New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Lands & Forests, Region 5

Interim Recreation Management Plan

Sable Highlands Conservation Easement Lands

County of Franklin; Towns of Franklin and Bellmont

County of Clinton; Towns of Ellenburg and Saranac

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Introduction

On December 28, 2004, Domtar Industries Inc. ("Domtar") sold approximately 84,400 of its 104,400 acre Adirondack holdings (sometimes referred to by the State of New York ("State") as the "Sable Highlands" Property) in Clinton and Franklin Counties to Chateaugay Woodlands LLC ("CW" or the "Landowner"). On the same date, Domtar sold the approximately 20,000 acre balance to The Nature Conservancy ("TNC"), which were subsequently transferred by TNC to the State as additions to Forest Preserve and State Forest lands, administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation ("Department").

CW has entered into a purchase and sale contract to sell a conservation easement (hereafter the "CE") on an approximately 84,000 acre portion of the lands acquired from Domtar in 2004. The lands to be subject to the CE at closing are referred to as the "Protected Property "or the "Property" in this document). Approximately 400 acres of the original CW land acquired from Domtar are not to be encumbered by the CE. The CE assures that a significant portion of the Property remains as working forest, allowing for continued private recreational leasing on areas designated in the CE as Private Recreational Lease Areas, and providing public recreation opportunities on areas designated in the CE as Public Recreation Use Areas. Upon the sale of the CE to the State, 28,105 acres of land and water located in Public Recreation Use Areas will be open to the public for hiking, fishing, hunting, canoeing and a variety of other recreational uses. On areas of the Property designated as Private Recreational Lease Areas, CW has reserved the right to lease private recreation rights to clubs to engage in outdoor recreation on the Property. The Private Recreational Lease Areas are closed to all public recreation with the exception of areas designated in the CE as Linear Recreation Corridors. The Linear Recreation Corridors cross through Private Recreational Lease Areas to access Public Recreation Use Area located in the interior of the CW ownership and are generally inaccessible by public highways.

Plan Intent and Purpose

The State shall develop a Recreation Management Plan (RMP) to facilitate and manage Public Recreational Uses of the Protected Property. The Plan shall comply with the terms and conditions of this Conservation Easement and shall be updated, amended or revised from time to time, as needed to reflect Grantee's implementation of the Public Recreational Easements granted in the CE. Until a Recreation Management Plan can be prepared and approved in accordance with the CE, Public Recreational Uses on the Property will be managed in accordance with this Interim Recreation Management Plan (IRMP). The IRMP has been developed in consultation with the Landowner. It is not intended to address all the issues related to public recreation on the Property. It does not identify all the potential public use opportunities that the Property is capable of providing nor does it address all of the potential conflicts between user groups that may

occur. This is better addressed after additional on-site planning and development of the full RMP which will include public input.
This Interim Recreation Management Plan does detail the implementation of specific public uses determined by the Department as appropriate and feasible for an interim time period prior to the development of a final Recreation Management Plan. This IRMP further provides for a means to discuss and clarify issues pertinent to the easement and states the mechanisms and protocols to be used for management of the public recreation activities.

The landowner has reviewed and approved this IRMP and public use of the property will commence on the date of Property closing.

As a public document, this IRMP introduced the public, local governments, and other interested parties to the Department's planning process and provides limited opportunities for some stakeholders to voice their opinion on how this area should be managed in the future. Public participation is important in that it gives interested parties the opportunity to learn, provide advice, and influence decisions about how the easement should be managed within the legal context of the purchase. Due to the time requirements to complete this interim RMP, an abbreviated public participation process was utilized. Public participation will be fully integrated into the development of the final RMP.

Recreation Plan Implementation

This Interim Recreation Management Plan, and any subsequent RMP, is solely intended to be a tool designed by the Department to facilitate the Department's management of the public access and public recreational Uses of the Protected Property determined by the Department to be appropriate for the duration of the IRMP or RMP in effect at the time. The IRMP or RMP are not intended to be a complete restatement of the Affirmative Rights granted under the Sable Highlands Conservation Easement. For a detailed list of the full rights granted in the Conservation Easement, please refer to the Conservation Easement.

Implementation of this IRMP and the construction of facilities proposed herein, are subject to state fiscal laws and policies and will occur as funding, personnel and resources are made available.

The public recreation facilities proposed in this IRMP have been evaluated on the ground by DEC field staff for their safety, suitability and practicality. As part of the evaluation process, proposed project locations were identified using input from the Landowner's agents who handle the day-to-day administration of the private rights on the Property.

Tract Overview

The Sable Highlands Property encompasses land in western Clinton County and eastern Franklin County. The largest portion of the property is in the Town of Bellmont (51,142 acres). The Towns of Franklin (21,504 acres) and Saranac (5,833 acres) also contain sizable portions of the project property. The smallest acreage is located in the Town of Ellenburg (5,693 acres). There are ten areas of private land which will be surrounded by project land. Eight parcels of Forest Preserve land will be enclosed by easement land and a significant amount of State-owned lands are adjacent to project land.

