



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Division of Operations

Bureau of Recreation

Kenneth L. Wilson Public Campground

Unit Management Plan

Town of Woodstock, Ulster County, New York

December, 2016

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

Governor **ANDREW M. CUOMO**

Commissioner **BASIL SEGGOS**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Record
FROM: Basil Seggos
SUBJECT: Kenneth L. Wilson Campground

The Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Unit Management Plan has been completed.

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: November 30, 2016



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

KENNETH L. WILSON PUBLIC CAMPGROUND
SITE SPECIFIC - VOLUME II
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

NOTE: Campground Unit Management Plans (UMPs) consist of three parts:

- Volume I is a generic plan containing overview, environmental setting, goals, policy, management, and impact assessment criteria which pertain universally and in common to all Adirondack (45), and Catskill (8) public campgrounds, and multiple 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 specific sites.
- Volume III contains support data in the form of appendices to Volumes I and II.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) prepares UMPs. A UMP, as noted above, documents specific site information and describes the management actions to be taken for a specific site during the next ten-year period according to guidelines and criteria set forth in the Catskill Park State Land Master Plan (SLMP).

Region 3 staff prepared this UMP. Any comments and/or information may be forwarded to Dale O'Bryon, with a copy to Josh Houghton, Division of Operations, Albany.

For additional information, please contact Michael Buzzelli, General Manager, Forest Parks, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233, telephone 518-457-2500.

SUMMARY
KENNETH L. WILSON PUBLIC CAMPGROUND
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

In keeping with constitutional provisions criteria referenced in the Catskill Park SLMP and DEC management policy for state-owned lands in the Forest Preserve, the agency has established a management plan for the ensuing ten years of operation of the Kenneth L. Wilson Public Campground. Goals include: managing recreation programs to ensure protection of the natural resource according to the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) and Article 14 of the New York State Constitution; offering recreational opportunities for state residents; ensuring revenues equal operating costs for the portion of the program covered by user fees; and managing the campground to enhance economic benefits to local communities and the state.

Any action DEC takes on this unit that is not addressed in this UMP and is not addressed in the Generic Unit Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (GUMP/EIS) may need a separate site-specific environmental review.

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

Proposed Management Actions	
•	Construct a picnic pavilion.
•	Construct a universally accessible rustic playground,
•	Rehabilitate bathrooms in camping loops,
•	Install a volleyball play area.
•	Develop a multiple-use trail system.
•	Create a dog-walking area.
•	Conduct a swimming beach feasibility study.

Beneficial effects of the proposed actions include: compliance with state health codes, maintenance of physical plant, modernization of facilities which enhance users' recreational experience, and upkeep of facilities that contribute to public safety and provide conditions in harmony with the character of the Catskill Park. Conformance to criteria established in the Catskill Park SLMP include: avoiding alteration to wetlands and topography; limiting vegetative clearing; preserving the area's scenic, cultural and natural resources; and assessing actual and projected public use and physical, biological and social carrying capacity.

Mitigation measures to minimize environmental impacts have been considered and incorporated into all projects. Proposed modernization projects will stay within constitutional limits for tree cutting and other vegetative removal. 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 quickly re-establish vegetation to effectively stabilize soil. Adjacent forest cover will not be altered. Proposals concentrate on improving and updating facilities to accommodate present peak-use periods and expanding upon primitive, unconfined recreational opportunities consistent with the Catskill Park's SLMP to meet public demand.

Various alternative actions were considered. Public concern, adverse effects on local economies and uncontrolled use of state lands would sharply increase should recreation planning and management efforts be reduced or dissolved. Current care, custody and control preclude using these alternatives at this time.

Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION	6
A. Overview	6
B. Area Description	6
1. Location	6
2. History	7
II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES	9
A. Inventory of Existing Facilities	9
1. Camping and Day-Use (Picnic) Areas	9
2. Roads	9
3. Buildings	9
4. Sewage System	10
5. Solid Waste	10
6. Barriers	10
7. Telephone	11
8. Signs	11
9. Electric System	11
10. Potable Water System	11
11. Trails	12
12. Fencing	12
13. Dams	13
14. Swimming	13
15. Fishing and Waterway Access Site (Boating)	13
16. Day-Use Parking Area	13
B. Inventory of Systems	13
1. Staff	13
2. Fee Schedule 2015	14
3. Permits	14
4. Off-Season Use	14
C. Inventory of Natural Resources	14
1. Physical	14
2. Biological	15
III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS	18
A. Article XIV, New York State Constitution	18

B. Catskill Park State Land Master Plan.....	18
C. Environmental Conservation Laws	18
D. Campground Generic Plan/EIS	18
E. Recreation Program Goals.....	18
F. Public Use	19
1. Inventory of Public Use	19
2. Carrying Capacity	19
IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS.....	25
A. Construct Picnic Pavilion.....	25
B. Construct a Universally Accessible Rustic Playground.....	25
C. Rehabilitate Bathrooms in Campground Loops	25
D. Install Volleyball Play Area	26
E. Develop a Multiple-Use Trail System	26
F. Create Dog Exercise Area	26
G. Conduct Swimming Beach Feasibility Study	26
V. EXHIBIT INDEX	27

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Overview

Kenneth L. Wilson Campground is located approximately six miles west of the hamlet of Woodstock on Wittenberg Road. It is completely surrounded by beautiful mountains, creating a very picturesque setting. The Little Beaverkill flows along the day-use area, where a cofferdam created a five to seven-acre lake for swimming, fishing and boating.

The campground is on former farmlands, and some old stone fences are still visible. The state purchased the land, approximately 550 acres, in the 1960s. On June 29, 1979, the campground opened to the public. Extensive hiking trails are only a short driving distance away. Of these, Overlook Mountain is a few miles to the east of the campground, and Mt. Tremper is a few miles to the north of it. Rehabilitated fire towers on both of these summits provide spectacular views of the region. The newly opened Catskill Interpretive Center on Route 28 in Mt. Tremper, just four miles west of the campground, offers a great introduction to all the natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources in the Catskills. Area attractions include: shopping centers, fine restaurants, craft shops, art galleries, and an 18-hole golf course in the town of Woodstock. Nearby Phoenicia has opportunities for fishing and tubing on the Esopus Creek, an historical railroad museum, and a public library among other attractions. These towns are located six miles east and west of the campground, respectively.

B. Area Description

1. Location

The campground is located at 859 Wittenberg Road in the Town of Woodstock, Ulster County. Access is usually gained via exit 19 (Kingston) off the New York State Thruway, then by traveling west on State Route 28 for 15 miles, turning north on State Route 212, and then turning east on County Route 40 (Wittenberg Road) in Mt. Tremper. The campground is on the south side of Wittenberg Road, four miles east of Mt. Tremper.

Reference: Survey Map #2652-A State Department of Environmental Conservation. May 16, 1966, allotments between Yankeetown and Little Shandaken, Robert L. Livingston Tract, Great Lot 8, Hardenburgh Patent and Hurley Patent woods, second allotment. Town of Woodstock, Ulster County.

2. History

Significant human influences on the area began with American Indian tribes from the surrounding river valleys. The Algonquian-speaking Indians of the Hudson, Rondout, and Esopus river valleys came as hunting parties in the fall for deer, bear, turkey, beaver and other game animals. But because they were only short-term visitors, their influence on the pristine wilderness was minor.

Major changes came to the region as the early Dutch and English settlers expanded their trade and real estate holdings and business enterprise moved westward from the Kingston and New Paltz settlements.

In 1708, Johannis Hardenburgh and seven other men obtained a land grant of 1.5-million acres from Queen Anne of England. The Kenneth L. Wilson Campground is contained within the grant known as the Hardenburgh Patent.

By the mid-1700s, early surveyors such as Henry and Ebenezer Woster had divided the Hardenburgh Patent into smaller lots. The patent owner then sold or leased these lots to the numerous people coming to the area seeking their own land. Most of these settlers were farmers who opened up lands in the river valleys as the steep hillsides were too difficult to farm.

Three industries that developed in the area in the early 1800s drastically changed the natural conditions of the mountains. Two depended on the forests, while the other used the mountains themselves.

Most destructive to the prevailing original wilderness was the leather tanning industry. Much of the lower elevations (below about 2,500 feet) of the Catskills were covered by dense stands of hemlock. The bark from these trees was used in the tanning process. Most hemlocks were cut only for the bark and the peeled logs were left to rot. As a result, faster-growing hardwood species invaded the areas where hemlock had been the predominant species. Today hemlock growth is scattered or clumped, and many of the “bark roads” are visible on the mountain sides. The process of tanning hides into leather required a large and constant water supply, so tanneries were located in valleys. The effluents released during the tanning process polluted streams and became a source of annoyance and frustration to the people living downstream. By 1870, most hemlocks were gone and the tanning industry in the Catskills ended.

The second major forest-based industry during this period and continuing into later years was the harvesting of hardwood forests. Hardwoods were often clear cut for a variety of uses ranging from lumber for construction and furniture, to the making of charcoal. White-tailed deer, wild turkeys and

I. INTRODUCTION

other game animals were almost completely decimated as a result of losing their habitat. A few acres escaped the blade and remained as virgin forest. The trees in those areas are a mix of balsam fir, red spruce and hemlock. Their location on steep and inaccessible terrain saved these species from destruction.

Another important industry arising during this period was bluestone quarrying. Sedimentary bluestone was easily worked and yet durable enough for paving streets and sidewalks. During the 1830s and 1840s, countless tons of stone from the Catskills were used to pave streets in Kingston, Albany, New York City and other cities along the east coast.

These early industries changed forest type over a large area of the Catskills and crisscrossed the mountains with roads and trails. Many of these roads can still be seen and are among some of DEC's trail systems in the Catskills. The Ulster and Delaware Railroad passed through the area in the valley paralleling existing New York State Route 28. The transportation system was important to the Catskill region from Kingston to Arkville and on to Oneonta. Charcoal produced in the communities and bluestone that was quarried were shipped via the railroad to Kingston and then down the Hudson River valley. Railroad spurs were not built in the narrow valleys because the terrain was generally too steep. After the timber was stripped away, the valleys and low country surrounding the mountains were turned into farm land. The land comprising the Kenneth L. Wilson Campground was previously used for milk and dairy farms.

Federal monies were used in the improvements at this campground under the Land and Water Conservation Fund. A grant amount of \$57,900 was approved on December 27, 1967 for development of the campground. Work that was completed included 75 campsites, heated bathrooms, a washhouse and a dam on the Little Beaver Kill stream, creating Wilson Lake. The campground opened for its first season on June 29, 1979. The campground was named in honor of Assemblyman Kenneth L. Wilson who worked for years for the creation of a state park in Woodstock, in addition to many other civic efforts in Ulster County.

Federal funds were also received under a general grant for campground modernization. The Department of Interior, through the National Park Service, requires that this facility be inspected every five years. This inspection, done by the grant administrator in DEC's Central Office, is to ensure the facility continues to be properly maintained and used in conformity with the grant award. A Land and Water Conservation Fund sign is posted at each campground where federal funds have been involved.

II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

A. Inventory of Existing Facilities

1. Camping and Day-Use (Picnic) Areas

Camping Area	Day-Use Area
• Design capacity - 456 people	• Design capacity - 144 people
• 76 Campsites	• 24 Picnic tables
• 76 Picnic Tables	• 23 Grills
• 76 Fireplaces	• 3 Standpipes/Fountains
• 13 Water Standpipes (Spigots)	• 5 Benches

2. Roads

Presently there are 2.5 miles of blacktopped DEC-maintained roads. One-way roads range from 10 to 12-feet wide, while two-way roads range up to 20 feet wide. At the time of this inventory the campground road system was in overall good condition. There are: one 3-foot, three 2-foot, nine 16-inch, and eight 12-inch culverts installed for drainage purposes. A 200-foot gravel road connects the main road to the gravel access area used for boat launching at the north end of the day-use area.

3. Buildings

OGS #	Building Name/Function	Location/Description/Use	Size	Condition	Year Built
	Caretaker's Cabin		860 sf	Good	1978
	Garage/Workshop		925 sf	Good	1978
	Comfort Station - Loop A		380 sf	Good	1978
	Comfort Station - Loop B		380 sf	Good	1978
	Comfort Station - Loop C		455 sf	Good	1978
	Pump House		589 sf	Good	1978
	Shower Building		694 sf	Good	1978
	Ticket/Entrance		92 sf	Good	1978
	Bathhouse		1,967 sf	Good	1978
	Solid Waste/Recycling Building		320 sf	Good	unknown
	Woodshed		600 sf	Good	2010-11

II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

4. Sewage System

Next to each building, all comfort stations have septic tanks to hold solids. Lift stations at the bathhouse and shower buildings collect liquids and pumps them to a leach field. The gravity-fed leach field is 20' x 20' and across from the caretaker's cabin. (See Exhibit #5 Kenneth L. Wilson Sewage System Map).

Septic tank waste is disposed under permit at a DEC-approved site by an outside contractor. A NYSDEC SPDES permit #NY 0145602 issued for this campground allows a 14,610 gal/day hydraulic flow limit. The application covers any discharges and the systems listed below.

