



Adirondack Park Agency

LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino
FROM: Kathy Regan
DATE: May 4, 2016
RE: Planning Division Activity Report for March and April 2016

This report reflects monthly activity of the State land and other planning staff within the Division.

APSLMP CONSULTATIONS

UMP Development/Review

- Reviewed the Initial Drafts of proposed amendments to two existing UMPs: one for the Moose River Plains Wild Forest, and another for the Hammond Pond Wild Forest.
- Reviewed the team draft of a proposed amendment to the 2005 UMP for Shaker Mountain Wild Forest.
- Discussed outstanding APSLMP compliance issues in the draft Lake Champlain Islands Complex UMP with DEC staff.
- Reviewed the Initial Draft of a proposed new UMP for the Cranberry Lake Campground.
- Conducted field work with DEC staff regarding potential new snowmobile trails and foot trails near Wilcox Lake in Wilcox Lake Wild Forest – this to assist DEC staff in revising an Initial Draft UMP for the unit.
- Conducted field work with DEC staff regarding a new snowmobile trail and multi-use trails in Vanderwhacker Wild Forest contemplated in the Community Connector Trails Plan.
- Conducted field work regarding potential new ski trails within Chazy Highlands Wild Forest– this to assist DEC staff in revising an Initial Draft UMP for the unit.
- Reviewed early materials for the Horicon Boat Launch IU Area UMP.

APA/DEC MOU Consultation

- Attended a meeting with DEC and Attorney General's office staff to discuss backcountry skiing.

- Reviewed and approved a proposed DEC project to replace two culverts on Nicks Lake Road near Old Forge.
- Reviewed and approved a proposal for lowering of the Quarry Dam on the West Branch of the Ausable River in Saranac Lakes Wild Forest.
- Reviewed a mountain bike trail re-route proposal at Whiteface Mountain Intensive Use Area.
- Reviewed a proposal for shoreline stabilization at Crown Point Historic Area.
- Conducted field work regarding proposed trail maintenance and trail re-routes at Poke-O-Moonshine in the Taylor Pond Wild Forest.
- Conducted field work and approved a proposed DEC project for a trail re-route to the summit of Stillwater Mountain in the Independence River Wild Forest.

Permit Review

- Consulted with DEC staff on the design of an accessible fishing platform involving wetlands on Fishing Brook Bog in the town of Newcomb.
- Reviewed a DOT project proposing a waterline between Chazy Lake and the prison in Dannemora.

APSLMP REVISION

State Land Classification

- Attended a meeting with the Five Towns on the Agency's classification process.
- Developed a potential time-frame for the next Classification Action.
- Developed maps and gathered information on parcels to be included in the next Classification Action.
- Consulted with DEC staff regarding the classification of certain State land parcels in two areas: one at the Stillwater Reservoir Boat Launch and the other at a radio tower in White Hill Wild Forest.

Substantive Revision

- Finalized the FSEIS for the APSLMP amendment package and submitted to the Governor for his review.

PARK POLICY AND PLANNING

Park-wide Recreation Planning

- Participated in a panel discussion regarding the Great South Woods and Adirondack Community Trail Lodging System (ACTL) Projects during the Agency's Local Government Day program.
- Met with ACTLS staff to review and provide informal comments on the organizations draft "Five Towns" report.
- Consulted with RASS staff regarding DEC staff's proposal to modify the existing protocol for use of rotenone in lake reclamations.

- Discussed with DEC staff and interested individuals the concept of developing an Accessibility Advisory Committee for the Adirondack and Catskill Parks.
- Provided staff with materials on historic resources in Wilderness on national public lands (e.g. Park Service).

Scenic Byways

- Reviewed a project to improve the parking area at the Spruce Hill pull-off on Route 73 High Peaks Scenic Byway.

Training/Conferences

- Attended Local Government Day 2016.
- Revisited a webinar on national court cases regarding stewardship of cultural resources in wilderness.

ADMINISTRATION (State Land Staff)

Reporting

- Weekly and Monthly Reporting

Agency Coordination/Efficiency

- LEAN items
 - Drafted checklists for State Land staff to use when reviewing UMPs.
 - Reviewed UMP template developed by the Department.
 - Participated in weekly LEAN conference calls.

