Agency Highlights and Accomplishments for 2016 and 2017

Leading Today for a Cleaner Environment Tomorrow

Commissioner Basil Seggos

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NEW YORK LEADS THE NATION

• Making Environmental Quality a Top Priority
• Protecting Natural Resources
• Protecting Public Safety
• Promoting Outdoor Recreation, Tourism and Access
• Educating the Next Generation
• Leading by Example
Dear Friends,

The State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is committed to protecting and preserving our shared environment and increasing opportunities for visitors—from around the corner and across the country—to enjoy our world-class natural resources. From expanding hiking trails and opening new fishing spots to safely cleaning up contaminated lands and waters and combating climate change, DEC’s overriding mission is to ensure all New Yorkers have access to a clean, healthy environment.

At DEC, we never lose sight of the fact that we work for you. The stories in this year’s report for 2016 and 2017 reflect our mission and the diversity of our work across the state, from protecting drinking water, limiting shoreline erosion, and ensuring dam safety, to pursuing poachers and rescuing lost hikers.

Our dedicated engineers, spill responders, scientists, attorneys, community outreach specialists, Forest Rangers, Environmental Conservation Police Officers, and committed support staff are serving on the front lines to safeguard the health and safety of New York’s environment for future generations. I hope this report gives you a sense of our day-to-day work, much of which happens behind the scenes with little or no fanfare.

Sustaining New York’s environment never stops. Thanks to Governor Andrew M Cuomo’s leadership and the strong support of the State Legislature, DEC has the tools and resources we need to address environmental challenges large and small, known and new.

Again and again, Governor Cuomo has proven his commitment to protecting the environment. By growing and sustaining the State’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) at a historic $300 million, the Governor is prioritizing the preservation of natural areas and signaling his understanding that the environment serves as an economic catalyst for our communities. The EPF ensures we are ready and able to protect open space and farmland, restore habitat, and promote clean energy to help reduce our dependence on the fossil fuels that contribute to climate change.

Looking ahead, at DEC we’re also working on the new and exciting environmental projects the Governor and Legislature have championed, including a record $2.5 billion investment to update New York’s water infrastructure, significant upgrades to DEC and State Parks facilities, and new outreach to introduce more New Yorkers and visitors to outdoor recreation through the Adventure NY initiative. In addition, the Governor’s 2018 State of the State includes many key environmental proposals for the coming year.

In everything we do, in every corner of the state, we are working to build trust and confidence in those we serve. This report only tells part of our story. I encourage you to visit our website at www.dec.ny.gov to learn more about our work. We are fully committed to keeping you informed, listening to your concerns, and helping you enjoy New York’s clean, beautiful, and welcoming environment.

Thank you for all that you do to support DEC’s work. Now, perhaps more than ever before, we need support maintaining New York’s status as a national leader on the environment.

Basil Seggos, Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
MAKING ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY A TOP PRIORITY

In 2016, Governor Cuomo increased the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) to a historic $300 million, establishing New York as the national leader in environmental protection and sustainable development. The Governor sustained the EPF at $300 million in 2017.

The Governor’s commitment to the environment provides DEC and communities with resources and support to implement the safeguards necessary to ensure clean water and air and address the challenges of a changing climate. With the Governor’s support, New York continues to hold polluters accountable for their actions, and make sure the federal government is fulfilling its environmental oversight duties.

Protecting Drinking Water

The Drinking Water Quality Council (DWQC) was established to provide recommendations to the New York State Department of Health (DOH) on emerging contaminants in drinking water in order to maintain and improve the quality of New York’s drinking water supplies and infrastructure. Standing at the forefront of the State’s efforts to protect public health from threats posed by emerging contaminants, the DWQC will address some of the most technically challenging aspects of environmental health and drinking water regulations. The council, which will continue to hold meetings in 2018, will set Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for contaminants of emerging concern, including Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), and 1,4-Dioxane. New York State leads the nation in its commitment to providing clean drinking water by rebuilding critical infrastructure and responding quickly and decisively when contamination threatens public health.

Launched the Governor’s Water Quality Rapid Response Team

In 2016, Governor Cuomo established the Water Quality Rapid Response Team, led by DEC and DOH, to evaluate potential threats to drinking water supplies statewide, assist communities with water testing, and provide technical assistance and support to ensure clean drinking water for everyone who lives, works, or visits New York State.
Delivered an Unprecedented Response to Contamination from Unregulated Compounds

DEC, in coordination with DOH, moved quickly and decisively to address the PFOA water contamination crisis in the village of Hoosick Falls. At Governor Cuomo’s direction, DEC committed the resources necessary to provide clean drinking water to Hoosick Falls residents and businesses.

DEC established an Incident Command Center in Hoosick Falls to deploy resources and ensure that all residents had access to clean drinking water as quickly as possible. The agency worked closely with local officials to install filtration systems on private wells to remove contaminants, test alternative water sources, and act to reduce human exposure. More than 1,000 point-of-entry treatment systems (POET) were installed around Hoosick Falls, Petersburgh, and surrounding areas.

DEC also designated four locations as state Superfund Sites, which enabled the agency to hold polluters accountable and act to protect health and the environment. As a result of its preliminary investigation, DEC identified Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics and Honeywell International as the responsible parties. DEC is working aggressively to hold all responsible parties accountable for the costs associated with the full remediation of the contamination.

Additional Actions to Protect Water

- Record $2.5 billion Clean Water Investment Act to update the state’s water infrastructure.
- Holding Taconic Plastics responsible for PFOA contamination in Petersburgh.
- Took swift action to bring clean drinking water to residents of the city of Newburgh and neighboring communities after PFOS was detected in the water supply by tapping into the New York City Catskill Aqueduct. DEC is now working to provide clean water on a permanent basis to the city of Newburgh and private well users in the towns surrounding Stewart Air National Guard Base.
- The State has fully funded the design and installation of a permanent water filtration system for Lake Washington to remove PFOS from the drinking water, which will become operational in early 2018.
- Declared Stewart Air National Guard Base a State Superfund Site. DEC is holding the U.S. Department of Defense responsible for expedited cleanup of PFOS contamination of the city of Newburgh’s drinking water.
• Worked quickly to connect homes with PFOS-contaminated private wells to the municipal water system in Westhampton Beach (Suffolk County).

