



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

Division of Operations

Bureau of Recreation

---

# **Eighth Lake Public Campground**

## **Unit Management Plan**

Town of Inlet, Hamilton County, New York

---

**September 2016**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Operations 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233

*Governor* **ANDREW M. CUOMO**

*Commissioner* **BASIL SEGGOS**



## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway, 14th Floor, Albany, New York 12233-1010  
P: (518) 402-8545 | F: (518) 402-8541  
[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Record  
**FROM:** Basil Seggos  
**SUBJECT:** Eighth Lake Campground

---

The Eighth Lake Campground Unit Management Plan has been completed. The Adirondack Park Agency has found the UMP to be in conformance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

The UMP is consistent with Environmental Conservation Law, and Department Rules, Regulations and Policies and is hereby approved and adopted.



Basil Seggos  
*Commissioner*  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/23/16



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

## **EIGHTH LAKE PUBLIC CAMPGROUND SITE SPECIFIC - VOLUME II UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**NOTE:** Volume I is a generic plan and contains an overview, environmental setting, goals, policy, management, and impact assessment criteria which pertains universally and in common to all Adirondack and Catskill Public Campgrounds and Special Day-Use classified Intensive Use Areas. Volume II is a site-specific document containing inventories of physical, biological, and human-made features, together with specific management actions for the individual site. Volume III contains support data in the form of an Appendix to Volumes I and II.

Unit Management Plans are prepared by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to cover the next five-year management period. The Final Unit Management Plan is completed in accordance with guidelines and criteria set forth in the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP).

This UMP has been prepared by Region 5 staff. Any comments and/or information may be forwarded to Ellen King, copy to Josh Houghton, Division of Operations, Albany.

For information, contact Mike Buzzelli, Campground Program Manager, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233, telephone 518-457-2500.

## **SUMMARY**

### **EIGHTH LAKE PUBLIC CAMPGROUND UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

In keeping with criteria referenced in the APSLMP, the Generic Unit Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Campgrounds and Day Use Areas (GUMP/EIS) and Department of Environmental Conservation Management Policy for State-owned lands, this five-year management plan has been prepared for the Eighth Lake Public Campground. The management goals include protecting the natural resource base in accordance with applicable law, offering recreational opportunities for public enjoyment of the forest preserve, ensuring that revenues equal operating costs for that portion of the program covered by user fees, and managing the program to enhance economic benefits to local communities and the State.

The Department's management of the Eighth Lake Campground will be in conformance with the APSLMP. In addition, the actions proposed in this UMP will be carried out in conformance with the conditions and thresholds established for such actions in the GUMP/EIS and do not require any separate site-specific environmental review (*see* 6 NYCRR 617.10[d]).

Any action taken by the Department on this unit that is not addressed in this Unit Management Plan and is not addressed in the GUMP/EIS may need a separate, site-specific environmental review.

To help meet these goals, contingent upon funding, the following nine management actions are being proposed:

Proposed Management Actions*
• Install New Drinking Water Distribution System
• Resurface Campground Roads
• Relocate & Replace Registration Booth
• Construct Two Shower Buildings
• Rehabilitate Campground Sewage System
• Construct Picnic Pavilion
• Rehabilitate Bug Lake Trail Parking Lot
• Improve Campsites
• Plant Trees & Landscape

\*Prioritized projects to be completed when funding becomes available.

Beneficial effects of proposed actions include: compliance with State health codes, maintenance of physical plant investment, modernization of facilities (which enhances visitor recreational experience), upkeep of facilities to contribute to public safety, and provision of camping conditions in a setting and on a scale that is in harmony with the character of the Adirondack Park.

Determination of conformance to criteria established in the APSLMP includes: determining whether proposed activities avoid alterations of wetlands and topography; limiting vegetative clearing; preserving the scenic, natural resources of the area; and determining whether the plan contains an adequate assessment of actual and projected public use.

Mitigation measures to minimize environmental impacts have been considered. All construction projects will minimize tree removal in order to minimize clearing and maintain the wooded appearance of the facility. Architectural designs will be selected to achieve a harmonious blending with the character of the recreation area and surrounding forest. Seeding and mulching of construction sites will reestablish vegetation readily, which effectively stabilizes soils. Adjacent forest cover will not be altered. Proposals concentrate on improving and updating facilities to accommodate present peak-use periods rather than to accommodate increased population projections.

Various alternative actions to those favored and selected were considered. Public unrest, adverse effects on local communities, and uncontrolled use of State lands would sharply increase should recreation planning and management efforts be reduced or dissolved. The care, custody, and control precedent preclude selection of these alternatives at this time.

## Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION .....	6
A. Overview .....	6
B. Area Description .....	6
1. Location .....	6
2. History .....	6
II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES .....	8
A. Inventory of Existing Facilities .....	8
1. Camping and Day-Use (Picnic) Areas .....	8
2. Roads & Parking .....	8
3. Buildings .....	9
4. Sewage System .....	9
5. Solid Waste .....	10
6. Barriers .....	11
7. Telephone .....	11
8. Signs .....	11
9. Electric System .....	11
10. Potable Water System .....	11
11. Trails & Bridges .....	12
12. Fuel Systems .....	12
13. Swimming .....	12
14. Boating .....	13
B. Inventory of Systems .....	15
1. Staff .....	15
2. Fee Schedule 2015 .....	15
3. Permits .....	15
4. Off-Season Use .....	15
5. Junior Naturalist Program .....	16
C. Inventory of Natural Resources .....	16
1. Physical .....	16
2. Biological .....	17
III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS .....	20
A. Article XIV, New York State Constitution .....	20
B. Adirondack State Land Master Plan .....	20

C. Environmental Conservation Laws .....	20
D. Campground Generic Plan/EIS .....	20
E. Recreation Program Goals.....	20
F. Public Use.....	21
1. Inventory of Public Use .....	21
2. Carrying Capacity .....	22
IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS.....	28
A. Install New Drinking Water System .....	29
B. Resurface Campground Roads .....	29
C. Relocate and Replace Registration Booth.....	29
D. Construct Two New Shower Buildings .....	30
E. Rehabilitate Eighth Lake Sewage System.....	30
F. Construct Picnic Pavilion .....	30
G. Rehabilitate Bug Lake Trail Parking Lot.....	31
H. Improve Campsites .....	31
I. Tree Planting and Landscaping .....	31
V. EXHIBIT INDEX .....	32



## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Overview

Eighth Lake Campground is located within DEC Region 5 Indian Lake working circle and consists of 75 developed acres. The 242-acre campground is situated on the southeast shore of 314-acre Eighth Lake. The remote Adirondack setting of this facility offers a relaxing, quiet beauty all its own. The campsites offer privacy; they are large and well forested. Camping equipment from tents to 40' RVs can be accommodated. A picnic area is available adjacent to the swimming beach. Eighth Lake Campground offers a variety of recreational opportunities, including canoeing and boating. Canoe and rowboat rentals are available at the campground. The area also provides good opportunities for fishing. Major species in Eighth Lake are trout, and smallmouth bass. Other opportunities include hiking and bicycling on the many State-maintained roads and trails within and adjacent to the campground.

Area attractions include the Old Forge region, with amusements, restaurants, and golf courses; the Adirondack Museum at Blue Mountain Lake; and golf courses at Inlet and Indian Lake.

Guidelines for management of the campground are based on its classification as an intensive-use area in the APSLMP.

### B. Area Description

#### 1. Location

The Eighth Lake Campground is located off State Route 28, five miles northeast of the Village of Inlet, Hamilton County, all or portions of Lot numbers 3-11, northwest quarter of Township 5, Totten & Crossfield's purchase.

#### 2. History

The lands upon which the campground is situated were purchased from William Webb in 1899. Early development of the area was undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1933, when they established a work camp on the site for that purpose. The CCC's 1933 report to the Legislature says: "Camp No. 10, located at Eighth Lake of the Fulton Chain in Hamilton County, has engaged in the improvement and extension of (nearby) Golden Beach Campsite on Raquette Lake, the development of a new campsite at Eighth Lake, and the improvement of canoe routes and trails in that section."

The Department's 1935 report to the Legislature refers to Eighth Lake as “a very popular area of comparatively undeveloped camping ground where improvement was begun during the past fall (1934).” Opened to the public in 1935, the annual attendance for that year was reported as 3,225 individuals. Attendance rapidly increased to 4,787 individuals in 1936 and 8,710 in 1937. The campground was modernized with the installation of an improved water system and flush toilets in 1971 and with a shower house in 1975. The original water supply system consisted of several driven well points with the old-style hand pitcher pumps. This system remained in use until the mid-1940s.

## II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

### A. Inventory of Existing Facilities

#### 1. Camping and Day-Use (Picnic) Areas

Camping Area	Day-Use Area
126 Campsites	10 Picnic Tables (1) ADA
Design Capacity – 756 People	Design Capacity – 60 People
126 Picnic Tables	10 Grills/Fireplaces
126 Fireplaces	3 Spigots
23 Spigots	5-Vehicle Parking Lot

#### 2. Roads & Parking

Presently, the Department maintains 14,786 feet of paved roads. Currently 3,698 feet of roads are 20-feet average width, while 11,088 feet are 14-feet average width. There are three small parking lots at the campground: The Eighth Lake boat launch, the DUA parking area and the Bug Lake trailhead.

### 3. Buildings

OGS #	Building Name/Function	Location/Description/Use	Size (sq/ft)	Condition	Year Built
(001)	Reservoir	31,642 gallons	552	Good	1971
(002)	Ticket Booth	Main entrance	80	Good	1971
(003)	Facility Supervisor's Cottage	Living and office space	792	Good	1948
(004)	Garage	Two stalls with workshop	900	Good	1962
(005)	Shower House	Near site #1	683	Fair	1975
(006)*	Comfort Station #1**	Near site #56	432	Good	1971
(007)*	Comfort Station #2**	Near site #19	288	Good	1971
(008)*	Comfort Station #3**	Near site #29	288	Good	1971
(009)*	Comfort Station #4**	Near site #38	288	Good	1971
(010)	Pump House	Near site #37	48	Unused	1971
(011)	Bathhouse	2 buildings	480	Poor	1948
(013)	Life Guard Cabin	Near beach	552	Good	1971
(014)	Comfort Station #11**	Near site #54 (Vault Type)	143	Good	1948
(015)	Comfort Station #10**	Near site #54 (Vault Type)	143	Good	1948
(016)*	Comfort Station #5**	Near site #48	432	Good	1971
(017)*	Comfort Station #6**	Near site #68	288	Good	1971
(018)*	Comfort Station #7**	Near site #84	288	Good	1971
(019)*	Comfort Station #8**	Near site #19	288	Good	1971
(020)	Park Ranger Cabin	Near entrance	552	Good	1971
(021)*	Comfort Station #9**	Near site #107	432	Good	1971
(022)	Recycling Building	Near entrance	320	Good	1993
(023)	Pump house	Near Day Use Area	48	Good	1994
	Firewood Building	Next to garage	600	Good	2013

\*Numbers in parentheses are building numbers assigned in the Building Inventory of Minor State Structures.

\*\*All comfort stations have flush toilets, sinks and urinals. Comfort Stations #1, #5, and #9 have 3 Toilets, 1 Urinal, and 2 Sinks (men's); 4 Toilets and 2 sinks (women's). Comfort Stations #2, #3, #4, #6, #7 and #8 have 2 Toilets, 1 Urinal, and 1 Sink (men's); 2 Toilets and 2 Sinks (women's). Toilets #10 and #11 are vault toilets and each has 4 toilets.

The shower building has five showers for each sex and one propane water heater. The men's shower has one toilet, one urinal and four sinks; the women's shower has two toilets and four sinks. See Exhibit #14 for a photo inventory of the campgrounds building.

### 4. Sewage System

All sewage disposal in the campground is by use of septic systems, utilizing septic tanks and leach fields. Soil percolation tests in 1971 indicated favorable soil conditions for ground disposal. Septic tank contents are periodically disposed of by septic tank pumper, by contract with a local, licensed, sewage disposal firm. A NYSDEC SPDES permit #NY 023-9496 was

## II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

issued in 1991. The application covers the systems noted below. See Exhibit #7 for a map of the campgrounds sewer system.

Outfall	Building #/Type*	Septic Tank Size (gallons)**	Leach Field sg/ft	Construction Date
#005	(006) Comfort station #1	1,500 gal	1,300	1971
#006	(007) Comfort station #2	1,500 gal	1,512	1971
#007	(008) Comfort station #3	1,500 gal	600	1971
#008	(009) Comfort station #4	1,500 gal	600	1971
#009	(016) Comfort station #5	1,500 gal	1,512	1971
#011	(011) Comfort station #6	1,500 gal	700	1971
#012	(018) Comfort station #7	2,000 gal	832	1971
#013	(019) Comfort station #8	2,000 gal	832	1971
#014	(014) Comfort station #9	1,500 gal	1,200	1948
#001	(003) C.R.F.S. cabin	500 gal	200	1975
#002	(None) Trailer dump station	1,500 gal	630	1975
#003	(005) Shower building (Sewage)	1,500 gal	630	1975
#004	(005) Shower building (Gray water)	1,500 gal	630	1975
#010	(013) Lifeguard cabin	500 gal	150	1971
#015	(020) Ranger cabin	500 gal	280	1971
#016	(022) Recycling center	1,000 gal	525	1993

\*Numbers in parentheses are building numbers assigned in 1991 by the Building Inventory of Minor State Structures.

