

**Appendix VII - Town of Camillus Historical Society Proposal**

**Town of Camillus Historical Society  
4600 West Genesee Street  
Syracuse, NY 13219**

**Hopkins Property Plan**

**February 1998**

**Submitted by the Society  
Board of Directors**

**TO**

**Camillus Town Board**

1.

Introduction

The town of Camillus Historical Society Historian, Ralph Sims, wrote an article for the December 1997 issue of the Society publication, the Camillus Chronicle in which he presented a history of the 'Hopkins Family Residence' in Camillus. Sims noted that this residence, dating from the mid-1800's, "has seen a great deal of Camillus history!"

Sims described how the Hopkins residence has been a part of one of the Syracuse Developmental Center's farm colonies in Camillus. Sims wrote that the present property owner, the NY DEC, (where the house and an attached structure stand) have said that they "have no use for the structure" and are contemplating its removal. They would then build a new "interpretive center" for the arboretum they are developing on adjacent land.

Noting this DEC plan, Sims wrote, "Does it make any sense to destroy a fine building, rich in history, and then spend great sums of money to build something new?"

On November 29, 1997 DEC Senior Forester John Clancy conducted a tour of the former Hopkins house and attached dormitory for a group of interested people from Camillus historical programs. A photo of this group is at the back of this document. Those attending the tour included (left to right) Ralph Sims, Liz Beebe, Bill Scriver, John Clancy, and Dr. David Beebe. Participants not shown, were Betty Campbell, and the photographer, John W. Luebs. Also there is a photo of the structure., taken at the same time.

On January 2, 1998, at a regular Historical Society Board meeting and following much discussion, the Board voted to prepare a written plan whereby the Hopkins home property could be obtained by the Town of Camillus for development as a historical resource by the Town Historical Society.

On January 16, 1998 Town of Camillus Historical Society President, John W. Luebs received a letter from Harold C. Brown, Jr., Chairman of the NY State Assembly Republican Conference. The letter said, in part, "I will be happy to facilitate a dialogue with the appropriate state officials if and when you choose to pursue *(acquisition of the Hopkins house property)* this opportunity through my office."

Copy of Dec. 1997 Camillus Chronicle article, and the Senator Brown letter are attached.)

## 2. Special Considerations

Following are several special considerations that were addressed by the Board of Directors as necessary aspects of the formal Proposal for acquisition of the Hopkins house and property:

1. Town of Camillus Funding: Indications are that the Town Board has serious reservations about making any commitment for significant monies to either acquire, restore or maintain the Hopkins property;
2. Although the DEC Forester, John Clancy, has encouraged us to explore alternatives to their tearing down the Hopkins structure, we have no commitment as to how much involvement the DEC is willing to have with the Town on the development and use of the Hopkins property;
3. State Funds: Although the letter from Harold C. Brown, Jr. suggests that the Hopkins home and some surrounding land probably can be acquired by the Town of Camillus, there is no indication as to how much state money will be available to provide for necessary repairs to the house and grounds, or cover provision of handicapped access to the full structure;
4. Discussion with Town of Camillus Parks & Recreation Dept. Director, Tom Kehoskie, suggests that his department would be willing to provide the ongoing building and grounds maintenance if funds are available from sources other than his regular Town budget;
5. Historical Society Planned Usage: The Board agreed that development of the original Hopkins house structure as a fully restored museum, in character with how it stood in the late 1800's, would be a realistic goal. Further, the attached dormitory building should be generally isolated from the house, but still attached. The Syracuse Developmental Center (SDC) has indicated it will donate photos and artifacts from its colonies that served "feeble minded children" through the use of the structure as it now stands. The SDC materials should be displayed in a museum on the upper floor of the dormitory. The dormitory first floor (all or part, at their discretion) should be utilized by the DEC for its arboretum Interpretive Center;
6. Long term Funding: The Town Historical Society will develop operating and on-going restoration funds from a variety of sources: Modest museum admission fees and/or donations from the public and organizations.; Payment in-lieu-of rent by the DEC for their portion of the dormitory building to house their arboretum Interpretive Center; Some annual funding from the Town Budget; Genealogical services fees, sales of historical photos, post cards, and related items.

### 3.

#### Hopkins Property Plan

The Board approved Plan for the acquisition and restoration of the Hopkins home and property has taken into consideration the several 'Special Considerations' detailed on the previous page. The Board proposes:

1. To ask the Town of Camillus Board to authorize the Town of Camillus Historical Society to proceed with plans to acquire and develop the former Hopkins house, and a parcel of surrounding property, as a significant Town historical resource, and state tourism enhancement.. Specifically it is proposed that the 'Special Considerations' shall be afforded critical consideration in the developing plan and that no action by the Historical Society will preclude a final approval of all conditions by the Town Board.
2. The Town of Camillus Historical Society Board will ask Assemblyman Harold C. Brown, Jr. to facilitate a transfer of a parcel of land, approximately five acres in size, and upon which now stands the Hopkins house with attached dormitory. Said parcel should include all the front land that extends down to Warners Road, and sufficient surrounding space to permit an effective presentation of the historical aspects of the structure. Final details of the parcel configuration including rights of property access via the existing incoming road, and the parking area, are to be worked out by the Society Board in cooperation with the NY DEC, owners of the surrounding property.
3. Additionally, Assemblyman Harold C. Brown, Jr. is asked to arrange an agreement between the Town of Camillus and the DEC whereby the DEC will plan to utilize a portion of the first floor of the dormitory structure for their Arboretum Interpretive Center. Under the terms of this agreement, the DEC will agree to pay, to the Town of Camillus, an amount sufficient to cover building and grounds maintenance costs. Such an arrangement will save the state DEC the significant expense of building and maintaining a new structure.
4. Ask Assemblyman Harold C. Brown, Jr. to investigate what state funds might now, or later, be available to the Town of Camillus for meeting total building handicapped accessible requirements, fire & safety codes, and for replacing the heating furnace that was removed from the building by persons unknown. There will be an immediate need to provide restroom facilities, a drinking fountain plus a wheel chair ramp in the DEC portion of the dormitory building, if arrangements with them go as planned, even if other aspects of the restoration plan does not move forward immediately. The specific cost of these items has not been finalized, but is being developed.

(Continued)

Plan (Continued) --

Town of Camillus Board authorization to move forward with Implementation of this Plan, to this level, will be sufficient to assure that the Hopkins property can be preserved, by the Town of Camillus, for its historical development, either sooner or later. Details of the extent of Town financial participation, if any, can be worked out in the next Budget preparations. By then it will be clearer as to what other funding sources are likely to be available and, thereby, what sort of time-table can be anticipated for moving ahead with the refurbishing of the structure and grounds, and developing the historical program and museum facilities.

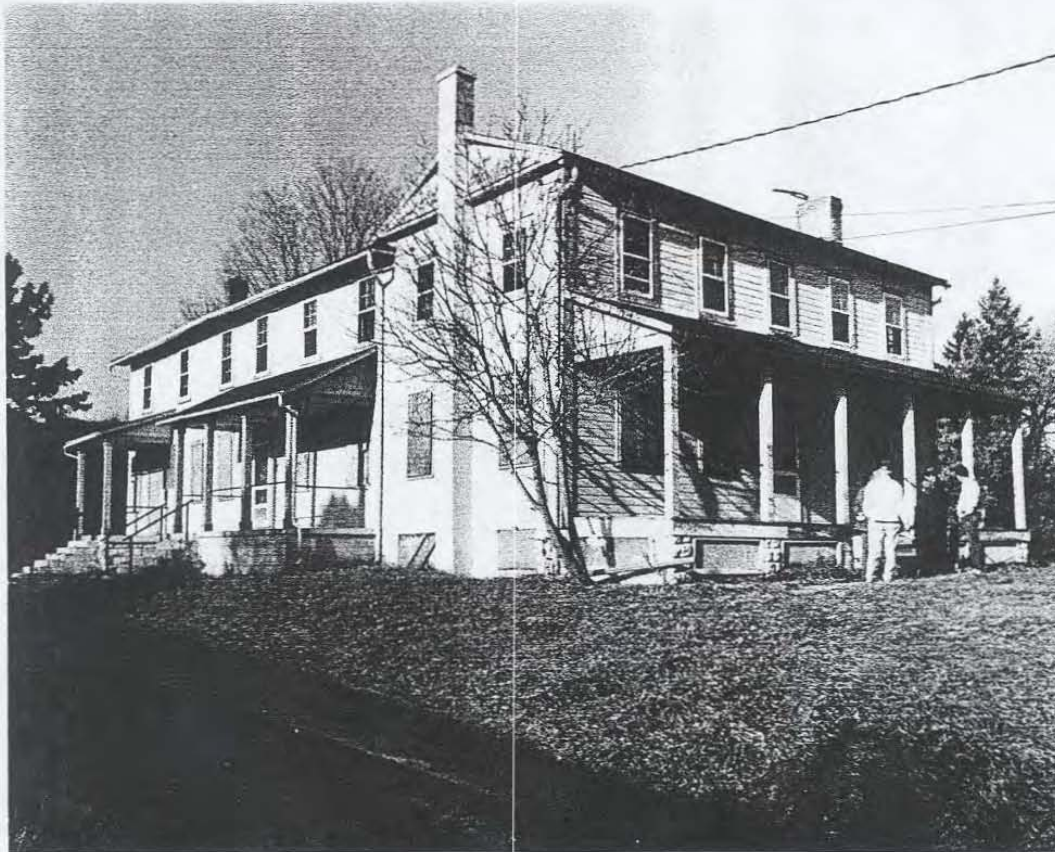
Respectfully Submitted by the Camillus Historical Society Board of Directors:

Officers: President John W. Luebs; Vice President Pat Burke; Trustees Bill Scriver; Marshal Bishop; David Walker; Treasurer, Diane Kiteveles; Historian Ralph Sims.

February 6, 1998: (The vote to submit this Plan to the Town Board, taken at the February Board Meeting, was passed by the following members. V.P. Pat Burke abstained.)

John W. Luebs  
 Ralph H. Sims  
 Marshall Bishop  
 William H. Scriver  
 Diane Kiteveles  
 David A. Walker





## Appendix VIII - USDA Natural Resources Conservation (NRCS) Plan



Farm & Community Service Center  
2571 U.S. Route 11, Suite 1  
Lafayette, New York 13084-9629

June 18, 1999

John Clancy  
Senior Forester  
1285 Fisher Avenue  
Cortland, NY 13045

RE: Conservation Alternatives on the Camillus Forest Unique Area

Dear John,

Enclosed you will find the following material:

1. An aerial photo of the area to be planned (Tract 23684)
2. A copy of an existing Food Security Act plan that was formulated for Tract 23684 (under Rudy Karasek)
3. A narrative explaining the present condition of the cropland, along with potential environmental concerns and alternatives that would address those concerns.
4. A Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) fact sheet

Sorry it took so long to get this information out to you. I hope it is worth the wait!! Call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Beth Thomas".

Mary Beth Thomas  
District Conservationist

The United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Conservation Plan for the Camillus Forest Unique Area

### Present Conditions and Potential Concerns:

Field 1 (16.5 acres), or "B" on the Camillus Land Use Map is the only field currently in use. The remaining fields have been left open or idle for the past few years.

Rudy Karasek worked the fields following a Food Security Act (FSA) plan that was formulated for his operation. A copy of this plan can be found in the side pocket of this folder. Rudy has since dropped the Tract, however the plan goes with the land. Any farmer that picks up Tract 23684 and wants to stay eligible for USDA programs would have to either adopt the plan, or work with NRCS to develop another plan that addresses sheet and rill erosion on all fields labeled HEL on the plan map (Highly Erodible Land). All fields on the west side of Thompson Road have been determined HEL. Both sheet, rill and gully erosion would be a concern on these fields.