• Announced $5 million in funding for SUNY Stony Brook’s Center for Clean Water Technology to develop emerging contaminant treatment systems focused first on 1,4-dioxane.

• Announced a five-year, $6.1 million Long Island groundwater study to better understand the aquifers and more effectively manage this critical resource.

• Developed the first-ever Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP) to reduce nitrogen levels in Long Island waters.

• Implemented the Sewage Pollution Right to Know Law, which requires municipal wastewater systems to report releases of untreated sewage to DEC and DOH. This notification helps boaters, anglers, and swimmers avoid contact with water bodies that may contain illness-causing bacteria.

• Awarded more than $380,000 to improve monitoring and reporting of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) across the state.

• Plugged 124 long-abandoned gas and oil wells to protect groundwater and ensure public safety.

• Announced $600,000 to study and implement safeguards to Owasco Lake and established the Finger Lakes Water Hub.

• Launched new initiatives to help New Yorkers more easily dispose of expired or unwanted medications.

• In 2016 and 2017, DEC collected more than 337,411 pounds of potentially harmful chemicals for proper disposal through DEC “Clean Sweep NY” events.

Growing Threat: Harmful Algal Blooms

Blooms of algal species that can produce toxins are referred to as harmful algal blooms (HABs). HABs usually occur in nutrient-rich waters, particularly during hot, calm weather. HABs were reported on approximately 170 waterbodies in New York in 2016 and 2017 – a long-term increase from just under 60 reported blooms in 2012, the first year of DEC’s public notification program. The large number of bloom reports reflects extensive public education about blooms and DEC-directed statewide surveillance networks.

The HABs program involves innovative public-private partnerships. These important efforts are supported by more than $300,000 from the Environmental Protection Fund and federal Performance Partnership Grants, supplementing thousands of hours of volunteer time.

The nationally recognized DEC Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) volunteers and HAB surveillance teams documented HABs on all 11 Finger Lakes in 2017, including a large, unprecedented bloom in Skaneateles Lake. These early warning systems alerted the public about potential recreational risks, and local officials about threats to drinking water intakes, triggering extensive water system monitoring by local and state CSLAP and HAB surveillance teams.

Both the CSLAP program and HAB surveillance programs will be expanded in 2018, using additional state and federal funds, to further inform and protect communities from this public health threat. These critical programs will continue to gather important data to identify the causes of these blooms, reduce the likelihood of future blooms, and support targeted HAB mitigation measures.
Improving Water Infrastructure

Communities throughout New York have aging water infrastructure, which impacts the local economy, environment, and quality of life. The State’s $400 million investment is supporting grants for municipal projects needed due to weak or failing equipment.

Investing in water infrastructure improvements is vital to fostering community growth. These grants fund necessary upgrades to replace aging infrastructure, easing local property tax burdens and laying the groundwork for the future. This historic investment is helping local governments advance approximately $2 billion in local drinking water and wastewater infrastructure investments, which will create more than 33,000 construction jobs.

Leading the Way on Climate Change and Sustainability

New York has long been a national leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions as a pioneer in the nation’s first emissions trading program for power plants, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI was a model for the federal Clean Power Plan and set the stage for energy initiatives such as NY Green Bank, NY-Sun, Charge NY, NY Prize, and BuildSmart NY.

In 2017, the nine Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states participating in RGGI released an updated Model Rule and will next begin state-specific processes to bring these changes into effect. Program improvements in the Model Rule are in line with the states’ previously announced consensus, including an additional 30 percent regional cap reduction between 2020 and 2030. In addition, RGGI states agreed on principles to work together to implement their CO₂ Budget Trading Programs, and to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region.

Overall, New York continues to partner with RGGI states in the program review’s rigorous and comprehensive evaluation, supported by an extensive regional stakeholder process that engaged the regulated community, environmental nonprofits, consumer and industry advocates, and other stakeholders. Improvements to RGGI will ensure its continued success, cost-effectively reducing CO₂ emissions while providing benefits to consumers and the region.

An unprecedented $300 million Environmental Protection Fund established a new $22 million Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Category to support community resiliency.
Creating More Climate Smart Communities

The Climate Smart Communities Program provides guidance and technical support to communities to take locally driven action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate challenges. The program is jointly sponsored by DEC, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Department of State, Public Service Commission, and the departments of Transportation and Health. In 2016 and 2017, the program:

- Awarded $21 million in Climate Smart Community grants to municipalities to implement projects and strategies to become more resilient to climate change, including sea level rise and extreme weather; and

- Recognized 10 communities as Certified Climate Smart Communities, including Ulster County, which achieved bronze certification. Certified Climate Smart Communities have documented completion of locally selected actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the changing climate. Actions include purchasing renewable energy credits to offset greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity use, installation of renewable energy sources, and initiatives to reduce energy use associated with transportation.

By 2017, 210 communities representing more than 6.7 million New Yorkers, had pledged to be Climate Smart Communities and are taking advantage of State support to mitigate emissions and adapt to climate change.

Implementing the Community Risk and Resiliency Act

New York is also implementing the groundbreaking Community Risk and Resiliency Act, which requires state agency assessments of potential future climate risks related to storm surges, rising sea levels, and other conditions when the agency is making certain permitting, funding, and regulatory decisions. Under this law, DEC and the NYS Department of State will assist communities with climate mitigation and adaptation measures to defend against extreme weather and protect vital resources.

In February 2017, New York adopted sea level rise projections that will help state agencies and coastal communities better plan for the impacts of a changing climate.
Cleaning Up Environmental Damage

Cleaning Up Onondaga Lake and its Tributaries

The cleanup of Onondaga Lake is one of the largest, most complex, and advanced dredging projects in the nation. DEC announced the completion of the capping of the lake bottom in 2017, marking a significant milestone in this historic project. Honeywell capped more than 450 acres of the lake bottom with over 2.6 million cubic yards of clean material. The cap includes a new habitat layer for macro-invertebrates and fish. Native plants, fish, and wildlife are returning to the area, and the lake now supports a range of recreational uses. Plans are also in place to expand lake access.