\*\*Size of septic tanks and absorption areas taken from a 1991 Engineer's Report submitted June 5, 1991 in application 023-9496 for a SPDES permit. Data based on actual field inspection.

### 5. Solid Waste

At this time, solid waste is disposed of at the Indian Lake consolidated sanitary landfill. A recycling program is also operated at the campground. There is a centralized refuse disposal facility at this campground, managed by a staff person. A brochure is available to instruct campers of its availability and required use. The centralized refuse center is tied into the water and sewage systems.

Beginning in the 1992 season, all Day Use Areas have been under the carry-in, carry-out policy. Appropriate signs have been erected to inform the public. A brochure was produced by the Albany Office.

## 6. Barriers

Barriers are used to control campground use and are periodically opened or closed for this purpose. Department policy provides for the design and safety considerations of in-place barriers. The current inventory is as follows:

Location	Type	Function
Main entrance	Log gate	Control park access
Site #21	Pipe gate	Control 21-47 access
Site #72	Pipe gate	Control 72-121 access
Bug Lake trailhead	Pipe gate	Control trail access

## 7. Telephone

The main phone number is 315-354-4120. The phone is turned off when the campground is closed and all calls should be directed to the Indian Lake Office 518-648-5616.

## 8. Signs

The variety of messages that are conveyed to public users by means of standard (yellow on brown) signs include directions and information for entrance, supervisor's office, bulletin board, traffic control, commemorations, regulations, picnic area, comfort stations, and camping sites.

## 9. Electric System

The main campground has underground primary electrical distribution and underground secondary distribution. There are approximately 11,750 feet of line throughout the campground. DEC owns and maintains all utility lines on the campground. National Grid provides electricity to the campground's primary service. Average yearly electric consumption is 34,152 kWh. See Exhibit #8 for a map of the electrical distribution system.

## 10. Potable Water System

There is a 1, 252', drilled well that supplies water to the campground. The well yields 35 gpm of water and has a pumping capacity of 25 gpm. Water is stored in a 31,642-gallon chlorinated reservoir. The campground also contains 26 spigots (23 camping, 3 day-use, plus 26 water fountains with spigots), 38 lavatories and 3 wash sinks. See Exhibit #6 for a map of the water distribution system

### 11. Trails & Bridges

The Bug Lake trailhead begins within the campground and travels west past Bug Lake and into the wild forest trail network, connecting to the Seventh Lake, Black Bear Mountain and Mike Norris trails. There is a small parking area that can accommodate four vehicles at the Bug Lake trailhead. It is a short walk over a bridge from the trailhead to the Eighth Lake outlet, which then leads out of the campground. The bridge is at or just below the current water level, which will require the bridge to be rehabilitated by raising the east end of it above the water level. The APA will be consulted prior to rehabilitation for wetlands delineation and permitting needs. The Seventh-Eighth Lake Loop Trail trailhead is just across State route 28 and provides recreationists with over an 8-mile loop to the east. Eighth Lake Campground is a popular stop for paddlers as they make their way through the Fulton Chain of Lakes. Paddlers portage at the Seventh Lake boat launch and continue on to Eighth Lake and Raquette Lake via the Eighth Lake boat launch. In winter, the Bug Lake Trail and the main campground road heading south to Seventh Lake are utilized as a snowmobile route. See Exhibit #2 for a map of the surrounding trail system.

### 12. Fuel Systems

The following chart displays the permanent fuel system used at the campground.

Tank #	Product Type	Tank Size	Location
1	Propane	1,000 gal.	Shower Building
2	Propane	200 gal.	Caretaker Cabin
3	Propane	200 gal.	Recycling Building
4	Propane	200 gal.	Asst. Caretaker Cabin
5	Propane	200 gal.	Lifeguard Cabin
Avg. Annual Use - 1,500 Gal.			

### 13. Swimming

The swimming area is located at the south end of Eighth Lake.

Swimming Area Capacities		
Location	Size	Capacity
Swim Area < 4' deep	15,480 sf	206
Swim Area 4' – 6' deep	7,740 sf	309
Beach Area	13,370 sf	

### 14. Boating

A human-made facility which enhances fishing and other water-related recreational opportunities within the Eighth Lake Campground is a boat launching site. The site is listed in the *New York State Directory of State Access and Boat Launching Areas* as consisting of a hard-surface launching ramp (i.e., trailer-launch capable) with parking for 10 car and trailer units. Exhibit 11 of Volume I of the *Final Generic Unit Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Campgrounds and Day Use Areas* shows the facility to be a “pre-existing” and “improved” ramp which provides for the launching of trailered boats.

As Eighth Lake is less than 1000 acres (it is 314 acres), the status of this facility must be reviewed according to the criteria of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP) to determine whether its eventual conversion to a fishing/waterway access site is appropriate.

The existing Eighth Lake boat launching facility consists of a single-lane concrete launching ramp laid over the natural sand and gravel lake bottom. A single wooden floating dock is installed along the ramp edge. A small compacted gravel approach apron adjoins the head of the launch ramp. A nearby compacted gravel-surface parking area accommodates six vehicles and is limited further if trailers are present. Upon inspection by a team of Department boating facility experts on June 12, 1986, the facility was judged to be inadequate and the following recommendations were made (Gann, 1987):

*“(Needs): Install single-wide concrete ‘push-in’ slab boat launching ramp, optimally pitched at 13 1/3%, or consider dual-pitch ramp if water level fluctuations are minor. Provide enlarged, macadam surfaced turnaround apron. Expand parking area.”*

and

*“(Special Notes/Remarks): Eighth Lake is the eastern terminus of the Fulton chain of Lakes, perhaps the most popular and well known of the Adirondack Canoe Routes. Due to its relatively small size and isolation, it may not be appropriate to enhance the site to accommodate trailered boat launching.”*

The Eighth Lake Campground boat launching facility is very important as it is the only point of public access to the lake. The entire periphery of Eighth Lake is State-owned land. There is no private development on the lake. The Eighth Lake Campground was included in the 1990 *Statewide Survey of Boating Use at Public Waterway Access Sites in New York State* (Major, et al., 1992). Based on counts of boaters entering the campground, 93 boating trips were estimated



## II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

---

during the campground's operating season. This estimate should be viewed as a minimum estimate because it is based on the assumption that all boats entering the campground were counted. The average boating party at Eighth Lake consisted of 2.1 persons. Counts of 58 boats entering the campground on 76 survey days indicated that day use (43%) was slightly less than camper use (57%). Car-top boats comprised 48% and trailered boats 52% of the boats entering the campground. Information on the size and type of boats launched during the 1990 boating season at the Eighth Lake Campground was obtained from 14 returned questionnaires completed by boaters.

Boats used included: outboard motorboats (71%), canoes (21%) and rowboats (7%). The mean length and horsepower of motorized boats was 13.6 feet and 20.9 hp. Of all boat launchings for the season, 69% were trailer launchings and 31% hand launchings. Fishing was indicated by 86% of survey respondents as the primary purpose for their boating activity while at the Eighth Lake Campground.

Aerial flyovers were not conducted at Eighth Lake as a part of the 1990 Boating Survey. As the campground boat launch is the only source of boating activity on the lake, all boating activity is attributable to the campground. If half of the estimated 93 boating trips that occurred in 1990 occurred on the 55 weekend days during the survey period, the resulting peak boating density is less than 1 trip/day, or more than 314 acres per boat in use. As a point of reference, the *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* (OPRHP, 1989) cites a minimum of 6 to 8 acres per boat for power boating activities.

The need for an improved launch ramp was cited by 43% of survey respondents at Eighth Lake. Other amenities cited for improvement were restrooms (7%), docks (7%), parking capacity (7%) and fish-cleaning stations (7%). These requests for improvements by the public closely paralleled those of the Department's experts who evaluated the site in 1986.

There is a small boat launch within the campground on Seventh Lake. The launch consists of a narrow paved approach path with a steel mat ramp. The ramp angle has shifted and the steel mat has buckled over time making this launch ramp limited to very small trailered and hand-carry boats only. Campers wishing to access Seventh Lake with larger trailered boats can use the Seventh Lake boat launch located just south of the campground on Route 28. This hardened launch can accommodate large boats and has parking for 20 vehicles and trailers. It

should be noted that individuals entering the campground from the Seventh Lake boat launch are required to register and pay a day-use fee to use the facilities.

## B. Inventory of Systems

### 1. Staff

Total	Position Title
1	Conservation Recreation Facilities Supervisor II
1	Maintenance Helper
4	Park and Recreation Aide V
3	Park and Recreation Aide IV
1	Park Ranger
2	Lifeguards

### 2. Fee Schedule 2015

Daily Fees 2015 Open Dates: May 20-Oct 10	
Camping/Night – NYS Residents	\$22.00
Camping/Night – Non-Residents	\$27.00
Day Use - Auto	\$8.00
Day Use - Walk In	\$2.00
Day Use - Bus	\$75.00
Day Use - Motorcycle	\$4.00
Picnic Shelter Rental	\$50.00
Firewood – Per Bundle	\$8.00
Empire Passport - Season	\$65.00

### 3. Permits

Peddling permits may be issued annually for firewood, boat rentals and camper supplies. A fee of \$2.00 x number of campsites is charged for each vendor. In 2015, one permit was issued for selling firewood.

### 4. Off-Season Use

Eighth Lake Campground is open for informal camping during the fall hunting season. The facilities are locked and the water system will be shut down. Individuals seeking to utilize the campground during the fall hunting season should contact the Region 5 Raquette Lake Forest

## II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

---

Rangers for information. Campground use during winter months occurs from use of snowmobile trails, cross-country skiing, and dog sledding.

### 5. Junior Naturalist Program

The Junior Naturalist Program provides boys and girls ages 5 to 12 a series of structured recreational activities. Participants are awarded Junior Naturalist patches for activities completed. The program is dependent on funding and may not be offered every season.

## C. Inventory of Natural Resources

### 1. Physical

#### *a. Elevation*

The average elevation of the Eighth Lake Campground is 1,798', with a maximum of 1,804'. See Exhibit #2 for a topographical map of the area.

#### *b. Water*

Eighth Lake is 314 acres in size, with a maximum depth of 81 feet. There are 20 campsites located on the shore of the lake. The campground beach is located on the south shore of Eighth Lake.

Seventh Lake is 851 acres in size, with a maximum depth of 87 feet. See Exhibit #2 for a map of the surrounding area, including Seventh and Eighth lakes.

#### *c. Wetlands*

Wetlands are inventoried, mapped, and protected under Article 24 of the Environmental Conservation Law by the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). There are 80.5 acres of wetlands within the boundaries of Eighth Lake Campground.

Projects that alter or adversely affect the wetlands or any sewage disposal system within 100 feet of the wetland will require a permit from the APA. The APA will be consulted to determine whether a permit is needed prior to site disturbance in or adjacent to these designated wetland areas. See Exhibit #11 for a wetlands map.

#### *d. Soils*

Soil associations consist of:

#10 - Udifluvents-Fluvaquents complex, frequently flooded

#25A - Adams coarse sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes

#25B - Adams coarse sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes

#185 - Borosaprists, level

See Exhibit #11 for a soils map.

### **2. Biological**

#### ***a. Forest Type***

Eighth Lake Campground has several different forest types typical of the Adirondacks. Northern hardwood stands contain species such as sugar maple, black cherry, yellow birch, red maple, and beech with a few red spruce and eastern hemlock mixed in. Most of the campground's forest is considered mixed northern hardwood/softwood forest. These stands can include balsam fir, red spruce, white pine, eastern hemlock, red maple, yellow birch, black cherry and beech. There is one softwood stand dominated by white pine in the northwest corner of the campground near the Day Use Area. The rest of Eighth Lake Campground is a mix of wetlands, shrub/scrub and developed land (See Exhibit #12, Eighth Lake Campground Forest Type Map.)

#### ***b. Unique Vegetation***

The campground does not contain any state or globally ranked unique vegetation; however, there are many special areas to explore within its boundaries.

Although not within the campground itself, there is a small grove of old-growth white pine just south of the campground on State Route 28. This can provide campers a glimpse of the forest primeval. The grove is accessed by the Cathedral Pines trailhead on the west side of Route 28. The Cathedral Pines Trail is a 0.1-mile loop trail and leads the hiker past impressive white pines. Several of the towering pines are three to four feet in diameter.