The Property has been logged for well over 100 years. Much of the logging was associated with the area's mining history. Large amounts of timber were harvested in order to make charcoal.

The property was acquired by Domtar Industries in 1962. Since then it has been managed as a working forest to supply pulpwood for Domtar's paper mills and sawlogs to local and regional sawmills. The property has been certified under the Forest Stewardship Council as being a well managed source of wood products whose forest management practices adhere to strict environmental and socioeconomic standards in accordance with the Principles and Criteria of the Forest Stewardship Council. Domtar leased exclusive recreation rights to portions of the property and allowed the construction of camp buildings by the members of private lease recreation clubs.

Primary Access

The Sable Highlands property is bisected by many miles of town, county, and State roadways. These roads vary from seasonally maintained sand and gravel roads to major State Routes. Important roads for access to the property include: State Route 374, Standish Road, Port Kent to Hopkinton Turnpike (a.k.a County Route 26 or "Old Route 99"), Wolf Pond Road, Chazy Lake Road, True Brook Road, and Bigelow Road.

Interior access is provided by miles of improved roads developed for logging and access to lease-holder camps. The condition of the interior roads varies depending on the purpose for which they were built or when they were last maintained. Public motorized access is limited to only those interior roads which have been identified as open public roads on Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) or Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs). These corridors are identified in Exhibit A of the Conservation Easement and public use of the roads and corridors in this IRMP. Several of the PUAs can only be accessed by the public through the use of LRCs.

Area Identification

Central to administration and proper use of the Protected Property is to have all boundaries identified. This is necessary for administration and management of the land's forest and recreation resources. There are more than 270 miles of boundary lines involved with this project. These boundaries include those with: adjacent private property, land owned by the State, and leased land. It is especially important to mark the boundaries where different rules and regulations will apply, such as the leased and public recreation land. Signs will be erected along roads and trails to identify PUA and Private Lease boundaries warning against public trespass and for avoiding user conflict.

Natural Resource and Culture Components

Physical Resources

a. Geology

Many factors over a vast period of time have played a part in creating the land as it is today. The slowest and the most drastic changes have undoubtedly been caused by geological events. Several times over the past billion and a half years the area has been covered by oceans and then formed into great mountains only to erode away and again to be covered by water.

As mountains go, the Adirondacks are relatively new, having started the slow creation process less than twenty million years ago. It is believed that a hot spot under the earth's crust resulted in the uplift of the Adirondacks. Even though the Adirondacks are relatively young, the rocks that make them up are very old. The bedrock of much of the Adirondacks was created as part of the Grenville Series, an area of sedimentary rock that covers a large portion of northeastern North America. The Grenville Series was created over a billion years ago when the area was covered by a shallow sea. Over time, the original rock has been buried and changed through many geological processes. Through uplift and erosion, the Adirondacks are one of the few locations where the Grenville Series is exposed at the surface of the earth.

The bedrock under most of the Property is granite and gneiss. The granite and gneiss are examples of igneous rocks. These rocks solidified after being molten.

Over time, the forces of erosion and deposition have changed the surface landscape. Throughout the Adirondacks, the most dramatic of these changes were the result of glaciers. The world's climate grew colder 1.6 million years ago, resulting in the formation of huge sheets of ice which advanced and retreated several times. The last of these ice sheets reached its peak approximately 22,000 years ago and retreated from New York 10,000 years ago. As these ice sheets advanced, they tore away huge quantities of soil and rock from the landscape; later, as they retreated, they deposited this material in new locations. This glacial action shaped the hills and valleys of the Property.

One unique geologic formation in the Property is a cave complex. The New York Natural Heritage program lists this terrestrial cave complex as a significant natural community. This cave complex provides important habitat for a number of species.

b. Soils

All soils are formed by the chemical and physical breakdown of parent material. However, in the Property, soil composition is vastly different from the bedrock beneath. The soils in the Property are mostly derived from glacial deposits that have been moved

and deposited as glaciers advanced and retreated. Soil characteristics are quite variable and fluctuate widely from location to location. There are basically two broad soil types found in the Property; glacial tills and glacial outwash.

Glacial tills consist of material that was directly deposited by a glacier. These soils are a mixture of clay, silt, sand, and stone. Their occurrence in the Property is widespread. They dominate the lower and middle slopes. The deeper and richer soils occur around the base of the mountains, especially on terraces and those slightly elevated locations that escaped the fluvial phase in late glacial retreat, meaning places a hundred feet or so higher than the nearby river system. Hardwoods today dominate these richer soils with mixed conifer/hardwood stands found at the lower slopes with partially water-washed soils.

