock Tavern Post Office: Recently Transferred to the US Postal Service
Stewart State Forest	Raincoat Factory and Forrester Road shed-Demolished in 2018

Agriculture

NYSDEC does not lease land/fields for commercial purposes. In some cases, special circumstances exist where farming has been allowed to occur legally under 6NYCRR Part 190.8(o).

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Farming is a long standing use of the property. DEC took over jurisdiction of the property subject to several agricultural leases. Currently, farming on the property consists of 384.5 acres of fields that were historically managed by local farmers prior to state ownership. DEC issues Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP) to those farmers who were subject to the original lease agreement prior to DEC ownership and have continued to farm the property every year since DEC ownership under our TRP program. All farmers are subject to Green Certification Standards. Once a field is no longer under an active agricultural TRP, those fields will no longer be farmed.

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

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

NON-RECREATIONAL USES:

County Soil and Water Conservation District. Because of the unique circumstances surrounding farming at Stewart State Forest, an “Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM)” plan addressing such issues as implementing best management practices for rare plants, wildlife and wetlands protection, liability concerns for state land open to the public, outreach to the non-farm community, and supporting farmers in complying with existing and future environmental regulations will also be required.

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

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

Non-Recreational uses:

Orange 4 Stewart State Forest: Currently an area located on South Barron Road is used informally as a long distance shooting range and to detonate explosives by area law enforcement. This informal use was identified as a health and safety issue in the original 2006 Stewart State Forest Unit Management Plan. This issue remains unresolved despite efforts towards resolving the issue.

In an effort to mitigate this ongoing public health and safety issue, a proposed management action for Stewart State Forest would establish a 21-acre area under the control of Region 3 Environmental Conservation Officers. The proposed shooting range is further described within the management actions section for Stewart State Forest and site specific SEQR information found in appendix B.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FORMAL AND INFORMAL PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS

Formal and Informal Partnerships and Agreements

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Currently the Department works with state agencies, user groups and local farmers to achieve management goals. There are two Volunteer Stewardship Agreements for Stewart State Forest.

- **Stewards of Stewart (SOS):** The Stewards of Stewart coordinates maintenance of the access system and campsites within Stewart State Forest. Their agreement also allows them to participate in planning and constructing new recreational trail under the supervision by DEC.
- **Westchester Retriever Club:** The Westchester Retriever Club Coordinates the mowing and maintenance of fields and areas that are used for hunting dog field trials and trainings.
- **Stewart International Airport:** The 2006 UMP extensively discusses and addresses wildlife threats to airport safety. As was the case when the original document was finalized, this plan does not anticipate any increase in wildlife populations that could pose a threat to airport security or passenger safety. DEC will continue to work closely with airport management to assess and monitor the wildlife situation. If at any time, such an unlikely event arises, immediate steps will be taken to eliminate any safety hazard. The airports wildlife damage management biologist might also review, in coordination with local farmers and producers, the seasonal land uses which could attract hazardous wildlife and incorporate them in the Airport's Wildlife Hazard Management Plan.
- **NYSDOT:** As discussed in the Water Resource Section, Stewart State Forest is reserved as a land bank for "Wetland creation and/or enhancement as mitigation for wetland impacts of Department of Transportation and Airport projects." DEC will continue to work with DOT and/or airport officials to select sites most appropriate and beneficial to the environment. DEC will also encourage DOT to avoid construction of mitigation sites which would disrupt recreational use.

The 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 13 Appendix C, Stewart State Forest UMP, December 2006) limits the DOT to: "construction of mitigation wetlands only for Airport projects and for NYSDOT projects located within Orange County, and only when it has exhausted all feasible and prudent alternatives at the site of the project in

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FORMAL AND INFORMAL PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS

question, and only with the approval of NYSDEC and/or the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, as required by law.”

The 2005 Consent Decree and Order of Dismissal (Point 14 Appendix C, Stewart State Forest UMP, December 2006) also states that the new lands transferred to Stewart State Forest, east of Maple Avenue, by NYSDOT to NYSDEC, shall not be used “for such wetlands mitigation construction purposes and NYSDEC shall not grant such right to NYSDOT or any other person or entity.”

- **Stewart TRP User Groups:** The DEC is committed to working with our extensive list of TRP users for providing an open process for communicating each other’s interests clearly and addressing any issues and concerns that may arise throughout the season. Guidelines have been issued for managing the various events that occur on the property throughout the year. These guidelines serve as a living document that can be changed to address immediate concerns. The latest version of these guidelines can be found in appendix E along with the special rules and regulations for Stewart State Forest.
- **The 2006 Stewart State Forest UMP** acknowledged the traditional use of an area directly east of the existing NYS Police shooting range for explosive detonation. The Department is aware that this site has also occasionally been used by law enforcement agencies to practice long distance rifle shooting. Both activities have continued to occur without any formal agreements. NYSDEC Environmental Conservation Officers (ECO’s) have developed a plan to construct a 21-acre firearms range to be controlled and run by Region 3 ECO’s. Any proposed shooting range use will be formalized through a written agreement. For a more detailed description of the range concept, please refer to the Ten Year Management Actions section of this plan.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: One agreement currently exists for Turkey Point State Forest A program of Utilization (POU) agreement with the U.S Coast Guard and National Park Service:

U.S Coast Guard and National Park Service: A program of Utilization (POU) agreement for the acquisition of 8.2 acres providing the public access to the Hudson river, that includes the accessible fishing access on the property. The acquisition was through National Park Service funding. Under this agreement the Department must create, maintain, and report on the recreational facilities within the 8.2 acres purchased through this agreement. The U.S Coast Guard reserves the ability to maintain the navigation light on the property.

Ulster 9, Black Creek State Forest: There is currently one Volunteer Stewardship Agreement at Black Creek State Forest:

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

- John Burroughs Association: The John Burroughs Association has adopted the maintenance responsibilities of existing historical woods roads found throughout the property.

Recreation

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

Exceptional Recreational Opportunities

This Unit does have some exceptional recreational opportunities for the community that it serves.

Orange 2 – Mount Peter Hawk Watch: A segment of the Appalachian Trail crosses this property.

- Bird watching opportunity: Mount Peter Hawk Watch is the third oldest hawk watch in the nation, opportunity to watch migrating raptors.

Orange 4 – Stewart State Forest: A vast majority of the recreational demand (and impacts) within the West of Hudson Unit occur at Stewart State Forest. Stewart State Forest is located within a 2 hour drive of 10% of the U.S. population.

- Mountain biking: Stewart State Forest has one of the largest and most extensive networks of mountain bike trails in the region. DEC is working with volunteers to maintain these trails for the enjoyment of the many people who use them.
- Hunting: Stewart State Forest is well suited to sustain a multitude of game species. As described below, it's a well know destination for hunters from both within and outside the region.
- Snow based recreation: Stewart has miles of interior roads and trails that are well suited for snow-based recreation such as snowmobiling and X-country skiing. The trails are maintained and groomed by volunteers.
- Recreational Access for People with Disabilities: Stewart State Forests extensive network of roads are available to be accessed by people with physical disabilities

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

provided that they obtain a Motorized Access Permit from the Department. Many of the assets such as the new Great Swamp Boardwalk are available to these users.

Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest

- Hudson River Angling: The rehabilitated road and former coast guard wharf provide direct access to a portion of the Hudson River well known for Striped Bass fishing opportunities. The road is also open to Motorized Access Permit holders who have qualifying disabilities.
- Hudson River Water Trail: Turkey Point State Forest serves as a water trail site for users paddling/boating along the Hudson. Turkey Point State Forest is one of the few known locations where long distance paddlers can camp, providing they follow state forest camping regulations.

Wildlife-related Recreation

Hunting

Current demand for hunting opportunities on the unit is generally unknown. However, hunting is permitted on all properties within the West of Hudson unit.

Specific data on hunter use of the other properties in the unit are not available. Furthermore, hunting opportunities at these areas are managed under statewide rules and regulations and are not addressed with special area-specific regulations. Hunting license sales information for the counties that encompass the unit are as follows:

License Year (Oct. 1 – Sept. 30)	Orange County	Ulster County
2002-03	13,247	8,322
2003-04	13,060	7,678
2004-05	13,493	7,907
2005-06	13,039	7,687
2006-07	13,075	8,028
2007-08	13,056	7,706
2008-09	12,490	8,003
2009-10*	10,073	6,189

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

2010-11	10,026	6,113
2011-12	9,688	5,802
2012-13	13,090	7,643
2013-14	13,534	7,776
2014-15	12,538	7,891
2015-16	12,536	7,565

*Year of license fee increase; lifetime sportsmen license sales in 2009-10 are as follows: Sullivan County – 1,042, Orange County – 1,700, Ulster County – 1,258

Local Use and Demand:

Orange 4-Stewart State Forest: The property was managed by DEC as a Cooperative Hunting Area under agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) and the DOT prior to its designation as a state forest, historic data on hunter use are available. Under the terms of the Cooperative Area Agreement, which originated in 1974, hunting access was controlled during hunting seasons through the use of permits, allocated by either reservations or a “first-come, first-served” system. Between 1974 and 1999 (when hunter data collection was discontinued), over 210,000 hunter visits (8,000 to 10,000 visits/year) were documented at Stewart. During this time, Stewart was probably the most visited public hunting location in the state and while hunter use has probably declined slightly since that time, Stewart remains the most popular public hunting destination in the region.

During the 25 years of data collection, hunters at Stewart came from many different locations within New York and from neighboring states. Approximately 30% of the hunter visits recorded from 1974-1999 were by hunters residing in Orange County. Other Region 3 counties (Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester) accounted for another 30% percent of the recorded hunting trips. Additionally, about 30% of visits were made by hunters who reside in New York City or Long Island. The remaining 10 percent of the recorded trips were made by hunters from elsewhere in New York, neighboring states, Canada, England and Ireland.

Hunting opportunities at Stewart State Forest continue to be managed under many of the same rules that were implemented during its time as a designated Cooperative Hunting Area. These special rules include a prohibition on the use of rifles, a prohibition on camping during the hunting season, special vehicular access for hunters to the internal road network from one-hour before sunrise until one-hour after sunset for the statewide youth pheasant hunting weekend and from October 1-December, the requirement that hunters have a reservation for the first weekend of the regular big game season and the requirements that hunters must be parked in a designated

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

hunter parking space, must only hunt on the same side of the road as which they are parked, and must not cross roads while hunting. Additionally, the non-hunting public are prohibited from accessing the property during the 23 days of the regular big game season. Many of these special rules governing hunting opportunities and access at Stewart are codified in the special regulations for the area (6NYCRR Part 190.34).

Fishing

Fishing is allowed in all waters of the planning unit. These waters primarily offer opportunities to fish for warm water species including sunfish and largemouth bass. Fishing at Turkey Point can be good especially in the spring time for striped bass. Stewart State Forest offers anglers the opportunity to fish a few different ponds and lakes and anglers can catch largemouth bass and sunfish. Stocking is currently not recommended in any of these waters. Warm water fish species are already present and stocking additional fish is not necessary. However, if a fish kill occurs in a lake or pond stocking warm water species could be a possibility. Stocking trout would not be an option at these lakes or ponds, as the habitat is not suitable for trout survival.

Local Use and Demand

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Stewart State Forest features seven larger ponds and many smaller ones for fishing. The deepest are 6-acre Whalenburgh Pond, 3-acre Wilkens Pond, and 2-acre Rows Pond. The smaller ponds offer warm water fishing for bass, sunfish, shiner, bullhead and perch, with a larger selection at Tenny's, including eel, carp, crappie and pickerel. Electric or non-motorized vessels only.

While no formal fisheries surveys have been conducted on the streams in this state forest, they're presumed to consist of warm water fish species. None of these streams appear to provide recreational fishing opportunities, as most are small or run through wetlands. Unnamed stream H-89-20-5 has a classification of C(T), however, this stream has not been sampled recently and will need to be to determine if trout are still present. It's likely this stream will be sampled in 2017 as part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture surveys which are currently documenting trout streams in NYS.

Fisheries surveys were conducted as follows:

- Wilkins Pond (P261A) – Surveyed in 1977 with car-top electrofishing boat. Species collected: largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), pumpkinseed (*Lepomis gibbosus*), brown bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*), golden shiner (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*). Notes - Shallow pond with abundant vegetation. Good numbers of harvestable size bluegills.
- Rowe's Pond –Surveyed in 1977 with car-top electrofishing boat. Species collected: largemouth bass, bluegill, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, golden shiner, chain pickerel, American eel and common carp. Small sized fish noted. Fishing potential was poor.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Orange 6, Pochuck Mountain State Forest: Three streams are found within Pochuck Mountain State Forest which were all unnamed: H-139-12-61-3A-3 (Class D), H-139-12-61-3A (Class D) and H-P6251-1 (unclassified). It's likely these streams are very small and possibly intermittent. If these streams do hold fish they will likely be warm water species. No past fisheries surveys have been conducted, but these streams will likely be sampled later in 2016 or 2017 as part of the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture surveys which are currently documenting trout streams in NYS. The fish community is also accounted for while conducting these surveys.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: One stream is present in this parcel which is H-154. This stream is currently unclassified, and likely dries up during the summer months. The Hudson River provides anglers the opportunity to fish for various species including striped bass, common carp, channel catfish, panfish, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass.

Ulster 9, Black Creek State Forest: Black Creek is the primary fishery in this state forest. No fisheries surveys have been conducted on this section of Black Creek. Chodikee Lake, which is 0.7 miles above the state forest, was last surveyed in 2004. Fish species collected were golden shiner (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*), pumpkinseed (*Lepomis gibbosus*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), chain pickerel (*Esox niger*), yellow bullhead (*Ameiurus natalis*), black crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*), white sucker (*Catostomus commersonii*), and brown bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*). It's possible to catch these species in black creek inside the state forest. However, the primary fishery in this section of creek would be for panfish including bluegill, pumpkinseed and black crappie as well as largemouth bass.

H-128-4 (Class B) is an unnamed tributary to Black Creek. No fisheries information has been collected on this stream. This stream is presumed to have warm water fish, as wetlands and ponds are located above this section of stream.

Trapping

Trapping is permitted on all properties within the West of Hudson Unit.

Demand for trapping opportunities on the unit is generally unknown. As with hunting, gauging trapping effort on a specific state land unit from county-based license sales data is difficult. Statewide rules and regulations govern trapping on the properties within the unit; only Stewart State Forest has a special regulation regarding trapping – trappers can access the internal road network with motor vehicles from October 1 to December 31. Trappers should also be aware of the special regulations regarding which firearms may be possessed on the property; “No person shall possess or discharge a rifle or handgun on the property, with the exception of .22 caliber rimfire handguns.”

Viewing Natural Resources

There are some areas within this unit that are known for providing excellent natural resource viewing opportunities.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Local Use and Demand

Orange 2- Mount Peter Hawk Watch: This property is known for its tremendous views but as the name suggests, it also offers great opportunities to observe various bird species including hawks.

Orange 4 – Stewart State Forest: The great swamp boardwalk provides users with unique access to one of the property's most distinguishing features, the Great Swamp. Users can see a variety of reptiles, water fowl, wetland birds, plants and various other species as well as enjoy excellent views. During the early fall months, the foliage of the red maples in the swamp are some of the first to change color on the property. Buchanan Hill, the highest point on the property is located east of Maple Avenue and offers excellent views towards the west, on clear days the Shawangunk ridge can be viewed from this vantage point.

Ulster 5 – Turkey Point State Forest: Direct access to the Hudson River is a distinguishing feature of this property. The views of the Hudson River from the former coast guard wharf are expansive and provides ample opportunity to view the wildlife that use that call the estuary home. Demand for this activity is expected to increase as this property becomes more popular with a wide variety of users.

Ulster 9 – Black Creek State Forest: The most distinguishing feature of this property is the creek for which it's named after. Users visiting this property will be drawn to the series of waterfalls that cascade past an old mill site near the center of the property. This area is expected to draw more use as the trail system is developed on Black Creek State Forest and future trail ways developed in-coordination with other land conservation organizations draw more attention to the black creek waterfalls.

Camping

Camping on the state lands in this unit is governed by 6 NYCRR Part 190, which allows for camping no more than 3 nights at one location, by fewer than ten people, at least 150 feet away from trail, road, or body of water. Longer stays and larger groups require a permit. Due to the high level of recreational use on the property, Stewart State forest has special regulations that govern camping on that property. See below:

Designated Campsites - Designated campsites allow users to camp within 150 feet from a road, trail, or water body or within an area where primitive camping is prohibited. There are currently two designated campsites in the West of Hudson Unit.

Local Use and Demand:

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – Due to the high level of recreational use on the property, and growing residential areas in the surrounding communities, camping at Stewart is prohibited except by permit in two designated campsites. Campfires also require a permit from the Forest

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Ranger. Motor vehicles are not allowed entry for camping at any time, except via special permit. Large group camping and access with motor vehicles will be controlled through (TRP's (Temporary Revocable Permits), smaller groups through Camping Permits for State Land issued by the Forest Rangers.

- Ridge Road Campsite: The Ridge Road Campsite is located toward the southern end of Ridge Road within the apple orchard. This site is ideal for small to moderate sized groups.
- Stick Pond Group Camping Area: There is a large group camping area in the fields between Stick Pond and the former Raincoat Factory.

Demand for camping throughout the unit is stable. It's anticipated to increase as access facilities are developed on some of the newer properties.

Water-based Recreation

Water-based recreation is allowed on properties throughout the unit and governed by 6 NYCRR Part 190.

Local Use and Demand: There are two properties that have significant water based recreational opportunities other than fishing.

Orange 4 –Stewart State Forest: The demand for traditional water based recreation at Stewart State Forest is somewhat limited. There is a high demand for water access for dog training and hunting dog trials. Permits for dog trainings and trials are given for the use of Beaver Pond, Pittman-Robertson Pond, Rowes Pond, Giles Pond, and Stick Pond. Wallenberg Pond is open for trials only.

Ulster 5 -Turkey Point State Forest: Turkey Point State Forest provides direct access to the western shore of the Hudson River. There is a gravel access road that provides direct access for MAPPWD permit holders to the former US Coast Guard wharf. The wharf provides water based recreational opportunities to the public. Additionally, the property is a NYS Water Trail Site that allows boaters to access the property from the river. Two kayak storage lockers are available for paddlers to store personal items and boats while they enjoy other recreation opportunities on the property.

Ulster 9, Black Creek State Forest: Black Creek State Forest is downstream of a DEC fishing access site on Chodikey Lake. The lake empties into the Black Creek and affords users the ability paddle non-motorized water craft into the heart of the Black Creek State Forest. Portage will be necessary to bypass the waterfalls located at the old mill site.

Additionally, limited water based recreation is available at the ponds at Stewart State Forest although transporting a watercraft into these areas may be difficult for users other than MAPPWD Permit holders.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Trail-based Recreation

*Table I.L. – Multiple Use Trails**

(see Figure 2 for maps)

Use	Length (mi.)
Foot Trail Use	58
Cross Country Skiing	58
Equestrian**	37
Mountain Biking	58
Snowmobile***	27

* Length available for each use includes use on PFARs, Multiple Use Trails, and Bike Trails.

**Horses can travel anywhere on State Forests unless posted otherwise. The trail mileage calculated for this table takes into account the most appropriate trails for accommodating horses.

***Snowmobiles are generally not restricted on State Forests. Stewart State Forest has Special Regulations that restrict snowmobile use only to designated routes. The mileage listed in this table is calculated from those designated routes at Stewart State Forest.

Multiple Use Trails

Unmaintained Multiple Use Trails - The properties within the unit have an extensive network of abandoned roads, rail beds, woods roads, and carriageways. Many of these roads/trails are not maintained by DEC and are therefore not mapped, however the public is welcome to utilize these roads/trails for non-motorized recreational uses.

Maintained Multiple Use Trails Although most trails and roads can be considered “multipurpose”, this category usually includes trails that are wider in design and can accommodate uses such as horseback riding and snowmobiling. With some exceptions, most of these trails can accommodate the above mentioned uses. It’s important to note that at Stewart State Forest, snowmobiling is only allowed on designated trails and horseback riding is allowed on all trails except the rock wall and orchard trails between Weed Road and Beaver Pond.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: The following table describes the maintained multiple use trails at Stewart State Forest.

Trail	Mileage	Horse	Snowmobile
Pittman-Robertson Trail (Trail E)	.88	Yes	Yes

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Kelly's Pond Trail	.71	Yes	Yes
Windsor Woods Road/Trail (Trail F)	.86	Yes	Yes
Horse Trail	.73	Yes	Yes
Lang Farm Trail	1.34	Yes	Yes
Buchanan Hill Trail	1.55	Yes	No
Great Swamp Trail	.20	Yes (Does not include Boardwalk)	No
Scofield Trail	2.276	Yes	Yes
Stick Pond Trail	.994	Yes	No
Armstrong Lane Trail	.884	Yes	No
Bypass Trail	.319	Yes	Yes
Lorrain Drive Trail	.375	Yes	No

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: The trail system for the Turkey Point State Forest enters the property from the Sojourner Truth Ulster Landing Park to the south. A red trail provides a loop opportunity to park users. A multi-use connection trail also brings users from the red trail to the access road servicing the wharf and Flatbush Camp Parking Areas.

Hiking

Users are encouraged to hike on the numerous marked and unmarked Multiple Use Trails, Public Forest Access Roads, and Foot Trails found within the unit. Trail difficulty and slope range from easy (0-5%) slope to difficult (20-30%).

Local Use and Demand - The properties in the unit have a long history of providing hiking opportunities for users. The Appalachian Trail runs through an adjoining property to Pochuck Mountain State Forest while Stewart State Forest has over 40 miles of trails and roads that are available for people of all abilities. It's anticipated that future demand for these properties for low impact recreation such as hiking will increase throughout the unit.