The proposed settlement with Honeywell will result in the implementation of 20 natural resource restoration projects and payment of more than $6 million. The funds, which represent the largest Natural Resources Damages (NRD) settlement ever secured by DEC, will fund additional environmental and recreation projects.

Calling for Reexamination of the Upper Hudson River PCB Cleanup

In summer 2017, DEC captured more than 1,200 sediment samples from the Hudson River that demonstrate that high levels of contamination remain in river sediment. Based on this, the State called on U.S. EPA to reexamine its Hudson River cleanup to ensure it effectively protects public health and the environment. DEC is challenging the effectiveness of the remedy, and has found that it may not achieve targeted reductions of PCB levels in water and fish tissue within the timeframes originally anticipated. The federal government must ensure the remediation is successful in protecting public health and the environment.

DEC continues to urge EPA to evaluate the remediation selected in the Record of Decision that is guiding the river cleanup. If EPA determines that the remediation is protective at the end of its five-year review process in early 2018, and certifies the remedy in the upper Hudson as complete despite evidence to the contrary, DEC will pursue all avenues, including litigation against EPA and GE, in order to protect the citizens of New York State from environmental and public health threats.

Assessing Damages to Pay for Cleanups

Governor Cuomo announced that DEC will seek financial compensation from Northrop Grumman and the U.S. Navy for damages to groundwater resources related to contaminants released from Grumman Bethpage facilities on Long Island. DEC also launched an expedited engineering investigation to intercept and remediate hazardous chemicals in the groundwater plume.

In 2017, an illegal discharge into the Niagara River near the national treasure, Niagara Falls, made international news. At Governor Cuomo’s direction, DEC launched an investigation into the illegal discharge by the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant and began closely monitoring all discharges made by the plant. DEC issued a $50,000 Consent Order to the Niagara Falls Water Board in 2017, directing the board to provide a technical evaluation of its wastewater treatment plant and sewage system and identify improvements and necessary upgrades.
Improving the Brownfield Cleanup Program

The Brownfield Cleanup Program encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as brownfields so that they can be reused and redeveloped. Certificates of Completion are issued for completed cleanup of sites participating in the program, and trigger the availability of tax credits. DEC issued 120 Brownfield Cleanup Program Certificates of Completion in 2016 and 2017.

Across New York, brownfield sites possess tremendous potential for economic development, community revitalization, and job creation. In response to recommendations from municipalities and other key stakeholders, DEC revised regulations to ensure a more equitable distribution of these vital property tax credits by incentivizing strategic investments in communities across the state.

Continuing Progress on State Superfund Sites

Under New York’s Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site program (known as the State Superfund program), the State identifies, investigates, and remediates sites where significant amounts of hazardous waste may exist. DEC continues to make progress on the cleanup of State Superfund sites. The Governor’s budget extended the program by 10 years and provided it with an additional $1 billion.

- State Superfund sites: 911 sites
- Class 2 sites (investigation or cleanup ongoing): 444
- Class 4 (properly closed/requires management) sites: 417
- Federal National Priorities List (NPL) sites: 86
- Federal NPL sites delisted: 32
- Cost recovery revenue received: $23.5 million

Cleaning the Air

New York has one of the nation’s largest air monitoring networks to ensure air quality in all regions of the state meets EPA standards. This stringent air monitoring has identified elevated levels of benzene and toxic pollutants in car and truck emissions across the state, and unhealthy levels of ozone downstate. New York is advocating that EPA, which sets national ambient air quality standards and regulates motor vehicle emissions, take more aggressive action to reduce levels of ozone, particulate matter, and benzene in areas near busy highways or adjacent to industrial zones.

- New York announced its intent to sue EPA for failing to take action to curb the transport of ground level ozone pollution (smog) from upwind (Midwest) sources, which impairs New York’s air quality, despite our state having some of the most stringent air quality standards in the country.
- Announced new air quality regulations to reduce nitrogen oxides and particulate matter pollution beyond what is required under federal EPA standards.
- Directed Global Companies to submit a new air permit renewal application for its Port of Albany oil storage facilities, including additional information to address issues identified by DEC.
- Announced a Consent Order with New York city requiring an upgrade of the city’s wastewater treatment facilities to improve air quality. Under the order, the city will invest approximately $360 million to build new, cleaner burning engines at the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as make upgrades to its Bowery Bay facility and citywide pump stations.
Achieving Environmental Justice for All

DEC’s Environmental Justice Program addresses existing and potential environmental impacts in minority and low-income communities. Historically, such areas were home to a disproportionate number of polluting facilities that affected the environment and quality of life.

- In 2016 and 2017: New York doubled funding from the EPF to $2 million for grants and projects.
- Governor Cuomo awarded $1 million in Green Jobs for Youth grants to 10 organizations across the state to serve communities that face environmental justice and unemployment challenges. In addition, DEC released a request for applications for $1 million in new grant funding to promote environmental education through the development of Urban Environmental Education Centers.
- Expanded “Operation ECO-Quality,” a program combing outreach, education, and enforcement to ensure facilities comply with strict State environmental standards. The operation targeted 90 facilities, including auto repair/body shops, auto salvage/scrap metal shops, dry cleaners, and ready-mix cement shops.
- The Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) interacts with New York State’s nine recognized Indian Nations. Because DEC and the Nations share mutual interests related to environmental and cultural resources, OEJ advocates on the Nations’ behalf, ensuring that their concerns are addressed. In 2017, OEJ organized the third DEC/Indian Nation Leaders Annual Meeting. In partnership with SUNY ESF’s Center for Native Peoples and the Environment, representatives from eight Indian Nations discussed collaborative management and shared research possibilities with DEC. In 2018, we look forward to implementing a pilot program of a traditional gathering, shared research project in collaboration with the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment.

DEC tests emissions from a tractor trailer at the Port of Albany.
• In the last year, quadrupled the number of Gov Delivery listserv subscribers, enabling DEC to send its quarterly newsletter and other timely news to the inboxes of EJ stakeholders, residents, and other interested parties.
  - 2015: 4,618 subscribers
  - 2017: 27,420 subscribers

• Allocated $100,000 to the city of Buffalo to utilize lead inspection kits to monitor children in northeast Buffalo neighborhoods designated as “communities of concern” because children are at exceptionally high risk for lead poisoning.

