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# FOREST PRESERVE DETAILED PROJECT WORK PLAN

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**Fiscal Year 2024**  
**Project # CO-WP-327**

<u>Region</u> 5	<u>Project Title</u> Chickadee Brook NPT Lean-to
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<u>Project Type</u> New Construction	<u>Town(s)</u> Indian Lake	<u>County</u> Hamilton	<u>Management Unit</u> Blue Mountain Wild Forest
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Description of Desired Condition(s) for Project

This work plan provides specifications and relevant details for the construction of a lean-to and pit privy in the vicinity of Chickadee Brook on the Northville Lake Placid Trail (NPT), Blue Mountain Wild Forest (BMWF), as described in the 2017 Blue Mountain Wild Forest Unit Management Plan (UMP) amendment.

The NPT is classified as a trunk trail in the BMWF UMP and as such receives a higher level of maintenance and use than other trails in the area. Currently, there are two other lean-tos located along the NPT in BMWF - both situated along Tirrell Pond, which is approximately 2.8 miles south of the proposed location for the new lean-to.

A 2017 UMP amendment provided for “construction of an additional lean-to along the NPT. The location of the lean-to will be West of Salmon Pond along a 0.8-mile section of the NPT on a scenic section of the trail. The lean-to would be located somewhere between 2.0 and 2.8 miles north of the Tirrell Pond lean-to.”

Specific objectives or desired conditions are as follows:

- To enhance the hiking experience on the NPT and to control camping activity near existing and proposed lean-tos,
- To address the need for additional shelter options within the unit during peak use times, and
- To provide an additional option for emergency shelter during inclement weather.

The Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan Wild Forest Basic Guideline 6, which states “When public access to and enjoyment of the wild forest areas are inadequate, appropriate measures may be taken to provide improved access to encourage public use consistent with the wild forest character”. The proposed new lean-to will provide resource users an additional and environmentally conscientious option for enjoying the NPT and a scenic part of Blue Mountain Wild Forest.

The lean-to and accompanying pit privy will be sited following Wild Forest Basic Guidelines 7-10.



Description of Measures Taken to Avoid, Mitigate and Minimize Impacts to Natural Resources

The lean-to location was sited to best avoid and minimize negative impacts to natural resources.

There are six trees three inches and greater at diameter breast height (DBH) and 25 between one- and three-inches DBH to be removed to clear the project site. Below is a tree tally.

State Land Tree Tally															
<b>Project: Chickadee Brook Lean-to</b>															
<b>State Land Unit: Blue Mountain Wild Forest</b>															
<b>County: Hamilton</b>								<b>Town: Indian Lake</b>							
<b>Date Talled: 11/08/2023</b>															
<b>Talled By: Jaime Parslow, Jon DeSantis</b>															
Species	Diameter														Total
	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	
<b>birch, paper</b>				1											1
<b>fir, balsam</b>	16		1												17
<b>maple, red</b>			1												1
<b>spruce, red</b>	9	2	1												12
<b>Total</b>	25	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31

Earthwork and disturbances will be confined to the project location and are expected to be minimal. Earthwork will consist of leveling the ground where necessary and placing the lean-to foundation blocks. Minimal earthwork will occur while constructing a firepit; this will include digging down the earth to mineral soils and placing sourced rocks to designate the firepit. Minimal earth work will also occur for the installation of a pit privy; this includes digging a privy hole and leveling the privy.

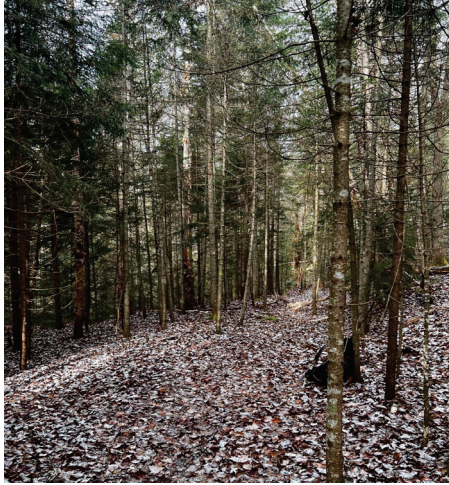
The lean-to is located away from streams, waterbodies, and wetlands. No impacts are anticipated. The lean-to will be located on an old logging road, which was slightly benched into the side slope of the surrounding landscape. Initial location scoping indicated that the soils appeared to be well draining and there are no indications that this location is permanently or seasonally wet. After the project is completed, the land manager will monitor the site for any adverse impacts.