Glacial outwash soil is made of material which was deposited by water flowing from a glacier. These are stratified soils deposited as eskers and moraines in areas subject to periods of flash-flooding during the glacial retreat and from which the nutrient-bearing silts and clays have been washed away. Because the soils are so stony, the fast-growing and deep-rooted pines out-compete the other more demanding tree species.

c. Terrain/Topography

The terrain through the Property is varied. There are steep rugged areas, large sloping hills, numerous small streams, and several river valleys. Important elevations include: Lyon Mountain at 3,830 feet; Mount Tom at 2,684 feet; Peak Mountain at 2,255 feet; Ragged Lake Mountain at 2,750 feet; and Norton Peak at 2,870 feet. The following USGS 7.5 minute maps cover the Property: Moffitsville, Redford, Alder Brook, Loon Lake, Debar Mtn., Owls Head, Brainardsville, Chasm Falls, Ellenburg Center, Ellenburg Mtn., Lyon Mt., and Ragged Lake.

d. Water

The Property is drained by two major watersheds, the Champlain and the St. Lawrence. Major rivers which flow from the Property are the North Branch of the Saranac, the Chazy, and the Salmon Rivers. The Property includes portions of shoreline on 59 lakes and ponds which cover 2,631 acres. There are over 400 miles of streams which flow through the property. Two rivers within the Property are designated under the Wild, Scenic and Recreation River System; the Salmon, which is designated as a recreational river, and the North Branch of the Saranac River, which is designated as a study river.

e. Wetlands

Wetlands are important ecological areas for wildlife habitat, water protection, flood control, and recreational values. For these reasons, they are protected by state and federal regulations. The APA maintains records on wetlands within the Adirondack Park. Wetlands in some areas of Property have been mapped and digitized. Analyzing this information shows that there are more than 7,400 acres of wetlands included in the Property.

f. Air/Climate

The climate for the Property can best be described as cool and wet. The mean annual temperature is 44 degrees Fahrenheit. The average annual precipitation is 38.11". The record extreme temperatures are 98 and -36 degrees Fahrenheit.

In January 1998, a major ice storm affected the Property. Damage through the area varied based on several local conditions. Major portions of the Property were in areas which received heavy damage. This storm will have impacts on the Property for years to come. Severely damaged trees likely will not survive, damaged trees will be susceptible to attack from insects or disease, increased sunlight to the forest floor will increase growth of understory vegetation, and debris from damaged trees will make cross-county travel more difficult for some time. In order to avoid all the negative consequences from the ice storm, there has been extensive salvage logging on the Property.

Biological Resources

a. Vegetation

Since the Property is spread out over a large area, it contains a variety of plant species. The vegetative communities represent those typically found in northern New York. The New York Nature Heritage Program places the Property in 3 ecozones. These are the Sable Highlands, Western Adirondack Foothills, and the Champlain Transition.

The Property is largely forested. The Natural Heritage Program classifies it as a forested upland system. There are a variety of forest communities which are represented. Examples of most of the forest communities which occur in northern New York can be found in the Property.

The Natural Heritage Program lists one significant vegetative species as being present in the Property. This is cloud sedge, a New York listed endangered species.

b. Wildlife

Significant wildlife species or communities found on or near the Property include: a bat hibernaculum, common loon, moose, bald eagle, and peregrine falcon. The property has been identified as having one of the highest concentrations of moose in the State.

c. Fisheries

The Department currently has limited information about the fisheries resources on the property. Information indicates that there are opportunities for fishing in those areas of the Property which will be opened to the public. Inventories will be conducted to determine future management decisions regarding stocking and other actions in order to provide the public with suitable fishing opportunities. Access to several locations where public fishing rights already exist will be improved with public access through the Property.

Cultural Resources

Cultural resource identification and inventory provide an important link between the culture of Northern New York and its use of forest resources. To avoid damage to these resources by public recreation planned in this IRMP, the Cultural Resource Survey and Sensitivity Study of the Property, prepared for Domtar Industries, (April 2001) was used to avoid conflict. In the future planning will consider these identified sites and new cultural resource inventories in the recreational planning processes and when appropriate offer recreational experiences in association with cultural sites.

Visual/Scenic Resources

The Property offers an abundance of scenic beauty. There are several mountain peaks which have amazing vistas. It is not only the highest mountains which provide the vistas, but also the numerous hills with rock ledges. The forested hills provide striking views for those driving along the area's roads. Several of the rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and open wetlands offer outstanding scenic views. Future recreational planning will consider additional improvements such as scenic pull-offs along forest roads and hiking trails to mountain peaks and rock ledges in Public Use Areas and along Linear Recreation Corridors.