#### ***c. Wildlife***

The following is an inventory of wildlife that occurs within the area adjacent to the Eighth Lake Campground, either as resident or transient species:

## II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

---

Common Wildlife		Less Common Wildlife	
<b>Black Bear</b>	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	<b>Marten</b>	<i>Martes Americana</i>
<b>White-tailed Deer</b>	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	<b>Bobcat</b>	<i>Lynx rufus</i>
<b>Coyote</b>	<i>Canis latrans</i>	<b>Red Fox</b>	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
<b>Raccoon</b>	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	<b>Gray Fox</b>	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>
<b>Fisher</b>	<i>Martes pennanti</i>	<b>Muskrat</b>	<i>Ondatra zaibethicus</i>
<b>Otter</b>	<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	<b>Porcupine</b>	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>
<b>Beaver</b>	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	<b>Gray Squirrel</b>	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
<b>Mink</b>	<i>Mustela vison</i>	<b>Common Loon</b>	<i>Gavia immer</i>
<b>Varying Hare</b>	<i>Lepus americanus</i>		
<b>Red Squirrel</b>	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>		
<b>Eastern Chipmunk</b>	<i>Tamias striatus</i>		

Original Deer Management Units (DMUs) were established by the Bureau of Wildlife in 1960. These original zones have been modified and revised to the current classification and are now known as Wildlife Management Units (WMUs). WMU zone boundaries are patterned after ecological zones and eventually will lead to more finely tuned management that is more specific to given areas. The Campground and Day Use Area are included in WMU 6J. Fur bearer Management Units (FMUs) that were established in 1980 were also replaced by Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in 1985. Further refinement of WMU boundaries occurred in 1998.

A diversity of wildlife can reside in or utilize the campground area. The clearings and brushy eco-tones created by developments provide habitat for wildlife species dependent on the earlier stages of succession. No permanent irreversible damage is anticipated to either the wildlife habitats or species.

The capacity of the wildlife resource to withstand non-consumptive use is broad and related to the number of persons utilizing the campground.

A deer winter concentration area adjoins the exterior portion of the property. Deer winter utilization occurs depending upon the severity and duration of the winter. However, the critical core areas are not known to occur within the confines of the developed campground. See Exhibit #9 for a map depicting the potential deer yard area.

Potential spruce grouse habitat adjoins the exterior portion of the campground. However, the critical core areas are not known to occur within the developed campground. See Exhibit #10 for a map depicting potential spruce grouse habitat.

Common loons have been documented on the Fulton Chain of Lakes, including Seventh Lake. Numbers and locations vary depending on year. Campers should be reminded to enjoy loons from a distance so as to not cause unnecessary stress, especially during breeding season.

Black bear presence is common in areas adjacent to the campground. Consideration needs to be given to minimizing the potential for bear/human conflicts by implementing standard bear/campground detriment procedures.

### *d. Fisheries*

In 2011, DEC fisheries staff conducted a juvenile lake trout survey on Eighth Lake. The following species were collected or observed during that survey: rainbow trout, lake trout, smallmouth bass, brown bullhead, yellow perch, rock bass, pumpkinseed, sunfish, bluntnose minnow, and tessellated darter. Rainbow smelt was identified in the stomach contents of collected lake trout. In 2011 and then again in a 2012, a survey specifically to look for the NYS endangered round whitefish was conducted; round whitefish had been stocked in 2005. No individuals were found, but they can be very difficult to capture. Round whitefish could utilize waters adjacent to the campground in both Seventh and Eighth lakes. Eighth Lake was formerly stocked with landlocked salmon, but that stocking did not produce a viable fishery and has been abandoned in favor of the lake trout and rainbow trout stocking that occurs there currently. Most anglers utilize small motor boats and typically troll for lake trout and rainbow trout.

In 2003 and 2013, Seventh Lake was surveyed by DEC fisheries staff. Fish collected or observed included: lake trout, Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, brown trout, golden shiner, white sucker, yellow perch, brown bullhead, rock bass, largemouth bass, and pumpkinseed. A small rainbow smelt population is also present in the system. Landlocked salmon and rainbow trout are currently stocked by DEC. Seventh Lake is affected by drawdowns from the Hudson Black River Regulating District, and at times the lake has been kept low until May, which could impact the fishery and boating access.

## **III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS**

### **A. Article XIV, New York State Constitution**

Article XIV of the State Constitution provides in part that “The lands of the state, now owned or hereafter acquired, constituting the Forest Preserve as now fixed by law, shall be forever kept as wild forest lands. They shall not be leased, sold or exchanged, or taken by any corporation, public or private, nor shall the timber thereon be sold, removed, or destroyed.”

### **B. Adirondack State Land Master Plan**

The APSLMP requires, in part, that all campgrounds and day-use areas will be of a rustic nature. Natural materials will be used to the fullest extent possible in the construction so as to blend with the Adirondack environment. These constraints and others are further described in Volume I of the generic plan.

### **C. Environmental Conservation Laws**

The management plan has been developed within the constraints set forth by the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, and established Policies and Procedures for the administration of the lands involved.

### **D. Campground Generic Plan/EIS**

The management plan has been developed within the constraints set forth by the GUMP/EIS and contains overview, environmental setting, goals, policy, management, and impact assessment criteria that pertain universally and in common to all Adirondack and Catskill Public Campgrounds and Special Day Use classified Intensive Use Areas.

### **E. Recreation Program Goals**

- Manage recreation programs to ensure protection of the natural resources base in accordance with Article XIV of the New York State Constitution, Adirondack and Catskill Park State Land Master Plans, Environmental Conservation Law and the GUMP/EIS.
- Offer recreational opportunities for leisure time enjoyment for the people of the State.

- Ensure that revenues equal operating costs for that portion of the program covered by user fees.
- Manage the program to enhance economic benefits to local communities and the State.

## F. Public Use

### 1. Inventory of Public Use

#### a. Attendance Trends

Attendance numbers are a combination of camper days (number of campers x number of nights spent) and day use (number of people using the beach, day-use areas or visiting campers but not staying overnight). The five-year trend in camping attendance indicates fairly static visitation with fluctuations due to economic and weather conditions. The average camping attendance for the most recent five years is about 2% lower than the previous five-year average. Day-use attendance for the most recent five years is showing a downward trend also.

The most recent five-year average total attendance is about 5% lower than the previous five-year period. According to the *New York State Parks Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan*, this could be attributed to an increased availability of alternative outdoor recreation opportunities.

Eighth Lake Attendance			
Year	Camping	Day Use	Total
2015	30,425	445	30,870
2014	31,144	446	31,590
2013	30,973	1,028	32,001
2012	31,138	715	31,853
2011	31,116	1,099	32,215
Average	30,959	747	31,706

Most Eighth Lake campers are from New York State (85%), with strong representation from population centers along the NYS Thruway. Pennsylvania residents make up the majority of out-of-state campers (2%), with a smaller representation from many other states across the country. Relatively few New York campers visit Eighth Lake from south and east of the New York State Thruway. See Exhibit #5 for a map depicting Camper Demographics.

Campground use during winter months occurs from use of snowmobile trails, cross-country skiing, dog sledding and informal camping during the hunting season. Currently, there is no way of accurately tracking usage as there are no permits required or issued for offseason use, or recreation staff on site to monitor use.



### III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

---

#### *b. Revenue Trends*

Revenues are important because they are used to offset annual operating costs of the campground. The operating budget allocation is based on revenues generated from camping and other service fees. Camping revenue is derived from the rental of the 126 campsites. The camping revenue has shown some variability which may be due to a combination of increased attendance, fee increases and weather events.

Day Use revenue constitutes park entrance fees only, while Miscellaneous revenue is a combination of pavilion rental, firewood sales, ice sales and Empire Passport sales. Total Day Use revenue has fluctuated over

Eighth Lake Revenue				
Year	Camping	Day Use	Misc.	Total
2015	\$200,803	\$12,667	\$18,759	\$232,229
2014	\$203,904	\$11,983	\$18,144	\$234,031
2013	\$198,732	\$11,182	\$13,323	\$223,237
2012	\$201,353	\$10,768	\$11,146	\$223,267
2011	\$199,971	\$10,920	\$12,935	\$223,826
Average	\$200,953	\$11,504	\$14,861	\$227,318

the last several years. While a drop in day-use attendance has contributed to lowering revenue, this has been somewhat offset by fee increases.

#### **2. Carrying Capacity**

Eighth Lake Campground facilities should be operated within the physical, biological and social carrying capacity of the site. Operation within these limits will grant continued character and integrity to intensive recreational use at this location and will assure that the public use is conditioned within the capacity of the physical, biological and social resources to withstand such use.

During the 2015 camping season, Eighth Lake had an average Campground Site Utilization Rate of 49%, with a site-usage low of 1% and a high of 93%. This means that, on average, less than half the sites were rented at any given time. Weekends tend to have higher site utilization rates, at 60%, than weekdays, at a 40% rate. The average length of stay at Eighth Lake for the 2015 season was 3.61 days.

#### *a. Physical Design*

The following is an analysis of existing design capacities as compared to NYS Department of Health codes and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation design standards. The existing design capacity for the 126 campsites is six persons per site, or 756

### III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

persons. The day-use design capacity is six persons per picnic table x 10 tables, or 60 persons. Although July and August tend to be the heaviest months for use of this facility, Eighth Lake Campground had only a 26% user capacity rate based on actual site occupancy x the total sites rented.

The table below compares the calculated capacity needs with the currently available capacity, and the following deficiencies are noted. Utility sinks are needed in each camping loop to provide a sanitary and convenient location for cleaning and for disposing of waste water. Additional showers are needed and should be located conveniently throughout the facility. While there is excess capacity of toilets and sinks, only the Day Use bathroom and Loop C restroom provide facilities meeting accessibility standards.

Facility Infrastructure Capacity Analysis				
Facility Description	Design Standard*	Calculated Need	Currently Available	Deficiency
Campsites	1,250 sf/site	1,250 sf/site	1,250 sf/site	0
Trailer dumping station	1 for every 100 sites*	2	1	1
Potable water supply	55 gal/day/site	6,930 gal	28,800gpd	0
	5 gal/day/picnicker	300 gal		0
Water spigots	1/10 campsites	13	26	0
	1/60 picnickers	1	Share**	0
Lavatories (within 500')	1 for every 15 campsites	9	12M/18F	0
	1 for every 60 picnickers	1	Share**	0
Toilets/Urinals	2 for every 10 sites	26	34M/28F	0
(within 500')	2 for every 60 picnickers	2	Share**	0
Utility sinks	Conveniently located	N/A	3	N/A
Showers	2 for every 25 sites	11	10	1
*DEC design standards meet or exceed NYS Health Department codes.				
**Picnickers share certain amenities with campers.				

#### *b. Biological Carrying Capacity*

There is little evidence that current types and levels of recreational use are having a negative impact on soils, vegetation, or wildlife on a whole.

During winter, this campground is closed for camping but available for use for ice fishing, snowmobiling, and skiing, as previously noted. Most vehicular traffic occurs on paved surfaces, which also helps limit compaction, rutting, and erosion. Years of weather damage have

### III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

---

affected the campground, causing approximately 40 campsites to need to be rehabilitated. Although some of the original forest cover was cleared during construction in the 1930s, most of the campground remains forested. While hazardous trees are removed on a regular basis in accordance with established policy, natural regeneration, replanting, and growth of residual trees compensate for losses.

#### *c. Social Carrying Capacity*

Annual camper surveys have been conducted since 1996. Campers have been asked to rate their camping experience on a scale from unacceptable to excellent. At current attendance levels, this campground is operating within an acceptable social carrying capacity based on the expectations of our visitors.

Additional impacts associated with planned campground objectives and actions are identified and discussed in the GUMP/EIS. The following table summarizes survey statistics over the past five years.

Eighth Lake Camper Survey		
Year	Number of respondents	Good or excellent rating
2015	516	92%
2014	343	93%
2013	442	90%
2012	117	90%
2011	162	95%

#### *D. Unique Ecosystems, Historical*

No significant unique ecosystems have been identified or are known to exist within the campground. The New York State Archaeological Site Locations Map does not indicate that archaeological resources are present in the Eighth Lake Campground area. However, prior to site disturbance for construction of any facility affiliated with this management plan, the nature and extent of archaeological resources in the project area, if any, will be investigated. If it appears that any aspect of the project will cause any change—beneficial or adverse—in the quality of any historic or archaeological property, all feasible and prudent alternatives will be considered together with feasible plans to avoid and/or mitigate adverse impact on the property. The Agency Preservation Officer has been so informed in keeping with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980.

#### *E. Adjacent Lands*

The campground is surrounded by the Moose River Plains Wild Forest. NYS Route 28 is the primary access to Eighth Lake and runs along the east side of the campground. The north and south sides of the campground are bounded by Eighth and Seventh lakes respectively. Hiking trails connect users with the surrounding forest preserve. To the west, the Bug Lake Trail travels past Bug Lake and into the wild forest trail network connecting to the Seventh Lake, Black Bear Mountain and Mike Norris trails. The Seventh-Eighth Lake Loop Trail trailhead is just across Route 28 to the east and provides recreationists with over an eight-mile loop trail. See Exhibit #2 for a map of the surrounding area and trails.