Cross Country Skiing

Cross Country Skiing is permitted on all properties within the unit. While DEC does not have any trails that are marked specifically for this activity, ample opportunity exists among the many miles of roads and trails that exist within the unit.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Local Use and Demand - Cross Country Skiing and snowshoeing are popular activities on the properties within this unit. DEC anticipates that these activities will increase within the land unit as the recreational access facilities such as parking lots are developed on properties that currently have poor access.

Equestrian

Horseback riding is permitted anywhere within the State Forests and Multiple Use Areas in this unit except on:

- Land devoted to intensively developed facilities, such as a boat launch, day use area, campsites, ski centers, education centers, fish hatcheries, game farms or headquarter complexes, and land managed for public safety, such as flood control levees
- Designated foot trails, except where such trails are part of a publicly maintained road, or are specifically designated to allow travel by horses thereon
- Designated snowmobile trails and cross-country ski trails that are covered with ice and snow

Local Use and Demand - There are a number of local equestrian groups that use state properties. This unit probably receives some of the highest use among equestrian users in Region 3.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest – The highest demand for equestrian based recreation occurs at Stewart State Forest. Large parking areas that can accommodate horse trailers and an abundance of wide multiple use trails makes the Stewart State Forest an ideal place to ride. Parking areas best suited for horse trailers include Weed Road in the south and Ridge Road in the North. Horses are allowed on all public roads and trails except the Orchard Trail, Beaver Pond Trail, Rock Wall Trail and the boardwalk over Great Swamp. DEC anticipates that the level of equestrian use will increase during the planning period.

Mountain Biking

Mountain biking is permitted throughout the West of Hudson Unit. The abundance of maintained and unmaintained multiple use trails allow users within this group to experience a wide variety of technical difficulty. Bicycles are not allowed on forest access roads, truck trails, roads, trails or other areas on state lands outside of the forest preserve which are POSTED or DESIGNATED by DEC as closed to bicycle use.

Local Use and Demand - Mountain biking activity has significantly increased on state lands throughout the Region. Current use on properties associated with this plan is relatively high compared to other state properties in Region 3. DEC anticipates this use to increase as the recreational facilities are developed specifically for this use within the unit. The demand within

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

this unit can be related to a variety of factors but the ease of access from metropolitan areas and growth of the sport can be considered the main factors.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Stewart State Forest has the most extensive and developed bike trail system in the West of Hudson Unit. There are approximately 21.7 miles of single track bike trail within Stewart State Forest. Below is a list of bike trails and their approximate mileage. Please refer to Figure 2 for a map of the trail network. Use and demand for this trail system is high.

Trail	Mileage
V-notch	.77
3 Sisters	.69
Saras Way	.57
Causeway	.66
Middle Earth	.27
Dawn	1.86
Fiesta	.22
Giant Steps	.53
Escarpment	1.29
Senior	.57
White Cloud	1.02
Big Trees	.43
Cactus	.26
Pine Root	.58
Orchard	.72
Shields	.24
Powerline	1.32
Bear	.91

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Prime	.55
Drakes	1.17
Meadow View	.594
Colden	.636
Pinwheel	.59
Pond Trail Ext.	.272
Fiesta	.20
Washboard	.37
Waterfall	.26
Camp	.87
Beaver Pond	1.32
Pond	.67
Bryans Way	.45
Prime	.55
Muskrat	.23

Snowmobiling

Snowmobiling is permitted anywhere on State Forests and Multiple Use Areas within the West of Hudson Unit UNLESS posted or designated by DEC as closed to snowmobile use. At this time, Stewart State Forest is the only property within this unit that has a dedicated trail system that is maintained for snow mobile use. Special regulations for Stewart State Forest dictate that snowmobiles must use a designated route.

Local Use and Demand - Most of the snowmobiling within this unit occurs at Stewart State Forest. Use and Demand for this activity is anticipated to increase at Stewart State Forest but will remain about the same on other properties within the West of Hudson Unit. This is primarily due to the fact that these properties are more fragmented and lack the terrain and facilities to accommodate a dedicated snowmobile trail system at this time. This could change as DEC works to add to its public land holdings throughout the unit. Future acquisitions could enhance

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

opportunities for the development of this form of recreation on properties where few opportunities currently exist.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Snowmobiles are only permitted on trails designated and marked by the department as a "Snowmobile Trail" and only when the trail is completely covered with snow and/or ice; and on frozen lakes and ponds when access to same may be gained by public highways lawfully designated for snowmobile use, or by trails designated and marked by the department as a "Snowmobile Trail".

Other Recreational Activities

Orienteering/Geocaching

Geocaching and orienteering are allowed on all properties within the West of Hudson Unit.

Geocaching is a treasure hunting activity using GPS-enabled devices. Users navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at the location.

Geocaching is allowed on all properties within the West of Hudson Unit provided that the caches are marked with the owner's contact information. Caches cannot be placed in ecologically sensitive locations.

Local Use and Demand: Geocache locations were provided by Geocache.com.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Stewart State Forest has over 250 registered geocache locations.

Orange 6, Pochuck Mountain State Forest: There are 5 registered geocache locations at Pochuck Mountain State Forest.

Ulster 2, Highwoods Multiple Use Area: There is 1 registered geocache location at Highwoods MUA.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: There are 4 registered geocache locations at Turkey Point State Forest.

Dog Training / Field Trials

Areas available for dog training and field trials is somewhat limited on both private and public lands found throughout the Unit. These activities are governed by ECL 11-0923.

Local Use and Demand: Dog training and field trials can be found within the unit on the following properties.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

RECREATION

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Stewart State Forest has a long history of providing quality opportunities for dog training and field trials. Currently, there are 4 organization who receive Temporary Revocable Permits (TRP's) for trainings and field trials throughout the spring, summer, and early fall months.

Field trials and trainings can be held at the following locations on the property:

1. Pittman Robertson Pond Complex
2. Stick Pond and associated fields
3. Wallenberg aka Maple Pond (Field Trials only)
4. Big Tree Field (Barron Road North)
5. Franks Field and Senior Hill
6. Beaver Pond
7. Rowe's Pond

Target Shooting

Limited target shooting is allowed on state lands. The possession or use of breakable targets, the shooting of live trees; shooting within 500 feet of a school, playground, farm building, or structure in occupation on certain DEC managed state lands that are **not posted against such activities**.

DEC lands are not formal shooting ranges managed to accommodate a high volume of recreational shooting. Shooting (or performing any other recreational activity) in a manner that could interfere with another users enjoyment of the property would probably be considered excessive. The following areas have special regulations related to the possession of firearms.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: No person shall **possess** or discharge a rifle or handgun on the property, with the exception of .22 caliber rim-fire handguns.

Overall Assessment of the Level of Recreational Development

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

User Conflicts: User conflicts are a common occurrence on DEC lands throughout New York State. These conflicts can increase in magnitude as property usage increases. It's anticipated that the potential for such conflicts will increase within the West of Hudson Unit as recreational facilities become more developed and demand for these properties increases.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: The demand for recreation at Stewart State Forest has always been at a very high level. In addition to the passive recreation that is available and the unprecedented access to the property by hunters between October 1 and December 31, the

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

property hosts a variety of organized events such as dog trainings and trials, mountain bike races, horseback rides, 5k races, etc. In an effort to avoid potential conflicts between users, DEC has developed a variety of practices/guidelines that are intended to alleviate concerns between the different users. The most beneficial practice involves hosting a meeting between the user groups annually so that adjustments can be made if necessary to the event guidelines and event scheduling. These meetings have been very beneficial.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: The Turkey Point UMP was amended in 2008 to include some access improvements to the property. During that process some concerns were brought to DEC's attention regarding user conflicts with neighboring landowners. The primary concern was the excessive shooting on the property and unsafe hunting practices. DEC no longer allows for target shooting on the property.

Ulster 9, Black Creek State Forest: This property is relatively new to the state forest system and formal recreational development has not yet occurred. Public demand for trails, neighboring landowner perceptions of state land management, and environmentally sensitive areas on the property are important issues that will be addressed as recreational infrastructure is developed.

Recreational Impact upon the Environment: On most properties within the Unit, recreational use is still near appropriate levels where environmental degradation is normally not an issue. Stewart State Forest is an exception due to its size and proximity to major metropolitan areas in the surrounding area. It's anticipated that impacts will increase as recreational assets are developed throughout the Unit. Many times, impacts can be limited through education and outreach to the public. Engaging user groups through the VSA (Volunteer Stewardship Agreement) and TRP (Temporary Revocable Permit) process is beneficial in addressing and reducing impacts.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: Recreational impacts seem to be most apparent on the access system during the early spring weeks when the ground is too soft to sustain heavy trail use. During this time, bikes and horses seem to have the greatest impact to trail conditions.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: Some isolated trail damage has occurred due to equestrian use in the past. Much of this damage is due to the riding of horses on trails during the spring season when the trails are most susceptible to damage.

Universal Access

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

There are 16.25 miles of roads within the Unit that are available to people with disabilities through the Motorized Access Permit for People with Disabilities Program (MAPPWD). This

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

permit allows people with qualifying disabilities to access certain routes on DEC managed properties with a motor vehicle. Many of these routes provide access to facilities designed to accommodate people with disabilities.

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: The road system at Stewart State Forest is open to MAPPWD Permit Holders from April 15 through December 15. The roads are gated and lock combinations are available to permit holders upon request. Additionally, Stewart State Forest has two restricted hunting areas limited to non-ambulatory hunting license holders and an accessible boardwalk that crosses the Great Swamp.

Ulster 5, Turkey Point State Forest: An access road was redeveloped on 2009 to accommodate MAPPWD Permit Holder. The road is gated and combinations are provided to permit holder upon request. The road leads to a parking area near the Hudson River and provides access to a former US Coast Guard wharf for scenic viewing and fishing opportunities. The approximate length of this route is 0.62 miles.

Application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), along with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title V, Section 504, have had a profound effect on the manner by which people with disabilities are afforded equality in their recreational pursuits. The ADA is a comprehensive law prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities in employment practices, use of public transportation, use of telecommunication facilities and use of public accommodations. Title II of the ADA requires, in part, that reasonable modifications must be made to the services and programs of public entities, so that when those services and programs are viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This must be done unless such modification would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the service, program or activity or an undue financial or administrative burden.

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

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

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Any new facilities, assets and accessibility improvements to existing facilities or assets proposed in this UMP are identified in the section containing proposed management actions.

The Department is not required to make each of its existing facilities and assets accessible as long as the Department's programs, taken as a whole, are accessible.

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

Supporting Local Communities

Tourism

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

Orange 4, Stewart State Forest: As discussed in the previous section, Stewart State Forest has the highest level of recreational users of any property within the West of Hudson Unit. The property draws users from well outside the region. Its proximity to NYC and major transportation corridors serving the tri-state area make Stewart State Forest an appealing destination for users to experience an undeveloped landscape without the need to travel far.

Ulster 9, Black Creek State Forest: Although this property is new to the State Forest system and is in an undeveloped state, its importance to the Ecotourism of that area is becoming more realized. The communities of Lloyd and Esopus, in partnership with Scenic Hudson and several stakeholders, are working on a plan to develop the Black Creek Corridor as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts. The Black Creek State Forest will be an important component of that plan. The corridor's natural beauty and its connection to John Burroughs will likely increase interest in this area from outside of the region as local efforts to promote the corridor become more established. Increasing access to this property for the multitude of uses State Forests provide while maintaining its wild integrity will be a major consideration of any management actions proposed by this plan. Developing partnerships with local communities and organizations that have a vested interest in developing this corridor for recreational access will be paramount to the success of management actions on the property. The Department is a partner in the John Burroughs Black Creek Corridor and is committed to working with local groups to increase access to Black Creek State Forest.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Taxes Paid

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

Detailed tax information can be obtained by contacting the local tax assessor. The following taxes are from the 2014 tax year.

Esopus

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$3,643
- Total School Tax: \$24,709
- Total County Tax: \$1,243
- Other Tax: \$2,348

Hamptonburgh and Village of Maybrook

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$5,598
- Total School Tax: \$30,125
- Total County Tax: 0
- Other Tax: \$1,534

Marbletown

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$432
- Total School Tax: \$3,513
- Total County Tax: \$868
- Other Tax: \$171

Montgomery and Village of Maybrook

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$21,285
- Total School Tax: \$101,974
- Total County Tax: 0
- Other Tax: \$8,443

New Windsor

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FOREST PRODUCTS

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$183,747
- Total School Tax: \$937,313
- Total County Tax: 0
- Other Tax: \$30,372

Plattekill

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$5,776
- Total School Tax: \$38,391
- Total County Tax: \$308.85
- Other Tax: \$3,506

Warwick

- Township Tax (incl. highway, general, fire taxes, etc): \$5,061
- Total School Tax: \$39,141
- Total County Tax: 0
- Other Tax: \$3,383

Forest Products

Timber

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

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

There is a well-established demand for the forest products found within the unit. There are a number of local mills and buyers of timber that help satisfy the demand for standard and specialized markets found within the area. Green Certified forest products from the state forests within this unit include firewood for the local homeowner to hardwoods and softwoods for local family owned sawmills.

Timber management provides a renewable supply of sustainably-harvested forest products and can also enhance biodiversity. The products harvested may include furniture quality hardwoods,

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FOREST HEALTH

softwoods for log cabins, fiber for paper making, firewood, animal bedding, wood pellets, biofuel, and chips for electricity production. For more information, please see SPSFM page 251 at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

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

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

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

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

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

Forest Health

Forest health is pursued with the goal of maintaining biodiversity. Any agent that decreases biodiversity can have a deleterious effect on the forest as a whole and its ability to withstand stress. Forest health in general should favor the retention of native species and natural communities or species that can thrive in site conditions without interrupting biodiversity. For

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FOREST HEALTH

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

Invasive Species

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

Table I.N. – Invasive Species, Pests and Pathogens

Plants	Status
Japanese Barberry	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Multi-Flora Rose	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Tree of Heaven	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Japanese Knotweed	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Mile a Minute Vine	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the unit
Black and Pale Swallow Wort	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit
Japanese Stiltgrass	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Oriental Bittersweet	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Water Chestnut	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Insects	Status
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Emerald Ash Borer	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit.
Diseases	Status

INFORMATION ON THE WEST OF HUDSON UNIT

FOREST HEALTH

Table I.N. – Invasive Species, Pests and Pathogens

Chestnut Blight	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit
Beach Bark Disease	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit
Dutch Elm Disease	Confirmed in all Counties containing the Unit. Observed within the Unit
Animals	Status
none	

*The above list includes some of the more commonly occurring species within the Unit or species that are considered an immediate threat to the forests within the Unit.

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

Managing Deer Impacts

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/64567.html>.

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

SUMMARY OF ECO-REGION ASSESSMENTS

ECO-REGION SUMMARY

Summary of Eco-Region Assessments

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

Eco-Region Summary

The Lower New England – Northern Piedmont (LNE- NP-) Eco-Region includes portions of 12 states and the District of Columbia (Barbour et al. 2000). The Lower New England Eco-Region extends from southern Maine and New Hampshire with their formerly glaciated, low mountain and lake studded landscape through the limestone valleys of western Massachusetts and Connecticut, Vermont and eastern New York. Rhode Island, eastern Massachusetts and Connecticut are distinctive in that the communities are more fire adapted including pitch pine and oak dominated forests on glacially deposited sandy till that forms a broad plain with many ponds. In New York, the LNE- NP Eco-Region consists primarily of the Hudson Valley region, from below Lake George, south to New York City.

Large portions of the Appalachian Mountains lie within the ecoregion including the Palisades in New York and New Jersey, the Taconics and the Berkshires in Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, and Connecticut, and the widely strewn Monadnocks of southern New Hampshire. Large rivers originating in the Appalachians cut across the Atlantic slope lowlands generally from north or west to east emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. The Potomac, Susquehanna, Delaware, Hudson, Housatonic, Connecticut, Merrimack, and Saco Rivers provide a diversity of high- and low- energy aquatic habitats. The natural character of the ecoregion in New York is perhaps best seen currently within existing protected lands, primarily state- held, found in Palisades Park in New York and New Jersey.

The LNE- NP Eco-Region remains one of the most highly populated in the country with many cities including Nashua and Manchester, NH, Springfield and Worcester, MA, Hartford, CT, Albany, NY and New York City, Baltimore, MD, York and Lancaster, PA, and Washington, D.C. Added to these metropolis areas are the suburbs for the cities of Boston, Providence, RI, New Haven, CT, New York, and Philadelphia. The great forest expanses are now being increasingly fragmented by first and second home development. While the mountainous areas of the ecoregion are lightly settled, the valleys have long been developed for agriculture, and both are rapidly succumbing to development pressure

Eco-Regional Assessment

Local Landscape Conditions

A Gap analysis was performed on the Nature Conservancy Eco-Regional Assessment to determine which, if any, of the above listed land covers are needed to provide/maintain biodiversity of habitat on the landscape. DEC utilizes this information to make land management decisions within management units to decide how these lands are to be managed. Within the

SUMMARY OF ECO-REGION ASSESSMENTS

LOCAL LANDSCAPE CONDITIONS

Lower New England/Lower Piedmont Eco-Region, a number of different land covers were identified as being below average in their presence within the ecoregion compared to their rest of the state. Deciduous Forest: The Gap analysis lists deciduous forest as “Potentially Needed” within the Lower New England/Lower Piedmont Eco-Region. Within DEC managed properties of

the West of Hudson Unit, deciduous forest cover is well represented and expected to increase over the next planning cycle. Approximately 58% (4,682 acres) of the inventoried acreage is deciduous forest. This is well above the ecoregional estimate of 34.8%. For this reason and the expectation that this percentage will increase, there will be no active management actions intended to increase the presence of deciduous forest. Coniferous Forest: The Gap analysis lists Evergreen forest as “Needed” within the Lower New England/Lower Piedmont Eco-region. Within DEC managed properties of the West of Hudson Unit, coniferous forest stands are rare constituting only 0.5% (50 acres) of the inventoried acreage. This is well below the ecoregional estimate of 4.9%. Where appropriate, effort will be made to increase the amount of coniferous forest within this unit.

Wooded Wetlands: Wetlands are well represented within DEC managed properties on this unit. With 14% (1,127 acres)

Early Successional Forest: The Gap analysis lists early successional forests as "Needed" within the Lower New England/Lower Piedmont Eco-Region. Within the ecoregional assessment, this cover type is classified as shrub and brush land. This includes seedling and sapling forests which are the primary source of early successional habitat within a forested landscape. This cover type constitutes 2.2 percent of the land area within the Lower New England/Northern Piedmont Eco-Region. DEC lands within the West of Hudson Unit contain an abundance of farm field reverting to forest and are in the early successional stage. Approximately, 24% of the acreage included in this plan is considered shrub and brush land.