The present FSA plan calls for a rotation of a high residue crop (corn grain) for 4 to 7 years, and hay for 4 or 5 years. All tillage would be conducted in the spring, with all fields having some kind of reduce tillage implemented on them in order to leave residue for soil erosion control. Using this rotation, sheet and rill erosion rates ranged from 4 to 6 tons/acre/year. The sustainable soil loss for these soils is 3 tons/acre/year.

There is a drainage way starting at the woods which flows in between fields 4 and 5 on the plan map. Gully erosion could be a problem if this area was ever plowed. Aerial photos and slides show the Karaseks would typically leave this draw in sod.

### Conservation Alternatives:

Fields 1, 2, 4, and 5 could be contour or field stripped to get sheet and rill erosion levels below 3 tons/acre/year. Also, by installing strips, a farmer may be able to mold board plow if they did not own machinery to implement a reduce tillage system.

A grassed waterway should be installed in the draw so the farmer could easily cross through the natural draw. A low flow surface inlet could be installed at the top of the waterway (near the woods) so the waterway would be kept fairly dry for machinery to cross through.

Fields 3A, 3B, 8, 12 and 13 should be worked across the slope as much as possible. Contour farming (farming on less than a 2% row gradient) may also be a possibility.



Fields 6, 7, and 11 should have rotations planned that are not as intensive as the rotations previously planned on those fields due to the steepness of the fields and the way they have to be worked (up and down the slope). Soil loss rates could be reduced if the number of years a row crop could be grown was decreased.

Fields 9A, 9B, 9C, 10A and 10B are all labeled NHEL (non-highly erodible). It is hard to tell on the plan view map if there is an adequate buffer already in place in between the field and the stream. Typically, filter strips are at least 20 feet wide if the field slope into the filter is less than 1% . Add an additional 1.5 feet of filter for every percent over 1.

In addition to the above mentioned best management practices is the possibility of enrolling all, or a portion of the crop land into the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. As you know, this program promotes open grassland for song birds and other wildlife habitat. Possible practices to install for habitat improvement include seeding the area down with warm and/or cool season grasses, planting food plots, constructing wildlife watering facilities and creating shallow ponding areas for water fowl nesting sites. I have enclosed a WHIP fact sheet that outlines the cost share assistance available through this program.



# Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

New York

April 1998

## Background

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on private lands. It provides both technical assistance and cost sharing to help establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat.

## How WHIP Works

Participants who own or control land agree to prepare and implement a Wildlife Habitat Development Plan. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides technical and financial assistance for the initial establishment of wildlife habitat development practices. In addition, if the landowner agrees, State wildlife agencies or private organizations may also provide expertise or additional funding to help complete a project.

## The Plan

Participants work with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to prepare a Wildlife Habitat Development Plan in consultation with the local conservation district. The plan describes the landowner's goals for improving wildlife habitat, includes a list of practices and schedule for installing them, and details the steps necessary to maintain the habitat for the life of the agreement.

## Cost-share Assistance

USDA and the participant enter into a cost-share agreement for wildlife habitat development. This agreement generally lasts a minimum of 10 years from the date the contract is signed. Under the agreement:

- The landowner agrees to maintain the cost-shared practices and allow USDA or its agent access to monitor the effectiveness of the practices.
- USDA agrees to provide technical assistance and pay up to 75 percent of the cost of installing the wildlife habitat practices.

Cost-share payments may be used to establish, maintain, or replace practices.



(continued on reverse)





## **Appendix IX - Guidelines for Applying the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

### **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Its Influence on Management Actions for Recreation and Related Facilities**

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 applies to the Department and requires, in part, that reasonable modifications must be made to its services and programs, 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 to the Department. Since recreation is an acknowledged public accommodation program of the Department, and there are services and activities associated with that program, the Department has the mandated obligation to comply with the ADA, Title II and ADA Accessibility Guidelines, as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The ADA requires a public entity to thoroughly examine each of its programs and services to determine the level of accessibility provided. The examination involves the identification of all existing programs and services and a formal assessment to determine the degree of accessibility provided to each. The assessment includes the use of the standards established by Federal Department of Justice Rule as delineated by the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG, either adopted or proposed) and/or the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, as appropriate. Each Unit Management Plan prepared by the Department will outline a proposed assessment process and a schedule for completing the assessment. This activity is dependent on obtaining an inventory of all the recreational facilities or assets supporting the programs and services available on the unit. The assessment will also establish the need for new or upgraded facilities or assets necessary to meet ADA mandates. The Department is not required to make each of its existing facilities and assets accessible. The facilities or assets proposed in this UMP are identified in the



“Management Actions” section.

## **The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires public agencies to employ specific guidelines which ensure that buildings, facilities, programs and vehicles as addressed by the ADA are accessible in terms of architecture and design, transportation and communication to individuals with disabilities. A federal agency known as the Access Board has issued the ADAAG for this purpose. The Department of Justice Rule provides authority to these guidelines.

Currently adopted ADAAG address the built environment: buildings, ramps, sidewalks, rooms within buildings, etc. The Access Board has proposed guidelines to expand ADAAG to cover outdoor developed facilities: trails, camp grounds, picnic areas and beaches. The proposed ADAAG is contained in the September, 1999 Final Report of the Regulatory Negotiation Committee for Outdoor Developed Areas.

ADAAG apply to newly constructed structures and facilities and alterations to existing structures and facilities. Further, it applies to fixed structures or facilities, i.e., those that are attached to the earth or another structure that is attached to the earth. Therefore, when the Department is planning the construction of new recreational facilities, assets that support recreational facilities, or is considering an alteration of existing recreational facilities or the assets supporting them, it must also consider providing access to the facilities or elements for people with disabilities. The standards which exist in ADAAG or are contained in the proposed ADAAG also provide guidance to achieve modifications to trails, picnic areas, campgrounds (or sites) and beaches in order to obtain programmatic compliance with the ADA.

### *ADAAG Application*

Current and proposed ADAAG will be used in assessing existing facilities or assets to determine compliance to accessibility standards. ADAAG is not intended or designed for this purpose, but using it to establish accessibility levels lends credibility to the assessment result. Management

recommendations in each UMP will be proposed in accordance with the ADAAG for the built environment, the proposed ADAAG for outdoor developed areas, the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, and other appropriate guiding documents. Until such time as the proposed ADAAG becomes an adopted rule of the Department of Justice, the Department is required to use the best information available to comply with the ADA; this direction includes the proposed guidelines.

## **Appendix X - Public Meeting and Written Comments Concerning the Draft Plan**

### **June 17, 2002: Public Comments - Camillus Forest Unique Area Public Meeting**

*Please note: questions and comments are listed in the order they were received. The Department reserves the right to edit for clarity.*

#### **Afternoon Session**

**Question:** What do you plan to do in the area where the trees blew down ?

*Answer:* Our plan is to use the forest as a demonstration area to show how a forest ecosystem naturally recovers from a catastrophic event. We are going to have a nature trail with interpretive stations that explain how forests recover from such events. Our forests in the northeast are resilient and have the ability to recover on their own.

**Question:** What is the comment period ?

*Answer:* The comment period is one month. Written comments will be accepted until July 17, 2002.

**Question:** Is there a timetable for all the events that the DEC proposes ?

*Answer:* We have in the plan a year by year schedule starting on page 26 of the draft plan. The implementation schedule is broken down by priority; priority one (1) projects are those that we feel we really need to do. Priority two (2) projects are those that would be nice to do. Plan implementation costs are estimates. So far, we have been able to get routine needs accomplished through interdepartmental cooperative effort.

**Question/Comment:** Why is bow hunting in the plan ? I am concerned about the safety of children.

*Answer:* The Department is concerned about everyone's safety. The Department had a interim policy of allowing small gun hunting on the property. The draft plan changes this policy to bow hunting only for two reasons: 1). there are concerns the size of the local deer herd has increased because of recent mild winters - having some control over the deer herd (we believe) is beneficial to the forest and surrounding farmland, and 2). most bow hunters hunt from tree stands shooting arrows short distances. We have not received any reports of conflicts with bow hunting and recreational uses on the properties we manage in the region.

**Question:** I own property that adjoins the Camillus Forest Unique Area. I've been having quite a few problems with hunters, snowmobilers, and ATV's not staying on your property. People say they don't know where the boundary lines are. I've been told DEC doesn't have the funds to take care of these problems. The problems don't seem to be getting any better. These problems started when the DEC made the area open for public recreational use.

*Answer:* We are definitely responding to those problems with the restrictions in the plan. We have had requests from individuals to have snowmobile trails on the forest and our analysis shows that the property is too small to support their use. Once we have a final plan in place we can more effectively enforce rules and regulations. The draft plan also bans ATV use on the property. The proposed informational kiosk will give us an opportunity to educate users once they arrive. We plan on doing a better job of educating users by providing them with a brochure and map that they can take into the woods. Additionally, the draft plan calls for new signage and complete marking of all the boundary lines. We want to be good neighbors, be creative, and respond to your needs with the limited resources available.

**Question:** Does the plan call for any motorized access ?

*Answer:* The plan calls for no motorized vehicles outside the parking area except for administrative access and maintenance.

**Question:** Will the New York State Environmental Conservation Police be patrolling the area or will the Department depend on the services of the Camillus Police Department ?

*Answer:* The primary Department staff to enforce regulations on the property will be the DEC Forest Rangers. We are happy and fortunate to receive assistance from the Town of Camillus Police Department. The Forest Ranger assigned to the area is responsible for all the state forest lands and unique areas in Onondaga and Oswego counties. There is a possibility that an additional Forest Ranger position may be created to handle just Oswego county. If that happens, additional time will be available to patrol properties in Onondaga county, including the Camillus Forest Unique Area.. As with all the state lands we manage, we like to have the neighborhood involved - similar to the concept of a neighborhood watch. If an issue develops, your input can help DEC enforcement people be more effective. We will take all the help we can get - neighbor involvement helps us a lot.

**Question:** How many trails are you going to have to access the site ?

*Answer:* The area will initially be served by one two (2) mile stewardship loop trail that was established by the Department as a temporary measure. Unfortunately, the Labor Day storm significantly impacted the wooded portion of the trail. A new 1250' trail will connect the stewardship trail to the proposed new parking lot on Thompson Rd.. We are respecting our neighbors by placing most of the trail in the interior of the property. Eventually, we would like to construct an additional 1/4 mile trail loop in the northern portion of the property.

### ***Evening Session***

**Comment:** I use the area for mountain biking. I noticed that mountain biking hasn't been included in the draft plan and I hope it would be. I often bike at Green Lakes which is busy and a greater distance for me to travel to.

**Comment:** We used to have a snowmobile trail on the property and would like to see a snowmobile trail reestablished through the property. We (the Camillus snowmobile club) sent a letter back on February 26 to ask that the trail be reestablished. We've taken the lead with working with the Camillus Police Department and other stakeholders. We were established in 1966 and would like you to consider a snowmobile trail through the perimeter of the forest.

**Comment:** The Camillus Forest Unique Area property is very close to the Erie Canal Park and its trail network. The state should consider acquiring land to connect the Erie Canal Park with the Camillus Forest. Most of the land is available for sale to the state from a willing seller. I wanted to make sure that the state was emphasizing that acquisition.

**Comment:** You will create a wildlife sanctuary effect by establishing food plots without access for harvesting - you are going to create some problems. Bow hunting is not going to take care of the problem. You should also consider a muzzle loading season. Groups are out there to help - but they won't unless they have reasonable access. What are you going to do when the skunks and raccoons start increasing in population in people's backyards ?