• Albany South End Air Monitoring
  - Supported by $500,000 in EPF funding in 2017, DEC launched a year-long comprehensive air monitoring study to examine the main sources of air pollution in Albany’s South End neighborhood. DEC researchers are working hand-in-hand with members of the Ezra Prentice community, including the grassroots, non-profit organization AVillage, conducting portable monitoring to gain a better understanding of the primary sources of ultrafine particulate and benzene pollution in this community.

  - The study also evaluates how different types of vehicles and traffic patterns influence pollutant concentrations in the area. Following a careful review of the data collected, DEC hopes to identify and implement solutions to reduce traffic-related pollution in the South End.

  - To keep the community informed and engaged, DEC conducts ongoing outreach and holds public meetings. These actions build on DEC’s commitment to improving air quality across the state.
Enforcing the Toughest Environmental Laws in the Nation

Ivory Ban

DEC continues to crack down on the sale of ivory in New York State, thanks to the ban Governor Cuomo signed in 2014. In 2016, DEC led the largest seizure of elephant ivory in State history, confiscating items priced at more than $4.5 million. This cache contained ivory from more than a dozen slaughtered elephants, and led to felony indictments of those involved for the illegal commercialization of wildlife. The Manhattan-based business owners were ordered to forfeit more than 1,800 individual pieces of illegal elephant ivory, including a set of raw elephant ivory tusks standing over seven feet tall. The combined street value of all pieces was more than a million. As a condition of their plea, the owners donated $200,000 to wildlife conservation organizations in support of elephant conservation.

The illegal ivory sales were uncovered in a DEC sting operation. DEC, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and Tiffany and Co., hosted an ivory crush even in August 2017 in Central Park to highlight the plight of African and Asian elephants being killed by poachers for their ivory tusks. Nearly two tons of confiscated ivory jewelry, trinkets and other materials were destroyed.

Operation Clear Passage

“Operation Clear Passage” was the first-ever multi-agency Homeland Security exercise and boating/environmental enforcement initiative on Lake Champlain. The DEC-led exercise involved more than 17 vessels and over 75 personnel from 17 federal, state, and international agencies. During the exercise, officers inspected 100 shore-based facilities and 151 vessels, discovering 119 violations that could potentially have impacted lake water quality.
Operation Blue Trident

The success of Operation Clear Passage in 2016 paved the way for “Operation Blue Trident” in August 2017, held on the east end of Long Island. The training exercise and enforcement operation included more than 20 vessels and 100 DEC Police Officers, civilian support staff, and law enforcement and homeland security professionals from 19 federal, state, and local agencies. The operation’s first phase addressed threats to Long Island’s waterways and fragile wetland systems, including petroleum bulk storage, pesticides, and sewage point sources discharges. The second phase involved structured maritime homeland security/radiological interdiction training and operations in actual maritime settings, and included navigational safety, foreign vessel interdiction, marine fisheries, and water quality enforcement of vessel overboard sewage discharges.

Holding Violators Accountable

- Imposed a $700,000 penalty for illegal mining and solid waste disposal at a site in Suffolk County, Long Island. DEC will monitor the cleanup of the site under a Consent Order.

- Fined a Western New York printing company $318,000 for illegal discharges of industrial waste, and additional penalties totaling $35,000 for hazardous waste storage violations.

- Fined an Orleans County ethanol plant for persistent environmental violations over several years.

- Conducted an illegal solid waste dumping enforcement initiative in February 2017, identifying nine illegal dump site violations for which 28 individuals were ticketed for unlawful disposal of solid waste. The success of the Southern District detail totaled nearly 200 tickets and paved the way for the creation of the Southern District Solid Waste Task Force (SWTF), comprising Uniform, BECI and Solid Waste staff. The SWTF’s primary function is to identify the waste generators supplying illegal fill being dumped in the rural areas throughout the Southern District. Since the creation of the SWTF, 30 sites were searched and sampled, resulting in another 142 tickets issued for solid waste offenses to 18 separate trucking companies for Unlawful Disposal of Solid Waste at the 39 disposal sites uncovered by the SWTF’s efforts.
PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

Acquiring and Protecting Public Land

New York State completed a five-year land acquisition effort in the Adirondacks with its purchase of the 20,758-acre Boreas Ponds parcel. This parcel is the final part of the historic Finch Pruyn land deal, the largest land acquisition in more than 100 years. The State also purchased more than 31,000 acres and placed 29 acres under conservation easements in 2016 and 2017. The acquisitions continue New York’s legacy of protecting critical lands and resources, and expanding outdoor recreation and economic opportunities in the Adirondacks.

Finalized the 2016 Open Space Conservation Plan (OSP)

The 2016 OSP is a historic blueprint for how the conservation and protection of open space can accomplish the State’s environmental goals.

The plan’s goals include: ensuring clean water, air, and land for a healthy public and vibrant economy; greening New York’s economy; protecting New York’s natural resources and promoting outdoor recreation; addressing climate change through forest, wetland and riparian area stewardship, ecosystem protection, urban and community forestry, and community planning; and creating a 21st Century parks system that is aesthetically compelling, energy- and operationally efficient, and built to last.

Improving Habitat with New York’s Young Forest Initiative

DEC is undertaking a new initiative to considerably increase young forest habitat on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) across the state. In the early 1900s, New York had more farmland than forest, but today 63 percent of the landscape is forested and shifting to predominantly mature trees. While mature forests are home to several species, others need young forests. Declining species such as the golden-winged warbler and New England cottontail will benefit, along with popular game species like American woodcock and ruffed grouse. DEC will create patches of young forest through timber cuts that meet target species' needs. Statewide, these areas include approximately 12,000 of the 120,000 forested acres on WMAs.
Growing at DEC Saratoga Tree Nursery

The DEC-operated State Tree Nursery in Saratoga Springs produces tree and shrub seedlings for conservation planting on private and public lands, using New York seed sources when available. The nursery produced more than 1,299,500 bare-root and 50,000 containerized seedlings.

