



DEC

Division of Lands and Forests

Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan

June 2003

New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation

Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan

June, 2003

**NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
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PREFACE

It is the policy of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to manage state lands for multiple benefits to serve the people of New York State. This Unit Management Plan is the first step in carrying out that policy. The plan has been developed to address management activities on this unit for the next 10 year period, with a review due in 5 years. Some management recommendations may extend beyond the 10 year period.

Factors such as available funds, wood product markets, and forest health problems may necessitate deviations from the scheduled management activities.

THE UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS

New York State's management policy for public lands follow a multiple use concept established by New York's Environmental Conservation Law. This allows for diverse enjoyment of state lands by the people of the state. Multiple use management addresses all of the demands placed on these lands: watershed management, timber management, wildlife management, rare plant and community protection, recreational use, and aesthetic appreciation.

In this plan, an initial resource inventory and other information is provided, followed by an assessment of existing and anticipated uses and demands. This information is used to set goals and management objectives. Management actions tables provide an estimated cost and timetable for accomplishing these objectives.

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GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

ERIN M. CROTTY
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK, 12233-1010

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Record

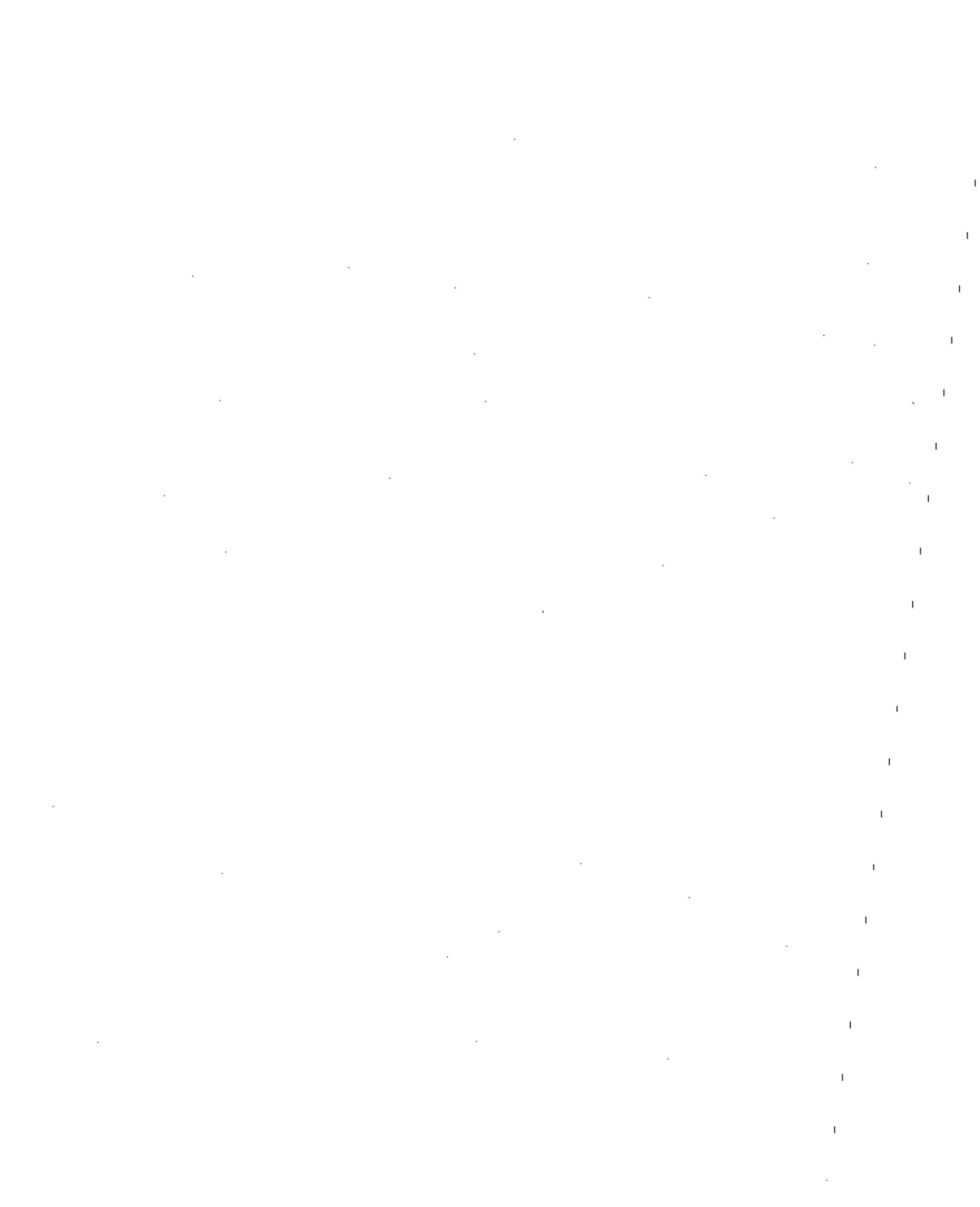
SUBJECT: Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan

DATE: JUL 02 2003

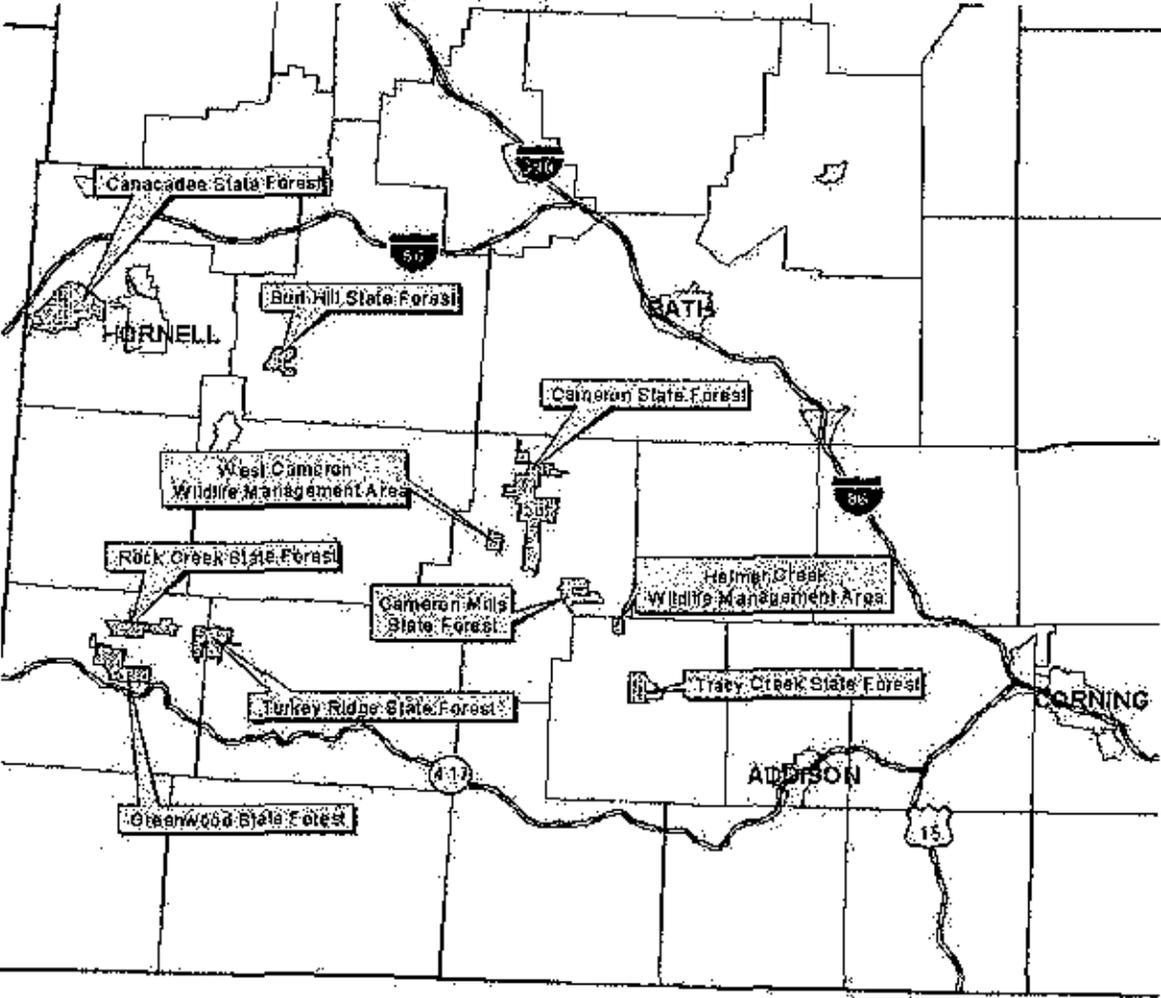
The unit management plan for the Canisteo River Basin State Forest unit has been completed. The Plan is consistent with Department policy and procedure, involved public participation and is consistent with the Environmental Conservation Law, Rules and Regulations. The plan includes management objectives for a ten year period and is hereby approved and adopted.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Erin M. Crotty".

Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner



CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT LOCATION MAP



 State Land
 Major Road



June 2001

INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF STATE FORESTS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Forest lands outside the Adirondack and Catskill regions owe their present character, in large part, to the impact of pioneer settlement. Following the close of the Revolutionary War, increased pressure for land encouraged westward expansion. Up to 91% of New York woodlands were cleared for cultivation and forage.

Early farming efforts met with limited success. As the less fertile soils proved unproductive, they were abandoned, and settlement was attempted elsewhere. The stage of succession was set and new forests of young saplings reoccupied the ground once cleared.

The State Reforestation Law of 1929 and the Hewitt Amendment of 1931 set forth the legislation which authorized the Conservation Department to acquire land by gift or purchase for reforestation purposes. These state forests consisting of not less than 500 acres of contiguous land, were to be forever devoted to "reforestation and the establishment and maintenance thereon of forests for watershed protection, the production of timber, and for recreation and kindred purposes". This broad program is presently authorized under Article 9, Title 5, of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law.

In 1930, Forest Districts were established, and the tasks of land acquisition and reforestation were started. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was begun. Thousands of young men were assigned to plant millions of trees on the newly acquired state forests. In addition to

tree planting, these men were engaged in road and trail building, erosion control, watershed restoration, forest protection, and other projects.

During the war years of 1941-1945, little was accomplished on the reforestation areas. Plans for further planting, construction, facility maintenance, and similar tasks had to be curtailed. However, through postwar funding, conservation projects once again received needed attention.

The Park and Recreation Land Acquisition Act of 1960 and the Environmental Quality Bond Acts of 1972 and 1986 contained provisions for the acquisition of state forest lands, these lands would serve multiple purposes involving the conservation and development of natural resources, including the preservation of scenic areas, watershed protection, forestry, and recreation.

Wildlife management areas in New York, like state forests, have a varied history of acquisition. Many were gifted to the New York State by the Federal Government or other cooperating public or private organization. Some parcels were purchased with Bond Act funds or Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program funds. The latter which is commonly called the Pittman-Robertson Act is a federal fund supported by hunters from their purchase of hunting licenses, firearms and ammunition.

Today there are nearly 720,000 acres of state forests and over 200,000 acres of wildlife management areas throughout the state. The use of these lands is important to the economy and to the health and well-being of the people of the state.

HISTORY OF CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT MANAGEMENT AREA

STATE FORESTS

The lands of the Canisteo River Basin Unit were inhabited prior to the Revolutionary War by the Seneca Indians. The Senecas were nomadic hunters and farmers. During the Revolutionary War, General John Sullivan was commissioned to open western New York Valley to people of European descent. This began a series of skirmishes between Sullivans' troops and the Senecas that eventually led to the removal of the Senecas from the valley. Many of Sullivan's soldiers, having observed the potential for agriculture from the Senecas, eventually settled in the valley and became farmers.

It is known that the upland portion of the Canisteo River Basin Unit was almost completely forested in 1779. By the late 1800's only 30% of the land area was forested, the remainder having been cleared for agriculture. The Industrial Revolution combined with soils poorly suited to long-term agriculture, began another change. By 1900, many agricultural farms in the upland areas of Steuben County were abandoned. Over time these areas reverted back to forest land. Oak/chestnut forests were dominant in Steuben County.

In 1904, a fungal disease called chestnut blight was discovered in New York, having been accidentally imported from Europe. Within 30 years, it spread across the nation and virtually eliminated the American Chestnut. Evidence of American Chestnut can still be seen in the form of stumps and sprouts from root systems of chestnut. Overhead, the holes left by the death of the chestnuts has been filled by Red Maple, White Ash, hickories, beech and oaks.

In response to the decline of agriculture and the demand that the abandoned and eroding farmlands be returned to productive activity, the New York State legislature passed the "Reforestation Law of 1929". Shortly afterwards, the nation plunged into the Great Depression, accelerating the abandonment of agricultural lands.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

The lands constituting the West Cameron Wildlife Management Area (WMA) were deeded to the State of New York in 1947 to satisfy a mortgage loan against the property. At that point the land was administered by the Office of General Services until 1980 when the property was considered for possible public sale. The Bureau of Wildlife requested a transfer of jurisdiction at that time and said transfer was completed in May 1982. An additional 4 acre parcel was subsequently purchased to provide public access to the area. The area is currently used by the public for hunting, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing, etc.

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area

The lands comprising the Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area was acquired in 1993 by the United States Government, Farmers Home Administration, as a foreclosure and the land was then transferred to New York State because it provides significant habitat for a state threatened species, the timber rattlesnake. The area is open for public use and provides recreation for hunters, trappers and hikers.

INFORMATION ON THE UNIT

IDENTIFICATION

The 7715 acre Canisteo River Basin Unit is comprised of eight state forests and two wildlife management areas. For management purposes, each state forest is consecutively numbered in the order in which they were purchased.

Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan includes the following:

Table 1 **ACREAGE OF STATE LAND**

NAME	STATE FOREST NUMBER	ACREAGE
Burt Hill State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 19	403
Cameron State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 4	1990
Cameron Mills State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 18	544
Canacadea State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 15	1623
Greenwood State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 1	907
Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area		126
Rock Creek State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 12	704
Tracy Creek State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 16	569
Turkey Ridge State Forest	Steuben Reforestation Area # 17	676
West Cameron Wildlife Management Area		173

GEOGRAPHY

All individual units are located within the Susquehanna River Basin. The vast majority of acreage is located in the Canisteo River Basin, with a small portion located in the

Cohocton River Basin.

All of the individual units in this Unit Management Plan are located in Steuben County. The following table lists the town(s) where the individual units fall:

Table 2 TOWNS OF THE CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Town(s)</u>
Greenwood State Forest	Greenwood
Cameron State Forest	Cameron
Rock Creek State Forest	Greenwood
Canacadea State Forest	Hornellsville
Tracy Creek State Forest	Rathbone
Turkey Ridge State Forest	Greenwood and Jasper
Cameron Mills State Forest	Cameron
Burt Hill State Forest	Howard
Helmer Creek WMA	Rathbone
West Cameron WMA	Cameron

The village of Canisteo lies within the Canisteo River Basin unit. The city of Hornell, the regions' largest population center, is located at the north end of the watershed. This region is rural in nature. Interstate 86/US Rt. 17 located at the north edge of the unit is the only major transportation route. Almond Dam, US Army Corps. of Engineers and Boyd's Corners county park are the only other recreational facilities located within the unit.

The Canisteo River Basin Unit lies on the northern edge of the Allegheny Plateau. Elevations on the Unit range from 1080 feet in Tracy Creek State Forest to 2380 feet in the Turkey Ridge State Forest.

CLIMATE

The average winter high temperature is 36° Fahrenheit and the average daily minimum temperature is 18°F. In summer, the average daily high temperature is 80°F. Plateau summits are markedly cooler than the lowland farming areas.

Annual precipitation averages 31-36 inches. Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year and is usually adequate for all crops.

Average seasonal snowfall is 70-75 inches. In winter, snow occurs frequently and covers the ground much of the time. Snow depths vary greatly with elevation, but on the average, snow depths are measurable for 3 months. The number of such days varies greatly from year to year.

Sunshine occurs for 65% of daylight hours in the summer and 30% in the winter.

The prevailing wind is from the west to southwest. Average wind speed is at its highest, 12 m.p.h., in February.

Climatic data is supplied by the United States Department of Agriculture(USDA) Soil Conservation Service.

ADJACENT LAND - EXISTING USES

The land adjacent to the Canisteo River Basin Unit is largely owned by private landowners. Absentee landowners and homeowners occupy a considerable acreage of real estate. The US Army, Corps of Engineers, administers a flood control reservoir adjacent to Canacadea State Forest.

Agriculture, forestry, and recreation are major land uses. Although agriculture is traditionally the most common land use, it appears to be declining. As a result, the amount of land covered by forest is increasing. Forest land now occupies approximately 54% of the land area of Steuben County. However, the average number of acres per ownership appears to be declining.

GEOLOGY

SURFACE GEOLOGY

BACKGROUND

Most surface geology in the Canisteo River Basin Region of western New York was influenced by the processes of glaciation that occurred during the Pleistocene Epoch. Ice sheets from the last glaciation episode (Wisconsinan glaciation episode) retreated from the area approximately ten thousand (10,000) years ago, leaving behind numerous sedimentary deposits and surficial features; including scour features that resulted in small lakes and river valleys.

Most soils and sediments in the region are related to past glacial activity, and subsequent weathering and erosional processes over the last 20,000 years. The underlying parent rocks (rocks that were subjected to the processes of glaciation, weathering and erosion) of this region are sedimentary rocks; specifically shale, sandstone and siltstone that

were deposited in shallow seas that existed in this region during the Devonian Period of the Paleozoic Era, approximately 370 million years ago. Any post Devonian rocks have been eroded from the region. In addition, the presence of rounded igneous and metamorphic clasts are indicative of past glacial activity transporting material into the region from the Canadian Shield to the north.

CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT

The resulting surface geology of the State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas of the Canisteo River Basin Unit includes glacial till as the dominant deposit in the area. It is located extensively throughout the area, with exceptions being topographically low areas and escarpments subjected to erosion. Bedrock outcrops and subcrops of Devonian shales, siltstones, sandstones and minor limestones are located intermittently on the flanks and crests of ridges and hills in the area. Most likely due to the erosion of overlying glacial till, causing the exposure of the bedrock. Kame deposits of sand and gravel are located intermittently in topographically low areas of Canacadea State Forest, and are the result of glacial meltwater fluvial systems. Recent alluvium deposits have accumulated in topographical depressions such as stream channels and associated flood plains.

Further information on the surface geology of the region is provided by the: *Surficial Geologic Map of New York, New York State Museum - Geologic Survey - Map and Chart series #40, 1986.*

SOILS

Detailed soil information is contained in the *Soil Survey of Steuben County*, published by the USDA, Soil Conservation Service in July 1978.

The generalized soil information presented here was taken from the STATSGO

database published by the USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service in December of 1984.

Please note that some re-correlation of soil types has taken place since the soil survey was published and that data from the survey may not match data from the STATSGO database.

The Canisteo River Basin contains a number of soil associations. All of the individual units within this management plan have some acreage within the *Mardin - Lordstown - Volusia* association. Many of the individual units contain smaller acreages of *Chenango - Howard - Palmyra* association and the *Vly - Lewbeach - Willowemoc* association

General association descriptions are given below:

Mardin - Lordstown - Volusia

Gently sloping to steep soils, moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained deep soil, with fragipan. Also includes areas of moderately steep to very steep, well drained, moderately deep soils over hard sandstone bedrock.

Chenango - Howard - Palmyra

Nearly level to gently sloping, well drained to somewhat excessively drained deep soils that formed in outwash in valleys. Also includes small areas of moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained, deep soils formed in recent alluvium on floodplains.

Willowemoc - Lewbeach - Vly

Nearly level through moderately steep

soils on till plains and hillsides and hilltops in uplands. Permeability is moderate to high above the fragipan and slow to very slow in the fragipan. Also includes smaller areas of deep, moderately well drained to excessively well drained soils formed in till on bedrock controlled upland land forms

Table 3 SURFACE GEOLOGIC MATERIAL FOR THE INDIVIDUAL UNITS

Unit	Surficial Material
Greenwood State Forest	Glacial Till, Bedrock
Cameron State Forest	Glacial Till
Rock Creek State Forest	Glacial Till
Canacadea State Forest	Glacial Till and Kame
Tracy Creek State Forest	Glacial Till
Turkey Ridge State Forest	Glacial Till & Bedrock
Cameron Mills State Forest	Glacial Till
Burt Hill State Forest	Glacial Till
Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area	Glacial Till
West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	Glacial Till & Bedrock

BEDROCK GEOLOGY

BACKGROUND

Bedrock underlying the Region of the Canisteo River Basin Unit is inclusive of sedimentary rock units deposited in association with ancient seas and their marine-fluvial- deltaic environments of deposition during the Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian and Devonian Periods of the Paleozoic Era.

Younger bedrock units that were deposited during the post-Devonian Periods (such as Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Periods) have been subsequently eroded away by erosional and glacial processes.

Underlying the Paleozoic rocks are pre-Paleozoic Era rocks or Pre-Cambrian rocks that are generally considered to be composed of igneous and metamorphic rocks. These rocks are generally referred to as "basement" rocks.

CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT

Rock units (bedrock) outcropping or subcropping at the surface in the Canisteo River Basin Region are shales, siltstones, sandstones and intermittent limestones of the Conneault, Canadaway, Java and West Falls Groups that were deposited during the Upper Devonian Period (approximately 350 - 400 million years ago).

Further information on the bedrock geology of the region is provided by the: *Geologic Map of New York - Finger Lake Sheet - New York State Museum and Science Service - Map and Chart #15, 1970.*

Subsurface information pertaining to the bedrock (that does not outcrop) has been acquired through wells drilled into the subsurface during the exploration for oil and natural gas reserves in and around the Canisteo River Basin Unit. Wells were drilled

to depths of approximately 3,400 feet into the subsurface near Canacadea State Forest and tested the Onondaga and Oriskany Formations that were deposited during the Devonian Period, over 400 million years ago. Wells were drilled to depths of approximately 11,000 feet into the subsurface southeast of Turkey Ridge State Forest and tested the Trenton / Black River Formations that were deposited during the Ordovician Period, over 450 million years ago.