Most of the day-use revenue produced at Eighth Lake is from hikers utilizing the hiking trail network, especially during the fall season. Hiking opportunities range from day hikes to extensive overnight backpacking trips. The views from these high peaks are not only extensive, but magnificent and beautiful. For more information on these areas, refer to the Moose River Plains webpage: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/53596.html>.

It is estimated that the vast majority of the overnight usage comes from residents from upstate metropolitan areas (see Exhibit #5). Campers purchase fuel, food, firewood, sporting equipment, camping gear, clothing, and other items from nearby markets. At times, vehicle repairs and personal emergency needs must be attended. As noted previously, many campers tour or utilize a wide variety of attractions in the vicinity. Peddlers serving campers under permit within the campground directly profit from goods exchanged.

The campground provides employment for local residents on staff. Wages from these individuals are largely turned over in the local business economy. Various supplies and materials needed for maintenance of the campground are frequently purchased locally. The services of contractors, including plumbers, electricians, carpenters, masons, and others, may at times be utilized.

#### *F. Invasive Species*

The threat of invasive species at Eighth Lake is of concern to the Department, both for their destructive effects on our environment and their associated financial drain on revenue and resources.

One common way many insect pests are moved around the country, beyond their natural rate of spread based on biology and flight potential, is on firewood carried by campers, hunters

### III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

---

and other users of our forests. This firewood may come from trees killed by insect pests and taken down wherever the visitors came from. A regulation is in effect that prohibits the import of firewood into New York unless it has been heat treated to kill pests. The regulation also limits the transportation of untreated firewood to less than 50 miles from its source. A firewood storage building was recently completed to permit the sale of heat-treated wood that complies with state regulations.

It is the Department's goal, in collaboration with other agencies and interested groups, to work to establish a documented inventory of species by location within the campground and to implement an active invasive species management program to help contain and possibly eradicate further growth of these species. It is through these continued efforts that a collaborative initiative among the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry developed the *Adirondack Park State Campground Terrestrial Invasive Plant Management 2015 Program Report*. The report finds the following for Eighth Lake Campground:

*Garlic mustard is widely dispersed throughout the Eighth Lake Campground and was found at site numbers 8, 15, 17, 23, 30, 31, 33, 35-37, 79, 80, 88, 91, 95, 100, 108 and 113. It was also found behind the bathroom between sites 38 and 40.*

*Management Totals:*

*A total of 473 second-year garlic mustard plants were removed from the campground.*

*Recommendations:*

*The density of the garlic mustard infestations at this campground has been reduced in the last 3 years, indicating that the treatment performed from 2012 to 2014 was effective. This campground should still be monitored annually in order to combat the garlic mustard infestation. This campground was managed with the assistance of an SCA crew and while this resource was helpful this year, it may not be necessary in future years if the current trend continues.*

*Offering an invasive species identification and management seminar (focused on garlic mustard) for the staff here would be useful if time and resources are available. This would increase awareness among the staff about invasive plants, and their help could contribute to the success of future management efforts.*

*Bush honeysuckle was found scattered throughout the campground, but was not managed.*

#### ***G. General Operations***

Eighth Lake Campground is a popular facility used by visitors during the summer season (mid-May through mid-October) for camping, swimming, boating and hiking. The rest of the year, this campground is used for such recreational activities as snowmobile riding, ice fishing and cross-country skiing. The continued maintenance and upkeep of this facility helps ensure safe operation of the campground for both visitors' and employees' use. A well-maintained facility promotes an increased interest in campers' use of this campground and its amenities for continued recreational use. Day-to-day operations of this campground are guided by policy set forth in the *DEC Campground Guidance Manual*. The subject index of the manual is referenced in Volume III, Appendix D, of the *1990 Generic Unit Management Plan*.

#### ***H. ADA Accessibility Guidelines***

Consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Department incorporates accessibility into the planning, construction and alteration of recreational facilities and assets supporting them. This UMP contains an accessibility assessment within the inventory of the facilities and programs offered. Current ADA construction standards or guidelines will be utilized in the design of all new projects and will be implemented unless structurally impracticable due to terrain. Any new facilities, assets and accessibility improvements to existing facilities in this UMP are identified in the section containing proposed management actions. Currently the only universally accessible amenities available at the Eighth Lake Campground are the DUA and Loop C bathrooms.

### IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The following management actions are proposed for the ensuing five-year period. As a general practice and as required, all work to be performed relative to accomplishing an objective shall include permitting, i.e., wetlands; employ the use of erosion control where needed, i.e., silt screen; minimize environmental effects on adjacent areas; tally and secure approval for tree cutting necessary to an objective; and reforest or reseed construction areas with suitable native species. All new buildings constructed for public access will have provisions for access for people with disabilities and use materials and colors in keeping with Forest Preserve campgrounds and guidelines provided in the GUMP/EIS and APSLMP. In addition, where appropriate, design, construction and non-ordinary maintenance activities will be carried out in consultation with Adirondack Park Agency (APA) staff.

Finally, it is important to understand that the sequential completion of most of the objectives described in this plan depends on the availability of funding. Capital appropriations are often insufficient to complete all the objectives identified in the sequence listed within a five-year period.

Proposed Management Actions			
	Management Actions	Cost	Priority
A	Install New Drinking Water Distribution System	\$500,000	1
B	Resurface Campground Roads	\$500,000	2
C	Relocate & Replace Registration Booth	\$50,000	3
D	Construct Two Shower Buildings (Universal Design)	\$1,500,000	4
E	Rehabilitate Eighth Lake Sewage System	\$100,000	5
F	Construct Picnic Pavilion	\$125,000	6
G	Rehabilitate Bug Lake Trail Parking	\$10,000	7
H	Improve Campsites	\$1,000 per/site	8
I	Tree Planting & Landscaping	\$20,000	9

These actions reflect the need to modernize facilities, comply with health and safety codes, and address user needs. They will also provide universal access and increase the efficiency of the campground management. Implementation of the proposed actions will reduce operating costs and generate revenues for the Department. Prioritization of management actions

was based on the availability of funding, health, and safety concerns. See Exhibit #13 for a map depicting the location of proposed management actions.

### **A. Install New Drinking Water System**

The existing drinking water distribution system is antiquated and inadequate. Many lines are protruding from beneath road surfaces, water stands are leaking and system-wide maintenance is becoming cost prohibitive. It is proposed to remove and replace existing water lines and water stands. Lines may need to be relocated from beneath road surfaces to eliminate future maintenance conflicts and increase functionality which may require a wetlands permit. New spigots and drinking fountains will be constructed where appropriate. This project has an estimated cost of \$500,000.

### **B. Resurface Campground Roads**

Due to the deterioration of the existing macadam road system, all roads (2.8 miles) need to be resurfaced and drainage ditches revamped. The weight of motor homes and large trailers is breaking the tapered edges of the macadam surface, resulting in pot holes. In addition, the removal and replacement of the drinking water distribution system will require many sections of road to be disturbed and subsequently repaired. Road resurfacing will be done after the new drinking water distribution system is completed to eliminate duplication of costs and disturbance. To minimize disturbance, resurfaced roads will be in the same footprint as the existing network. Where possible, alternative resurfacing techniques such as porous pavement and the reuse of tailings from the existing surface will be considered in addition to traditional blacktop. The estimated cost will be \$500,000. Due to logistics and proximity to the water distribution system, both projects may be combined if deemed beneficial and cost effective.

### **C. Relocate and Replace Registration Booth**

The present registration booth is outdated and too small to effectively process campground ingress and egress. In addition, it is too close to the park superintendent's cabin, and makes ingress difficult for large camping trailers and motor homes. A new, larger booth will be constructed approximately 20 feet south of the present location. The site of the new booth will require limited site disturbance and very little if any vegetation removal. The proposed site is



## IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

---

part of the existing administrative area surrounding the current booth and cabin. The new booth will be universally accessible and large enough to accommodate administrative equipment and staff. Exact design specifications will be decided based on specific site conditions and design standards at the time of implementation. When construction begins, the Department will consult with APA staff for compliance with the APSLMP. This project has an estimated cost of \$50,000.

### **D. Construct Two New Shower Buildings**

The main shower building was constructed in 1975 and is in need of major repairs. In addition, the building is not universally accessible and does not have enough stalls to meet Department of Health standards.

It is proposed to replace the existing shower building with a new six-unit shower building. The new building will be constructed on the same site, be universally accessible and will utilize the existing utilities and parking area. There will be little if any vegetation disturbance.

To address the deficiency in shower units, it is proposed to build a new universally accessible six-unit shower building. The new building will be constructed on the same site as the existing Comfort Station #9. By removing the existing comfort station and utilizing the open area surrounding the building, limited vegetation clearing will be necessary. In addition, the new building location will help ease congestion and demand on the existing location. Site specifications will be determined in consultation with the APA. This project has an estimated cost of \$1,600,000.

### **E. Rehabilitate Eighth Lake Sewage System**

The Eighth Lake campground sewage system was constructed in the 1970s. Although still functioning, portions of the system do not meet current standards and are in need of rehabilitation. It is proposed to rehabilitate the system to meet current standards. Due to logistics and proximity to both the water distribution system and road network, this project may be done in conjunction with those rehabilitation projects. This project has an estimated cost of \$100,000.

### **F. Construct Picnic Pavilion**

It is proposed to build a new picnic pavilion in the DUA. This will afford campers a place to recreate during all weather conditions. If funding for maintenance does not become available

and conditions continue to deteriorate, it is proposed to remove the two bathhouses in the DUA and utilize one of the sites for the new pavilion. If the bathhouses are to be retained, then the picnic pavilion will be constructed elsewhere in the DUA. The exact location and specification will be determined by site conditions before implementation and will be done in consultation with the APA. This project has an estimated cost of \$125,000.

### **G. Rehabilitate Bug Lake Trail Parking Lot**

This project will rehabilitate the Bug Lake Trail parking lot. The rehabbed parking lot will have a crushed stone surface and perimeter cribbing and remain in the same footprint as the existing lot, thus limiting vegetation disturbance. The finished lot will include one accessible parking space. The project has an estimated total cost of \$10,000.

### **H. Improve Campsites**

This project will improve and modernize individual campsites. The project will improve accessibility and may allow use by larger and more modern recreational equipment. The goal will be to rehabilitate 2.5% of sites per year. This project has an estimated cost of \$1,000 per site over the life of the plan.

### **I. Tree Planting and Landscaping**

It is planned to continue the present tree planting and landscaping program to replace those trees lost during hazardous tree removal, to establish trees in high traffic areas where natural regeneration is unlikely to occur, and to promote campsite and infrastructure screening. Native species selected will be consistent with those natural to the area. The project has an estimated total cost of \$20,000.