Controlling Invasive Species

Awarding $3.8 Million in Grants to Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species

Governor Cuomo announced more than $3.8 million in Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) grants were awarded to municipalities, not-for-profits, and higher educational programs in 2016 and 2017 to protect New York’s waters from the spread of invasive species. Projects ranging from the Adirondacks to the Finger Lakes and beyond focus on educating boaters about the dangers of invasive species and actions to prevent their spread. Specific projects include training and placement of boat stewards across the state and the installation of decontamination stations.

Acting to Control Invasive Species

- Inspected more than 155,000 boats and educated more than 219,000 water recreationists about preventing the spread of invasive species.
- Finalized regulations to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species—including removal and disposal of all visible plant or animal material—on all boats, associated equipment, or floating docks before they are launched from any public boat launch.
- Invested over $600,000 to establish the first-ever, in-state laboratory dedicated to producing biological controls for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).
- Revised Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine regulations to reflect the latest science, including new EAB locations discovered through DEC’s annual aerial surveys, ground surveys, and trapping. It’s estimated that about 60 percent of the State is free of EAB due to DEC and Department of Agriculture and Markets regulatory efforts.
- Continued to combat giant hogweed, dramatically reducing the number of giant hogweed plants and sites throughout New York. DEC treated 1,175 giant hogweed sites, controlled 598,000 plants, surveyed 620 sites, and found no new giant hogweed.
Protecting Natural Resources following Superstorm Sandy

- Continued to rebuild Long Island’s coastline to improve resiliency and reduce significant coastal erosion threats.
- Helped secure first passage of a “land account” state constitutional amendment to allow local governments and public utilities to use state land near roadways for certain projects, such as making local roads safer, fixing bridges, and siting power lines, broadband, and public drinking water wells.
- Adopted the Ocean Action Plan, the first-ever, comprehensive 10-year blueprint to guide the protection and conservation of New York’s ocean resources.
- Awarded the third round of Mohawk River Basin Program grants.
- Placed a record 89,000 acres of land under conservation easements.
- Announced the 2016 Conservation Plan for Bald Eagles to maintain protections for New York’s significant bald eagle wintering population—which is now at its highest levels in over 40 years.
- Updated best-in-the nation study guidelines for commercial wind energy projects.

DEC Strengthens State’s Solid Waste Regulations

In 2017, DEC strengthened New York’s solid waste regulations, known as ‘Part 360,’ to combat illegal dumping, upgrade the State’s ability to protect water quality, and enhance controls on drilling and high volume hydraulic fracturing wastes. These comprehensive revisions include the addition of solid waste management facilities, activities, and waste streams not addressed in the former regulations, and will institute a level of control necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment. In addition, the new regulations relax or eliminate requirements proven to be burdensome to the regulated community but having little or no environmental benefit.

The strengthened regulations follow extensive public outreach that included two public comment periods, five public hearings, more than 25 workshops and technical meetings with stakeholders and careful consideration of thousands of comments.

The final regulations contain comprehensive revisions to the State’s existing solid waste management regulations, including:

- Enhanced Regulatory Controls on Wastes from Oil and Gas Production
- Improved Construction and Demolition Debris and Fill Material Management
- Improved Management of Compost and Mulch
- Enhanced Support for Recycling
PROTECTING PUBLIC SAFETY

Dam Safety Program

DEC’s Dam Safety program helps ensure dams are constructed, operated and maintained properly. The DEC Dam Safety program:

- Conducted more than 575 intensive dam inspections and federal reviews.
- Constantly patrolled the 105 DEC flood control projects, performing routine maintenance and six pipe repair projects.
- Assisted with numerous dam emergency planning efforts and dam safety training courses with county emergency managers and dam owners.

Environmental Conservation Police Officers and Forest Rangers

Graduating Back-to-Back Basic Schools

In 2016 and 2017, 88 recruits graduated from the Basic School for Uniformed Officers—a 27-week, intensive law enforcement academy held at the DEC Training Facility in Pulaski. During Basic School, recruits focus on environmental conservation law, criminal procedure, vehicle and traffic laws, physical conditioning, firearms, wildlife identification, emergency vehicle operations, search and rescue, land navigation, boating, and wildfire suppression. Upon graduation, DEC swore in 62 Environmental Conservation Police Officers and 26 Forest Rangers.

Conducting a Record Number of Search and Rescues Missions – Forest Rangers

In 2016 and 2017, DEC Forest Rangers conducted 702 search and rescue missions—the highest number ever recorded over a two-year period. Most searches were for hikers unable to find their way out of the woods after dark, but quickly rescued by responding Rangers. Other searches were more complicated, including some that resulted in life-threatening situations or fatalities.

More than 20 DEC Forest Rangers searched for two hikers lost on Algonquin Peak in December 2016. Rangers endured below-freezing temperatures, wind chills below zero, and three feet or more of snow to rescue the hikers and bring them to safety.
Enforcing the Law and Gathering Evidence – Environmental Conservation Officers

- Environmental Conservation Officers logged almost 44,000 calls for service.
- Bureau of Environmental Crimes Investigation (BECI) convictions resulted in violators paying over $296,990 in remediation penalties, $9,623,346 in forfeiture penalties, and $3,596,820 in civil fines.
- Established a 22-officer Special Operations Group (SOG) to respond to emergencies in rural woodlands and maritime settings. This specially trained and equipped unit is capable of operating in harsh environments to rapidly, safely, and effectively resolve emergency situations, such as fleeing suspects, active shooters, fugitive searches, carrying out arrest/search warrants, and more.
- Established a 15-member, statewide, environmental crime scene Forensic Evidence Unit (FEU). These officers are trained to properly dust, lift, and document latent fingerprints from various items, such as 55-gallon drums, deer antlers, guns, vehicles, and windows. FEU members also have the expertise to properly collect and package evidence such as DNA, blood, hair, and clothing fibers for laboratory analysis and comparison. Since its inception in March 2016, FEU officers have assisted with everything from wildlife DNA collection to homicide investigations.

To report an environmental crime, call 1-844-DEC-ECOS

Fighting Wildfires – Forest Rangers

In 2017, DEC Forest Rangers extinguished 55 wildfires that burned a total of 191 acres. This was the second lowest number of fires and the lowest total burned area in the Ranger’s 133-year history. The largest and most intense wildfire occurred along the Connecticut state line when a wildfire spread into New York burning 30 acres. In 2016, rangers responded to a busy fire season, extinguishing 185 wildfires that burned a total of 4,189 acres.