OGS#	Building #/Type	Septic Tank Size (gal.)	Leach Field/Lift Station
	Comfort Station - Loop A	2,500	Gravity Feed Leach Field: 40' x 40'
	Comfort Station - Loop B	2,500	Gravity Feed Leach Field: 40' x 40'
	Comfort Station - Loop C	2,500	Gravity Feed Leach Field: 40' x 40'
	Caretaker's Cabin	1,000	
	Shower Building	2,000	Lift Station: 25' x 150'
	Shower Building Grey Water	2,500	
	Trailer Dump Station	1,000	40' x 40'
	Bathhouse	2,500	Lift Station: 72' x 75'
	Solid Waste/Recycling Center	1,000	

5. Solid Waste

Solid waste and recyclable material is handled at the Solid Waste and Recycling Center located at the dumping station. The public washes and sorts recyclables. The center is open at certain times of the day, with an attendant at the facility. Garbage is put into the 16-cubic yard packer.

During operating season, DEC-owned and operated trucks service this campground. Garbage is taken to the Ulster County Landfill in Kingston. Approximately 20 tons are produced annually at a cost of \$1,200.00 per year for disposal.

6. Barriers

All barriers are for controlling campground use and are opened or closed for this purpose. DEC policy provides for design and safety considerations of in-place barriers. The barrier at the entrance is locked open during snowmobile season.

The current inventory is shown below.

Location	Type	Function
Main Entrance	Truss Gate	Control Park Access
Main Entrance Road	Truss Gate	Control Park Access
Main Entrance to Cabin	Pipe Farm Gate	Control Winter Access
Main Entrance by Bathhouse	Pipe Farm Gate	Control Winter Access
Caretaker's Cabin	Truss Gate	Control Winter Access

7. Telephone

The main telephone number, 845-679-7020, has extensions at both the ticket entrance booth and at the caretaker's cabin. The phone is turned off when the campground is closed, and all calls are transferred to the Recreation Office in New Paltz. Reservations may be made up to nine months before opening day (mid-May) and during the open season by calling 1-800-456-CAMP or by visiting reserveamerica.com.

8. Signs

Information is conveyed to the public by standard (yellow on brown) wooden signs posted throughout the campground. Bulletin boards provide additional information on the facilities, amenities and services available. Emergency contact information is posted at various locations throughout the campground.

9. Electric System

This campground has good, secondary electrical distribution (from Central Hudson) to all existing facilities. Annual electrical consumption for the year 2015 was 20,865 kilowatt hours, at an annual cost of \$5,257.70. (See Exhibit #6 Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Electrical System Map.)

10. Potable Water System

Four drilled wells supply water to the campground:

- Well "A" – 8 gpm (not used, low yield and sulfur)
- Well "B" – 12 gpm (Backup)
- Well "C" – 12 gpm (Backup)
- Well "D" – 75 gpm (Main well used)

II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

Water lines are buried below frost level and frost-free spigots are used. The system is enclosed and pressurized using an 8,000 gallon tank. Chlorination is by a flow-activated unit in the outgoing line. This system is less than two years old and in very good condition. (See Exhibit #4.)

11. Trails

Approximately eight to ten miles of user-created hiking and mountain biking trails traverse the Kenneth Wilson Campground. These trails must be inventoried and assessed based on potential impacts to the environment. Trails deemed to be in compliance with current trail-building policies and standards will be marked as official trails and maintained for future use. Non-compliant trails will either be improved or relocated so they are compliant with current policies and marked as official trails. In cases where no improvement options exist, trails may be closed to the public to protect the resource.

In addition to user-created trails, DEC recently constructed two new universally accessible trails to provide additional recreational opportunities.

The first trail consists of approximately 800 feet, beginning from the bathhouse parking area. The trailhead is east of the current nature trail where it crosses the stream via a new 35-foot bridge. The bridge includes accessible benches that enable viewing of the stream below. Once across the bridge, the trail turns to the northeast and follows along the stream a short distance before turning southeast, passing an accessible picnic site. Just beyond the picnic area, the trail turns east and gently descends for approximately 500 feet until it joins the entrance to an elevated boardwalk. The boardwalk continues to the edge of the pond, where it turns to follow the shoreline for approximately 100 feet. Benches give visitors an opportunity to rest and enjoy a spectacular mountain view in addition to the possibility of seeing local wildlife in a quiet setting.

The second trail begins from the bathhouse and heads southwest across the lawn toward a finger of the pond near the dock. Here it crosses a new 80-foot bridge to the earthen berm on the far side. The trail then turns south and heads downstream along the berm for approximately 400 feet, where it ends at an accessible fishing platform near the dam.

12. Fencing

The inventory of fencing totals about 1,000 feet, mostly post and rail with some boulders. Fencing is used to prevent motor vehicles from driving on leach fields and into streams, ditches and other sensitive areas.

13. Dams

A dam on the Little Beaver Kill creates a six-acre impoundment known as Wilson Lake. The dam is a gabion drop structure with a concrete spillway that was modified with steel sheet piling.

14. Swimming

For many years, DEC maintained a beach and swimming area on Wilson Lake. In 2004, DEC closed the swimming area due to the accumulation of silt and the presence of aquatic vegetation, which resulted in poor water visibility. In addition, poor water quality resulted from a resident population of Canada geese which frequented the beach area. The beach and swimming area were moderately popular among campers and day-use visitors. In the years leading up to the closure, public use ranged from 350 to 500 swimmers per season. DEC will evaluate the feasibility of re-opening the beach and swimming area (see Proposed Management Actions).

15. Fishing and Waterway Access Site (Boating)

Rental of canoes, paddle boards and kayaks is available during the camping season. Staff working at the ticket booth at the entrance to the park handle registration and distribution of equipment. Non-motorized, privately owned boats are allowed on Wilson Lake. There is no launch ramp, only a gravel access area reached by a gravel road at the north end of the day-use area. Parking for boating is provided in the day-use parking lot (see Parking Areas). Fishing is currently available from boats and at near-stream areas only. An accessible fishing pier was recently constructed in the day-use area.

16. Day-Use Parking Area

1. The day-use parking lot is 195' x 167' and can accommodate 100 vehicles. Boaters use approximately 20 of these spaces.
2. The shower building's parking lot is 52' x 100' and can accommodate 25 vehicles.

B. Inventory of Systems

1. Staff

Total	Position Title
1	Recreation Facility Supervisor II
1	Park and Recreation Aide IV
1	Park and Recreation Aide III
5	Park and Recreation Aide II
1	Park Ranger (50%)

II. INVENTORY of FACILITIES, SYSTEMS and RESOURCES

2. Fee Schedule 2015

Reservation Fee (through Reserve America) \$9.00

Reservation Fee (As a walk-in with NO reservation) \$2.75

Daily Fees	
Open Dates: Mid-May – Columbus Day	
Camping/night – NYS Residents	\$22.00**
Camping/night – Non-Residents	\$27.00**
Day Use - Auto	\$6.00
Day Use - Walk-In	\$2.00
Day Use - Bus	\$75.00
Day use - Motorcycle	\$3.00
Senior Citizen Mon-Fri	FREE
Picnic Pavilion Rental	\$50.00

Boat Rental Fees	
Canoe Full Day	\$20.00
2-Seated Kayak Full Day	\$20.00
1-Seated Kayak Full Day	\$15.00
Paddleboard	\$20.00

3. Permits

Peddling permits may be issued annually for items such as firewood, boat rentals and camper supplies. A fee of \$2.00 x number of campsites is charged for each vendor. In 2014, one permit was issued for ice cream sales. In 2015, no vendor permits were issued.

4. Off-Season Use

Off-season use of public campgrounds is under the custody and daily administration of the Division of Lands and Forests (DLF). Questions pertaining to off-season day-use, including hiking, motor vehicle access, trails, temporary revocable permits, and other recreation activities, should be directed to the DLF in Region 3's New Paltz Office at 845-256-3084.

C. Inventory of Natural Resources

1. Physical

a. Elevation

The average elevation of Kenneth L. Wilson campground is 800'.

b. Water

The primary aquatic resource within campground property is Wilson Lake—an approximately six-acre human-made lake. Wilson Lake was formed by impounding a portion of the Little Beaverkill in

the Town of Woodstock, Ulster County. The dam was constructed 2.9 miles upstream from where the Little Beaverkill flows into the Esopus Creek. It was rebuilt in 1979 to form the current Wilson Lake. A small three-acre pond is located downstream of the dam.

c. Wetlands

The following designated wetlands exist in the Intensive Use Area: (See Exhibit #12.)

- B-3 - a Class 2 wetland

The following wetlands exist outside the campground but nearby in a drainage course:

- B-2 - a Class 1 wetland
- B-1 - a Class 2 wetland

d. Soils

(See Exhibit #8 Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Soils Map for approximate soil type location.)

2. Biological

a. Forest Type

Several different forest types are present in this area. These include pioneer hardwoods, Appalachian mixed hardwoods, white pine, hemlock, swamp hardwoods and one plantation. (See Exhibit #7 Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Forest Vegetation Type.)

i. Pioneer Hardwoods

Major tree species among these hardwoods include: white pine, red maple, aspen, black cherry, paper birch, black locust, red cedar and wild apple. Vegetation varies from semi-open fields to impenetrable brush to sapling-size stands of trees. Wildlife shrubs such as autumn olive, honeysuckle, silky dogwood and multi-flora rose have been planted on many areas and appear to be taking over these sites. Willow and speckled alder are found on moist sites.

ii. Appalachian Mixed Hardwoods

These hardwoods are characterized by a large number of different tree species throughout stands. Major tree components include: sugar maple, yellow poplar, red oak, red maple, white ash, hickory, beech, black and yellow birch, black cherry, basswood, paper birch, hemlock and white pine. These stands are generally in the pole to saw-timber size.

iii. White Pine

White pine constitutes 75% or more of the trees in these stands. Trees vary in size from pole to large-saw timber. Very little reproduction is found under the dense pine canopy. Other species mixed in include: red maple, black cherry, paper birch, sugar maple, black birch and hemlock.

iv. Hemlock

This forest type is characterized by hemlock, comprising 75% or more of trees in the stands. These are generally saw-timber size and very little reproduction is found. An occasional beech, red maple, black and yellow birch and white pine are found mixed in these stands.

v. Swamp Hardwoods

These hardwoods are located on poorly drained soils mainly along the Little Beaverkill stream. Red maple is the major tree species, although elm, yellow birch, ash, willow and speckled alder are also found.

vi. Plantation

Only one major plantation is found on the property—a 12+-inch diameter stand of red pine located just east of the bathhouse parking lot. A few scattered beech, red maple, hemlock and white pine are found in the stand.

b. Wildlife

A diversity of wildlife lives in or uses this area. 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 wildlife resource's capacity to withstand non-consumptive use is broad and related to the number of persons using the campground. Hunting within the campground (discharge of firearms) is forbidden in areas posted as restricted.

A deer wintertime concentration area adjoins the property. Wintertime use occurs depending upon the severity and duration of the season; however, deer may use all or a major portion of the property. (See Exhibit #13.)

Black bears occasionally visit the campground. Consideration must be given to minimizing the potential for bear/human conflicts by implementing standard bear/campground detriment procedures.

Use of the area by beavers has occasionally resulted in flooding in undesirable areas. Mitigation techniques (e.g., water-control device, trapping, etc.) should be employed when needed.

Pheasants are stocked in the area, and hunting is allowed where designated. Trapping is allowed in designated areas by permit only.

c. Fisheries- Inventory

Wilson Lake has not been surveyed by New York State Bureau of Fisheries. The reported shallow nature of the lake and characteristics of its tributary streams lead people to believe the lake has a typical community of warm-water fish.

Two additional impoundments are upstream of Wilson Lake on the Little Beaverkill outside the campground boundaries. The fish species found in the larger impoundment, Yankeetown Pond, are probably found in Wilson Lake. Largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), chain pickerel (*Esox niger*), yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), bullhead (*Ictalurus spp.*), white sucker (*Catostomus commersoni*), shiner (*Notropis spp.*), and sunfish (*Lepomis spp.*) are some of the likely inhabitants of Wilson Lake.

The Little Beaverkill is a small tributary to Esopus Creek. An October electroshock fishing survey found cutlip minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*), blacknose dace (*Rhinichthys atratulus*), brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) one-quarter mile upstream from Esopus Creek. Warm water from Wilson Lake flowing into the Little Beaverkill more than likely reduces the trout potential of the stream directly below the lake. Trout from Esopus Creek and the Ashokan Reservoir use this stream for spawning during the fall and spring.

Fisheries management goals and objectives for waters within the campground are to provide high catch rates of self-sustained populations of game fish and pan fish while protecting and, where needed, restoring the quality of fish habitat.

No current stocking policies exist for the streams or lake within the campground. Fisheries resources within the campground are currently under statewide general fishing regulations, with no special harvest restrictions imposed. The fishing group is thought to comprise primarily campers and local Ulster County anglers. Wilson Lake is one of only a few lakes in Ulster County where ice fishing is available to the general public. Given current regulations and the moderate level of use, there is little chance fish populations within the campground will be significantly impacted.

