
FOREST PRESERVE DETAILED PROJECT WORK PLAN

Fiscal Year 2025
Project # 2025-RB-003
CO-WP 371

<u>Region</u> 5	<u>Project Title</u> Hoyt & Peroni Parking and Picnic Area
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<u>Project Type</u> New Construction	<u>Town(s)</u> Harrietstown	<u>County</u> Franklin	<u>Management Unit</u> Saranac Lakes Wild Forest
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As approved in the 2019 Saranac Lakes Unit Management Plan (UMP), an interpretive trail system, a parking lot, and a picnic area will be developed in the former Paul Smith's College pine plantation. The interpretive message of the trail will include the history of the plantation and the changes occurring through natural processes. The interpretive signs will be made of rustic materials.

Description of Desired Condition(s) for Project

Desired conditions for the project are to ensure that it blends well with the natural area, results in only minimal erosion, there is no expansion from the as-built improvement footprint, the construction and use of the improvements do not negatively impact adjacent vegetation, the improvements maintain a firm and stable surface, the area is free of occurrences of human waste or litter, and the improvements provide a safe and enjoyable user experience.

Description of Project Specifications

This project consists of construction of a parking area, a picnic area, and a trail to connect these facilities. These improvements were approved in the 2019 Saranac Lakes Wild Forest Unit Management Plan.

1. The parking area will be 58 feet long and 22 feet wide. The parking area will be designed to accommodate five vehicles, including one accessible parking space with an access aisle. The construction of the parking area will involve removing all organic matter from the area and then surfacing the area with crushed stone on top of road stabilization fabric. The parking area will be slightly sloped to channel water away from the adjacent roads and to avoid erosion from high rainfall events.
2. The picnic area will be located at the start of the existing nature trail. The picnic area will consist of three sites, each with a picnic table placed in a 13-foot-long by 11-foot-wide clearing. One picnic site will be built to accessible standards, with a firm and stable surface that extends a minimum of 36 inches around the picnic table.
3. A 500-foot-long trail will connect the parking area to the picnic area. This trail will be built to accessible standards including a firm and stable tread surface that is free of obstructions. The trail tread will be a minimum of 36 inches wide. Every 125 feet, a passing space will be

provided, where the tread will be 60-inches-wide for a length of 60 inches. The trail surface will be compacted, crushed stone on top of road stabilization fabric.

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

- A) Trees to be removed: a total of 62 trees between one- and three-inches diameter at breast height (DBH), and 44 trees greater than three-inches DBH will need to be removed to complete this project. The tree tallies for the project are attached.
- B) Earthwork and disturbance: earth work needed will be to remove organic matter down to mineral soil and to create a level surface in the footprint of the parking area, trail, and picnic area. No earthwork will occur outside of the facility's footprint.
- C) Impacts to streams, waterbodies, and wetlands: there will be no impacts to water resources from this project.
- D) Identification rare, threatened, or endangered species: no rare, threatened, or endangered species are documented within 0.25 miles of the project location.

Analysis of Project Location and Design Alternatives

The proposed project site is the most feasible location for the improvements. Alternative sites for the parking area were considered. One alternative was to locate the parking area on an old roadway adjacent to the proposed picnic area. This location was rejected because New York State Department of Transportation determined the location did not provide adequate line-of-sight distances to allow for safe vehicle use to NYS Route 30. A second alternative was to locate the parking area further to the north. This location was not selected because it would require more extensive earthwork to create a sustainable parking area than the proposed location. Additionally, the parking area, trail and picnic area are proposed to be close to NYS Route 30, which makes their location minimally intrusive to the Wild Forest.

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

Motorized equipment and motor vehicles will be used for this project. Dump trucks will be needed to haul materials. For the parking area construction, an excavator and loader will perform the surface development. Landscaping-size excavator, loader, and hauler will be used for the construction of the trail and picnic area. Chainsaws will be used to clear the vegetation.

Description of Applicable Standards for Accessibility by People with Disabilities

This project will include the trail, one parking space, and one picnic site being built to accessible standards.

Other Relevant Considerations

Prepared by (Name & Title): Steve Guglielmi

Date: 11/1/2023


Phone: (518) 897-1286

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Detailed Work Plan
Rev. 04/28/2023

Approvals:

Comments:



Regional Program Manager

Date: 2/11/2025



Regional Director

Date: 5/30/2025



On behalf of Fiona Watt

Division Director

Date: 4/9/2025

State Land Tree Tally

Project: Hoyt & Peroni Trail Parking

State Land Unit: Saranac Lakes Wild Forest

County: Franklin

Town: Harrietstown

Date Tallied: 8/24/2023

Tallied By: Steve Guglielmi

Species	Diameter Class (inches)														Total
	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	
beech, Amer.			1												1
cherry, black			1			1									2
fir, balsam		1													1
maple, sugar			1												1
pine, Scotch						1									1
pine, white		1									1				2
Total	14	2	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	22