## V. EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Index
Exhibit #1 - Location Overview Map
Exhibit #2 – Eighth Lake Campground Contour Map
Exhibit #3 - Eighth Lake Campground Orthoimagery Map
Exhibit #4 – Eighth Lake Campground Facility Map
Exhibit #5 – Eighth Lake Camper Demographics Map
Exhibit #6 – Eighth Lake Campground Water System
Exhibit #7 – Eighth Lake Campground Sewage System
Exhibit #8 – Eighth Lake Campground Electric System
Exhibit #9 – Eighth Lake Campground Deer Yard Map
Exhibit #10 – Eighth Lake Campground Spruce Grouse Map
Exhibit #11 – Eighth Lake Campground Wetlands, Hydrology and Soils Type Map
Exhibit #12 – Eighth Lake Campground Forest Type Map
Exhibit #13 – Eighth Lake Campground Management Actions Location Map
Exhibit #14 – Eighth Lake Campground Photos
Exhibit #15 – Eighth Lake Pubic Comment Response



# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 1 - Location Map



Adirondack  
Park



New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
April 2014

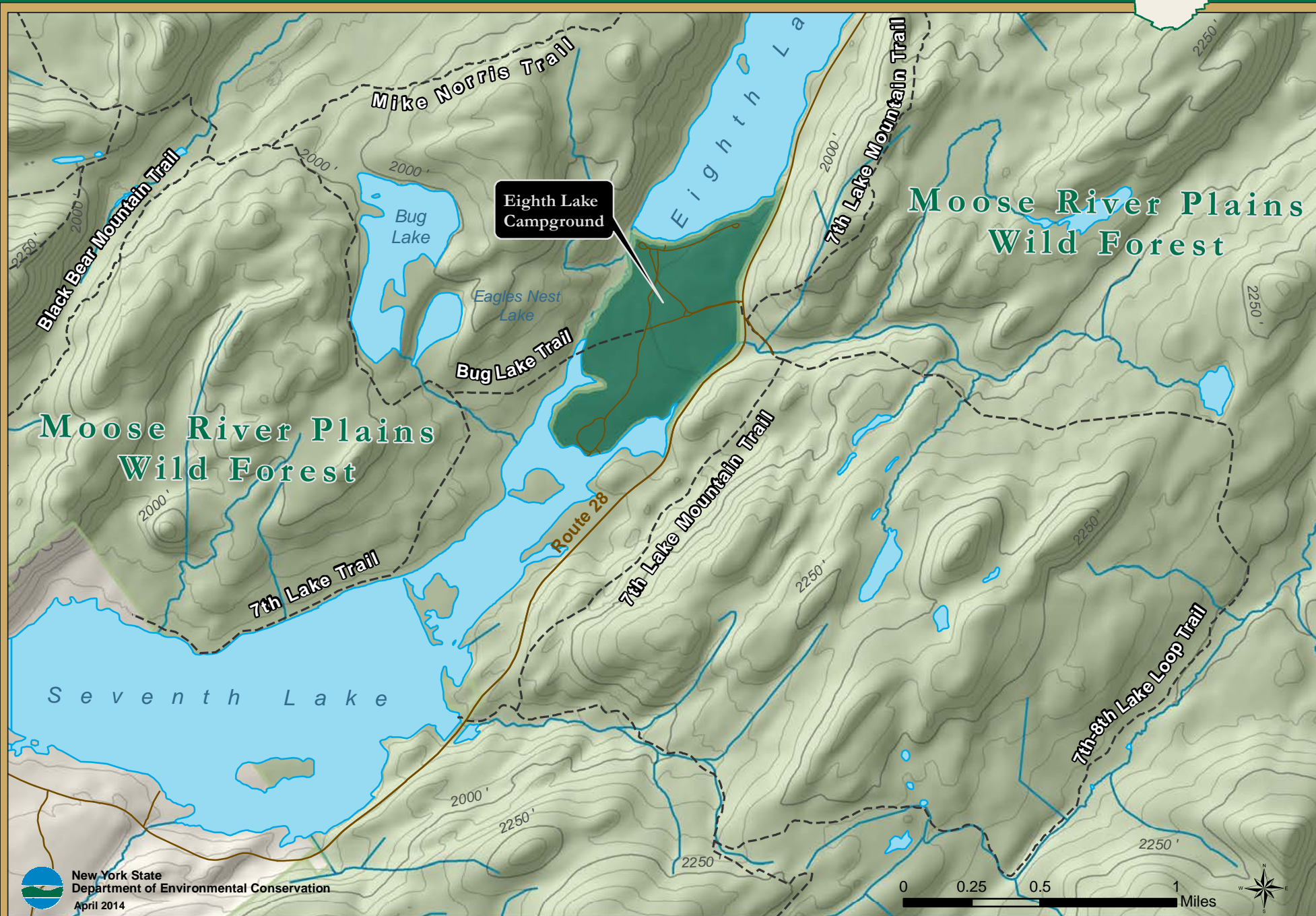


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 2 - Topography & Trail Map



Adirondack  
Park



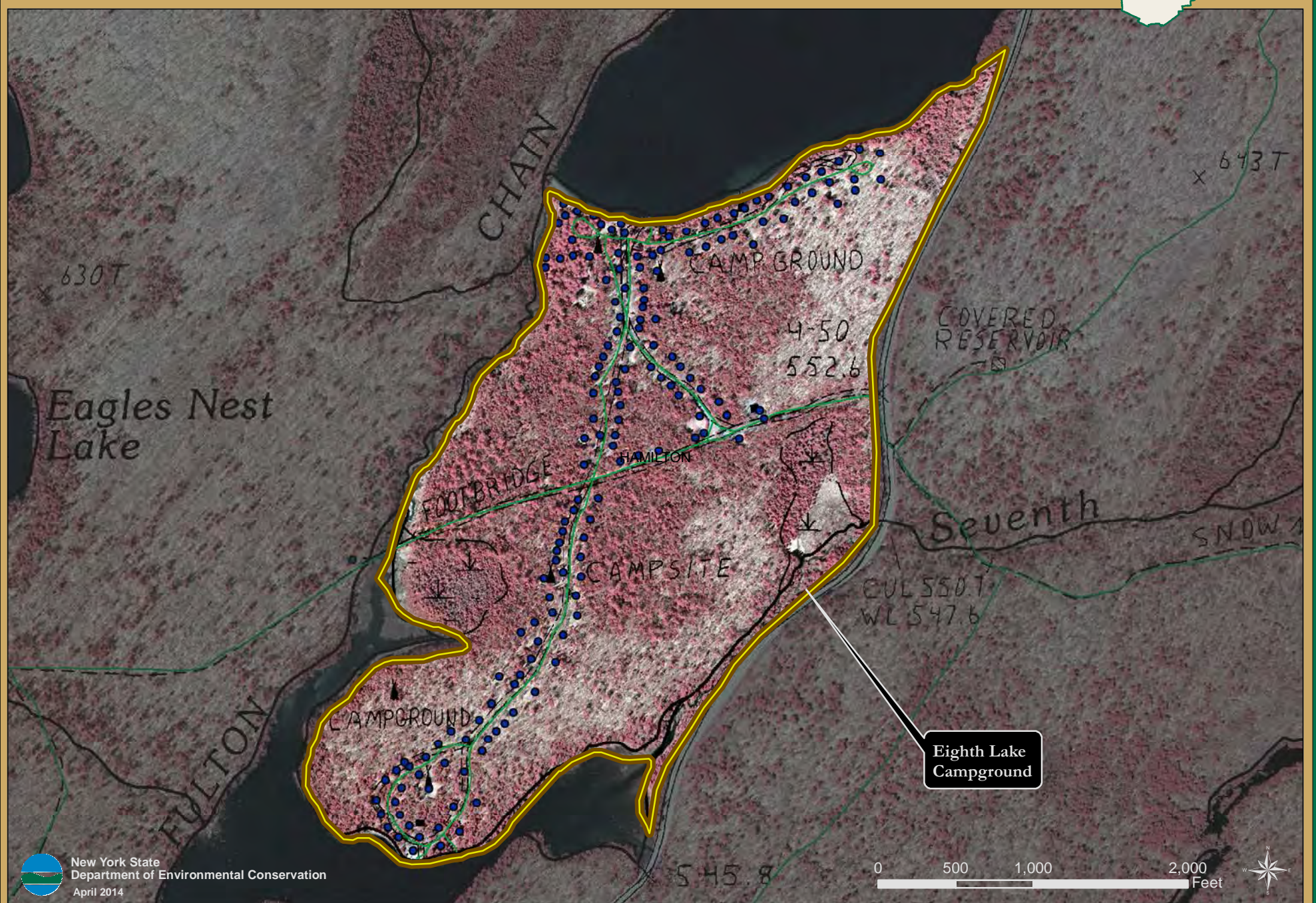


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 3 - Orthoimagery Map



Adirondack  
Park



New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
April 2014

0 500 1,000 2,000  
Feet



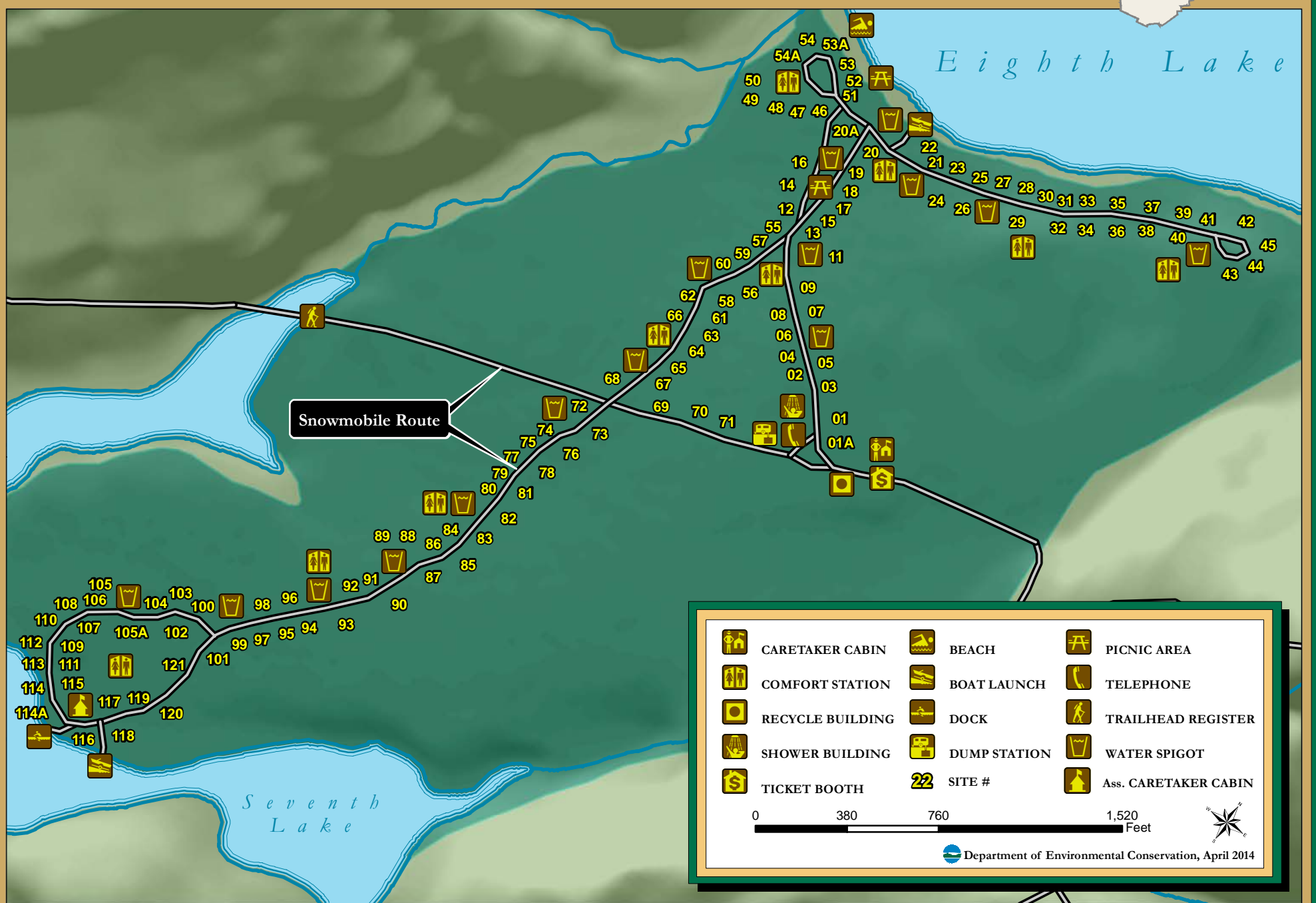


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 4 - Existing Facilities Map



Adirondack  
Park



- |  |                  |  |              |  |                      |
|--|------------------|--|--------------|--|----------------------|
|  | CARETAKER CABIN  |  | BEACH        |  | PICNIC AREA          |
|  | COMFORT STATION  |  | BOAT LAUNCH  |  | TELEPHONE            |
|  | RECYCLE BUILDING |  | DOCK         |  | TRAILHEAD REGISTER   |
|  | SHOWER BUILDING  |  | DUMP STATION |  | WATER SPIGOT         |
|  | TICKET BOOTH     |  | SITE #       |  | Ass. CARETAKER CABIN |