Management Objectives and Actions

Objectives

Ecosystem Management

<i>Table III.A. –Ecosystem Management Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
Active Forest Management	
AFM I – Apply sound silvicultural practices	Refer to tables III F, G, H
AFM II – Use harvesting plans to enhance diversity of species, habitats & structure	Refer to tables III F, G, H
AFM III – Fill ecoregional gaps to maintain and enhance landscape-level biodiversity	Refer to tables III F, G, H
AFM IV – Enhance matrix forest blocks and connectivity corridors where applicable	The majority of the Unit falls within either a Matrix Forest Block or a Connectivity Corridor as outlined by the SPSFM (pp. 85-89). Maintaining a closed canopy condition within these areas is desirable to foster the movement of various species throughout the landscape. Even aged treatments necessary for the perpetuation of the disturbance dependent forests of the Unit will be designed in a manner that respects the integrity of the matrix forest block and its corridors to the extent possible.
AFM V – Practice forest and tree retention on stands managed for timber	Refer to tables III F, G, H as well as State Forest Retention Policy Standards.
HCVF - Identify and maintain HCVFs	Refer to table III.B ARS 1,2

Resource Protection

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

Objective	Actions
Soil and Water Protection	
SW I – Prevent erosion, compaction and nutrient depletion	Use Best Management Practices when building new trails or conducting Timber Harvests.
SW II – Identify and map SMZ's and adapt management for highly-erodible soils	SMZ's have been mapped and will be used during recreational development and timber harvest planning.
At-Risk Species and Natural Communities	
ARS I – Protect ARS&C ranked S1, S2, S2-3, G1, G2 or G2-3 where present	Northern Cricket Frog
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue NCF survey work at Black Creek State Forest to identify additional critical habitats and seasonal movement corridors. 2. Evaluate potential impacts from all activities that alter habitats within 1500ft of potential habitats. These habitats include uplands, overwintering areas, wetlands, and travel corridors. Impacts to these habitats can result in direct mortality or interference in the species ability to perform essential behaviors, resulting in a take. <p>Allow passive recreation within 1500' of potential habitats. Prohibit mountain biking on Black Creek State Forest to avoid impacts to the Northern Cricket Frog. All activities, including new trail creation, must be reviewed for impacts and avoid areas within 330ft of wetlands. For areas from 330ft to 1500ft from wetlands, the following guidance is provided (from Guidelines for Review of impacts to Northern Cricket frog).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disturbance to all upland habitats should only be conducted during the period when NCF are normally at their breeding locations. The acceptable work period is June 1st through August 15th. b. If surveys have determined that upland habitats on the project site are not likely being used by NCF as hibernacula, but the site may potentially function as a travel corridor for

	<p>movement between summer and winter habitats, disturbance activities should NOT occur during the spring or fall migration periods.</p> <p>c. The acceptable work periods are December 1st through March 15th and June 1st through August 15th.</p> <p>3. Manage timber harvesting activities or other similar habitat conversions under the following conditions:</p> <p>a. No harvest should take place within 330ft of wetlands.</p> <p>b. In areas from 330ft to 1500ft from wetlands, retain >50% canopy cover.</p> <p>c. Implement erosion and sediment controls to prevent impacts to wetlands.</p> <p>d. If surveys have determined that upland habitats on the project site are not likely being used by NCF as hibernacula, but the site may potentially function as a travel corridor for movement between summer and winter habitats, avoid disturbance activities during the spring or fall migration periods. Thus, the acceptable work periods are December 1st through March 15th and June 1st through August 15th.</p> <p>e. No new skid trails, roads, landings can be constructed within 330ft of wetlands. Existing trails and roads can be used but only outside of the fall and spring migration periods.</p> <p>Forest Bats</p> <p>1. The acceptable work window for tree removal is October 1st to March 31st. All potential harvest should be screened using the New York Natural Heritage Program records for the presence of known roost trees. Ideally, a 100m no activity buffer should be maintained around all known roost trees. If this cannot be maintained, the proposed project need to be reviewed for impacts to the particular bat species.</p> <p>2. Harvests should aim to retain 60% canopy cover in areas known to have Indiana Bat.</p> <p>3. For Harvests in areas with Northern Long-eared bats only:</p>
--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. No cutting of any trees may occur inside of the ¼ mile buffer around a hibernaculum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please note that if any tree clearing activities are required within ¼ mile of a hibernation area for NLEB, you may be required to obtain a permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. b. April 1 to October 31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. During this period of time, the NLEB are active and will be found outside the hibernacula. ii. Within 5 miles of known hibernacula or within 150' of documented summer occurrence the following cutting restrictions apply: iii. Leave uncut all snag and cavity trees unless their removal is necessary for protection of human life and property. For the purposes of this guidance, protection of human life and property includes removal of trees that, if not removed, could result in the loss of electric service. Snag and cavity trees are defined under DEC Program Policy ONR-DLF-2 Retention on State Forests. iv. Leave uncut all known and documented roost trees, and any trees within a 150 foot radius of a documented summer occurrence. v. Please note that if you plan any tree clearing activities within 150 ft of a summer occurrence for NLEB during June or July, you may be required to obtain a permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. vi. If any bats are observed flying from a tree, or on a tree that has been cut, forestry activities in the area should be suspended and DEC Wildlife staff notified as soon as possible. vii. Within a ¼ mile of a hibernaculum, leave all trees uncut unless their removal is necessary for protection of human life and property.
--	---

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

	<p>c. Please note that if any tree clearing activities are required within ¼ mile of a hibernation area for NLEB, you may be required to obtain a permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.</p> <p>(http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/106090.html)</p>
<p>RS II – Conduct habitat restoration and promote recovery of declining species</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Favor even-aged forest management whenever possible using harvesting strategies such as clearcutting or shelterwood cuts. Because early successional habitat types are ephemeral, developing a system of providing sustained availability of these habitats both temporally and spatially is critically important. Maintaining 10% of the landscape in early successional forest (<10 years of age) or shrub habitat is an achievable objective. However, due to constraints on active habitat management on some lands due to at-risk species protection issues (e.g. presence of Northern cricket frog at Black Creek State Forest), this goal may be unachievable on some properties in the unit. 2. If uneven-aged forest management is necessary to maintain a specific forest type, favor a group selection harvest technique which would create larger openings than single tree selection. 3. Maintain native shrub communities through the active removal of tree species. 4. Promote the development of a defined shrub layer in areas with an intact forest canopy by actively controlling white-tailed deer populations. 5. Improve the water control structure for the Great Swamp to allow for the creation of a limited area of water which will waterfowl and wildlife diversity, improve recreational hunting opportunities and open water fishing without creating habitat for nuisance species such as Canada Geese, swans, and seagulls. Design and management of the water control structure will take into account impacts to adjacent wetland and vernal pool compositions. 6. Develop signage and other literature to explain the importance of early successional habitats to the public. <p>Purple Milkweed</p>

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate with researchers from the Natural Heritage Foundation and SUNY Cortland to determine potential management actions to improve the purple milkweed populations on Stewart State Forest.
<p>ARS III - Consider protection and management of Species of Greatest Conservation Need</p>	<p>Grassland Birds</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with DEC staff and local volunteer birders to assess grassland bird breeding at Stewart State Forest. 2. Enhance grassland habitat when possible at Stewart State Forest through mowing, hedgerow removal, clearing of encroaching woody vegetation, planting, etc. in the following field complexes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. South Barron Road/Restoration Pond area fields (215 acres); b. Barron Road mitigation wetland area fields (200 acres); c. Northern Ridge Road fields (117 acres); d. Route 207 fields east of Maple Avenue (105 acres); e. Buchanan Hill (100 acres). <p>Forest-breeding raptors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct annual nest surveys for red-shouldered hawk, Cooper's hawk, broad-winged hawk, and sharp-shinned hawk and develop a Unit-wide database of such locations. 2. Avoid timber harvesting of any type within 100 meters of actives and 30 meters for alternate nests. If an alternate nest site is not used for 2 consecutive years, this restriction will no longer apply.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Close or reroute any trail within 100 meters of active nests between March 1 and July 31. <p>Seasonal wetland-breeding amphibians</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For all ecologically significant seasonal wetlands and seasonal wetland complexes, use DEC-established Special Management Zone Guidelines that protect the integrity of these features and the areas immediately adjacent to them.
--	---

Visual Resources and Aesthetics	
VR I – Maintain or improve overall quality of visual resources	Maintain scenic vistas

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

VR II – Use natural materials where feasible	All access points will be developed using natural materials such as stone and wood.
VR III – Lay out any new roads/trails to highlight vistas and unique natural features	Stewart SF – Lay out new trails near ant hill with attention to any unique features on the landscape. Pochuck Mountain SF – Create new Trail to highlight scenic vista Black Creek SF – Coordinate with Wildlife to develop trail systems that highlights black creek waterfalls and other unique features on Black Creek State Forest.
VR IV – Develop kiosks to provide education and reduce sign pollution	Kiosks will be placed and/or maintained at all major access points to provide information about the property, its management, appropriate contact numbers, maps, and rules and regulations. Work with partners on educational signage Black Creek State Forest.
Historic and Cultural Resources	
HC I – Preserve and protect historic and cultural resources wherever they occur	As historical and cultural resources become apparent, appropriate staff will be notified to determine the significance of the resource and what actions should be taken to protect it.
HC II – Inventory resources in GIS and with OPRHP	Ongoing

Infrastructure and Real Property

<i>Table III.C. –Infrastructure and Real Property Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
Boundary Line Maintenance	
BL I – Maintain boundary lines	DEC will strive to inspect and maintain boundary lines once every seven years.
BL II – Address encroachments and other real property problems	New York State Forest Rangers routinely patrol boundary lines. Any encroachments will be addressed using all resources at DEC's disposal.
Infrastructure	

<i>Table III.C. –Infrastructure and Real Property Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
INF I – Provide and maintain public forest access roads, access trails, haul roads, parking areas, and associated appurtenances	Access will be developed to accommodate a wide variety of uses within the unit. When feasible, forest management operations will be planned to assist in developing parking areas and trail systems throughout the unit while achieving silvicultural objectives.
INF II – Upgrade, replace or relocate infrastructure out of riparian areas where feasible	Existing Infrastructure found within riparian areas will be assessed on a case by case basis to determine the current impacts of the infrastructure within the riparian areas, the impacts associated with future use, replacement, and relocation.
INF III – Resolve issues of uncertain legal status or jurisdiction	As needed
INF IV – Prevent over-development	On new properties create parking access and trail systems based upon property size. Limit trail construction and infrastructure development on properties with existing infrastructure in place.

Public/Permitted Use

<i>Table III.D –Public / Permitted Use Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
Universal Access	
UA I – Use minimum tool approach to provide universal access to programs	DEC will continually look for ways to increase public access to lands with the unit as resources and other lands become available.
Formal and Informal Partnerships and Agreements	
PRT I – Collaborate with local organizations and governments to reach mutual goals	Unit Wide-Action 1, 2
PRT II – Consider full range of impacts associated with VSA's and recurring TRPs	DEC will evaluate, TRP's and other agreements on a case by case basis to consider the effects such agreements could have upon the resource and other uses of the property.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVES

<i>Table III.D –Public / Permitted Use Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
Recreation	
REC I – Accommodate public use while preventing illegal activity, reducing impacts and enhancing public safety	Ongoing
REC II – Provide public recreation information	Update our State Lands Interactive Mapper and develop/update online descriptions of the properties within the Unit.
REC III – Inventory recreational amenities and schedule recreation management actions	Ongoing
REC IV – Enhance fish & game species habitat	Use forest management techniques to achieve habitat goals for various fish and game species
Off-Highway and All-Terrain Vehicle Use	
ATV I – Enhance recreational access by people with disabilities under the MAPPWD program	Ongoing
ATV II – Consider requests for ATV connector routes across the unit	No actions proposed at this time
Mineral Resources	
MR I – Provide for mineral exploration and development while protecting natural resources and recreation	No actions proposed at this time
Supporting Local Communities	
LC I – Provide revenue to New York State and economic stimulus for local communities	A multitude of actions listed in this plan assist in accomplishing this objective including ecological tourism, recreational tourism, hunting opportunities and production of forest products. All of these activities have been shown to benefit the economies of the communities surrounding State Forest lands.
LC II – Improve local economies through forest- based tourism	See LCI
LC III – Protect rural character and provide ecosystem services to local communities.	See LCI

Forest Management and Health

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

Objective	Actions
Forest Products	
FP I – Sustainably manage for forest products	Manage lands according to Strategic State Forest Management Plan and re-inventory forests as needed
FP II – Educate the public about the benefits of silviculture	Develop signage for each forest management operation that describes the objectives and benefits of the treatment.
Plantation Management	
PM I – Convert plantation stands to natural forest conditions where appropriate	No actions proposed at this time.
PM II – Artificially regenerate plantations where appropriate	No actions proposed at this time.
Forest Health	
FH I – Use timber sales to improve forest health and the diversity of species	As needed within the Unit
FH II – Protect the unit and surrounding lands from introduced diseases and invasive plant and animal species	DEC will continually examine and evaluate the health of state forest lands within the unit with respect to the presence of introduced diseases and invasive plants and animals. The department may implement Integrated Pest Management practices to address any adverse impacts such diseases and species may have on the lands within this unit.
Managing Deer Impacts	
DM I – Monitor impacts of deer browsing on forest health and regeneration	As needed within the Unit
DM II – Address issues of over-browsing	As needed within the Unit
Fire Management	
FM I – Support Forest Rangers in controlling the ignition and spread of wildfires	As needed and requested
FM II – Maintain naturally occurring fire-dependent communities	Fire may be used as a tool to regenerate and maintain fire dependent communities when feasible. Prescribed fires that exceed GEIS thresholds will be subject to SEQR.
Carbon Sequestration	

<i>Table III.E. –Forest Management and Health Objectives and Actions</i>	
Objective	Actions
CS I – Keep forests as forests, where appropriate	Management actions taken within the unit will be implemented with the goal of perpetuating forest eco-systems and communities at various successional stages. Such a management scheme will serve to enhance the carbon sequestration ability of state lands within the unit.
CS II – Enhance carbon storage in existing stands	As stands are treated and regenerated, their ability to store carbon will increase along with growth and the development of a rapidly growing new cohort of trees in the understory. Refer to tables.
CS III – Keep forests vigorous and improve forest growth rates	Commercial thinning and non-commercial treatments such as Forest Stand Improvements increase the efficiency of growth among residual stems.
CS IV – Sequester carbon in forest products	As forest products are removed from the unit and converted into value added products, their stored carbon is sequestered permanently. Please refer to tables

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

TEN-YEAR LIST OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Ten-Year List of Management Actions

Unit-wide Actions

Action 1

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

Action 2

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

Action 3

Maintain trail and road infrastructure on state lands within unit using both department and volunteer resources when available.

Orange 2-Mt. Peter Hawk Watch

1. Rehabilitate the viewing platform
2. Construct Kiosk at parking Area
3. Maintain westward facing vista and within the original “viewing strips” described in 1993 UMP. Northeast viewing strip 130’Lx40’W, and southeast viewing strip 90’Lx25’W.

Orange 4-Stewart State Forest Actions

- 1) DEC Division of Law Enforcement Shooting Range (New Construction:) Coordinate with Region 3 Environmental Conservation Officers for the creation of a 300-yard shooting range.

Funding for the construction and operation of the facilities will be the responsibility of the Division of Law Enforcement. Region 3 DEC Environmental Conservation Officers will manage this area under formal agreement with the Division of Lands and Forests. The primary use of this proposed range is for firearms training and qualification of NYS DEC law enforcement officers.

Creation of a 21-acre restricted area is to mitigate health and safety risks to the public. The restricted area will be signed against entry into the restricted area and to clearly warn the public of firearms training activities. A 30-foot-tall back stop and 2, 10-foot-tall berms starting from the terminal ends of the back stop will protect the public from gun fire and prevent the public from walking directly into the firing range. Monitoring protocols will ensure natural resources are protected from any potential damage.

SEQRA Analysis:

Please refer to Appendix B for additional background information, the shooting range map, and SEQRA related information.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

TEN-YEAR LIST OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

2. Trails: Evaluate the unofficial trail known as Ant Hill and work with local volunteers to incorporate it into the existing trail network.
3. Gate (New Construction): Install a gate on South Barron Road just north of the State Police shooting range.
4. Observation Platform (New Construction): Install an observation platform on Great Swamp Island between the two sections of boardwalk. The platform will be fully accessible.
5. Building Demolition: Demolish the raincoat factory and other small out buildings that exist on the property and pose an attractive nuisance.
6. Fields: DEC will strive to maintain our commitment toward managing the fields at Stewart State Forest on a rotational basis. In general, fields will be mowed once every 3 years. See attached map and stand management schedule.
7. Agriculture: The Department will continue to issue TRP's to current farmers provided that all TRP conditions are followed. The Department will not issue any TRP's to new farmers and will not expand the areas currently managed by the farmers that have TRP's.
8. Great Swamp Water Control Structure: Work with DOT to reconstruct the water control structure on DOT land that controls flow from the Great Swamp. The goal will be to raise the water levels of the swamp by 18-24 inches.
9. Survey and blaze boundary
10. Reinventory:
 - Compartment 1: 2026
 - Compartment 2: 2017 and 2027
 - Compartment 3: 2017 and 2027

Orange 6-Pochuck Mountain State Forest Actions

1. Parking Area and Kiosk (New Construction): Re-locate the kiosk and construct a new parking area in an open dry area at the north corner of the property on Liberty Corners Road. 10 car capacity
2. Trails (New Construction): Construct a trail that will connect from the new parking area into the current woods road network. Formalize a marked trail that will lead users to the fields and eventually connect to the Appalachian Trail in Sussex County, N.J.
3. Fields: Maintain a commitment to keeping the fields open and mowing them as necessary.
4. Gate (New Construction): Install a gate at the former entrance to the property once a new parking area has been completed.
5. Survey and blaze boundary

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

TEN-YEAR LIST OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

6. Reinventory: Year 2017 and 2027

Ulster 2-High Woods Multiple Use Area Actions

1. Kiosk: (New Construction): Construct a kiosk in the parking area located on Dutchtown Rd.

Ulster 3-Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area Actions

1. Kiosk: (New Construction): Construct a kiosk in the parking area located on Lewis Lane.

Ulster 5-Turkey Point State Forest Actions

1. Fields: Maintain a commitment to keeping the fields open and mowing them as necessary.
2. Campsites: Construct two formal primitive campsites near the river.
3. Survey and blaze boundary
4. Reinventory: Year 2022

Ulster 9-Black Creek State Forest Actions

1. Parking Area and Kiosk (New Construction): Construct a parking area and kiosk on Timberline Trail. (10 car capacity)
2. Parking Area and Kiosk (New Construction): Construct a parking area and kiosk at the end of Chodikee Lake Road. (10 car capacity)*
3. Bridge (New Construction): Construct a foot bridge that crosses the Black Creek near former mill site.
4. Bridge (New Construction): Construct a foot bridge crossing the western tributary of Black Creek.
5. Trails: Work with wildlife to design a foot trail system that will provide public recreational opportunities while protecting Northern Cricket Frog Habitat. Formalize the John Burroughs Trail Corridor by establishing a connection from southern access points to the John Burroughs Nature Sanctuary.
6. Designate primitive campsite near Black Creek waterfalls
7. Boat Storage Facility (New Construction): Construct a small boat storage area on the north bank of the Black Creek near the proposed designated campsite. The facility will be equipped with secure lockers enabling paddlers to store their gear while they explore other areas of the property.
8. Survey and blaze boundary
9. Reinventory: Year 2022

*This action is dependent upon the acquisition of the county parcel located at the end of Chodikee Lake Road. Current conditions suggest the Right of Way known as the former Town Highway of Camp Stutts Road is being blocked by a neighbor. DEC has determined that this is a possible encroachment on the public's deeded Right of Way which grants rights across "*to the bed of & right of access of the grantor to any former or current Town Highways as depicted on Filed Map 06-246A.*" DEC will determine which actions will be necessary to resolve this situation.

Forest Type Codes**Natural Forest Types**

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

Plantation Types

- 40 Plantation: Red Pine
- 41 Plantation: White Pine
- 42 Plantation: Scotch Pine
- 43 Plantation: Austrian Pine
- 44 Plantation: Jack Pine
- 45 Plantation: Norway Spruce
- 46 Plantation: White Spruce
- 47 Plantation: Japanese Larch
- 48 Plantation: European Larch
- 49 Plantation: White Cedar
- 50 Plantation: Douglas Fir
- 51 Plantation: Balsam Fir
- 52 Plantation: Black Locust
- 53 Plantation: Pitch Pine
- 54 Plantation: Misc. Species (Pure)
- 60 Plantation: Red Pine-White Pine
- 61 Plantation: Red Pine-Spruce
- 62 Plantation: Red Pine-Larch
- 63 Plantation: White Pine-Spruce
- 64 Plantation: White Pine-Larch
- 65 Plantation: Scotch Pine-Spruce
- 66 Plantation: Scotch Pine-Larch
- 67 Plantation: Larch-Spruce
- 68 Plantation: Bucket Mixes
- 70 Plantation: Pine-Natural Species
- 72 Plantation: Misc. Hardwood
- 98 Plantation: Seedling-Sapling

Management Direction

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

Treatment Type

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

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

SIZE CLASS

Size Class

Seedling/Sapling <5" DBH (S-S)

Pole Timber 6"-11" DBH (PT)

Small Saw Timber 12"-17" DBH (SST)

Medium Saw Timber 18"-23" DBH (MST)

Large Saw Timber > 24" DBH (LST)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Land Management Action Schedules

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type
				Current	Future		
Orange 04 Compartment 1	7	6	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (3)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	15	13	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (2,5)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	17	9	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (2,5)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	21	128	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (2,5)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	33	107	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(1,4)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	35	19	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (2,5)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	39	13	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(1,4)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	40	50	PT	10	10	(T-EA)	TH (T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	48	46	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (2,5)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	84	44	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (3)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	66	39	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (3)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	75	40	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH (T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	90	54	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH (T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	91	30	PT	32	32	(T-EA)	TH (T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	3	59	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(1,4)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	4	111	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(1,4)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	29	10	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(1,4)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type
				Current	Future		
Orange 06 Compartment 1	12	30	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 02 Compartment 1	1	43.2	SST	19	19	(T-EA)	RG
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	3	14.8	PT	19	19	(T-EA)	TH
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	2	7.6	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	3	3.3	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	4	4	SST	10	10	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	5	3	PT	25	25	T-EA	TH
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	7	4	SST	15	15	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	10	10	SST	18	18	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	11	19	SST	31	31	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	12	13.8	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	13	5	SST	10	10	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	14	7	PT	14	14	T-EA	TH
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	15	2	SST	19	19	T-EA	TH
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	16	12	SST	16	16	T-EA	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	17	3	PT	32	32	T-EA	TH

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type
				Current	Future		
Orange 04 Compartment 1	7	6	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (6,9)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	15	13	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (8)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	17	9	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (8)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	21	128	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (8)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	5	4	PT	15	15	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 2	15	11	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 2	24	26	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 2	28	10	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 2	32	14	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 1	33	107	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(7,10)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	35	19	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (8)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	39	13	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(7,10)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	48	46	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years: (8)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	84	44	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (6,9)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	66	39	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Year: (6,9)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	3	59	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(7,10)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	4	111	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(7,10)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	29	10	N/A	Field	Field	(WL)	Mow Years:(7,10)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	6	3	PT	15	15	T-EA	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 3	8	18	PT	31	31	T-EA	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 3	11	11	PT	31	31	T-EA	TH

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type
				Current	Future		
Orange 04 Compartment 3	13	16	PT	15	15	T-EA	TH
Orange 04 Compartment 3	16	10	PT	15	15	T-EA	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	7	66	SST	20	20	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	8	14	SST	18	18	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	9	3	SST	31	31	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	10	22	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	11	2	SST	18	18	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	12	30	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	13	48	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	14	17	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	16	8	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	17	12	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	RG
Orange 06 Compartment 1	18	28	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	19	11	SST	31	31	(T-EA)	TH

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction	Treatment Type
				Current	Future		
Orange 06 Compartment 1	20	3	PT	18	18	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	21	12	SST	32	32	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	22	6	PT	32	32	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	23	24	PT	31	31	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	24	13	PT	32	32	(T-EA)	TH
Orange 06 Compartment 1	26	19	SST	32	32	(T-EA)	TH
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	1	30.8	SST	16	16	(T-EA)	RG
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	2	7.6	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	3	3.3	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	12	13.8	N/A	99	99	(WL)	MOW (as needed)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 1	1	20	PT	11	11	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	2	258	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	3	51	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	4	92.43	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	5	7	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	6	42	PT	18	18	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	8	7	PT	11	11	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	9	69	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	10	59	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	12	7	PT	12	12	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	13	17	PT	19	19	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	14	477	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	16	71.19	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	17	10	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	18	36	PT	16	16	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	19	42.97	SST	31	31	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 1	24	25	PT	10	10	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	26	13.92	PT	10	10	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	27	434.77	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	28	11	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	29	82	N/A	15	15	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	30	280	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	31	88	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	32	81	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	34	27	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	37	51	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	38	135.22	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	39	14	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	42	11	PT	32	32	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	43	73	PT	11	11	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	44	46.17	PT	32	32	(T-EA)