**Comment:** I represent a local mountain biking club and can see that the size of the property might limit the



ability to construct formal trail networks for bikes - but it seems as though there might be a way to allow for informal use. There really is no place around for such activity. It would be nice if you could somehow make something available for low impact use. Please consider allowing people to enjoy the fields and woods just like hikers only on two (2) wheels.

**Comment:** I'm with the Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council and it is my opinion, although I am not anti-hunting, that the population of the area is simply too dense to support hunting. Real estate values of homes located in close proximity to this land might be reduced if hunting is allowed. The area is located next to a densely populated suburb of the city of Syracuse. Restricted uses of an area is one of those things that we have to accept - whether we call them wildlife sanctuaries, unique forests, or pristine areas. We need to conserve areas so people have a place to enjoy themselves without the noise of ATV's or snowmobiles. DEC provides other areas for snowmobile and mountain bike use. The multiple use approach is something that is becoming rather old, and I see that in Maine and New Hampshire. The reality is that there are some areas that you just can't have multiple use. Essentially, it can result in destruction and/or reduction of the values of the property. When you have an area like this so close to a metropolitan area you receive a lot of pressure from individuals, politicians, and interest groups. The Rockefeller Reserve Area provides simple rustic trails for recreationists - and that is nice to see. You should look at putting policies in place that will protect the many values associated with the area 50 years from now and through the 21st century. Lets keep this area as wild as possible for the next 25 to 50 years down the road when some of us will no longer be here.

**Comment:** I use the unique area quite often; I enjoy it very much. I walk my beagle quite frequently there. In New York State the population of hunters is aging and declining over time. Opportunities to take youngsters out for small game hunting are diminishing. The Camillus Forest Unique area provides an opportunity to expose a youngster to the sport of small game hunting - and to the ethics, rules, and laws of hunting. This is a place that is close by. It has reasonably easy access. Rabbits, squirrels, and wild turkeys are there - it is a nice place to spend a few hours before the sun sets after work. Having an area close by is practical as it increases the enjoyable time I can spend in the field. I don't think we are in danger of being overrun by squirrels, rabbits, or turkeys. Some of the residents may start seeing the impact of turkeys and certainly deer on their property. I understand the concerns of firearms on the property, but I have no estimate of what the use of that property has been in respect to small game hunting. I've gone to the area to spend a day and have not seen another person on the property. People that shoot at signs, the stop barrier, or poaching should get ticked and/or arrested. But people who are using the land lawfully - staying within the season and limits should have access. It is difficult for me to keep my beagle on leash, so I'm not so sure why that is a rule. I'm concerned you are looking at restricting small game hunting.

**Comment:** I'm with the town of Camillus Erie Canal Park and would just like to mention the impact of other projects around the Camillus Forest Unique Area. The Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council has developed a canoe/kayak trail from the village of Camillus down to Onondaga Lake with a put in/take out area at Amboy adjacent to the property. Secondly, the long range plan is to develop a walking trail along Nine Mile Creek; thirdly, we hope when the Nine Mile Creek Aqueduct is completed that people visit the area. The proposed parking lot on Thompson Rd. is ideally situated for the Camillus Forest Unique Area.

**Comment:** Ever since the property has been managed by DEC, I take my children and grandchildren to hike on the area. Each year it has become harder and harder to walk the small path. The path should be continually mowed so we can walk this area. In winter time the access is difficult for cross country skiing. Leave the area as it is (as a wild area) and keep it clean. Consider developing a small picnic area - but it must be monitored by the Sheriff's Department. I have met students from SUNY ESF, Le Moyne, and Cornell doing studies. It is a very nice area but it must be maintained because there is a lot of vandalism. Your plans are fine, but you should consider having farmers use the hay. It should be maintained like all parks, keep it neat and clean. The mowing should be done more frequently.

**Comment:** I am a neighbor and I would like to know who I have to call to mow the area. It is a disgrace. Every year I have to call and complain about the mowing. It is probably way over my knees by now. If I didn't mow my lawn what would you do to me ? I don't understand why it costs so much to mow. I have not see any results from your mowing.

**Comment:** I am a neighboring farmer that owns 200 acres bordering the Camillus Forest Unique Area. I speak for neighboring farmers in the area. We don't want anything to do with snowmobiles. I don't know how they think are going to get in and out of the Unique Area if you can't go on our properties - we are all posted. We've just had a lot of trouble with those snowmobiles. They don't come back to clean up trash in the spring. They have left snowmobiles on my property. I have had problems with vandalism related to snowmobiles on my property. I have had tires damaged and my tractor was taken out of my barn. I want no part of a snowmobile trail crossing my property. It isn't only the snowmobile club either - people ride the trails that aren't from the area and/or don't belong to the club; they come from all over.

**Question:** Will the Warners Rd. parking area be closed ?

*Answer:* Yes - a new parking lot is proposed along Thompson Rd. (please see map).

**Question:** How did you calculate the "core area" hunting area ?

*Answer:* We calculated the 160 acre "core area" by using the Department's geographic information system (GIS). From a hunting quality standpoint, we assumed a 500 foot perimeter around the boundary line of the property. That leaves only 160 out of 355 acres available for gun hunting; not enough, in our opinion, to provide a safe *sustainable* quality small game gun hunting experience. The 500 foot perimeter was designed to buffer occupied dwellings and help identify the acreage available for a quality gun hunting experience.

**Question:** How did you determine what the use of the property is - can you determine it ?

*Answer:* It is difficult to determine use. The plan calls for a informational kiosk that will include a trail register. However, our experience has been that people often don't sign the trail register. We make estimates based on reports from staff, Forest Rangers, local police agencies, and recreational users. In the plan we are predicting the long term use for the next 10 years with the best information available. Once the plan is approved, we expect increased use as public awareness increases.

**Question:** Page one (1) of the plan mentions the State Nature and Historic Preserve Trust. What is the status of that ?

*Answer:* The legislation hasn't passed. We recommended that the legislation be put on hold until the planning process, especially public input, was completed.

**Comment:** The snowmobile club has received permission from one neighboring farmer to cross his land. We have a million dollar policy - and have never had a claim against us. We are willing to do what we can to help other recreationists such as cross country skiers. We have had some problems in the past - but we have helped widen the Erie Canal trail. We could help maintain and monitor the trail for everyone. We would pick the trash up on the trail. We would like to expand the western range of the club's trail and make it handicapped accessible.

**Question:** Will the forest be logged for saleable lumber ?

*Answer:* No, the plan does not call for any commercial logging on the property.

**Question:** How would the interpretive trail be constructed, and how accessible would it be for people that want to see the old forest ?

*Answer:* Most of the trail will follow an existing farm road and temporary trail that was established prior to the Labor Day storm. The trail will be 3 to 4 feet wide on average, but not wide enough for motorized vehicles. Local volunteers have offered to help reestablish the trail through the old forest area using primarily hand tools.

**Question:** Do you realize that a 500 foot restriction around the boundary lines would impact bow hunting opportunities ?

*Answer:* A 500 buffer around the boundary line itself would not apply for bow hunters. The 500 buffer concept was used to illustrate what acreage would be available for a quality gun hunting experience.

**Question:** The plan mentions mowing. Will this be done several times a year ?

*Answer:* The mowing is intended to keep the fields from succeeding into forest. Maintaining both fields, shrubby areas, and forests helps provide diverse habitat for wide variety of plants, animals, birds, and insects. The mowing is not intended to keep the fields in a "park like" condition. Mowing will happen on an average of once every 2 years in the fields. We will try to keep the yard area around the Warner's Rd. house mowed on a more frequent basis until the house is removed. The area around the house will be left to revert to a natural state once the house is removed.

**Question:** There is some old machinery in the forest, is that part of the interpretive trail ? What are the plans for those type of things ?

*Answer:* A local SUNY ESF student has volunteered his services to help reestablish the wooded portion of the trail and put together an interpretive brochure. The old farm machinery and other such items will be mentioned in the brochure as they relate to the agricultural history of the land and the region.

**Question:** What is the DEC Adopt-A-Natural Resources Program ? How does it work ?

*Answer:* The Adopt-A-Natural Resources Program gives the Department the opportunity to enter into a stewardship agreement with volunteers. The activities done by volunteers through the Adopt-A-Natural Resources Program will follow the plan work schedule. Volunteers help us stretch our Department resources to get the job done.

**Question:** Would you like farmers and other volunteers help mowing ?

*Answer:* We would love to have people help us.

**Comment:** The snowmobile club maintains a million dollar liability policy throughout the year, even when the trail is closed. We would help maintain the trail head to help keep ATV's from using the trail.

MEETING ADJOURNED

## **Written Comments**

*Please note: The Department reserves the right to edit written comments for clarity and conciseness.*

**Comment:** I wholeheartedly support the proposed UMP for the Camillus Unique Forest - without changes - as I am certain it is overwhelmingly supported by the 1,700 members of the Onondaga Chapter, Adirondack Mountain Club of which I am a member and advisor. I also support passive recreation and rotational mowing for this area. It will be a beautiful area for people in the metropolitan region to recreate by hiking, studying nature, and appreciating history.

**Comment:** I would like to endorse your plan since this area is too small for bikes or motorized vehicles. Please keep it natural for passive recreation.

**Comment:** As a member of The Adirondack Mountain Club, The Finger Lakes Trail Conference, and The North Country Trail Association I hike, maintain, and build trails in Central New York and elsewhere. I would like to see the Camillus Forest Unique Area managed as a non-motorized recreation area. The small size of this area makes it most suitable for hiking and wildlife viewing. I would like to see the hiking trails developed to allow access to the area, this would maximize the public's enjoyment of the area. I do not feel hunting with firearms should be allowed as this area is too small and too close to populated areas. This is a unique natural resource and should be managed as such.

**Comment:** I have reviewed the April 2002 Unit Management Plan for the Camillus Forest Unique Area. I am personally fully in support of the management goals and objectives as outlined. I am also writing as a representative of the groups listed below (Adirondack Mountain Club, Onondaga Chapter, and CNY Chapter North Country Trail Association/Trail Planning and Development). Specifically, we support the passive use recreation plan. The area should be preserved for its ecosystem as a first priority; we would like to see the hiking trail reestablished. Such uses as horseback riding, ATV's, mountain bikes, snowmobiling, and hunting with firearms are not suitable for such a small area and in consideration of the soils and topography of the area. My observations, having visited the area a couple of times, is that it is better protected without these intrusions. We especially urge you to monitor for possible ATV incursions, and take positive steps, including installation of barriers or replacement of outdated barriers, and enforcement.

**Comment:** The Camillus Snowmobile Club's June 17, 2002 testimonial for the inclusion of the snowmobiling in the Camillus Forest Unique Area is on record and is self explanatory. We still believe that our Club should have been given the chance to respond to all negative comments collected from the March 1997, and May 1998 public scoping meetings. Although these anti-snowmobiling comments may be outdated, we nevertheless feel that they should have been included in your draft plan handout, either in the text or the appendix. Our club works hard for turning obstacles into opportunities.

We have met with the Camillus Highway Superintendent, the Camillus Farmers Association, and the Camillus Police Department. The Camillus Police Department patrols the snowmobile trails with two snowmobiles. The newest technology of the four-stroke powered snowmobiles are making our sport more quiet, and more user friendly to groups that once were opposed to our sport. We request the opportunity to regain back what was once a privilege of our club, to allow members to ride through the Camillus Forest. Our club would agree to signing an Adopt-A-Natural Resource Agreement with the DEC Division of Lands and Forests.