A change in New York’s open burning regulation in 2010 created a brush burning ban between March 16 and May 14, reducing the number of Forest Ranger-extinguished spring fires by 46 percent.

In 2017, the national wildfire season reached Preparedness Level 5 on August 10 and continued for over five weeks. The lack of available firefighting resources was exasperated by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, which required similar federal and state resources be sent to the storm devastated areas. The result was larger fires that were uncontrolled for longer periods. DEC sent 36 forest rangers, 16 other employees and 8 volunteers as three initial attack firefighting crews to wildfires in Montana and California.
Responding to Natural Disasters and Emergencies

- High water levels in the spring of 2017 resulted in extensive coastal flooding, widespread erosion, and devastating water damage in counties bordering Lake Ontario. In addition to the agency’s swift response to this months-long emergency, DEC manned on-site trailers to help homeowners obtain necessary permits to prevent further flood damage. DEC issued 2,222 permits to home and business owners in communities along the lake during the flooding, most within 48 hours.

- The DEC Police K9 Unit, the oldest of its special operations teams, has 10 K9 handler teams trained in wildlife, firearms, spent cartridges, and shell casing detection. The teams also enhance officer safety and are adept at locating lost persons and fugitives.

- In 2016, the DEC Police formed a 22-member Incident Support Team and Emergency Management Unit (IST/EMU) to provide rapid, statewide support for emerging incidents through a “Type 3” Incident Command System (ICS) structure, as well as for exercise planning and execution. The team has been deployed for multiple law enforcement and emergency response purposes and has been integral in the DEC Police-led 2017 Operation Clear Passage and 2018 Blue Trident full-scale exercises.

- DEC Environmental Conservation Police Officers (ECOs) respond to every major natural disaster within the state, and at times beyond. Their 339 4x4/AWD patrol vehicles, 135 vessels including shallow watercraft, swift-water response and ocean going all-weather vessels, 58 ATV/UTVs, and 51 snowmobiles are readied for deployment in advance of natural and manmade disasters. Multiple marine assets were deployed throughout the 2017 boating season on Lake Ontario, due to flooding. And in response to heavy snowfall, officers have been deployed multiple times with 4x4 vehicles, tracked UTVs, and snowmobiles.

- An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) team was created with seven current pilots, with plans to add 11 more in 2018. UAV team members were deployed to Puerto Rico to assist in the recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Maria. Forest Rangers accompanied the state’s Incident Management Team to College Station to support recovery efforts from Hurricane Harvey.

- The DEC ECOs maintain a robust Homeland Security Unit with more than 200 officers trained in Personal Radiation Detectors (PRDs), 60 in advanced wide-area “Pack Eye” screening devices, and 37 in advanced Radiological Isotope Identification Devices (RIID), allowing for pinpoint secondary screening of radiological materials. The unit has been engaged in preplanned counter-terrorism events, as well as deployments throughout the state to help resolve actual radiological-involved situations.

- A DEC ECO 90-officer Chemical Immobilization Team (CIT) works closely with DEC’s Bureau of Wildlife to tranquilize and safely relocate wildlife that pose a public safety threat. Deployments throughout the state have included deer, bear, and moose.
Emergency Spills Response

- Emergency personnel responded to 11,557 hazardous material spills in 2016 and 2017.
- DEC deployed 24 fully stocked emergency response trailers to local communities to be used in the event of an oil train derailment.

PROMOTING OUTDOOR RECREATION, TOURISM AND ACCESS

Expanding Hunting and Fishing Opportunities

Governor Cuomo’s NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative expands opportunities for both resident and visiting sportsmen and sportswomen making it easier for them to enjoy the State’s unsurpassed outdoor recreational resources.

Hunting is among the State’s most popular forms of wildlife recreation. New York offers many exciting opportunities to hunt a large variety of wildlife, including big game, small game, game birds, and furbearers. Hunting and fishing remain extremely popular outdoor activities, with nearly 900,000 freshwater anglers and approximately 600,000 hunters enjoying days afield.

Declining Number of Accidents for New York Hunters

With hundreds of thousands of licensed hunters spending an estimated total of 10 to 15 million days afield each year, New York continues its trend of declining hunting-related shooting incidents, with the incident rate (incidents per 100,000 hunters) declining almost 80 percent since the 1960s. The past five-year average is down to 3.5 incidents per 100,000 hunters, compared to 19 per 100,000 in the 1960s.

The trend of declining hunting accidents is proof that DEC’s Hunter Education Program is working, thanks in large part to the efforts of the 3,000 volunteer instructors who teach DEC hunter safety courses every year. Despite the decline, there were four hunting-related fatalities in 2016. DEC documented five tree stand-related fatalities in 2017. Of those, one was due to tree stand failure, two were determined to be the result of heart attacks, and two deaths are still being investigated. DEC documented one shooting-related fatality in 2017.

In November 2016, ECO James Davey and Lt. Liza Bobseine were investigating reports of potential illegal hunting activity when Officer Davey was shot by a poacher. Lt. Bobseine is credited with saving Officer Davey’s life with her quick and heroic actions in the field.

The reported whitetail deer harvest for 2016 was more than 220,000, up 17 percent for bucks and 10 percent for does.
Educating Future Hunters and Anglers

The Hunter Education Program, which hunters are required to take before receiving a license for the first time, educated more than 84,000 students in 2,770 courses. DEC continues to recruit anglers and hunters by improving program content and delivery, increasing the availability of beginner fishing information through a new “I FISH NY Guide to Freshwater Fishing,” and developing and distributing welcome material to first-time and reactivated hunters and anglers.

Adventure NY: Promoting New York’s Great Outdoors

- Governor Cuomo launched the Adventure NY initiative in 2017 to build on DEC’s efforts to provide a high quality outdoor experience for those who live in or visit New York. The program includes $50 million in funding to enhance access to state lands, rehabilitate and improve campgrounds, and upgrade DEC recreational facilities.