Existing Recreational Use

For many years, the Property has been used for recreational purposes. The most prominent use has been from private recreation clubs that have leased the exclusive use of sections of the property from the landowner on a term basis. The terms of private recreation leases have generally permitted the lessees to erect camps on their posting lease at locations approved by the Landowner. While a significant number of the private

recreation camps are used primarily during the big game hunting season, others use their camps for a wide variety of four-season outdoor-based recreation including hiking, berry picking, nature photography, wildlife viewing, fishing, trapping, snowmobiling and ATV riding to name just a few. Typically, private recreation club members are permitted to use motorized vehicles and watercraft on CW roads, lands and waterbodies subject to the advance approval of the Landowner.

Hikers, both public and private, have accessed mountain summits and other natural features on the Property, over trails established by use, over the course of generations. Public use and access to date has been largely without the permission of the landowner. At present, the existing trail receiving the most use by the public is the one accessing Owls Head Mountain in the Town of Bellmont. Lookout Mountain in the Town of Franklin is another CW property which receives intermittent public use via a herd path established through use. In addition, members of the public have accessed the Forest Preserve summits in the Norton Range (T/ Saranac and Bellmont) and on Panther Hill (T/Ellenburg) by crossing CW holdings.

There are several trails through the Property which have been used by snowmobilers. These routes provide important connections between communities in the area and constitute key links in the inter-county snowmobile trail network.

Public Use Administration and Management

The easement allows the Department to provide public recreation opportunities in a manner that is consistent with the easement's objectives. Any allowed public use must consider the reserved rights of the landowner and those owning or leasing certain recreational rights to the Property. Consistent administration and interactive communication between all parties is extremely important to meet all the objectives of the easement. With few exceptions, public use shall be managed in a manner consistent with general public use of State Forest areas.

Public Use Objectives

The Department's planning for and implementation of public recreational uses on the portions of the Protected Property designated for such uses, shall be consistent with the purposes of the easement and the following general objectives for such uses:

- the protection of public safety;
- the protection of natural resource values and biological diversity, recognizing that the capacity of the Protected Property to accommodate public recreation is limited;
- the removal of trash or debris such as papers, bottles, cans, or other garbage left on the Protected Property by the public utilizing the Protected Property;
- not interfering with the Landowner's forest management activities; and
- that the location and condition of trails, parking areas, campsites, and other recreational improvements shall be reviewed at least annually and more frequently, if necessary.

Specific Plan Guidelines. In addition to the general objectives listed above, development of the Recreation Management Plan and implementation of public recreational uses of the Protected Property shall be consistent with the following specific guidelines:

- *Standards for Public Recreational Roads and Trails*. The RMP shall establish minimum standards and specifications for roads and trails designated for public use. Based on the standards and specifications, the Department shall decide whether portions of trails and roads shall be repaired, improved, relocated, or if public use shall be temporarily suspended.
- *Snowmobile Use*. The main purpose of snowmobile use on the Protected Property is to connect existing snowmobile trail systems on and off the Protected Property. Trail design and maintenance standards shall conform to such manuals and guidelines produced by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, or an equivalent State agency, and in general use by the agency at the time in question.
- *All Terrain Vehicle Use*. Public ATV use shall be restricted solely to roads capable of supporting motor vehicle use, and shall be managed in a manner that

prevents damage to natural resource values and biological diversity.

- *Private Recreation Leases*. Public recreation on the Protected Property shall accommodate the landowner's private recreation and camp leases and shall not interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the lessees under such leases.

Management Actions

Access

The Department shall have access to, on and across the Protected Property at all times for the purpose of:

- Monitoring the Conservation Easement.

- Undertaking periodic inspections, enforcing the Conservation Easement, or taking any and all legally permissible actions necessary or appropriate to remedy or abate violations of the Conservation Easement.
- Exercising and administering the Department's other Affirmative Rights as set forth in the Conservation Easement.

On those areas of the Protected Property identified as "Public Recreation Use Areas," the Department may permit access by the public:

- By non-motorized means, including but not limited to: hiking, bicycling, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, horseback riding and the use of horses or other similar animals for transportation of supplies, and traveling by mechanized aids for persons with mobility impairment.

- By canoe, motorboat, and other watercraft on streams, rivers, or other bodies of water.

- By Motor Vehicle and Motorized Recreational Vehicle, including snowmobile and all terrain vehicle; provided, however, that Motorized Access by the public shall only be over those public roads, LRCs and trails that (is) have been designated for recreational use along with the specific type(s) of vehicle permitted for Motorized Access, and (ii) have been specifically marked with appropriate signage for the type(s) of vehicle permitted for such Motorized Access.

- For camping in areas designated for such use.

- For hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Barriers, Gates, and Locks

The Department will install gates or barriers, where a need is evident, to control or prohibit public use.

All new and replacement gates, installed by the Department, will meet the Department's safety standards as to color, design, and signage.