0 380 760 1,520 Feet

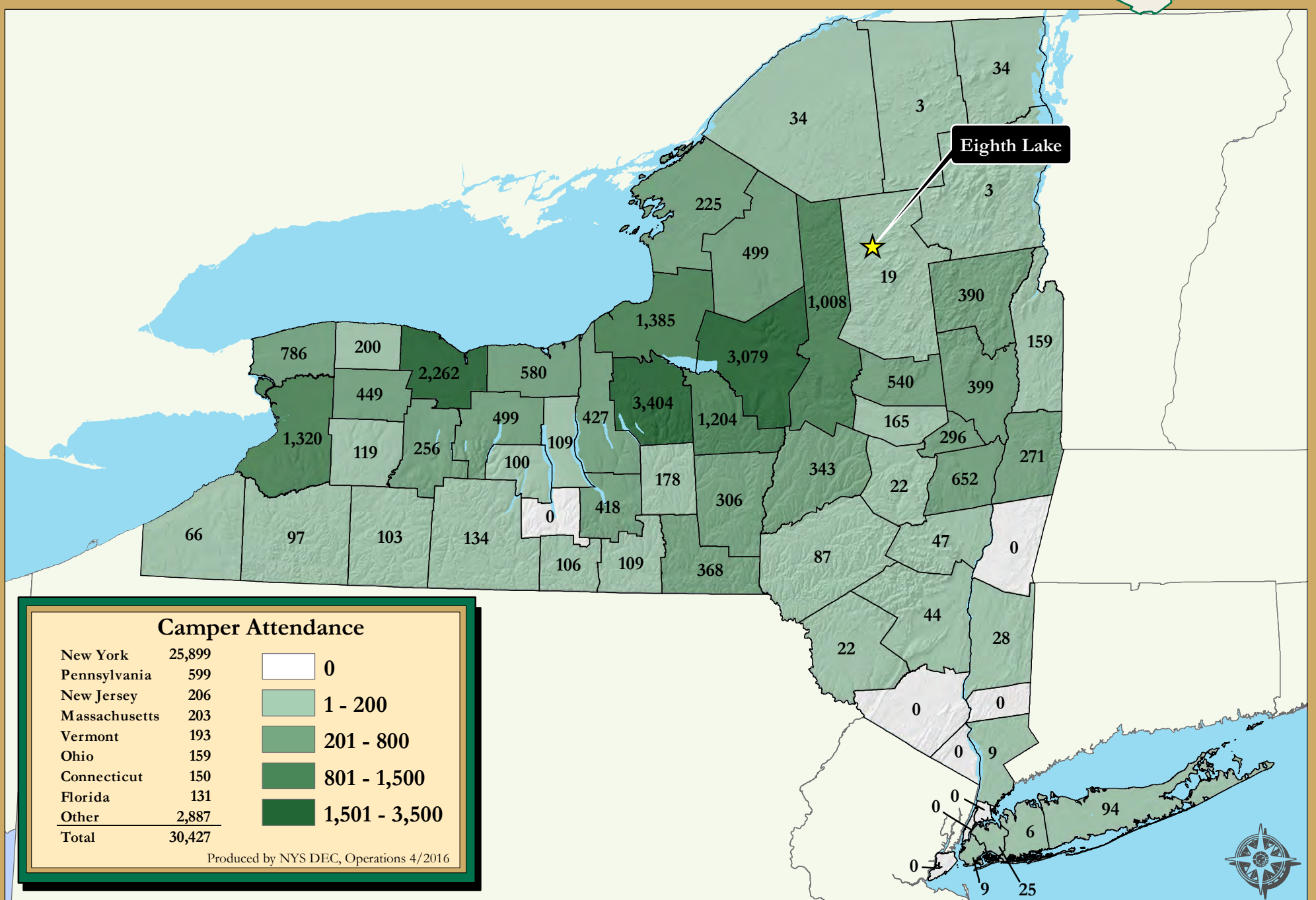
Department of Environmental Conservation, April 2014

# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 5 - Camper Demographics 2015