**Comment:** This letter is to support the Camillus Snowmobile Club in its effort to establish a snowmobile trail from the Camillus Erie Canal to the Western Ranch Motor Inn. The purpose of this trail is to promote tourism within Camillus and particularly for the enjoyment of riding a smooth trail on the towpath leading to the town park.



**Comment:** Your formulation for the core hunting area has much to be desired. I am opposed to not allowing small game hunting. It seems to me 300 plus acres would allow safe hunting and I would like to see it included for future generations of hunters - especially with an area so close to metropolitan Syracuse.

## **Appendix XI - Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Camillus Forest Unique Area Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Draft Plan**

#### **Question 1: Why does the plan restrict hunting to bow and arrow only?**

**Answer:** The Camillus Forest Unique Area (CFUA) covers approximately 355 acres. Analysis of the land area illustrates that the “core” area available to hunting with a firearm is only 160 acres - or 45% of the total land area. Additionally, only 11% is heavily forested, with the remainder of the acreage being open field or early successional forest. Thus, insufficient acreage is available to provide a quality hunting experience to a large number of small game firearm hunters.

While the area does not have sufficient acreage to sustain public hunting with a firearm, it provides good bow and arrow hunting opportunities. Additionally, small game hunting with a firearm is permitted on the vast majority of state forests and wildlife management areas in the region. Table 1 illustrates that over 18,000 acres of public land is available for small game hunting with firearms within 20 miles of the CFUA.

**Table 1 - DEC Public Lands Available for Hunting within 20 Miles of the CFUA**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Acres (Approx).</b>	<b>Distance (miles)</b>	<b>Land Designation</b>
Hamlin Marsh	1,540	8 miles	Wildlife Management Area
Three Rivers	3,540	9 miles	Wildlife Management Area
Cicero Swamp	4,816	11 miles	Wildlife Management Area
Three Mile Bay	3,600	17 miles	Wildlife Management Area
Frozen Ocean	750	20 miles	State Forest
Morgan Hill	4,000	20 miles	State Forest
Total	18,246	-----	-----

#### **Question 2: Why is the development of an arboretum not recommended in the plan ?**

**Answer:** An arboretum and an environmental interpretive education center was initially included as an option in the plan. Since the initial development of the draft plan, an additional arboretum project has emerged in the Syracuse metropolitan area. The Onondaga Park Association (OPA) has been successful in raising \$1 million for the project through private and government sources. A \$100,000 master plan, now under development, will help officials raise more money for the multimillion-dollar project.

After careful analysis, DEC concluded that insufficient financial and human resources exist in the community to support an additional arboretum. The OPA has a wonderful plan that will become a major metropolitan attraction. Competing with such a project simply does not make sense.

**Question 3: Why is demonstration forest management excluded from the plan ?**

**Answer:** The 1998 Labor Day storm damaged approximately 15 acres of the old, mature, and middle-aged forest (approximately 22% of total forest cover) on the property. As such, a good portion of the mature and middle-aged forest does not need forest improvement thinning at this time. The plan specifically recommends that the 40 acre old forest area be left to develop into old growth forest with minimal human intervention.

**Question 4: What will happen to the former Syracuse State School buildings on the site ?**

**Answer:** Once the draft plan is approved, the Department plans on removing all structures on the property. After careful review of the current building design and required maintenance costs, the DEC does not plan on constructing a new facility on the site.

**Question 5: What does DEC plan to do regarding long term parking ?**

**Answer:** The plan calls for eventual closure of the parking lot on Warners Rd. (route 173). A new interpretive kiosk and 20 car parking area is scheduled for construction in 2006-2007. The parking lot will be located on the northwest side of Thompson Rd near the two story blue house and barn on the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) property (please refer to map on page 44 of the draft plan).

**Question 6: The DEC established a temporary forest stewardship trail to the old forest area prior to the Labor Day storm. Does DEC plan to restore the trail ?**

**Answer:** Yes, restoring the trail is a priority 1 project scheduled for 2003-2004. The trail will be restored with the help of community volunteers under the leadership of Camillus resident Matt Kaufmann. The trail will pass near the storm damaged area in the old forest. No major tree cutting is planned as this part of the property will be managed with minimal human intervention.

**Question 7: The plan mentions voluntary conservation easement(s) and access. Why is the DEC seeking these ?**

**Answer:** The western portion of the property has limited access for administrative/maintenance purposes. Additionally, a 300 foot wide conservation easement along the western portion of the old forest would provide a visual buffer from Devoe Rd. and prevent development immediately adjacent to the old forest. All easements will be negotiated for purchase with willing sellers.

**Question 8: Why does the DEC plan on continuing to mow approximately 150 acres on the property ?**

**Answer:** Periodic mowing will maintain the diverse land cover types that currently exist on the property. Fields will be mowed on the order of every 2 to 3 years (50 to 60 acres per year) after August to provide wildflowers for birds and butterflies while protecting nesting birds. Periodic mowing will also provide old field cover for a variety of birds and mammals. Finally, periodic mowing will help retain views throughout the property.

**Question 9: Will snowmobiling be a permitted use ?**

**Answer:** In the draft plan, it was determined that the use of motorized vehicles outside the parking area is not a compatible use for an area of this size. Public comments and suggestions during the initial public meetings in March of 1997 and May of 1998 support this policy.

During the draft plan public meeting and comment period, the Camillus Snowmobile Club came forward to request reestablishment of a 1.25 mile corridor snowmobile trail across the Unique Area. The trail will not be approved without written consent from neighboring landowners and the Camillus Town Supervisor.

**Question 10: Why did it take so long to finalize the draft plan?**

**Answer:** The property was auctioned in August of 1996 by the New York State Office of General Services - although the sale was never completed. It took time to resolve related legal issues to complete transfer of title to the DEC. The Department was notified that it had clear title to the property in April of 2002.

## **Appendix XII- State Environmental Quality Review, Negative Declaration**

617.20

### **APPENDIX A**

#### **STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

**PURPOSE:** THE FULL EAF IS DESIGNED TO HELP APPLICANTS AND AGENCIES DETERMINE, IN AN ORDERLY MANNER, WHETHER A PROJECT OR ACTION MAY BE SIGNIFICANT. THE QUESTION OF WHETHER AN ACTION MAY BE SIGNIFICANT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY TO ANSWER. FREQUENTLY, THERE ARE ASPECTS OF A PROJECT THAT ARE SUBJECTIVE OR UNMEASURABLE. IT IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT THOSE WHO DETERMINE SIGNIFICANCE MAY HAVE LITTLE OR NO FORMAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT OR MAY NOT BE TECHNICALLY EXPERT IN ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS. IN ADDITION, MANY WHO HAVE KNOWLEDGE IN ONE PARTICULAR AREA MAY NOT BE AWARE OF THE BROADER CONCERNS AFFECTING THE QUESTION OF SIGNIFICANCE.

THE FULL EAF IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE A METHOD WHEREBY APPLICANTS AND AGENCIES CAN BE ASSURED THAT THE DETERMINATION PROCESS HAS BEEN ORDERLY, COMPREHENSIVE IN NATURE, YET FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO ALLOW INTRODUCTION OF INFORMATION TO FIT A PROJECT OR ACTION.

**FULL EAF COMPONENTS:** THE FULL EAF IS COMPRISED OF THREE PARTS:

- PART 1:** PROVIDES OBJECTIVE DATA AND INFORMATION ABOUT A GIVEN PROJECT AND ITS SITE. BY IDENTIFYING BASIC PROJECT DATA, IT ASSISTS A REVIEWER IN THE ANALYSIS THAT TAKES PLACE IN PARTS 2 AND 3.
- PART 2:** FOCUSES ON IDENTIFYING THE RANGE OF POSSIBLE IMPACTS THAT MAY OCCUR FROM A PROJECT OR ACTION. IT PROVIDES GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER AN IMPACT IS LIKELY TO BE CONSIDERED SMALL TO MODERATE OR WHETHER IT IS A POTENTIALLY-LARGE IMPACT. THE FORM ALSO IDENTIFIES WHETHER AN IMPACT CAN BE MITIGATED OR REDUCED.
- PART 3:** IF ANY IMPACT IN PART 2 IS IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIALLY-LARGE, THEN PART 3 IS USED TO EVALUATE WHETHER OR NOT THE IMPACT IS ACTUALLY IMPORTANT.

#### **DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE -- TYPE 1 AND UNLISTED ACTIONS**

IDENTIFY THE PORTIONS OF EAF COMPLETED FOR THIS PROJECT:

☒ PART 1

☒ PART 2

☐ PART 3

UPON REVIEW OF THE INFORMATION RECORDED ON THIS EAF (PARTS 1 AND 2 AND 3 IF APPROPRIATE), AND ANY OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION, AND CONSIDERING BOTH THE MAGNITUDE AND IMPORTANCE OF EACH IMPACT, IT IS REASONABLY DETERMINED BY THE LEAD AGENCY THAT:

- ☒ A. THE PROJECT WILL NOT RESULT IN ANY LARGE AND IMPORTANT IMPACT(S) AND, THEREFORE, IS ONE WHICH **WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THEREFORE A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.**
- ☐ B. ALTHOUGH THE PROJECT COULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THERE WILL NOT BE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT FOR THIS UNLISTED ACTION BECAUSE THE MITIGATION MEASURES DESCRIBED IN PART 3 HAVE BEEN REQUIRED, THEREFORE **A CONDITIONED NEGATIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.\***
- ☐ C. THE PROJECT MAY RESULT IN ONE OR MORE LARGE AND IMPORTANT IMPACTS THAT MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THEREFORE **A POSITIVE DECLARATION WILL BE PREPARED.**

\*A CONDITIONED NEGATIVE DECLARATION IS ONLY VALID FOR UNLISTED ACTIONS

#### **PREPARATION OF CAMILLUS FOREST UNIQUE AREA UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NAME OF ACTION

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

NAME OF LEAD AGENCY

**JOHN M. CLANCY**

PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER IN LEAD AGENCY

**SENIOR FORESTER**

TITLE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER IN LEAD AGENCY

SIGNATURE OF PREPARER (IF DIFFERENT FROM RESPONSIBLE OFFICER)

**JUNE 18, 2003**

DATE

## PART 1--PROJECT INFORMATION

### PREPARED BY PROJECT SPONSOR

NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT IS DESIGNED TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE ACTION PROPOSED MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT. PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENTIRE FORM, PARTS A THROUGH E. ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER VERIFICATION AND PUBLIC REVIEW. PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU BELIEVE WILL BE NEEDED TO COMPLETE PARTS 2 AND 3.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT COMPLETION OF THE FULL EAF WILL BE DEPENDENT ON INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AND WILL NOT INVOLVE NEW STUDIES, RESEARCH OR INVESTIGATION. IF INFORMATION REQUIRING SUCH ADDITIONAL WORK IS UNAVAILABLE, SO INDICATE AND SPECIFY EACH INSTANCE.