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 1	45	17	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04	46	32	PT	31	31	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Compartment 1						
Orange 04 Compartment 1	47	27	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	48	48	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	49	13.75	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	50	40	SS	-99	-99	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	51	22	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	52	64	SS	-99	-99	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	53	75	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	55	124.5	PT	16	16	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	56	30	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	57	17.48	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	58	26	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	59	14	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	60	100	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	61	59	PT	18	18	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	62	26	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	63	11	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	64	44	N/A	99	99	(WL)

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 1	65	40	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04	66	22	PT	31	31	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Compartment 1						
Orange 04 Compartment 1	67	13	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	68	88	SS	-99-	-99-	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	69	14	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	70	13	SS	-99-	-99-	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	71	13	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	72	42	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	73	13	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	74	19	SS	-99-	-99-	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	75	41	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	76	56	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	77	41	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	78	45	SS	-99-	-99-	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	79	38	PT	16	16	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	80	27	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	81	78	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	82	51	SS	-99-	-99-	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	83	22	N/A	99	99	(WL)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 1	85	19	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	86	11	N/A	99	99	Wildlife
Orange 04 Compartment 1	87	46	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	88	19	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 1	89	10	SS	-99-	-99-	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	0	6	N/A	99	99	Wildlife
Orange 04 Compartment 2	1	25	SS	14	14	(T-EA)
Orange 04	2	45	SS	14	14	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Orange 04 Compartment 2						
Orange 04 Compartment 2	3	59	N/A	99	99	Wildlife
Orange 04 Compartment 2	6	9	PT	10	10	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	7	9	PT	32	32	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	8	30	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	9	30	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	10	36	SST	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	11	56	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	12	8	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	13	27	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	14	8	PT	15	15	(T-EA)

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 2	17	59	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	18	5	SST	60	60	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	19	17	S-S	14	14	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	20	42	S-S	14	14	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	21	8	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	22	15	PT	17	17	(T-EA)
Orange 04	23	25	PT	32	32	(WL)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Compartment 2						
Orange 04 Compartment 2	25	22	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	26	16	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	27	2.7	S-S	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	30	32	PT	10	10	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 2	31	7	PT	15	15	(T-EA)

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 3	1	8	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	2	8	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	3	5	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	4	76	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	5	13	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	7	128	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	9	27	N/A	99	99	WL

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Orange 04 Compartment 3	10	9	N/A	32	32	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	12	7	PT	31	31	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	14	6	PT	15	15	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	15	7	N/A	-99-	-99-	T-EA

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 04 Compartment 3	16	10	PT	31	31	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	17	8	PT	31	31	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	19	10	PT	31	31	T-EA
Orange 04 Compartment 3	20	12	N/A	99	99	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	21	13	PT	15	15	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	23	10	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	25	24	PT	15	15	(WL)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	26	8	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	27	6	N/A	99	99	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	28	39	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Orange 04 Compartment 3	29	7	S-S	14	14	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Orange 04 Compartment 3	30	16	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
----------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	--------

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type		Management Direction
				Current	Future	
Orange 06 Compartment 1	2	27	SST	15	15	T-EA
Orange 06 Compartment 1	3	24	PT	14	14	(T-EA)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	4	19.8	PT	25	25	(T-EA)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	5	8.3	PT	18	18	(T-EA)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	6	13	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	15	33	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Orange 06 Compartment 1	26	19	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	1	25.6	PT	31	31	(T-EA)
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	2	14.9	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	3	30.4	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	4	7.9	SST	31	31	(T-EA)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	1	16	PT	10	10	(T-EA)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	8	5	PT	15	15	(T-EA)
Ulster 05 Compartment 1	9	16	12	18	18	(T-EA)

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

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

State Forests	Stand	Acres	Size Class	Forest Type
Orange 02 Compartment 1	N/A	5	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 1	11	33	PT	15
Orange 04 Compartment 1	20	18	PT	10
Orange 04 Compartment 1	23	24	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 1	25	18	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 1	36	112	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 1	41	45	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 2	16	34	N/A	99
Orange 04 Compartment 3	22	7	PT	15
Ulster 03 Compartment 1	1	25.6	N/A	99
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	1	83	PT	20
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	2	9	N/A	99
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	3	137	PT	31
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	4	6	N/A	15
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	5	22	N/A	15
Ulster 09 Compartment 1	6	36	SST	11

Bibliography

- Barbour et al., Henry. *Lower New England-Northern Piedmont Ecoregion Conservation Plan; First Iteration, Edited*. Boston, MA: The Nature Conservancy, Northeast and Caribbean Division, 2000.
- Feldmann A, Spencer E, Corser D, Howard T, Ring R., *State Lands Assessment Project: Biodiversity*.
- Kelley, B, Elizabeth, *John Burroughs' Slabsides*. Riverby Books. West Park, New York. 1987.
- Lancaster, F. Kenneth. *Managing Eastern Hemlock A Preliminary Guide*. NA-FR-30.1985.
- Leak, B. W., Solomon, S. D., Debal, S. P. *Silvicultural Guide for Northern Hardwood Types in the Northeast (Revised)* NE-603. 1986
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, *New York State Open Space Plan*. 2016.
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, *The Strategic Plan for State Forest Management*, 2011.
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, *Stewart State Forest Unit Management Plan*. 2006.
- New York State DOT, 1992; Ruttenber and Clark. 1981.
- New York State DOT, *Stewart International Airport Properties Final Federal Environmental Impact Statement*. 1992.
- New York Natural Heritage Program, *Inventory of Regions 3 & 4 State Forests & Forest Preserve, Vol. 1*.
- Orange County Chapter of the New York Archeological Association, *Summary of Prehistoric Occupation in Orange County*. 1979.

LAND MANAGEMENT ACTION SCHEDULES

Sander, I. *Manager's Handbook for Oaks in the North Central States. General Technical Report NC-37.* 1977.

Scenic Hudson and the John Burroughs Association, *The John Burroughs Black Creek Trail Plan*, April 2017.

Town of Esopus Bicentennial Committee, *Town of Esopus story, 3000 B.C.-1978 A.D.* Town of Esopus Bicentennial Committee. Esopus, New York 1979.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, *Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) database for New York.* 2009.

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS**Appendices & Figures****Appendix A - Summary of Comments During Public Scoping Sessions**

Insert Appendix A Text

West of Hudson UMP Meeting - New Paltz Office – November 17, 2016

Jeff Wiegert – Welcomed Attendees

Matt Paul – Provided Presentation

Discussed strategic plan for state forests. Encouraged attendees to look at the previously approved UMP from 2006 plan that has gone through the environmental review process including areas in state forests such as, MUA, Unique areas, reforestation areas and state nature preserves. The new plan will include information regarding recreational opportunities and future management on the properties in the management unit. The purpose of the meeting tonight and the comment period is to collect information from the public on access and opportunities within the state forests that they deem important to the plan.

Matt also discussed green certification and audits that go on to meet these guidelines.

Goals for the plan include:

1. Provide healthy and biologically diverse ecosystems.
2. Maintain human-made State forest assets.
3. Provide recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.
4. Provide economic benefits to the people of the state.
5. Prove a legal framework.

Stewart State Forest, as with all state properties, pays taxes to the communities (Stewart SF property alone pays \$1.2 million a year in taxes).

Concerns of at risk species & natural communities are taken into account especially when installing parking lots etc. and when meeting green certifications.

Questions/Answers and Comments Session

Q: Sandra – About process – Do any of these parcels have UMPs right now? Why has DEC established this framework, under what regulation, to include these properties in one plan?

A: This work was begun to address issues including Green Certification process for UMPs and how the process was becoming bogged down. DEC began to develop a strategic plan to cover more than one area at a time with similar uses. This will save time for the SEQR process for things such as mountain bikes, etc.

Turkey Point will be rolled into the plan.

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

Q: What are the acronyms SFI and FSC and who are these groups?

A: **Sustainable Forestry Initiative & Forest Stewardship Council.**

Q: Do you pay a fee for the certification by these two groups?

A: Yes

Q: What are the benefit of these certifications? Is the cost for this certification a worthwhile offset?

A: The sale of firewood alone pays for this certification. Matt elaborated on the answer.

Q: Still not clear on certification and why would we pay for certification on areas that aren't providing products?

A: Certification isn't given to individual areas. We are certified as an agency and manage all of our lands sustainability.

Q: Regarding uses mentioned in the Strategic Plan for State Forest Management - some uses may not be consistent such as mining and drilling. If this plan was approved in 2010, does DEC use its own judgement with regard to changes to the plan? Will these uses take place?

A: Pre-existing wells are in the plan. No plans to do mining and drilling have been identified for this new UMP.

Q: The UMP for Stewart was adopted in 2006 and the strategic plan was adopted in 2010. Are the provisions in the strategic plan retroactively applied for Stewart?

A: There is nothing that we are doing on Stewart that isn't in the strategic plan. Things outside of the scope would have to be addressed separately under a site-specific action plan.

Q: How are the comments received added to the plan, are they an amendment to the plan?

A: A Responsiveness Summary will be compiled to address comments received. These comments will be included in the draft which will go back out to the public for review and comments.

Q: What is the timeline for the draft?

A: We would like a draft under internal review by the end of this year. Release to the public for review would be sometime next year.

Q: If a 10-year plan is made, can it be modified over time if needed?

A: Yes. If an additional acquisition occurs, the plan will allow for changes and would go through an amendment process. If the activity is included under the strategic plan currently it wouldn't have to go through the entire SEQR process.

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

Q: Re: Specific email that Debbie sent to Matt about no loose livestock being allowed on state lands. This should not be allowed due to safety concerns.

A: Some comments would have to go to other state agencies for review to be addressed.

Q: Regarding comments, is there any point in sending multiple comments on the same topic? Will they receive more weight?

A: We lump similar comments together in the responsiveness summary and reply to them as a whole. These multiple comments are not given more weight. There isn't really a point in sending duplicate comments from one entity.

Q: Regarding the Ridge - Will the plan include specific or unique things for an area?

A: Activities like snowmobiling or hunting and more generalized activities will be included in the plan under what will be allowed or not allowed. Property specific management actions like for the Shawangunk Ridge for example to include new trails, parking areas, etc. will be addressed by each property individually within the plan.

Q: Will cooperation between neighboring sites owned by partners such as Scenic Hudson be encouraged with regard to access or recreational opportunities?

A: As trail systems and other opportunities develop all are taken into consideration by each land manager regarding what is best for their patrons. We are very open to working with partner organizations to discuss these opportunities.

Q: Will camping out and primitive camping at Black Creek at the falls be included and allowed?

A: If you would like a designated campsite to be established at the falls, let us know.

Comment: Hikers on trails and birders prefer not to be doing activities with mountain bikers going by.

Q: Besides timber harvesting how else is the state meeting its goals in providing healthy and biologically diverse ecosystems?

A: We use resources from actively managed forests and other parts of the properties like wetlands, grasslands, etc. We use multiple use management and relate it to what the people want.

Comment: The State wetlands database is not perfect. The boundaries of these wetlands grow and shrink and this should be taken into account to make sure DEC continuously surveys and updates the databases.

Comment: I think kiosks on Black Creek would be good to educate folks about the tree that makes the creek black or about the grist mill that was there.

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

Comment: A bridge at John Burrows could be made on the creek to get off the water just above the falls or a way to get out on the other side would be a great addition.

Comment: How to address Invasive plant species and how to get rid of them should be in the plan.

Comment: DEC should do analysis on what wasn't completed such as mowing and where we didn't do what we said we would do in the 2006 plan and should be reflected in the new plan.

A: We are looking at the current plan and making realistic goals for the new plan in regards to mowing and will look at ways to meet these goals.

Q: Will the current Stewart UMP be enforced while the new plan is being completed? Does this current UMP include the new amendments? How often are the green certification audits done? How often do they come to Stewart for certification audits?

A: Yes, the old UMP will be enforced until the new one is complete. The green certification audits occur every year at randomly chosen properties, but at Stewart typically it's every 3-4 years.

Comment: Add a Port-o-Potty at the launch at Black Creek.

Q: Is there wiggle room to accommodate UTV's or golf carts on state forests?

A: DMV would have to be contacted to designate UTVs as something other than a vehicle and there is a concern with problems from injury.

Q: For comments, do you want for comments on fields to get mowed?

A: Yes

Q: How often is the plan reviewed?

A: Every 10 years.

Q: Will a plan to tackle invasives be included in the plan? How about water chestnuts?

A: We always try our best and will continue to address this problem and work with volunteers to assist. Invasives are currently being managed at Stewart but volunteer help is always welcome.

Comment: At the southern end of Black Creek, and the people that reside there are not particularly friendly with regard to access in that area and should be addressed.

Comment: The mute swans that had been at Black Creek are no longer there and now Canada geese have moved in. Their poop is causing a problem on the beach and this needs to be addressed.

Q: Do you post these DEC meetings to kiosks on state forest property?

APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF COMMENTS DURING PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

A: We will try to post in the future to the kiosks and not just rely on electronic posts.

Q: Can we have more space to post events on kiosks?

A: Maybe we could have more space on the kiosks in the future.

Q: Can we have online access for a schedule of events at Stewart?

A: By April we generally have an approved list of DEC events throughout the year that we can add to the DEC calendar but we typically do not include events on our public events calendar that are not DEC sponsored.

Comment: We noticed the new kiosks and parking on the Ridge that have been completed and areas at Black Creek that are continuing to be worked on; so continued access would be a great thing to include especially for people coming up on the train.

Q: I only have the executive summary of the strategic plan – where is the full plan?

A: It is on the DEC website.

Comment: Maybe DEC events could be added to the calendar or a Facebook page for Stewart could be created that announces events at the state forest.

Comment: Sandra - Sign up for messages from DEC Delivers, it is very informative.

Q: The WV Times covered plans on the village of Maybrook about access for the western boundary of Stewart and for residential plans being made. Does DEC Region 3 monitor these proposals that come up to these boundaries? New Windsor has a rezoning plan, what is the DEC obligation to the plans being made at these boundary locations?

A: State Foresters monitor for encroachment of these properties on our boundaries and for possible violations and enforcement at these boundaries. Note: An article on a weigh station on the Stewart property boundary was provided to Matt to review.

Q: What extent is the DEC trying to go paperless for maps?

A: Download the DEC's free Official Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife App or get Google Maps or use the State Land Interactive Mapper.

Q: Turkey hunters carry a lot of gear interior road access during the spring Turkey season would increase hunting opportunities on Stewart State Forest. Is there any way that the gate from weed road could be open the first week of May?

A: Stewart State Forest has a diverse user group and to open the gates the first week of May would impact other recreational users on the property. Additionally, Forest Rangers would have to divert time and energy away from other State Lands to focus on patrolling Stewart State Forest the first week of May. For these reasons the gates will remain closed during the spring.

Q: Can the gates be opened for interior road access on Stewart State Forest during the Spring Turkey Season to provide the aging population of hunters' access to the interior road system.

A: Stewart State Forest can be accessed by individuals who qualify for MAPPWD permit. The MAPPWD permit is a temporary revocable permit (TRP) that provides motor vehicle access to certain state lands administered by DEC. MAPPWD permit holders are permitted uncommon access to activities such as hunting, fishing, camping and wildlife observation.

Q: Is there any way that the goals for the UMP and future budget problems that may arise could be addressed in the plan?

A: We like to include in the plan a request for funds for more projects than we expect may be funded or able to complete because we never know if these will get budgeted down the line. We may not be able to get to these projects but if they aren't in the plan, there's no way we can do them.

Comment: Would like an electronic sign at Stewart to show current events each day. Also would like a way to post current events on a calendar or our own Stewart webpage or on a Stewart Facebook page.

Comment: Thanked DEC staff for their services.

APPENDIX B - STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW (SEQR)**Appendix B - State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)****Proposed Project and background information:**

NYSDEC Environmental Conservation Officers (ECO's) have developed a plan to construct a 21-acre firearms range at Stewart State Forest on lands informally and traditionally used for this activity. Region 3 ECOs will oversee the funding, construction, maintenance, and scheduling of training activities on the firearms range. The proposed project will officially delineate an area traditionally used as a law enforcement firearms training range and will enhance public safety by providing the Department a location for required firearms training and qualification.

The proposed 300-yard shooting range will be used primarily for formal law enforcement firearms training and qualification courses. Limited use by other law enforcement agencies will only be allowed on a formal basis, at the discretion of the designated shooting range manager.

In the original 2006 Stewart State Forest Unit Management Plan, this area was identified as a potential health and safety risk to the public. The proposed shooting range would mitigate the existing health and safety issue, while providing law enforcement officers an essential training area.

The proposed action is consistent with the surrounding land use since an existing NYS State Police shooting range is already present immediately to the west of the proposed shooting range.

Safety Considerations:

An appropriate backstop and berm will be constructed to ensure public safety, in addition to a 21-acre restricted area surrounding the range. The restricted area will be posted to prevent public access in to the restricted area. The backstop will be sand and approximately 30-foot tall with 10-foot tall berms installed on either side of the backstop. The creation of the restricted area will enhance public safety.

Recreational Impacts:

Anticipated impacts to recreational users on Stewart State Forest are minimal. The proposed 21-acre restricted area is three tenths of a percent of the total acreage of the property. No formal recreational trails are within the proposed 21-acre restricted area. The proposed reroute of the "ant hill" trail will formalize and reroute this trail away from the proposed 21-acre restricted area. The area will exclude hunting but represents a small area that receives limited hunting use.

PROPOSED PROJECT AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Potential Environmental Impacts:

The natural resources within and surrounding the proposed shooting range location will be protected. Wetlands have been delineated on the ground within and surrounding the proposed shooting range site. All construction actions will be consistent with maintaining the integrity of the existing wetlands and regional Bureau of Habitat personnel have reviewed potential impacts to nearby wetland areas. No fill will be deposited in or near the delineated wetland areas.

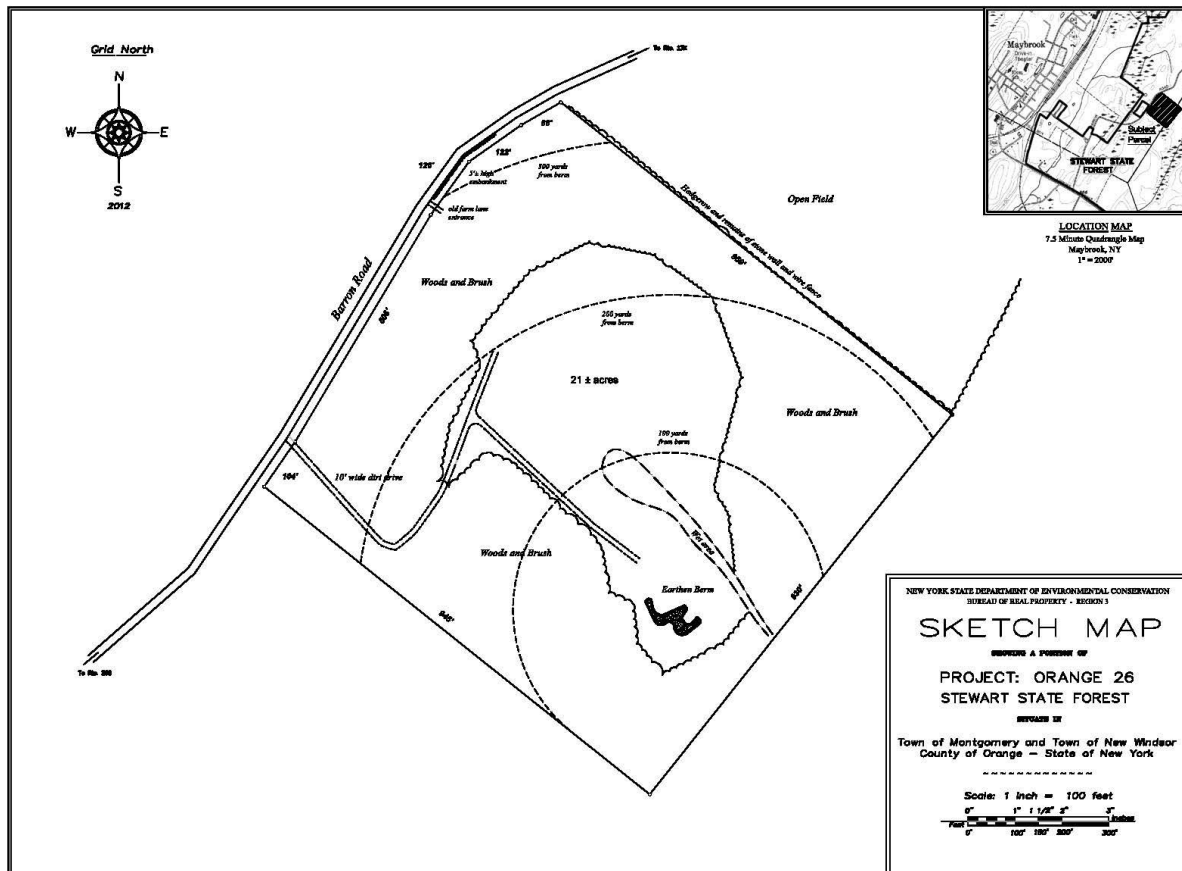
Lead contamination will be avoided by monitoring protocols to ensure lead will not leach into the environment. Ph will be monitored to prevent lead contamination into the surrounding environment. Soil testing will occur on a bi-annual basis and mitigation will occur if necessary.

Noise levels will be consistent with current ambient sound levels emanating from the existing NYS State Police range which is immediately west of the location of the proposed NYSDEC Environmental Conservation Officer shooting range.