There are no known occurrences of rare, threatened, or endangered species, within a quarter of a mile of the project site.

## Analysis of Project Location and Design Alternatives

While scoping this project, two locations were considered. The preferred location, on the northside of the beaver meadow, is relatively flat and is part of a former logging road. The location is approximately 200 feet to the west of the trail and well screened. This location will require minimal tree cutting and earthwork for site prep. The creation of a spur path to reach the new lean-to will require no tree cutting and very minimal tread work.

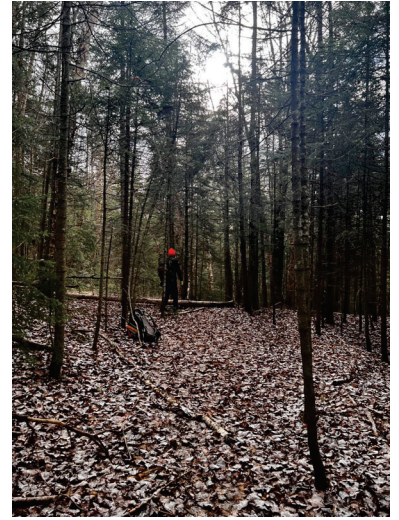
View looking west. The lean-to will be situated in the open space, with the front of the lean-to facing south



View looking south of proposed lean-to location.