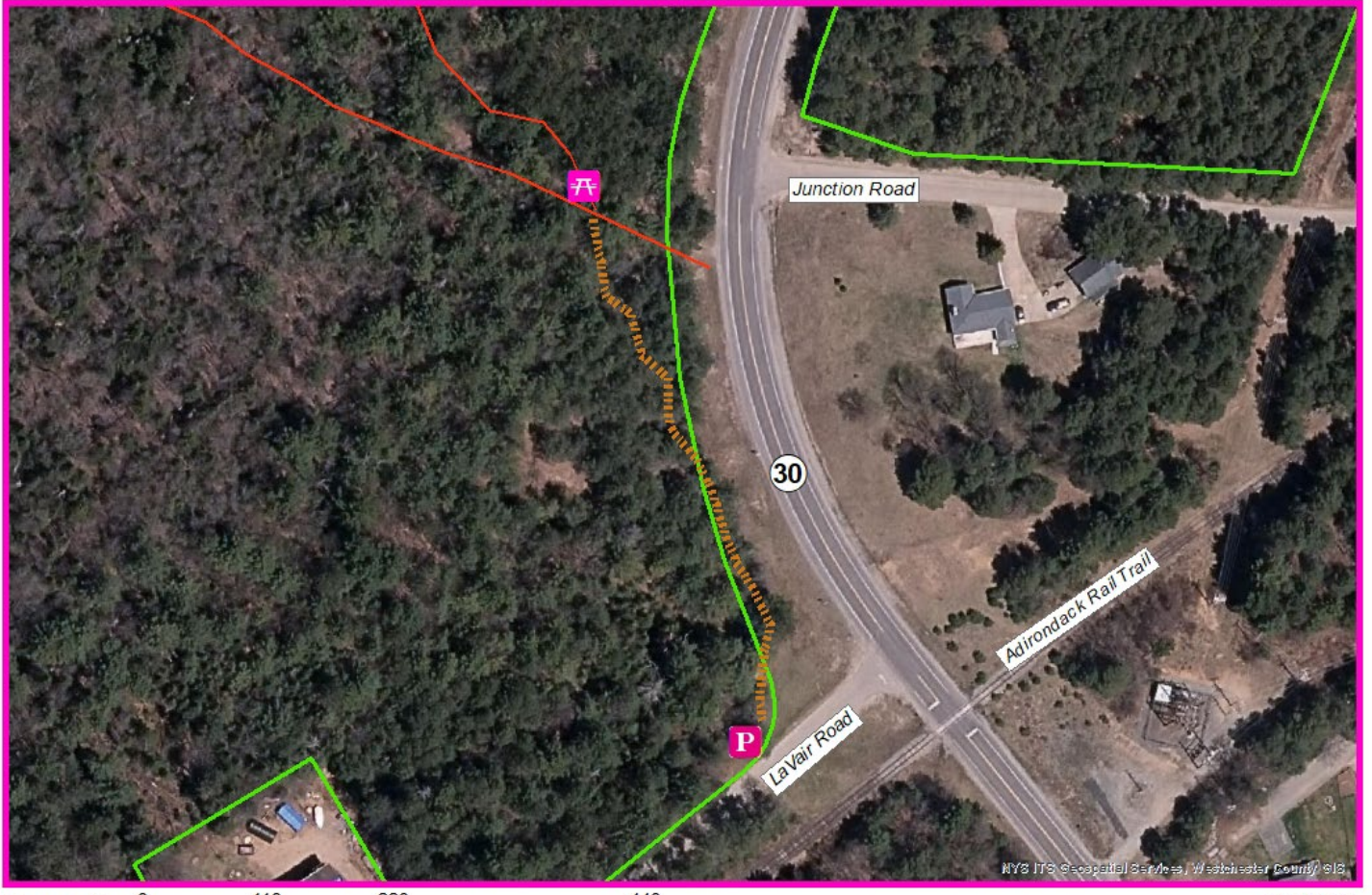
Project: Hoyt & Peroni Picnic Area

Species	Diameter Class (inches)														Total
	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	
fir, balsam		1													1
maple, red		6	3												9
pine, Scotch				2	2	1									5
Total	15	7	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30

Project: Hoyt & Peroni Trail Connection

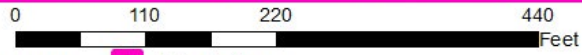
Species	Diameter Class (inches)														Total
	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	
beech, Amer.		1													1
birch, paper		2	1												3
fir, balsam		3													3
maple, red			1												1
pine, Scotch		4	4	2	2	1									13
Total	33	10	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54

Hoyt & Peroni Parking, Picnic Area, and Trail



NY8 ITS Geospatial Services, Westchester County GIS

Legend



- DEC Lands
- Current Trails
- Picnic Area
- Parking Area
- New Trail

11/1/2023





Department of
Environmental
Conservation

SARANAC LAKES WILD FOREST

and

Lake Placid Boat Launch

Lake Flower Boat Launch

Upper Saranac Lake Boat Launch

Raquette River Boat Launches

Unit Management Plan

River Area Management Plans

Saranac River, Ausable River, and Raquette River

Final Environmental Impact Statement

NYS DEC, REGION 5, DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS

P.O. Box 296, 1115 State Route 86, Ray Brook, NY 12997-0296
r5.ump@dec.ny.gov

IV. Proposed Management Actions

Objective:

- Facilitate the connection of people to nature through the nature trails on this parcel.

