

THIS IS A TWO-SIDED DOCUMENT

 P.O. Box 99, 1133 NYS Route 86 Ray Brook, New York 12977 Tel: (518) 891-4050 www.apa.ny.gov	DRAFT APA Permit 2026-0108
	Date Issued: XXXX
In the Matter of the Application of THE LYME TIMBER COMPANY Permittee for a permit pursuant to § 809 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act	To the County Clerk: Please index this permit in the grantor index under the following name(s): Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC The Lyme Timber Company

SUMMARY AND AUTHORIZATION

This permit authorizes a timber harvest in an area classified Resource Management on the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map in the Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County.

This authorization shall expire unless recorded in the St. Lawrence County Clerk's Office within 60 days of issuance of a signed and notarized permit. The signed and notarized permit shall be recorded in the names of all persons listed above and in the names of all owners of record of any portion of the project site on the recordation date.

The project shall not be undertaken or continued unless the project authorized herein is in existence within five years of the date the permit is recorded in the St. Lawrence County Clerk's Office. The Agency will consider the project in existence when the timber harvest is complete as conditioned herein.

The project shall be undertaken in compliance with all conditions stated herein. Failure to comply with this permit is a violation and may subject the permittee, successors, and assigns to civil penalties and other legal proceedings.

This permit does not convey any right to trespass upon the lands or interfere with the riparian rights of others in order to undertake the authorized project, nor does it authorize the impairment of any easement, right, title or interest in real or personal property.

Nothing contained in this permit shall be construed to satisfy any legal obligations of the permittee to comply with all applicable laws and regulations or to obtain any governmental approval or permit from any entity other than the Agency, whether federal, State, regional, or local.

PROJECT SITE

The project site is a 680±-acre portion of a 2,667-acre parcel of land located on Mink Brook Loop Road in the Town of Colton, St. Lawrence County, in an area classified Resource Management on the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map. The site is identified as Tax Map Section 194, Block 1, Parcel 16, and is described in a deed from SP Forests, LLC to Lymer Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC, dated August 16, 2006, and recorded September 1, 2006 in the St. Lawrence County Clerk's Office under Instrument Number 2006-00015369.

The project site is located with the Town of Colton, which administers an Agency-approved Local Land Use Program that meets all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project as conditionally approved herein is a timber harvest of 680± acres within Lyme Adirondack Timber's 16,262±-acre Colton-Piercefield Tract. Two distinct treatment areas are proposed, based upon stand conditions and desired outcomes, as follows:

Seed Tree Establishment (672± acres): The stands in this treatment area were heavily impacted by the ice storm of 1998 and were last harvested in 2010 with a salvage harvest to reap some value from the damaged trees. As a result of the harvest, most of the treatment area is now a two-aged stand. Both the overstory and understory exhibit poor health and form, including beech bark disease, dieback, butt scar damage, seams, defects, and epicormic branching. Both the overstory and understory contain a high percentage of un-acceptable growing stock.

The prescription for this area is a seed tree establishment harvest. The harvest will focus on leaving 10-15 square feet of basal area of healthy and desirable seed trees in the overstory. Seed trees will include yellow birch, hard maple, black cherry, red maple, red spruce, and white ash across the treatment area. Desirable pockets of advanced regeneration will be left in the understory. The intent is to establish a new even aged cohort of desirable species mix, produced from the seed of the highest quality trees on site. The harvest will eliminate the damaged stems leftover from the ice storm and replace them with vigorous, well-formed stems.

Clearcut with Reserves (8± acres): This area was not treated during the 2010 salvage harvest. This is a softwood flat, composed of balsam fir, black cherry and red maple. Nearly 100% of the stand is comprised of unacceptable growing stock, exhibiting poor form and health. There is little to no regeneration present in the understory.

The prescription for this area is a clearcut with reserves. Reserve trees will primarily be white pine, which will be marked to remain. All other merchantable and non-merchantable stems will be removed. Skidders will scarify the soil surface during the harvest to create a favorable seed bed for establishment of desirable regeneration.

Existing access to the project site is from NYS Route 3 and Mink Brook Loop Road.

The property is subject to a New York State Working Forest Conservation Easement and is certified to the Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative standards. The Forest Management Plan for the project site includes a physical description of the area and forest types as well as forest management goals, objectives, and strategies. The plan addresses the maintenance and protection of biodiversity as well as conservation zones and protection areas. Soil disturbance, aesthetic guidelines, an integrated forest pest management plan, and implementation of *New York State Forestry Voluntary Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (2018 edition) are also included in the plan.

The harvest boundaries will be field-delineated by a professional forester. A logging crew under contract to the project sponsor will undertake the harvest, under regular supervision of the forester.

The harvest will be undertaken using standard mechanized logging equipment. Felling will be done using a tracked feller-buncher. A grapple skidder will transport logs to the landing. Saw logs will be loaded on a log truck, which will transport them to a log concentration yard. Pulp wood will be chipped on-site and transported off-site by truck.