A fisheries survey should be scheduled in the near future to establish the current status and makeup of the fish community within the lake. Management action, if necessary, could then be recommended based on this survey. The primary needs for the Wilson Lake Campground fishery resource are likely to be maintaining parking and access opportunities for the non-camping public, particularly during the off season

III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

A. Article XIV, New York State Constitution

Article XIV of the NY 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. Catskill Park State Land Master Plan

The CPSLMP requires that all campgrounds and day-use areas are rustic in nature. Natural materials will be used to the fullest extent possible to blend with the Catskill environment. These constraints 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 Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, and established policies and procedures for 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 which 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 in a manner that ensures protection of natural resources in compliance with Article XIV of the New York State Constitution, the Catskill Park State Land Master Plan, Environmental Conservation Law and the GUMP/EIS
- Offer recreational opportunities for state residents
- Ensure 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

Public attendance may vary a few percentage points (generally less than 10%) from year to year, depending on differences in weather conditions. Rainy or cold weather predictions appear to affect family vacation planning. Gasoline shortages or employment changes seem to affect vacation travel distances. Long-term use trends are affected by promotion efforts and the condition of facilities. While campground use is estimated to be quite heavy during winter, currently there is no way of accurately tracking usage because no permits are required or issued for off-season use, nor is staff on site to monitor use.

Most of Kenneth L. Wilson campers are from New York State. New Jersey residents comprise most out-of-state campers, with much smaller

Kenneth L. Wilson Attendance			
Year	Camping	Day Use	Total
2015	12,977	4,137	17,114
2014	11,807	7,729	19,536
2013	12,865	8,054	20,919
<i>Average</i>	<i>12,550</i>	<i>6,640</i>	<i>19,190</i>

representation from Vermont, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Few campers from north and west of the Catskills or from outside the tri-state area visit Kenneth L. Wilson. (See Exhibit #9 Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Permit Sales by state and Exhibit #10 Kenneth L. Wilson Analysis of Occupancy.).

b. Revenue Trends

Revenues are important because they offset the campground's annual operating costs. The operating budget is based on revenues generated from camping and other service fees. Total revenue from the Kenneth L. Wilson Campground for the past three years is provided.

Year	Camping, Day Use and Miscellaneous
2015	\$141,215
2014	\$114,826
2013	\$128,947
<i>Average</i>	<i>\$128,329</i>

2. Carrying Capacity

Kenneth L. Wilson Campground facilities should be operated within the physical, biological and social carrying capacity of the site. This will ensure continuation of the campground's character and integrity, even with intensive recreational use.

a. Physical Design

The following analysis of existing design capacities is compared to NYS Department of Health codes and DEC's design standards for wastewater treatment works. The existing design capacity for the

III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

76 campsites is 6 persons per site or 456 persons. The day-use design capacity is 6 persons per picnic table x 24 tables or 144 persons.

The table below compares calculated capacity needs with currently available capacity and notes any deficiencies. Standpipes are needed in the day-use are to provide a sanitary and convenient location for cleaning and disposing of wastewater.

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 minimum	none
Trailer dumping station	1 for every 100 sites*	1	1	none
Potable water supply	55 gal/day/site 5 gal/day/picnicker	4,180 gal 720 gal	36,000gpd	none
Water spigots	1/10 campsites	8	12	none
	1/60 picnickers	3	1	2
Lavatories (within 500')	2 for every 15 campsites	11	12	none
	1 for every 60 picnickers	3	8	none
Toilets/Urinals (within 500')	2 for every 10 sites	16	30	none
	2 for every 60 picnickers	6	6	none
Utility sinks	Conveniently located	0	1	none
Showers	2 for every 25 sites	6	10	none
*DEC design standards meet or exceed NYS Health Department codes.				

b. Biological Carrying Capacity

Many campsites have been in continuous use since the campground opened and, depending on site design and level of occupancy, are showing their age in loss of vegetation screening, soil compaction, drainage issues and site amenity needs. To address these concerns, a campsite restoration project is underway to evaluate the condition and needs of each facility, including all 6,000 campsites system wide. Restoration work will include:

- Planting trees and shrubs
- Replacing lost soils
- Re-grading sites
- Improving drainage
- Evaluating design and size of campsites
- Replacing deteriorated tables and fireplaces

In most cases, sites that require restoration work will be removed from use for two camping seasons. Sites 6 and 7 have been selected for restoration work and for closure in 2016 and 2017. Signs have been posted at the campground, and no reservations are being taken for those sites.

July and August tend to be the heaviest months for use of this facility. In winter, it is closed to camping but available for ice fishing and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Most vehicular traffic occurs on paved surfaces, which also helps limit compaction, rutting and erosion.

c. Social Carrying Capacity

Annual camper surveys have been conducted at each campground since 1996. Campers have been asked to rate their camping experience on a scale from unacceptable to excellent. Based on the responses received from visitors over the last five years, this campground appears to be operating within an acceptable social carrying capacity at current attendance levels.

Additionally impacts associated with planned campground objectives and actions are identified and discussed in the *Generic Unit Management Plan Volume I*. The table here summarizes survey statistics over the past five years.

Kenneth L. Wilson Attendance		
Year	Number of Respondents	Excellent or Good Rating
2015	183	90%
2014	174	91%
2013	65	91%
2012	14	100%
2011	22	100%

d. Unique Ecosystems, Historical

No significant unique ecosystems or archaeologically sensitive areas have been identified or are known to exist at this campground.

Adjacent to the public campground are three recorded significant habitats: 56-27 Yankeetown Pond; 26-3 Deer wintering area; and 26-4 Deer wintering area. (See Exhibit #13.)

e. Adjacent Lands

Most day use is by local residents. It is estimated that nearly 50% of overnight usage comes from residents within a 50-mile radius of the campground.

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 in Section I - Introduction, many campers tour or use a wide variety of attractions in the

III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

vicinity. Under permit, peddlers serving campers within the campground directly profit from the exchange.

The campground provides employment for local residents on the staff. Their wages are largely turned over in the local business economy. Various supplies and materials needed for maintenance of the campground are frequently purchased locally. In addition, contractors including plumbers, electricians, carpenters, masons and others may be used.

The Kenneth L. Wilson campground is not open for camping during the winter; however, the day-use parking lot is plowed and open for public use. The park is used extensively for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing and ice skating.

f. Invasive Species

The threat of invasive species at Kenneth L. Wilson is of concern to DEC because of the destructive effect of invasives on our environment and the associated financial drain on revenue and resources.

One common way many other 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 and other users of our forests. This firewood may come from trees killed by insect pests and taken down where visitors came from. A regulation in effect prohibits the import of firewood into New York State unless it has been heat treated to kill pests. This regulation also limits transportation of untreated firewood to less than 50 miles from its source.

It is DEC's goal, in collaboration with other agencies and interested groups, to establish a documented inventory of species by location within the campground and to implement an invasive species management program to help contain, and possibly eradicate, further growth of these species.

The following species have been verified at various locations throughout the property:

- Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)
- Common Reed Grass (*Phragmites australis*)
- Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
- Japanese Siltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)
- Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

The following are unverified species that *might* be found on the property:

- Japanese Knot Weed (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*)
- Gypsy Moth Caterpillar (*Lymantria dispar*)

g. General Operations

Kenneth L. Wilson is a popular facility used by visitors during the summer season (mid-May through mid-October) for camping, swimming, boating, fishing and hiking. The rest of the year, it is used for such recreational activities as ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and ice skating.

The continued maintenance and upkeep of this facility help ensure safe operation of the campground for both visitor and employee use. Day-to-day operations are guided by policy set forth in the DEC *Campground Guidance Manual*. The subject index of the handbook is referenced in Volume III, Appendix D of the *1990 Generic Unit Management Plan*.

h. ADA Accessibility Guidelines

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 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 accessible to people with disabilities. In rare circumstances where accessibility is determined to be structurally impracticable due to terrain, the facility or part of the facility is to be accessible to the greatest extent possible and to people with various types of disabilities.

Consistent with ADA requirements, DEC 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

III. INVENTORY of ISSUES and CONSTRAINTS

that ensure accessibility to buildings, facilities and vehicles in terms of architecture and design, transportation and communication to individuals with disabilities.

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.

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

Currently, campsites #6 and #7 are listed as accessible sites. In 2014, an accessibility assessment was conducted at Kenneth L Wilson Campground by the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center at SUNY Cortland. Campsite #7 was assessed and found to comply with accessibility guidelines. Other campground facilities were also assessed, including the shower building, picnic area, picnic pavilion and pond hand launch. Information collected during this assessment is available online by visiting the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center website.

For copies of any of the above-mentioned laws or guidelines relating to accessibility, contact the DEC Universal Access Program Coordinator at 518-402-9437 or email: UniversalAccessProgram@dec.ny.gov.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The following management actions are being proposed for the ensuing ten-year period and will be completed as staff and funding allow.

Proposed Management Actions		
	Management Actions	Cost
A	Construct picnic pavilion	\$20,000
B	Construct a universally accessible rustic playground	\$30,000
C	Rehabilitate bathrooms in camping loops	\$60,000
D	Install volleyball play area	\$10,000
E	Develop a multiple-use trail system	\$12,000
F	Create dog-walking area	\$15,000
G	Conduct Swimming Beach Feasibility Study	\$50,000

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

A. Construct Picnic Pavilion

A 12ft x 15ft picnic pavilion is proposed for construction near the upper pond spillway and accessible fishing pier. This project has an estimated cost of \$20,000.

B. Construct a Universally Accessible Rustic Playground

It is proposed to construct a universally accessible rustic playground within an existing open area near Loop C. As a result, no trees will be removed. Where possible, building materials will be natural and rustic in nature. This will help assure that the playground is functional, aesthetically pleasing and appropriate for the Forest Preserve setting. Soil would be removed and replaced with manufacturer-recommended surface material for safety. This project has an estimated cost of \$30,000.

C. Rehabilitate Bathrooms in Campground Loops

Interior bathroom renovation of worn materials and fixtures is needed to bring facilities up to universal standards. Partitions, as well as ceilings, walls, and floor coverings would be updated to provide cleaner labor-efficient and energy-efficient stations within each camping loop. There are three bathrooms (one in each loop) and a shower building, and all are to be brought up to universal standards. This project has an estimated cost of \$60,000.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

D. Install Volleyball Play Area

Stake out and grade a 30ft x 60ft area located adjacent to the existing pavilion to allow installation of a volleyball play area. This project has an estimated cost of \$10,000.

E. Develop a Multiple-Use Trail System

Work with interested stakeholders, including the mountain biking community, to develop four to six miles of multiple-use trails on the property to include areas on both sides of the Little Beaver Kill stream. This will require at least one bridge (approximately 60-foot span) over the Little Beaver Kill. This project has an estimated cost of \$30,000.

F. Create Dog Exercise Area

It is proposed to establish a one-acre dog exercising area. The area will use portions of an unused parking lot and a surrounding four-acre field. Fencing will be installed to delineate the exercise area, and efforts will be made to limit visual impact. Selective fencing material, meandering fence layout and vegetative screening will help assure that the dog walk area is functional, aesthetically pleasing and appropriate for the Forest Preserve setting. Dog feces composting containers will be installed. This project has an estimated cost of \$15,000.

G. Conduct Swimming Beach Feasibility Study

From 1979 to 2003, DEC maintained a beach and swimming area on Wilson Lake. Over that time, silt accumulated and aquatic vegetation colonized the swimming area, resulting in poor water visibility and unpleasant conditions for swimming. In addition, Canada geese took up residence, which resulted in unsanitary conditions and poor water quality. In 2002/03, DEC temporarily lowered the water level of the lake during the winter in hopes that an extended freeze would kill the undesirable aquatic vegetation, but that proved to be ineffective. Continued unfavorable conditions resulted in DEC closing the beach and swimming area prior to the 2004 camping season.

DEC is willing to conduct a feasibility study to assess current conditions and explore options to reestablish the beach and swimming area at or near its original location at the south end of the lake. The study will need to address water quality, lake bottom condition, waterfront safety and wildlife concerns, among other issues. Upon completion of the study, DEC will evaluate the feasibility of reopening a swimming beach at the facility. If one is deemed feasible, DEC will proceed with plans to reopen the beach and explore options for staff and funding. The feasibility study has an estimated cost of \$50,000.