Training

- Completed State Mandated training modules

Other

- Completed a survey for Civil Service on the EPS job title.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT REVIEW

- Reviewed proposed projects in the Towns of Willsboro, Ellenburg, Bolton, North Elba, Bleecker, Harrietstown, and Elizabethtown.

March and April State Land Tasks Summary:

Task	Count	Year to Date
APSLMP Consultations	17	35
APSLMP Revision	5	11
Park Policy and Planning	8	14
Administration	35	56
Historic Preservation Act Review	7	14

GIS AGENCY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Consultation

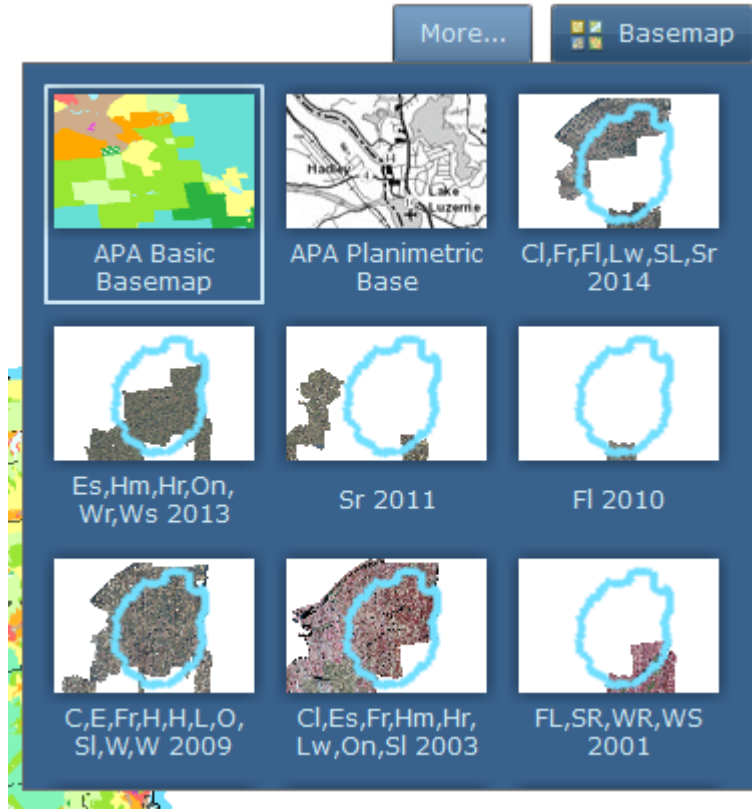
- Provided Agency State Land staff with an analysis of public/private shoreline percentage for Middle and Lower Saranac Lakes.
- Assisted Agency Local Government Services staff with availability of aerial imagery for the Lake George area.
- Assisted NYS OPRHP staff with a copy of APA GIS park wetlands data to be included in the State Historic Preservation Office's online project review application CRIS.
- Provided information about park demographics, US Census data formats, estimating park population, and Adirondack school districts requested by Christine Colley, RLA, Landscape Architecture Bureau, NYS DOT.
- Provided information to NYS DOS, Office of Planning and Development about APA web mapping services that DOS is requesting permission to include in their online Geographic Information [Gateway](#). DOS would like to include our APLUDP/SLMP, Blue Line, and Wetlands data layers.
- Provided a USGS/NYSDEC hydrography codes equivalency lookup table to Craig McGowan doing Adirondack acid lake research.
- Provided information about wildlife habitat, riparian habitat, invasive species, and 480A forest land GIS data availability to consultant Linda Rockwood, Mohawk Valley GIS, who was responding to an RFP from the Lake Placid Land Conservancy.
- Assisted Nature Conservancy staff with availability of Adirondack canoe routes GIS data.
- Provided several existing map graphic files of the park depicting public/private land relationship requested by Mark Webster, Adirondack League Club.
- Assisted Agency RASS staff with air photo troubleshooting where digital images used for photo interpretation were not displaying in the correct location. Determined the problem being certain photos in the western park use a different State Plane coordinate reference system.
- Attended a one hour conference call as a member of the Planning Committee to begin planning the NYS GeoCon 2017 GIS conference most likely to be held in Lake Placid, October 2017.