- Featured improvements completed in 2017 include an accessible canoe/kayak launch, fishing platform and trails at Kenneth Wilson Campground; new mountain bike trails in the Catskills and Adirondacks; a new wildlife observation platform at the Utica Marsh Wildlife Management Area; and improvements to the visitor experience at the Salmon River Fish Hatchery.

- DEC launched I Bird NY in May 2017 at Utica Marsh. More than 12,000 beginning birder guides have been distributed by DEC and partners at birding events statewide. DEC also created the I Bird NY website and operated a beginning birder challenge. I Bird NY signs were placed at 38 Bird Conservation Areas to help the public identify opportunities for birdwatching.

- The DEC Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife App continues to be a popular tool with 50,000 downloads in 2016-2017. The app was enhanced in 2017 with the ability to do harvest reporting. DEC is averaging more than 10,000 users each month with over 40,000 sessions, bringing the total to over 200,000 downloads.

- DEC started the First-Time Camper Program in 2017, with 20 families from diverse demographic groups participating. The program was a great success with all of the participants reporting they were extremely satisfied and many planning future camping trips.

- The Governor hosted the first-ever Catskill Summer Challenge, highlighting the world-class attractions and activities available in the Catskills to drive tourism and boost the region’s economy. More than 200 people participated in outdoor events, including fly fishing, hiking, road biking, golf, mountain biking, bocce ball, and motorcycle riding.
The annual “Governor’s Challenge” fishing tournament focuses attention on the importance of fishing to New York’s tourism industry. The event was held on Onondaga Lake in conjunction with the Busch Beer Bassmaster Elite, held on Cayuga Lake. The events drew some of the biggest names in professional fishing.

Expanding Access for Recreation

DEC has undertaken more than 100 new land access projects to connect hunters, anglers, wildlife watchers, and others who enjoy the outdoors to more than 380,000 previously untapped acres of State-owned and conservation easement lands. Projects include new boat launches, informational signage, new hunting blinds, and new trails and parking areas. Many of these projects improve accessibility for people of all abilities.

DEC spent more than $10.6 million to improve access sites throughout the State. Here are a few highlights of what has been accomplished:

- **Mount Loretto Unique Area on Staten Island:** Developed an accessible parking area and trail to Mount Loretto Pond, and an accessible fishing/wildlife viewing platform for people of all abilities.

- **Stewart State Forest in Orange County:** Constructed an accessible boardwalk across the Great Swamp, which opens the property to people of all abilities for the first time.

- **Kaaterskill Wild Forest in the Catskill Park:** Constructed improvements at this popular hiking area include stone stairs to the top of Kaaterskill Falls; a trail to the middle pool; an accessible trail, signage, and observation deck at the top of the falls; a 115-foot hiking bridge spanning Spruce Creek; and expanded parking.

- **Birdseye Hollow State Forest in the Finger Lakes:** Constructed an accessible parking area and dock for launching canoes and kayaks on Sanford Lake, which complement other accessible features, including a picnic area, paths, and a fishing break wall.

See pages 22-23 for a full listing and map of all 50 locations.

Expanding Recreational Opportunities in 2016 and 2017

- Completed major improvements to 13 DEC Campgrounds.

- Announced $750,000 in grants to support eco-tourism in the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub Area of the central Adirondacks.

- Published a new “I FISH NY Guide to Freshwater Fishing,” to bring the joy of fishing to more people throughout the State.
DEC’s New/Improved Recreation Sites

1. Otis Pike Preserve East, Suffolk County
2. Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County
3. Kings Park Unique Area, Town of Smithtown, Suffolk County
4. Underhill Preserve, Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County
5. St. Francis Woodlands, Staten Island, Richmond County
6. Mount Loretto Unique Area, Staten Island, Richmond County
7. North Mount Loretto State Forest, Staten Island, Richmond County
8. Lemon Creek, Staten Island, Richmond County
9. Huckleberry Ridge State Forest, Town of Port Jervis, Orange County
10. Stewart State Forest, Towns of New Windsor and Maybrook, Orange County
11. West Mountain State Forest, Towns of Beekman and Dover, Dutchess County
12. Tivoli Bays Wildlife Management Area, Town of Redhook, Dutchess County
13. Lower Esopus Creek, Town of Ulster, Ulster County
14. Vernooy Kill State Forest, Town of Wawarsing, Ulster County
15. & 16. Looking Glass Pond at Burnt-Rossman Hills State Forest, Town of Fulton, Schoharie County
17. Mt. Tremper Day Use Area, Town of Phoenicia, Ulster County
18. Colliersville Access Site on the Susquehanna River, Town of Oneonta, Otsego County
19. Goodyear Lake, Town of Milford, Otsego County
20. Susquehanna State Forest, Town of Milford, Otsego County
21. Hand Hollow State Forest, Town of New Lebanon, Columbia County
22. Lake Desolation Road Conservation Easement, Town of Greenfield, Saratoga County
23. Washington County Grasslands, Town of Fort Edward, Washington County
24. Saddles State Forest, Town of Whitehall, Washington County
25. Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest, Essex, Warren and Hamilton Counties
26a. Somerville Road Conservation Easement, Towns of Lake George and Warrensburg, Warren County
26b. Blue Ridge Road Conservation Easement, Town of North Hudson, Essex County
26c. Townships 19, 20 & 33 Conservation Easements, Towns of Indian Lake and Long Lake, Hamilton County
27. Meacham Lake, Town of Duane, Franklin County
28. Grass River Conservation Easement, Towns of Clare, Clifton and Colton, St. Lawrence County
29. Oswegatchie River, Yellow Lake State Forest, Town of Rossie, St. Lawrence County
30. Fish Creek Wildlife Management Area, Town of Macomb, St. Lawrence County
31. Black River Wild Forest, Herkimer, Lewis, Hamilton and Oneida Counties
32. East Branch of Fish Creek South Conservation Easement, Town of Lewis, Lewis County
33. Utica Marsh Wildlife Management Area, City of Utica and Town of Marcy, Oneida County
34. Cleveland Dock, Town of Cleveland, Oswego County
35. Redfield Island Boat Launch and Day Use Area, Hamlet of Redfield, Oswego County
36. Sandy Creek, Town of Hamlin, Monroe County
37. Deer Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Town of Richland, Oswego County
38. Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area, Town of Lyons, Onondaga County
39. Skaneateles Lake, Onondaga, Cortland and Cayuga Counties
40. Access Improvements at 12 Great Central New York Fishing Streams, Multiple Towns and Counties
41. Waneta and Lamoka Lakes, Town of Tyrone, Schuyler County
42. Birdseye Hollow State Forest and Moss Hill State Forest, Towns of Bradford, Bath, Urbana and Wayne, Steuben County
43. Sanford Lake Recreation Area (in Birdseye Hollow State Forest), Town of Bath, Steuben County
44. High Tor Wildlife Management Area, Town of Italy, Yates County
45. Braddock Bay Fish and Wildlife Management Area, Town of Greece, Monroe County
46. Black Creek, Greater Rochester Area, Monroe County
47. Phillips Creek State Forest, Towns of Alfred, Ward and West Almond in Allegany County
48. Wellsville-Addison-Galetton (WAG) Rail Trail, Village of Wellsville, Allegany County
49. Spicer Creek Wildlife Management Area, Town of Grand Island, Erie County
50. Watts Flats Wildlife Management Area, Village of Panama, Chautauqua County
EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