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

Draft Plans that Exceed SPSFM GEIS

The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requires the consideration of environmental factors early in the planning stages of any proposed action(s) that are undertaken, funded or approved by a local, regional or state agency. A Long Environmental Assessment Form (LEAF) is used to identify and analyze relevant areas of environmental concern based upon the management actions in the draft unit management plan. For this plan, SEQRA review has been initiated with the preparation of the LEAF. Upon review of the information contained in the LEAF, there will not be any large or important impacts associated with any of the management actions, therefore there will not be a significant impact on the environment and a Negative Declaration will be prepared. Any changes that are made in this plan, based upon public comments, will be considered in the LEAF and determination of significance when the final plan is written.



APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

Appendix C – Exceptions and Deed Restrictions

<i>Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions</i>			
Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Pochuck Mountain State Forest	Or. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Excepting 0.65 acres per Liber 3020, cp. 337. -Subject to Utility Easements & Right of Ways of record. 	Orange 31
Stewart State Forest	Or. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Excepting cemetery along Route 207 between Maple Avenue & Drury Lane. -Excepting Belknap Family Cemetery between Route 207 & Barrett Road. -Subject to rights of Central Hudson Gas & Electric to their transmission right of ways. -Subject to an access easement between Little Britain Elementary School and US Military Housing. -Subject to an easement for sewer & water lines between US Military Housing & Jackson Avenue Extension. -Subject to Clark Street Access Easement. -Subject to a Drainage Easement north of the US Military Housing. -Subject to a 33' wide right of way for a transcontinental coaxial underground telephone cable from Route 207 north between Maple Avenue & Drury Lane. -The sections of Barron Road, Decker Road and Second Street that are within the Village of Maybrook were not appropriated by NYSDOT. 	Orange 26

APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Stewart State Forest	Or. 4	<p>-Subject to a Natural Gas Line Easement reserved by NYSDOT as shown on map entitled: 'Proposed Gas Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing' dated April 21, 2006.</p> <p>-Subject to a Drainage Easement reserved by NYSDOT as shown on map entitled: 'Proposed Drainage Easement, Stewart Terrace Family Housing' dated April 21, 2006.</p> <p>-Subject to a Water Main Easement 30 feet in width reserved by NYSDOT as shown on map entitled: 'Proposed Water Main Easement' dated April 21, 2006.</p> <p>-Subject to a Sanitary Sewer Easement 30 feet in width reserved by NYSDOT as shown on map entitled: 'Proposed Sanitary Sewer Easement, Stewart</p>	Orange 26.03
Hemlock Ridge Multiple Use Area	Ul. 3	-Subject to a Utility Easement granted to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation & NY Telephone per Liber 576 of Deeds at page 468.	Ulster 303

APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Black Creek State Forest	Ul. 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Subject to an agreement for a right of way 20 feet wide granted to American Telephone & Telegraph Company per Liber 532 of Deeds at page 400. -Subject to an easement & right of way granted to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation & NY Telephone per Liber 764 of Deeds at page 389. -Subject to an easement and right of way 50 feet wide granted to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation per Liber 1038 of Deeds at page 128. -Subject to an easement & right of way granted to NY Telephone Company & Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation per Liber 1939 of Deeds at page 126. -Subject to an easement & right of way granted to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation & NY Telephone Company per Liber 2043 of Deeds at page 301. -Together with the rights, if any, to fish Auchmoody Pond as reserved in Liber 306 of Deeds at page 494. -Together with & Subject to a non-exclusive easement & right of way per Liber 2915 of Deeds at page 37. -Together with the rights to the bed of & right of access of the grantor to any former or current Town Highways as depicted on Filed Map 06-246A. -Together with a permanent, non-exclusive easement & right of way for ingress, egress & regress access on Future Road and shown on Filed Map 06-246A. 	Ulster 293

APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Turkey Point State Forest	Ul. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Together with the use in common with others to the 16 foot wide right of way leading from the Town Highway known as Ulster Landing Road to & across the above described premises. -Together with the right & privilege to pass & re-pass to and from the docks formerly of the American Ice Company, now USCG as described in Liber 382 of Deeds at page 561. -Subject to a right of way conveyed to Kingston Gas & Electric Company per Liber 448 of Deeds at page 395. -Subject to a right of way described in Liber 160 of Deeds at page 31. 	Ulster 249.1

APPENDIX C – EXCEPTIONS AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Turkey Point State Forest	Ul. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Together with a right of way, in common with others, 50 feet wide for public travel on Turkey Point Road as it runs westerly from the parcel described to the Town Road known as Flatbush Camp Road. -Subject to rights of others to the above right of way as per Liber 1995 of Deeds at page 309. -Subject to the rights of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation in and to the transmission line right of way which runs along the westerly line of the described parcel. -Subject to a right of way 16 feet in width over and along the said Turkey Point Road as it runs from the terminus of the said Flatbush Camp Road easterly along the above described 50 foot wide right of way as granted in Liber 460 of Deeds at page 567; the right to travel over & along said 16 foot wide right of way now being held by others including the United States of America, owner of the lands known as the Turkey Point Lighthouse property on the westerly shore of the Hudson River. 	Ulster 249.2 & 249.3
Turkey Point State Forest	Ul. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Subject to Utility Easements of record. -Subject to any drainage easements held by the County of Ulster for Highway Purposes. -Together with a 50 foot wide right of way over Lot 2 as shown on Filed Map 9161. 	Ulster 249.7

Table I.H. – Exceptions and Deeded Restrictions

Facility Name	RA #	Description E.g., deeded ROW, easement, access lane, water rights, cemetery, etc.	Proposal ID (Surveyor's Reference)
Turkey Point State Forest	Ul. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Together with the rights over the road between the above described property & NYS Route 32 originally conveyed by Liber 160 of Deeds at page 31. -Reserving to the United States of America rights to maintain 'aids in navigation' on structure known as the Turkey Point Light, Saugerties, NY. -Reserving to the United States of America the unrestricted rights to add aids in navigation anywhere on the property conveyed. -Reserving to the United States of America an easement of access to, over and across the property in favor of the United States of America for access to navigation aids. 	Ulster 249.8

Appendix D – Wildlife Harvest Data

Deer Harvest in WMUs 3J and 3M, 2006-2015

	3J		3M	
Year	Antlered (harvest/sq mi)	Total (harvest/sq mi)	Antlered (harvest/sq mi)	Total (harvest/sq mi)
2006	2.0	4.7	3.8	7.8
2007	1.9	4.9	3.7	8.7
2008	1.9	4.7	4.1	9.6
2009	2.2	5.1	4.3	11.9
2010	2.2	4.5	4.3	11.7
2011	3.0	5.6	4.7	11.3
2012	3.1	5.9	4.6	11.8

APPENDICES & FIGURES

APPENDIX D – WILDLIFE HARVEST DATA

2013	2.7	5.6	4.4	11.2
2014	2.4	5.7	4.1	11.7
2015	2.1	4.3	2.9	8.0

Bear Harvest in Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties, 2006-2015

Year	Orange	Ulster
2006	51	87
2007	55	134
2008	70	148
2009	71	128
2010	72	72
2011	98	130
2012	89	97
2013	85	132
2014	114	192
2015	94	135

Turkey Harvest in Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties, 2006-2015

Year	Orange		Ulster	
	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
2006	709	471	566	194
2007	744	325	697	291
2008	686	464	595	210
2009	831	184	665	122
2010	664	264	588	207

APPENDIX D – WILDLIFE HARVEST DATA

2011	442	168	427	131
2012	460	207	450	132
2013	461	144	446	104
2014	582	158	313	103
2015	603	58	433	43

APPENDIX E - GUIDELINES FOR STEWART STATE FOREST TEMPORARY
REVOCABLE PERMITS (TRP) APPLICANTS:

**Appendix E - Guidelines for Stewart State Forest Temporary Revocable
Permits (TRP) applicants:**

1. TRP's will not be issued for events on the following Holiday Weekends:
Memorial Day, July 4th (and its nearest weekend), and Labor Day.
2. We will avoid issuing TRP's for events on the second weekend of June and August.
3. Motor vehicle access will be prohibited through the first weekend of April (or longer if conditions warrant) to protect the road system during mud season.
4. TRPs will not be issued for more than 2 training events/week/club. Dog Training events to be scheduled on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.
5. We will not issue TRPs for more than two Events (examples of events include dog trials, bike races, group horse trail rides) on the property at any one time.
6. Event TRPs can include a condition allowing for camping associated with administration of the event, but motor vehicle use will be minimized.
7. Lock combinations, at the Department's discretion, will be changed on September 30th of each year.
8. All TRP users will be required to post their activities at "event info boxes" at the four major entries to the park (Barron Road North and South, Weed Road and Ridge Road). Lorraine Drive may be added in the future. A map showing the exact locations being used must be updated each day. In the event live and blank ammunition is used, location and purpose must be clearly identified, so other users are aware of noise. All event announcements must be dated and

APPENDIX E - GUIDELINES FOR STEWART STATE FOREST TEMPORARY
REVOCABLE PERMITS (TRP) APPLICANTS:

removed within 24 hours of the end of the event. Dog training events consistent with Guideline 11 (below) do not have to be posted – DEC will provide a map at trailheads showing the areas where dog training will take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from April thru September.

9. Ammunition used in Retriever/Dog Club Trials, and other special TRP events **near water** must be non-toxic, lead-free, pursuant to ECL 11-0307.
10. Live ammunition is prohibited for dog **training** events on State lands in Region 3 pursuant to ECL 11-0923. Live ammunition will be allowed for dog **trial** events pursuant to ECL 11-0927. A **dog training** event is one in which dog(s) are taught, instructed, exercised and prepared for a test of skill. A **dog trial event** is defined as an event in which dogs compete or are tested to prove a level of skill or proficiency before a competent judge and at which titles or championship points may be awarded.
11. Permits for dog training will be limited to the western portion of Stewart State Forest, west of New Road, with the following exceptions: We will permit activities on Senior Hill (east side of New Road), Beaver Pond (south of New Road) and Pittman-Robertson Pond/upland ("Area 27"). We will prohibit training and trials at Restoration Pond and Giles Pond* due to the high quality habitat they provide. TRPs for dog training events in the areas described above will be limited to Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.
12. While we encourage applicants to use the same training areas (described in #11 above) for dog trial events, we will consider other locations for dog trials on a case by case basis. For dog trial events where a judge makes the final decision on location via a field inspection, the specific location must be communicated to the Department and the Public ASAP, but no later than the day before the trial event.

APPENDIX E - GUIDELINES FOR STEWART STATE FOREST TEMPORARY REVOCABLE PERMITS (TRP) APPLICANTS:

13. Vehicle Access to all events will be from the nearest gate as indicated in the TRP document. Internal roadway use will be limited to provisions described in the TRP.
 14. Dog Clubs using live ammo must post a person(s) at major trail intersection(s) with active event sites to alert users.
- * We will undertake a wildlife/habitat assessment of Giles Pond. The results of that assessment will determine if Giles Pond can accommodate dog training and trial events in the future.