Data Management

- Completed Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map GIS data improvement (re-mapping all land use boundaries to parcel data and

documenting the regional boundary basis for all land use boundaries) in the following locations: Franklin, Lewis, Oneida, Fulton, and Herkimer counties; all of Hamilton County except for Long Lake and Indian Lake; Town of Newcomb.

- Programmed the Agency GIS Lookup System to provide staff with additional aerial imagery basemap data.



Lookup System basemap menu.

Training

- Attended several conference calls with Environment and Energy ITS Cluster GIS staff discussing enterprise license requirements and utilization of training credits among DEC, OPRHP, PSC, Ag & Markets, and APA GIS staff.

GIS MAP PRODUCTION

- Created a poster to celebrate Earth Day 2016. Inspiring words from the State Constitution, the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the State Land Master Plan, and Environmental Conservation Law are overlaid on the twelve counties of the Adirondack Park in the colors of the Private Land Use and Development Plan Map and State Land Map.



LUA BOUNDARY/BLUE LINE INQUIRY

- Provided a GIS file of the park boundary to Warren Brown, Cornell University to assist in redefining US Census block boundaries to recognize the Blue Line as a census accounting area in the next decennial census.
- Researched, mapped and documented 804 land use area boundary determinations as part of the APLUDP data improvement project.

MAP AMENDMENTS REVIEW

- Hosted a meeting with the Town of Wilmington to discuss a possible map amendment.
- Hosted a meeting with the Town of Wilmington, DEC, DOS and APA staff to discuss a feasibility study for decentralized sewer treatment options.
- Met with Town of Crown Point to discuss potential map amendments.

State Land Classification/Reclassification Review

- Began assembling state land GIS data of pending classifications, reclassifications, and recent acquisitions in preparation for a future state land classification package.

WEB ADMINISTRATION/CONTENT MANAGEMENT

- Posted a Notice of Public Hearing, P2016-0017, Town of Warrensburg.
- Posted information about Hamilton County's Bicentennial celebration to our home page.
- Posted the Agency's Earth Day 2016 poster to the home page.

ADMINISTRATION (GIS STAFF)

- Completed monthly reports and Agency and Division staff meetings.

March and April GIS/Web Tasks Summary:

Task	Count	Year to Date
GIS Agency Program Administration	14	37
GIS Map Production	104	108
LUA Boundary/Blue Line Inquiry	817	1425
Map Amendments Review	3	5
State Land Classification/Reclassification Review	88	89
Web Administration/Content Management	3	26
Administrative Tasks	4	11

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES PROGRAM

Outreach

- **Colton:** LGS Staff attended a pre-application meeting for a proposed campground in the Town of Colton.
- **Newcomb:** Met with the new supervisor for the Town to discuss the Town's ALLUP.
- **HEPA:** LGS and Economic Services staff participated in a stakeholder meeting for the Agency's HEPA with the Town and Village of Lake George.

- **Adirondack Local Government Day Conference:** 19th Annual Conference was held on April 13 & 14 in Lake Placid, NY. Three hundred and forty seven (347) people registered for the conference representing 41 Towns & Villages, 66 regional organizations and consultants, and 11 state agencies.
- **Northern Adirondack CEO Conference:** LGS Staff coordinated the Agency's exhibitor booth at the 21st Annual Adirondack Code Enforcement Officials Association Conference. There were 275 code enforcement officials from throughout northern New York in attendance at the conference to obtain their annual training. Agency staff from Regulatory Programs, Enforcement, RASS and Planning tended to the booth and interacted with over 100 code officials during the conference.
- **New York Planning Federation Conference:** LGS Staff attended the 78th Annual NYPF Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. This conference attracts over 550 attendees in the field of planning.
- **Tug Hill Commission Local Government Conference:** LGS Staff attended the 27th Annual Tug Hill Local Government Conference. This conference attracts over 680 attendees from throughout northern New York and the Tug Hill region.

Correspondence and Consultations

ALLUPs (31)

- **Horicon:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding a proposed project in split zones.
- **Hague:** Provided information to the Town regarding a prior agency permit.
- **Lake George:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding a 2012 Agency permit.
- **Chester:** Coordinated with the Town for Staff participation in the Town's zoning ordinance review committee.
- **Horicon:** Provided information to the Town regarding expansions of tourist accommodations.
- **Hague:** Provided the Town with information regarding expansions of tourist accommodations.
- **Putnam:** Provided the code enforcement officer with information on junkyards.
- **Chester:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding pre-existing decks within the shoreline setback.
- **Lake George:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding solar farms.
- **Colton:** Provided the Town with information regarding tourist accommodations.
- **Queensbury:** Responded to questions regarding a variance issued by the Town.
- **Colton:** Provided the Town with information regarding the variance referral process.

