

NYS CONSERVATION COUNCIL GUIDE TO PARTICIPATION IN STATE LAND USE PLANNING

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The N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation prepares **Unit Management Plans for state owned lands and Recreation Management Plans for lands where the State has purchased conservation easements**. The plans assess the natural and physical resources present within a land unit or easement and also identify and articulate opportunities for public use, including roads open for motor vehicle use, biking trails, lake and river access, hiking trails, snowmobile trails and other access opportunities. Unit Management Plans and Recreation Plans that provide and articulate access for hunting, fishing and trapping are critical to our traditions, our sport and the economy of New York State. Refer to the attached Statewide UMP Schedule for 2014.

**To maintain and improve sporting access you MUST
get involved locally and PROTECT YOUR BACK YARD!**

D.E.C. Action	Sporting Community Action
D.E.C. provides NYSCC with list of UMPs by region and notices of pending actions.	<p>List of plans made available to Council members, county federations, Fish and Wildlife Management Boards and other members of the sporting community.</p> <p>Inquiries made to local and regional D.E.C. offices requesting to be an integral part of the process. D.E.C. staff invited to local federation meetings to discuss pending plans, allowing sportsmen and women to articulate needs and specific requests.</p>
D.E.C. conducts resource inventory of the unit area for which the plan is being developed.	Monitor
Solicits written and verbal input from the public through press releases and public meetings.	<p>Review maps, visit lands and attend scoping sessions prepared to make specific requests on roads and types of vehicles, access to lakes and rivers and other specific needs of sportsmen and women. Identify opportunities for habitat improvement.</p> <p>Reduce requests to writing and submit to D.E.C. regional offices. Be specific and don't be bashful! Ask for sporting access opportunities to be labeled as such on maps.</p>
Releases draft UMP and conducts public hearings.	<p>Closely review draft plan, paying attention to: Management actions and maps contained in appendices that reflect roads to be open, river and lake access, etc. Look for charts that show number of miles of roads prior to UMP development and number remaining after plan development.</p> <p>Submit written comments to D.E.C. that identify actions that hinder access and make specific recommendations for improvement.</p> <p>Attend public hearings and make comments. Provide written copies of your comments at public meetings.</p> <p>Review UMPs and R.E.C. plans at regional FWMB meetings, pass resolutions and submit letters outlining support or opposition to the plan and why! Move beyond the typical show and tell.</p> <p>Send copies to elected officials in your region as appropriate.</p>

Prepare a draft plan (for the APA to review in the Park).	Send comments to APA when Unit is in the Adirondack or Catskill Park.
DEC Commissioner gives final approval and the UMP is adopted.	Send your written comments to the Commissioner.

The process for Recreation Management Plans for conservation easements is similar in nature. The process in Adirondack and Catskill Park may vary.

For additional information go to:

Unit Management Plans <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4979.html>
 Conservation Easements <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/41156.html>
 Recreation Management Plans <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/36147.html>

If we are going to make any progress on the issue of access for hunting, fishing and trapping on public lands we are going to have to become far more proactive during the Unit Management Plan (UMP) and Recreation Management Plan (RMP) process. If we don't, it is highly unlikely that any consideration will be given to sporting activities as these plans are pulled together and then implemented.

We have provided what is probably the most comprehensive list of UMPs and RMPs that the Council has ever seen. These plans are either in progress or will be in progress over the next several years. Working cooperatively through the Regional Fish and Wildlife Management Boards, we can make a difference.

Our hope is to have folks from each region become involved in the UMP and RMP process. That means getting involved as the earliest draft plans are pulled together and staying involved until the plans are released and implemented.

The Regional Fish and Wildlife Boards can help, but they can't do it alone. The best way to get the DEC's attention is to have each public meeting well-attended by sportsmen and women. That means going armed with information and letting the DEC know what we expect to see in these plans. It's time!!

Statewide UMP Schedule - 2014					
Year	Unit Management Plan	Region Office		UMP Ac.	Acres/Yr
2014 (9)	Lower New England East	3	NEW PALTZ	6,712	118,966
	Albany	4	SCHENECTADY	5,889	
	Mt. Pisgah	4	STAMFORD	7,985	
	Northern Franklin	5	RAYBROOK	20,733	
	Westward Waters	6	LOWVILLE	38,639	
	Fish Creek	7	CORTLAND	3,404	
	Long Pond	7	SHERBURNE	3,722	
	Bare Hill	8	BATH	737	
	Cattaraugus	9	ALLEGANY	31,145	

