

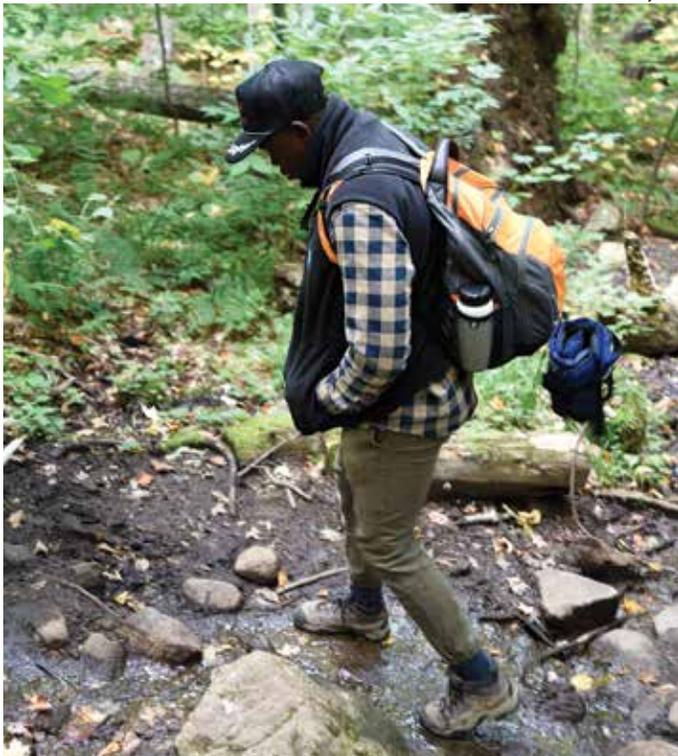
Jillian Hirsch



Celebrating Sturgeon

Local artist Jillian Hirsch and more than 100 community members in Troy, NY came together in September to create a crosswalk mural celebrating Hudson River sturgeon. The street art is intended to visually depict the scale and population timeline of sturgeon in the Hudson over the last 400 years. The largest sturgeon is 14 feet long, and the smallest is about 2 feet long. Hirsch hopes the art will raise awareness about the status and struggle of the Hudson's sturgeon populations. The paintings can be seen at Fifth Avenue and 101st Street.

Jim Clayton



North Country National Scenic Trail

DEC recently announced the approval of the Adirondack Park Trail Plan for the North Country National Scenic Trail (NST). The plan will establish a new long distance hiking route across the Adirondack Park and incorporates the NST into the state's Adirondack trail system. Stretching from the Hamlet of For-

estport in Oneida County to the Hamlet of Crown Point on the shore of Lake Champlain, the 158-mile Adirondack route will provide opportunities for families looking for day hikes and for experienced backpackers who prefer a long distance challenge.



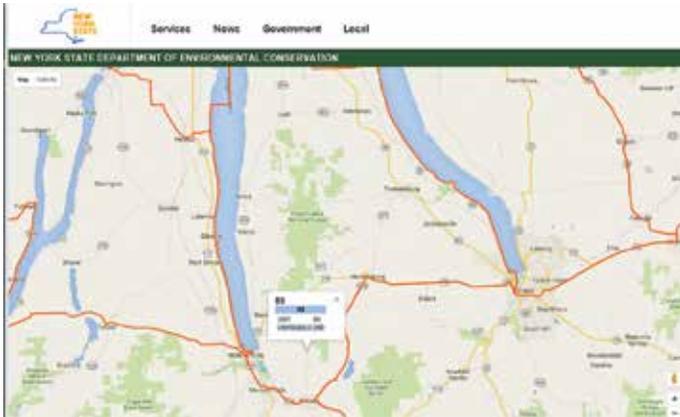
David Govtaski

Report Moose Sightings

DEC and its partners are conducting a multi-year study on the status of New York State's moose population, and you can help. If you see a moose, please report it by calling DEC's Ray Brook Wildlife Office at 518-897-1291 or by completing and submitting an online form at www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6964.html (link found near the bottom of page). To read about the moose study, check out "Tracking in the Mountains" in the October 2015 *Conservationist*.

Improved Access for Central NY

As part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Capital for a Day in central New York, DEC and State Parks announced \$1.6 million to support improved access to several popular state-owned recreational sites across central New York. This follows extensive outreach to sportsmen and women, outdoor enthusiasts and other stakeholders to identify ways to enhance public access and improve recreational opportunities across the region. The result produced investments in projects targeted to meet the expressed needs of the community: \$750,000 to complete additional extensions on Onondaga County's Loop-the-Lake Trail; \$300,000 in projects to enhance public access to state lands and lakes for people of all abilities.



Hunters: WMU Map

New York hunters can now go online to view the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) boundaries where they'd like to hunt. DEC recently added a Google Earth map showing Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) boundaries to our website (www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/103457.html; last in the list of **Hunting Maps**). Users who are familiar with New York's geography can zoom in to see the exact WMU in which they intend to hunt.

Foam Trailers

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that New York will deploy 19 trailers equipped with a firefighting foam substance to local fire departments and county hazardous materials teams throughout the state for use in combating fires and spills involving crude oil or other ignitable liquids. It is anticipated that by early 2016, the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services will strategically place these trailers near population centers located along major rail lines and waterways. Each trailer includes a supply of foam concentrate along with the equipment necessary to produce and apply foam to an ignitable liquid fire or spill, requiring only an ample water supply for foam production.



New Visitor Center at Five Rivers

In October, DEC celebrated the groundbreaking for a new \$7 million visitor center at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Albany County. The facility will serve as an active learning site for natural resource and environmental topics, as well as a model of green building techniques. Work is expected to be completed in December 2016, and the building will be LEED certifiable. It will feature wood harvested from trees on site, a solar photovoltaic system, operable window and roof vents, low-flow toilets, LED lighting and motion detection capabilities, rain water collection and a grey water system—that is, water from sinks will be collected and used to flush toilets



Fighting Climate Change

In early October, Governor Cuomo and former Vice President Gore announced new actions to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions across New York State. The Governor signed the "Under 2 MOU" (Memorandum of Understanding) reaffirming NY's pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050. He also directed state agencies to work with California and other jurisdictions to develop a broad North American carbon market. Cuomo also committed to bring solar to 150,000 homes and businesses and install clean, renewable energy at every SUNY campus by 2020. These nation-leading environmental and clean energy initiatives will help New York homes, businesses and universities invest in clean energy, drive economic growth across the state, and protect the environment.