The Vandermark Exploration Inc. Turner Well No. 1 (API No. 031-101-20658) encountered the top of the Devonian Onondaga Limestone at 3,359 feet and Devonian Oriskany Sandstone at 3,424 feet into the earth. The True Oil Company M. Demun Unit No.1, Well No. 1 (API No.: 031-101-21718) encountered the top of the Devonian Onondaga Limestone at 5,096 feet, Silurian Syracuse salt beds at 5,500 feet, Silurian Medina Sandstone at 6,728 feet, Ordovician Queenston at 7,170 feet, top of the Trenton Limestone at 9,782 feet and the top of the Black River Limestone/Dolomite at 10,410 feet into the earth.

STRUCTURE

The regional structure of the area is a homocline that dips to the south-southwest at an average dip angle of approximately two (2) degrees. The *Geologic map of New York - Finger Lakes Sheet #15, 1970*, depicts progressively older rock units outcropping farther to the north, confirming the southerly dip of strata in the region.

Linements, faulting and anticlinal/synclinal structures in the region generally trend in a Northeast to Southwest direction. North-South trending faults have also been identified in the region. These structures are thought to be due to compressional stress and resulting strain associated with plate tectonics and the opening of the Atlantic Ocean Basin that began at the end of the Paleozoic Era. Structural reference is available at the

Preliminary Brittle Structures Map of New York, New York State Museum-Map and Chart Series No.31E, 1974.

MINERAL RESOURCES

OIL AND GAS

All of Steuben County has the potential for development of natural gas reserves. In order to produce natural gas from NYS DEC - owned properties, an oil and gas lease must be executed between the State and a prospective developer. Each lease contains numerous clauses specific to the project such as the term, consideration and royalties, development, drilling and removal of property (including well plugging).

The State manages the surface estate through NYS DEC's Division of Lands and Forests. The minerals estate is managed through the NYS DEC's Division of Mineral Resources. Drilling permit application reviews are coordinated by the Division of Mineral Resources and subject to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). These proposals are analyzed within the scope of the 1992 Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Regulatory Program (GEIS). Site specific requirements are attached to every drilling permit and address issues related to safety, environmental protection and correlative rights (ensuring that owners are provided an opportunity to share in the production of the well). Further surface protective measures are contained in a Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) issued by the Division of Lands and Forests.

Certain land management strategies which may be incompatible with oil and gas well development may result in exclusion from surface disturbance. Individual tract proposal reviews for each forest within this Unit have been completed, and determinations deciding which areas would be excluded from surface disturbance have been made. Sites

recommended to be excluded from drilling and/or other surface occupancy for mining, are listed in appendix G, Maps "Recommended Exclusions for Surface Occupancy."

Revenue generated from production royalty and/or leasing of oil and gas rights is directed to the General Account Fund for State Forests and the Conservation Fund Account for Wildlife Management Areas.

Drilling and Production

The drilling of the first commercial oil well in the United States occurred in northwestern Pennsylvania during the middle 1800's. Soon after New York had its first commercial oil well which eventually led to the drilling of thousands of oil wells in western New York. The eastern fringe of this activity extended into the Town of Greenwood near Rock Creek State Forest. NYS DEC maintains records for roughly 350 oil wells in the Town of Greenwood. However, NYS DEC routinely discovers wells for which no records exist. Accordingly, the actual number of oil wells drilled in an area may be substantially larger than what records indicate.

Oil has been produced in the southwestern portion of Steuben County from the 1890's to present. NYS DEC does not expect any major oil developments on any of the lands within this Unit.

Natural gas has been produced in paying quantities from this area since the 1930's. Tracy Creek State Forest is in the Rathbone natural gas field, which was drilled in the 1930's and currently does not have any active wells. Roughly 30 wells were drilled in this field. However, no records exist to confirm whether the wells were properly plugged and abandoned. Over 160 natural gas wells were drilled in the six towns where the State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas are located. Roughly six of the wells remain active.

Natural gas is routinely stored in depleted reservoirs deep underground. New York State has over 25 such facilities. In this Units' area natural gas can be injected into the Oriskany and/or Onondaga Formations during low demand months and withdrawn as market conditions and contract obligations dictate. At this time oil and gas leases for underground gas storage exist on Rock Creek State Forest, Cameron State Forest and Greenwood State Forest. Gas is stored in the Oriskany Formation at depths ranging between 4,000 and 4,800 feet at facilities located on Rock Creek and Greenwood State Forests. These facilities are operated by Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation. The project at Cameron State Forest (includes only the northern most 10 acres) is permitted by Steuben Gas Storage Corporation to store gas in only the Onondaga Formation from approximately 3,500 to 4,000 feet.

A five year exploration and development lease is in effect on Canacadea State Forest, this lease was approved by the NYS DEC in April / May of 1998, for a primary term of five (5) years. In March of 2003 NYS DEC received competitive bids for the sale of oil and gas leases on Cameron, Tracy Creek, Cameron Mills, and Burt Hill State Forests. These lease agreements are in the process of being executed.

Natural gas transmission pipelines are located on Greenwood, Cameron, Rock Creek and Turkey Ridge State Forests. A major natural gas "play" is currently occurring in the Trenton/ Black River formation in eastern Steuben County. This activity has branched into the Town of West Union just south of the Canisteo River Basin Unit and will likely spread in to this area.

MINING

Sand and Gravel

Sand and gravel resources vary throughout this area. NYS DEC permitted

mine facilities are located in nearly every municipality within the Canisteo River Basin, with each town containing some level of unconsolidated resource. The reserves can be spotty depending on the depositional environment. Quality and quantity of the reserves generally dictate development.

A higher concentration of mine sites are located near the town of Hornellsville. This is indicative of resource development near urban areas with a larger populations, and high aggregate demand. The surrounding municipalities have tapped the resources, but have not yet fully developed the reserves. This is mainly due to their rural setting, low market demand, and relatively small population.

A portion of Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Areas was developed as a commercial gravel operation prior to the NYS DEC's acquisition of the area.

Hard Rock

As is the case in most of central New York, this area is underlain by salt deposits. However, at depths in excess of 2000 feet, it would not be practical to develop the resource utilizing standard mining practices. Furthermore, the thickness and quality of the salt seam underlying the Wildlife Management Area's and State Forest are unknown. This, coupled with market demand for the product, would limit the possibilities of developing salt reserves.

Various hard rock deposits underlay this area, the most common being shale, sandstone, and siltstone. The depth to the deposit, its thickness, and its quality would determine the feasibility of developing these resources. At this time, the depth to quality hard rock resources under southwestern Steuben County generally restricts reserve development.

VEGETATIVE TYPES AND STAGES

Canisteo River Basin Unit vegetation is dominated by pole sized natural hardwood forests. Hardwood species include red maple, oaks, hickories, ash, aspen, and apple. The majority of the softwood component consists of plantation species such as red pine and Norway spruce. Many of the hardwood forests have a softwood component of white pine and hemlock. White pine and hemlock also comprise most of the natural conifer stands, although some natural stands of red pine do occur.

Secondary vegetative types include, transition hardwood forests on some upland portions of the Unit, and wetland vegetative types on lowlands. Many former agricultural fields have been replanted to conifers or reverted back to "pioneer" forest types.

The following table (Table 4) lists vegetative types and stages for the Canisteo River Basin Unit. These records are estimated from the most recent inventories available. Depending on the area, inventory data was taken sometime between 1987 and 2001.

Table 4 VEGETATIVE TYPES AND STAGES

Vegetative Type	Acres by Size Class				% of Total
	0 -5 in	6 - 11 in	12+ in	other	
Natural Forest Hardwood	714	2734	1511		64.3%
Natural Forest Conifer	46	595	439		14.0%
Plantation	253	993	115		17.6%
Wetland				18	0.2%
Ponds				25	0.3%
Open/Brush				168	2.2%
Other (Roads, Parking lots, etc.)				104	1.3%
Total (Acres)	1013	4322	2065	315	7715

WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

The Canisteo River Basin Unit is within the Appalachian Plateau ecological unit characterized by active and abandoned farmland interspersed with woodland. Few wetlands are present and consequently the area is home to primarily upland wildlife species. The area has a long history of high deer numbers and has been well known to

hunters throughout New York and surrounding states for over 40 years. Deer harvest in recent years has approached 15 per square mile in portions of this unit.

In addition, this unit contains some of the last remaining populations of timber rattlesnakes in New York State. While these populations have been much reduced over the years, several important denning areas are afforded protection by being in state ownership.

Wehrle's salamander (*Plethodon wehrlei*) was identified on the West Cameron Wildlife Management Area in a 1996 biodiversity inventory conducted by the New York Natural Heritage Program. This salamander has a state rank of S-2 indicating it is very vulnerable in the state with only 6 to 20 occurrences.

Several species that were absent entirely in the early 20th century have begun to repopulate the area. The black bear population has been expanding for the past 20 years and sightings are now quite common. Bobcat have been present for a number of years at very low levels but these populations are also beginning to grow. Wild turkey, now common throughout the area were totally absent just 50 years ago.

If the trend of agricultural land abandonment and reversion to brush land and forest continues, these species that prefer large areas of unbroken forest will continue to prosper.

WETLANDS AND WATER RESOURCES

AQUIFERS

This Unit is located within the Canisteo River basin. Portions of Cameron State Forest, Rock Creek State Forest, Tracy Creek State Forest, Cameron Mills State Forest, and Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area overlie major aquifers.

These aquifers are unconfined sand and gravel or lacustrine sands which are capable of flowing at greater than 100 gallons per minute.

WETLANDS

According to maps produced pursuant to Article 24 of the Environmental Conservation

Law (Freshwater Wetlands Act), this Unit contains one wetland at least 12.4 acres in size which is protected by the Act. The map designations and classifications according to 6 NYCRR, Part 664, Freshwater Wetlands Mapping and Classification Regulations is: CM-1. Maps showing the location of NYS regulated wetlands are available from Regional NYS DEC Offices. CM-1 is 42.3 acres on Cameron State Forest and is composed of areas of emergent vegetation, which are seasonally flooded, and areas of open water, which are permanently flooded. The open water is called Cameron Pond, and is part of the Cameron Pond Day Use Area.

Maps produced by the US Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the National Wetlands Inventory indicate the presence of approximately 17 smaller wetlands which may be protected under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Federal wetlands are described as scrub-shrub, emergent, and unconsolidated-bottom wetlands of seasonal to permanent saturation. Many of these wetlands are man-made, constructed under the CCC program or more recent habitat improvement programs.

STREAMS

There are approximately 12 miles of streams within the state land of this Unit. 3.2 miles are classified as trout streams under the NYS Water Resources Regulations. Major named creeks consist of Cameron Creek, Rock Creek, Brown Hollow Creek, Erskin Hollow Creek, Stephens Gulch, Helmer Creek, and Tracy Creek. The majority of these have intermittent or unknown fisheries resources. Known fish species include minnows, dace, and brook and brown trout.

PONDED WATERS

As most of the state lands in this Unit are at the top of the watershed, ponded waters are limited. However, there is one named pond on this Unit; Cameron Pond on Cameron State

Forest. At least 3 other unnamed ponds are also located on this Unit. Almond Lake, a large flood control impoundment, managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers, is adjacent to Canacadea State Forest.

SIGNIFICANT PLANTS AND PLANT COMMUNITIES

No rare plants or significant plant communities are listed in the Natural Heritage data base for the Canisteo River Basin Unit. The Unit does contain several small populations of pink lady slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*) and Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), which are exploitably vulnerable native plants likely to become threatened in the near future throughout all or a significant portion of their range within the state if causal factors continue unchecked.

ROADS

The Canisteo River Basin Unit is accessed by state, county and town roads (see location map, page 1). Town maintained gravel roads comprise the majority of access routes. Many of these town roads are not maintained for winter travel.

The road system maintained by NYS DEC provides for both public and administrative access to the Canisteo River Basin Unit. The roads are constructed to standards that will provide reasonably safe travel and keep maintenance costs at a minimum. There are three types of NYS DEC maintained roads - public forest access roads, and haul roads and access trails - each provide different levels of access, depending on the standards to which they are constructed.

Public access roads are constructed and maintained to accommodate motor vehicle traffic, they are permanent, unpaved roads.

They may be designed for all-weather use depending on their location and surfacing. These roads provide primary access within a Unit. The standards for these roads are those of the Class A and Class B access roads as provided for in the Forest Road Handbook.

Haul roads are permanent, unpaved roads but are not designed for all-weather travel. They are constructed primarily for the removal of forest products and provide only limited access within the Canisteo River Basin Unit. Public motor vehicle use is not allowed, but pedestrian travel is encouraged. All administrative roads are gated and warning signs are posted. The standards for these roads are those of Class C roads as provided for in the Forest Road Handbook.

Access Trails may be permanent, unpaved and do not provide all-weather access within the Unit. These trails are originally designed for removal of forest products and may be used to meet other management objectives such as recreational trails. These trails are constructed according to Best Management Practices.

NYSDEC maintains 7.2 miles of roads on the Canisteo River Basin Unit.

Canacadea State Forest contains a 2 1/4 mile access road accessible from Erie Ave. in the Town of Almond. The access road forks near the top of the hill. The right fork ends at a turn around/ parking area, and the left fork ends at a beautiful overlook of Almond Lake which makes an excellent picnic spot (there is also a turn around/ parking lot).

Turkey Ridge State Forest contains a 1/2 mile access road which is accessed from Norton Hollow Rd. near the intersection of Woodworth Rd. The access road ends at a turn around / parking lot.

Cameron State Forest has a 900 ft. access road going to Cameron Pond. In addition, there is an haul road about 0.2 mile long

which connects to the gas transmission line bisecting the property. The gas line has about 3 ½ miles that can also be used for administrative access to sections of the state forest.

Tracy Creek State Forest has about 1 mile of haul road, which is also designated as an access trail for persons with disabilities as per commissioners policy CP-3 (see ATV TRAILS).

Greenwood State Forest has two access roads, one is about 0.3 mile long and ends in a turn around / parking lot. The second provides access to the well pads and gas pipeline. It is slightly longer than a half mile, there is also about a mile of gas pipe line, some of which can be used to access sections of the state forest.

Eight parking lots are maintained throughout Canisteo River Basin Unit. (See Appendix D)

RECREATION

The Canisteo River Basin Unit provides recreational opportunities within a two hour drive of metropolitan Rochester, and less than a half-hour drive to the Village of Dansville, and the cities of Corning, and Hornell. Consequently, recreational use can be seasonally concentrated and varied.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE UNIT INCLUDE:

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Trapping
- Hiking
- Camping
- Canoeing
- Mountain Biking
- Snowmobiling
- Cross Country Skiing

- Snowshoeing
- Picnicking
- Bird and Wildlife Watching
- Berry and Apple Picking
- Photography
- Nature Study

Different regulations apply to state forests and wildlife management areas. Overnight camping is permitted anywhere on state forests as long as it is not within 150 ft. of any road, trail, spring, stream, pond, or other water source. For groups of less than 10 people and for up to 3 days no permit is required, longer stays and/or larger groups are allowed to camp with a free permit obtained from the NYS DEC Forest Rangers, at the Bath sub-office. Overnight camping is not allowed on Wildlife Management Areas. Camping sites must be kept neat, clean and in sanitary condition.

At this time, no opportunities exist for ATV and off-road vehicle use on state land in NYS DEC Region 8. Depositing or leaving rubbish or waste material is prohibited. Cutting, removing, or destroying any living, or standing dead trees or plants is prohibited. Users are requested to please extinguish all fires completely. Hunting, trapping, and fishing are allowed only during legal season, consult the NYS DEC Hunting and Trapping, and the Fishing Regulations Guides for seasons, hours, and bag limits.

HUNTING

Hunting is popular on all State Lands in the Canisteo River Basin Unit. Both small and big game hunting opportunities exist. White-tailed deer are the primary big game species, although Black Bear are also hunted. Archery, muzzle loading, and shot gun seasons are open annually in the fall. Permanent tree stands are prohibited. Also prohibited are any equipment that damages the trees, this includes screw in steps, eye hooks etc. Small game include; wild turkey, ruffed grouse, pheasant, woodcock, squirrels,

cottontail rabbit, and waterfowl. Trapping of furbearers is also encouraged.

FISHING

Fishing opportunities are limited, there are a few small creeks in the unit, these include Rock Creek in Greenwood State Forest, Tracy Creek in Tracy Creek State Forest, Helmer Creek in Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area. Cameron Pond (which provides mostly warm-water fisheries) and the beaver pond off of Stonehouse Rd. in Cameron State Forest are the main fishing sites within the unit.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Cameron Pond Day Use Area in Cameron State Forest is accessed off of West Cameron Rd., it includes a parking area, a 16 acre pond which provides fishing opportunities for bass and pan fish, canoeing, and enjoyable surroundings for picnicking

HIKING TRAILS

There are numerous trails, old roads and pipelines in the Canisteo River Basin Unit to explore, however none of these trails are currently marked and very few are mapped. The exception is the 3/4 mile section of the Finger Lakes Trail that passes through the northern portion of Burt Hill State Forest (along this trail exists a lean-to built and maintained by the Finger Lakes Trail Conference). The Finger Lakes Trail is maintained by the Finger Lakes Trail Conference (585) 658-9320. All trails in this unit can also be used for mountain biking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing (however motorized vehicle use is prohibited).

ATV TRAILS / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ACCESS

The only legal ATV trails that exist are for persons with disabilities. Pursuant to CP-3, individuals with qualifying disabilities may apply for a permit to operate an ATV on trails designated by the DEC. For further inquiries contacted the DEC office in Bath. (See Appendix D)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

On the Unit there are no known pre-European settlement archaeological sites. Much of the NYS DEC lands are on highlands. It is well documented that Native Americans had occupied the valleys encompassed by the unit. It is assumed the uplands were used for hunting grounds, however, it is unlikely settlements were located on these upland areas.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE PROTECTION

If any unrecorded archaeological sites are located within this land unit they are protected by the provisions of the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA - Article 14 PRHPL), Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of Education Law. No actions that would impact these resources are proposed in this Unit Management Plan. Should any such actions be proposed in the future they will be reviewed in accordance with SHPA. Unauthorized excavation and removal of materials from any of these sites is prohibited by Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of Education Law.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

If any archaeological sites are located on this unit they will be made available for appropriate research. All future archaeological research to be conducted on the property will be accomplished under the auspices of all appropriate permits. Research permits will be issued only after consultation with the New York State Museum and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Extensive excavations are not contemplated as part of any research program in order to assure that the sites are available to future researchers who are likely to have more advanced tools and techniques as well as different research questions.

HISTORIC SITES

There are signs of European settlements throughout the Unit. There are several cemeteries of known and unknown origin throughout the Unit. They are either maintained by the state or volunteers.

The area surrounding the unit was settled as early as 1796 and as late as 1844. From 1870- 1900 much of the area was cleared for many types of wood products, mainly lumber. Much of the lumber as well as other products went down the Canisteo river on "arks" and found their way to the Chesapeake Bay. Once the area was depleted of timber, farming began.

The Unit has numerous home sites as well as remnants of stone, stump and rail fences, all evidence of prior land occupation and uses. On the Cameron State Forest is the remains of house known as "the stone house", built in 1876.

The clearcutting, farming and occasional fires contributed to the current mix of vegetation on the area. The fires and clearcutting favored the oak species. Abandoned farmland reverted to pioneer hardwood species such as aspen and maples. Some areas were planted with conifers.

In 1934 the first natural gas well was drilled on what is now the Greenwood State Forest by the Home Gas Company. During the same time period several more wells were drilled on the state lands in the area. When the gas supply was depleted, natural gas was pumped into these wells for storage. Transmission lines cross the unit with a pump station located just off state land on Rock Creek Road in the town of Greenwood. This enterprise is now owned by the Columbia Gas Transmission Co.

Many of the older plantations (60 plus years), on the unit were planted by the CCC's (Civilian Conservation Corps). Over the years these plantations have been thinned through several other government programs such as the YCC (Youth Conservation Corps), Department of Corrections inmates, and timber sales.

Three ponds were built on the Cameron State Forest for wood duck habitat in the 1950's and late 60's. These were built through a cooperative effort of state, county and federal government.

In the 1990's to the present the Ruffed Grouse Society and The National Wild Turkey federation have sponsored projects to enhance wildlife habitat on numerous sites on the Unit.

Most of the this information was taken from Richard Scheres' book, "Steuben County, The First 200 Years". Other sources from NYSDEC.

NEEDS, ISSUES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This plan strives to manage the diversity of the Canisteo River Basin Unit biological and social resources for multiple use to serve the needs of the people of New York State. In order to manage the Canisteo River Basin Unit for multiple use, NYS DEC must manage the ecosystem in a holistic manner while reconciling the many and sometimes conflicting demands on the ecosystem. This must be done within the framework of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), rules and regulations, and department policies and procedures.

On the Canisteo River Basin Unit, many issues including public needs form the basis for the objectives and management actions set forth in this plan. The NYS DEC recognizes that planning must be done today to ensure effective management in the future.

FUNDING

Funding to support the management of lands covered in this plan is primarily derived from:

- Capital construction account (State General Fund monies)
- Rehabilitation & Improvement account (State General Fund monies)
- Stewardship - Special Revenue Other (SRO) account. State forests only. Note: The primary source of revenue for the SRO account is from commercial sales of forest products listed above.
- Services in lieu of payment during commercial sales of forest products. (These services are limited to the specific location where the sale occurs.)
- Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). This account is primarily funded from the real estate transfer tax and other

appropriations by the legislature. This fund may be used for a wide variety of projects including habitat enhancement for plants and animals, recreational facilities and forestry improvements such as pre-commercial thinning, artificial regeneration, and control of invasive species.

- Conservation Fund. Wildlife management areas only. A state fund consisting primarily of income from the sale of sporting licenses, fines from penalties from fish and wildlife law violations, sale of products off lands administered by the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, and return a Gift to Wildlife donations.
- Wildlife Restoration Program Funds. These are federal funds commonly referred to as Pittman-Robertson Funds. This is a federal program established from money received from excise taxes on the sale of sporting guns and ammunition.