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

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

APPENDICES & FIGURES

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

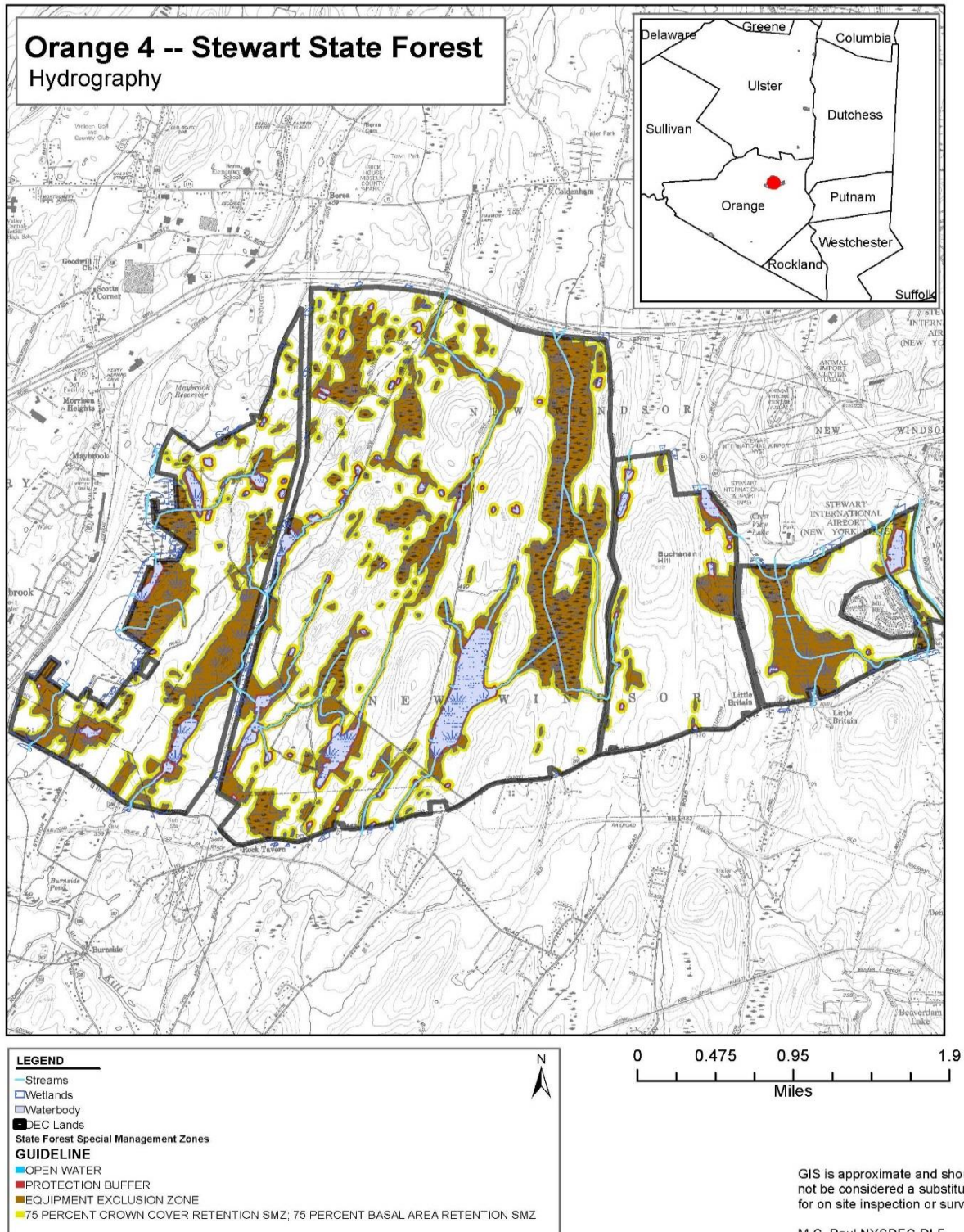


FIGURE 1 – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS

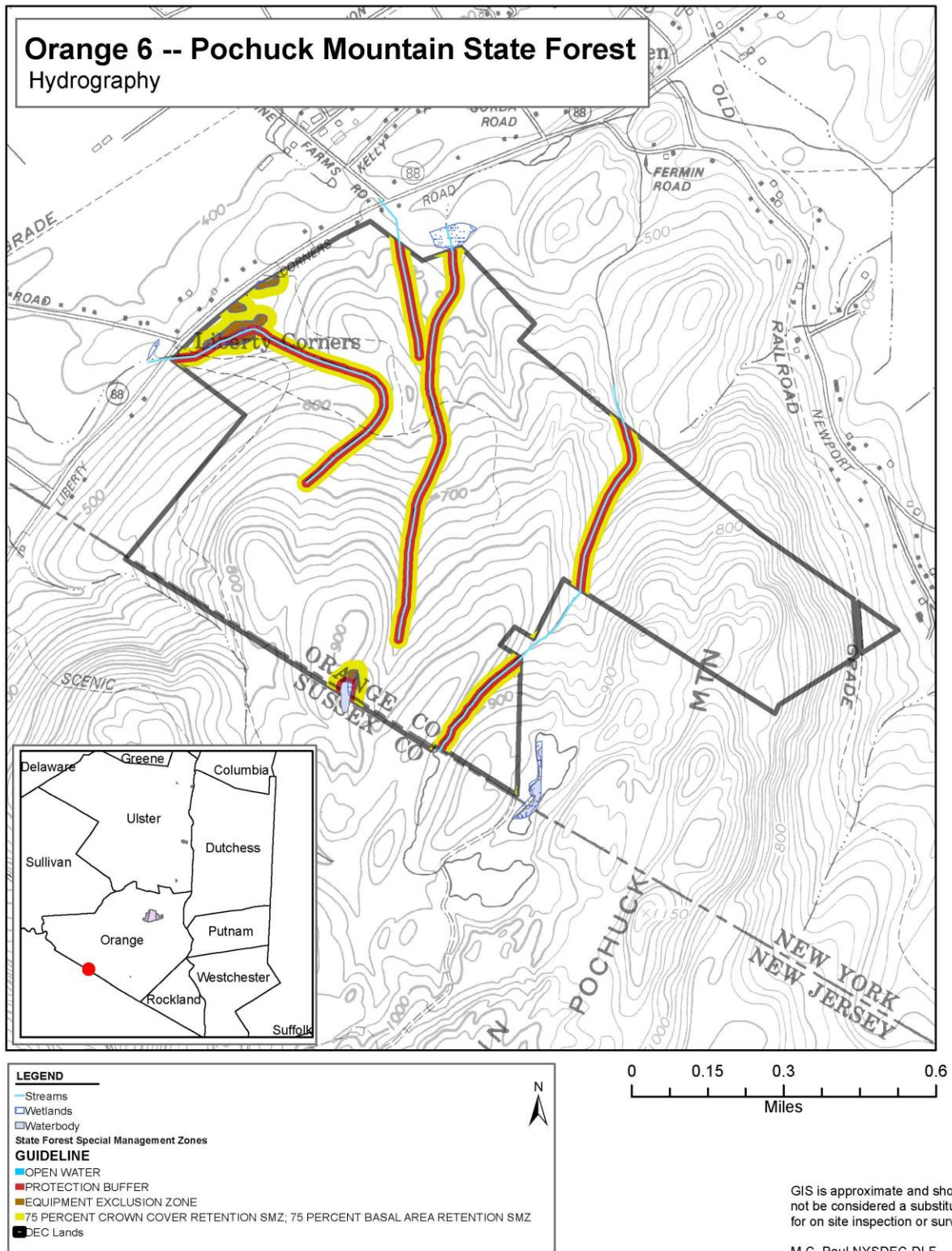


FIGURE 1 – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS

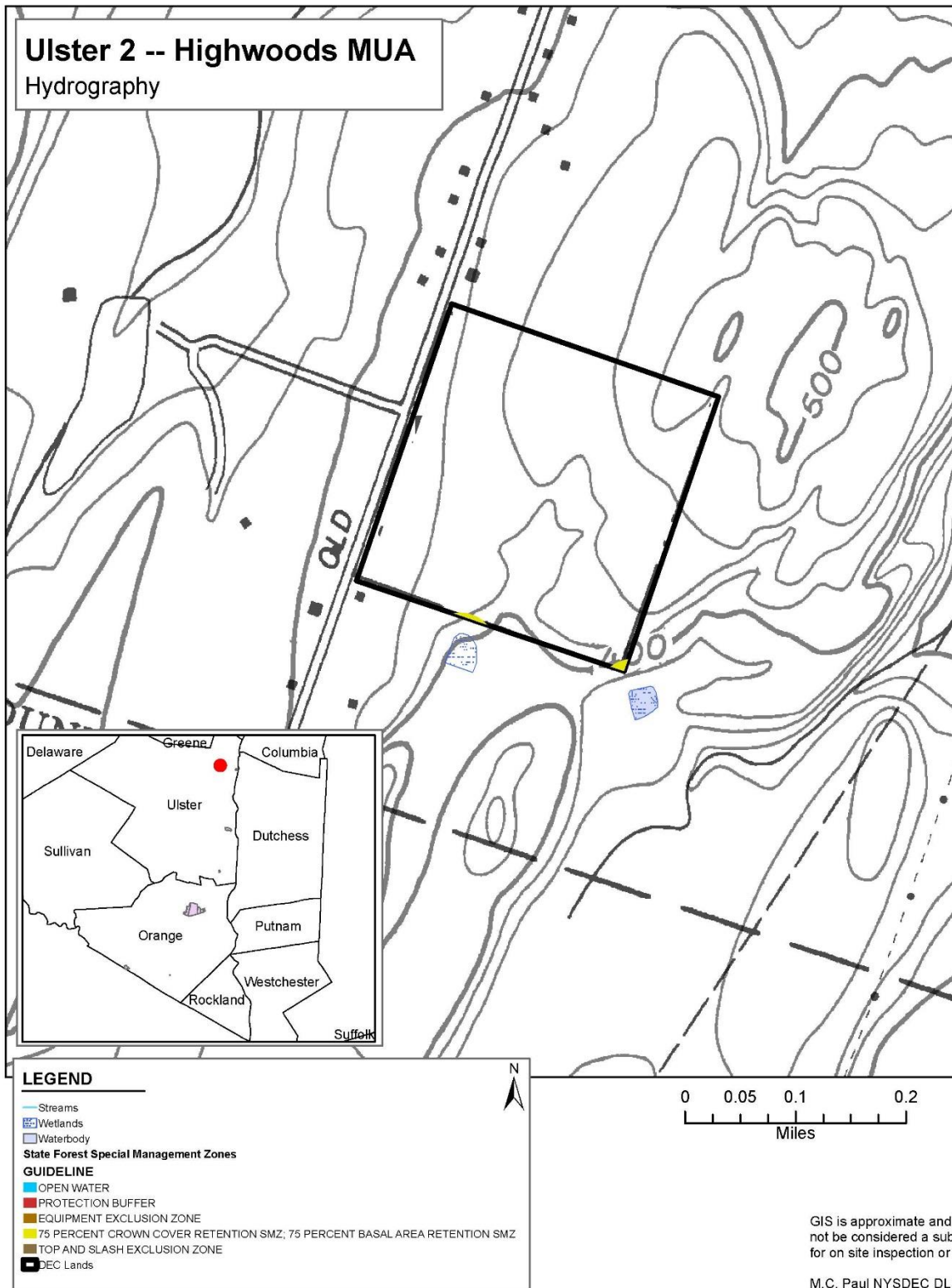
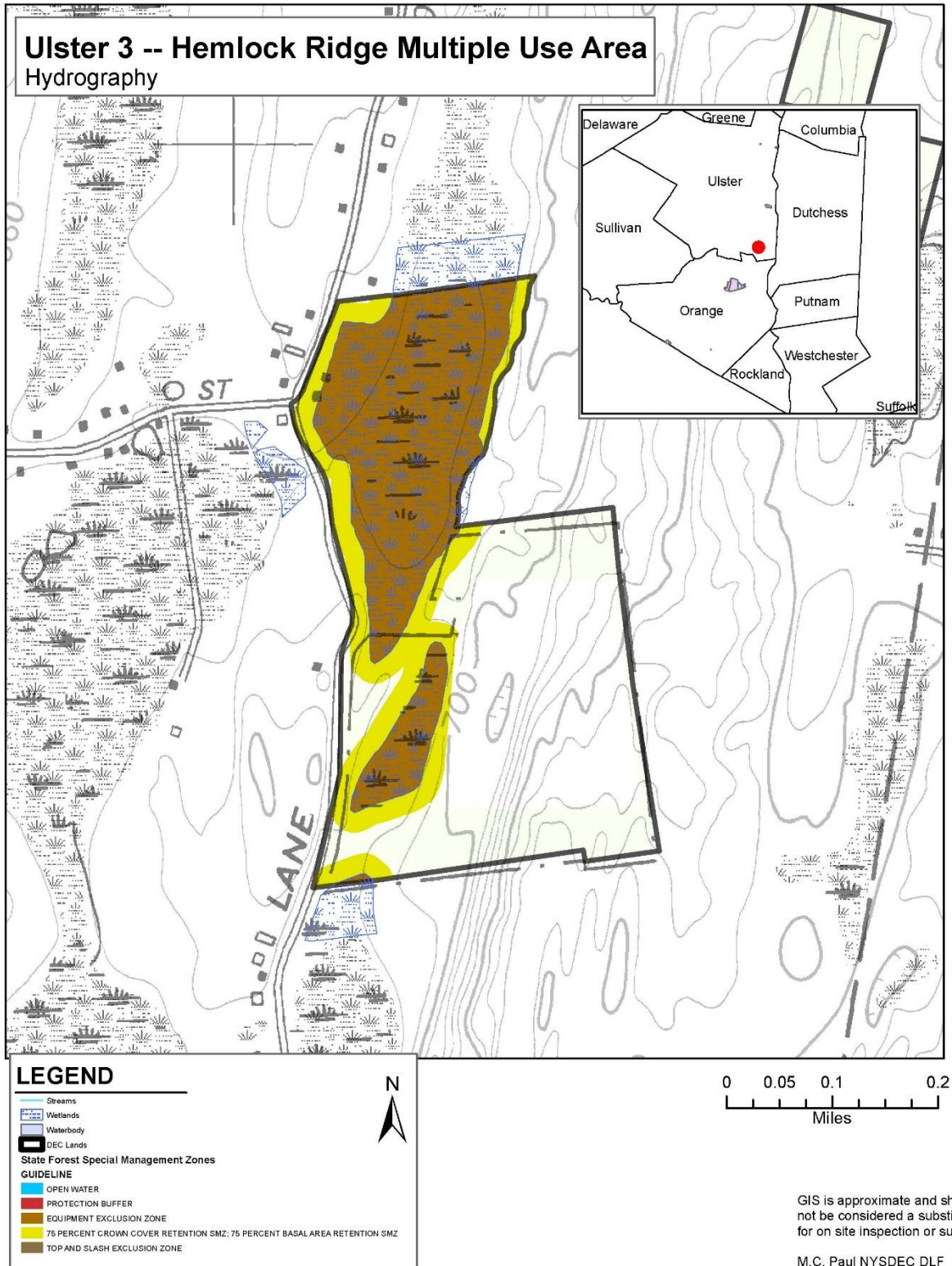