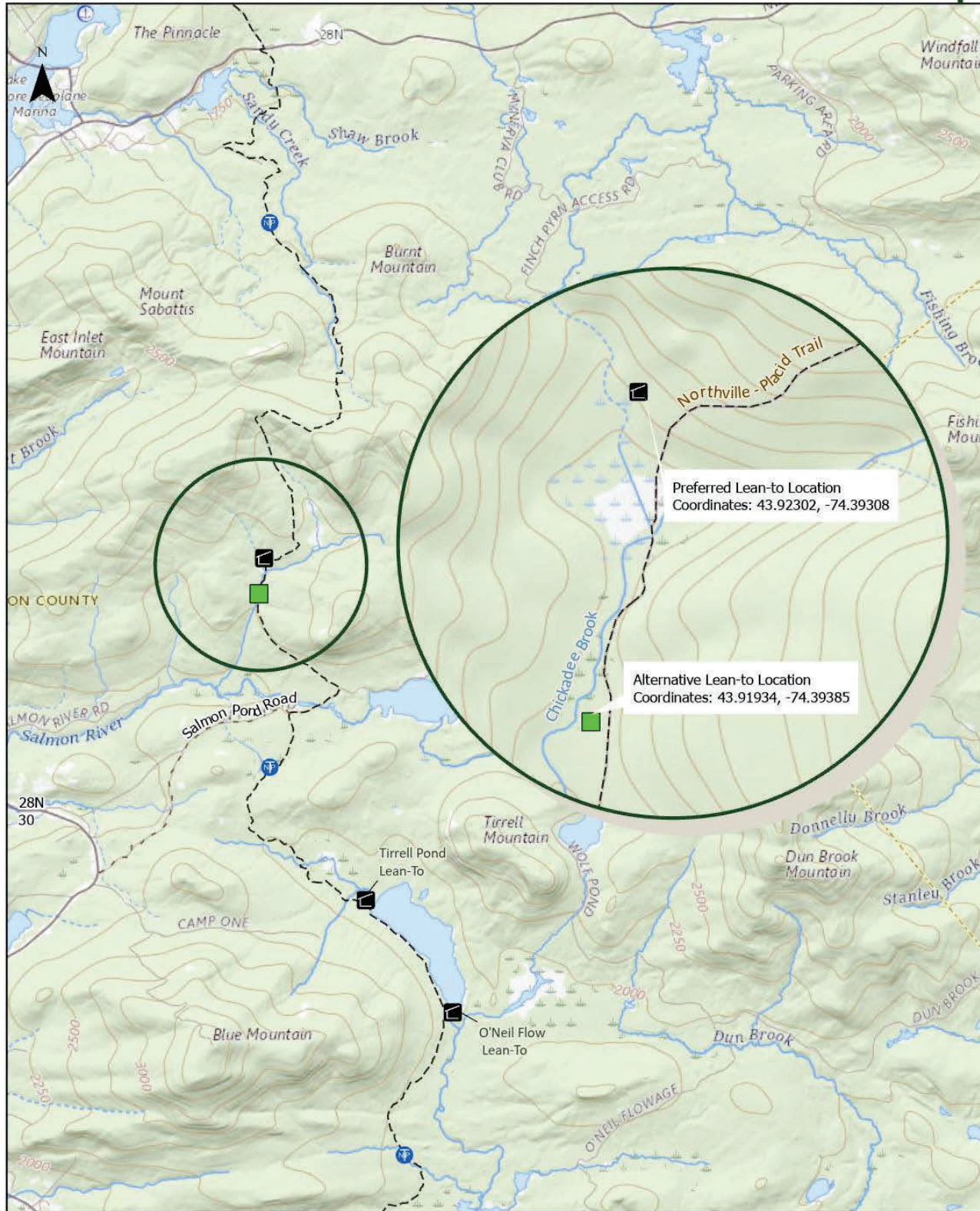


View of preferred location, looking east toward NPT

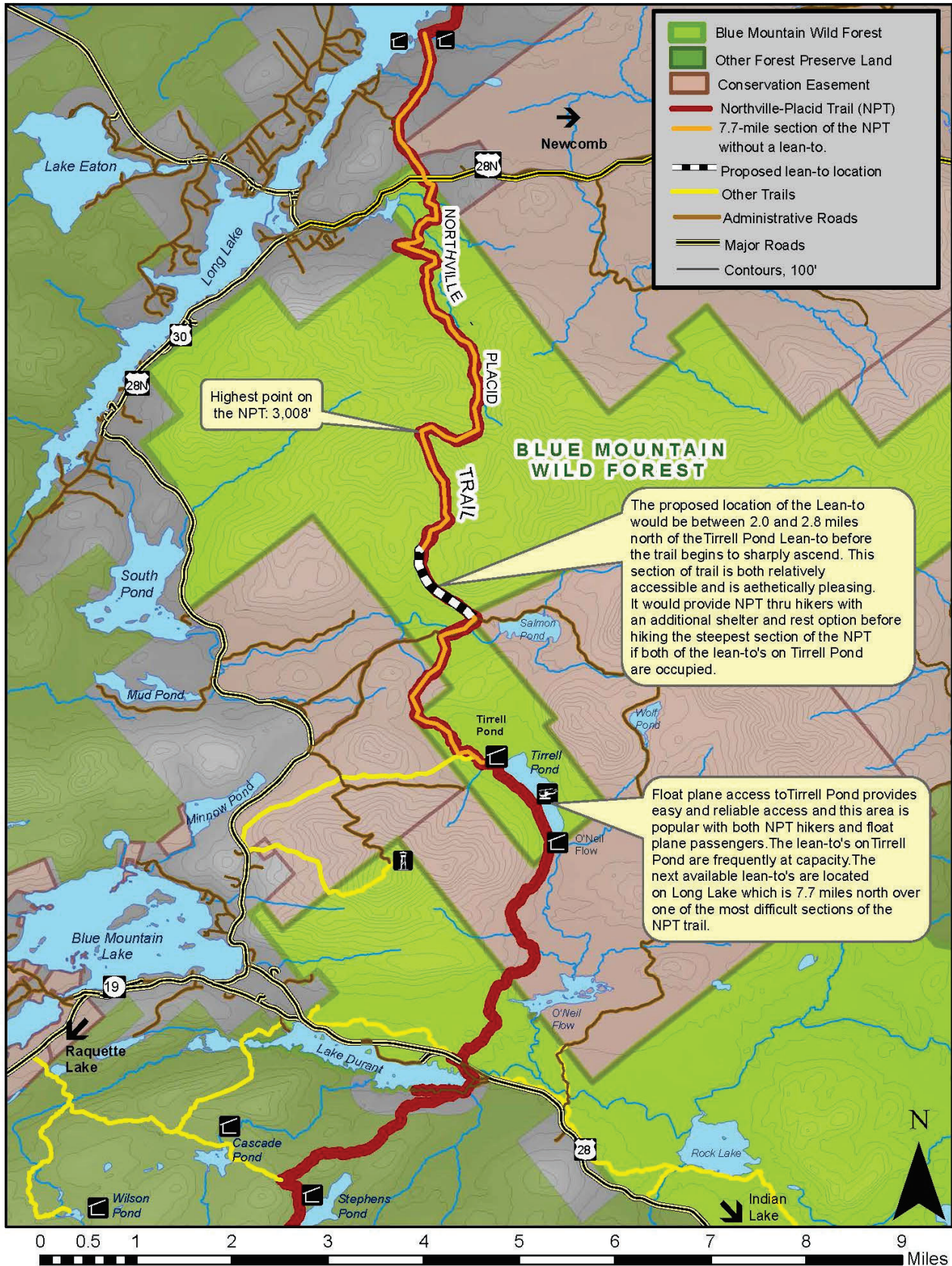


An alternative location, on the southern side of the beaver meadow, was considered for the new lean-to. This location is approximately 50 feet from the trail and not as well screened as the preferred location. The terrain would require significantly more earthwork and tree cutting to clear a suitable site for lean-to construction. In addition, the forest in this location is denser, with many older standing dead and snagged trees. Ultimately, this location was not preferred due to the proximity to the trail, inadequate screening, and the significant amount of tree cutting and earthwork needed for site prep.

# Chickadee Brook Lean-To Location Map



# Appendix 3: Proposed Lean-To Location on NPT



Description of Use of Motorized Equipment and/or Motor Vehicles (if any)

A CP-17 request will be submitted for helicopter transport of materials to the project site. Other motorized use will include using a chainsaw to clear the project area. All motorized use will follow Wild Forest guidelines.

Description of Applicable Standards for Accessibility by People with Disabilities

In accordance with the US Department of Justice’s ADA Title II regulations, all new DEC facilities, or parts of facilities, that are constructed for public use are to be accessible to people with disabilities. *Full compliance is not required where DEC can demonstrate that it is structurally impracticable to meet the requirements [28 CFR § 35.151 (a)].*

The backcountry location of the proposed lean-to and the nature of the NPT and access to the lean-to make it impractical to construct an ADA lean-to in this location.

Other Relevant Considerations

The Northville Lake Placid Trail will be celebrating its centennial anniversary in 2024. This project will reaffirm the Department’s efforts and commitment to provide enhanced recreational opportunities along the NPT trail corridor.

Prepared by (Name & Title):

Jaime Parslow, Natural Resources Planner

Date: 12/14/2023

Phone: (518) 863-4545 ext. 3004

Approvals:

Comments:



Regional Program Manager

Date: 2/14/2024



Regional Director

Date: 09/24/2024



Digitally signed by  
Peter Frank  
Date: 2024.05.29  
14:02:58 -04'00'

Division Director

Date:

**REGULATORY CLEARANCE CHECKLIST – STATE LANDS and CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROJECTS**

PROGRAM	PERMIT	REQUIRED		SECURED BY	COMMENTS
		YES	NO	(NAME)	
Air Resources	Restricted Burning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Mineral Resources	Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Materials Management	Solid Waste Mgt. Fac.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Water	Dam Safety Review	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Const. in Flood Hazard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Public Water Supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	SPDES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Spills Management	Petro. Bulk Storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Lands and Forests	Unit Management Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NYS DEC	2017 Amendment to the BMWF UMP
	Tree Cutting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	J.Parslow	Tree tally included
	Protected Native Plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fish and Wildlife	Freshwater Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Wild Scenic & Rec. River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Compliance Services	Other Protection of Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	EAF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Negative Declaration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Env. Impact Statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Water Quality Cert.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
DEC (other)	CP-17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Parslow	Submitted with Work Plan
	Commissioner (aircraft, motorized equipment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Flight Request	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Parslow	Submitted with Work Plan
	Contract Clearance Sh.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	DOB Exemption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other Agencies	APA MOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	APA Wetlands Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Corps. of Engineers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Building Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Local Permits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Easements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Highway Enter DOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Wastewater Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			