V. EXHIBIT INDEX

Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Exhibit Index	
Exhibit	#1 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Location Map
Exhibit	#2 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Topography Map
Exhibit	#3 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Orthoimagery Map
Exhibit	#4 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Facilities Map
Exhibit	#4a - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Loop Facilities Map
Exhibit	#5 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Sewage System Map
Exhibit	#5a - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Water System Map
Exhibit	#6 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Electrical System Map
Exhibit	#7 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Forest Vegetation Type
Exhibit	#8 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Soils Map
Exhibit	#9 - Kenneth L. Wilson Camper Demographic Map
Exhibit	#10 - Kenneth L. Wilson Campground Occupancy 2015
Exhibit	#11 - Ten-Year Construction Plan
Exhibit	#12 - Designated Wetlands Map
Exhibit	#13 - Wildlife Habitat, Deer Wintering Yards
Exhibit	#14 - Recreation Trails Map
Exhibit	#15 - Fisheries and Water Resource Map
Exhibit	#16 – Response to Public Comments

V. EXHIBIT INDEX



Ticket Booth



Wood Shed



Kiosk Information Sign



Comfort Station Loop A



Comfort Station Loop B



Comfort Station Loop C



Caretaker's Cabin



Garage



Picnic Pavilion



Shower House

V. EXHIBIT INDEX



Bath House



Solid Waste/Recycling Building



Pump House



Accessible Boardwalk



Accessible Fishing Pier



Bridge Access to Nature Trail



Accessible Bridge



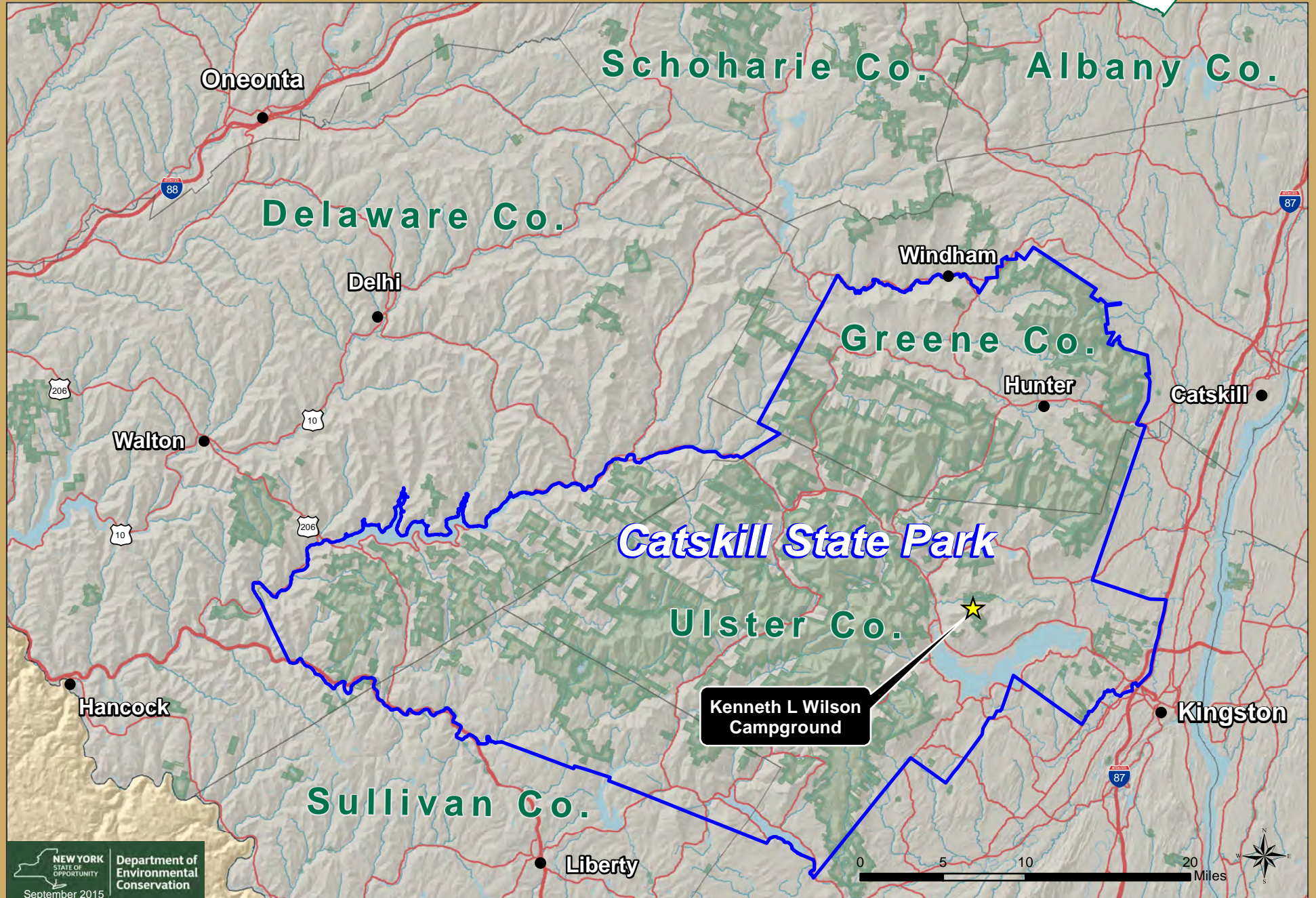
Accessible Nature Trail



Accessible Boat Launch

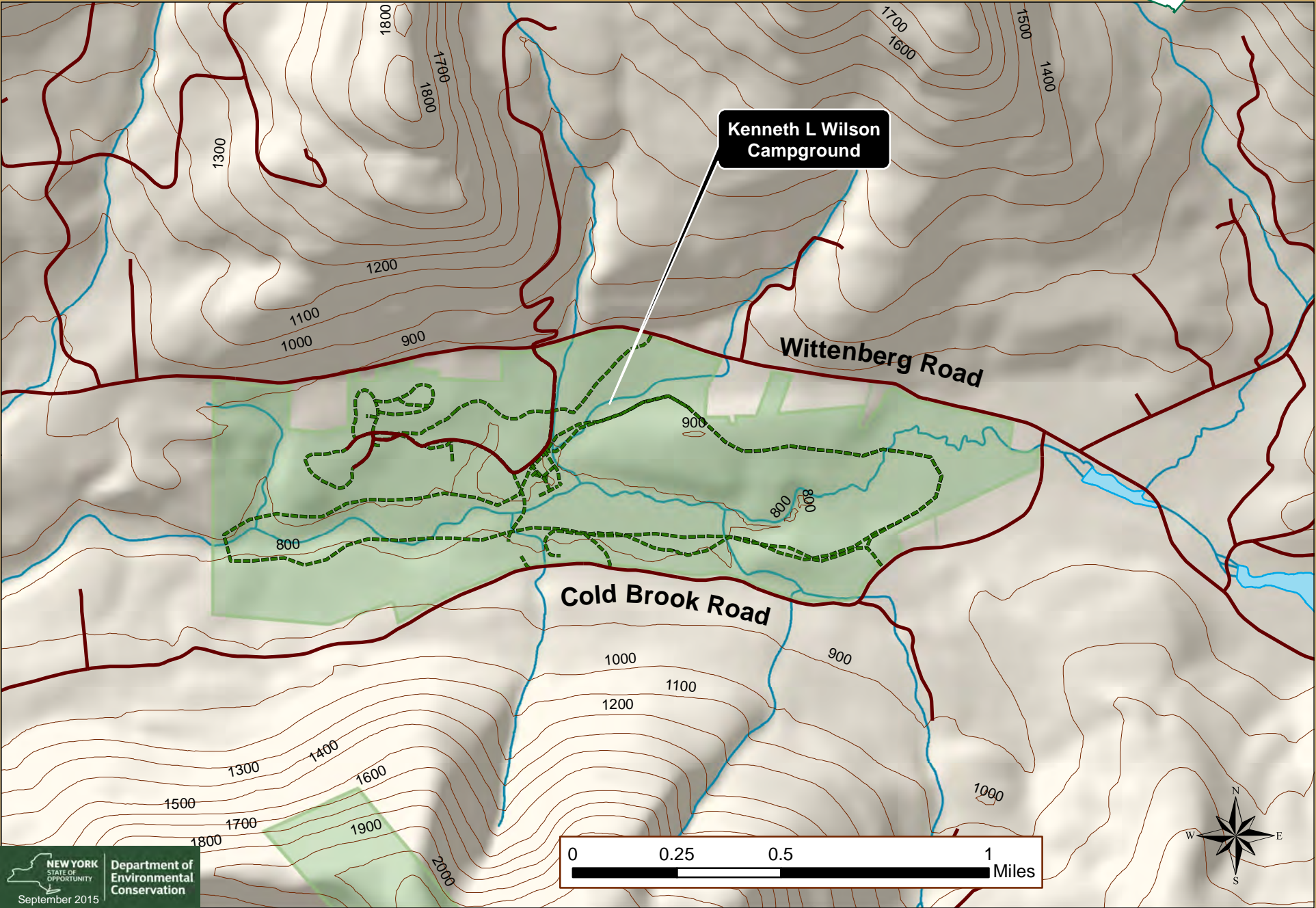
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 1 - Location Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 2 - Topography & Trail Map



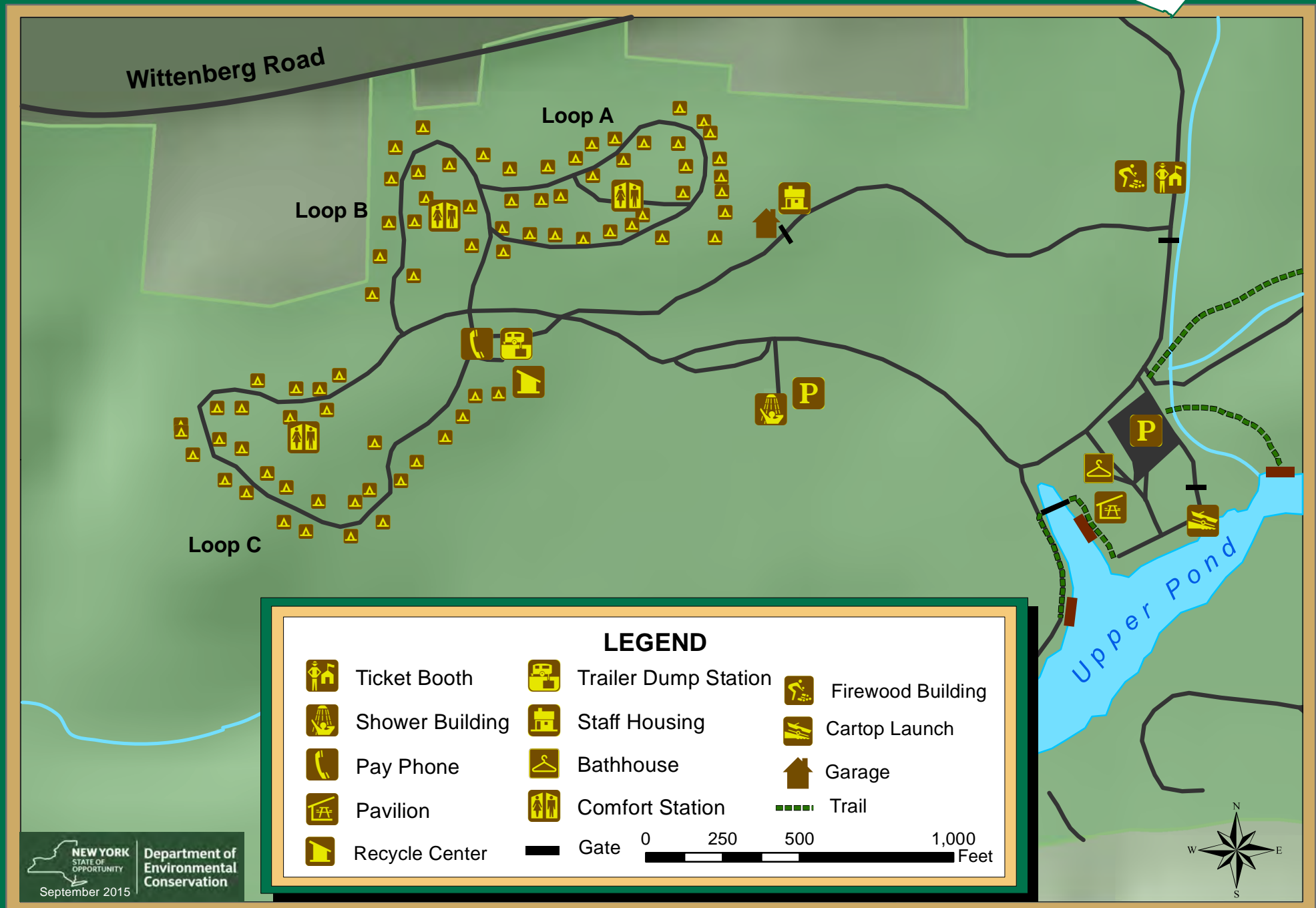
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 3 - Orthoimagery Map