Adirondack  
Park



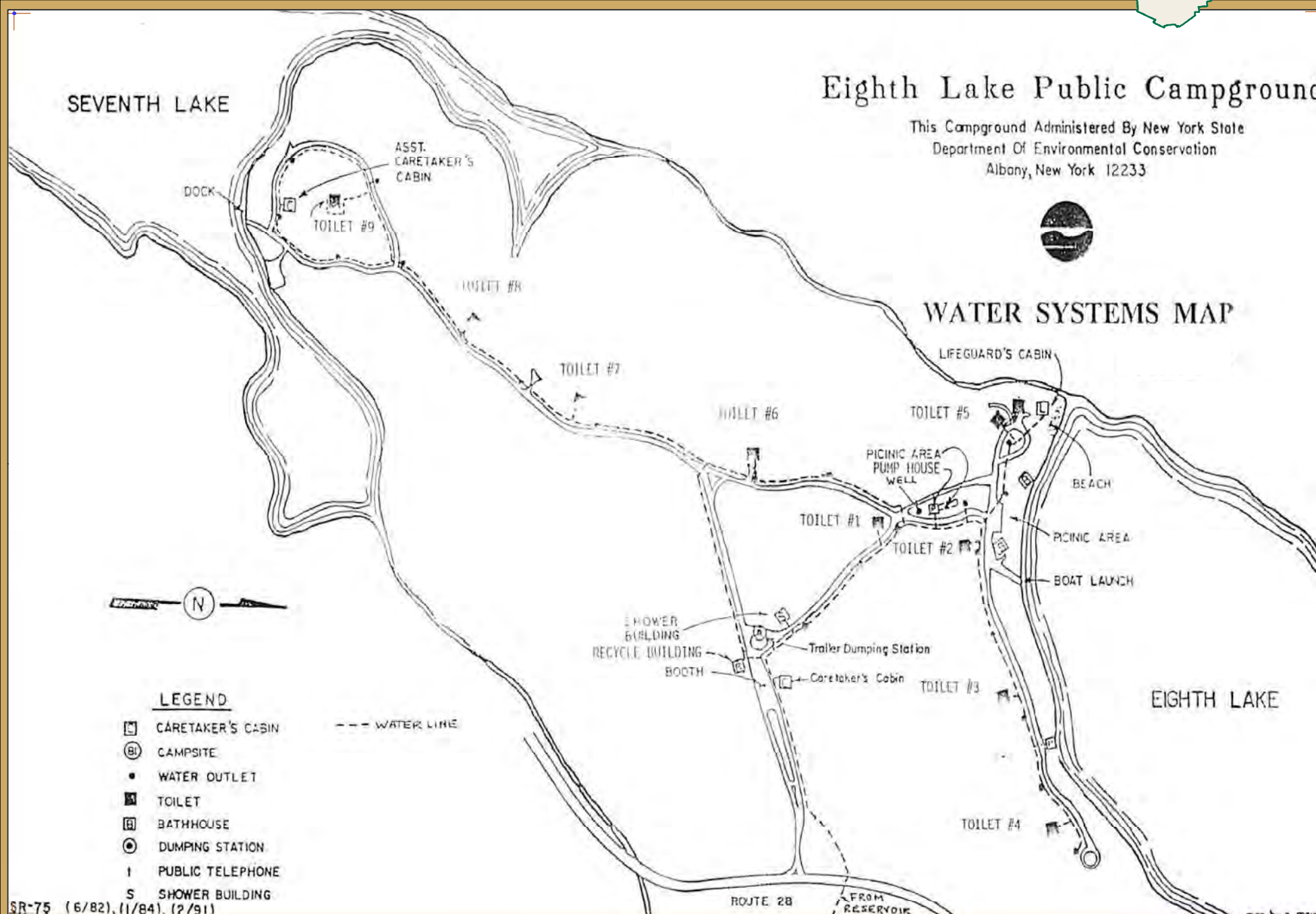


# Eighth Lake Campground

## Exhibit # 6 - Water Systems Map

Eighth Lake  
Campground

Adirondack  
Park

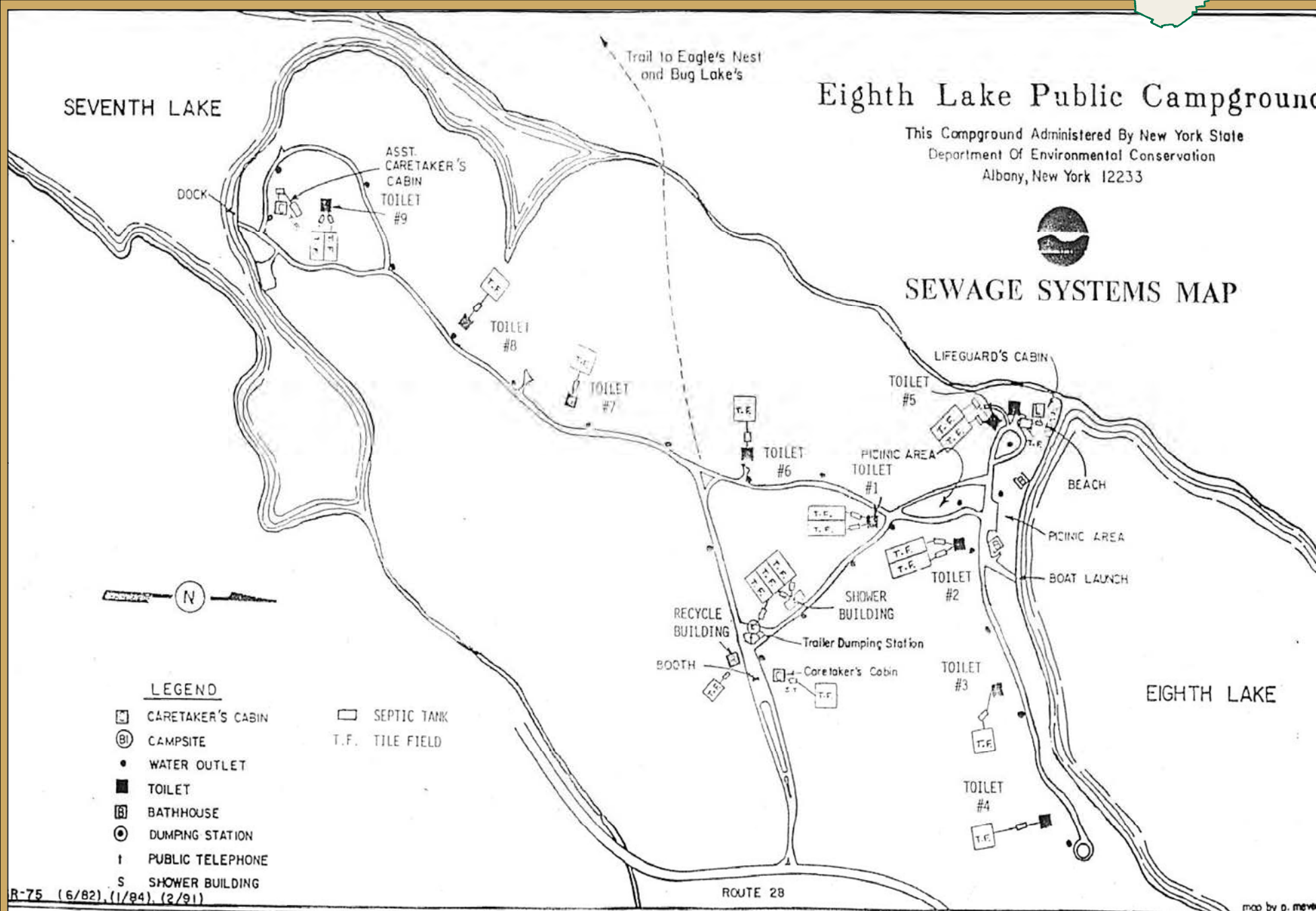


# Eighth Lake Campground

## Exhibit # 7 - Sewage Systems Map

Eighth Lake  
Campground

Adirondack  
Park

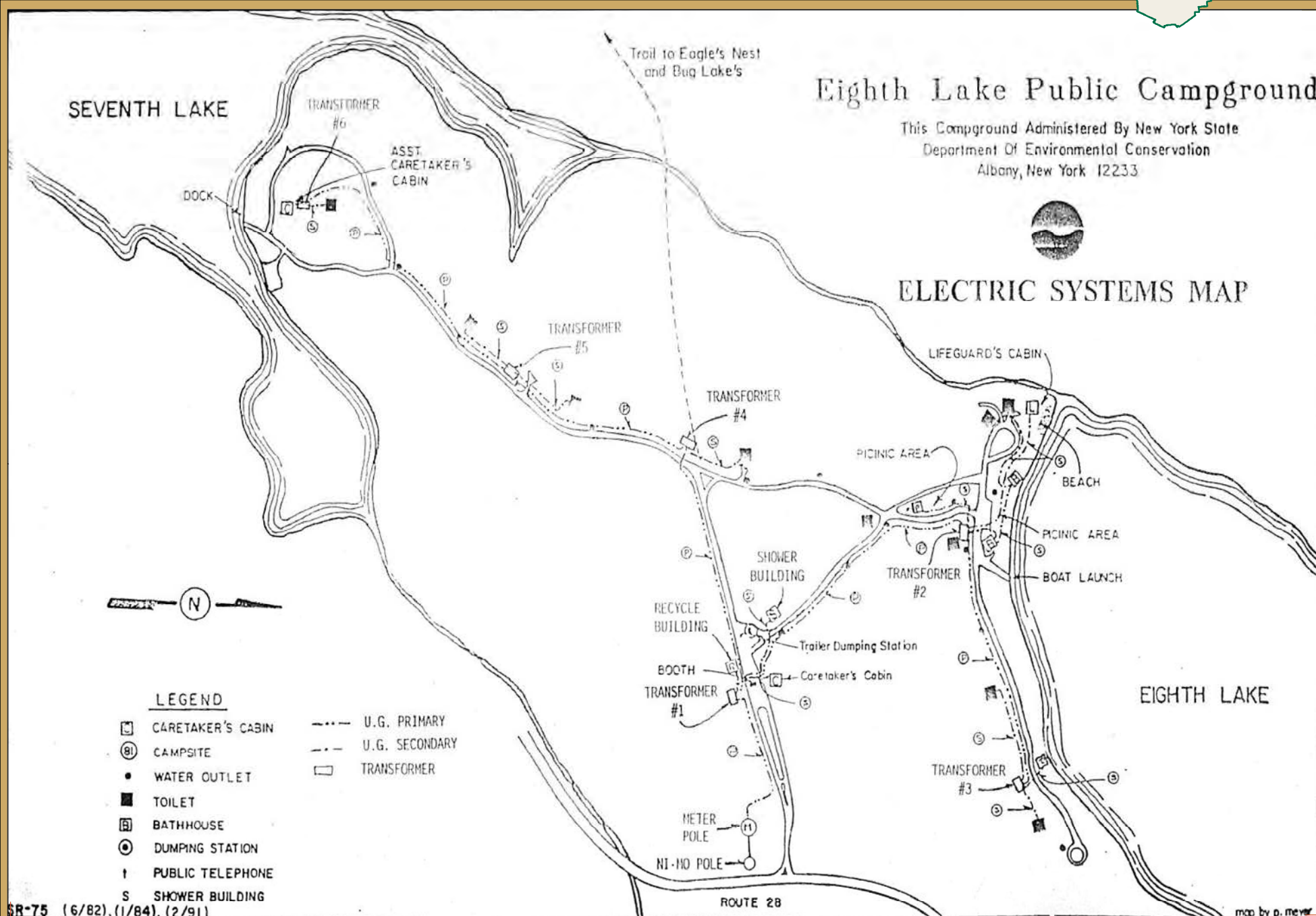


# Eighth Lake Campground

## Exhibit # 8 - Electric Systems Map

Eighth Lake  
Campground

Adirondack  
Park



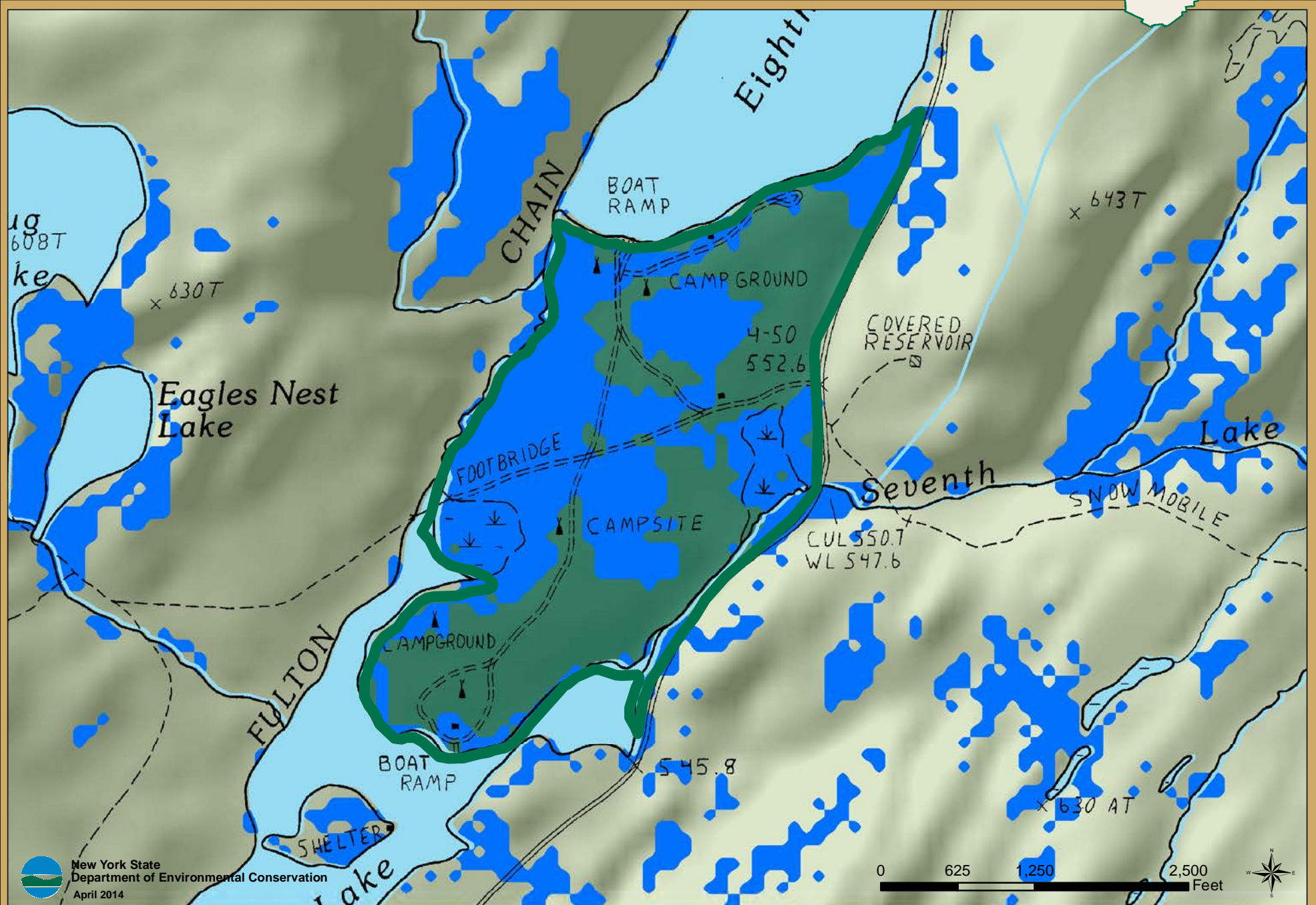


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 9 - Potential Deer Yard Map

Eighth Lake  
Campground

Adirondack  
Park

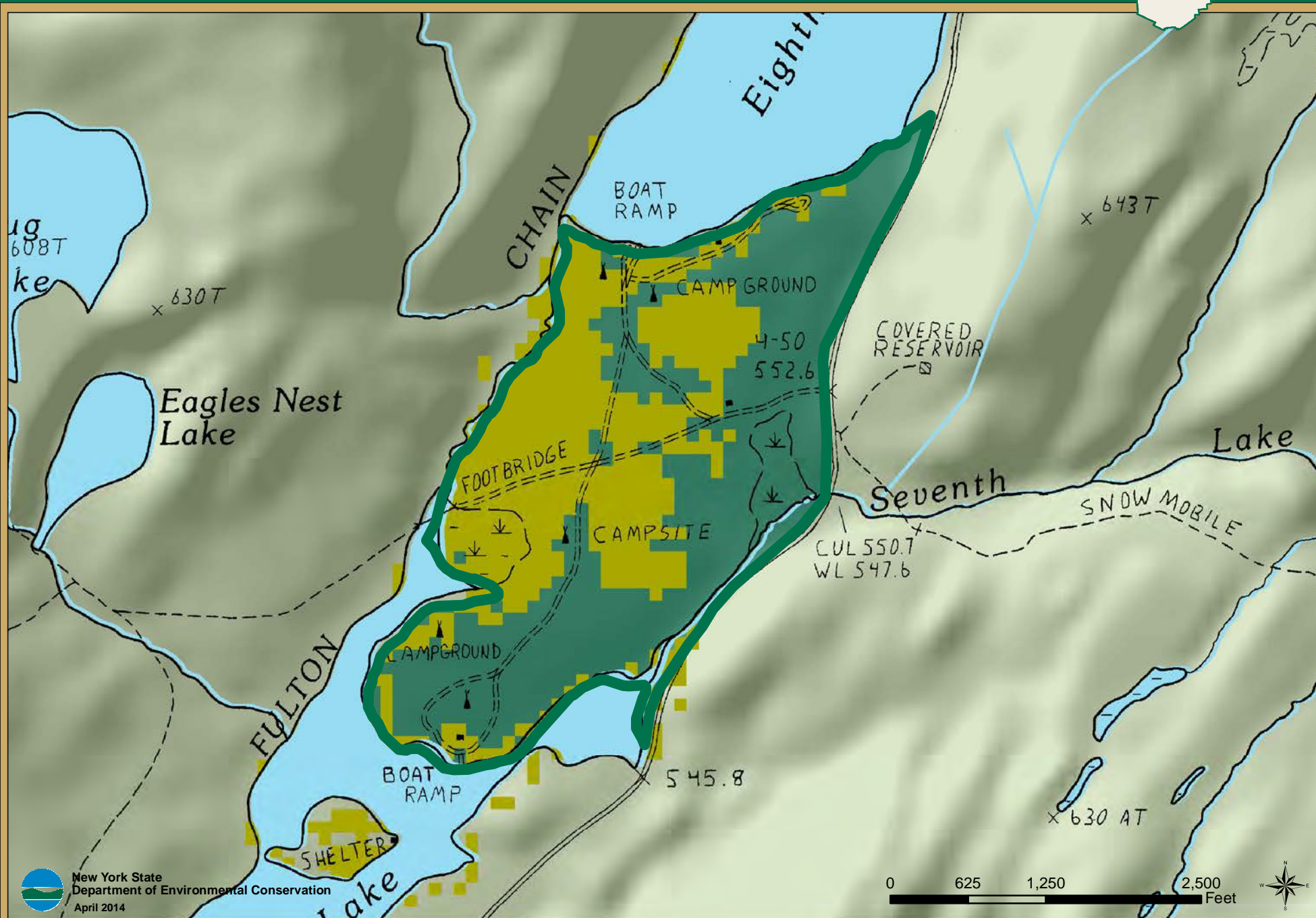


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 10 - Potential Spruce Grouse Map