Regional allocations from these accounts must be shared by all NYS DEC lands within the region. There is no specific budget established to manage an individual site. Funding is distributed based on priorities for all areas within the region. Tasks listed in the work schedule in this plan are contingent upon available funding and commitments associated with higher priority projects within the region.

Cooperative partnerships using the "Adopt A Natural Resource Program" with private conservation organizations or other interested parties can be used to complete projects on the Canisteo River Basin Unit. These partnerships are a valuable supplemental source for providing needed services.

CURRENT KNOWN ILLEGAL USE

- ATV and dirt bike use
- Off road driving
- Dumping / littering
- Vandalism

- Construction of permanent blinds and/or tree stands
- Harvest of ginseng
- Cultivation of marijuana
- Poaching
- Underage drinking

SUMMARY OF IDENTIFIED ISSUES

ACCESS

It is NYS DEC policy to provide appropriate public and operational access on the Canisteo River Basin Unit. Access is a necessity for both public use and land management. However, appropriate restrictions on access positively contributes to the natural character of state lands.

Staff has identified needs for additional administrative access roads on Greenwood and Cameron Mills State Forests. Parking for West Cameron Wildlife Management Area is along the shoulder of a town road in a rather precarious location. Turkey Ridge also has parking problems along Norton Hollow Road. Additional parking is required to accommodate existing public use.

This was noted through the variety of public comments received prior to the preparation of this plan. Some requested additional recreational amenities such as campgrounds, picnic areas and horseback and snowmobile trail development; others asked the Canisteo River Basin Unit's natural character be maintained. Some wanted NYS DEC to promote tourism and local interest. One recommendation was to gate the entrance at Turkey Ridge State Forest, another requested better access to Cameron Mills State Forest and another asked to deny access by all terrain vehicles and recommended that all hunting to be done on foot. Others asked that hunters not trespass on landowners property.

Staff has also identified access issues concerning Canacadea State Forest. The railroad line which forms the northern border of the Canacadea State Forest is currently embargoed. This line is owned by a multi - county rail authority. Should this line be abandoned, the Department should aggressively pursue acquisition of as much of the right - of - way as necessary to assure access to State Route 21.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Plant communities are by nature dynamic and ever-changing. Young tree stands get older, and species composition changes with time. Disturbances from fire, wind, insects, disease, timber harvest, and other land-use practices have been an important part of the history of New York forests and have determined the composition and structure of today's forests. By applying different forest management or silvicultural practices, land managers can effect change in vegetative types and stages and associated use by wildlife.

The production of forest products is a clearly stated goal in the Reforestation Law of 1929 and is consistent with the proposed management actions in the Canisteo River Basin Unit. But, it too is challenged by conflicting opinions. Some public expressed a desire for selective harvesting, the harvest of mature trees, managed burns and clear-cutting. Others expressed a desire for no clear cutting. Concern was also noted about the regularity of timber harvest and the immediate effects of

logging the forest in terms of aesthetic appreciation. Others expressed concern about any logging activities in steep areas subject to erosion.

Additional comments include: not marking for timber stand improvement, leaving wildlife den and food trees to establish wildlife food plots, and inclusion of a buffer zone at the northernmost boundary line of the Burt Hill State Forest to see that the Finger lakes Trail corridor is protected from aesthetically adverse activities.

WATER RESOURCES

The Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) dictates that the State Forests within the Canisteo River Basin Unit be managed for watershed protection. This is also clearly consistent with Wildlife Management Area objectives and sound conservation practices and public desires. Best Management Practices are used for all silvicultural practices on state lands. These require specific conservation practices which protect soils and water quality during timber harvest. Well-managed water resources have multiple benefits, including quality fish and wildlife habitats, aesthetically pleasing sites, ground water protection, and flood water retention.

Public comment requested damming of creeks and digging of ponds to provide important water sources.

WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

Broad public support was noted for healthy wildlife populations as a source of a variety of recreations. Recommendations included establishment of wildlife food plots. One comment indicated seemingly too few turkeys and grouse. Other wildlife mentioned include

deer, rattlesnakes and possibly bears. One asked to post the land as an endangered species area due to timber rattlers near Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area and Cameron Mill State Forest. Some adjacent landowners asked to post signs allowing hunting with prior permission.

FISH MANAGEMENT

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is charged by Environmental Conservation Law to maintain and improve the fisheries resource and develop and administer measures for making the resource accessible for the people of the state. One public comment requested more stocking of game fish in the Cameron Pond.

PUBLIC RECREATION AND USE

Public comments received include a general encouragement to increase opportunities for hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, camping, bird watching, cross-country skiing, boating, snowmobiling and horseback riding. Additional current recreational uses include Cameron Pond Day Use Area, and the overlook on Canacadea State Forest.

OIL AND GAS LEASING

Public commentators expressed varying comments on oil and gas leasing. Some believed that particular areas of the unit should be protected from gas well leasing; others were completely opposed to gas leasing at their favorite hunting spot; while still others thought leasing for gas would be acceptable if NYS DEC could manage any funds generated from it.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Additional funding would be required to optimally enhance the lands and facilities of this Unit. Public comments suggest that present conditions may be acceptable, although some support parking lot improvements, and adding outhouses, for example. There is a need to identify additional funding and actively search out cooperative agreements and partnerships to maintain roads and trails and other facilities in the Canisteo River Basin Unit.

NYS DEC's formal cooperative program, called the Adopt-a-Natural-Resource Stewardship Program, encourages individuals and groups to undertake activities that meet management needs of state-owned natural resources. Multiple benefits of such partnerships have been identified; serving as a means to complete work that helps preserve, maintain and enhance natural resources at minimal cost to the New York State. It is also an opportunity for organizations, groups and individuals to show willing support for conservation efforts, large and small. Such efforts may involve the clean up of vandalism, litter pick up, establishment or maintenance of nature trails, providing interpretive services for school groups and other citizens, management of fish and wildlife habitats and other positive benefits to the site and natural resources.

OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION

New York State has been a leader in recognizing the value of open, undeveloped land. In September 2002, Governor George Pataki issued a plan prepared by NYS DEC and the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historical Preservation, entitled, "Conserving

Open Space in New York State".

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dlf/osp/toc2002.html> is the web site this document can be viewed at, and as new versions are written during the lifetime of this Unit Management Plan they will also be posted on NYS DEC's web site.

The Open Space Plan of 2002 characterizes the need for perpetuation, in a grand sense, of open space and natural landscapes as, "The quality and character of the lives of the people of New York depend upon the quality and character of the land on which we live. These lands shape the way we spend our leisure time, affect the long term strength of our economy, determine whether we have clean air and water, support the web of living things of which we are a part, and affect how we think about ourselves and relate to other New Yorkers." The Open Space Plan outlines what open space should be saved and includes priorities and guidelines for public land acquisition. As of the writing of this plan, no parcels adjacent to the Canisteo River Basin Unit are listed in the Open Space Plan. Land may be gifted to the state, and small parcels purchased when meeting the criteria of the small projects category, without being listed in the Open Space Plan provided they meet the requirements listed later in this plan.

AESTHETICS

In addition to providing open space and a place to experience wildlife and wild land, public lands should also be pleasing to the eye and soul. Scenic vistas, the use of natural materials, and attention to quality design and maintenance are important components of effectively managing the Canisteo River Basin Unit. The challenge is to attract users to the site without destroying what has drawn them there in the first place.

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

protection and enhancement of historic and cultural resources, readily identifiable as valued parts of the common heritage of New York's citizens.

The public comments supported the

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The laws, regulations, and policies listed below provide broad guidelines within which this plan is prepared. The Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York is available to the public at local libraries, NYSDEC offices, from private vendors, and at www.dec.state.ny.us/website/regs/index.htm/ on the internet.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW (ECL)

- ECL Article 8 - Environmental Quality Review
- ECL Article 9 - Lands and Forests
- ECL Article 11 - Fish and Wildlife
- ECL Article 15 - Water Resources
- ECL Article 23 - Mineral Resources
- ECL Article 24 - Freshwater Wetlands
- ECL Article 33 - Pesticides
- ECL Article 51 - Implementation of Environmental Quality Bond Act of 1972
- ECL Article 71 - Enforcement

NEW YORK CODE RULES AND REGULATIONS (6NYCRR)

- Title 6
- Chapter I - Fish and Wildlife
- Chapter II - Lands and Forests
- Chapter III - Air Resources
- Chapter IV - Quality Services
- Chapter V - Resource Management Services
- Chapter VI - State Environmental Quality Review
- Chapter VII - Subchapter A
 - Implementation of EQBA of 1972
- Chapter X - Division of Water Resources

DEPARTMENT POLICIES

- Public Use
- Temporary Revocable Permits
- Motor Vehicle Use
- Timber Management
- Unit Management Planning

Pesticides
Prescribed Burns
State Forest Master Plan
Inventory
Acquisition
Road Construction
Motor Vehicle Access for People with Disabilities Policy (CP 3)
Best Management Practices
General Freshwater Wetlands Permit for WMA Management Activities
Bureau of Fisheries Fish Stocking Policies
Archaeological Site Protection
Archaeological Research

FEDERAL LAW

US Army Corps of Engineers Manual for Almond Lake Dam Operation
Americans with Disabilities Act
Federal Wetland Law 404 - Water quality
etc.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

VISION

The vision of this plan is to ensure the biological integrity, improvement and protection of the Canisteo River Basin Unit. This shall be done within the multiple use concept of management, which strives to serve the needs of the people of New York State by providing a broad based, biologically diverse ecosystem. Management will be considered over a broad geographical area, not only to ensure the biological diversity and protection of the ecosystem, but also to optimize the many benefits to the public that these lands provide.

NYS DEC lands within Canisteo River Basin Unit are unique compared with most private properties in the surrounding landscape. Private landowners have differing management objectives and property size is generally much smaller. State lands provide large expanses open to public recreation. State land management horizons extend over a very long time frame. This allows for a commitment to provide healthy and diverse forest ecosystems and to manage and enhance unique vegetative types.

To achieve the vision, this plan will provide specific management goals with measurable planning objectives. The objectives will be augmented and supported by a plan of action and a timetable.

ACCESS

The existing network of roads and parking lots is mostly sufficient for intended uses. However, for administrative purposes, a need exists for two additional roads; one on Greenwood State Forest, the other on Cameron Mills State Forest. In addition, a need for a parking lot has been identified on the West Cameron Wildlife Management Area, Turkey Ridge State Forest, and two small ones on Cameron State Forest. (See maps pgs 68 and 70)

Restricted motor vehicle access to administrative roads by gates and signs will continue. The costs to upgrade administrative grade roads to public access roads are prohibitive. Motor vehicle access restrictions are needed to maintain the "backwoods" character of the land. In addition the Department reserves the right to limit access to State Lands when public safety issues occur.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR ACCESS

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Identify need for additional access	1.0	Survey site(s)	As Needed
	1.1	Receive public comments	On-Going
	1.2	Solicit public comments	Every 10 yrs
2. Construct identified additional facilities	2.0	Complete construction of access road on Greenwood State Forest.	2003 & When budgets permit
	2.1	Complete construction of access road	One Time

		on Cameron Mills State Forest	budgets permit.
	2.2	Construct Parking lot on West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	When budgets permit.
	2.3	Construct Parking Lot on Turkey Ridge State Forest	When budgets permit.
	2.4	Construct two small parking areas on Cameron State Forest	When budget permit.
3. Maintain roads	3.0	Inspect culverts	Bi-Annually
	3.1	Replace inoperable culverts	As Needed
	3.2	Public access roads - Grade and Maintain surface.	Bi-Annually
	3.3	Administrative access roads - Grade and Maintain surface.	Every 5 yrs
	3.4	Mow road right of way.	Annually
	3.5	Establish status of town roads	As Needed
4. Maintain parking areas.	4.0	Maintain all parking areas.	As Needed
	4.1	Maintain curbing	As Needed
	4.2	Maintain regulations signs	Annually
5. Control access.	5.0	Identify the need for gates and signs.	As Needed
	5.1	Construct gates and post signs	As Needed
	5.2	Maintain gates and signs.	Annually
	5.3	Enforce NYS DEC Policies	On-Going
6. Identify state property boundaries.	6.0	Survey, paint, blaze, and post boundary lines.	Every 5 yrs
	6.1	Repair and replace area signs.	On-Going

TIMBER AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

The Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan strives to maintain a balance of vegetative types and vegetative stages. This balance is intended to produce marketable forest resources and enhance wildlife diversity and abundance. Presently, although a variety of vegetative types do occur, a number of vegetative stages do not. Natural regeneration and growth since 1900 has resulted in the development of large acreages of sawtimber stage natural hardwoods stands. Tree planting was conducted from the 1930's to the 1970's. Many of the species were planted off-site, which has resulted in large acres of older declining conifer plantations. Consequently, very young vegetative stages are lacking.

In order to create a better distribution of the vegetative stages over the entire unit, forest products will be sold. The harvests will be accomplished using a variety of silvicultural techniques such as altering rotation length, converting even-age stands to uneven-aged stands, establishing protection areas to maintain and enhance diversity, and reserving ecologically sensitive areas such as stream banks, wetlands, and steep slopes from intensive management. Protection areas receive special consideration whenever management activities are planned which may impact these areas. Examples include: increased use of erosion control devices, seasonal harvest limitations, restrictions of type and/or size of

harvesting equipment, and restricted skid trail layout. Some protection areas are restricted from all harvest of forest products. These practices may also be employed on other areas not designated as protection forest whenever site or vegetation protection is needed. Examples are: Poorly drained soils, slopes over 15%, presence of historical or archeological features, recreational use, wildlife considerations, and preparation for forest regeneration.

All sales over \$500, or with high demand, will be publically bid. All sales will be administrated by a state forester, using standard "DEC Sale of Forest Products" contracts. All payments are in advance of harvesting. Revenue contracts over \$10,000 require a performance bond. Sales under \$10,000 may require a performance bond at the discretion of regional staff.

The establishment of conifers through planting and natural regeneration has created a significant conifer component, and it is important to maintain them as a component of the ecosystem. Natural regeneration often supply the necessary coniferous component. However, planting may be used to help maintain a conifer component.

Oak and chestnut are desirable tree species to have on the Unit, however, some past management practices and diseases have discriminated against these species. For example, since the early 1980's Gypsy Moth has periodically defoliated areas of forest and since the early 1900's chestnut blight has killed off most of the chestnuts from the forests. Selective harvesting has favored shade tolerant species such as beech and maple. Shade intolerant oak seedlings are not able to survive under these conditions. The objective is to maintain and enhance these species in the Unit by using current knowledge of oak silviculture and employing new silvicultural techniques that develop from research. Should a treatment to control chestnut blight, or resistant trees be developed, efforts would be made to bring back the chestnut to the area.

Forest regeneration has been so complete on the Canisteo River Basin Unit that a need exists to create and maintain at least a small portion of the Unit as grassland. Grassy vegetation provides valuable habitat for many popular game species and rare protected species and is also a desirable ecotype when soil protection is an objective. Clearing and reseeding through timber harvest contracts, additional service work, and oil and gas activities can accomplish the establishment of grasslands. Maintenance through regular mowing roughly every third year is also necessary.

Various endemic and epidemic occurrences of insect, diseases, fires and storms periodically impact the vegetative communities of the Canisteo River Basin Management Unit. Infestations of introduced insects such as Gypsy Moth and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid are of present concern and bear persistent monitoring. Native insect species such as Pear Thrips and Fall Cankerworms are cyclic in population and may be expected to impact vegetation at some time in the future as they have in the past.

Some levels of insect, disease and natural disaster are recognized as being a beneficial factor in shaping our vegetation, although quantifiable standards are not presently available.

The professional foresters of NYS DEC will continue to observe the effects of these factors which influence the vegetation on the unit. Management actions may be then able to lesson undesirable impacts.

A forest inventory is recommended every 10 years.

See appendix E for a listing of forest management plans, by stand number.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR VEGETATION
(percent based on forest acreage)

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Maintain knowledge of forest stands.	1.0	Perform State Forest and Wildlife Management Area inventory.	Every 10 yrs
2. Maintain healthy vegetation	2.0	Practice Integrated Pest Management	On-Going
	2.1	Reduce deer population, to reduce damage to the low growing vegetation.	Annually
3. State Forest Develop the following balance.			
2% openings	3.0	Develop 20 acres of open grassland from Seedling/Sapling/Brush.	Over 10 yrs
	3.1	Maintain with a 3 yr rotation	Annually
8% Protection forest	3.2	Protect 609 acres.	On-Going
8% Uneven Age silviculture, at a 20 yr cutting cycle.	3.3	Regenerate an average of 32 acres	Annually
72% Even Age silviculture, at 100 yr rotation.	3.4	Regenerate an average of 60 acres	Annually
	3.5	Thin an average of 60 acres.	Annually
4. Helmer Creek Wildlife Management	4.0	Uneven aged silviculture after 2.1 is achieved, 20 year cycle.	?
5. West Cameron Wildlife Management	5.0	Even Aged silviculture after 2.1 is achieved, 100 year cycle.	?

WATERSHED AND WETLANDS PROTECTION

The ECL dictates that among other purposes State Forests within this Unit be managed for watershed protection. This is also clearly consistent with Wildlife Management Area objectives and sound conservation practices and public desires. Watershed management is specifically mentioned in the Reforestation Act of 1929. Timber Harvesting Guidelines which are mandatory for all silvicultural practices on state lands, require specific conservation practices which protect soils and water quality. These guidelines are mandatory on all silvicultural practices on state forest lands. Compliance with the New York State Freshwater Wetlands Act (ECL Article 24) and the Water Resources Law (ECL Article 15, Title 5) is required by NYS DEC when conducting management activities or construction projects that involve regulated activities within protected wetlands, water bodies, or streams. Regulated activities within protected wetlands, streams and waterbodies include such things as clear-cutting vegetation and construction of ponds or road crossings. Normal maintenance and repair of existing structures is generally exempt from permit requirements. Well-managed water resources have multiple benefits, including quality fish and wildlife habitats, aesthetically pleasing sites, ground water protection, and flood water retention.

Needs for small dug-outs and a larger wetland development is elicited in the objectives for "Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat".

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR WATERSHED AND WETLANDS

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Protect water and wetland resources	1.0	Utilize Best Management Practices (BMP's) for water quality on timber sales.	On-Going
	1.1	Control erosion through proper road maintenance.	On-Going
	1.2	Comply with the Water resources Law and Wetlands Acts.	Freshwater On-Going
	1.3	Comply with General Stormwater SPDES Permit.	On-Going
	1.4	Use erosion control measures in standard Agricultural lease agreements on Wildlife Management Areas	On-Going

FISH AND WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

The Wildlife objectives for the unit focus on: (1) enhancing overall species diversity and abundance by protecting rare and endangered species; (2) achieving the appropriate size for wildlife populations; (3) providing information about wildlife; (4) knowing the status and distribution of species; and, (5) employing and demonstrating wildlife habitat management techniques.

The preservation of rare and endangered species, Objective 1, involves direct and indirect protection through law enforcement and critical habitat management efforts. Objective 2, determining and achieving the appropriate size for populations, involves measures of public satisfaction with wildlife-related recreation and relief from nuisance and damage on adjacent properties. Achieving the appropriate size involves advocating public use of the resource as described in the section on Public Recreation and Use.

Objective 3, meeting the public desire for information about wildlife, can involve on-site educational material and general extension material for mass distribution. The Department supports the use of state lands as living classrooms for all ages. The development of on-site educational material can involve considerations of aesthetics, cost of maintenance and vandalism. Guided tours and educational presentations are rarely given due to staffing limitations.

Objective 4, knowing the status of species, may involve samples or direct counts, during various seasons of the year. They may involve counts of animals, signs of activity, measures of presence or absence, harvest information, distribution, density, productivity, mortality or user surveys.

Objective 5, habitat management activities, will involve creating habitat types that favor desirable species. These may be species desired for consumptive use, observation or ecological indicator species. In addition, habitat management to improve or create habitats for rare and endangered species that occur in the

Canisteo River Basin Unit will be encouraged.

The most significant wildlife habitat management practice that will be applied to the Canisteo Basin Unit is timber harvesting. Maintaining a diversity of successional forest stages will provide for the greatest diversity of wildlife species.

Conifer stands are an important component of the predominantly hardwood stands in the unit and should receive special consideration to insure that they remain as a component in future stands. Conifer stands adjacent to steep south and west facing hardwood slopes are particularly important as deer wintering habitat. Management of natural conifer stands should be designed to include multiple age classes if possible.

Nesting and roosting sites found in tree cavities will also be managed. Cutting prescriptions of pole size timber will allow for the eventual establishment of cavity trees. Similarly, in older forest stands, existing cavity trees will remain in the stand at a rate of at least three hardwood and two softwood dens per acre. Where feasible, dead trees and snags will be left at a similar rate for all timber sales.

The creation and maintenance of permanent openings in the forest is a practice known to favor many species of wildlife. Roadsides and log landings can be seeded and maintained as openings for long periods at minimal cost while timber harvests can create temporary openings. Openings at a rate of 3 to 5 acres per 100 acres of forest are desirable. Existing permanent openings on several forest units within the unit will be maintained by periodic mowing.

Forest fragmentation is an important issue in maintaining some wildlife species that require large expanses of unbroken forest. State lands tend to provide this type of habitat in western New York where the land use is heavily influenced by farming. Species such as black bear and bobcat are becoming more common as abandoned farmland reverts to forest adjacent to the state lands which often provide the core of these large forested areas.

Sufficient harvest of deer to maintain reasonable population levels is in and of itself an important habitat management tool. Deer have the ability to significantly affect the forest environment which in turn has impacts on many other wildlife species. Loss of regeneration of important tree species is only part of the problem created when too many deer occupy the range. Many herbaceous plant species are lost or suppressed and the entire lower forest structure may be lost. Providing access for and encouraging deer hunters to utilize these lands is important as well as providing the necessary licenses and permits to harvest sufficient deer.