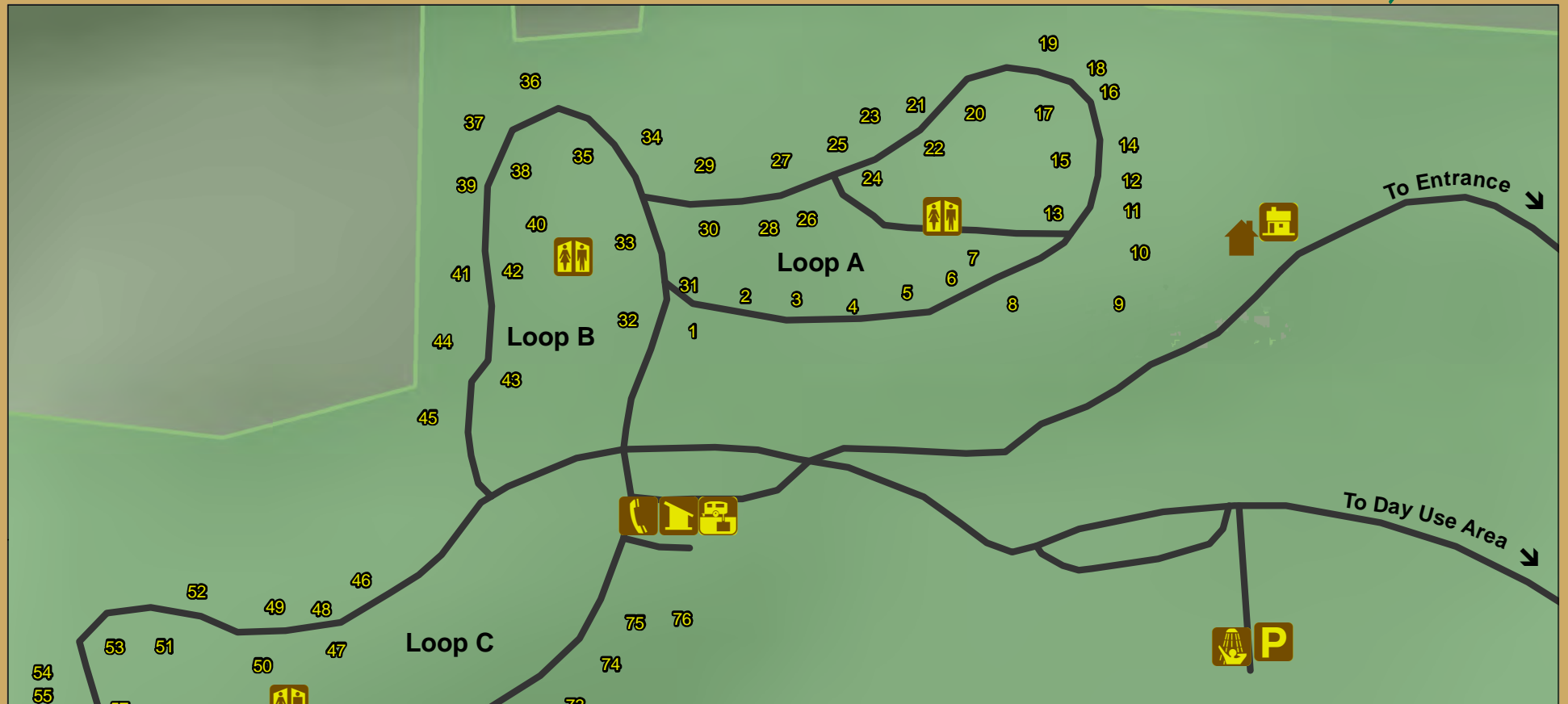
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 4 - Facilities Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 4a - Camping Loops Facilities Map



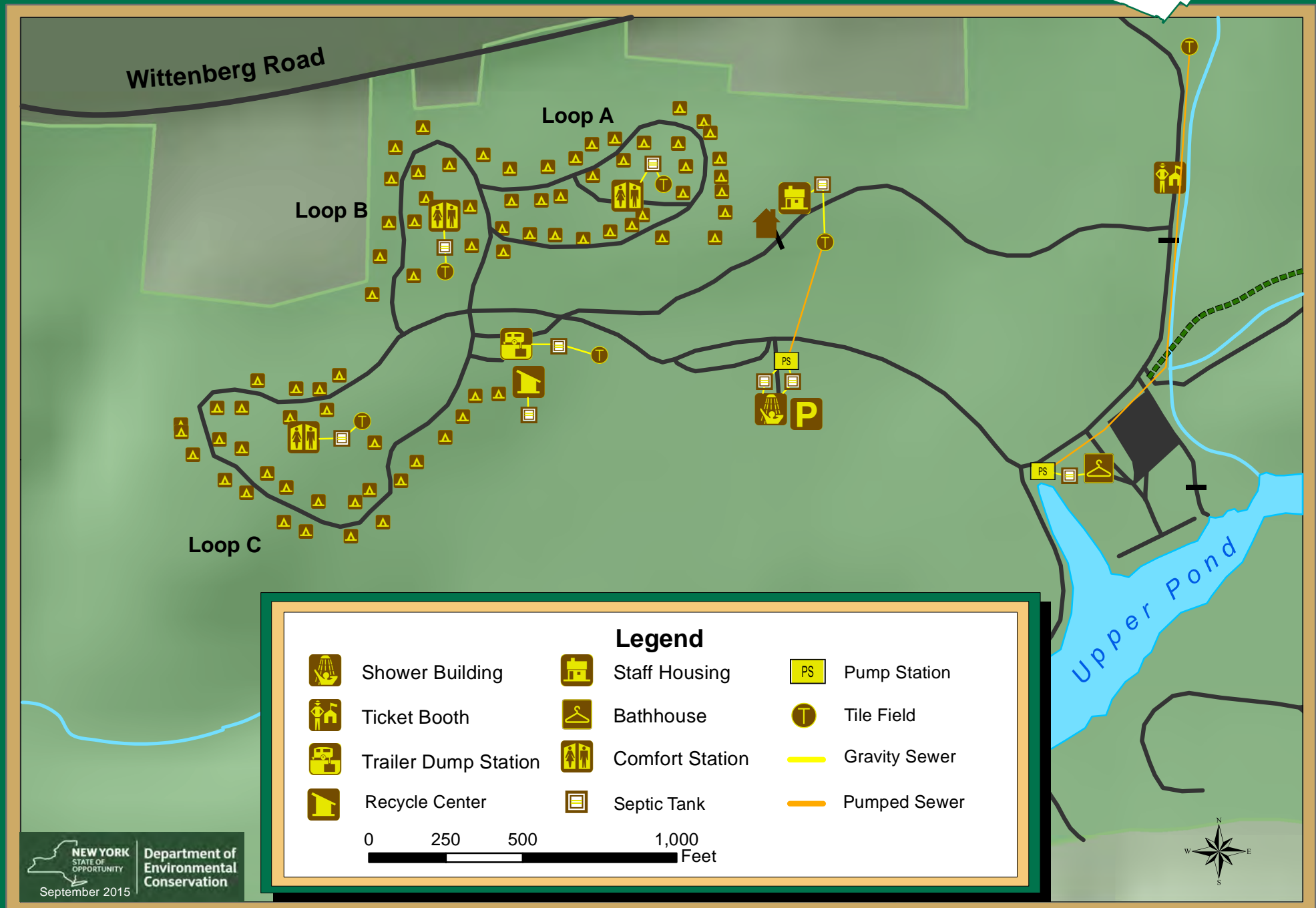
LEGEND

Water Spigot	Trailer Dump Station	Recycle Building
Shower Building	Staff Housing	Garage
Pay Phone	Comfort Station	Site #

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

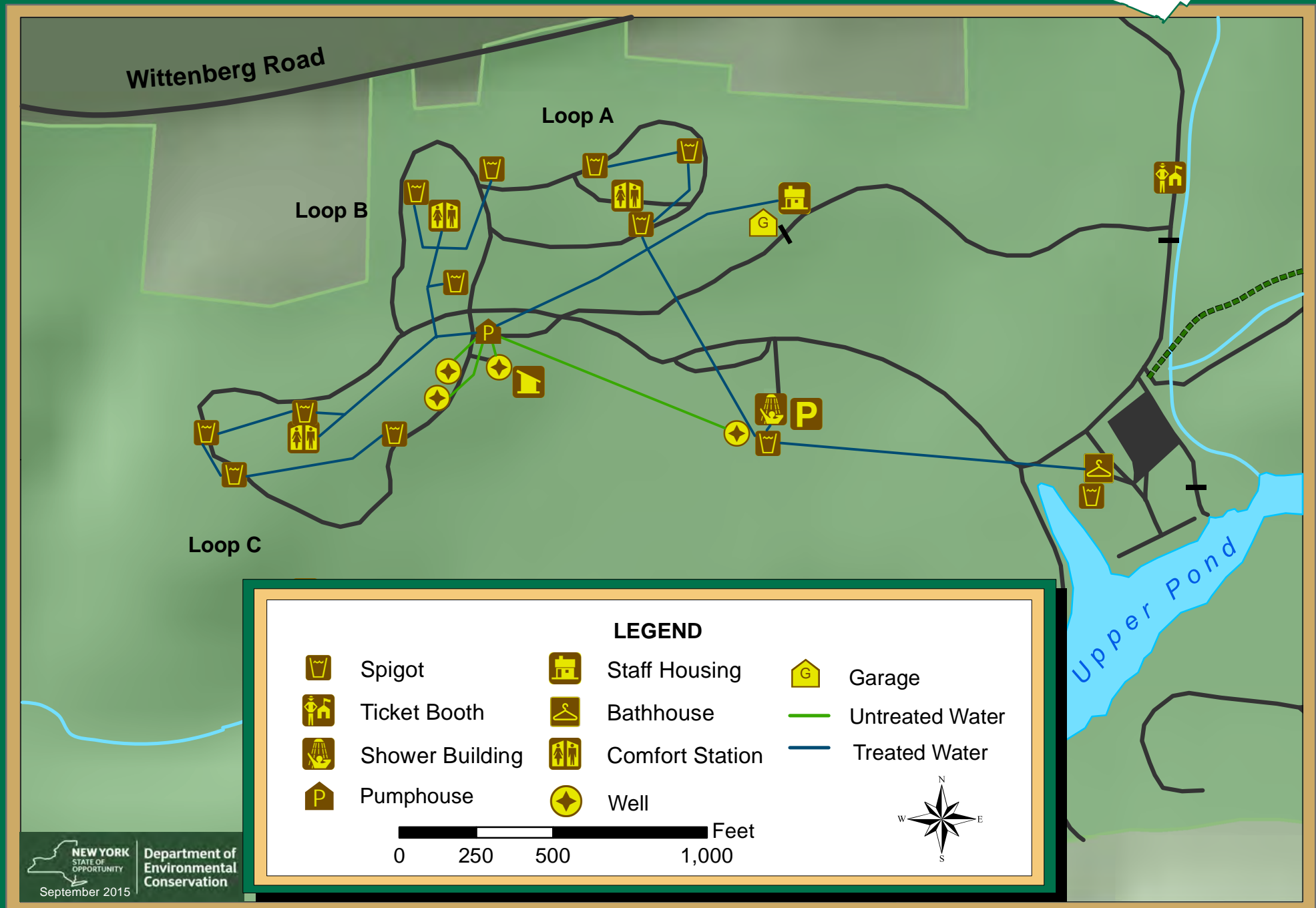
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 5 - Campground Sewage System Map



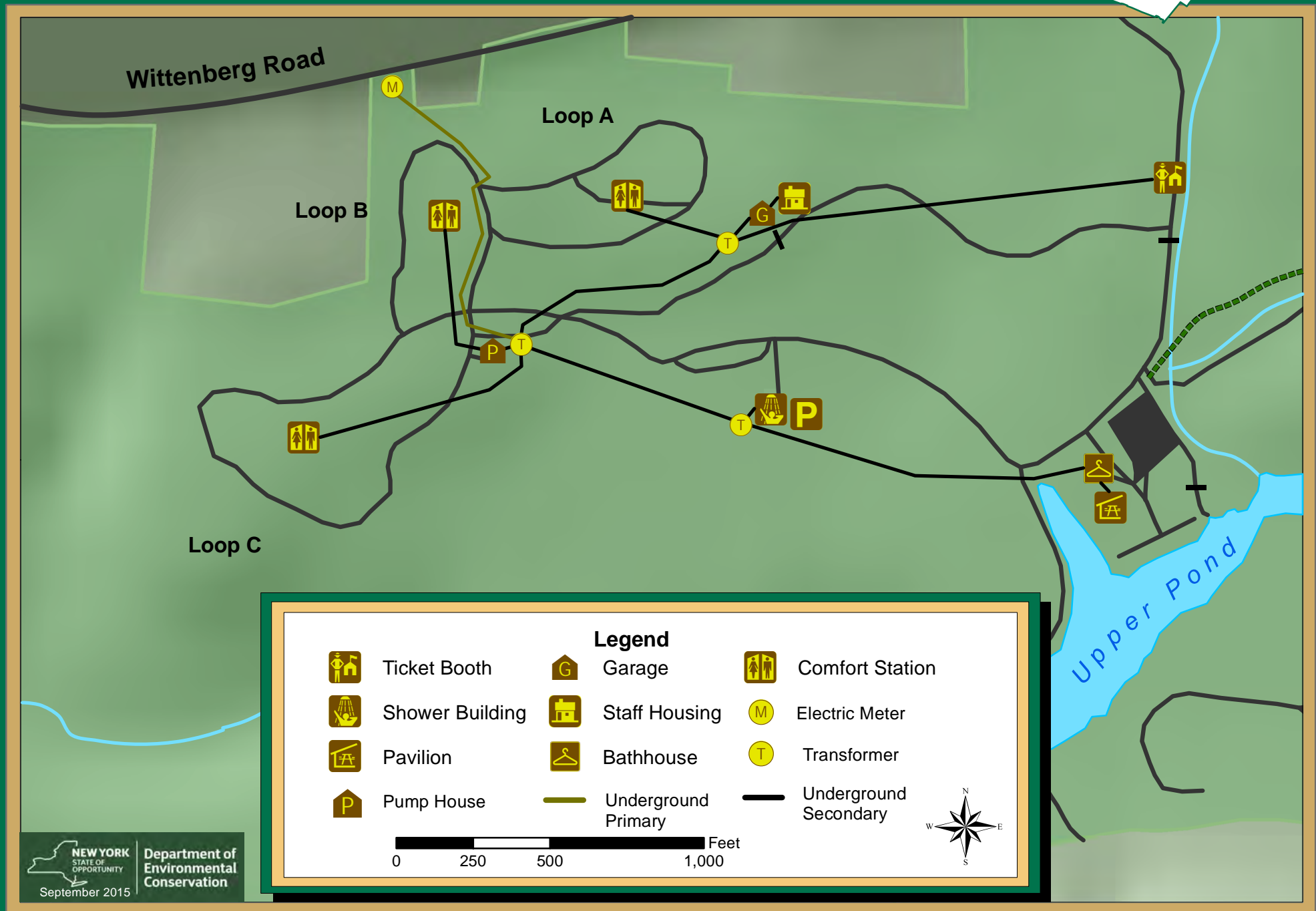
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 5a - Campground Water System Map