Adirondack  
Park



New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
April 2014

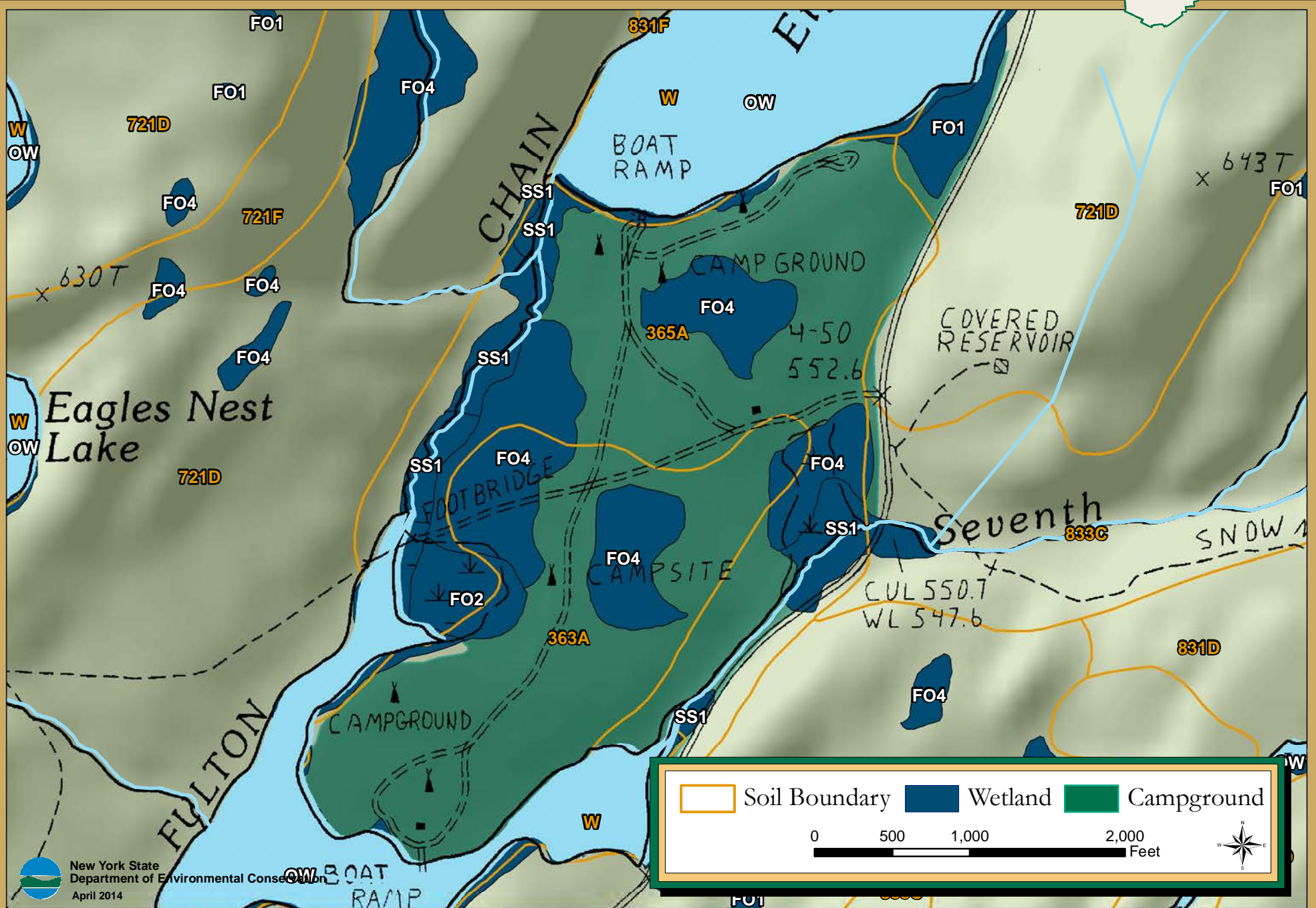


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 11 - Wetlands & Soils Map



Adirondack  
Park



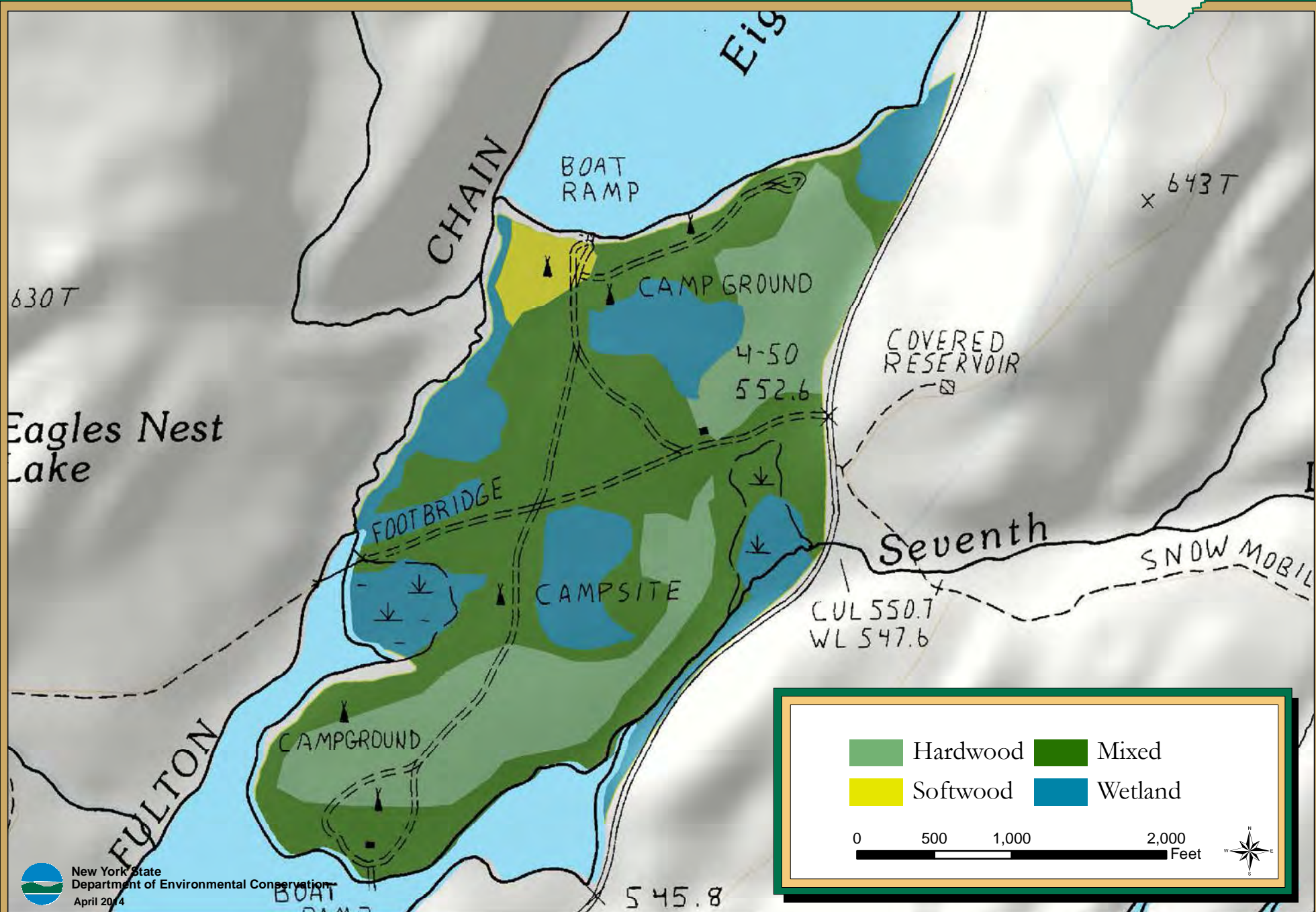
New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
April 2014

# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 12 - Forest Type Map



Adirondack  
Park



New York State  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
April 2014

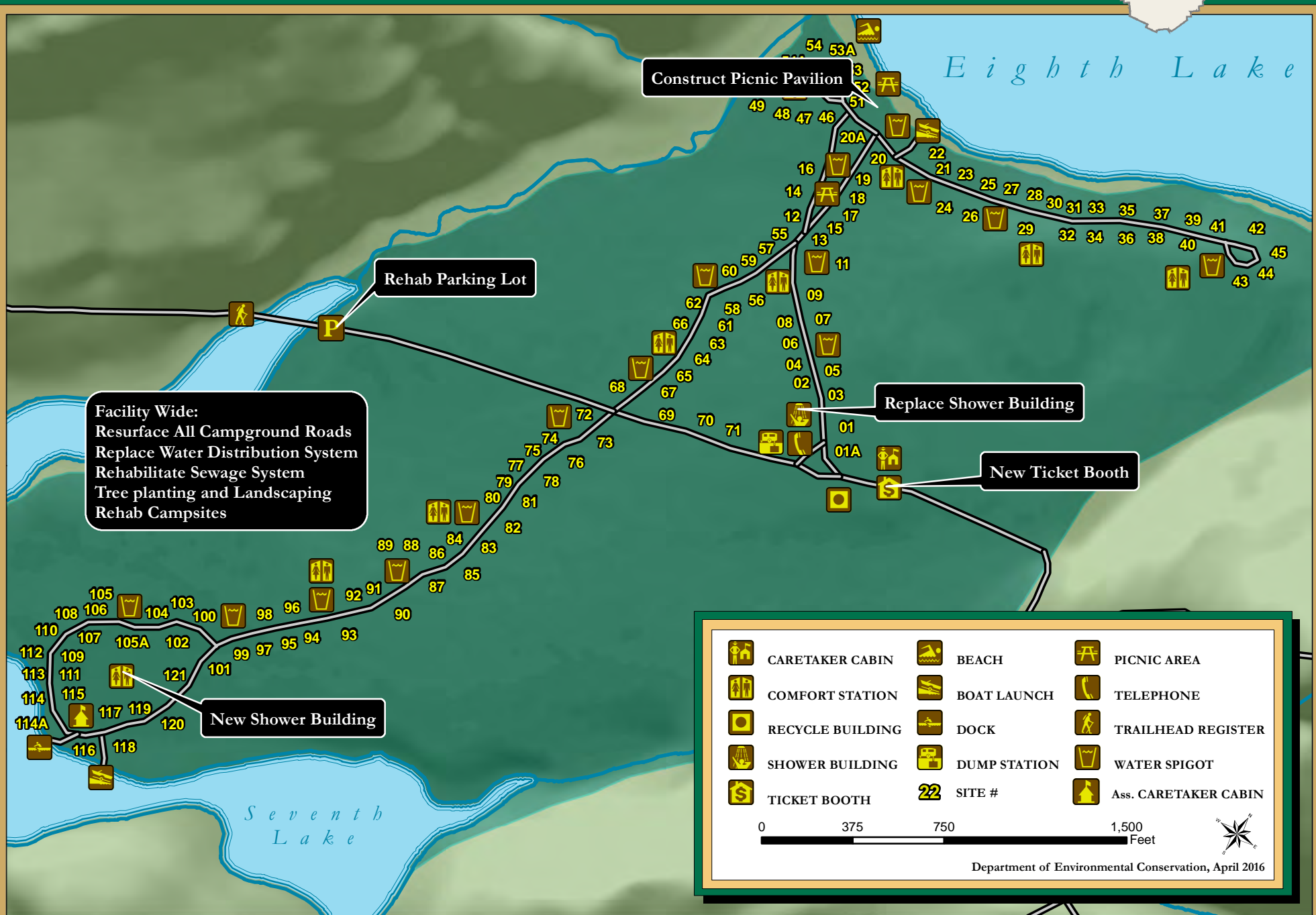


# Eighth Lake Campground

Exhibit # 13 - Proposed Management Actions Map



Adirondack  
Park



Facility Wide:  
Resurface All Campground Roads  
Replace Water Distribution System  
Rehabilitate Sewage System  
Tree planting and Landscaping  
Rehab Campsites

Construct Picnic Pavilion

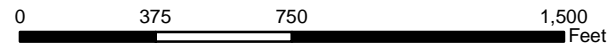
Rehab Parking Lot

Replace Shower Building

New Ticket Booth

New Shower Building

- |  |                  |  |              |  |                      |
|--|------------------|--|--------------|--|----------------------|
|  | CARETAKER CABIN  |  | BEACH        |  | PICNIC AREA          |
|  | COMFORT STATION  |  | BOAT LAUNCH  |  | TELEPHONE            |
|  | RECYCLE BUILDING |  | DOCK         |  | TRAILHEAD REGISTER   |
|  | SHOWER BUILDING  |  | DUMP STATION |  | WATER SPIGOT         |
|  | TICKET BOOTH     |  | 22 SITE #    |  | Ass. CARETAKER CABIN |



Department of Environmental Conservation, April 2016



# Eighth Lake Campground Infrastructure

2014



Bug Lake Trailhead Gate



Bug Lake Trailhead



Shower Building



Dump Station





Phones



Recycle Building



Ticket Booth



Caretaker's Cabin





Garage



Firewood Building



Comfort Station #1



Pump House





Comfort Station #2



Eighth Lake Boat Launch Trailer Parking



Sites 21-47 Access Control Gate



Comfort Station #3





Comfort Station #4



Bathhouse #1 (Closed)



Bathhouse #2 (Closed)



Eighth Lake Beach





Lifeguard Cabin



Women's Vault Bathroom (Closed)



Men's Vault Bathroom (Closed)



Comfort Station #5





Comfort Station #6



Eighth Lake Boat Launch



Eighth Lake Dock



Sites 72-121 Access Control Gate





Comfort Station #7



Comfort Station #8



Comfort Station #9



Seventh Lake Boat Launch Trailer Parking





Privies



Assistant Caretaker's Cabin



Seventh Lake Day Use Area



Seventh Lake Dock





Seventh Lake Boat Launch



Eighth Lake Day Use Area

## EXHIBIT # - 15

### Public Comment Response

Public comments and the Departments responses are summarized below.

Comment- Provide access for ice fishing.

Response- The campground road between Seventh and Eighth Lake and the Bug Lake trail access road are designated snowmobile trails during the winter. Plowed access for ice fishing would not be compatible with snowmobile use. Foot access to both Seventh and Eighth Lakes via the campground road system is allowed year round.

Comment- Provide pay phones within the campground due to poor cellular phone coverage.

Response- Currently Eighth Lake Campground provides pay phone access. Two pay phones are located near the trailer dump station (See Exhibit # 4- Existing Facilities Map for location). The pay phones are provided and maintained by contract and are the responsibility of the vendor.

Comment- Increase occupancy to spur the local economy.

Response- One of the Departments' recreation program goals is to *"Manage the program to enhance economic benefits to local communities and the State"*. It is in pursuit of this goal, in conjunction with the other stated program goals, that the department has proposed the nine management actions outlined in *Section IV Proposed Management Actions* portion of the plan.

Comment- The proposed shower building location is ineffective and should be reconsidered.

Response- Based on the information and rationale provided with the comment the Department has reconsidered the proposed shower building location. The new location is detailed in *Section IV Proposed Management Actions* portion of the plan.

Comment- Concerns regarding construction of a pavilion in the day use area.

Response- The Department feels the construction of a pavilion within the day use area will provide an additional place for patrons to recreate and has proven to be popular in other facilities. Pavilions are great places to spend time during inclement weather and also to have larger gathering.

Comment- General Infrastructure needs/concerns

Response- The condition of Eighth Lake Campground infrastructure is in need of upgrade and repair. It is to this end that the Department has proposed nine management actions outlined in *Section IV Proposed Management Actions* portion of the plan.

Comment- Eighth Lake boat launch needs repair.

Response- The Department and the Adirondack Park Agency recognize the need to address the condition, safety and use of the Eighth Lake boat launch for resource protection and ease of public access. Due to APSLMP guidelines and criteria, however, this is being temporarily delayed.

The APSLMP limits the Department's provision of boat launches for trailered boats to lakes larger than 1,000 acres that are regularly used by motorboats, and Eighth Lake is only 314 acres. At smaller lakes such as this one, Fishing and Waterway Access (FWA) sites are compliant with the APSLMP. The APSLMP does state, however, that previously existing boat launches on lakes smaller than 1,000 acres may be retained on condition that their status be periodically reviewed to determine if their conversion to FWA sites is appropriate (APSLMP, page 39).

The Department and the Agency have formed a working group to identify guidelines for trailered launching of boats at smaller lakes such as Eighth Lake.