Several forests within the Canisteo River Basin Unit are important habitat for the threatened timber rattlesnake. These areas need to be better identified, protected from activities that would prove detrimental to the snakes and managed to provide optimum habitat conditions. Usually the most critical habitat element (den sites) is on very steep slopes that are protected because of their inaccessibility. However, manipulation of the habitat in these areas including timber harvest may be desirable to remove shading of the sites or encourage undergrowth that provides security and hunting areas for snakes. Any activities in these areas should be reviewed carefully to ensure that it is compatible with the survival of threatened species.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR WILDLIFE

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Create and maintain wetland environs	1.0	Develop small water hole dug-outs at a rate of 1 per 320 acres to act as amphibian activity centers.	As opportunities arise
2. Maintain and enhance consistently used deer wintering areas	2.0	Re-inventory and identify sites where vegetative management would enhance the site.	On-going
3. Provide diverse forest wildlife habitat through forest management:			
Identify and maintain 10% of forest in a rotation dedicated to seedling sapling size class.	3.0	Develop stand rotation and implement plan.	On-going
Provide denning and nesting sites throughout the forest.	3.1	Identify and maintain 3 dead snags and 3 den trees per acre in stands being treated.	On-going
Maintain coniferous forest for associated wildlife species.	3.2	Retain and regenerate conifers. Some planting may be necessary.	On-going
4. Identify and protect timber rattlesnake denning sites.	4.0	Revise historic and verbal reports of den locations and survey suspected locations.	On-going
5. Maintain open areas for wildlife species.	5.0	Maintain existing openings by periodic mowing (see Vegetation).	At least every 3 yrs
	5.1	Create new openings in conjunction with other activities such as new roads.	On-going
6. Identify and preserve wehrle's salamander habitat on the West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	6.0	Survey and identify suspected habitat.	On-Going
	6.1	Preserve habitat.	On-Going

PUBLIC RECREATION AND USE

One goal of the NYS DEC is to provide suitable opportunities for the public enjoyment of compatible recreational pursuits in a natural setting. NYS DEC is charged under Environmental Conservation Law with guaranteeing that the "widest range of beneficial uses" of the environment is attained "without unnecessary degradation or other undesirable or unintended consequences." The public has an undeniable stake in identifying both "beneficial uses" and "undesirable consequences." Recreational program opportunities for people with disabilities will be planned in perspective with those available elsewhere in the Region on NYS DEC lands. For a list see appendix D.

Wildlife-related recreation, including hunting and trapping, is a dominant and important use of the NYSDEC lands in the Canisteo River Basin Unit. Wildlife users are encouraged to adhere to standards of equitable distribution, humane treatment, fair chase, ethics and the maintenance of the variety and quality of use. Additional recreational pursuits will continue to be allowed to the extent that they are compatible with habitat integrity, wildlife use and financial resources. Wildlife viewing is also encouraged in an environmentally responsible manner.

Administrative and public access roads add to existing logging roads and gas pipelines to form an excellent network to access recreational opportunities.

In keeping with current State Forest policy, camping and day use picnicking are acceptable recreational uses of Cameron Pond on Cameron State Forest. There are no immediate plans for increased recreational facilities at this location. Possibilities include investigating the potential for improved access for people with disabilities and a launch for "car top" boats. Only muscle and electric powered boats allowed. Dispersed recreation will continue to be encouraged over the entire Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan Area.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Its Influence on Management Actions for Recreation and Related Facilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), along with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title V, Section 504, have had a profound effect on the manner by which people with disabilities are afforded equality in their recreational pursuits. The ADA is a comprehensive law prohibiting discrimination against people with disabilities in employment practices, use of public transportation, use of telecommunication facilities and use of public accommodations. Title II of the ADA applies to the Department and requires, in part, that reasonable modifications must be made to its services and programs, so that when those services and programs are viewed in their entirety, they are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This must be done unless such modification would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the service, program or activity or an undue financial or administrative burden to the Department. Since recreation is an acknowledged public accommodation program of the Department, and there are services and activities associated with that program, the Department has the mandated obligation to comply with the ADA, Title II and ADA Accessibility Guidelines, as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The ADA requires a public entity to thoroughly examine each of its programs and services to determine the level of accessibility provided. The examination involves the identification of all existing programs and services and a formal assessment to determine the degree of accessibility provided to each. The assessment includes the use of the standards established by Federal Department of Justice Rule as delineated by the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG, either adopted or proposed) and/or the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, as appropriate. Each Unit Management Plan prepared by the Department will outline a proposed assessment process and a schedule for completing the assessment. This activity is dependent on obtaining an inventory of all the recreational facilities or assets supporting the programs and services available on the unit. The assessment will also establish the need for new or upgraded facilities or assets necessary to meet ADA mandates. The Department is not required to make each of its existing facilities and assets accessible. The facilities or assets proposed in this UMP are identified in the "Proposed Management Recommendations" section.

The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines

The ADA requires public agencies to employ specific guidelines which ensure that buildings, facilities, programs and vehicles as addressed by the ADA are accessible in terms of architecture and design, transportation and communication to individuals with disabilities. A federal agency known as the Access Board has issued the ADAAG for this purpose. The Department of Justice Rule provides authority to these guidelines.

Currently adopted ADAAG address the built environment: buildings, ramps, sidewalks, rooms within buildings, etc. The Access Board has proposed guidelines to expand ADAAG to cover outdoor developed facilities: trails, camp grounds, picnic areas and beaches. The proposed ADAAG is contained in the September, 1999 Final Report of the Regulatory Negotiation Committee for Outdoor Developed Areas.

ADAAG apply to newly constructed structures and facilities and alterations to existing structures and facilities. Further, it applies to fixed structures or facilities, i.e., those that are attached to the earth or another structure that is attached to the earth. Therefore, when the Department is planning the construction of new recreational facilities, assets that support recreational facilities, or is considering an alteration of existing recreational facilities or the assets supporting them, it must also consider providing access to the facilities or elements for people with disabilities. The standards which exist in ADAAG or are contained in the proposed ADAAG also provide guidance to achieve modifications to trails, picnic areas, campgrounds, campsites and beaches in order to obtain programmatic compliance with the ADA.

ADAAG Application

Current and proposed ADAAG will be used in assessing existing facilities or assets to determine compliance to accessibility standards. ADAAG is not intended or designed for this purpose, but using it to establish accessibility levels lends credibility to the assessment result. Management recommendations in each UMP will be proposed in accordance with the ADAAG for the built environment, the proposed ADAAG for outdoor developed areas, the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Codes, and other appropriate guiding documents. Until such time as the proposed ADAAG becomes an adopted rule of the Department of Justice, the Department is required to use the best information available to comply with the ADA; this direction includes the proposed guidelines.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR RECREATION

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Identify additional recreation needs.	1.0	Receive public input.	On-Going
	1.1	Monitor use patterns	On-Going
	1.2	Assess user satisfaction from comments received.	On-Going
2. Coordinate with volunteer groups to construct and/or maintain existing and/or future recreational facilities.	2.0	Identify resources and/or volunteer groups to form additional partnerships.	On-Going

3. Determine feasibility and/or compatibility of proposed additional recreational opportunities.	3.0	In house review of proposed projects	As Needed
	3.1	Negotiate with sponsoring volunteer groups.	As Needed
	3.2	Enter into agreements with volunteer groups to provide additional recreation.	As-Needed
4. Provide additional recreational opportunities.	4.0	Maintain and improve access for persons with disabilities.	On-Going
	4.1	Provide technical support for volunteer groups.	As-Needed
	4.2	Construct barriers to discourage motorized use of skid trails and abandoned roads after logging operations.	As Needed
	4.3	Add rock to harden the trails to the beaver ponds on Cameron State Forest on Gulf Rd. and Stonehouse Rd.	2003
	4.4	Construct new facilities as appropriate.	As Needed
5. Advocate wildlife-based recreation	5.0	Encourage hunting and trapping according to State regulations.	On-Going
6. Maintain existing and future recreational facilities.	6.0	See Maintenance and Facilities	On-Going
7. Increase awareness of public recreation opportunities.	7.0	Provide brochures and maps for users.	Update Every 5 yrs
	7.1	Place kiosks at parking areas	One Time
8. Enhance visual appeal	8.0	Create scenic vistas.	As-Needed
	8.1	Establish a litter-free environment by promoting carry in/carry out policy.	On-Going
	8.2	Remove litter from state land.	As-Needed

UNIT MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

The goal is to maintain the facilities on the unit to ensure its integrity and character. This must be done with the resources available.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Maintain constructed ponds/potholes.	1.0	Inspect for problems.	Annually
	1.1	Repair dikes, control boxes, etc	As Needed
	1.2	Mow dikes/dams	Every 3 yrs
	1.3	Excavate bottom of ponds.	As Needed

2. Solicit volunteer groups to help maintain facilities	2.0	Promote Adopt a Natural Resource Program.	On-Going
	2.1	Enter into agreements with volunteer groups.	On-Going
3. Maintain existing and future recreational facilities.	3.0	Identify needed maintenance	On-Going
	3.1	Do the needed maintenance, as money allows.	On-Going
	3.2	Enhance law enforcement efforts.	On-Going

LAND ACQUISITION

It is not NYS DEC's goal to significantly enlarge the size of the state owned land within the Canisteo River Basin Unit. However, certain parcels will be considered for purchase if they contain rare, endangered or threatened species in NY; improve access; or consolidate public ownership by eliminating inholding. It should be clearly understood that the Department intends to acquire these parcels from willing sellers as funding becomes available.

Staff has also identified access issues concerning Canacadea State Forest. The railroad line which forms the northern border of the Canacadea State Forest is currently embargoed. This line is owned by a multi - county rail authority. Should this line be abandoned, NYS DEC should actively pursue acquisition of as much of the right - of - way as necessary to assure access to State Route 21

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR LAND ACQUISITION

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Provide improved access to the Canisteo River Basin Unit.	1.0	Identify land acquisition needs.	On-Going
	1.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	On-Going
2. Consolidate public ownership by eliminating inholdings.	2.0	Identify land acquisition needs.	On-Going
	2.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	On-Going
3. Enhance recreational opportunity.	3.0	Identify land acquisition needs.	On-Going
	3.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	On-Going
4. Protect significant ecological areas.	4.0	Identify land acquisition needs.	On-Going
	4.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	On-Going

MINERAL RESOURCES

Any activity involving the procurement of resources from the mineral estate are administered and regulated by the NYS DEC Division of Mineral Resources. This includes the leasing of the mineral estate, and compliance with terms of a lease agreement. Operations involved in extracting mineral resources, such as siting, drilling and production are regulated by the NYS DEC Division of Mineral Resources.

The surface estate is managed through the NYS DEC Division of Lands and Forests or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine. In the event the surface estate is to be used in the evaluation and/or extraction of mineral resources from state lands a Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) must be obtained from the NYS DEC Division of Lands and Forests prior to conducting any operations. It should be noted that if the mineral estate is under a lease agreement, only the lessee, or entities authorized by the Lessee, will be issued a TRP for these purposes. It is NYS DEC policy to recommend excluding drilling in areas with sensitive habitats (stream banks, wetlands, steep slopes, rare communities etc.) or intensive recreational use. Sites recommended to be excluded from drilling and/or other surface occupancy for mining, are listed in appendix G, Maps "Recommended Exclusions for Surface Occupancy." Any proposal for mineral development other than oil and gas would require SEQR review and Environmental Impact Statements.

At the time of the writing of this plan, oil and gas leases for underground gas storage exist on Rock Creek, Greenwood and Cameron State Forests. In addition, a five year exploration and development lease is in effect on Canacadea State Forest, this lease was approved by the NYS DEC in April / May of 1998, for a primary term of 5 years, "and so long thereafter as oil and or gas may be produced in paying quantities". As of the writing of this plan, no gas production has occurred, and at the end of the five years the lease will end and the mineral rights returned to New York State.

Procedures

Often oil and gas companies have an interest in exploring and developing oil and gas reserves under NYS DEC lands. In those instances, the NYS DEC will receive requests to nominate specific lands for leasing of the mineral rights. Prior to leasing, on lands where 100% of the mineral estate is owned by New York State, a thorough review of the lands nominated for leasing is conducted to determine:

1. Which portions of areas can be leased with full rights granted (100% surface entry),
2. Which portions of areas may require special environmental and safety conditions, and
3. Which portions of areas may be leased with no surface-disturbance/entry conditions (non-drilling clause).

This review is conducted by the area's land manager (Division of Lands and Forests or Division of Fish and Wildlife) in coordination with the Division of Mineral Resources. A tract assessment is then conducted that identifies sensitive resources of the unit. These resources include certain management strategies, wetland, riparian zones, steep slopes, recreational trails and areas, unique ecological communities, habitat of rare and endangered species, archeological and cultural sites and scenic vistas and view sheds.

If it is determined that oil and gas exploration and development can proceed on state minerals, a lease sale is conducted. The Division of Mineral Resources is the oil and gas leasing agent for all state land, except New York State OPRHP park lands. Lease sales are then conducted through a competitive bid

process administered by the Division of Mineral Resources and in accordance with Title 6 of the Conservation Law Chapter V, Subchapter B Mineral Resources, and in accordance with State Finance Law. Revenues from State Reforestation Areas and Multiple Use Areas (State Forests) are deposited into the General Fund while revenues from Wildlife Management Areas are deposited into the Conservation Fund.

In the event leases are granted and the drilling of a well is desired by the lessee on the leased property, an Application for Permit to Drill, Deepen, Plug Back or Convert a Well Subject to the Oil, Gas and Solution Mining Law (form 85-12-5) must be submitted to the Division of Mineral Resources. Site-specific impacts will then be identified by NYS DEC staff during the SEQR permit review process and inspection of the proposed well site. The Generic Environmental Impact Statement is used to guide the Department in determining whether the proposal will have a significant impact on the environment. Conditions are then attached to the drilling permit as well as issuing a Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) to cover the surface impacts.

Once the proposal is approved, a drilling permit with site specific conditions is issued by the Division of Mineral Resources along with a Temporary Revocable Permit issued by either the Division of Lands and Forests or Fish and Wildlife. These permits are enforced by their respective programs and are designed to prevent and/or mitigate environmental impacts. Site inspections are conducted by the Division of Mineral Resources to ensure compliance with Article 23 of the Environmental Conservation Law and 6NYCRR Part 550. The Division of Lands and Forests or Fish and Wildlife will also inspect the site to ensure compliance with the TRP.

Surface Use for Evaluation of Mineral Resources

In the event a party desires to use the surface estate to conduct geophysical (such as a seismic survey), geochemical and/or surface sampling procedures on Department lands prior to, or after leasing they must first obtain a Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) for the access and use of state lands. If the area is subject to a lease agreement, only the lessee, or parties authorized by the lessee, can be issued a TRP for these purposes. A TRP can be applied for through the NYSDEC Division of Lands and Forests, 7291 Coon Road, Bath, New York 14810.

For further information contact the NYSDEC Mineral Resource staff, Region 8, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, New York 14414-9591. Or the New York State: Department of Environmental Conservation- Division of Mineral Resources- Bureau of Oil and Gas Regulation, 3rd Floor, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR MINERAL RESOURCES

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Decide to approve or not approve extraction of mineral resources, per a lease agreement.	1.0	Nominated properties are reviewed by Division of Mineral Resources and Division of Lands and Forests and Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine per above process.	Every Time

If leasing is permitted...

2.	Execute lease.	2.0	Division of Mineral Resources conducts lease sale of nominated properties approved for lease sale through competitive bid process.	Every Time
3.	Regulate operations; and access surface estate to extract mineral resources.	3.0	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine reviews proposed operations and if approved, issues a "Temporary Revocable Permit" (TRP)	Every Time
		3.1	Division of Mineral Resources reviews proposed operation and issues "Drilling Permit" or "Mining Permit". DMR inspects and regulates operations, production and administers royalty payments to State.	Every Time
4.	Monitor/confirm site reclamation & well plugging	4.0	Division of Mineral Resources enforces Rules & Regulations related to well plugging and site reclamation..	Every Time
		4.1	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine enforces the TRP provisions and surface reclamation	Every Time
5.	Administer mineral estate	5.0	Division of Mineral Resources monitors lease, production and royalty payments	Every Time
6.	Pipeline access and construction	6.0	Granted and directed by terms of lease agreement administered by Division of Minerals.	Every Time
		6.1	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine reviews proposed operations and if approved, issues a "Temporary Revocable Permit" (TRP)	Every Time
		6.2	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine enforce TRP provisions.	Every Time

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

The archaeological sites located within this land unit as well as additional unrecorded sites that may exist on the property are protected by the provisions of the New York State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA - Article 14 PRHPL), Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of Education Law. No actions that would impact these resources are proposed in this Unit Management Plan. Should any such actions be proposed in the future they will be reviewed in accordance with SHPA. Unauthorized excavation and removal of materials from any of these sites is prohibited by Article 9 of Environmental Conservation Law and Section 233 of Education Law.

The Archaeological sites located on this land unit as well as additional unrecorded sites that may exist on the property will be made available for appropriate research. All future archaeological research to be conducted on the property will be accomplished under the auspices of all appropriate permits. Research permits will be issued only after consultation with the New York State Museum and the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Extensive excavations are not contemplated as part of any research program in order to assure that the sites are available to future researchers who are likely to have more advanced tools and techniques as well as different research questions.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR HISTORICAL SITES

Management Objectives	Mgt. Action	Management Actions	Frequency of Action
1. Preservation of historical and archaeological resources.	1.0	Avoid any activity which may disturb any historical and/or archaeological resources.	On-Going
	1.1	Comply with state historic preservation act.	On-Going

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

INITIAL MAILING

Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan's citizen participation activities commenced with a June 15, 2001 mailing outlining management plan objectives. An attached mailer requested address corrections and a preliminary round of public comments due July 13, 2001.

The initial mailing's targeted audience consisted of previously identified:

- adjacent property owners,
- local government officials,
- recreational groups,
- forest industry groups,
- wildlife groups and
- other general environmental groups.

Based on those returned and other public comments received, the mailing list was amended to add other interested parties and/or correct outdated names and addresses.

The public comments received from the initial mailing is listed in Appendix B, with a summary in the Summary of Identified Issues section starting on page 16.

SECOND MAILING

Upon completion of the draft Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan, a second fact sheet was sent to those on the updated mail list, including the media, summarizing objectives of the draft plan, listing local document repositories and announcing a public meeting. Repositories included local libraries, the Bath and Avon NYS DEC offices and on the Internet. A notice was posted in the Environmental Notices Bulletin (ENB) two weeks prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING

One public meeting will be held near the Canisteo River Basin Unit Management area to present the draft plan and receive comments on it. Following the end of a 30-day public comment period, modifications based on public comment were made and a responsiveness summary was added as an appendix to the final plan (appendix B).

FINAL NOTICE

Commentators and those on the updated mail list will receive a notice of availability of the final plan. Document repositories will again be identified and any significant modifications based on public comment will be noted.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS SUMMARY

Priority codes:

C=Critical, Necessary to ensure public health and safety; To stabilize structures so as to not lose the money and time invested in them; Mandated by legislation.

H=High, Necessary for public use, and/or to improve habitat or other natural resources. Often this will be for new projects.

L=Low, Important for the enhancement of public use, habitats or other natural resources.