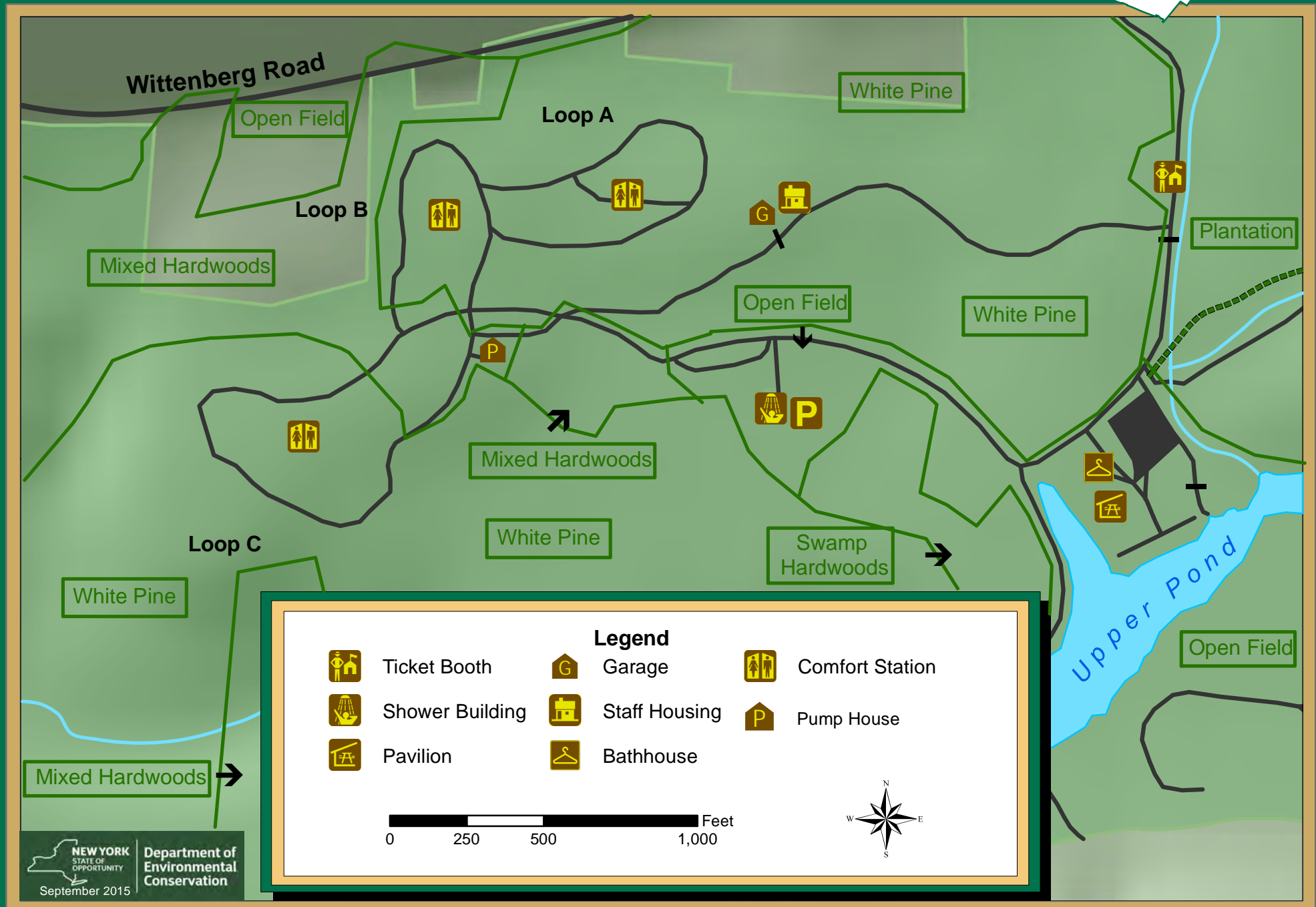
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 6 - Electric System Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 7 - Forest Vegetation Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 8 - Soils Map

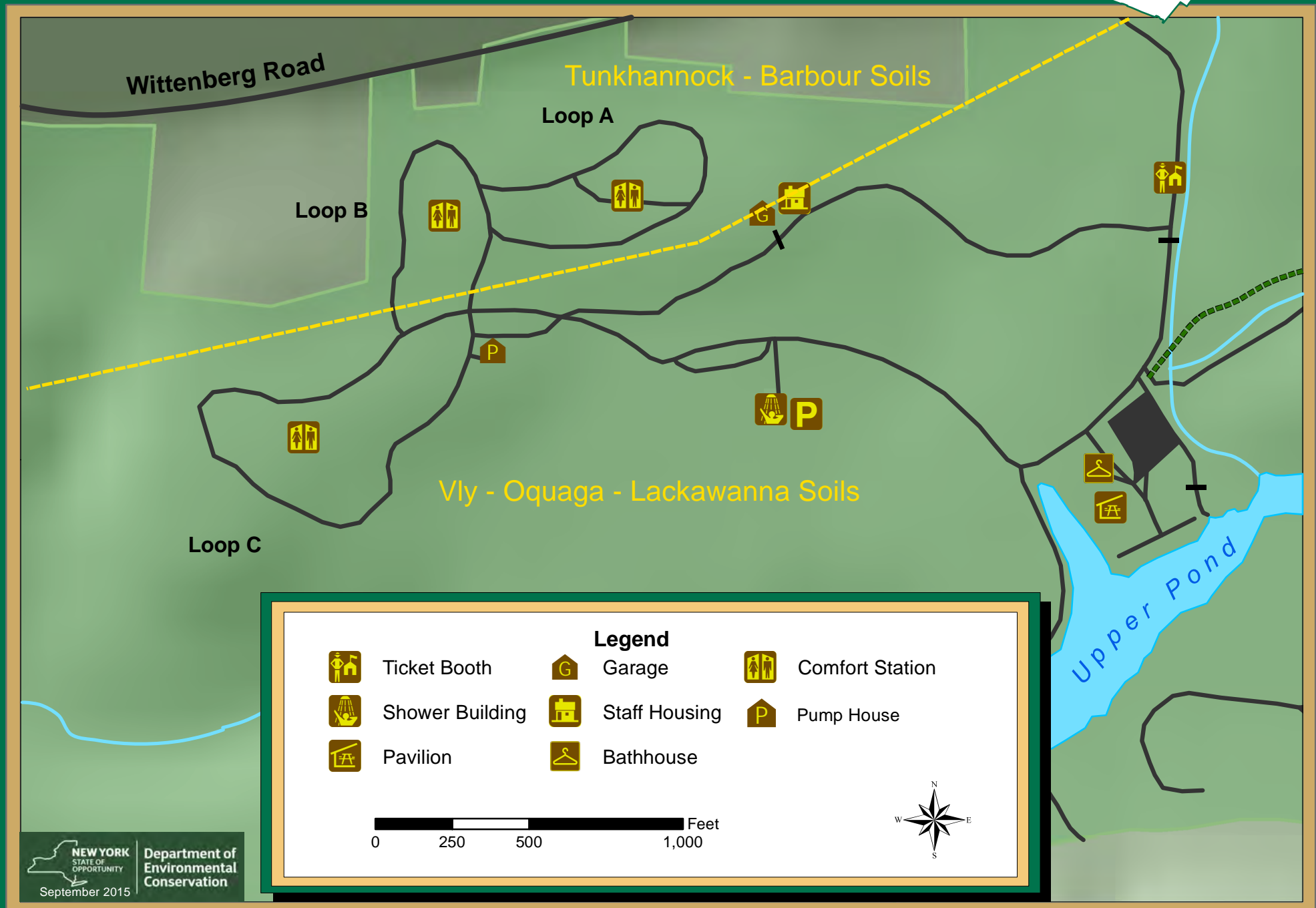
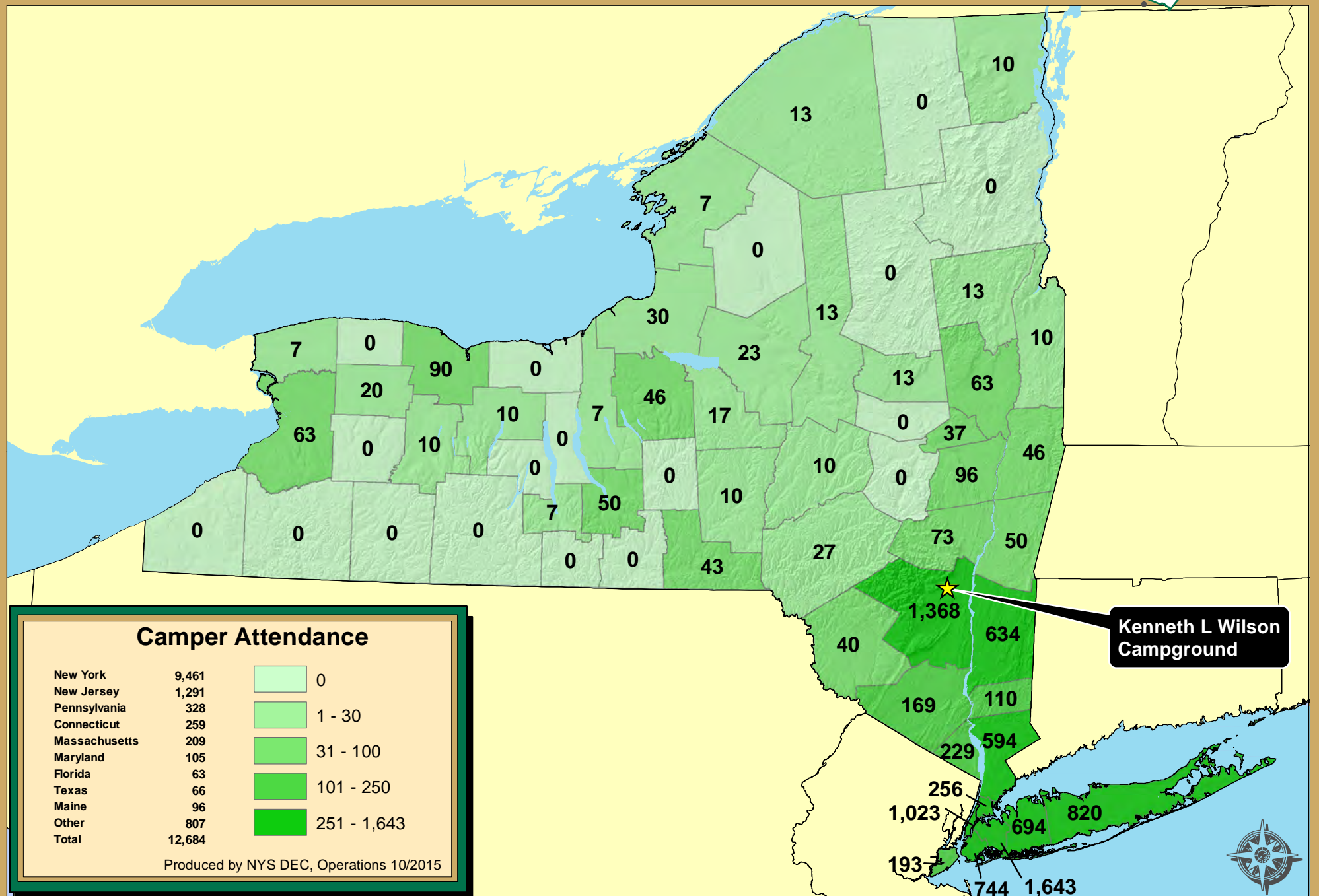
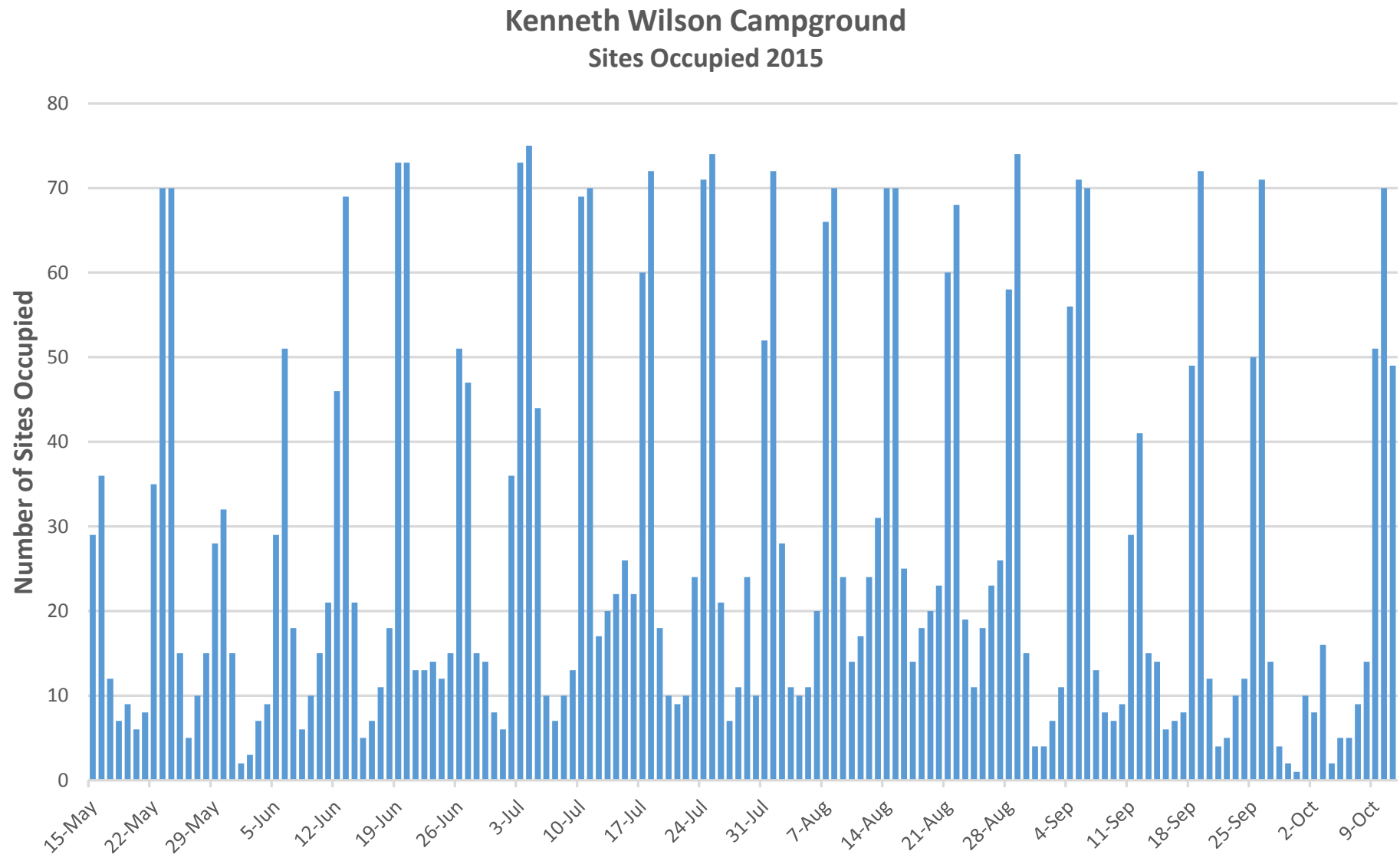