NAME OF ACTION <b>PREPARATION AND REVIEW OF THE CAMILLUS FOREST UA DRAFT UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>		
LOCATION OF ACTION (INCLUDE STREET ADDRESS, MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY) <b>BETWEEN THOMPSON ROAD AND DEVOE ROAD, TOWN OF CAMILLUS, ONONDAGA COUNTY</b>		
NAME OF APPLICANT/SPONSOR <b>NYS DEC, LANDS &amp; FORESTS</b>		BUSINESS TELEPHONE <b>(607) 753-3095</b>
ADDRESS <b>1285 FISHER AVENUE</b>		
CITY/PO <b>CORTLAND</b>	STATE <b>NY</b>	ZIP CODE <b>13045-1090</b>
NAME OF OWNER (IF DIFFERENT)		BUSINESS TELEPHONE <b>()</b>
ADDRESS		
CITY/PO	STATE	ZIP CODE
DESCRIPTION OF ACTION <b>THIS PLAN OUTLINES A STRATEGY TO GRADUALLY IMPROVE PASSIVE RECREATIONAL USE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FISHING, HIKING, BIRDWATCHING, BOW HUNTING AND CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING.</b>  <b>PLAN HIGHLIGHTS:</b> <b>THE PLAN CALLS FOR REMOVAL OF EXISTING WOOD-FRAME STRUCTURES, ROTATIONAL MOWING, AND REESTABLISHMENT OF A FOREST STEWARDSHIP FOOT TRAIL. ADDITIONALLY, THE PLAN PROPOSES CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW TWENTY-CAR PARKING LOT AND CONNECTING FOOT TRAIL.</b>  <b>THIS PLAN WILL DIRECT ALL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD DATING FROM THE TIME OF ADOPTION. AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT AND ADOPT THE PLAN IS DERIVED FROM SECTION 9 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW.</b>		

PLEASE COMPLETE EACH QUESTION--INDICATE N.A. IF NOT APPLICABLE

#### A. SITE DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL SETTING OF OVERALL PROJECT, BOTH DEVELOPED AND UNDEVELOPED AREAS.

1. PRESENT LAND ☐ URBAN ☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ RESIDENTIAL (SUBURBAN) ☒ RURAL (NON-FARM)  
USE: ☒ FOREST ☒ AGRICULTURE ☒ OTHER **OPEN FIELDS, RIPARIAN AREAS, BRUSHLAND**

2. TOTAL ACREAGE OF PROJECT **355** ACRES. PRESENTLY AFTER COMPLETION  
AREA: APPROXIMATE ACREAGE \_\_\_\_\_ ACRES \_\_\_\_\_ ACRES  
\_\_\_\_\_  
S \_\_\_\_\_

MEADOW OR BRUSHLAND (NON-AGRICULTURAL)	96.0	ACRE S	95.5	ACRES
FORESTED	67.0	ACRE S	69.0	ACRES
AGRICULTURAL (INCLUDES ORCHARDS, CROPLAND, PASTURE, ETC.)	170.0	ACRE S	169.0	ACRES
WETLAND(FRESHWATER OR TIDAL AS PER ARTICLES 24,25 OF ECL)	6.0	ACRE S	6.0	ACRES
WATER SURFACE AREA	0	ACRE S	0	ACRES
UNVEGETATED (ROCK, EARTH OR FILL)	0	ACRE S	0	ACRES
ROADS, BUILDINGS AND OTHER PAVED SURFACES	1	ACRE S	.5	ACRES
OTHER (INDICATE TYPE) <b>RIPARIAN ZONE</b>	15	ACRE S	15	ACRES

3. WHAT IS PREDOMINANT SOIL TYPE(S) ON PROJECT SITE? **CAMILLUS ONTARIO, HILTON LOAMS**

A. SOIL DRAINAGE: ☒ WELL DRAINED **52** % OF SITE ☒ MODERATELY WELL DRAINED **42** % OF SITE.

☒ POORLY DRAINED **6** % OF SITE

B. IF ANY AGRICULTURAL LAND IS INVOLVED, HOW MANY ACRES OF SOIL ARE CLASSIFIED WITHIN SOIL GROUP 1 THROUGH 4 OF THE NYS LAND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM? **85** ACRES (SEE 1NYCRR 370).

4. ARE THERE BEDROCK OUTCROPPINGS ON PROJECT SITE? ☐ Yes ☒ No

A. WHAT IS DEPTH TO BEDROCK? (IN FEET) **5+**

5. APPROXIMATE PERCENTAGE OF PROPOSED PROJECT SITE WITH SLOPES: ☒ 0-10% **68** % ☒ 10-15% **30** %

☒ 15% OR GREATER **2** %

6. IS PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY CONTIGUOUS TO, OR CONTAIN A BUILDING, SITE, OR DISTRICT, LISTED ON THE STATE OR NATIONAL REGISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES? ☐ Yes ☒ No

7. IS PROJECT SUBSTANTIALLY CONTIGUOUS TO A SITE LISTED ON THE REGISTER OF NATIONAL NATURAL LANDMARKS? ☐ Yes ☒ No

8. WHAT IS THE DEPTH OF THE WATER TABLE? **4** (IN FEET)

9. IS SITE LOCATED OVER A PRIMARY, PRINCIPAL, OR SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER? ☒ Yes ☐ No

10. DO HUNTING, FISHING OR SHELL FISHING OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTLY EXIST IN THE PROJECT AREA? ☒ Yes ☐ No

11. DOES PROJECT SITE CONTAIN ANY SPECIES OF PLANT OR ANIMAL LIFE THAT IS IDENTIFIED AS THREATENED OR ENDANGERED? ☐ Yes ☒ No

ACCORDING TO: **THE NYS NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM, NYS BREEDING BIRD ATLAS, PLANT STUDY BY SUNY-ESF CONDUCTED BY RECOGNIZED EXPERT DR. DONALD LEOPOLD, AND DEC FORESTERS.**

IDENTIFY EACH SPECIES: \_\_\_\_\_

12. ARE THERE ANY UNIQUE OR UNUSUAL LAND FORMS ON THE PROJECT SITE? (I.E., CLIFFS, DUNES, OTHER GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS?) ☒ Yes ☐ No

DESCRIBE: **SITE INCLUDES A 40-ACRE SUGAR MAPLE AND AMERICAN BEECH FOREST THAT IS APPROXIMATELY 160 YEARS IN AGE.**

13. IS THE PROJECT SITE PRESENTLY USED BY THE COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD AS AN OPEN SPACE OR RECREATION AREA? ☒ Yes ☐ No

IF YES, EXPLAIN: **SITE IS ROUTINELY USED FOR HIKING, HUNTING, FISHING AND CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING.**

14. DOES THE PRESENT SITE INCLUDE SCENIC VIEWS KNOWN TO BE IMPORTANT TO THE COMMUNITY? ☒ Yes ☐ No

15. STREAMS WITHIN OR CONTIGUOUS TO PROJECT AREA: **NINE MILE CREEK FLOWS ALONG THE PROPERTY.**

A. NAME OF STREAM AND NAME OF RIVER TO WHICH IT IS TRIBUTARY **NINE MILE CREEK LIES WITHIN THE ONONDAGA BASIN AND EMPTIES INTO ONONDAGA LAKE. THE SITE LIES IN THE GREATER WATERSHED OF LAKE ONTARIO. NINE MILE CREEK IS A DEC "CLASS C" PROTECTED STREAM.**



16. LAKES, PONDS, WETLAND AREAS WITHIN OR CONTIGUOUS TO PROJECT AREA:

A. NAME: **A PORTION OF DEC CLASS 2 FRESHWATER WETLAND DESIGNATED CAM-25. WETLAND COMPRISES PART OF THE FLOOD PLAIN OF NINE MILE CREEK.**

B. SIZE (IN ACRES): **6**

17. IS THE SITE SERVED BY EXISTING PUBLIC UTILITIES?

☒ YES ☐ NO

A. IF **YES**, DOES SUFFICIENT CAPACITY EXIST TO ALLOW CONNECTION?

☒ YES ☐ NO

B. IF **YES**, WILL IMPROVEMENTS BE NECESSARY TO ALLOW CONNECTION?

☒ YES ☐ NO

18. IS THE SITE LOCATED IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT CERTIFIED PURSUANT TO AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, ARTICLE 25-AA, SECTION 303 AND 304?

☒ YES ☐ NO

19. IS THE SITE LOCATED IN OR SUBSTANTIALLY CONTIGUOUS TO A CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL AREA DESIGNATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 8 OF THE ECL, AND 6 NYCRR 617?

☒ YES ☐ NO

20. HAS THE SITE EVER BEEN USED FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SOLID OR HAZARDOUS WASTES?

☐ YES ☒ NO

**B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

1. PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS AND SCALE OF PROJECT (FILL IN DIMENSIONS AS APPROPRIATE).

A. TOTAL CONTIGUOUS ACREAGE OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY PROJECT SPONSOR **NA** ACRES.

B. PROJECT ACREAGE TO BE DEVELOPED: **.5** ACRES INITIALLY; **.5** ACRES ULTIMATELY.

C. PROJECT ACREAGE TO REMAIN UNDEVELOPED **354.5** ACRES.

D. LENGTH OF PROJECT, IN MILES: **NA** (IF APPROPRIATE)

E. IF THE PROJECT IS AN EXPANSION, INDICATE PERCENT OF EXPANSION PROPOSED **NA** %

F. NUMBER OF OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES EXISTING **20**; PROPOSED **20**

G. MAXIMUM VEHICULAR TRIPS GENERATED PER HOUR **NA** (UPON COMPLETION OF PROJECT)?

H. IF RESIDENTIAL: NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOUSING UNITS:

	ONE FAMILY	TWO FAMILY	MULTIPLE FAMILY	CONDOMINIUM
INITIALLY	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
ULTIMATELY	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

I. DIMENSIONS (IN FEET) OF LARGEST PROPOSED STRUCTURE **NA** HEIGHT; **NA** WIDTH; **NA** LENGTH.

J. LINEAR FEET OF FRONTAGE ALONG A PUBLIC THOROUGHFARE PROJECT WILL OCCUPY **NA** FT.

2. HOW MUCH NATURAL MATERIAL (I.E. ROCK, EARTH, ETC.) WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE SITE? **0** TONS/CUBIC YARDS.

3. WILL DISTURBED AREAS BE RECLAIMED?

☒ N/A ☐ YES ☐ NO

A. IF YES, FOR WHAT INTENDED PURPOSE IS THE SITE BEING RECLAIMED?

B. WILL TOPSOIL BE STOCKPILED FOR RECLAMATION?

☐ YES ☐ NO

C. WILL UPPER SUBSOIL BE STOCKPILED FOR RECLAMATION?

☐ YES ☐ NO

4. HOW MANY ACRES OF VEGETATION (TREES, SHRUBS, GROUND COVERS) WILL BE REMOVED FROM SITE? **0** ACRES.

5. WILL ANY MATURE FOREST (OVER 100 YEARS OLD) OR OTHER LOCALLY-IMPORTANT VEGETATION BE REMOVED BY THIS PROJECT? ☐ YES ☒ NO

6. IF SINGLE PHASE PROJECT: ANTICIPATED PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION **NA** MONTHS, (INCLUDING DEMOLITION)

7. IF MULTI-PHASED:

A. TOTAL NUMBER OF PHASES ANTICIPATED **10** (NUMBER)

B. ANTICIPATED DATE OF COMMENCEMENT PHASE 1 **3** MONTH **2004** YEAR, (INCLUDING DEMOLITION)

C. APPROXIMATE COMPLETION DATE OF FINAL PHASE **12** MONTH **2014** YEAR.

D. IS PHASE 1 FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT ON SUBSEQUENT PHASES? ☐ YES ☒ NO

8. WILL BLASTING OCCUR DURING CONSTRUCTION? ☐ YES ☒ NO

9. NUMBER OF JOBS GENERATED: DURING CONSTRUCTION N/A ; AFTER PROJECT IS COMPLETE N/A

10. NUMBER OF JOBS ELIMINATED BY THIS PROJECT N/A

11. WILL PROJECT REQUIRE RELOCATION OF ANY PROJECTS OR FACILITIES? ☒ YES ☐ NO  
 IF YES, EXPLAIN: **EXISTING PARKING FACILITY WILL BE MOVED TO A SAFER LOCATION FROM ROUTE 173 (WARNERS ROAD) TO THOMPSON ROAD.**

12. IS SURFACE LIQUID WASTE DISPOSAL INVOLVED? ☐ YES ☒ NO  
 A. IF YES, INDICATE TYPE OF WASTE (SEWAGE, INDUSTRIAL, ETC) AND AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. NAME OF WATER BODY INTO WHICH EFFLUENT WILL BE DISCHARGED \_\_\_\_\_

13. IS SUBSURFACE LIQUID WASTE DISPOSAL INVOLVED? TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ YES ☒ NO

14. WILL SURFACE AREA OF AN EXISTING WATER BODY INCREASE OR DECREASE BY PROPOSAL? ☐ YES ☒ NO  
 IF YES, EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

15. IS PROJECT OR ANY PORTION OF PROJECT LOCATED IN A 100 YEAR FLOOD PLAIN? ☒ YES ☐ NO

16. WILL THE PROJECT GENERATE SOLID WASTE? ☐ YES ☒ NO  
 A. IF YES, WHAT IS THE AMOUNT PER MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ TONS  
 B. IF YES, WILL AN EXISTING SOLID WASTE FACILITY BE USED? ☐ YES ☐ NO  
 C. IF YES, GIVE NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ; LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_  
 D. WILL ANY WASTES NOT GO INTO A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM OR INTO A SANITARY LANDFILL? ☐ YES ☒ NO  
 E. IF YES, EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

17. WILL THE PROJECT INVOLVE THE DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE? ☒ YES ☐ NO  
 A. IF YES, WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED RATE OF DISPOSAL? 3 TONS/MONTH.  
 B. IF YES, WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED SITE LIFE? 1 YEARS.