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est.10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments
Access	1.0	Survey Site(s)	L	As Needed	10 Work Days	
	1.1	Receive public comments	C	On Going	10 Work Days	
	1.2	Solicit public comments	C	Every 10 yrs	15 Work Days	
	2.0	Complete construction of access road on Greenwood State Forest.	H	2003 & When budgets permit	\$70,000	
	2.1	Complete construction of access road on Cameron Mills State Forest	H	One Time	\$100,000	
	2.2	Construct Parking lot on West Camcron Wildlife Management Area	H	One Time	\$6,000	
	2.3	Construct Parking Lot on Turkey Ridge State Forest	H	One Time	\$6,000	
	2.4	Construct two small parking areas on Cameron State Forest	H	When budgets permit.	\$7,000	
	3.0	Inspect culverts	C	Bi-Annually	20 Work Days	

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments
Access	3.1	Replace inoperable culverts	C	As Needed	\$50,000	
	3.2	Public access roads - Grade and Maintain surface.	H	Bi-Annually	25 Work Days	
	3.3	Administrative access roads - Grade and Maintain surface.	H	Every 5 years	30 Work Days	
	3.4	Mow road right of way.	H	Annually	200 Work Day	
	3.5	Establish status of Town roads	L	As Needed	5 Work Days	
	4.0	Maintain all parking areas	H	Annually	10 Work Days	
	4.1	Maintain curbing	H	As Needed	\$10,000	
	4.2	Maintain regulation signs	C	Annually	\$7,500	
	5.0	Identify the need for gates and signs.	C	As Needed	10 Work Days	
	5.1	Construct gates and post sign	C	As Needed	20 Work Days	
	5.2	Maintain gates and signs.	H	Annually	\$10,000	
	5.3	Enforce NYS DEC Policies	C	On-Going	\$250,000	
	6.0	Survey, paint, blaze, and post boundary lines.	H	Every 5 yrs	260 Work Days	
6.1	Repair and replace area signs.	H	On-Going	\$8,000		

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments	
Vegetation	1.0	Perform State Forest and Wildlife Management Area inventories.	C	Every 10 yrs	200 Work Days		
	2.0	Practice Integrated Pest Management	C	On-Going	20 to 50 Work Days		
	2.1	Reduce deer population, to reduce damage to the low growing vegetation.	H	Annually	--	--	
	3.0	Develop 20 acres of open grassland from seedling/sapling/brush	L	Over 10 yrs	20 Work Days		
	3.1	Maintain with a 3 yr rotation	H	Annually	\$14,000		
	3.2	Protect 609 acres.	H	On-Going	--	--	
	3.3	Regenerate an average of 32 acres (uneven aged, 20 yr cutting cycle)	H	Annually		\$32,000	Based on \$100/Acre
	3.4	Regenerate an average of 60 acres (even, 100 yr)	H	Every 10 yrs		\$600,000	Based on \$1,000/Acre
	3.5	Thin an average of 60 acres.	H	Every 10 yrs		\$120,000	Based on \$200/Acre
	4.0	Uneven aged silviculture after 2.1 is achieved, 20 year cycle.	H	?	--	--	
5.0	Even Aged silviculture after 2.1 is achieved, 100 year cycle.	H	?	--	--		
Watershed and Wetland	1.0	Utilize Best Management Practices (BMP's) for water quality on timber sales.	C	On-Going	--	--	

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments	
Watershed and Wetlands	1.1	Control erosion through proper road maintenance.	C	On-Going	\$20,000	—	See Access
	1.2	Comply with the Protection of Waters and Freshwater Wetlands Acts.	C	On-Going	--	--	
	1.3	Comply with General Stormwater SPDES permit.	C	On-Going	--	--	
	1.4	Use erosion control measures in standard Agricultural lease agreements on Wildlife Management Areas	C	On-Going	--	--	
Fish and Wildlife and Habitat	1.0	Develop small water hole dug-outs at a rate of 1 per 320 acres to act as amphibian activity centers.	L	As opportunities arise	\$40,000		
	2.0	Re-inventory and identify sites where vegetative management would enhance the site.	L	On going	20 Work Days		
	3.0	Develop stand rotation and implement plan.		On-going			
	3.1	Identify and maintain 3 dead snags and 3 den trees per acre in stands being treated.	H	On-going	--	--	See Vegetation
	3.2	Retain and regenerate conifers. Some planting may be necessary.	H	On-going	--	--	See Vegetation
	4.0	Revise historic and verbal reports of den locations and survey suspected locations.	H	On-going	20 Work Days		
	5.0	Maintain existing openings by periodic mowing (see Vegetation).	H	At least every 3 yrs	--	--	See Vegetation

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments	
Fish and Wildlife and Habitat	5.1	Create new openings in conjunction with other activities such as new roads.	L	On-going	--	--	See Vegetation and Access
	6.0	Survey and identify suspected habitat.	H	On-Going	20 Work Days		
	6.1	Preserve habitat.	H	On-Going	?		Unable to predict costs.
Public Recreation and Use	1.0	Receive public opinion.	C	On-Going	10 Work Days		
	1.1	Monitor use patterns	C	On-Going	20 Work Days		
	1.2	Assess user satisfaction from comments received.	H	On-Going	20 Work Days		
	2.0	Identify resources and/or volunteer groups to form additional partnerships.	L	On-Going	10 Work Days		
	3.0	In house review of proposed projects.	L	As Needed	10 Work Days		
	3.1	Negotiate with sponsoring volunteer groups.	L	As Needed	10 Work Days		
	3.2	Enter into agreements with volunteer groups to provide additional recreation.	L	As-Needed	10 Work Days		
	4.0	Maintain and improve access for persons with disabilities.	C	On-Going	?		Unable to predict costs.
	4.1	Provide technical support for volunteer groups.	L	As-Needed	?		Unable to predict costs.

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments
Public Recreation and Use	4.2	Construct barriers to discourage motorized use of skid trails and abandoned roads after logging operations.	C	As Needed	?	Unable to predict costs.
	4.3	Add rock to harden the trails to the Beaver ponds on Cameron State Forest on Gulf Rd. and Stonehouse Rd.	H	As Needed	\$3,000	
	4.4	Construct new facilities as appropriate.	L	As Needed	\$1,000 to \$100,000	
	5.0	Encourage hunting and trapping according to State regulations.	C	On-Going	--	--
	6.0	See Maintenance and Facilities	--	On-Going	--	--
	7.0	Provide brochures and maps for users.	H	Update Every 5 yrs	50 Work Days	
	7.1	Place kiosks at parking areas	H	One Time	\$15,000	
	8.0	Create scenic vistas.	L	As-Needed	\$5,000	
	8.1	Establish a litter-free environment by promoting carry in/carry out policy.	H	On-Going	\$2,000	
	8.2	Remove litter from state land.	L	As-Needed	150 Work Days	
Unit Maintenance and Facility Management	1.0	Inspect for problems.	C	Annually	10 Work Days	
	1.1	Repair dikes, control boxes, etc.	C	As Needed	\$20,000	
	1.2	Mow dikes/dams	H	Every 3 yrs	40 Work Days	

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments
	1.3	Excavate bottom of ponds.	C	As Needed	\$20,000	
	2.0	Promote Adopt a Natural Resource Program.	L	On-Going	?	Unable to predict costs.
	2.1	Enter into agreements with volunteer groups.	L	On-Going	?	Unable to predict costs.
	3.0	Identify needed maintenance	L	On-Going	10 Work Days	
	3.1	Do the needed maintenance, as money allows.	C	On-Going	\$1,000 to \$100,000	
	3.2	Enhance law enforcement efforts.	C	On-Going	--	--
Land Acquisition	1.0	Identify land acquisition needs. (Access)	H	On-Going	3 Work Days	
	1.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	H	On-Going	?	Unable to predict costs.
	2.0	Identify land acquisition needs. (Eliminate in holdings)	H	On-Going	1 Work Day	
	2.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	H	On-Going	?	Unable to predict costs.
Land Acquisition	3.0	Identify land acquisition needs. (Recreation)	H	On-Going	3 Work Days	
	3.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	H	On-Going	?	Unable to predict costs.
	4.0	Identify land acquisition needs. (Ecological)	H	On-Going	3 Work Days	

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments	
	4.1	Acquire desired properties from willing sellers as funding permits.	H	On-Going	?		Unable to predict costs.
Mineral Resources	1.0	Nominated properties are reviewed by Division of Mineral Resources and Division of Lands and Forests and Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine per above process.	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	2.0	Division of Mineral Resources conducts lease sale of nominated properties approved for lease sale through competitive bid process.	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs or income.
	3.0	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine reviews proposed operations and if approved, Issues a "Temporary Revocable Permit" (TRP)	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	3.1	Division of Mineral Resources reviews proposed operation and issues "Drilling Permit" or "Mining Permit". DMR inspects and regulates operations, production and administers royalty payments to State.	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs or income.
Mineral Resources	4.0	Division of Mineral Resources enforces Rules & Regulations related to well plugging and site reclamation.	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	4.1	Division of Lands and Forests enforces the TRP provisions and surface reclamation	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	5.0	Division of Mineral Resources monitors lease, production and royalty payments	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.

Management Action Item		Priority Code	Frequency of Action	Est. 10 yr Cost	Est. 10 yr Income	Comments	
	6.0	Granted and directed by terms of lease agreement administered by Division of Minerals.		Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	6.1	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine reviews proposed operations and if approved, Issues a "Temporary Revocable Permit" (TRP)	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	6.2	Division of Lands and Forests and/or Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine enforce TRP provisions.	C	Every Time	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
Arch- acological and Historic Resources	1.0	Avoid any activity which may disturb any historical and/or archaeological resources.	C	On-Going	?	?	Unable to predict costs.
	1.1	Comply with state historic preservation act.	C	On-Going	?	?	Unable to predict costs.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A : ANIMALS ON CANISTEO RIVER BASIN UNIT

BIRDS

BY COMMON NAME, SCIENTIFIC NAME & PROTECTIVE STATUS

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE
Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Common Barn-Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Black-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Parus atricapillus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Black Duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Brewster's Warbler	<i>Vermivora pinus x V. chrysoptera</i>	MBTA	MBTA

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora pinus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Canada Warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Cliff Swallow	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>	MBTA	MBTA
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	MBTA	MBTA

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected
Hooded Warbler	<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>	MBTA	MBTA
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Mourning Warbler	<i>Oporornis philadelphia</i>	MBTA	MBTA

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE
Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Pine Warbler	<i>Dendroica pinus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Prairie Warbler	<i>Dendroica discolor</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Ring-necked Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	protected	protected
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Rufous-sided Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Ruffed Grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	protected	protected
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Otus asio</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Solitary Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	MBTA	MBTA

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected
Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	protected	protected
Tufted Titmouse	<i>Parus bicolor</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Upland Sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Vesper Sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	MBTA	MBTA
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	MBTA	MBTA

MAMMALS

BY COMMON NAME, SCIENTIFIC NAME & PROTECTIVE STATUS

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE	OCCURRENCE
Virginia Opossum	<i>Didelphis virginians</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Masked Shrew	<i>Sorex cinereus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Water Shrew	<i>Sorex palustris</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Smoky Shrew	<i>Sorex fumeus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Northern Short-tailed Shrew	<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Least Shrew	<i>Cryptotis parva</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Hairy-tailed Mole	<i>Parascalops brweri</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Star-nosed Mole	<i>Condylura cristata</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Keen's Bat	<i>Myotis keenii</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	END	END	Poss. Res.
Small-footed Bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Unprotected	Un-spec. concern	Poss. Res.
Silver-haired Bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Eastern Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus subflavus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Big Brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Red Bat	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Hoary Bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Gray Fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Ermine	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Long-tailed Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE	OCCUR-RENCE
Mink	<i>Mustel vison</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Trans.
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Eastern Chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Woodchuck	<i>Marmota morax</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Fox Squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Poss.
Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hunsonicus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Southern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Northern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Poss.
Deer Mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
White-footed Mouse	<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Southern Red-backed Vole	<i>Clethrionokys gapperi</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Meadow Vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Woodland Vole	<i>Microtus pinetorium</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Pos. Res.
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Southern Bog Lekking	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Meadow Jumping Mouse	<i>Zapus hudsonius</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Woodland Jumping Mouse	<i>Napaeozapus ingignis</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Norway Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Eastern Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Varying Hare	<i>Lepus americanus</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Poss.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

BY COMMON NAME, SCIENTIFIC NAME & PROTECTIVE STATUS

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE	OCCURRENCE
Jefferson Salamander	<i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Poss. Res.
Blue-spotted Salamander	<i>Ambystoma laterale</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Poss. Res.
Spotted Salamander	<i>Ambystoma maculatum</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Poss. Res.
Red-spotted Newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Res.
Dusky Salamander	<i>Desmognathus fuscus</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Res.
Mountain Dusky Salamander	<i>Desmognathus ochrophaeus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Redback Salamander	<i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Four-toed Salamander	<i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Spring Salamander	<i>Gyrinophilus porphyriticus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Two-lined Salamander	<i>Eurycea bislineata</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
American Toad	<i>Bufo americanus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Spring Peeper	<i>Hyla crucifer</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Gray Treefrog	<i>Hyla versicolor</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Bullfrog	<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Green Frog	<i>Rana clamitans</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Wood Frog	<i>Rana sylvatica</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Northern Leopard Frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Pickerel Frog	<i>Rana palustris</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Poss. Res.
Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	Unprotected	Game species	Res.
Spotted Turtle	<i>Clemmys guttata</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Wood Turtle	<i>Clemmys insculpta</i>	Unprotected	UN-spec.	Poss. Res.
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	Unprotected	Game sp-spec.	Poss. Res.
Coal Skink	<i>Eumeces anthracinus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	PROTECTIVE STATUS FEDERAL	PROTECTIVE STATUS STATE	OCCUR- RENCE
Northern Water Snake	<i>Nerodia sipedon</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Brown Snake	<i>Storeria dekayi</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Redbelly Snake	<i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Common Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Eastern Ribbon Snake	<i>Thamnophis sauritus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Smooth Green Snake	<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Rat Snake	<i>Elaphe obsoleta</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Poss. Res.
Milk Snake	<i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>	Unprotected	Unprotected	Res.
Timber Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	Unprotected	Threatened	Poss. Res.

RESIDENT FISH SPECIES

BY COMMON NAME AND SCIENTIFIC NAME

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>
Stoneroller	<i>Campostoma anomalum</i>
Common Shiner	<i>Notropis cornutus</i>
Longnose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i>
Blacknose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys atratulus</i>
Creek Chub	<i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i>
Fathead minnow	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>
White Sucker	<i>Catostomus commersoni</i>

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Northern Hogsucker	<i>Hypentelium nigricans</i>
Margined Madtom	<i>Notrus insignis</i>
Rock Bass	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>
Bluegill	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>
Pumpkinseed	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>
Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>
Smallmouth Bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>
Black crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>
Johnny Darter	<i>Etheostoma nigrum</i>
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdi</i>

APPENDIX B : PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC MEETING RESPONSES

Written and verbal comments on the draft plan were received during the July 23, 2002 public meeting held at the Canisteo Town Hall. Written comments were accepted until August 9, 2002. A summary of the comments and DEC responses follows:

- Q: You don't know where Newcomb Hill is. There are two roads there that need maintaining. You must begin patrolling area, especially the parking areas.
- A: Newcomb Hill is know to the NYS DEC as Canacadea State Forest in the Town of Hornellsville. The dirt access roads are being maintained to standards. Rangers patrol this area as often as possible.
- Q: ATVs used for "ramming" area. Trash is terrible. There are too many kids. Last month there was a raid on underage drinking.
- A: Illegal use of ATV's is a problem on most of the lands we manage. In a few cases we have been able to build barriers that reduced the ATV intrusions, but generally they find a way around gates and obstacles. Forest Rangers routinely patrol for ATVs. People who dump trash on state lands are issued Environmental Conservation Appearance Tickets, if unknown the trash is removed annually by the DEC. Young people have the same rights to using the state land as adults. Forest Rangers as well as other law enforcement officers patrol for underage drinking on the state land. The alcohol is confiscated and the underage drinkers are issued Alcohol Beverage Control Law appearance tickets when appropriate. If you were to report problems while the perpetrators were still on the state land we could increase the effectiveness of these trips.
- Q: Do not open up any more of the state forest.
- A: Every attempt is made to maintain the rural character of state forests. However, there are needs to provide both public and administrative access. Only two new access needs have been identified in this management unit. Those are the railroad right of way on Canacadea State Forest and an access road on Cameron Mills State Forest. Both would provide public vehicle access to a parking area. From that point, public access would be limited to non motorized, snowmobile, or access for people with disabilities.
- Q: The crew that mows the road shoulder mows too low. If they raised their mower to at least 6" high I could get oak seedlings to plant on my property.
- A: We mow the shoulders to prevent woody plants from growing and narrowing the road. It isn't legal to take seedlings or other plants from state land. Our nursery sells oak seedlings, we'll be glad to send you an order form.
- Q: There shouldn't be open burning.
- A: The NYS Environmental Conservation Law allows for fires on state forests.

Q: Is there any way to put the gates up again?

A: There is a gate that was opened because it did not have a "stop" sign and a "barrier 200 feet ahead" sign. The signs have been replaced and that gate is now closed.

This is the public's land and the public needs access to it. We do not intend to gate the area to severely restrict public access. We have some gates installed to keep motor vehicles off of old unmaintained logging roads but we have no desire to keep legal users off of the property.

Q: Does forestry get money from oil and gas drilling? That's not fair! Did you know that area's been started (Canacadea State Forest)? Ten percent of funding should go to roads.

A: The bonus payment and royalties from oil and gas leasing goes to the general fund. It takes our office about 200 person-days to oversee seismic testing on state land, drilling and the rehabilitation of the well site, the construction of the pipelines. Often recreation trails need to be temporarily rerouted, which detracts from our other work. New legislation would be required for a percentage of the money used to pay for the work and for maintenance and improvements to the properties that were disturbed. We have issued temporary revocable permits to several firms to do seismic testing on Canacadea State Forest, and yes, we are aware that seismic testing has started on the area.

Q: The Chemung River Basin has new places to launch boats and canoes. Will that eventually go up the Cohocton and Canisteo Rivers?

A: This Unit Management Plan covers the listed State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas, this question is beyond the scope of this plan.

Q: Do you partner with the Finger Lakes Trail?

A: The Finger Lakes Trail Conference has worked in partnership with NYS DEC for many years, and has signed on in the Adopt A Natural Resource Program.

Q: Does the Finger Lakes Trail cross at Webbs Crossing?

A: Yes, the Finger Lakes Trail (FLT) does go through Webbs Crossing, but the only place the FLT is impacted by this Unit Management Plan is when it crosses the northern part of Burt Hill State Forest.

Q: Is there a parking area at Thatcher Brothers? Tuttle Basin Spring? Right-of-way? Is there an agreement with Hanson? It doesn't seem right to use private land for parking for state land. On Route 21, Canacadea Park, would be nice for parking. Use to be a dug road. Don't open the road up. There is a gate at the top. Used to be a Boy Scout camp.

A: There is no parking area at "Thatcher Brothers". The NYS DEC has a 16 foot wide Right of Way from Rt. 21 to Canacadea State Forest. This R.O.W. has limited value because there is no room for a public parking. Access to the north end of this state forest has always been a concern. Should the railroad property ever become available for acquisition, the DEC will actively pursue purchase to improve access. This is outlined in the Unit Management Plan.

Q: Did you ever think of putting up a sign to mark the old homesteads?

A: Yes we did, however, marking all the homesteads on the 47,000 acres we manage isn't practical,

especially the properties that are no longer on a road or trail. We also have a perpetual problem with vandalism of signs. Still, we would like to mark one well documented and accessible homestead on the properties that have a lot of public use. I think a sign that described or had copies of old photographs of the property and people who have lived there would be the best way to explain the story of these born-again forests. This would take help from the families or town historians but it would be a nice enhancement where the information was available.

Q: Why not talk to Thatchers about Bald Hill property?

A: Bald Hill does not adjoin Canacadea State Forest. Acquisitions in recent years have been limited to property consolidation, improving access, and protecting rare plant and animal communities. Acquiring Bald Hill would mean creating a new State Forest. This would require approval and addition to the state open space plan.

Q: I'd like to see the railroad abandoned and converted into paths (for people trails).

A: If the railroad adjoining Canacadea State Forest is abandoned we intend to purchase it. This acquisition is listed in the plan. Purchase of a longer section to make a rail trail would be considered if the railroad bed becomes available, but a rail trail is a separate issue that is beyond the scope of this plan.

Q: Do horses have to use diapers?

A: No.

Q: Four wheelers/ATVs/snowmobiles use railroads.

A: We currently manage two rail trails. Snowmobiles are legal on these as long as the trail is snow covered. ATVs and four wheel drive highway vehicles are a real enforcement problem on those rail trails.

Q: Does the wildlife management section mean no one hunts there?

A: No. Hunting is allowed during the appropriate seasons and with the correct licenses on all of the State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas.

Q: Who decides if we clearcut or selective cut? I hate clearcut. It looks terrible. Not a good thing to do. Why can't you sell it for firewood or chip them? When it's cut and on the ground, will you sometimes sell it for firewood?

A: The method of harvest is decided by the regional forestry staff and is based on many factors including: age of the stand of trees, the species of trees, soil type, age and composition of the nearby forest, wildlife considerations, and the type of trees best suited to the site. Although clear cutting is not always visually attractive, it may be the only practical method to achieve the desired management objective. Leaving branches, limbs, and even whole trees as coarse woody debris is recommended by forest ecologists as a desirable component of a harvest. This material provides organic matter for soil, plus provides habitat for decay fungi, insects, and food and cover wildlife that feed on these organisms. We do occasionally sell material for firewood in small quantities to achieve a special management objective. This is done on a very limited basis.

Q: What's the first sign of deer overpopulation?

A: There are many signs but most are not obvious. In farm country one of the first signs of too many deer will be an increase in complaints of crop damage.

In a forest the early signs are a browse line where all under-story vegetation is eaten as high as a deer can reach and the complete loss of certain species that deer prefer.

Q: Do you have heavy coyote populations throughout that area? Any complaints from farmers about their sheep, calves?

A: Coyote populations vary considerably from one area to another but would not be considered heavy in Steuben County at this time. Occasional complaints are received from farmers relative to loss of sheep or calves but it is a rare occurrence in this area.

INITIAL MAILING RESPONSES

Public Comments from June 15, 2001 mailing to adjacent property owners, recreation groups, etc. These letters were summarized in the SUMMARY OF IDENTIFIED ISSUES section on page 16.

Fish and Wildlife Issues

Keep the forest as pristine as possible. Enhance the area as better habitat for wildlife, protect the soil, purify the water and air.

Would like to see more stocking of game fish in the Cameron Pond.

Turkey Ridge State Forest needs some changes. A gate was at the entrance but not anymore. Hunters drive in the forest and camp there during hunting season; they leave their trash and burn camp fires. I suggest a gate to be put there and make hunters walk in and safe.

Establishment of wildlife food plantings.

I own property up the creak from Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area. The property borders Cameron Mills State Forest. Can it be posted as an endangered species area or whatever? There are large timber rattlers on the property.

The damming of creeks and digging of ponds provide important water sources and should be considered.

I own most of the land (51 of 54 acres) that is in the interior of the Cameron Mills State Forest. Of the ten parcels that constitute the Canisteo River Basin Unit, this is the only one with which I am familiar. This parcel contains many mature oak trees of various species, especially on the ridge tops; these areas show little or no signs of past farming usage. There are many deer but seemingly too few turkeys and grouse. While I have never seen bear there is ample sign, the southern portion just above (east) of Pump Stations Road is mostly open and will be full of warblers when the berries ripen in August. I have been told that rattlesnakes inhabit the bluffs overlooking the river along the southwest portion of the forest.

County promoted as a great place to hunt, more hunters will be coming from outside the area, many of them looking for public lands to hunt on.

Trail and Recreational Issues

Please see that the Finger Lakes Trail corridor is protected from any adverse activities. This should include a buffer zone at the northernmost boundary line of the Burt Hill State Forest.

Recommend public access to areas for hiking, bird-watching, hunting, trapping, fishing, cross-country skiing. Let fairness rule.

We would like to see some camping grounds and picnic areas in West Cameron Wildlife Management Areas and Cameron State Forest.

Try to develop access to Cameron Mills State Forest by the public.

The plan would help bring more people to take advantage of these beautiful sites.

Public access for hunting should be on foot (except for the handicapped), no random four-wheelers. Keep it as wild as possible.

Development of trails for horseback riding could be undertaken.

Development of snowmobile trails using funding from licensing.