Actions:

- Camping and fires on the Brewster Peninsula parcel will be prohibited because of the small size of this parcel and heavy use it receives.
- The trails on this parcel will be interpretive trails. Trails may be improved to make access easier for visitors. Additional signs may be placed along the trails. The interpretive signs will be made of rustic materials.
- A designated parking area for 18 cars will be built off Peninsula Way.

3. Lake Clear Beach

This area is a strip of sandy beach on the east shoreline of Lake Clear (see map 9). This has been a popular swimming location for many years, going back to when Paul Smith's College owned this parcel. In 1989 the State purchased this area from the college. In 1992 the Department constructed the current parking area; prior to this there were problems with cars parking along State Route 30. The Department has also installed pit privies at this location. A gated road that passes through the parking area is opened during winter to allow for ice fishing access.

The beach receives a great deal of use in the summer. There are problems with fires and garbage on the beach, thus detracting from the experience of other visitors by making the beach area unsightly and creating a hazard from broken glass. The worst of the problems seem to occur from groups holding parties at the beach, often at night. The Department has posted signs at the beach indicating that fires and camping are prohibited.

The upland portions of this special management area were used for many years by Paul Smith's College as part of the forestry curriculum. This area includes a 42-acre pine plantation that was established in the 1950's. This plantation was planted by forestry students under the direction of professors Gould Hoyt and George Peroni. Over the years, many forestry students worked on this plantation as part of their studies.

Desired Conditions for Beach Areas Monitoring

The Lake Clear Beach is an example of a natural area the receives a high level of recreation use. This makes it different than a purpose-built facility, but this area can still be included in a wildland monitoring plan or guidance. The monitoring variables for a beach area will include efforts to collect data on the expansion vegetation loss; the occurrence of trash, human waste, and remnants of fires; and that visitors are perceiving the wild forest character of the area. Photo points will be a useful tool to help illustrate potential changes over time.

Objective:

- Provide public enjoyment of the Lake Clear beach throughout the year while protecting the resources of the area.

Actions:

- Monitoring for the desired conditions of beach area will help measure and determine impacts to better inform carrying capacity development and long-term planning. Final specifics will be detailed in the guidance for wildlands monitoring but generally:
 - Desired conditions for beach area will be ones that have minimal expansion from the current use footprint, doesn't negatively impact adjacent vegetation; is free of occurrences of human waste, litter, or fires; and provides an enjoyable user experience.
 - Monitoring could include photo point locations; control measuring points for occurrences of trash, fires, human waste, and vegetation loss; and visitor surveys.
- Develop regulations that will prohibit campfires and camping on the Wild Forest lands on the east side of Lake Clear between the lake and State Route 30. This would apply to about 170 acres.
- An interpretive trail system, a four-car parking lot, and a picnic area will be developed in the former Paul Smith's College pine plantation. It is expected that donations from interested groups will be used in the construction of these improvements. The interpretive message of the trail will include the history of the plantation and the changes occurring through natural processes. The trail system may connect with a trail on the former Lake Clear School property. The Department has a policy that allows for the naming of capital improvements for those who donated resources to make the improvement possible. In this case the trail system will be named to honor former Paul Smith's College professors Gould Hoyt and George Peroni. These two individuals were heavily involved in the establishment of this plantation. The interpretive signs will be made of rustic materials.
- The trail to Lake Clear, from the main parking lot, will be improved to meet accessibility standards, this trail will extend along the beach for a distance.
- . Continue to allow ice fishing access by opening the gates to allow motor vehicle access during the winter.

4. Lake Colby Nature Trails

There is a 50-acre parcel of SLWF on the southeast shore of Lake Colby, this includes 1,400 feet of lake frontage (see map 9). The land was purchased by the State in 1963. When the parcel was purchased there was a residence, several accessory structures,

REGULATORY CLEARANCE CHECKLIST – STATE LANDS and CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROJECTS

PROGRAM	PERMIT	REQUIRE D		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"/>	Steve Guglielmi	approved 2019
	Tree Cutting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Guglielmi	Included in work plan
	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Commissioner (aircraft, motorized equipment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	Flight Request	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	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"/>		