Exhibit # 9 - Camper Demographics 2015



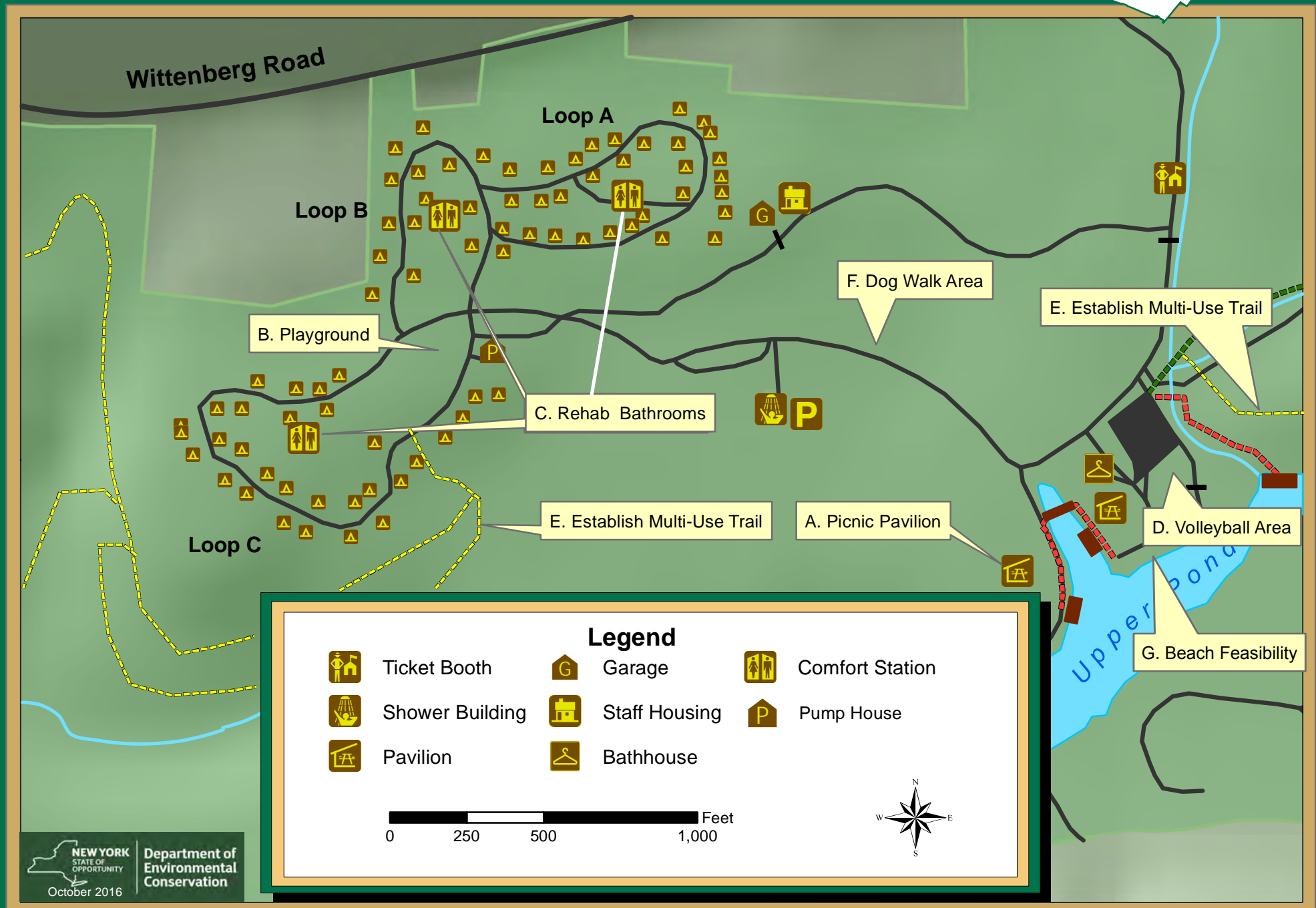
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 10 - Campsite Occupancy 2015



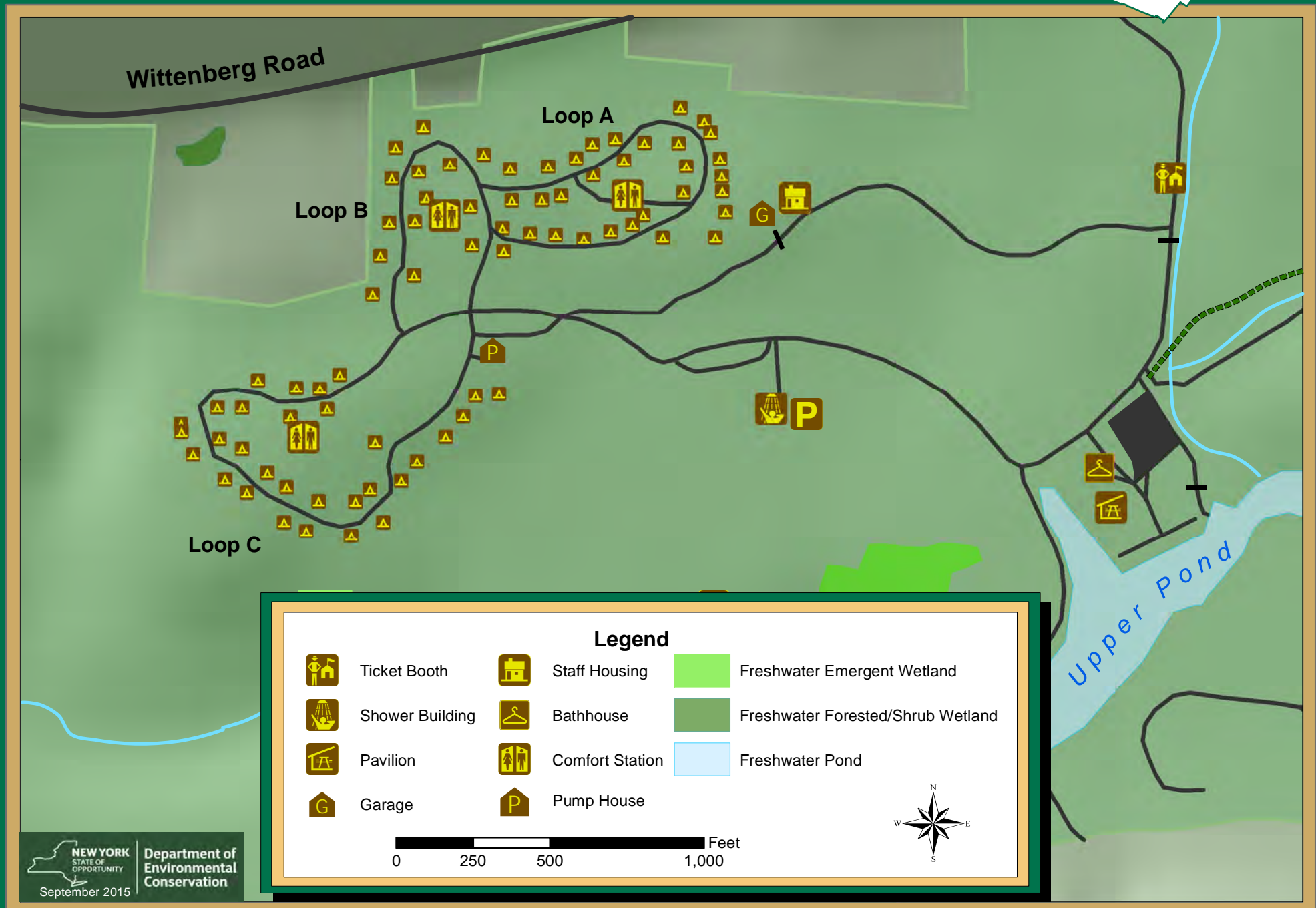
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 11 - 10 Year Plan Map



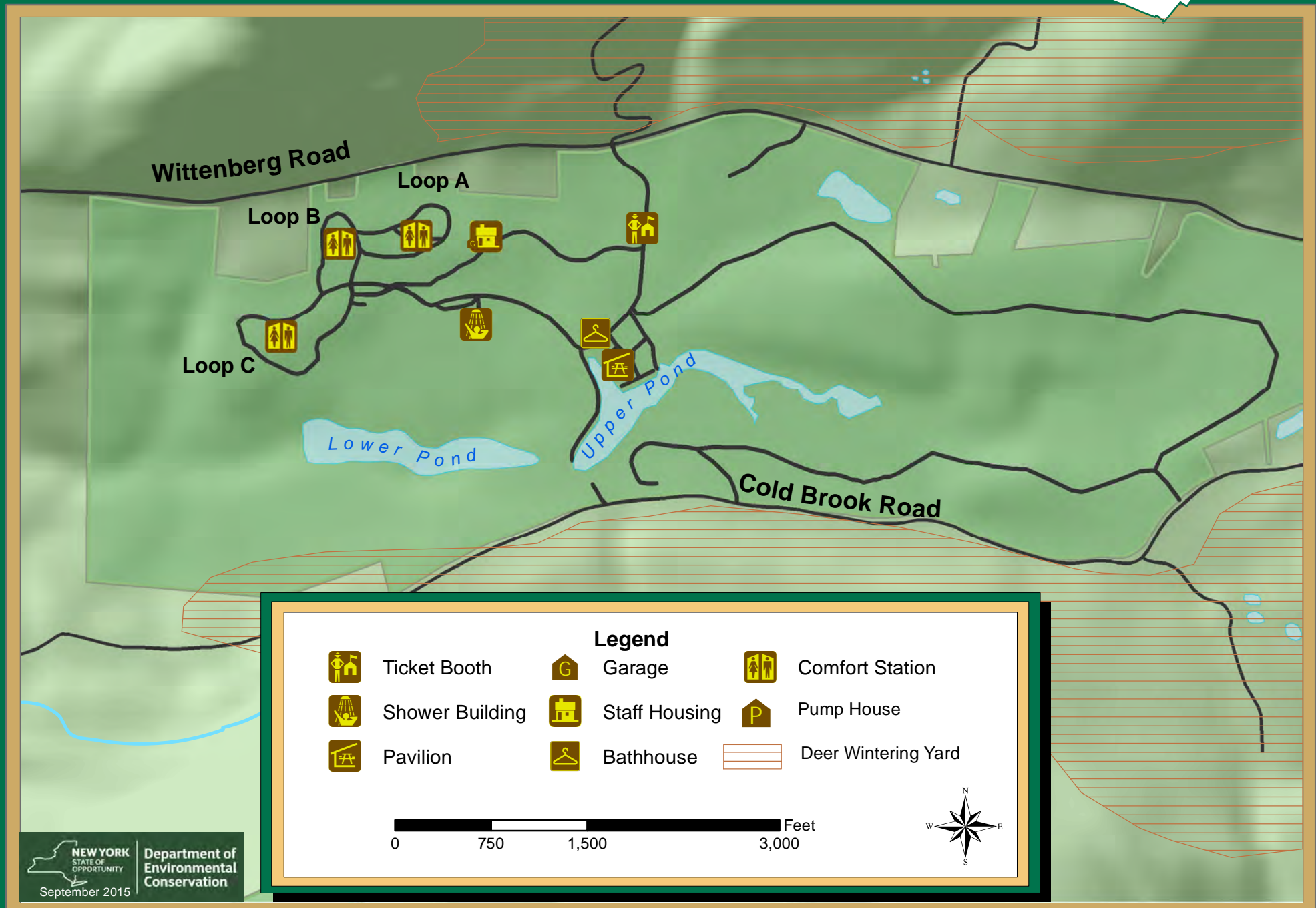
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 12 Wetlands Map