We (Canistota planning board) would love to see a recreation area (in Rock Creek State Forest) developed for boating, fishing, etc. We all feel that this would possibly promote tourism and local interest in the Canistota River.

Timber Management Issues

Better management of timber lands. Do not clear cut. Please do selective cutting for timbers.

Timber harvest should be done on a regular basis. However, no mess should have been left as on the Cameron side of the Cameron State Forest several years ago. Half cut trees were left standing, roads and trails were not cleaned out, very poor marks on that timber harvest.

In general, I oppose preservation and encourage management actions that include burns selective harvesting and even clear cuts.

Sites should demonstrate good practices in timber harvesting.

When marking for saleable timber, do not mark for timber stand improvement. Leave the wildlife den and food trees. Wildlife food plots and management as done in Pennsylvania would bring in more money to the state and the local region than the long term timber sales. Yes, harvest the mature trees. Foresters should not allow logging roads or logging in the steep erodable areas as was allowed in Tracey Creek Forest.

Landowners Concerns

Work with the landowners bordering state lands. Erect or post signs stating that hunting with prior permission is OK, instead of posting every tree or bush with a posted sign. I'm sure many landowners would go along with the idea.

We would not enjoy public access, or else we would have bought a farm in the city.

Any access to manage state strategies, that might need to use our land we would like to have an agreement either with the state or it's contractor, to outline reasoning, guidelines, rebuilding the land, etc.

In the event of prescribed burns, we would like an agreement that should such action become unprescribed, thereby causing any change in private property, said property will be put back to its previous character.

We are not in favor of hunting as they trespass onto our property, public recreation access for the same reasons as well as noise and air pollution nor timber and prescribed burns due to damage from huge vehicles which ruin our already poor road and /or burns getting out of control, plus smoke. Other areas not squeezed in between private property would be great for recreational purposes, plus wildlife sanctuaries.

Anything that the state or federal government gets involves in turns out not what the people want, being that my land borders on state land, (Burt Hill State Forest) it leaves a lot to be desired.

Oil and Gas Leasing

The area in this (Burt Hill State Forest) zone which should include the limits as well as the trail, should be at the least protected from clear cut logging and gas well leasing.

With regards to gas leasing, oil pumping, removal of any fossil fuels, etc. we would like to see, any such activity within 1,000 feet of our property, to incorporate us in the benefits, or percentages thereof, its sale.

I have problems with gas leasing. I'd hate to see a gas drilling operation in my favorite hunting spot.

Leasing for gas is acceptable to me, but the money that is generated (including potential windfall amounts) should stay within DEC control.

We (adjacent property owners) are not in favor of gas leasing.

Law Enforcement and Safety Issues

Public lands are for public use. However, it's a shame that rules must be made and enforced to keep it that way. A few will always try to spoil what we have.

Although many people abuse rules and not much can be done to enforce them, it should be noted that there is illegal use of firearms and overnight camping happening in Cameron State Forest.

Other

We think it is a great idea to save as much open land as possible.

Clean up town of Greenwoods landfill on Rt. 417.

One specific area of concern is the potential effects the Lee Dickson and Sons sludge operations involving the lands of Cameron, Thurston and Bath. This is a potential source for serious non point source pollutants covering a large range of chemicals, metals, and pathogens.

Could you include the Canisteo River in your plan? Construct a canoe launching site at each bridge or access area.

Agriculture is very important to this region. We hope and expect the DEC will take into account this fact and, in any management plan will acknowledge and protect agricultural practices. This region has a history of many dairy farms.

Are there any proposed strategies for this area already?

Canoe access points with signage and parking with fishing rights at each bridge on the Canisteo River. Placement of concrete or stone blocks at various riffles to create pools to propagate and oxygenate this warm water habitat. Name it the "Black Bass Capital of the World" and have a fly fishing tourney. Limit access to cows along the banks of the river. Have an agricultural buffer zone mandatory along the banks (where no trees could be cut, 30- 50 yards wide). Create stream basins for gravel tailings that otherwise would dump into the river. This would hopefully lower the silt burden. Encourage townships to sponsor events that utilize the river such as Canisteo's canoe derby, the Addison Triathlon, a kayak race in the spring, Cameron carp derby. Perhaps DEC sponsored learning/teaching days at elementary schools to show the river as a positive resource. A printed history of the river and photos to be run in local newspapers to show how clean the river has become since '72 flood. Potential for restocking of otter families (great public relations). Prison work crews (public service) to clean up tires, cars, etc. every year. Are there any matching federal funds available through the Clean Water Act? Designated canoe campsites along the river. A designated DEC person to act as "River Warden" This would be who would get answers and action. Can scouting become involved usage; clean up; badges awarded? Wood duck houses? Start an earlier bass season on the river to bring in tourist dollars, catch and release only. Pamphlet the local stores on the river to encourage water safety and proper usage. DEC duck blinds for reservation only.

APPENDIX C : TAXES

School and Town general taxes for 1999

Town	Acres of Eligible State Land	Amount Paid
Greenwood	1771.07	\$16,578.90
Cameron	1627.99	\$18,657.42
Hornellsville	777.54	\$4,835.05
Rathbone	569.20	\$16,948.28
Jasper	309.15	\$2,305.65

APPENDIX D : FACILITIES

ADMINISTRATIVE ACCESS ROAD

	<u>Site</u>	<u>Miles</u>
1.	Cameron State Forest	0.3
2.	Canacadea State Forest	2.3
3.	Greenwood State Forest	0.1
4.	Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area	0.3
5.	Rock Creek State Forest	1.8
6.	Tracy Creek State Forest	0.9
7.	Turkey Ridge State Forest	0.6
8.	West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	0.9
	Total	7.2

PONDS/POT HOLES

	<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1.	Burt Hill State Forest	
2.	Cameron State Forest	1
3.	Cameron Mills State Forest	
4.	Canacadea State	
5.	Greenwood State Forest	
6.	Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area	
7.	Rock Creek State Forest	
8.	Tracy Creek State Forest	
9.	Turkey Ridge State Forest	
10.	West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	1
	Total	2 Ponds

UNPAVED PARKING LOTS

	<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1.	Cameron State Forest	1
2.	Cameron Mills State Forest	1
3.	Canacadea State Forest	1
4.	Greenwood State Forest	1
5.	Rock Creek State Forest	1
6.	Tracy Creek State Forest	2
7.	Turkey Ridge State Forest	1
	Total	8

LEANTO

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1. Burt Hill State Forest	1
Total	1

AREA SIGNS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1. Burt Hill State Forest	1
2. Cameron State Forest	4
3. Cameron Mills State Forest	1
4. Canacadea State Forest	2
5. Greenwood State Forest	1
6. Rock Creek State Forest	1
7. Tracy Creek State Forest	1
8. Turkey Ridge State Forest	2
Total	13

METAL GATES

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1. Cameron State Forest	3
2. Canacadea State Forest	1
3. Greenwood State Forest	1
4. Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area	1
5. Rock Creek State Forest	1
6. Tracy Creek State Forest	1
7. West Cameron Wildlife Management Area	1
Total	9

EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES

<u>Site</u>	<u>Number</u>
1. Cameron State Forest	1
Total	1

ATV TRAILS / PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ACCESS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Name</u>
1. Cameron State Forest	0.2	Cameron Pond Trail
	1.6	Rattlesnake Bluff Trail
2. Tracy Creek State Forest	1.0	Longview Trail
Total		3 Trails

APPENDIX E : TIMBER MANAGEMENT

STANDS DESIGNATED PROTECTION MANAGEMENT

Greenwood State Forest

Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	14
A	15	11
A	63	33

Cameron State Forest

Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	6	20
B	5	12
F	7	10
F	8	15
F	14	14
H	7	128
H	11	17
H	15	10

Rock Creek State Forest

Steuben RA #12

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	80
A	18	29

Canacadea State Forest

Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	5	17
B	10	12
C	7	26
C	14	28
D	4	1

Tracy Creek State Forest

Steuben RA #16

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	18	3
A	24	15
A	27	15

Turkey Ridge State Forest

Steuben RA #17

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	5	24
A	14	5
A	17	27

Cameron Mills State Forest

Steuben RA #18

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	17
A	8	17
A	12	22

Burt Hill State Forest

Steuben RA #19

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	14	15

West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	11
A	6	15
A	11	5

STANDS DESIGNATED EVEN AGED

Greenwood State Forest Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	4	9
A	3	3
A	7	38
A	10	4
A	12	7
A	13	8
A	14	7
A	15	11
A	25	4
A	32	2
A	33	8
A	34	31
A	35	8
A	37	11
A	39	3
A	42	29
A	43	14
A	45	31
A	47	33
A	50	45
A	52	21
A	55	9
A	59	15
A	61	8
A	63	33

Cameron State Forest Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	16
B	2	44
B	7	15
B	9	6
B	13	6
B	14	14
B	15	8
C	3	29
C	5	47
C	6	22
D	1	90
D	3	13
D	4	20
D	5	49
D	6	26
D	7	33
D	10	8

D	12	21
D	13	9
E	1	13
E	2	44
E	3	8
E	4	44
E	5	22
E	7	47
F	2	32
G	2	6
G	4	19
G	5	10
G	6	38
H	2	31
H	3	93
H	5	14
H	6	14
H	12	9
H	16	21
H	17	21
H	18	13

Rock Creek State Forest Steuben RA #12

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	5	18
A	7	10
A	9	10
A	11	93
A	13	11
A	14	39
A	16	25
A	19	17
A	20	31

Canacadea State Forest Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	3	8
A	4	93
A	6	12
A	9	5
A	10	132
A	11	55
A	12	5
A	13	61
A	14	35
B	2	61
B	6	20

B	7	46
B	8	43
B	9	88
B	11	16
B	15	18
B	16	24
B	17	11
C	3	10
C	4	16
C	5	12
C	6	11
C	8	11
C	9	8
C	12	77
C	15	37
C	16	4
D	2	5
D	5	27
D	9	13
D	11	26
D	13	4

Tracy Creek State Forest
Steuben RA #16

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	3	18
A	4	13
A	6	16
A	7	24
A	9	5
A	10	3
A	11	60
A	15	10
A	16	7
A	17	21
A	19	9
A	20	27
A	21	13
A	22	25
A	23	8
A	25	17
A	28	7
A	29	10
A	30	12
A	32	14
A	33	7

Turkey Ridge State Forest
Steuben RA #17

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	61
A	2	64
A	3	50
A	5	24
A	6	78
A	7	25
A	8	48
A	9	23
A	10	27
A	11	34
A	12	65
A	13	63
A	15	22
A	17	27

Cameron Mills State Forest
Steuben RA #18

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	53
A	3	4
A	5	15
A	6	16
A	7	18
A	9	102
A	11	31
A	13	14
A	15	26
A	16	37
A	17	60

Bart Hill State Forest
Steuben RA #19

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	3	28
A	4	8
A	11	60
A	16	22

West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	13
A	3	9
A	5	11
A	7	16
A	10	40

STANDS DESIGNATED UNEVEN AGED

Greenwood State Forest

Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	13
A	9	23
A	44	27
A	46	58

Cameron State Forest

Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
B	1	26
B	4	19
F	9	18
F	20	37
H	4	29

Rock Creek State Forest

Steuben RA #12

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	6	25
A	8	35
A	12	17
A	21	20

Canacadea State Forest

Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	8	6
B	14	4
C	1	35
D	7	4

Turkey Ridge State Forest

Steuben RA #17

None

Tracy Creek State Forest

Steuben RA #16

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	30
A	2	38
A	26	46
A	31	7

Cameron Mills State Forest

Steuben RA #18

None

Burt Hill State Forest

Steuben RA #19

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	7	20
A	8	35
A	13	65

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	3	42

STANDS DESIGNATED PLANTATION MANAGEMENT

Greenwood State Forest Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	8	18
A	11	10
A	18	14
A	19	4
A	20	13
A	22	4
A	24	7
A	26	10
A	27	33
A	28	16
A	29	4
A	30	3
A	31	15
A	36	20
A	38	11
A	41	2
A	49	31
A	51	7
A	53	5
A	57	11
A	62	43

Rock Creek State Forest Steuben RA #12

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	86
A	3	5
A	4	13
A	10	33
A	15	59
A	17	5
A	22	24
A	24	1

Canacadea State Forest Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
B	3	30
B	4	19
C	2	87
C	11	5
C	13	7
D	3	176
D	6	20
D	12	25

Cameron State Forest Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	3	6
A	5	5
B	11	16
C	4	7
D	2	18
D	9	11
F	3	6
F	5	4
F	10	6
F	11	5
F	12	12
F	15	20
F	18	7
F	19	7
F	21	7
F	22	15
G	1	12
H	8	19

Turkey Ridge State Forest Steuben RA #17

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	16	22
A	18	24

Burt Hill State Forest Steuben RA #19

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	8
A	2	13
A	5	9
A	6	6
A	9	18
A	10	30
A	12	6
A	15	22
A	17	8
A	18	20

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	2	3
A	4	20

West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	4	35
A	8	4

STANDS DESIGNATED OPEN LAND

Greenwood State Forest
Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	21	2
A	23	4
A	48	3
A	58	2

Tracy Creek State Forest
Steuben RA #16

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	12	45
A	8	13

Cameron State Forest
Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
F	13	7
F	16	7
H	9	11
H	13	15

West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	9	2
A	12	3
A	14	2
A	15	6

Canacadea State Forest
Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
Unlabeled		1

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	55
A	5	6

STANDS DESIGNATED SEEDLING / SAPLING

Greenwood State Forest
Steuben RA #1

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	5	13
A	6	12
A	16	13
A	17	4
A	40	2
A	54	6
A	56	4
A	60	13

Steuben RA #4

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	5
A	4	58
B	3	44
B	6	11
B	8	5
B	10	5
B	12	14
C	1	2
C	2	23
D	8	8
D	11	21

Cameron State Forest

E	6	17
F	1	25
F	4	4
F	6	37
F	7	12
F	17	16
G	3	10
H	1	18
H	10	15

Rock Creek State Forest
Steuben RA #12

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	23	6

Canacadea State Forest
Steuben RA #15

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	1	4
A	2	9
A	7	14
B	1	3
B	5	5
B	12	43
B	13	6
D	1	11
D	8	11
D	10	8

Tracy Creek State Forest
Steuben RA #16

Compartment	Stand	Area
A	5	16
A	8	2

A	14	18
---	----	----

Turkey Ridge State Forest
Steuben RA #17

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	4	8

Cameron Mills State Forest
Steuben RA #18

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	4	46
A	10	10
A	14	56

Burt Hill State Forest
Steuben RA #19

Compartment	Stand	Acres
A	9	15
A	10	30

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area

None

APPENDIX F : WATER RESOURCES STREAMS

Rock Creek-C (TS)-mouth to 0.5 mile below trib 2

Tracey Creek-C

Helmer Creek-C C(T)-0.5 mile below trib 2 to source

Cameron Pond

Cameron Creek-C(T) Pa 3-57-5-22 and tribs

Brown Hollow Creek

Erskin Hollow Creek-C

Stephens Gulch-C

Other un-named tributaries are located on the unit.

PONDED WATERS

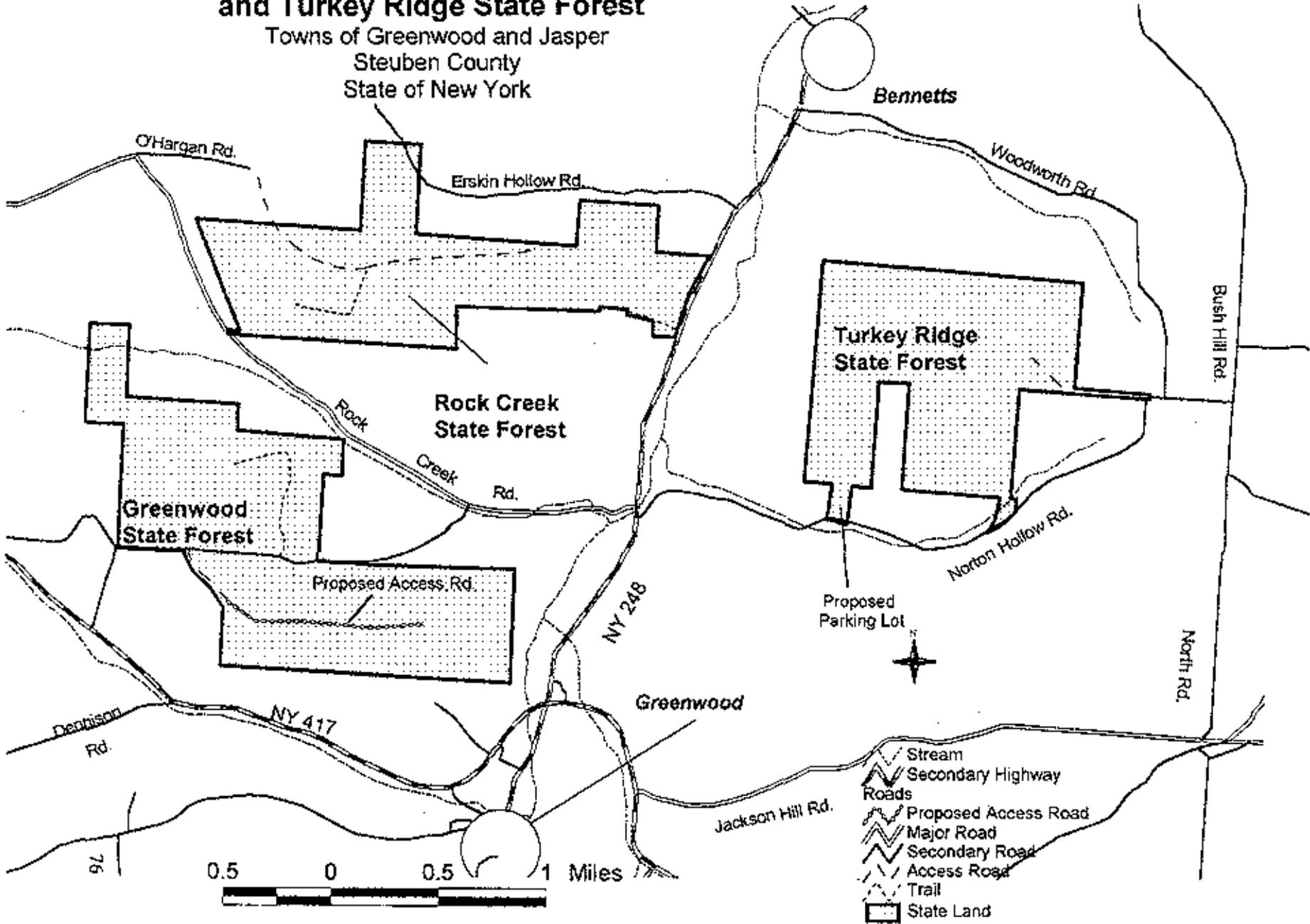
Cameron Pond

Other beaver ponds

Greenwood State Forest, Rock Creek State Forest, and Turkey Ridge State Forest

Towns of Greenwood and Jasper
Steuben County
State of New York

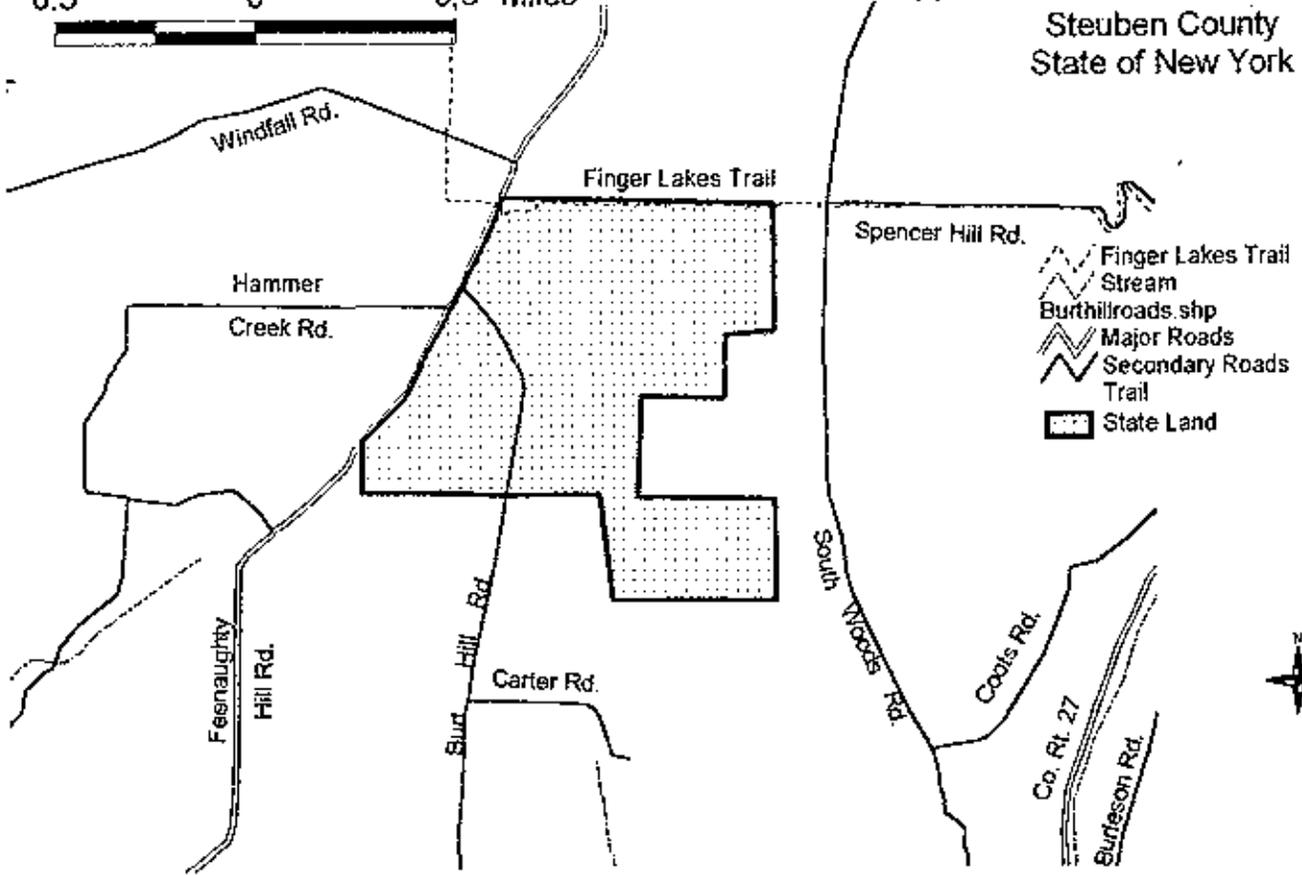
APPENDIX G: MAPS ACCESS / LOCATION AND STREAMS, PONDS AND WETLANDS