Boundary Line Maintenance

The landowner may identify, maintain, and mark the boundaries of the Protected Property. The Department may identify, mark, and maintain boundaries with signs in form and content reasonably satisfactory to the Landowner describing the public rights associated with the Protected Property. The Department will mark boundaries along roads and trails between Public Recreational Use Areas and Private Lease Areas and where public recreation is creating or likely to create conflict between users and also where needed for proper law enforcement.

The Department will only construct facilities for public use when it is certain that they are in a PUA or a LRC on the Protected Property.

Maintenance of Improvements

The easement agreement provides guidance on how the costs for maintaining improvements are to be shared. The Department and the landowner will divide the costs of any maintenance based on the amount of use each contributes to the improvement. Within one year from the date of the CE, the Department and Landowner shall develop an agreement for allocating the costs of any construction and maintenance of shared improvements. The Final Recreational Management Plan shall not be deemed complete until such Cost-Sharing Agreement is completed. The Cost-Sharing Agreement shall be reviewed annually, and, updated when deemed necessary by the parties based upon a review by the parties of their respective annual budgets and work-plans at the Annual Meeting

Any damage caused by public recreational activities shall be the responsibility of the Department to repair. Any damage caused by the Landowner's activities (for example logging operations or the lease holders) shall be the responsibility of the Landowner to repair.

When roads and trails are constructed by the Department, they will be generally built to the standards the Department uses on State forest lands (DEC Unpaved Forest Road Handbook, August, 2008). Best Management practices will be utilized to protect the natural resources (see BMP guide at DEC website):

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/dlfbmpguide.pdf.

Public use of roads, trails, recreational amenities or any improvement on a PUA may be closed, removed, or relocated if the Department determines that the use is having a negative impact on natural resources, the Landowner's forest management, Department administration of the property, or substantial conflicts with other users or lease holders.

Search, Rescue, Fire, and Law Enforcement

Emergency response to search, rescue, and fire will be coordinated by the Department, in conjunction with the Emergency Services of Franklin & Clinton County.

The Department will identify and maintain certain pre-existing staging areas as emergency helicopter landing zones.

The Department will promulgate site specific regulations for the public use of the Sable Highlands Property as necessary for future recreational management and law enforcement.

The Department will notify the landowner of all emergency actions and serious violations occurring on easement lands.

The landowner will report public use violations to the Department and file complaints through the area manager and/or the regional dispatch center.

The Department, New York State Police, and other public law enforcement and safety agencies will have full access to easement lands.

Signs

The Department will be responsible for installing, constructing, and maintaining all necessary signs for identifying access to Public Recreational Use Areas, Linear Recreation Corridors, designated camping sites, and roads and trails open for public motorized and non-motorized recreational activities.

Standard Department sign formats will be used on the property.

Directional signs will be placed along roads and trails to serve as public navigation aids.

Parking

All public parking areas will be located within the boundaries of Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) or along Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) where permitted by the

landowner.

A minimum of one designated public parking area will be designated in each PUA.

Parking Areas will be used to channel public use to desired locations on Public Use Areas. For example parking areas will be located near trail heads for hiking, biking, equestrian and snowmobile trail. Parking will include areas for, ATV, snowmobile, and horse trailers as appropriate. Size of parking areas will be used to control levels of public use at any one time on a particular road or trail

Parking will be designed in accordance with expected recreational activities originating from it and the capacity of the recreational amenity to handle the public use.

Along motorized roads and trails in PUAs public users will be permitted to “pull-off” and park for hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreational activities, provided that in doing so, the road is not obstructed in any manner which impedes other vehicles from travel.

The attached map shows the locations of proposed parking areas under this plan. There are 23 parking areas proposed for Public Recreational Use Areas. Additional parking areas can be designated by the Department following consultation with the Landowner and amendment of the Recreation Management Plan.

Permitted Public Recreational Uses

The conservation easement allows for a wide variety of public recreation uses for the Protected Property. The following public recreation uses are meant to provide a general overview of the programs the Department intends to implement on the Property and the manner in which those uses and opportunities will be managed and administered. The uses listed are by no means an all-inclusive list of permitted uses and recreational opportunities that may be provided to the public in the future.

Motorized Uses

The laws and regulations which govern public use of motor vehicles on State forests will apply to the Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) and Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) on the Property (see Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 6 Conservation (A), Section 190.8 (k), (m) and NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law).

All motor vehicles and snowmobiles using the Property must be registered and insured.

All users of ATVs and snowmobiles must wear appropriate safety equipment.

Roads open to motor vehicle use will be posted to a speed limit of 25 mph, unless conditions warrant otherwise.

Special regulations governing public motorized use on the Property will be promulgated as need dictates.

Non-motorized Uses

The public may use the PUAs to enjoy non-motorized recreational activities including, but not limited to: hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bicycling. The regulations which apply to these activities on State-owned lands will be in effect on the PUAs (see Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Title 6 Conservation (A), Section 190.8).