18. WILL PROJECT USE HERBICIDES OR PESTICIDES? ☐ YES ☒ NO

19. WILL PROJECT ROUTINELY PRODUCE ODORS (MORE THAN ONE HOUR PER DAY)? ☐ YES ☒ NO

20. WILL PROJECT PRODUCE OPERATING NOISE EXCEEDING THE LOCAL AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS? ☐ YES ☒ NO

21. WILL PROJECT RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN ENERGY USE? ☐ YES ☒ NO  
 IF YES, INDICATE TYPE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

22. IF WATER SUPPLY IS FROM WELLS, INDICATE PUMPING CAPACITY N/A GALLONS/MINUTE.

23. TOTAL ANTICIPATED WATER USAGE PER DAY N/A GALLONS/DAY.

24. DOES PROJECT INVOLVE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL FUNDING? ☒ YES ☐ NO  
 IF YES, EXPLAIN: **PLAN CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF WARM SEASON GRASSES WITH ASSISTANCE OF THE USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS). ADDITIONALLY, CAPITAL FUNDING WILL BE REQUIRED TO REMOVE STRUCTURES ON THE SITE AND IMPROVE PARKING.**

**25. APPROVALS REQUIRED:**

			TYPE	SUBMITTAL DATE
CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE BOARD	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
CITY, TOWN, VILLAGE PLANNING BOARD	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
CITY, TOWN ZONING BOARD	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
CITY, COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
OTHER LOCAL AGENCIES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
OTHER REGIONAL AGENCIES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____
STATE AGENCIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<b>NYS DEC LANDS &amp; FORESTS</b>	<b>4/1/2003</b>
FEDERAL AGENCIES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	_____	_____

**C. ZONING AND PLANNING INFORMATION**

1. DOES PROPOSED ACTION INVOLVE A PLANNING OR ZONING DECISION?

☒ YES ☐ NO

IF YES, INDICATE DECISION REQUIRED:

☐

ZONING AMENDMENT

☐

ZONING VARIANCE

☐NEW/REVISION OF MASTER  
PLAN☐

SUBDIVISION

☐

SITE PLAN

☐

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

☒

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

☐

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

2. WHAT IS THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION(S) OF THE SITE? **CODE 614 - PROPERTY WAS FORMERLY THE SYRACUSE STATE SCHOOL.**

3. WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE IF DEVELOPED AS PERMITTED BY THE PRESENT ZONING?

**NA**4. WHAT IS THE PROPOSED ZONING OF THE SITE? **CODE 914 - WILD, FORESTED, CONSERVATION LANDS AND PUBLIC PARKS**

5. WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE IF DEVELOPED AS PERMITTED BY THE PROPOSED ZONING?

**NA**

6. IS THE PROPOSED ACTION CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDED USES IN ADOPTED LOCAL LAND USE PLANS?

☒ YES ☐ NO

7. WHAT ARE THE PREDOMINANT LAND USE(S) AND ZONING CLASSIFICATIONS WITHIN A ¼ MILE RADIUS OF PROPOSED ACTION?

**CODE 210 - RESIDENTIAL, ONE FAMILY, YEAR-ROUND RESIDENCE; CODE 614 - COMMUNITY SERVICES, SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS; CODE 120 - AGRICULTURAL, FIELD CROPS**

8. IS THE PROPOSED ACTION COMPATIBLE WITH ADJOINING/SURROUNDING LAND USES WITH A ¼ MILE?

☒ YES ☐ NO

9. IF THE PROPOSED ACTION IS THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND, HOW MANY LOTS ARE PROPOSED?

**NA**

A. WHAT IS THE MINIMUM LOT SIZE PROPOSED?

**NA**

10. WILL PROPOSED ACTION REQUIRE ANY AUTHORIZATION(S) FOR THE FORMATION OF SEWER OR WATER DISTRICTS?

☐

YES

☒

NO

11. WILL THE PROPOSED ACTION CREATE A DEMAND FOR ANY COMMUNITY PROVIDED SERVICES (RECREATION, EDUCATION, POLICE, FIRE PROTECTION)?

☒

YES

☐

NO

A. IF YES, IS EXISTING CAPACITY SUFFICIENT TO HANDLE PROJECTED DEMAND?

☒

YES

☐

NO

12. WILL THE PROPOSED ACTION RESULT IN THE GENERATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNIFICANTLY ABOVE PRESENT LEVELS?

☐

YES

☒

NO

A. IF YES, IS THE EXISTING ROAD NETWORK ADEQUATE TO HANDLE THE ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC.

☐

YES

☐

NO

**D. INFORMATIONAL DETAILS**

ATTACH ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS MAY BE NEEDED TO CLARIFY YOUR PROJECT. IF THERE ARE OR MAY BE ANY ADVERSE IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL, PLEASE DISCUSS SUCH IMPACTS AND THE MEASURES WHICH YOU PROPOSE TO MITIGATE OR AVOID THEM.

**E. VERIFICATION**

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

APPLICANT/SPONSOR NAME **JOHN M. CLANCY**DATE **MAY 21, 2003**

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE **SENIOR FORESTER, NYS DEC**

IF THE ACTION IS IN THE COASTAL AREA, AND YOU ARE A STATE AGENCY, COMPLETE THE COASTAL ASSESSMENT FORM BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THIS ASSESSMENT.

## PART 2 - PROJECT IMPACTS AND THEIR MAGNITUDE

### Responsibility of Lead Agency

#### General Information (Read Carefully)

- ! In completing the form the reviewer should be guided by the question: Have my responses and determinations been **reasonable**? The reviewer is not expected to be an expert environmental analyst.
- ! The **Examples** provided are to assist the reviewer by showing types of impacts and wherever possible the threshold of magnitude that would trigger a response in column 2. The examples are generally applicable throughout the State and for most situations. But, for any specific project or site other examples and/or lower thresholds may be appropriate for a Potential Large Impact response, thus requiring evaluation in Part 3.
- ! The impacts of each project, on each site, in each locality, will vary. Therefore, the examples are illustrative and have been offered as guidance. They do not constitute an exhaustive list of impacts and thresholds to answer each question.
- ! The number of examples per question does not indicate the importance of each question.
- ! In identifying impacts, consider long term, short term and cumulative effects.

#### Instructions (Read carefully)

- Answer each of the 20 questions in PART 2. Answer **Yes** if there will be **any** impact.
- Maybe** answers should be considered as **Yes** answers.
- If answering **Yes** to a question then check the appropriate box(column 1 or 2)to indicate the potential size of the impact. If impact threshold equals or exceeds any example provided, check column 2. If impact will occur but threshold is lower than example, check column 1.
- Identifying that an Impact will be potentially large (column 2) does not mean that it is also necessarily **significant**. Any large impact must be evaluated in PART 3 to determine significance. Identifying an impact in column 2 simply asks that it be looked at further.
- If reviewer has doubt about size of the impact then consider the impact as potentially large and proceed to PART 3.
- If a potentially large impact checked in column 2 can be mitigated by change(s) in the project to a small to moderate impact, also check the **Yes** box in column 3. A **No** response indicates that such a reduction is not possible. This must be explained in Part 3.

#### IMPACT ON LAND

9. Will the Proposed Action result in a physical change to the project site? ☒ **NO** ☐ **YES**

##### Examples that would apply to column 2

- Any construction on slopes of 15% or greater, (15 foot rise per 100 foot of length), or where the general slopes in the project area exceed 10%.
- Construction on land where the depth to the water table is less than 3 feet.
- Construction of paved parking area for 1,000 or more vehicles.
- Construction on land where bedrock is exposed or generally within 3 feet of existing ground surface.
- Construction that will continue for more than 1 year or involve more than one phase or stage.
- Excavation for mining purposes that would remove more than 1,000 tons of natural material (i.e., rock or soil) per year.
- Construction or expansion of a sanitary landfill.
- Construction in a designated floodway.
- Other impacts \_\_\_\_\_

2. Will there be an effect to any unique or unusual land forms found on the site? (i.e., cliffs, dunes, geological) ☒ **NO** ☐ **YES**
- Specific land forms: \_\_\_\_\_

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

#### IMPACT ON WATER

3. Will Proposed Action affect any water body designated as protected? (Under Articles 15, 24, 25 of the Environmental Conservation Law, ECL)

☒ **NO** ☐ **YES**

##### Examples that would apply to column 2

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change

	1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developable area of site contains a protected water body.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from channel of a protected stream.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extension of utility distribution facilities through a protected water body.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction in a designated freshwater or tidal wetland.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<hr/>				
4. Will Proposed Action affect any non-protected existing or new body of water? <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES</div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 10% increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of a body of water that exceeds 10 acres of surface area.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<hr/>				
5. Will Proposed Action affect surface or groundwater quality or quantity? <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES</div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will require a discharge permit.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action requires use of a source of water that does not have approval to serve proposed (project) action.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action requires water supply from wells with greater than 45 gallons per minute pumping capacity.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction or operation causing any contamination of a water supply system.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will adversely affect groundwater.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liquid effluent will be conveyed off the site to facilities which presently do not exist or have inadequate capacity.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action would use water in excess of 20,000 gallons per day.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will likely cause siltation or other discharge into an existing body of water to the extent that there will be an obvious visual contrast to natural conditions.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will require the storage of petroleum or chemical products greater than 1,100 gallons.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will allow residential uses in areas without water and/or sewer services.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action locates commercial and/or industrial uses which may require new or expansion of existing waste treatment and/or storage facilities.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<hr/>				
6. Will Proposed Action alter drainage flow or patterns, or surface water runoff? <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES</div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action would change flood water flows</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action may cause substantial erosion.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action is incompatible with existing drainage patterns.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