No new roads are proposed. Existing landings will be used. Existing skidder trails will be re-used where possible. New and existing skidder trails and landings will be established and maintained in accordance with New York State Best Management Practices for Water Quality, and Lyme's Soil Disturbance Guidelines document contained within the Forest Management Plan.

Special care will be taken to protect existing and potential snag, den, and cavity trees throughout the project site whenever possible.

There are no lakes, ponds or rivers on the project site. Streams within the project site and wetlands adjacent to the project site will be buffered by 100-foot Riparian Management Zones in accordance with the Forest Management Plan, and consistent with *New York State Forestry Voluntary Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (2018 edition).

With respect to Spruce Grouse habitat, there will be no activity during the brooding period (May 15 – July 15), and the proposed silviculture will leave a patch cut adjacent to mature blocks of tamarack, balsam, and spruce.

Control and monitoring of invasive species are addressed in Lyme's Integrated Pest Management Plan, contained within the Forest Management Plan. The plan includes steps to prevent, avoid, monitor, and suppress the proliferation of invasive plants and insects on the entirety of Lyme's Adirondack ownership.

No pesticide or herbicide use is proposed or authorized herein. Hazardous materials, including fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluid, will be managed in accordance with the *New York State Forestry Voluntary Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (2018 Edition) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regulations. This includes proper techniques for storage and disposal of hazardous materials, and appropriate response to spill remediation.

The project is shown on the following maps, plans, and reports:

- A map titled “Timber Harvest Plan-Mink Brook Loop Road, Colton-Piercefield Tract, Town of Colton,” received by the Agency on May 12, 2026 (Timber Harvest Plan Map);
- A six-page document labeled, “LAFCO Timber Harvest Plan: Mink Brook Loop Road,” prepared by Lyme Adirondack Forest Company, LLC, and received by the Agency on May 12, 2026 (Timber Harvest Plan); and
- A document titled, “Forest Management Plan Lyme Timberlands, 2025-2035,” received by the Agency on July 31, 2026 (Forest Management Plan).

In addition, a five-page document titled, “Harvest Compliance Report-LAFCO,” is the applicant’s standard assessment form for monitoring compliance with a proposed harvest plan and environmental standards. A completed report will be submitted to the Agency following the harvest.

A copy of the Timber Harvest Plan Map is attached as a part of this permit for easy reference. The original, full-scale maps and plans described above are the official plans for the project, with copies available upon request from Adirondack Park Agency headquarters in Ray Brook, New York.

AGENCY JURISDICTION

Pursuant to Sections 809 and 810 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, a permit is required from the Adirondack Park Agency prior to undertaking timber harvesting that includes a proposed clearcutting of any single unit of land of more than twenty-five acres on Resource Management lands in the Adirondack Park.

CONDITIONS

THE PROJECT IS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. The project shall not be undertaken until this permit has been recorded in the St. Lawrence County Clerk's Office.
2. This permit is binding on the permittee, all present and future owners or lessees of the project site, and all persons undertaking all or a portion of the project, for as long as the activities described herein continue on the site. Copies of this permit and the Timber Harvest Plan shall be furnished by the permittee to all persons undertaking any of the activities authorized herein.
3. In addition to complying with all terms and conditions of this permit, all future activities on the project site shall be undertaken in compliance with the requirements of New York State’s Adirondack Park Agency Act, Freshwater Wetlands Act, and the Adirondack Park Agency’s implementing regulations [9 NYCRR §§ 570-588].
4. Authorization for the proposal described herein shall only remain valid so long as the permittee maintains a current certification from the Forest Stewardship Council or Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

5. This permit authorizes the timber harvest depicted on the Timber Harvest Plan Map and described in the Timber Harvest Plan. Any change to the timber harvest shall require prior written Agency authorization.
6. The timber harvest shall comply with the standards contained within the *New York State Forestry Voluntary Best Management Practices for Water Quality*, 2018 edition. The harvest shall be supervised by a professional forester.
7. Upon completion of the timber harvesting project authorized herein, the permittee shall submit to the Agency a post-harvest assessment form documenting compliance with the Timber Harvest Plan, and the *New York State Forestry Voluntary Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (2018 edition).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Agency has considered all statutory and regulatory criteria for project approval set forth in the Adirondack Park Agency Act and 9 NYCRR Parts 573.7 and 574. The Agency hereby finds that the project authorized as conditioned herein:

- a. meets all of the pertinent requirements and conditions of the approved local land use program of the Town of Colton; and
- b. will not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the Park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project.

Dated:

Ray Brook, New York

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

By: _____

John M. Burth
Deputy Director, Regulatory Programs

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ESSEX

On the _____ day of _____ in the year _____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State personally appeared John M. Burth, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same in their capacity, and that by their signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.

Notary Public