Additional non-motorized public recreation opportunities that may be developed in the final RMP or an amendment to that document may include, but not be limited to: rock climbing, bouldering and dog-sled mushing.

ATV Use

The easement contains provisions for the public use of ATVs on public roads, trails and Linear Recreational Corridors identified for such use on the Protected Property. This use is generally considered appropriate on easement lands for several reasons: (1) while these lands are located in the Adirondack Park, the fee ownership is retained by a private owner, so the lands are not considered part of the Forest Preserve, and use is not confined by Article 14 of the State Constitution; (2) while APA land classifications for state lands are restrictive with respect to motor vehicle use, easement lands are classified by the Private Land Use and Development Plan (generally as Resource Management), a classification that is significantly less restrictive than State land classifications (including allowance for motor vehicle roads); (3) generally easement lands are managed for the production of wood fiber, either lumber or pulp, and as such

have a pre-existing network of woods roads which have been built to accommodate motor vehicle (truck) use; and (4) these easement lands have a history of private recreation use including extensive lessee ATV use on existing trail networks.

In this IRMP, the Department has designated for public ATV use or CP-3 ATV use the existing and specific Linear Recreation Corridors, roads and trails indicated in the section of this Plan labeled Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) and Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) (pg. 26).

The Department will continue to review the existing road and trail network on PUAs to consider additional riding opportunities, including the designation of more seasonal roads and trails for program access, particularly access to hunting and fishing areas. Should any additional roads or trails be identified, they will be established through the amendment process, either to the interim or final RMP.

Standards will be used for motor vehicle roads, ATV trails, and snowmobile trails. These standards will guide the construction and design of new roads and trails and guide maintenance of existing roads and trails.

The Department will monitor public ATV use on PUAs and LRCs and appropriate management actions will be implemented to keep public ATV use from negatively impacting natural resources on the Property. The Department's law enforcement personnel will routinely patrol the Property for illegal ATV use and issue tickets when warranted.

Where appropriate opportunities arise, including seasonal ATV use, the development of designated ATV use roads and trails on PUAs, exclusive of LRCs currently designated in this IRMP, are likely to be proposed during the course of future planning. All proposed future ATV routes will be implemented subsequent to consultation with the Landowner and must comply with VTL section 2405(1)

Snowmobiling

At the present time, snowmobile use is ongoing on the Property during the winter months under an agreement between Franklin Snowmobiler's Inc. and the Landowner. The Department maintains the option to develop additional snowmobiling opportunities, or enhance existing snowmobile opportunities, following consultation with the Landowner and the amendment of the existing recreation plan. The annual opening of public snowmobile access will be at the discretion of regional Department staff, in consultation with the Landowner, to ensure that potential damage to the landowner's growing stock and other natural resources is minimized.

Two different types of snowmobile riding opportunities will be afforded to the public on

the Property.

A.) Groomed Snowmobiling Opportunities: Roads and trails designated for grooming by a tracked groomer or snowmobile with a drag. Groomed snowmobile trails on the Property will provide important connections between communities in the region and will be restricted to public roads and Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) specified for snowmobile use.

B.) Snowmobile Use for Program Access: The Department will evaluate public interest in the use of snowmobiles on un-groomed roads and trails in Public Use Areas during the winter months for accessing recreational activities and programs, particularly access to specific hunting, trapping and ice fishing areas. Public use of snowmobiles on un-groomed roads and trails in Public Use Areas will only be allowed after the Department has completed the planning process for the Recreational Management Plan including public input and Landowner approval of the RMP.

Camping

The Department has the option to designate 56 campsites on the Protected Property. The additional campsites locations will be mutually agreed upon by the Landowner and the Department and designated as campsites in the RMP process or an amendment to the IRMP. Campsites may be closed or relocated in the event that continued public use interferes with the Landowner's forest management operations or facilitates negative impacts to the natural resources on a substantial scale.

Camping on the Property will only be permitted on Public Recreation Use Areas at sites formally marked and designated by the Department. All camping will be managed subject to the same regulations that apply to state-owned lands except in cases where resource or public use conditions warrant the promulgation of special regulations or policy (Title 6 NYCRR section 190.3, 190.4, 190.8.

Designated sites proposed in this IRMP will be comprised of a mixture of both "drive-in" sites that are motor vehicle accessible and primitive sites that will be accessed using non-motorized means. Sites will be located, designated and designed following a review of site conditions, accessibility of area roads and trails, and the availability of viable recreational opportunities and notable natural features nearby.

Campfires on the Public Recreation Use Ares shall be limited, except in emergency situations, to campfire rings located at the designated campsites. Public users engaged in firewood gathering for campfires on the Protected Property are limited to the use of dead and down wood only; live, standing trees are not allowed to be cut by the public at any time. All trees, whether live or dead, are the property of the landowner and may not be transported off of the Protected Property by the public at any time. Unattended fires

are prohibited (Title 6 NYCRR section190.1).