Burt Hill, and Canacadea State Forests

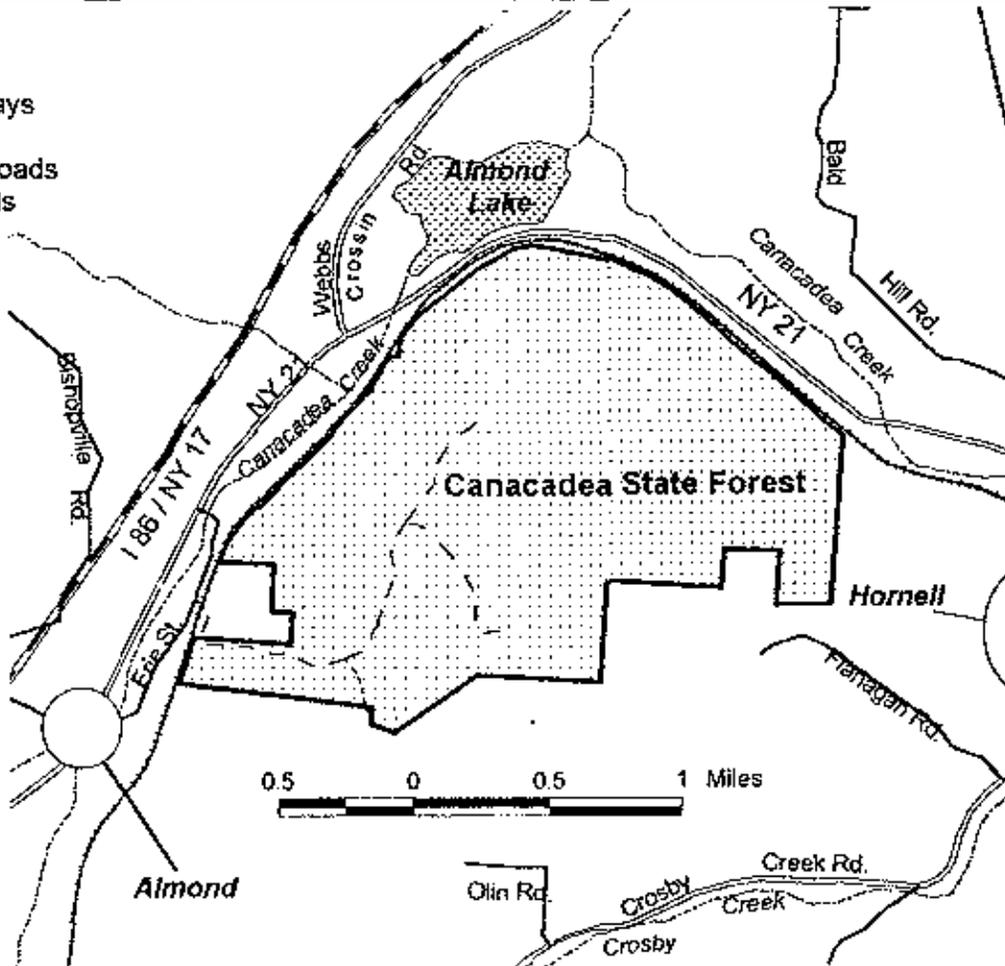
Towns of Howard and Hornellsville
Steuben County
State of New York

0.5 0 0.5 Miles



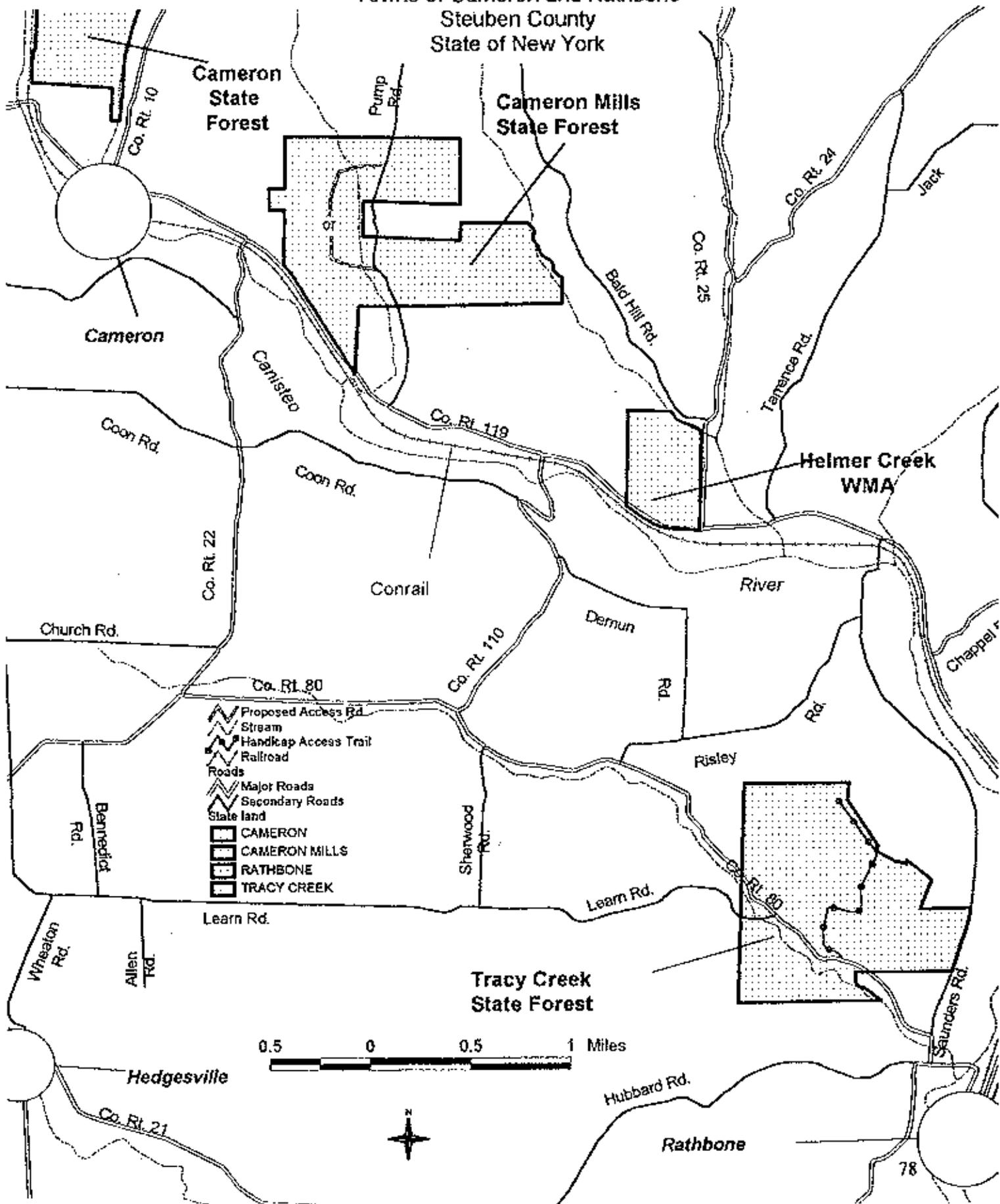
Roads

- Major Highways
- Major Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Access Roads
- Trails
- Railroad
- State Land
- Ponds
- Stream



Tracy Creek, Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area, and Cameron Mills State Forests

Towns of Cameron and Rathbone
Steuben County
State of New York

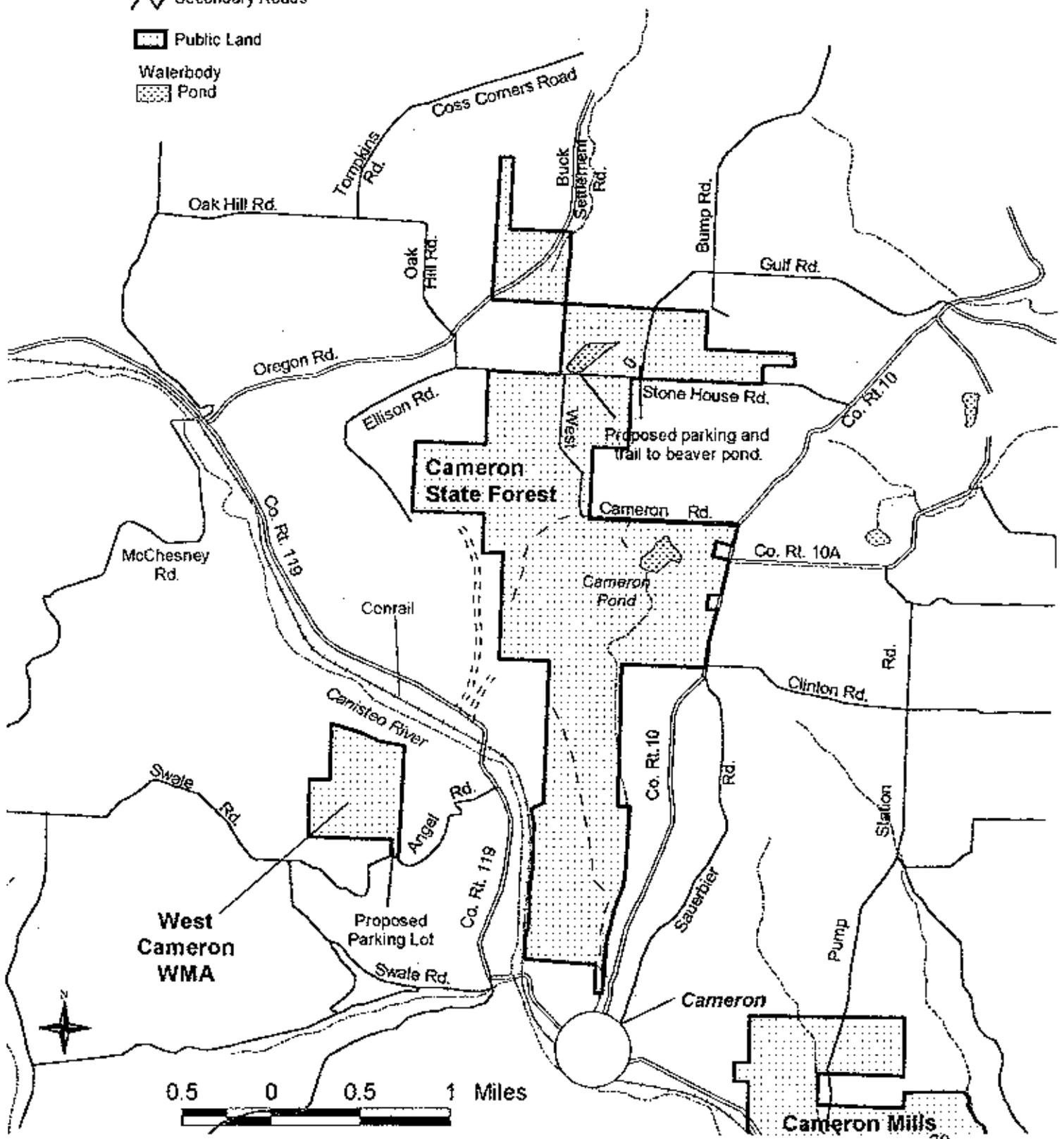


Cameron State Forest and West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Town of Cameron
Steuben County
State of New York

-  Railroad
-  Stream
-  Roads
-  Access Roads
-  Handicap Access Trail
-  Major Roads
-  Secondary Roads

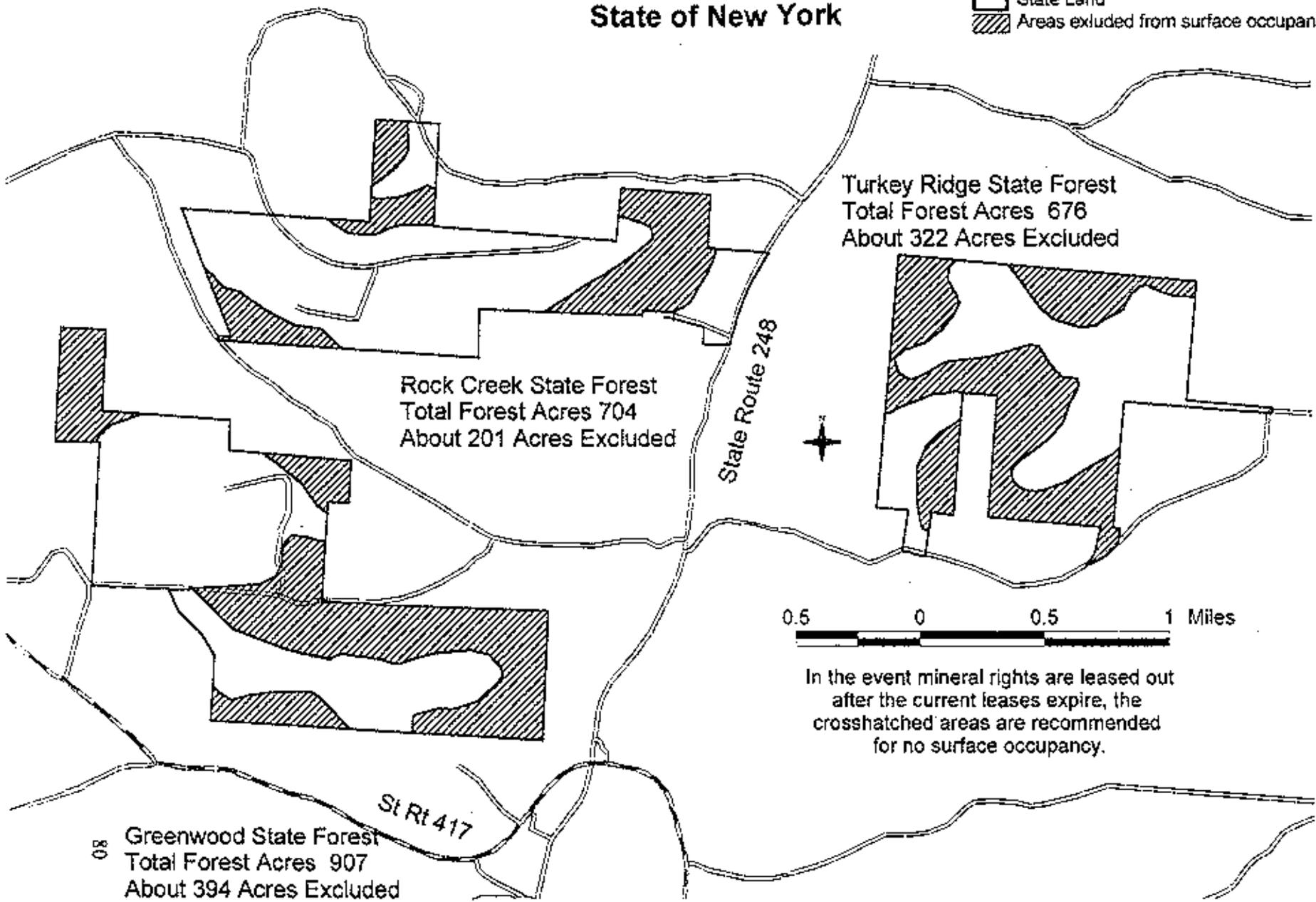
-  Public Land
-  Waterbody
-  Pond



Cameron Mills
79

**Rock Creek State Forest, Turkey Ridge State Forest, and Greenwood State Forest
Towns of Greenwood and Jasper
Steuben County
State of New York**

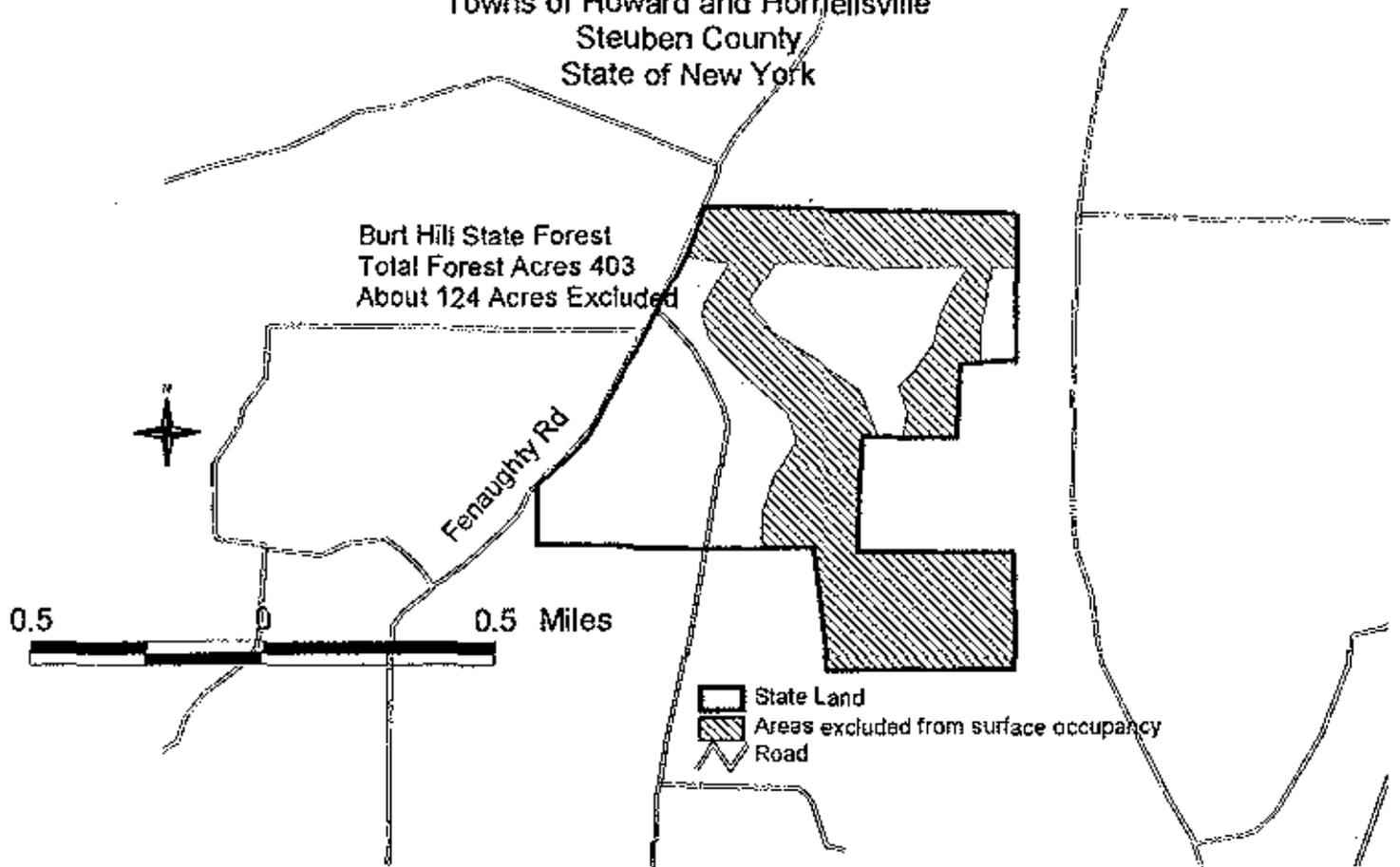
-  Major Road
-  Road
-  State Land
-  Areas excluded from surface occupancy



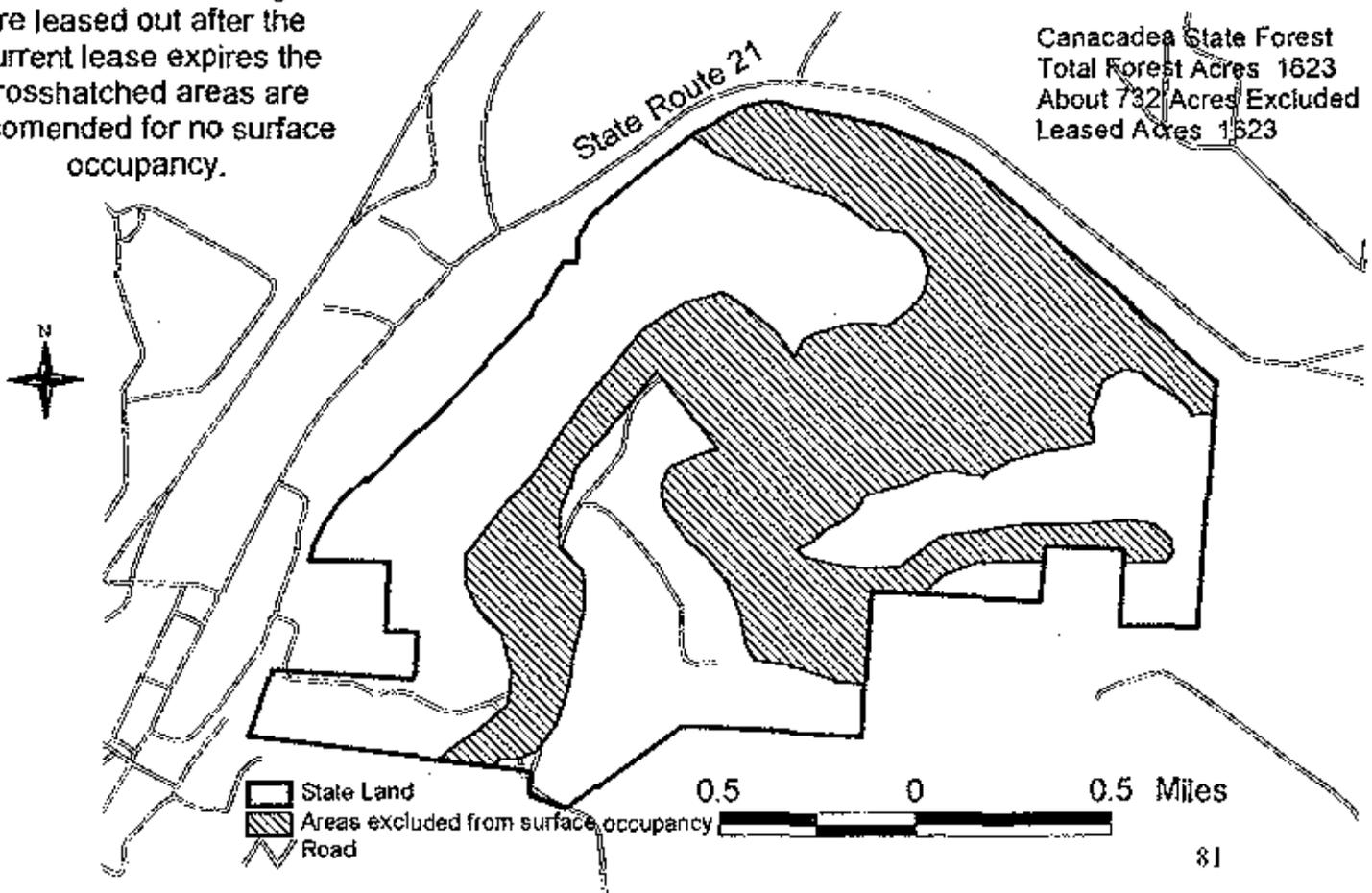
RECOMMENDED EXCLUSIONS FROM SURFACE OCCUPANCY

Burt Hill State Forest and Canacadea State Forest

Towns of Howard and Homellsville
Steuben County
State of New York



In the event mineral rights are leased out after the current lease expires the crosshatched areas are recommended for no surface occupancy.