- **Horicon:** Provided the Town with information regarding shoreline expansions.
- **Hague:** Provided the Town with information regarding density calculations for tourist accommodations.
- **Horicon:** Provided the Town with guidance on the steps required for amending their zoning code.
- **Bolton:** Provided the Town with information regarding a 2014 Jurisdictional Inquiry.
- **Arietta:** Responded to an inquiry from the public regarding the Town's ALLUP.
- **Lake George:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town Board regarding the Town's ALLUP and proposed sanitary code.
- **Caroga:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding the Agency's local government notice form.
- **Hague:** Provided the Town with information regarding cell towers and the permitting process.
- **Horicon:** Provided information to the public regarding docks.
- **Willsboro:** Provided information to the Town regarding industrial parks.
- **Horicon:** Provided information to the Town regarding the SEQRA process for zoning amendments.
- **Lake George:** Provided information to the Town regarding the Agency's sanitary standards.
- **Arietta:** Responded to an inquiry from the Town regarding their zoning code.
- **Willsboro:** Coordinated with Town and Agency staff regarding potential wetlands on a property to be subdivided.
- **Johnsburg:** Provided the Town with information regarding signs in a highway CEA.
- **Chester:** Responded to an inquiry from the public regarding a prior Agency permit.
- **Chester:** Provided the Town with information regarding fences in the shoreline setback.
- **Queensbury:** Provided the Town with information regarding a 1970's Agency permit.
- **Caroga:** Provided information to the public regarding the variance referral process.

Other Towns/Villages (1)

- **Village of Speculator:** Responded to an inquiry from Hamilton County regarding ski centers.

Intra-Agency (5)

- **JIF Office:** Coordinated with the Town and Agency staff regarding a jurisdictional determination in the Town of Chester.
- **Regulatory Programs:** Coordinated with Agency staff regarding a project under review requiring a variance from the Town of Bolton.
- **Enforcement:** Provided Agency staff with information regarding the Town and Village of Lake George's ALLUPs.
- **Regulatory Programs:** Coordinated with Agency staff regarding a proposed project in the Town of Colton.
- **Regulatory Programs:** Provided information to Agency staff regarding the Town of Chester's sign law.
- **Legal:** Provided Agency staff with information regarding Chesterfield's ALLUP.

Inter-Agency (2)

- **NYS DOS:** Coordinated with DOS to provide the Town of Chester information regarding the establishment of special districts.
- **NYS DOS:** Provided information during DOS training regarding the application of form-based zoning within the Adirondacks.

Agency-approved Local Land Use Programs (ALLUPs)

Amendments

- **Caroga:** The Town is currently in the process of rewriting its zoning code. The Town is working with the Fulton County Planning Office to prepare the document.
 - Status: Informal review process. Agency LGS and Legal staff have provided comments to the Town for their response.
- **Chester:** The Town has begun preliminary discussion to address needed amendments to its zoning code.
 - Status: Informal review process. Staff have offered to meet with the Town committee that will be tasked with drafting amendments.
- **Horicon:** The Town is proceeding with the necessary steps to request Agency-approval of its zoning code re-write.
 - Status: Informal review process. Agency LGS and Legal staff continue to coordinate and provide guidance to the Town regarding the code.
- **Lake George:** The Town adopted new sanitary regulations prior to approval by the Agency. The new regulations replace A180, the Consolidated Health Regulations with the NYS Department of Health's standards in 75A.

- Status: Informal review process. Staff attended a workshop on April 7 regarding the sanitary code and will be attending a follow up meeting on May 3.
- **Bolton:** The Town has been working with a consultant to update its zoning code.
 - Status: Informal review process. Staff were notified by the Town's consultant that a revised version of the code would be forthcoming.