	1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will allow development in a designated floodway.</li> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON AIR</b>				
7. Will Proposed Action affect air quality? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will induce 1,000 or more vehicle trips in any given hour.</li> <li>Proposed Action will result in the incineration of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.</li> <li>Emission rate of total contaminants will exceed 5 lbs. per hour or a heat source producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.</li> <li>Proposed Action will allow an increase in the amount of land committed to industrial use.</li> <li>Proposed Action will allow an increase in the density of industrial development within existing industrial areas.</li> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON PLANTS AND ANIMALS</b>				
8. Will Proposed Action affect any threatened or endangered species? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction of one or more species listed on the New York or Federal list, using the site, over or near the site, or found on the site.</li> <li>Removal of any portion of a critical or significant wildlife habitat.</li> <li>Application of pesticide or herbicide more than twice a year, other than for agricultural purposes.</li> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
9. Will Proposed Action substantially affect non-threatened or non-endangered species? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action would substantially interfere with any resident or migratory fish, shellfish or wildlife species.</li> <li>Proposed Action requires the removal of more than 10 acres of mature forest (over 100 years of age) or other locally important vegetation.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON AGRICULTURAL LAND RESOURCES</b>				
10. Will Proposed Action affect agricultural land resources? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Proposed Action would sever, cross or limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc.)</li> <li>Construction activity would excavate or compact the soil profile of agricultural land.</li> <li>The Proposed Action would irreversibly convert more than 10 acres of agricultural land or, if located in an Agricultural District, more than 2.5 acres of agricultural land.</li> <li>The Proposed Action would disrupt or prevent installation of agricultural land management systems (e.g., subsurface drain lines, outlet ditches, strip cropping); or create a need for such measures (e.g. cause a farm field to drain poorly due to increased runoff).</li> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change	
			Yes	No
<b>IMPACT ON AESTHETIC RESOURCES</b>				
11. Will Proposed Action affect aesthetic resources? (If necessary, use the Visual EAF Addendum in Section 617.20, Appendix B.) <div style="text-align: right;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES           </div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed land uses, or project components obviously different from or in sharp contrast to current surrounding land use patterns, whether man-made or natural.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed land uses, or project components visible to users of aesthetic resources which will eliminate or significantly reduce their enjoyment of the aesthetic qualities of that resource.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project components that will result in the elimination or significant screening of scenic views known to be important to the area.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>				
12. Will Proposed Action impact any site or structure of historic, prehistoric or paleontological importance? <div style="text-align: right;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES           </div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action occurring wholly or partially within or substantially contiguous to any facility or site listed on the State or National Register of historic places.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any impact to an archaeological site or fossil bed located within the project site.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action will occur in an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NYS Site Inventory.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION</b>				
13. Will Proposed Action affect the quantity or quality of existing or future open spaces or recreational opportunities? <div style="text-align: right;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES           </div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The permanent foreclosure of a future recreational opportunity.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A major reduction of an open space important to the community.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other impacts _____</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>IMPACT ON CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS</b>				
14. Will Proposed Action impact the exceptional or unique characteristics of a critical environmental area (CEA) established pursuant to subdivision 6NYCRR 617.14(g)? <div style="text-align: right;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   <input type="checkbox"/> YES           </div>				
<b>Examples</b> that would apply to column 2				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Action to locate within the CEA?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No





- Storage facilities for one million or more gallons of liquefied natural gas or other flammable liquids.
- Proposed Action may result in the excavation or other disturbance within 2,000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.
- Other impacts \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPACT ON GROWTH AND CHARACTER OF COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD

19. Will Proposed Action affect the character of the existing community?

☒ NO ☐ YES

**Examples** that would apply to column 2

- The permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located is likely to grow by more than 5%.
- The municipal budget for capital expenditures or operating services will increase by more than 5% per year as a result of this project.
- Proposed Action will conflict with officially adopted plans or goals.
- Proposed Action will cause a change in the density of land use.
- Proposed Action will replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures or areas of historic importance to the community.
- Development will create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire, etc.)
- Proposed Action will set an important precedent for future projects.
- Proposed Action will create or eliminate employment.
- Other impacts \_\_\_\_\_

1 Small to Moderate Impact	2 Potential Large Impact	3 Can Impact be Mitigated by Project Change	
		Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

20. Is there, or is there likely to be, public controversy related to potential adverse environment impacts?

☒ NO ☐ YES

**If Any Action in Part 2 Is Identified as a Potential Large Impact or  
If you Cannot Determine the Magnitude of Impact, Proceed to Part 3**

12-12-79 (3/99)-9c

SEQR

**State Environmental Quality Review  
NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance**

Identifying # \_\_\_\_\_

Date June 18, 2003

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

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant environmental impact and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

**Name of Action:** Adoption and Implementation of the Camillus Forest Unique Area Unit Management Plan (UMP)

**SEQR Status:** Type 1   X    
Unlisted       

**Conditioned Negative Declaration:**   X   Yes  
       No

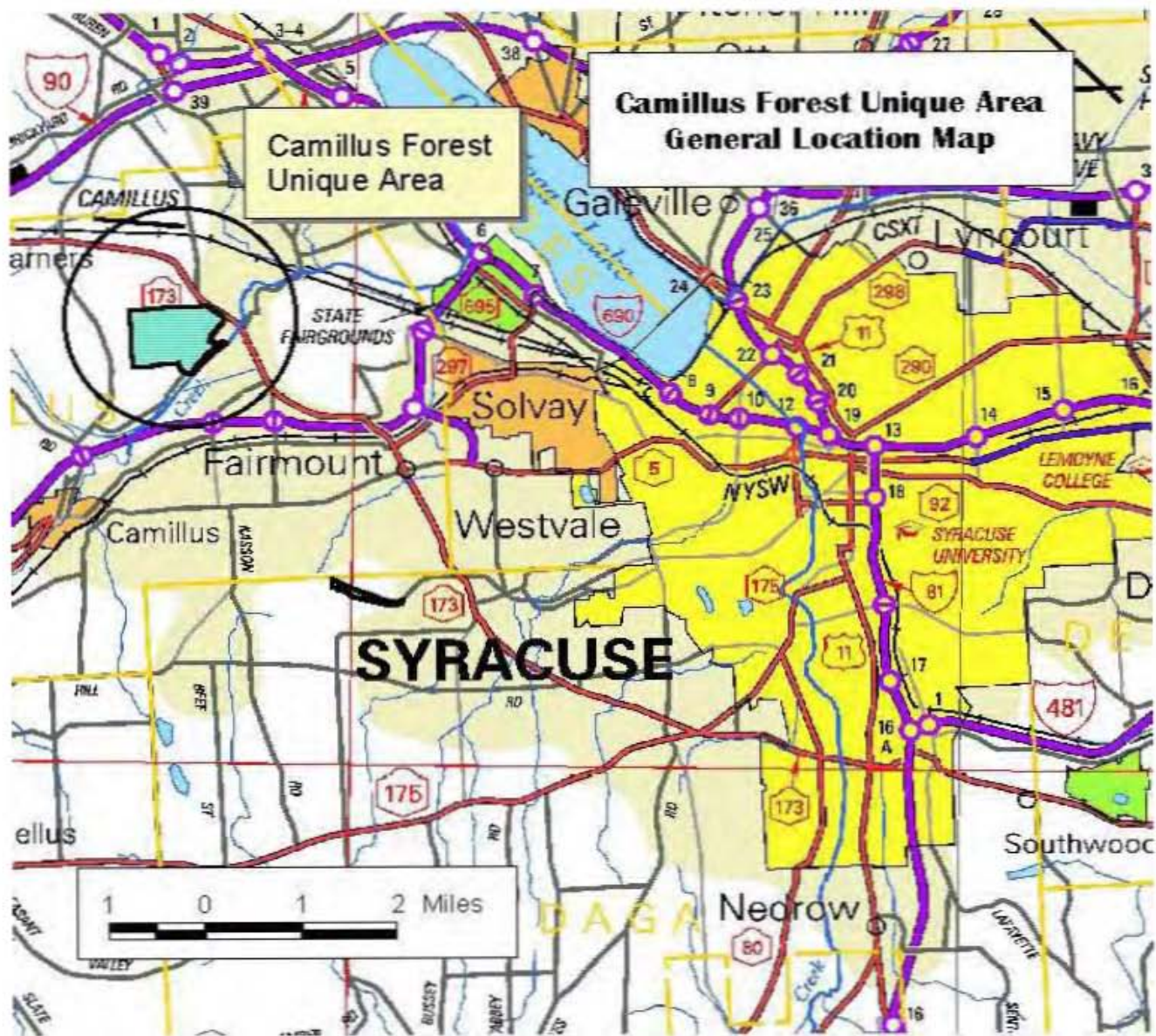
**Description of Action:**

The Camillus Forest Unique Area UMP sets forth the proposed goals, objectives, management actions, and associated costs for 355 acres of State managed land in the Town of Camillus, Onondaga County. The plan details all proposed management activities for a 10-year period. A review and update will take place at the end of the tenth year. Public input has been sought and full consideration of this input has been given in the development of the final UMP.

General management activities planned for the unit include: a complete boundary line survey and maintenance, removal of the formal State school structures, rotational mowing of fields, reestablishment of a forest stewardship hiking trail, installation of access gates, construction of a new parking lot and trailhead (with interpretive kiosk), possible construction of a snowmobile trail, wildlife apple tree release, and establishment of a demonstration community tree planting area, and construction of an additional recreational trail.

**Location: (Include street address and the name of the municipality/county. A location map of appropriate scale is also recommended.)**

Thompson and Warners Roads, Town of Camillus, Onondaga County, New York.



# SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

## Reasons Supporting This Determination:

(See 617.7(a)-(c) for requirements of this determination; see 617.7(d) for Conditioned Negative Declaration)

### 1. Summary

The Camillus Forest Unique Area Unit Management Plan (UMP) proposes stewardship management actions while serving as a benchmark to which future stewardship accomplishments can be measured. Several projects will be accomplished through partnerships with conservation organizations and/or volunteers.

A long Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) was prepared to help evaluate the potential for significant adverse impacts caused by implementation of the UMP.

None of the proposed management actions will cause significant adverse impacts on air quality, traffic, solid waste production, flooding, significant fish and wildlife habitats, rare, threatened or endangered species of plants or animals, historic or cultural resources, community character, recreation, open space, public access, energy use, agriculture, human health, wetlands, or visual resources. Rather, the proposed management actions will maintain, and in some cases, enhance biodiversity while protecting water quality. Approximately 40 acres of 160-year-old sugar maple/American beech forest will be left to develop into old growth forest. Wildlife habitat will be improved, particularly for songbirds and species requiring grasses and early successional vegetation.

No new roads or wood frame structures are planned for the site. Total available parking capacity will remain the same at 20 cars. As such, no significant increase in parking or local traffic is expected to occur. No significant change in existing land use will occur during implementation of the UMP. Activities planned for this unit will be covered by the following Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements (PEIS); Plan and Final GEIS for Conserving Open Space in New York State, PEIS for the State Forest Recreation Management Program, and the PEIS for the Wildlife Habitat Management Program. After final approval of the plan, if activities are added to the plan to provide better management of the unit and are not covered under this Negative Declaration or cited under the GEIS and/or PEIS, the Department will undertake a site specific environmental review.

### 2. Potential Impacts of Specific Management Actions

Specifically, the plan proposes the following management actions on the unique area. None of the following actions are deemed to adversely impact the existing environment and/or surrounding community.

**Action 2.1 - Land Survey.** Survey 13,344 feet of boundary, establish permanent corners where missing, and paint lines. Establish administrative boundary line around old maple-beech forest.

*Impact(s):* None. Boundary lines will be painted. Trees will not be damaged by painting during the land survey.