Renovating Five Rivers Environmental Education Center

DEC constructed a new, 9,500-square foot education building at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Albany County. The state-of-the-art active learning center offers environmental education through hands-on programs on wildlife, habitats, invasive species, and environmental quality.

Governor Cuomo’s Excelsior Conservation Corps

Fifty participants completed 10 months of environmental service at public lands and State Parks as part of the first class of the Excelsior Conservation Corps. Corps members work on environmental and conservation projects that address environmental needs, gaining valuable leadership opportunities, skills and employment training, and college scholarships.

The Excelsior Conservation Corps teaches young adults how to care for and preserve our natural resources.
LEADING BY EXAMPLE

New York is leading the way in promoting efficient and responsive government. DEC is always looking for ways to make our work more efficient, more accessible, and more effective.

Agency processes streamlined include DEC’s conservation of open space and agency oversight of solid waste facility reporting and data. DEC improved communications with the public and regulated communities in these programs, including DEC web content, data availability, and forms.

Streamlining Services

DEC is committed to maintaining and upgrading recent improvements in 15 additional streamlined public service programs. Many of these cut the time necessary to complete agency processes by 50 percent or more in areas such as permits reviews, registrations and inspections, special license sales, communications, and outreach. DEC took steps to build more benefits to the public through a dozen updated and new guidance documents and revamped website pages. Examples of reduced public service time include:

- the length of time to schedule and conduct Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) inspections was reduced by 41 days;
- the length of time to issue Fish and Wildlife special licenses was cut by 47 days; and
- Pesticide Product Registration routines were reduced by 76 days.

Delivering Information and Services

DEC Website

DEC’s public website had more than 54 million visits, which is nearly 74,000 visits each day. Approximately 50 percent of the visits were from mobile devices. The website was redesigned to include our Twitter feed, an expanded events calendar, and a trending topics section.

Social Media

DEC has several social media platforms, including an Instagram platform launched in fall 2016. The number of followers increased last year for these social media accounts. DEC followers numbered:

- @NYSDEC – 65,075
- @NYSDEC – 13,230
- @NYSDEC – 3,378
- @nysdecvideos – 1,204 subscribers, 70 new videos

DEC Delivers

DEC’s email subscription platform, DEC Delivers, increased to 213,805 subscribers, and each subscriber signed up for an average of six topics. In total, subscribers received more than 54 million messages.
Publications and Events

- DEC's Office of Communication Services created more than 464 kiosk signs, posters, brochures, and reports for public distribution, and coordinated 413 events/public meetings and hearings.

- The agency's bi-monthly magazine, *Conservationist*, had more than 70,000 subscribers, and distributed three issues of *Conservationist for Kids* to 230,000 4th graders.

- Launched “On the Front Lines,” a monthly video series highlighting DEC staff and critical services.

Sustainability and Leading by Example

Under Governor Cuomo’s leadership, DEC is maintaining and building on New York's position as a national leader in sustainability.

DEC has worked diligently to accomplish key successes:

- Diverted more than seven tons of organic waste from landfills by expanding the composting programs into six DEC regional offices, as well as the Central Office.

- Reduced carbon emissions from fleet operations by adding zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and promoting clean vehicle technologies.

- Reduced energy use across DEC facilities statewide by 40 percent since 1990. The New York Power Authority (NYPA) recognized DEC’s Region 5 Ray Brook Office for reducing its energy use 21 percent.

- Completed detailed energy audits of six facilities in support of Executive Order 88, which directed state agencies and authorities to improve the energy efficiency of state buildings. These audits are leading to energy projects projected to reduce energy use by over 20 percent. DEC was awarded a $152,000 grant from NYPA to perform re-commissioning of building systems at three regional offices.
**Green Your Commute Day**

In 2016, more than 700 state employees greened their commutes, and their actions reduced CO₂ emissions by 8.5 tons, more than doubling of participation from the previous year. This equated to saving over 868 gallons of gasoline on a single day. In addition, Commissioner Seggos led a group bike ride of staff and local elected officials along the newly completed Albany County Rail Trail to Downtown Albany.

In 2017, more than 1,700 state employees greened their commutes, and their actions reduced CO₂ emissions by 19.5 tons, a more than 140 percent increase in participation from the previous year equating to saving in excess of 1,579 gallons of gasoline in a single day.

![DEC employees find alternative ways to get to work for “Green Your Commute Day.”](image)

**New York Green Business Program**

DEC launched the New York Green Business (NYGB) program in October 2017, with the announcement of its first enrollment period, which ran through December. NYGB provides recognition and benefits to businesses and other organizations that have a strong commitment to sustainable operations. The announcement for the inaugural group of members will be made in winter of 2018.
## DEC WORKING FOR YOU

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Basil Seggos</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Region 1</td>
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<td>Kenneth Lynch</td>
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<td>Julie Tighe</td>
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<td>Tom Berkman</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel</td>
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<td>Martin Brand</td>
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<td>James Gennaro</td>
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<td>Kathleen Moser</td>
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<td>Sean Mahar</td>
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<td>Steve Flint</td>
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<td>Lois New</td>
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<td>Abby Snyder</td>
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