Variances (17)

- **Bolton (3)**
 - Project [LV2016-0004] involved the replacement of an existing non-conforming single family dwelling. Relief was required from the Town shoreline setback and for alterations to an existing non-conforming structure. No action was taken for this variance referral.
 - Project [LV2016-0018] involved the construction of a 3289 square foot boat storage facility. Relief was required from the Town front yard setback and for building size. No further Agency review was required for this variance since the project did not vary provisions of the Act; however the project does require an Agency permit and is under review by the Agency.
 - Project [LV2016-0026] involved roof-mount installation of solar panels on an existing non-conforming single family dwelling. Relief was required from the Town shoreline setback from all waterbodies and for alterations to an existing non-conforming structure. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the stream is non-navigable and therefore the project did not involve provisions of the Act.
- **Caroga (1)**
 - Project [LV2016-0030] involved an addition to a shed. Relief was required from the Town side yard setback and low coverage. No further Agency review was required since the variance did not involve provisions of the Act.
- **Day (1)**
 - Project [LV2016-0010] involved the construction of a 2-story single family dwelling in the approximate location of a single-story dwelling which was removed. Relief was required from the Town 75-foot shoreline setback. No further agency review of this variance was required as the project did not vary the Agency's 50-foot shoreline setback.
- **Chester (2)**
 - Project [LV2016-0013] involved the replacement of an existing non-conforming one-story dwelling with a new two-story dwelling moved further from the shoreline. Relief was required from the Town frontline and 50-foot shoreline setbacks. The Agency respected the findings of the ZBA and no further action was taken behalf on this variance.
 - Project [LV2016-0021] involved replacement of an existing seepage pit with an engineered waste-water treatment system. Relief was required from the Town foundation setbacks, and well setbacks. No further Agency review of

this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.

- **Horicon (5)**

- Project [LV2016-0011] involved the replacement of an existing substandard on-site wastewater system with a new alternative system. Relief was required from the Town 100-foot separation distance to a well. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.
- Project [LV2016-0012] involved the replacement of an existing on-site wastewater treatment system with a new Eljen system. Relief was required from the Town well and dwelling setback. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.
- Project [LV2016-0015] involved the construction of a roof over existing exterior steps and a 250 square foot addition to the rear of an existing non-conforming single family dwelling. Relief was required from the Town roadway setback and for alterations of an existing non-conforming structure. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.
- Project [LV2016-0017] involved conversion of an existing non-conforming deck to a screened-in porch. Relief was required from the Town shoreline setback. No action was taken on behalf of this variance.
- Project [LV2016-0031] involved the replacement of a septic system. Relief was required from the Town property line and dwelling setbacks for the leach field and the tank. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.

- **Indian Lake (1)**

- Project [LV2016-0029] involved the placement of a lean-to within the shoreline setback. No further Agency review of this variance was required as the project was a replacement in-kind.

- **Queensbury (3)**

- Project [LV2016-0020] involved the replacement of an existing on-site wastewater treatment system with three, 2,000 gallon holding tanks. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not involve provisions of the Act.
- Project [LV2016-0024] involved additions to an existing non-conforming single family dwelling. Relief was required from the Town front, side and rear yard setbacks and for expansion of a non-conforming structure. No further Agency review of this variance was required since the project did not vary provisions of the Act.
- Project [LV2016-0028] involved the construction of a new single family dwelling. Relief was required from the Town 75-foot shoreline/wetland setback. No further Agency review of this variance was required however the project involved wetlands and requires a permit from the Agency.

- **Willsboro (1)**
 - Project [LV2016-0005] involved the removal of an existing non-conforming deck and replacement with new larger deck. Relief was required from the Town shoreline setback. No Agency action was taken on behalf of this variance.

Summary of Local Planning Unit Program Accomplishments March-April 2016				
Reportable Items	Municipalities		Month Total	Year to Date
	ALLUP	Other		
Land use regulations reviewed	2	0	2	20
ALLUP amendments approved	0	--	0	1
ALLUP variances reviewed/reversed	17/0	--	17/0	38/0
Comprehensive Plans reviewed	0	0	0	1
Meetings with Town officials	2	0	2	19
Responded to land use planning inquiries	31	1	32	107
Training & Workshops provided	1	1	1	5
Intra-Agency local planning assistance	5	0	5	26
Inter-Agency Coordination	--	--	1	22
Coordination with Other Regional Organizations	--	--	2	16
<i>ALLUP - denotes "APA-approved Local Land Use Program"</i>				