**Action 2.2 - Structure Removal.** The UMP calls for removal of several wood frame State School structures that are an attractive nuisance. Structures are in poor condition and are continuously deteriorating due to lack of maintenance. None of these structures are eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places.

## SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

*Impact(s):* Very limited. Soils in and around the building sites will be disturbed as buildings are removed but will be smoothed, graded, and seeded with native warm season grasses at the completion of demolition. All construction debris will be properly disposed of in accordance to local, state, and federal environmental regulations. DEC engineers detected a small amount of non-friable asbestos on a small section of pipe (approximately 15 feet in length) in the building at 3350 Warners Rd. The asbestos will be removed by DEC operations crews and disposed of in accordance with state and federal regulations. The asbestos has been determined to be non-friable by tests done at an independent lab. It will be disposed of at a landfill which has been approved by the DEC to accept non-friable asbestos.

A few of the smaller structures less than 500 square feet in size may be used for training purposes by the local fire department before they are removed. None of these smaller structures are known to have asbestos.

**Action 2.3 - Rotational Mowing of Fields.** The plan calls for mowing of approximately one-third of open acreage (approximately 45 acres) per year in August to prevent plant succession and to maintain diverse landscape and habitat for rare and endangered upland bird species.

*Impact(s):* None. Late mowing will limit impact grassland bird species. Mowing is more cost effective than controlled burning which requires significant planning to execute, and would be difficult to accomplish in August, which is outside the optimal spring and fall burning windows. Additionally, smoke from burning might possibly impact neighboring homes surrounding the Unique Area.

**Action 2.4 - Reestablishment of a Forest Stewardship Trail.** The plans calls for reestablishment of a forest stewardship trail damaged by Labor Day 1998 storm.

*Environmental Impact(s):* None. Occasional branches and dead trees will have to be cut to reestablish the trail. Much of the cutting will be done with hand tools. No heavy equipment will be necessary.

**Action 2.5 - Stabilization of a Former Farm Road.** Stabilization of a farm road with additional water diversion devices while allowing for foot traffic.

*Impact(s):* Very limited. Stabilization will require temporary soil disturbance. Disturbed soils will be smoothed and graded and seeded with a mixture of perennial and annual rye grass. Stabilization will prevent point source sedimentation into a tributary of Nine Mile Creek, a popular trout stream.

**Action 2.6 - Installation of Access Gates.** An access gate will be installed at bottom of the driveway at 3350 Warners Road to redirect parking to a new lot on Thompson Road. An additional gate will be installed at the western end of the property to block vehicle access from Devoe Rd.

*Impact(s):* None. Gate installation will require very limited excavation and minimum soil disturbance. Gates will help reduce compaction and rutting of soils on the area.

**Action 2.7 - Introduction of Warm Season Grasses.** The DEC will seek technical and financial assistance through the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service to reintroduce warm season grasses such as little bluestem, Indian grass, and switchgrass on 75 to 100 acres for upland grassland birds such as the bobolink, Henslow's sparrow, upland sandpiper, and eastern meadowlark.

*Impact(s):* Very limited. Establishment of the grasses will require soil disturbance in the form of plowing, disking, and light packing of the seedbed. Seed will be broadcast spread or planted with a seed drill. No

## SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

herbicides will be used for establishment or maintenance.

**Action 2.8 - Interpretive Kiosk and New Parking Area.** The DEC will install an interpretive “sign in” kiosk to help ascertain use of the area and provide timely information on forest stewardship and recreational use guidelines for area. Additionally, the Department will close the temporary parking area on Warners Rd. and replace it with a new 150' X 60' gravel surfaced parking lot for approximately 20 vehicles on the west side of Thompson Rd. approximately 1000 feet southwest of Route 173. Attractive stone will be used to define parking lot perimeter. Additionally, the Department will build 1500' of new 4' wide hiking trail “connector” to ADA standards.

*Impact(s):* Very limited. Total parking capacity on the unique area will remain the same at 20 cars; the temporary parking lot on Warners Rd. (Route 173) will be closed once the new Thompson Rd. lot is constructed. Temporary soil disturbance will be required to construct the lot, which will be surfaced with semi-porous crusher run gravel. Attractive stone will be used to line the parking lot perimeter to restrict unauthorized vehicles from leaving the parking area.

**Action 2.9 - Snowmobile Corridor Trail.** The Camillus Snowmobile Club approached DEC during the draft plan public comment meeting in June 2002. The club wants to construct a 1.25 mile corridor trail across the Unique Area. The trail will not be constructed without the written approval of the Camillus Town Supervisor and surrounding landowners. If approved, the club must agree to sign an Adopt-A-Natural Resource Program with DEC.

*Impact(s):* Limited. The greatest environmental concerns are noise and air pollution generated by snowmobiles. The unique area's relatively small size and close proximity to homes limits its capacity to support heavy snowmobile trail use. Erosion is less of an issue because of the snow cover required for operation of the machines. It is estimated that in the wintertime snowmobiles account for approximately 5% of VOC emissions and less than 1% of NOx and CO emissions in Onondaga County. The emissions resulting from snowmobile use of the 1.25 mile corridor trail across the unique area will not significantly increase VOC, NOx, and CO levels in Onondaga County.

Additionally, the Department has experienced increased illegal ATV activity on snowmobile trails during the summer season on several larger state forests in the region. In some instances, this increased ATV use has accelerated soil erosion and has reduced trail quality. Some neighboring landowners have been opposed to the snowmobile trail because of noise, the potential for conflict with cross country skiers, and the potential of the trail to be used illegally by ATVs. DEC has limited law enforcement capabilities on the area; as such, most routine police related matters are handled by the Town of Camillus Police Department and Onondaga County Sheriff's Department.

**Action 2.10 - Negotiate and Purchase Conservation Easement(s).** The UMP includes a plan to negotiate (on a *voluntary basis*) and purchase up to a 300-foot wide by 1600 foot long conservation easement buffer along the west boundary to help prevent development immediately adjacent to the site. Additional voluntary acquisitions may occur as part of the DEC Camillus Valley/Nine Mile Creek open space project.

*Impacts(s):* Limited. If purchased, the easement will remove an estimated 11 acres of quality tillable acreage from agricultural production.



## SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**Action 2.11 - Wildlife Apple Tree Release.** The UMP calls for release, pruning and light fertilization of 100 apple trees to benefit wildlife and aesthetics.

*Impact(s):* None. Release of the trees will benefit wildlife, particularly white tailed deer.

**Action 2.12 - Establish Community Tree Planting Area.** Included in the UMP is the establishment of two one acre tree demonstration planting areas in Unit M in close proximity to the recreation trail area(s). Tree species will be planted that demonstrate resistance to wind damage, insect, disease, and drought.

*Impact(s):* Very limited. Two acres will be removed from the unit that is currently being managed as grass lands for wildlife and insect species (especially butterflies) requiring grasslands, and "old field" type habitat.

**Action 2.13 - Remove Debris from Riparian Area.** The UMP calls for removal of debris from portions of riparian area and old field (Units R and O).

*Impact(s):* None.

**Action 2.14 - Establish Wildlife Food Demonstration Plots.** In response to requests from area sportsmen's associations, the UMP recommends establishment of two wildlife food plots in Unit H (2 acres each) for educational purposes. Plantings will consist of buckwheat and/or imperial white clover. These plantings will benefit deer, turkey, rabbit and other naturally present wildlife populations.

*Impact(s):* None. This action will improve wildlife habitat.

**Action 2.15- Construct Additional Recreational Trail.** Action 2.15 calls for construction of an estimated 2,600 feet of 4 foot wide hiking trail through management Units C, E, F and G.

*Impact(s):* Very limited. This management action would require very limited cutting of vegetation. Additionally, this action will provide additional hiking access and act as a travel corridor for wildlife.

**If Conditioned Negative Declaration, provide on attachment the specific mitigation measures imposed, and identify comment period (not less than 30 days from date of publication in the ENB)**

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Daniel J. Sawchuck, Senior Forester

Address: NYS DEC, Lands & Forests, 1285 Fisher Ave, Cortland, NY 13045-1090

Telephone Number: (315) 298-7467, (607) 753-3095

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a Copy of this Notice is sent to:

Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation

Chief Executive Officer, Town of Camillus, The Honorable Mary Ann Coogan, Supervisor, 4600  
West Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13219

Other involved agencies (if any)

## **SEQR NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin - NYS DEC - 625 Broadway - Albany, NY 12233-1750 (Type One Action Only)

## **SOURCE LIST**

Allen, M.J. (February 1976). Fairmount Division of State School and Long and Proud History. The Camillus Advocate.

Andrie, R.F. and J.R. Carroll. (1988). The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York.

Bode, Robert W., M. A. Novak and L. E. Abele. 1993. 20 year Trends in Water Quality of Rivers and Streams in New York State Based on Macroinvertebrate Data, 1972-1992. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Bureau of Stream Monitoring and Assessment, Division of Water, Albany, New York.

Colucci, J. (February 1975). The Early History of Camillus.

Clancy, J.M. (June 1996). Forest Stewardship Plan for New York State Office of General Services. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Cortland, New York.

Clancy, J.M. & Forness, D.M. (February 1997). Camillus Forest Unique Area - Opportunities and Values Associated with State Ownership. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Cortland, New York.

Eagleman, J.R. (1980). Meteorology - The Atmosphere in Action. Van Nostrand Company, New York, New York.

Ellis, D.M. et al. A Short History of New York State. New York State Historical Association by Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York.

Engstrom-Heg, Robert and P. Hulbert. (1982). Evaluation of Trout Regulations in Streams 1977- 1980. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, New York.

Hutton, F.Z. et. al. (1977). Soil Survey of Onondaga County, New York. USDA in Association with Cornell Agriculture Experiment Station.

Maxwell, M.E. (1952). Among the Hills of Camillus. Town of Camillus Historical Association.

McGarry, Kevin (2004). Email communication regarding snowmobile emissions, NYS DEC, Albany, New York.

Muir, David G. (2002). 2001 Breeding Bird Survey Information for Block 3876 B.

NYS DEC (1997). New York State Angler Survey, 1996. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Albany, New York.

Onondaga Historical Society (1997). Various collections pertaining to the Town of Camillus.

Onondaga County Environmental Management Council. (1989). Town of Camillus Environmental Inventory User Guide. Syracuse, New York.

Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas, Inc. (June, 1993). Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park - Final Master Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement. New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

PS/ Planning Solutions (March, 1991). Survey and Analysis - Town of Camillus, New York.

Ringler, Neil H., C. J. Millard, R. P. McDonald, D. M. Miller (1996). Atlantic Salmon in the Oswego River System: Potential Production in Historical Habitat. SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Syracuse, New York.

Reschke, Carol (1990). Ecological Communities of New York State. New York Natural Heritage Program, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Latham, New York.

Sims, R.. (February, 1996). The Hopkins Family of Camillus. The Camillus Advocate.

Simpson, et al. (1995). Northeast Decision Model Stand Inventory Processor and Simulator. U.S. Forest Service General Technical Report NE-205.

Spur, S.H., & Barnes, B.V. (1980). Forest Ecology, 3rd Edition. John Wiley & Sons, New York, New York.

The Net: Parking and Loading Design Standards (1998). (INTERNET). Available World Wide Web <http://www.ci.blue-springs.mo.us/UDC/UDC00220.html>.

The Net: Treaty with the Six Nations (1998). (INTERNET). Available World Wide Web, [http://www.c-c-concepts.com/Six\\_Nations/treaty%20six2.html](http://www.c-c-concepts.com/Six_Nations/treaty%20six2.html).

Wedge, Les (1998). Personal communication. NYS DEC Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries, Cortland, New York.