FIGURE 1 – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS



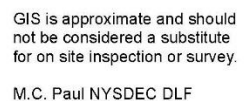


FIGURE 1 – WATER RESOURCES, SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES AND TOPOGRAPHY MAPS

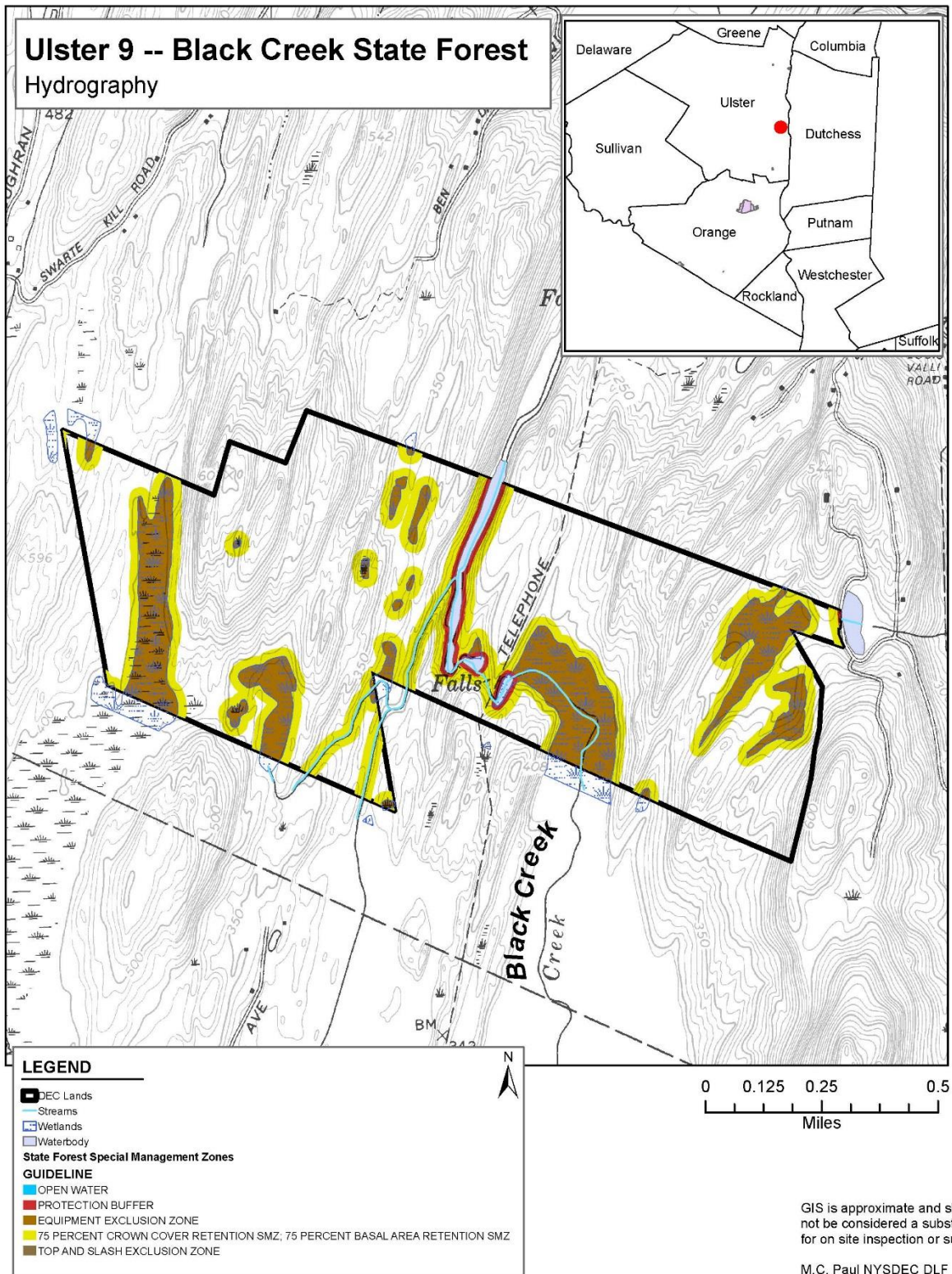


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

Figure 2. – Infrastructure and Recreation Maps



FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

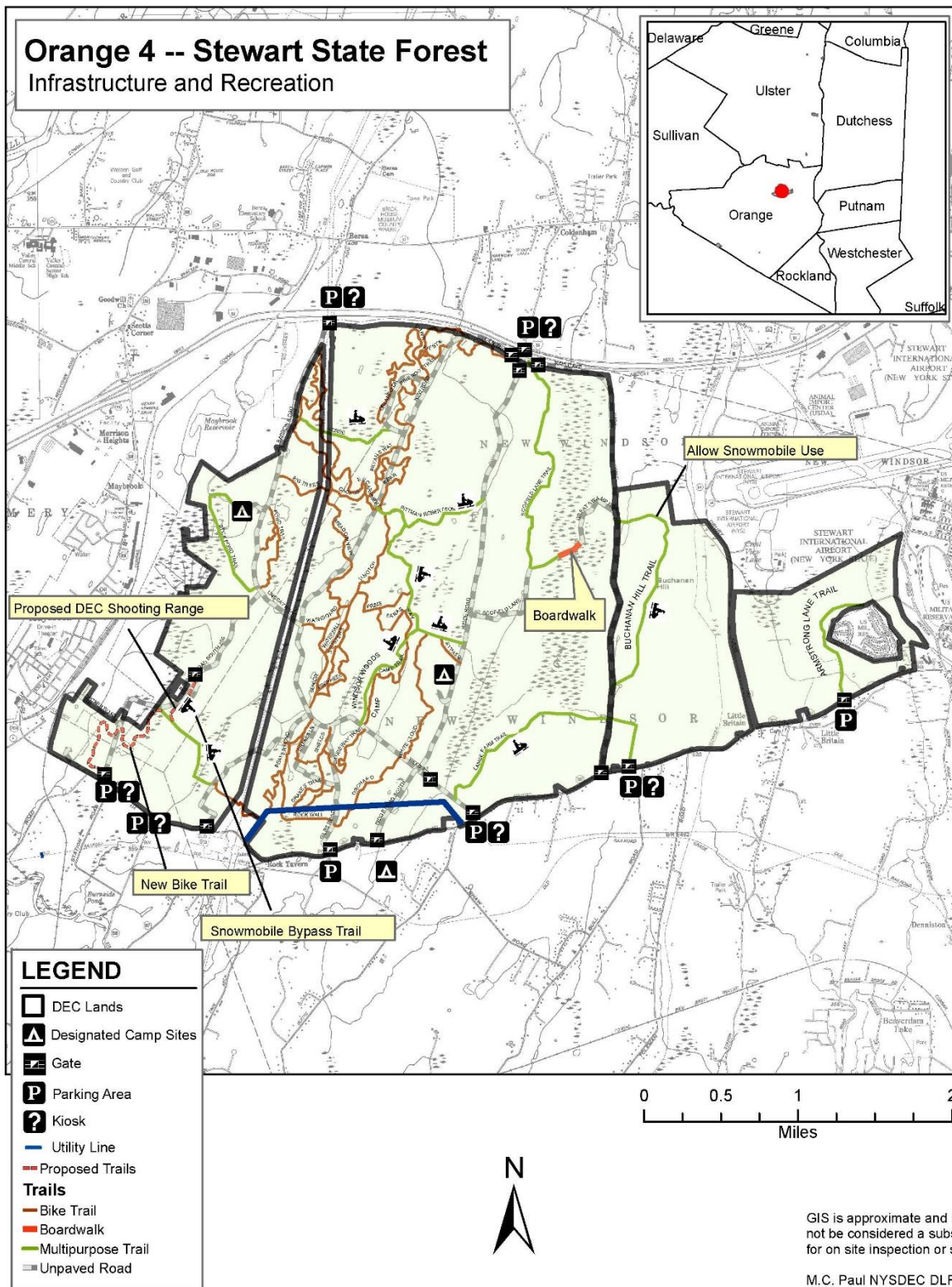


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

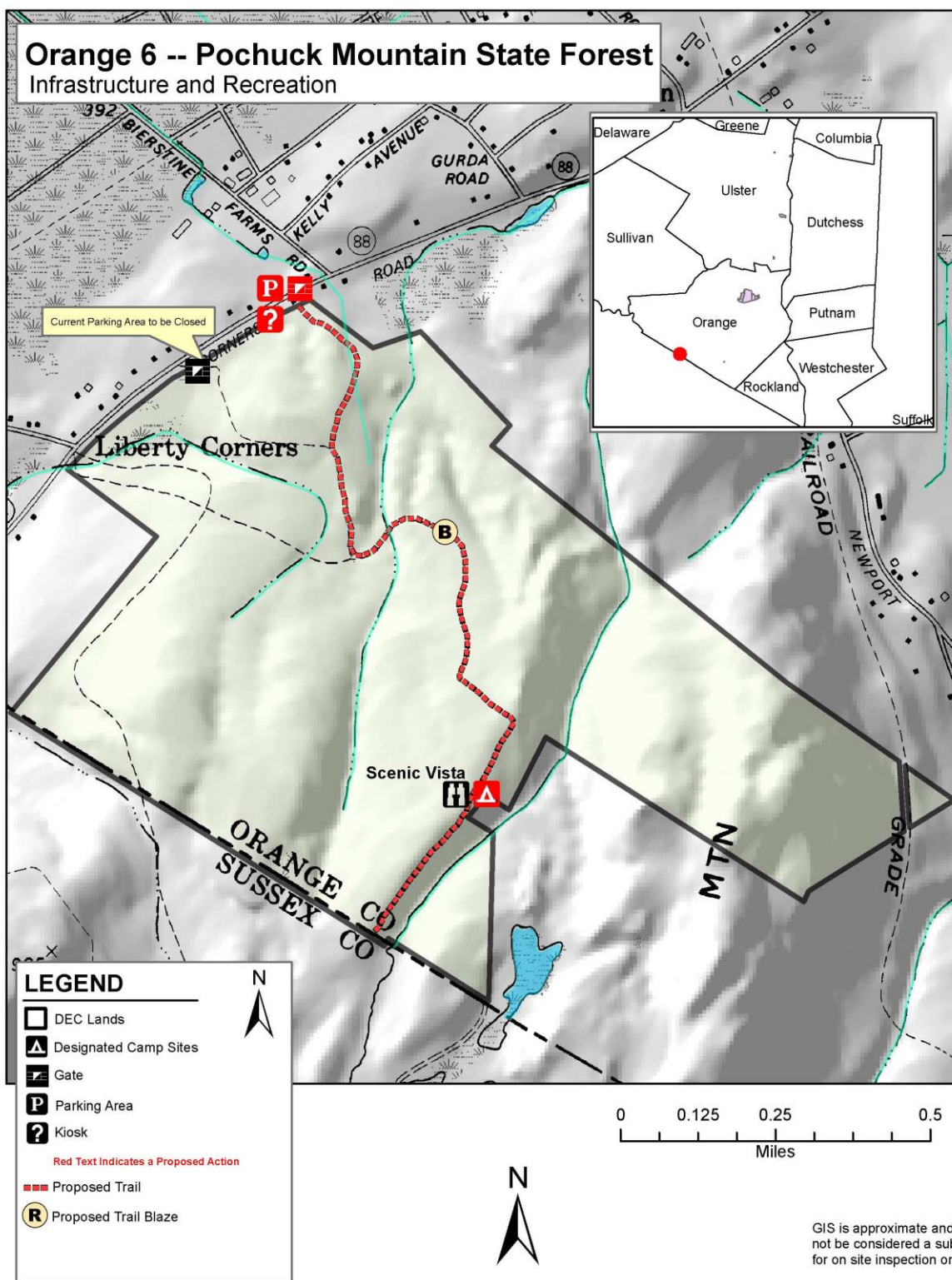


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

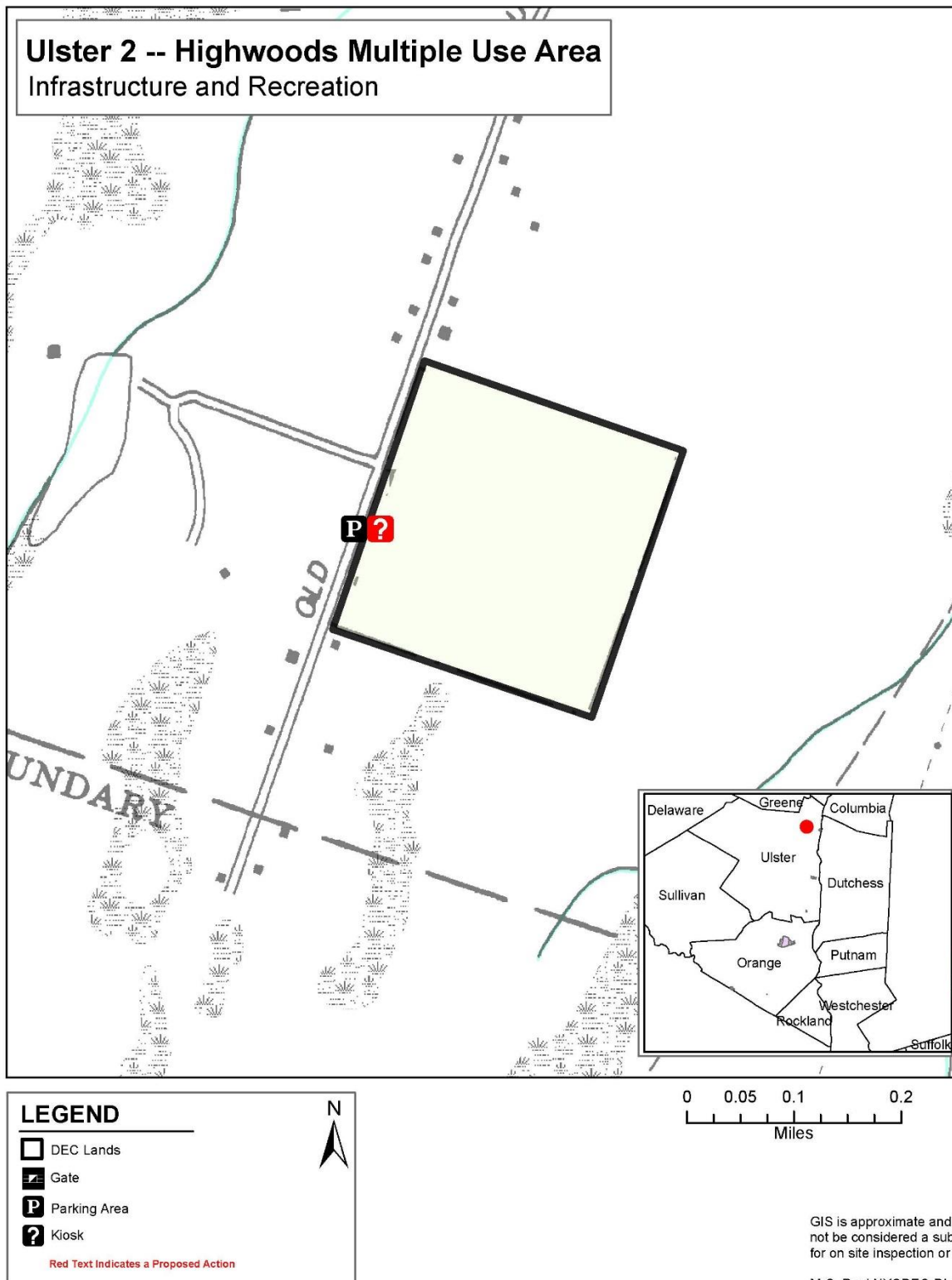


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

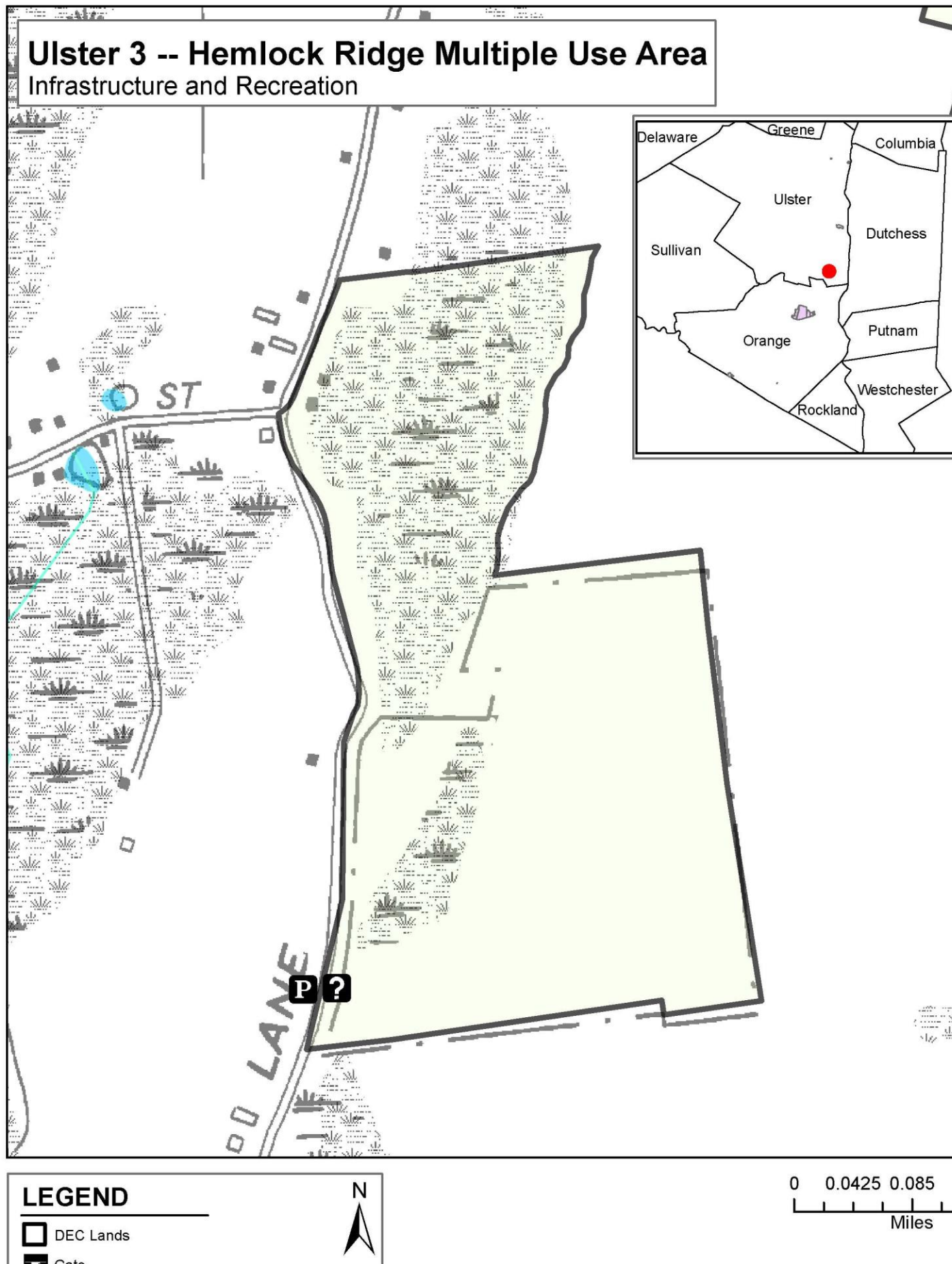


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

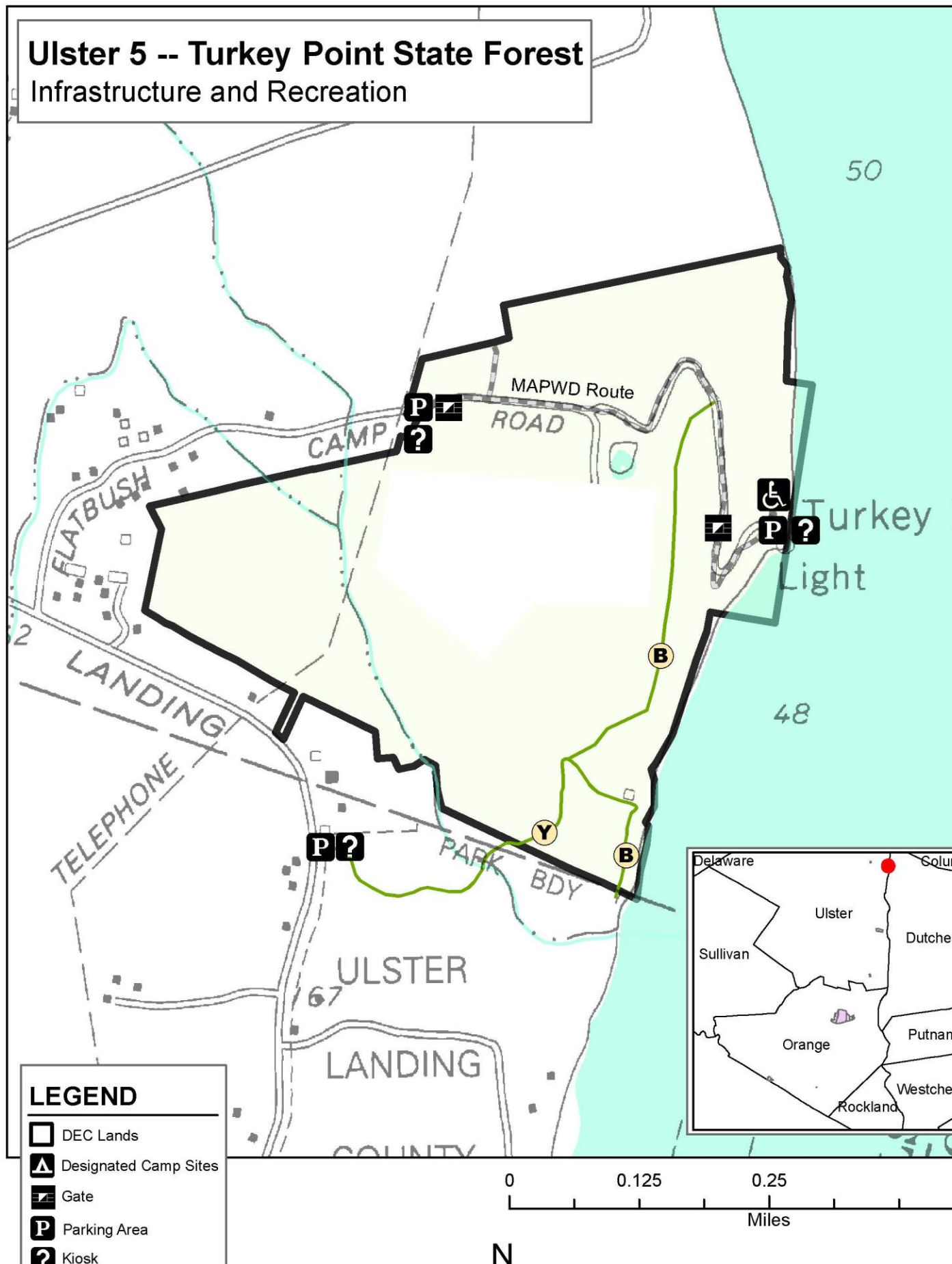


FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

FIGURE 2. – INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECREATION MAPS