Cameron Mills State Forest, Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area, and Tracy Creek State Forest

Towns of Cameron and Rathbone
Steuben County
State of New York

Cameron Mills State Forest
Total Forest Acres 544
About 215 Acres Excluded

Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area
Total WMA Acres 127
About 127 Acres Excluded

Tracy Creek State Forest
Total Forest Acres 569
About 210 Acres Excluded

 Roads
 State Land
 Area excluded from surface occupancy

CR 119

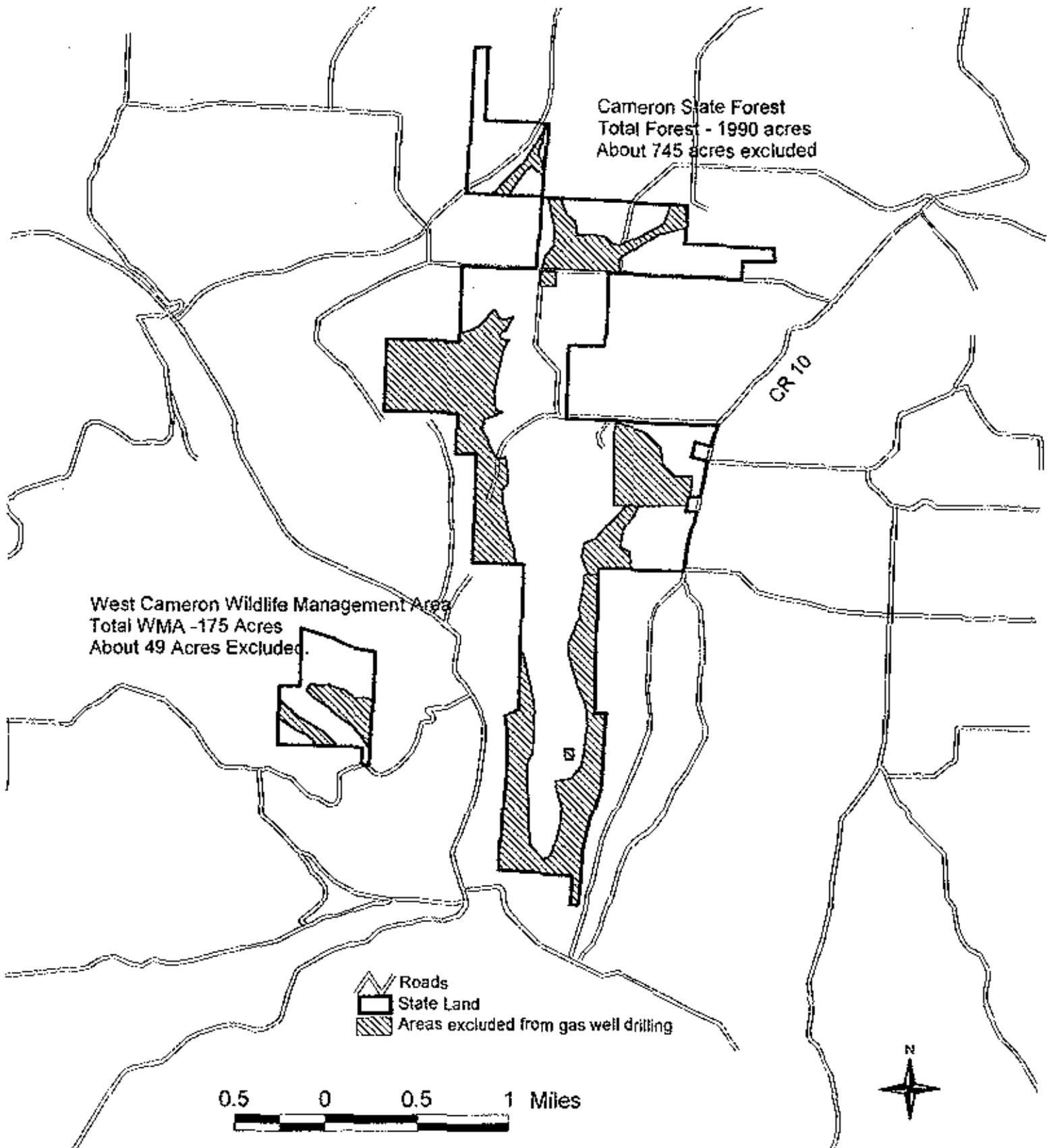
CR 80



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Cameron State Forest and West Cameron Wildlife Management Area

Town of Cameron
Steuben County
State of New York



APPENDIX H: WILDLIFE HARVEST

BLACK BEAR HARVEST

2000 - 22	1996 - 13	1992 - 22
1999 - 27	1995 - 17	1991 - 17
1998 - 26	1994 - 16	
1997 - 24	1993 - 15	

The reporting area includes the southwestern half of Steuben County and the southern two-thirds of Chemung County.

1998-99 SUMMARY OF LICENSE SALES FOR STEUBEN COUNTY

Senior License	2,222	Junior Archery	157
Fishing	4,124	Archery	4,168
Hunting	571	Muzzleloader	1,132
Big Game	3,689	Sportsman	9,364
Resident Trapping	229	Junior Hunting	706
Non-Resident Hunting	310	Turkey Permit	7,028
Non-resident Big Game	1,339		

Traditionally, large numbers of hunters visit Steuben County, particularly during deer season. The above figures represent only a portion of the hunters who actually hunt in Steuben County.

Historical Deer Harvest in the Towns within the Canisteo River Basin (Cameron, Greenwood, Hornellsville, Howard, Jasper, Rathbone)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Adult Male Harvest</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Adult Male Harvest</u>	<u>Total Harvest</u>
1981	1172	2878	1991	1547	3375
1982	1119	2649	1992	1699	3753
1983	1353	4107	1993	1280	3700
1984	1179	3851	1994	1119	2618
1985	901	1348	1995	1537	3131
1986	967	1817	1996	1315	3037
1987	1220	2898	1997	1808	3536
1988	1341	2929	1998	1695	4024
1989	1383	3399	1999	1574	4110
1990	1431	3142	2000	1862	4647

**State Environmental Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance**

Identifying # 2003-SLM-8-141

Date December 26, 2002

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant environmental impact and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action: Adoption of the Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan

SEQR Status: Type 1 X
Unlisted _____

Conditioned Negative Declaration: Yes
 X No

Description of Action:

The Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan sets forth the proposed goals, objectives, management actions and associated costs for the management of 7,715 acres on 10 parcels of state land in Steuben County. It includes Tracy Creek State Forest, Cameron Mills State Forest, Cameron State Forest, Burt Hill State Forest, Turkey Ridge State Forest, Greenwood State Forest, Rock Creek State Forest, Canacadea State Forest, Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area and West Cameron Wildlife Management Area. The plan details management activities for a 10-year period, from 2002 - 2012. A review and amendment process will take place at the end of the fifth year. Public participation has been sought via mailings and a public meeting on July 23, 2002. Full consideration for public input will be sought prior to completion of the final draft.

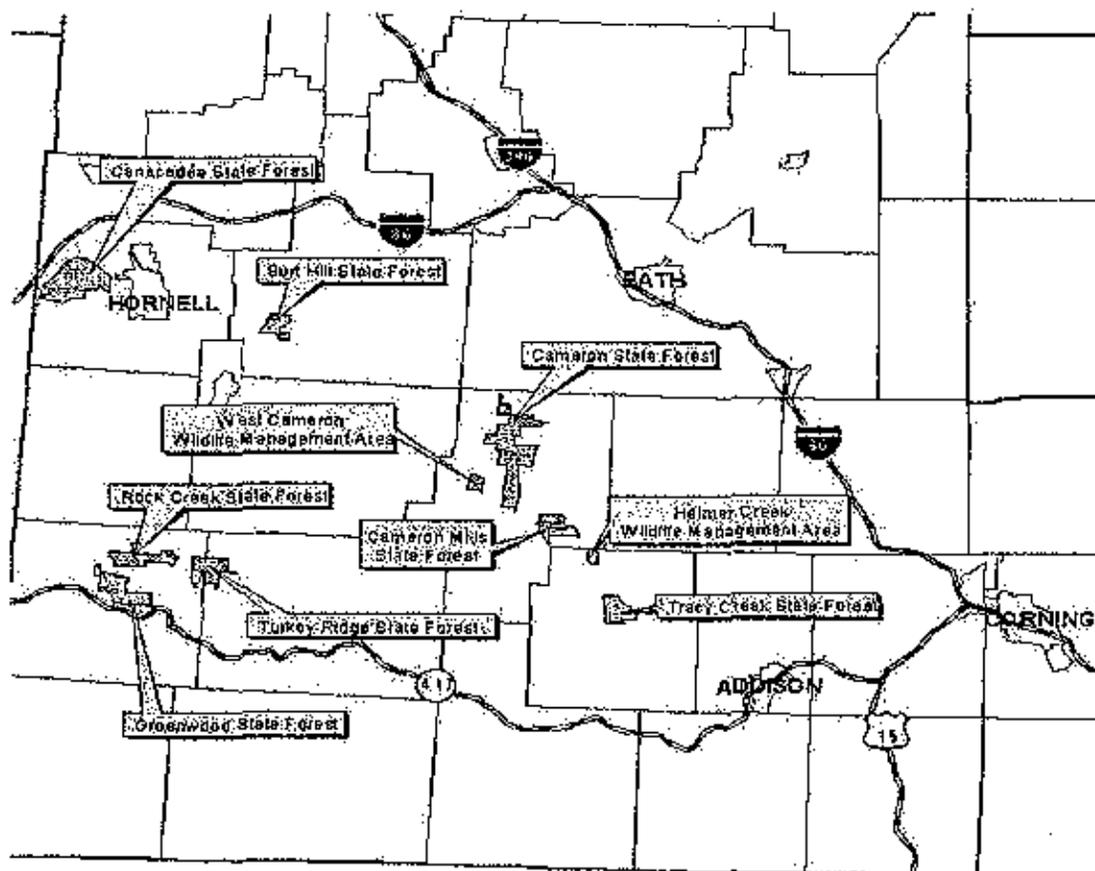
Management activities planned for this unit include: The general maintenance and improvement of the facilities, public access to the state land, and managing the vegetation and wildlife, including the creation and maintenance of open fields and logging an average of 152 acres per year. Other activities include the construction of two forest access roads and four parking lots to increase public safety and access, and the creation and maintenance of up to 25 small water hole amphibian activity centers, and designating trails for recreational use. Best management practices for the control of erosion, and integrated pest management for the control of insects will be followed.

Acquisition of adjoining land from willing sellers will be sought, when possible. All gas or other mineral activity will be monitored. The protection of endangered and threatened species and historical and archaeological resources will be protected.

Location:

Canisteo River Basin Unit, Steuben County: Tracy Creek State Forest, Town of Rathbone, Cameron Mills State Forest, Town of Cameron, Cameron State Forest, Town of Cameron, Burt Hill State Forest, Town of Howard, Turkey Ridge State Forest, Towns of Greenwood and Jasper, Greenwood State Forest, Town of Greenwood, Rock Creek State Forest, Town of Greenwood, Canacadea State Forest, Town of Hornellsville, Helmer Creek Wildlife Management Area, Town of Rathbone, and West Cameron Wildlife Management Area, Town of Cameron.

**State Lands Covered by the
Canisteo River Basin Unit Management Plan
Steuben County, New York**



June 2001

Reasons Supporting This Determination:

(See 617.7(a)-(c) for requirements of this determination; see 617.7(d) for Conditioned Negative Declaration)

Activities planned for the unit will be covered by the following Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements:

State Forest Commercial Products Sales Program, Habitat Management Activities, Wildlife Habitat Management on State Forest Land, Red Pine Plantation Clearcut Program, New York State Open Space Plan, and the State Forest Recreation Management Program.

Activities which would require a site specific environmental review (SEQR) include: prescribed fire, site preparation with herbicide, clearcuts larger than 40 acres. In addition, if after the public review process, activities are added to the plan to provide better management of the unit and are not covered by this Negative Declaration or cited Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements, DEC will undertake a site specific environmental review for such activities.

Activities in the plan will be performed in accordance with the standards and policies and procedures set forth in the following DEC documents:

Continuous Forest Inventory Handbook, State Forest Multiple Use Management Plan, Unpaved Forest Road Handbook, and the Timber Management Handbook.

In addition, activities in the plan will be guided by the Environmental Conservation Law, best management practices, the expertise of foresters and biologists, and the views expressed by the participating public.

Construction of new facilities shall include the construction of administrative access roads and parking lots. These projects will be placed so as to minimize short and long term impacts, i.e. level ground and reasonable slope, culverts, ditches etc. to control drainage and erosion. These projects will entail: clearing of brush and some trees, grading, ditching, installation of culverts, and graveling. This will improve public access and safety. The aesthetic resources will be protected by law enforcement activities, screening of logging activities, and by limiting disturbance in sensitive areas. Scenic views will be preserved by the removal of screening vegetation. There will be a favorable impact on energy resources, since timber management will produce fuelwood. The noise impact of construction and logging will occur so briefly as to be inconsequential. Archeological and historical impacts will be minimized by disturbing the ground as little as possible. These actions will not have a significant impact on the environment.

If Conditioned Negative Declaration, provide on attachment the specific mitigation measures imposed, and identify comment period (not less than 30 days from date of publication in the ENB)

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Gretchen Cicora

Address: NYS DEC
7291 Coon Road
Bath, NY 14810

Telephone Number: (607) 776-2165 Ext. 29

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a Copy of this Notice is sent to:

Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation

Chief Executive Officer, Town/City/Village of

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin - NYS DEC - 625 Broadway - Albany, NY 12233-1750 (Type One Actions Only)

GLOSSARY

Alluvium - Clay, silt, sand, gravel or similar material deposited by running water.

Anticlinal - rock layers that are folded so that the layers are inclined away from each other (like the legs of a capital A).

Bedrock - Hard lithified or consolidated rock units that underlie the unconsolidated or partially-consolidated surface (geology) sediments and soils deposited during recent sedimentation and glacial sedimentation.

Buffer Strips - A strip of vegetation used to protect sensitive areas from soil erosion and siltation.

Canadian Shield - the stable portion or nucleus of the North American continent, primarily igneous and metamorphic rocks, located primarily in northeastern Canada, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Clast - A fragment of rock

Classified Water Bodies - A system whereby water bodies are protected under Environmental Conservation Law.

Conifer - Needle bearing trees.

Conifer/Conifer Hardwood Forest - A forest stand in which either of the two leading species is a conifer.

Conifer Stand - A forest stand containing 50% or more conifer species.

D.B.H. - (diameter at breast height) - The diameter of a tree at roughly breast height or 4½ feet from the ground.

Defoliated - Complete, or almost complete removal of leaves from a living tree.

Dug-Out - A 500 square foot by 3 feet deep pot hole constructed of earth and containing water.

Early Successional Wildlife Species - Animal species which require early vegetative stages such as grass, brush, Aspen.

Ecological Diversity - The number of species living in an ecosystem.

Ecological Subzone - A geographic area containing fauna and flora which are adapted to that particular area.

Ecosystem - A complex of living organisms and their environment.

Erosion - To wear away by the action: water, wind, or ice.

Even Aged - A forest in which all of the trees are essentially the same age.

Faulting - a fracture or crack that has had movement parallel to the fracture's surface

Fluvial - pertaining to sediments deposited by stream or river actions

Fragipan - An impervious subsurface soil layer (sometimes known as "hardpan") which restricts rooting and internal soil drainage.

Glacier / Glacial - a large mass of ice and snow that is moving on the land's surface

Hardwood Forest - A forest stand in which each of the two predominant species by percent is a hardwood.

Hardwoods - Broadleaved trees.

Herbaceous Opening - A non-forest vegetative type consisting of grasses and forbs.

Homocline - geologic structure that is dipping or inclined in one direction and at the same angle of inclination.

Kame - a short ridge, hill, or mound of stratified glacial deposits

Lacustrine - of, or relating to, a lake

Large Coarse Woody Debris - The accumulation of dead woody material, both standing and fallen, which occurs in a forest stand.

Lean-To - A small, open fronted, log shelter used for overnight camping.

Lineaments - linear trends of weakness or fractures in the earth's crust

Log Landing - An area to which logs are skidded and then loaded for removal.

MCFGPD - thousand cubic feet of gas per day

Moraine - sediment that is accumulated due to the actions of a glacier.

Multiple Use - A management philosophy by which many uses are derived for a specific land area.

Natural Regeneration - The regrowth of a forest stand by natural means.

Natural Forest - A forest established by natural regeneration.

No Entry / No Surface Occupancy Lease - A lease to explore and develop underground mineral resources without any surface disturbance. Above ground facilities and equipment to remove mineral resources must be located off the subject property.

Oak Opening - a globally rare plant community, also known as an oak savannah. The community is composed of native prairie grasses and associated plants usually surrounded by oak/hickory forests. Oak Openings are maintained by periodic burning. Historically, fires were set by Native Americans or caused by lightning strikes. Oak Openings can be variable in size, from just an acre to several thousand acre complexes.

Off-Site - The species are growing (or at least have been planted) where these species would not ordinarily be found, due to unfavorable site conditions.

Plantation - A forest established by planting.

Pole Sized - A young tree with a D.B.H. of 6 to 11 inches.

Pre-Commercial - To do a stand treatment when the trees are too small to sell for profit, requiring the payment of someone to do the work.

Protection Management - An area which required special management considerations. (Special cutting regimen, short rotation, long rotation, or no treatment.)

Regeneration - To reestablish a forest stand.

Rotation - The length of time between the establishment and the harvest of a forest stand.

Sawtimber Sized - A tree with a D.B.H. of 12 inches or greater.

Seedling/Sapling Sized - A young tree with a D.B.H. of less than 6 inches.

Selective Harvesting - Removal of the mature timber, usually the oldest or largest trees.

Shade Intolerant - Tree species that require full sunlight to survive past the seedling stage.

Shade Tolerant - Tree species that can survive in the shade cast by older trees.

Site - Site is defined as a group of features (such as slope, aspect, soil type, etc.) which characterize a given area of land.

Silviculture - The establishment, development, care, and reproduction of forest stands.

Softwoods - Needle bearing trees, conifers

Species Diversity - The occurrence of a variety of plants and animals.

Stand - A group of plants with similar characteristics that are treated as a single unit in a management plan.

Stand Analysis - A systematic method of evaluating stands to determine the need for treatment.

Stand Treatment - Work done in a stand which is directed towards the management of the stand.

State Forest - Lands owned by the state of New York and administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation which are managed for the establishment and maintenance of forests for watershed protection, the production of timber, and for recreation and kindred purposes.

Stratigraphic - the layering and sequence of mapable rock units.

Surficial - of, or relating to, the surface

Sustained Yield - The maintenance of a continuous flow of a particular product.

Synclinal - rock layers that are folded so that the layers are inclined towards each other (like the letter V)

Till - unstratified glacial deposits consisting of clay, sand, gravel, and boulders

Temporary Revocable Permit (TRP) - A permit to use state forest land for a specific purpose for a prescribed length of time.

Top Lopping - The cutting of limbs from the tops of felled trees to reduce fire danger and improve visibility. On state forests top lopping of conifers is required by law.

Uneven Aged - A forest containing trees of two or more age classes.

Unique Area - A parcel of land owned by the state acquired do to its special natural beauty, wilderness character, geological, ecological or historical significance for the state nature and historic preserve, and may include lands within a forest preserve county outside the Adirondack and Catskill Parks.

Vegetative Stage - A description of a plant community based on the age of the component plants.

Vegetative Type - A description of a plant community based on species composition.

Vernal Pool - A small body of water that is present in the spring, but dries up by mid-summer.

Water Hole - A laid up stone cistern built by C.C.C. volunteers and originally used for water for fire protection purposes.

Watershed - The land area from which a stream receives its water.

Wetland - Land or area saturated and sometimes partially or intermittently covered with water.

Class I, II, III or IV - The designation placed upon a mapped wetland by NYS DEC as required by 6NYCRR. The four classes rank wetlands according to their ability to perform wetland functions and provide wetland benefits. Class I is the most critical.

Yield - The production of a commodity such as; forest products, water, or wildlife.