2015 (8)	North Atlantic	1	STONY BROOK	646	51,484
	Treaty Line	4	STAMFORD	19,137	
	Mohawk Vista	6	HERKIMER	5,846	
	New Field	7	CORTLAND	2,529	
	Broome	7	SHERBURNE	5,727	
	Nelson Swamp Unique Area	7	SHERBURNE	890	
	McDonough	7	SHERBURNE	13,233	
	Livingston	8	BATH	3,476	
2016 (10)	Lower New England West	3	NEW PALTZ	8,151	109,451
	Pine Bush	4	SCHENECTADY	1,594	
	Eminence	4	STAMFORD	17,162	
	Boreal South	5	WARRENSBURG	4,468	
	Ontario Plain	6	LOWVILLE	3,096	
	St. Lawrence Foothills	6	POTSDAM	16,524	
	Lower Salmon River	7	CORTLAND	621	
	Tioughnioga	7	SHERBURNE	3,730	
	Canisteo River Basin	8	BATH	7,405	
	Allegany	9	WEST ALMOND	46,700	
	2017 (7)	Leatherstocking	4	STAMFORD	
Rome Sand Plains		6	HERKIMER	1,786	
Tioga		7	CORTLAND	3,862	
Hewitt-Cayuga Highlands		7	CORTLAND	9,526	
Onondaga		7	CORTLAND	386	
Five Streams		7	SHERBURNE	9,650	
Canandaiqua Highlands		8	BATH	1,905	
2018 (5)	Hudson Valley	4	SCHENECTADY	435	33,152
	Sacandaga	5	WARRENSBURG	6,223	
	Tug Hill East	6	LOWVILLE	21,092	
	Great Divide	8	BATH	2,147	
	Niagara Frontier	9	ALLEGANY	3,255	
2019 (12)	Neversink River	3	NEW PALTZ	8,389	112,453
	Charleston	4	STAMFORD	7,468	
	Forty-Six Corners	6	HERKIMER	18,042	
	St. Lawrence Rock Ridge	6	POTSDAM	21,006	
	Tri-County	7	CORTLAND	3,349	
	Virgil	7	CORTLAND	6,883	
	Cuyler	7	CORTLAND	7,123	
	Rapid Waters	7	CORTLAND	12,844	
	Chenango Trail	7	SHERBURNE	5,455	
	Pharsalia Woods	7	SHERBURNE	13,621	
	Muller Hill	7	SHERBURNE	6,972	
	Erwin	8	BATH	1,301	

2020 (8)	Taconic Highlands	4	SCHENECTADY	12,471	66,381
	Taylor Pond	5	RAY BROOK	6,800	
	Northern Piedmont	5	WARRENSBURG	4,030	
	Oneida Hills	6	HERKIMER	13,644	
	Winona	6	LOWVILLE	9,225	
	Hill and Hollow	7	CORTLAND	7,351	
	Between Rivers	7	SHERBURNE	9,161	
	Keuka Highlands	8	BATH	3,699	
2021 (6)	East Branch	4	STAMFORD	4,673	38,754
	Northern Clinton	5	RAYBROOK	4,111	
	Upper Salmon River	7	CORTLAND	8,776	
	Twin Sheds	7	CORTLAND	5,188	
	Taylor Valley	7	CORTLAND	10,210	
	Keuka Lowlands	8	BATH	5,796	
2022 (7)	Shawangunk Ridge	3	NEW PALTZ	9,591	110,444
	Catskill Creek	4	STAMFORD	9,928	
	Vienna Woods	6	HERKIMER	1,299	
	Tug Hill North	6	LOWVILLE	37,218	
	Brookfield	7	SHERBURNE	13,394	
	Six Nations	8	BATH	21,697	
	Chautauqua	9	DUNKIRK	17,317	
2023 (9)	Gateway	2	LONG ISLAND CITY	156	92,750
	Cherry Valley	4	STAMFORD	11,577	
	Chazy Highlands	5	RAY BROOK	9,780	
	Adirondack Foothills	6	HERKIMER	6,692	
	St. Lawrence Flatlands	6	POTSDAM	30,763	
	Rockefeller	7	CORTLAND	5,784	
	Eastern Lake Ontario	7	CORTLAND	5,589	
	Northern Chenango Highlands	7	SHERBURNE	15,778	
Hemlock Canadice	8	BATH	6,631		

2013 Leftover	Gateway	2	LONG ISLAND CITY	
	Cherry Valley	4	STAMFORD	Late Jan per Bill
	Chazy Highlands	5	RAY BROOK	
	Adirondack Foothills	6	HERKIMER	Sept 2014.
		6	POTSDAM	RD review as of ?
	St. Lawrence Flatlands			
	Rockefeller	7	CORTLAND	RD review as of 1/3
	Eastern Lake Ontario	7	CORTLAND	Not finished as of 1/3
Northern Chenango Highlands	7	SHERBURNE	Not finished as of 1/3	