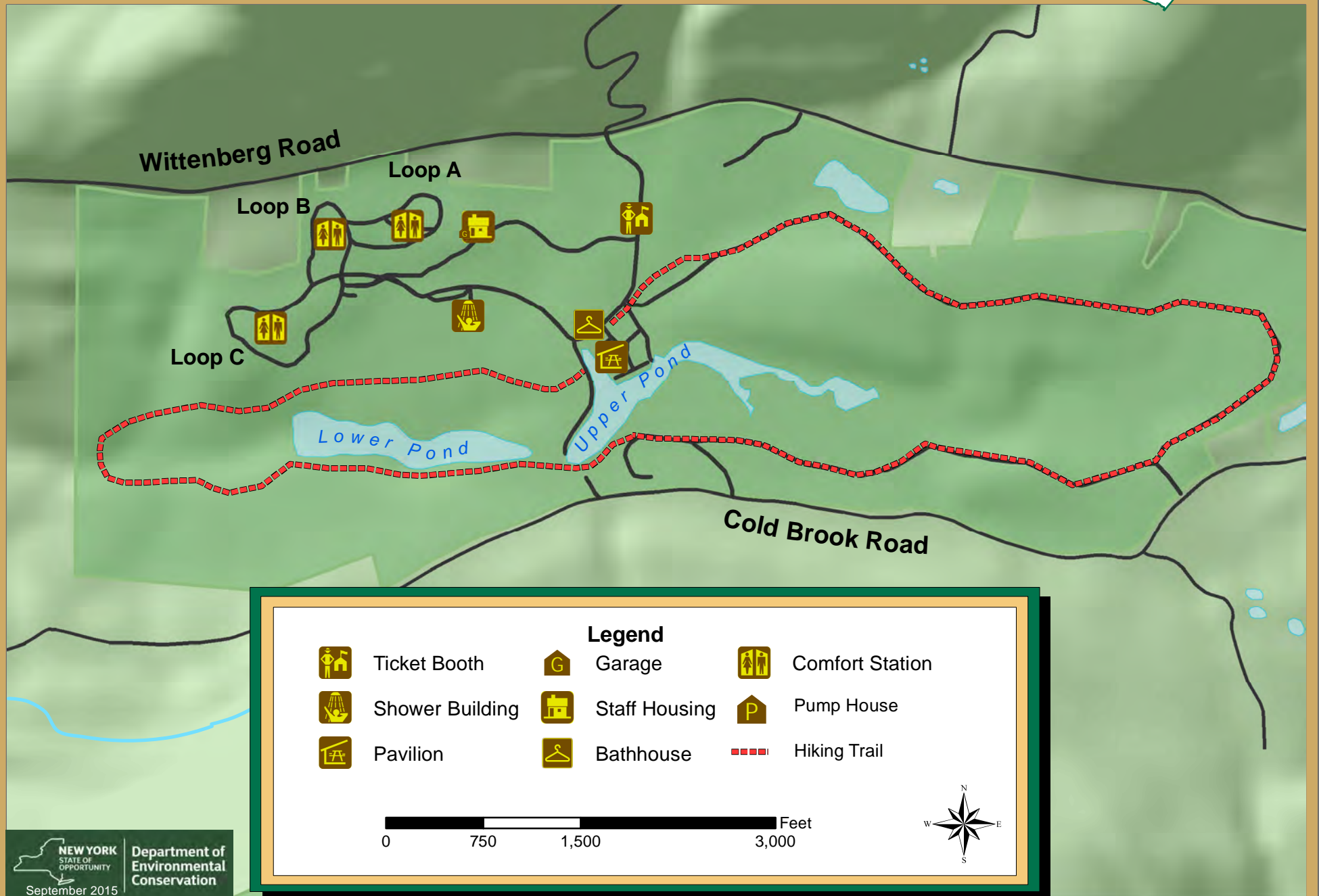
Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 13 - Wildlife Habitat & Deer Wintering Yard Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 14 - Recreation Trails Map



Kenneth L Wilson Campground

Exhibit # 15 - Fisheries & Water Resources Map

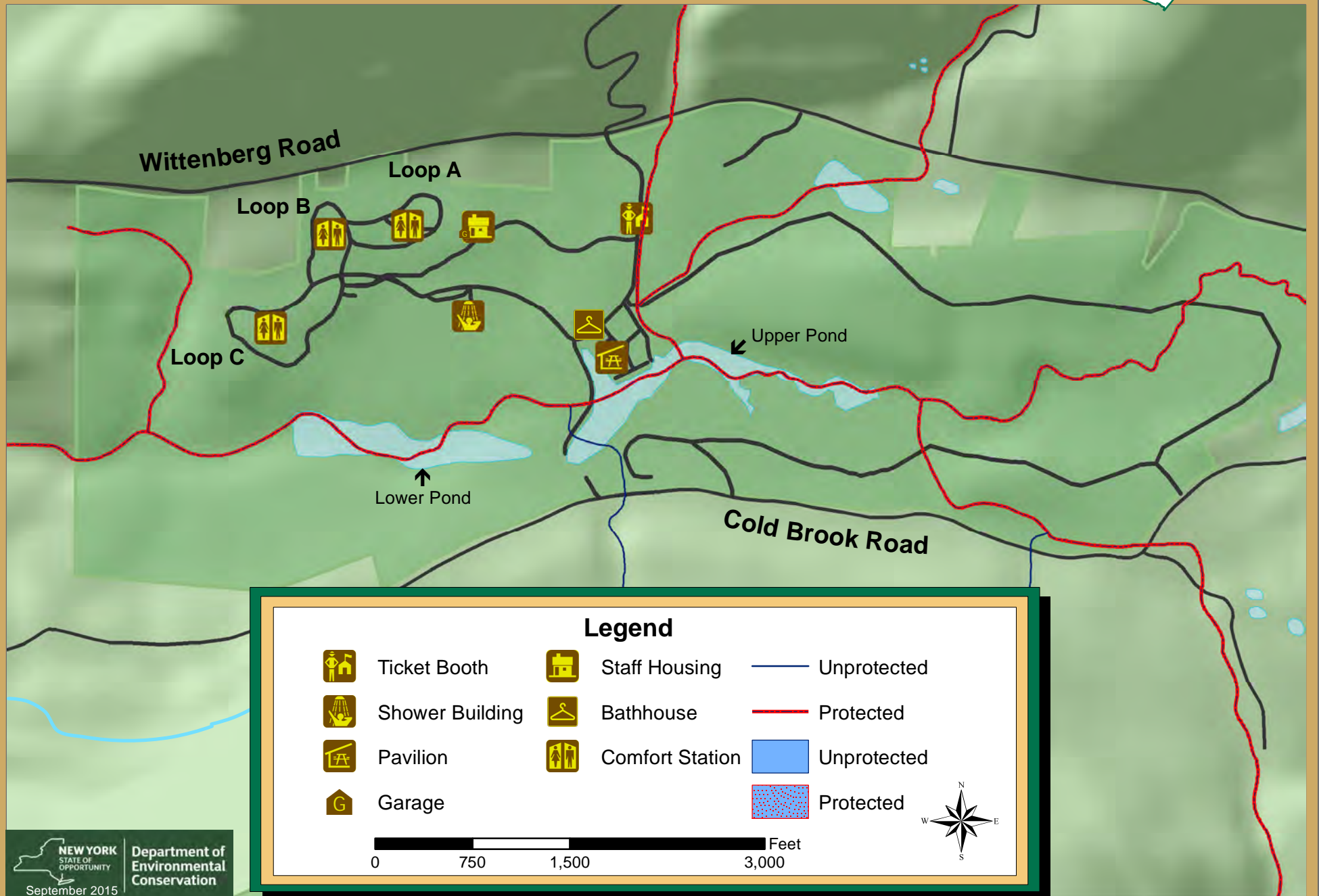


EXHIBIT # 16
Response to Public Comments

Comment: Several comments expressed general approval of the facility and proposed management actions.

Response: The Department appreciates the public support for the facility and future improvements.

Comment: The Department received numerous written and verbal comments regarding the proposal to rehabilitate and reopen the public beach and swimming area at the campground. Nearly all were in support of the proposal. One comment expressed opposition to this proposal due to the current water quality issues and the expense of the project.

Response: The Department recognizes the community's strong interest in reopening the beach and swimming area and will undertake a feasibility study to determine what will be necessary to address the turbidity, aquatic vegetation and water quality issues that resulted in the previous decision to close the beach. If the Department determines it is feasible to reopen the beach, cost estimates and funding requests will be initiated.

Comment: How will the Department control geese on the property?

Response: Canada geese are a valuable natural resource that provides recreation and enjoyment to bird watchers, hunters, and the general public throughout New York State. But in recent years, flocks of local-nesting or "resident" geese have become year-round inhabitants of our parks and waterways, including Wilson Campground and all too often they cause significant problems. Managing the geese on the property will be an important element necessary to reopen the beach. Options under consideration include habitat management (minimizing mowing) to discourage use of the property by geese, who prefer short grass, fencing, and removal of resident geese from the population.

Comment: Link the Campground with regional long distance/rail trails.

Response: At this time, The Department is not planning to connect the campground trail system to a regional long distance or rail trail.

Comment: Increase occupancy to spur the local economy.

Response: One of the Department's goals for the Campground is to enhance economic benefits to local communities and the State. Most of the projects proposed in the plan are intended to make the campground more attractive to visitors, improving occupancy.

Comment: Provide more opportunities for waterfront access for walking and fishing.

Response: The Department recently completed an accessible fishing pier and accessible non-motorized boat launch on the pond. In addition we have made improvements to the nature trail by developing an accessible viewing platform that provides an opportunity to view wildlife upstream of the picnic and boating area. We believe these three projects have greatly improved public access to the waterfront.

Comment: Provide more opportunities for all levels of bicycling.

Response: The Department has included a proposal to expand the multi-use trail system to include bicycling opportunities for a variety of ability levels.

Comment: Provide more opportunities for off season/winter users.

Response: The multi-use trail system included in the plan will be developed to accommodate a variety of non-motorized activities, including snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

Comment: Provide more opportunities for hiking.

Response: The multi-use trail system included in the plan will be open to hikers.

Comment: Provide more information on the Unit Management Planning (UMP) process, including the timeline for implementation and when information will be available on future facility improvements.

Response: In the Catskill Park UMPs are developed in compliance with the [Catskill Park State Land Master Plan](#) (CPSLMP). Plans are written to cover a ten year period. Each plan includes a schedule for implementation as well as an estimated cost for each project proposed. Implementation is subject to staff availability and funding. Information on the status of specific projects in the plan is best obtained at the Department's regional office in New Paltz.

Comment: Concerned about dogs at the Campground.

Response: During the camping season (mid-May thru Columbus Day weekend) dogs must be leashed in the campground. The Department has proposed a dog exercise area that would be fenced to allow dogs to run free within the exercise area. Off season dogs must be under control of the owner at all times.

Comment: What happened to the ball field?

Response: The ball field was not regularly used and over time its condition deteriorated. Drainage was also a problem. The Department determined that the level of use did not justify the cost to rehabilitate the field when other opportunities exist nearby.

Comment: Concern for the need to preserve nature.

Response: Article XIV, section 1 of New York State's constitution directs that forest preserve lands (of which Wilson Campground is a part of) must be "forever kept as wild forest lands...." Thus campgrounds within the Catskill Park must be less developed and more primitive in nature than privately owned campgrounds or those managed by NY State outside the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. Proposed projects, including trails and other facilities have been sited to avoid impacts to threatened and endangered species, critical habitat and other important natural resources. In addition, projects are undertaken with conditions to minimize impacts to the environment.