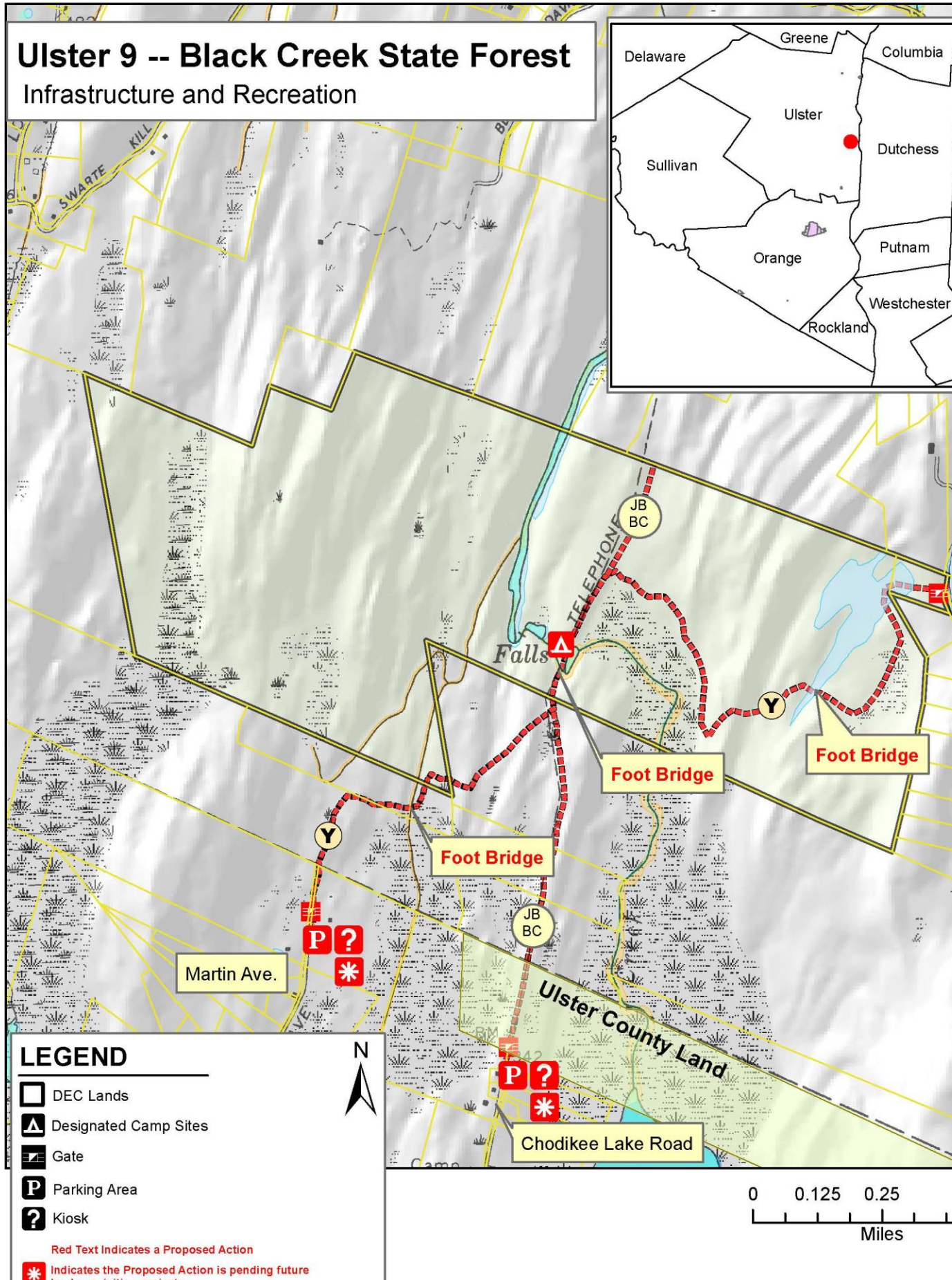


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

Figure 3 Current Forest Type and Stand Identification Number Maps

FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

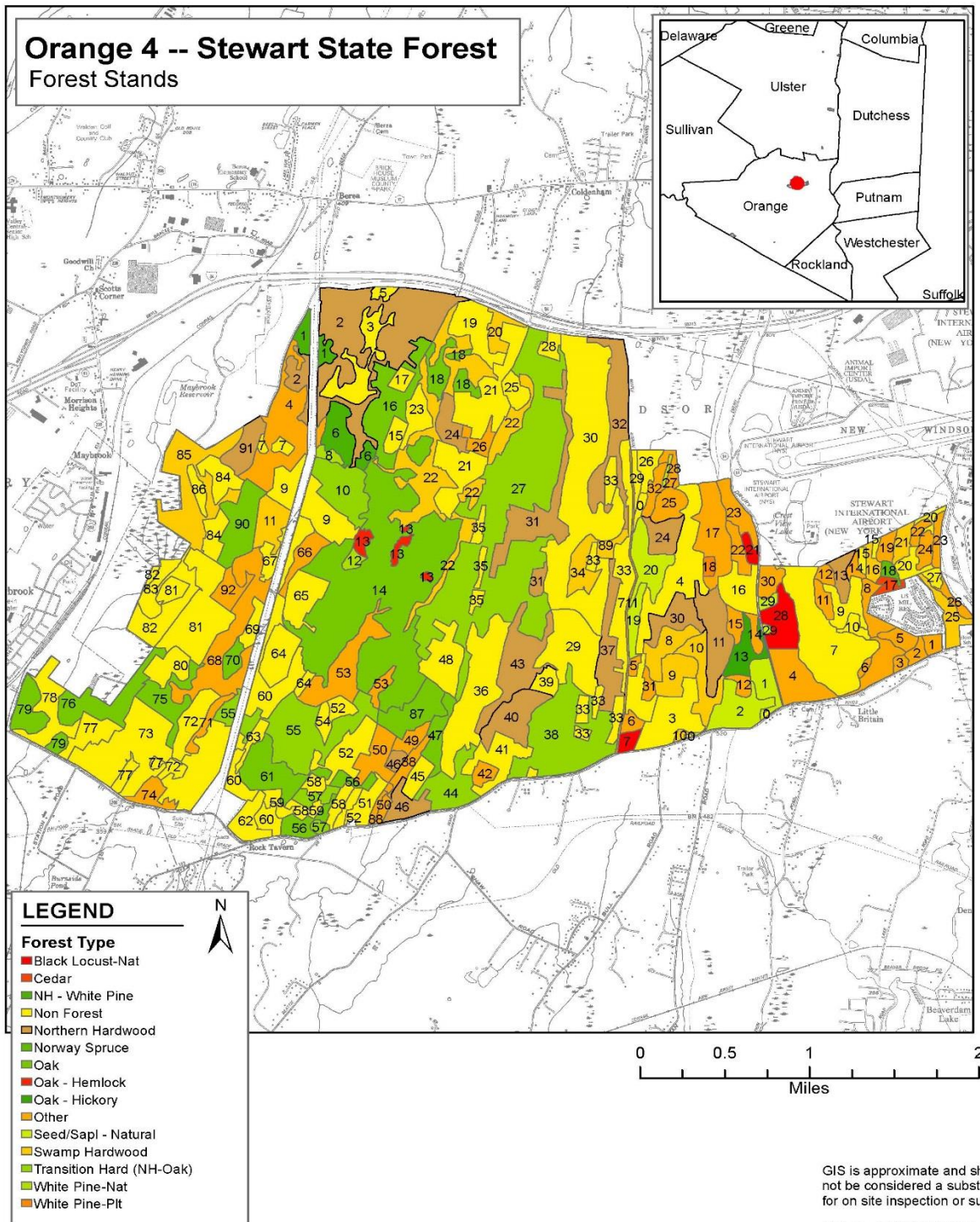


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

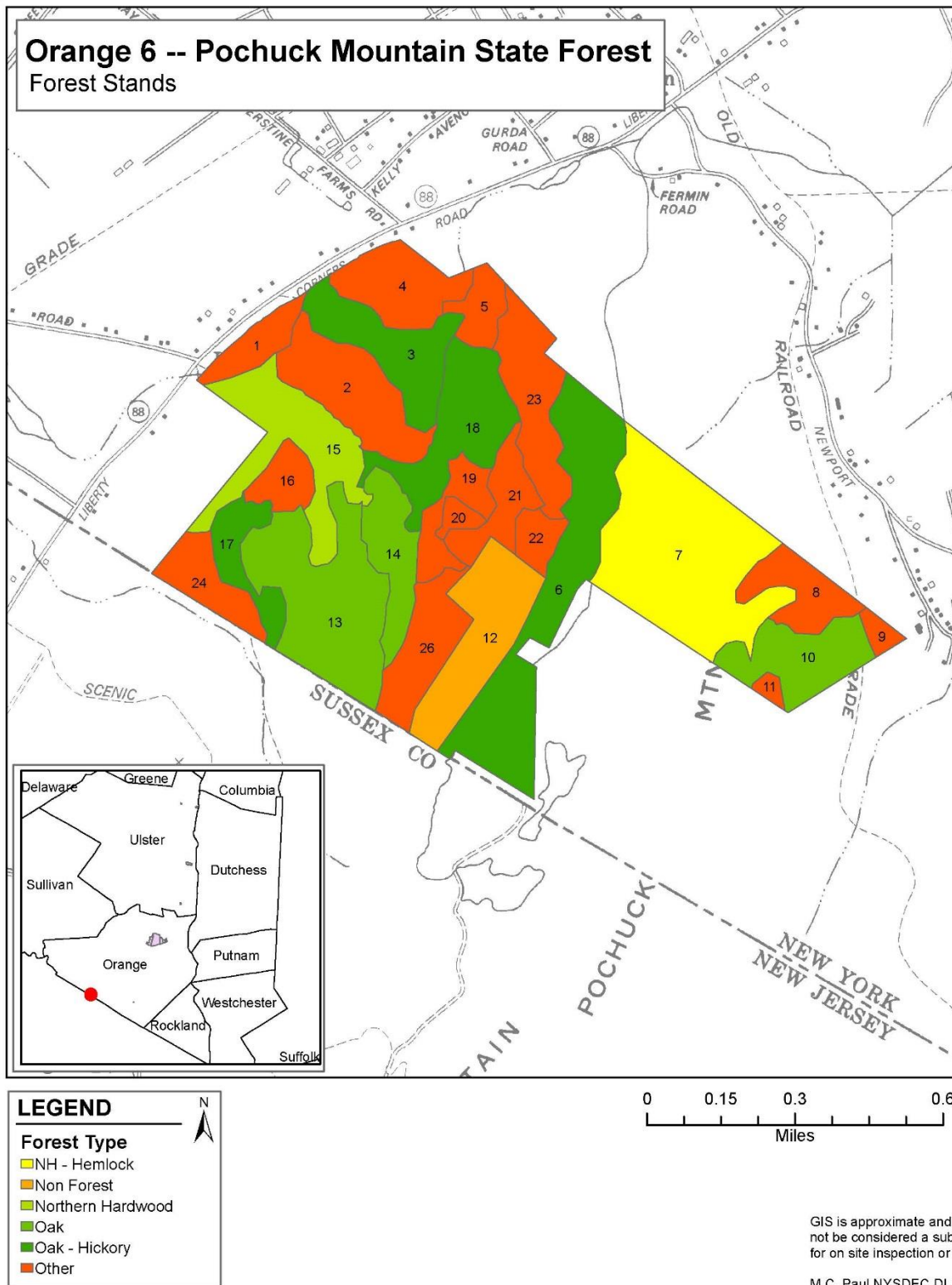


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

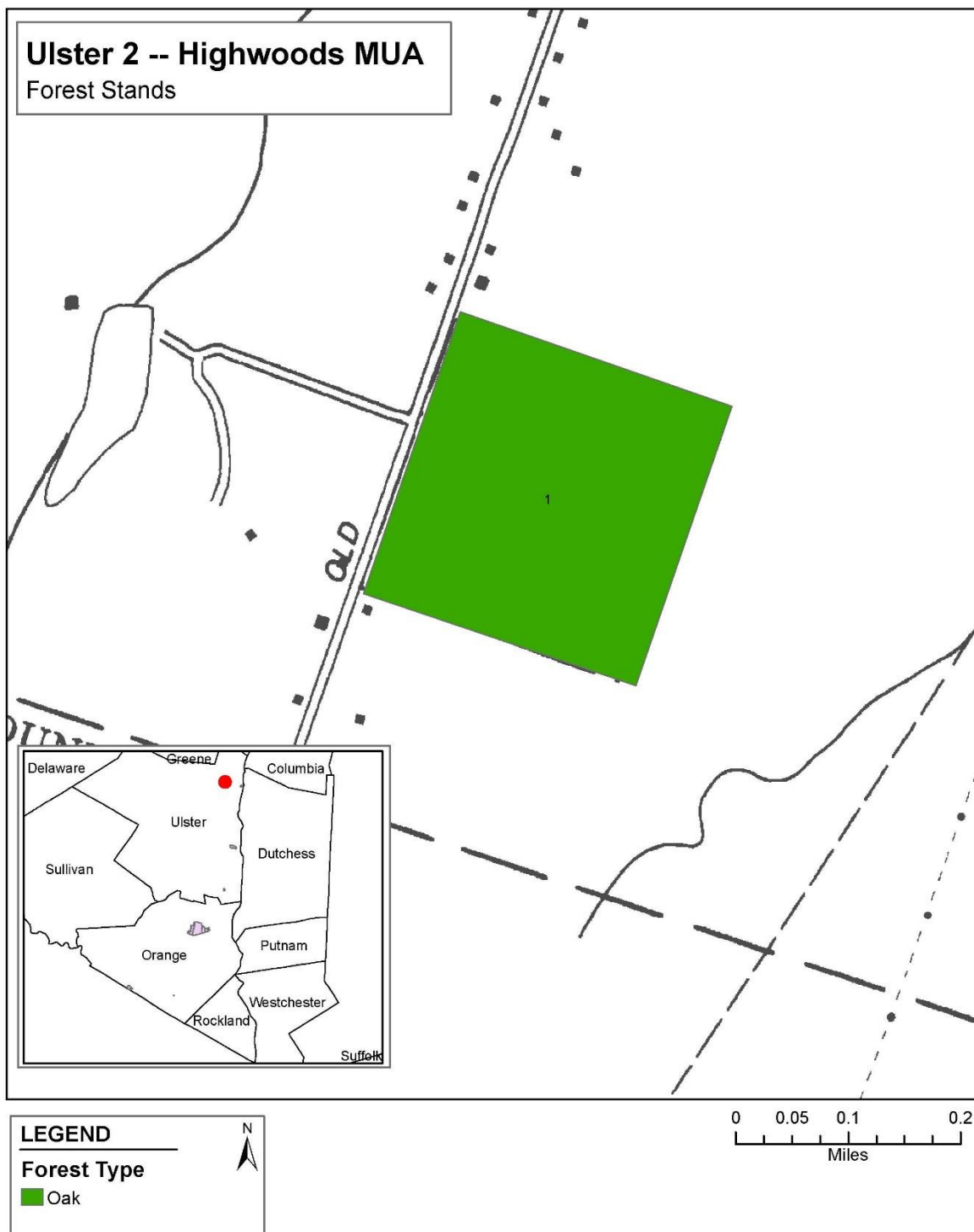


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

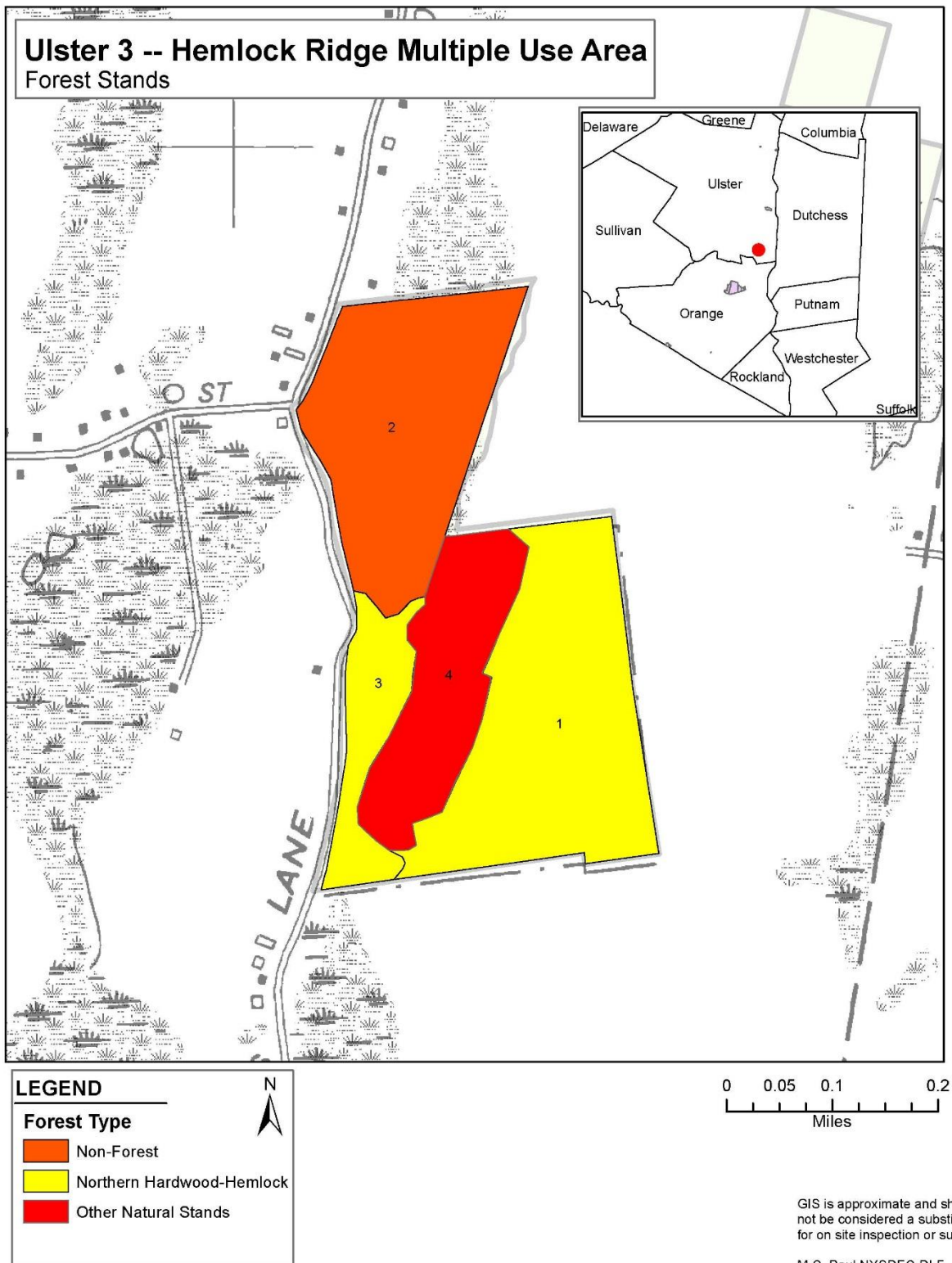


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

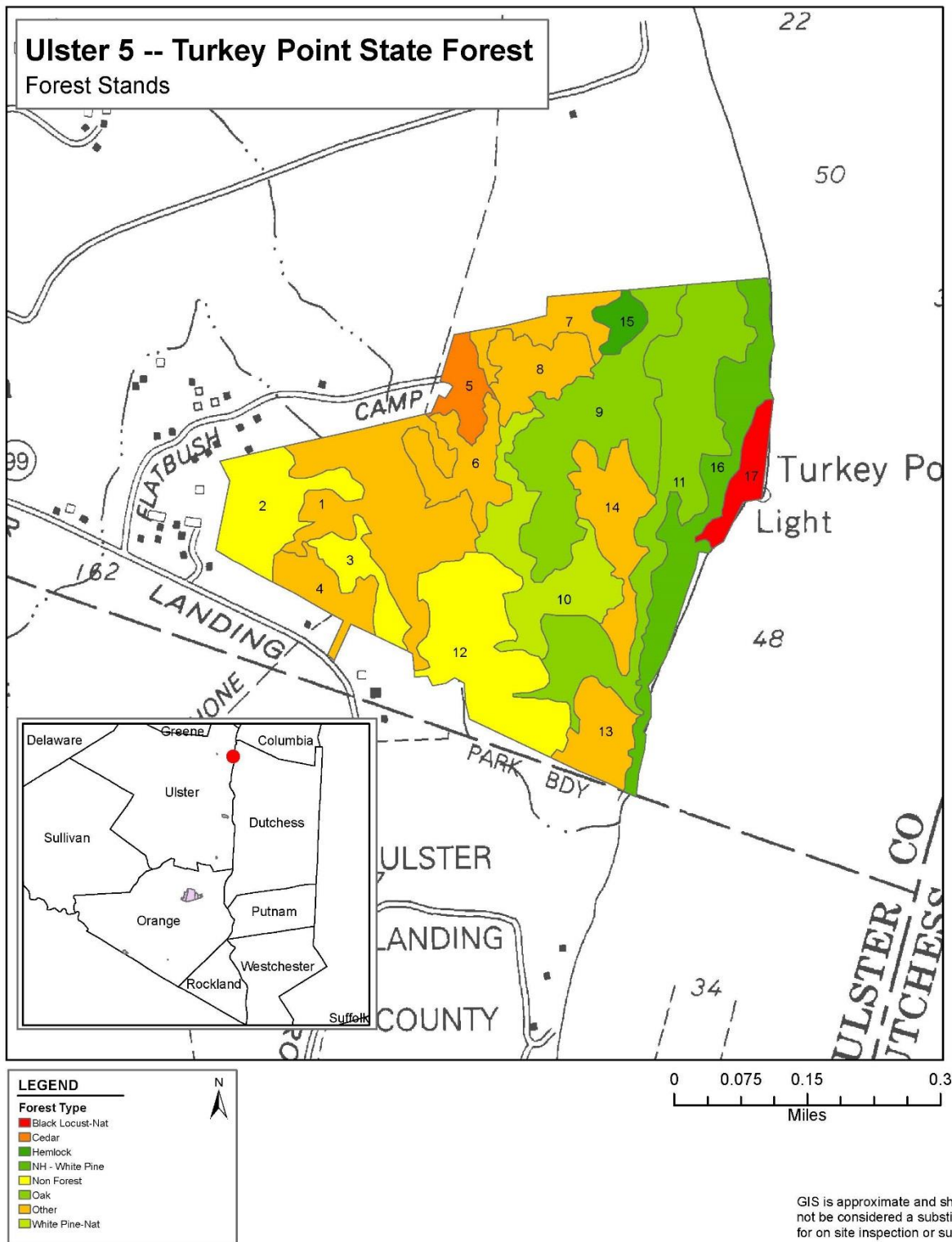


FIGURE 3 CURRENT FOREST TYPE AND STAND IDENTIFICATION NUMBER MAPS

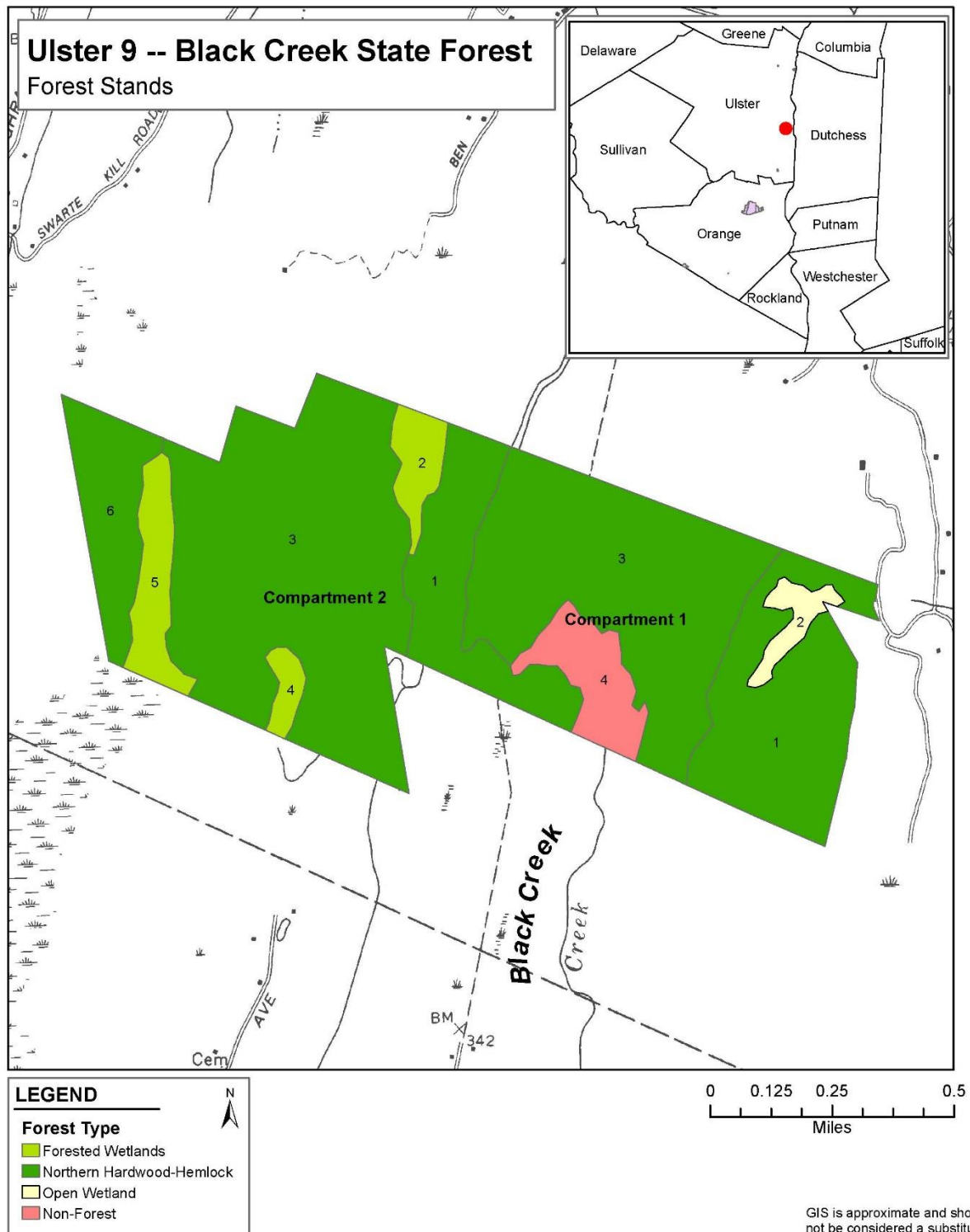


Figure 4 Field Management

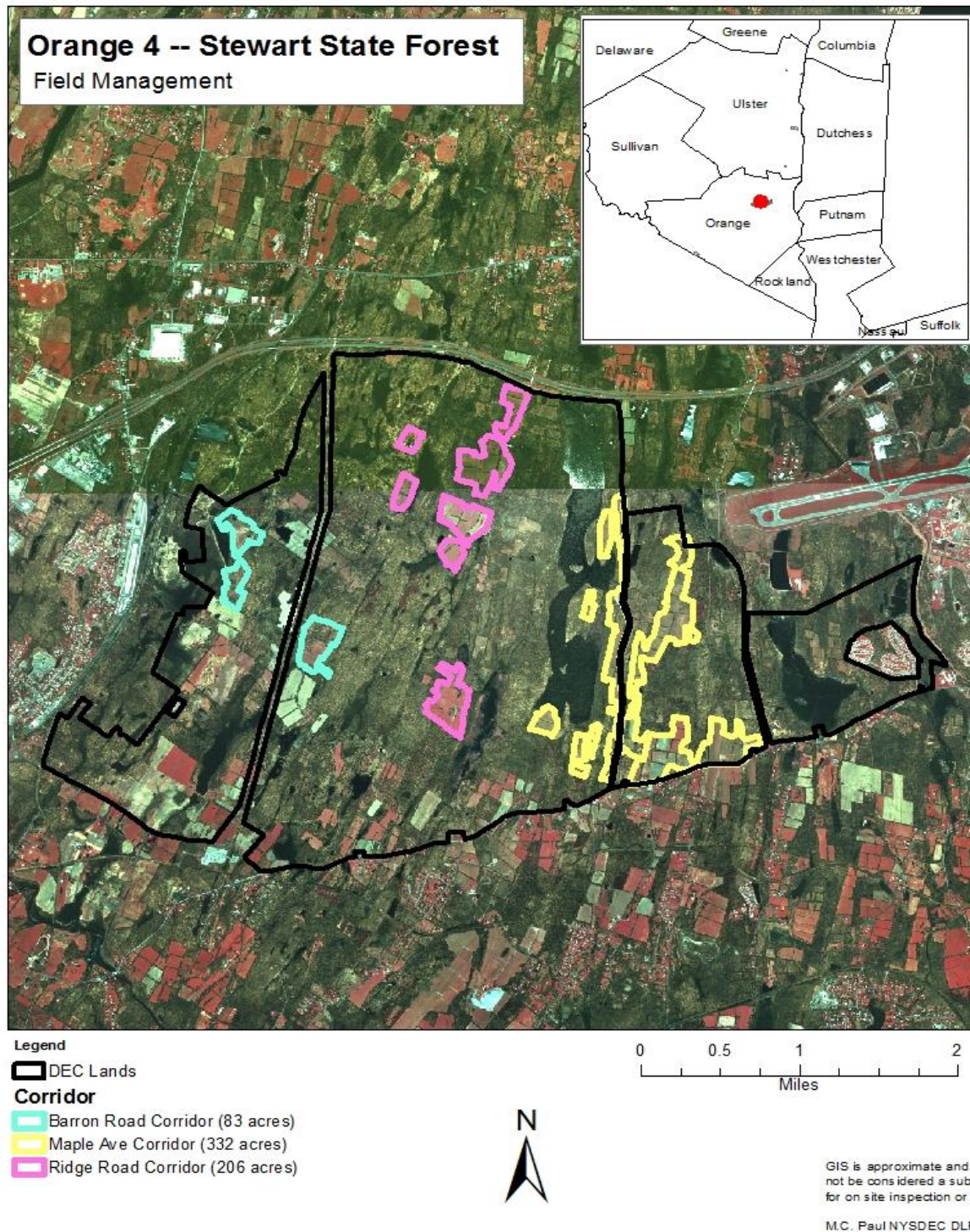
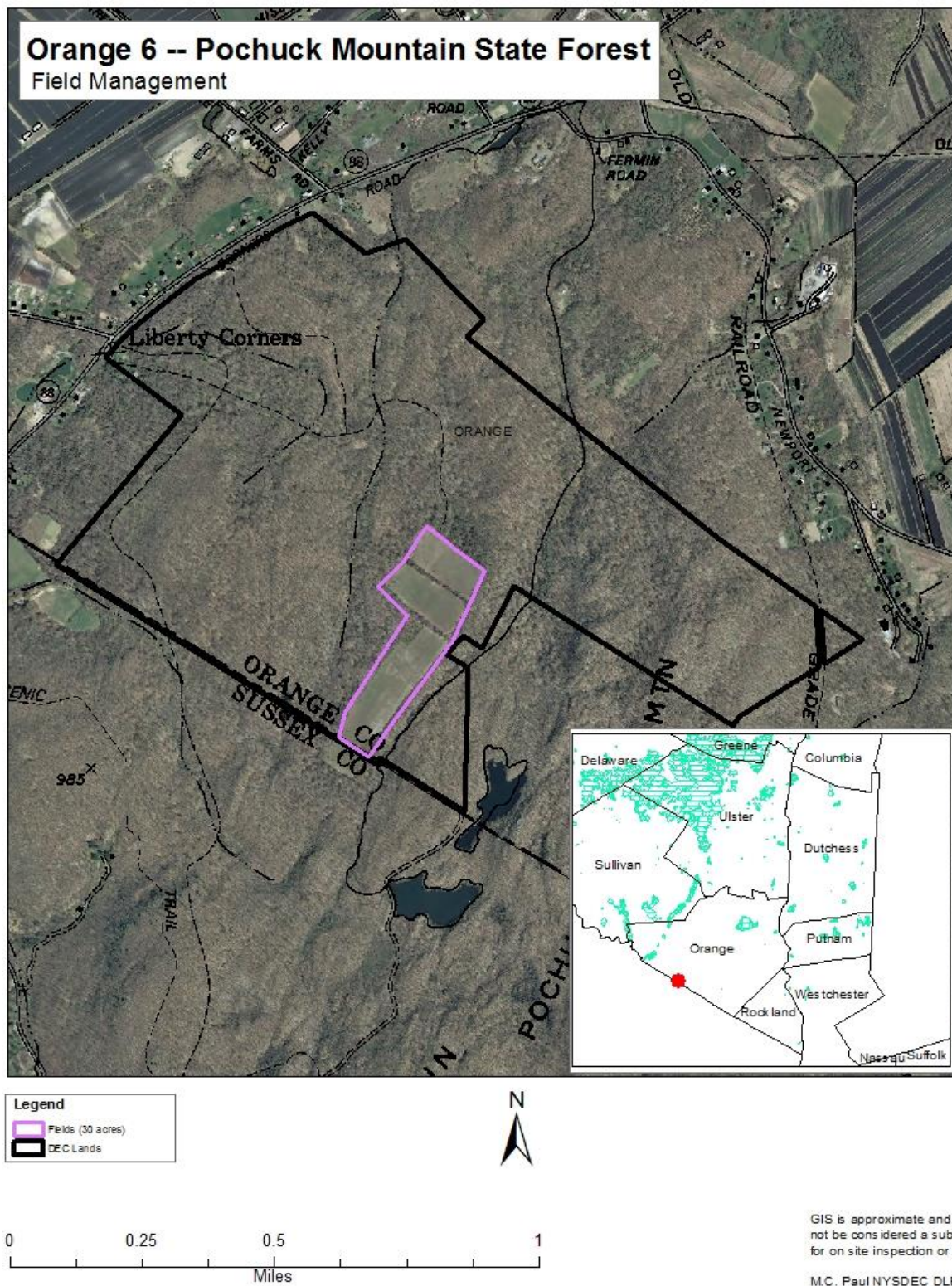
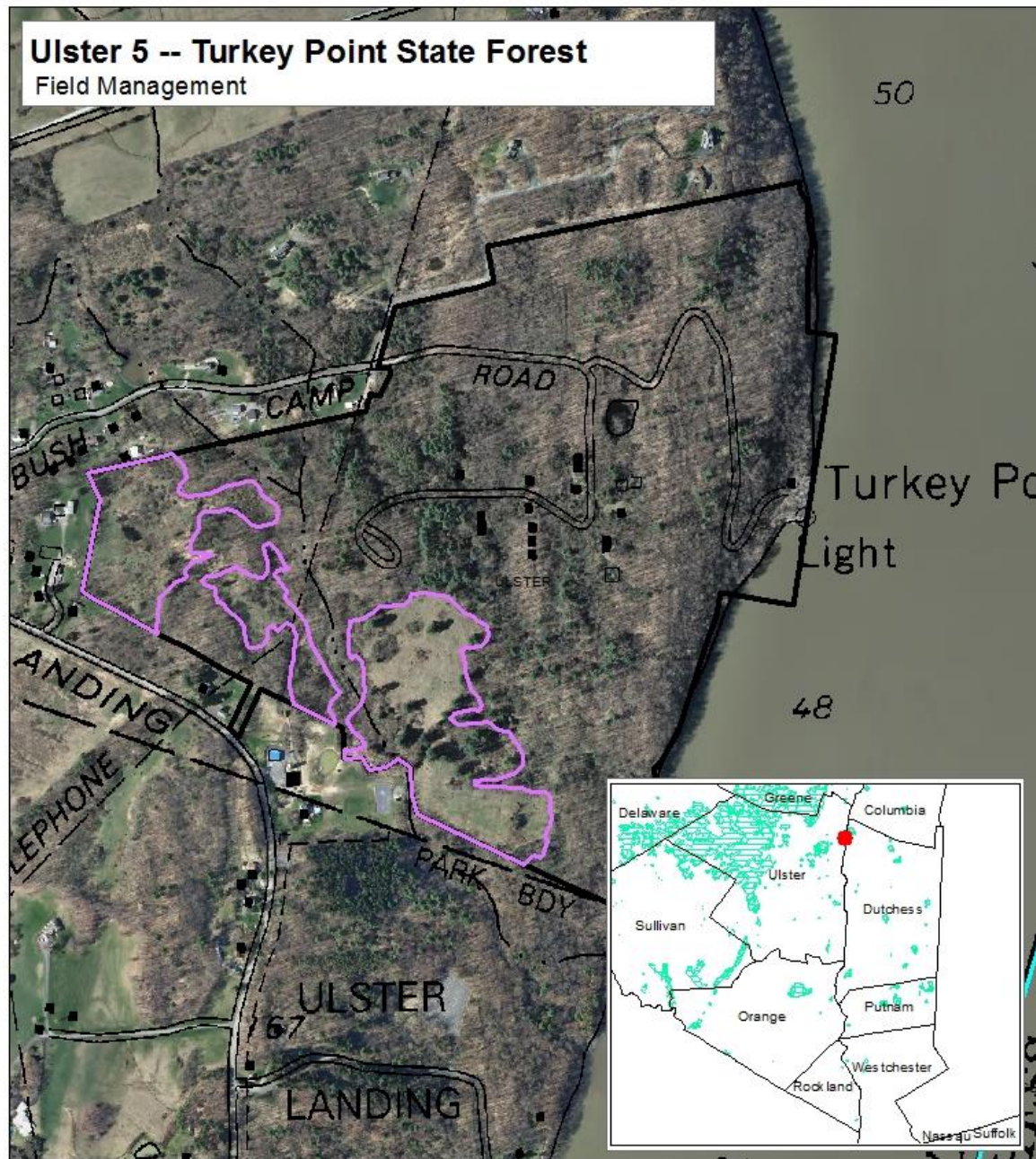


FIGURE 4 FIELD MANAGEMENT





Legend
 Fields (25 acres)
 DEC Lands



0 0.125 0.25 0.5
 Miles

GIS is approximate and should not be considered a substitute for on site inspection or survey.

M.C. Paul/NYSDEC DLF