The construction of lean-tos for public use is not being considered during the course of this IRMP. The Department will examine areas suitable for lean-tos and consider them for the full RMP.

Fishing

Fishing will be allowed on the Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) as allowed under existing laws and regulations. The public may access all streams, rivers, ponds and lakes on PUAs, by foot or other access means as may be allowed, for fishing unless specifically prohibited.

Improved fishing access sites (shown on the attached recreation maps) will be located at Fish Hole and Grass Ponds, and at the North Branch of the Saranac River. These sites will provide parking along with access to the water for hand launching of boats.

Foot trails will be developed to facilitate enhanced public fishing access to the stream corridors of the North Branch of the Saranac River, True Brook and Plumadore Brook.

Numerous high-quality ponds, lakes and streams, supporting diverse fisheries resources, cross through PUAs on the property. Additional improved public access to streams and other water bodies on the protected property, or enhancement to existing recreational facilities outlined in this IRMP, may be developed at the discretion of the Department in consultation with the landowner. Any such development will be detailed in an amendment to the appropriate recreation plan document in force at the time of development.

Streams and waterbodies that lend themselves well to the development of improved public fishing access include, but are not limited to: Ouleout Creek, Smithkill Brook, the Little Trout River and its tributaries, Figure 8 Pond, Ragged Lake Outlet, the Salmon River, Barnes Brook, West Branch of the Trout River and Mud Pond (North of Ragged Lake) on the Protected Property.

Hunting

Hunting will be allowed on the Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) as allowed under existing laws and regulations.

The diverse habitat found on the Protected Property supports a wide variety of big and small game wildlife species. All PUAs will be open to public hunting during legally

established open hunting seasons, except where specifically prohibited by posted notice.

Trapping

Trapping will be allowed on the public recreation lands as allowed under existing laws and regulations. All PUAs will be open to public trapping during legally established, open trapping seasons, except where specifically prohibited by posted notice.

Wildlife Viewing and Nature Appreciation

All PUAs are available to the public for wildlife viewing and nature appreciation. Improved opportunities for wildlife viewing areas will be examined. If suitable locations are identified, observation platforms may be constructed. There are several wetland areas on the western edge of the Property which may be a good location for such platforms.

Mountain Bike Use

The logging roads through the Property provide ample opportunities for mountain bike use.

Mountain bikes will be allowed on any road or trail that is open to the public except those which are posted closed for mountain bike use, and on Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) designated as open for mountain bikes. Two improved trails (shown on the attached recreation map) will be opened specifically for mountain bikes with the adoption of this interim recreation plan. One of these will utilize the logging roads around Sugarloaf Mountain. The other will be located to the south of Peak Mountain.

Additional mountain bike trails may be created on the property following consultation with the landowner and the amendment of the recreation plan in force at the time of addition.

Equestrian Use

The numerous roads and skid trails on the property lend themselves well to equestrian use. Horse-back riding will be allowed on any LRC or PUA road or trail open to the public except those that are specifically posted as closed to equestrian use. Improved access and trails for equestrian use will be in consultation with the landowner and the amendment of this IRMP or the final RMP.

Access for Persons with Disabilities

In general, the extensive road and trail development on the Property lends itself well to universal accessibility for all public recreational users.

This IRMP identifies five locations where existing non-motorized (hiking or biking) roads and trails have been identified to also provide motorized access (ATV) for persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities taking advantage of this motorized opportunity must have a CP-3 permit.

As additional non-motorized trails are identified, designated or improved on Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs), the Department will consider allowing CP-3 permit opportunities for persons with disabilities on those trails.

The facilities discussed in this IRMP may be enhanced or expanded upon in the final RMP or amendments to that document. Any such actions would be subsequent to consultation with the landowner.

Public Recreation Use Areas and Linear Recreation Corridors

Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs)

There are 14 parcels on the Protected Property which will be open for full public recreational use as determined by this IRMP. In order to facilitate standardized nomenclature and facilitate ease in public use management, each individual parcel has been named for identification purposes. PUA parcel names shown on the recreation map furnished with this IRMP. The names, acreages and towns in which the PUAs are situated are as follows:

PUA Parcel Name	Acreage	Town(s)
Ingraham West	392	Bellmont
Owls Head	598	Bellmont
Barnes Brook	561	Bellmont
Sugarloaf	5,460	Bellmont
Plumadore-Inman	3,919	Franklin and Bellmont
Figure 8	3,939	Bellmont
Rocky Brook	1,646	Bellmont
Lilypad	1,052	Bellmont
Bigelow	1,560	Ellenburg
Cobble Hill	908	Ellenburg
Bradley Pond	1,352	Ellenburg
Cold Brook	2,542	Bellmont and Saranac
Barnes Pond	3,761	Saranac
Saranac River	415	Franklin

Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) and Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs) Public Roads

Unlike public roads open for use in designated Public Recreation Use Areas (PUAs), Linear Recreation Corridors (LRCs) are roads and trails on the property that travel through private lease areas as a means to provide ingress and egress to and from PUAs located in the interior of the CW ownership. The LRCs will be signed and managed in a manner which best facilitates public access while ensuring that public use has a minimal effect on private club members' enjoyment of their posting leases. Except in cases of bona fide emergencies or at designated pull-off areas where vehicles may not be left unattended, parking on the traveled portion or shoulders of LRCs by the public will be prohibited. Off-road travel by the public on roads and trails adjoining LRCs in private lease areas is prohibited as well.

The chart below details the LRCs on the Protected Property, common road name, and the uses that are permitted for the public on the LRC. Equestrian use will be permitted on all LRCs unless specific signs prohibiting such use are conspicuously posted. It is important to note that uses specified for the public on LRCs have no bearing on the use of these roads by the landowner, their contractors, agents, assigns or lessees.

LRC #	Road Name	Designated Public Uses
1	Blair Kiln Road Goat Path Road	Motor Vehicles Snowmobiles ATVs
2	Harris Road	Snowmobiles ATVs
3	Johnston Road	Snowmobiles ATVs
4	Cobble Hill Road	Motor Vehicle
5	Piney Ridge Road	Motor Vehicle
6	Unnamed	Pedestrian Access for Persons with Disabilities (CP-3)
7	Wolf Pond Mountain Road	Snowmobiles ATVs

8	Liberty Road	Snowmobiles ATVs
9	D&H RR Road	Motor Vehicle Mountain Bike Pedestrian
10	Tender Road	Mountain Bike Pedestrian Access for Persons with Disabilities (CP-3)
11	Old D&H Road W. Mountain Road Piney Ridge Road	Snowmobiles ATVs Motor Vehicles
12	Unnamed	Pedestrian

Persons with disabilities possessing a valid permit issued by Department may access the LRCs noted above as providing access for persons with disabilities. Routes identified for providing CP-3 access are closed to motorized use by the general public.

Those LRCs which list snowmobiling as a use may be groomed. Public use of other vehicles on these corridors during winter months may be permitted or prohibited at the discretion of the Department. Such determinations will be done following consultation with the landowner.

Linear Recreation Corridors # 5, 7 and 8 will be closed for public use annually from September 27 through the close of the Northern Zone Big Game Rifle Season. The portion of Linear Recreation Corridor # 6 that passes through private lease areas will be closed to public use annually during the period that coincides with the Northern Zone Big Game Rifle Season.

All Linear Recreation Corridors and public roads in PUAs will be closed to the public during mud season and following extreme or unanticipated weather events where public travel could be hazardous or result in resource degradation or road damage. Closure times and durations will be determined by the Department in consultation with the landowner based on the condition of the each individual road or trail.

Roads and trails in PUAs will be open to public non-motorized use unless posted closed. Those roads and trails identified in this IRMP and on the attached map as available for public motor vehicle or ATV use will be actually opened to public motorized use when the

Department inspects the road or trail and determines it meets appropriate standards.

Specific Project Descriptions in Public Use Areas (PUA)

What follows is a more detailed discussion of proposed public uses to be undertaken under the terms of this IRMP. Public activities, uses and means of access are listed according to the PUA in which they will be located. Implementation of improvements and opening of roads and trails will be depending largely upon the extent and availability of personnel and fiscal resources. Conceptual project locations and facilities layout may need to be changed if site conditions indicate that use of alternate site will minimize resource degradation or provide for safer public use or upon landowner consultation. The Department maintains the right to develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Ingraham West PUA Map #1

Public access to this parcel currently does not exist. Under the terms of the conservation easement, the Department has acquired the right to construct an additional Linear Recreation Corridor (LRC) extending north from the Owls Head PUA along the western boundary of the Owl Mountain Club private recreation lease to provide public access to the Ingraham West parcel. The entirety of this proposed route will need to be constructed prior to opening public access to the parcel. It is anticipated that this route will be initially developed as a foot trail.

Owls Head PUA Map #1

This Public Recreation Use Area (PUA) currently receives extensive public use which has been essentially continuous over the course of generations. A hiking trail, created through use, accesses the main summit of the Owls Head Range near the small community of Owls Head in the Town of Bellmont. Historical evidence shows that this trail has been a popular day hike for both local residents and visitors over the course of several decades and pre-dates Domtar's ownership of the property. As it is currently laid out, the trail crosses through the lands of two adjoining private owners. Efforts in this PUA will focus on either relocating the trail so that it is wholly within the PUA, and/or reaching out to the adjoining private landowners in an effort to negotiate an agreement which would guarantee public access to the trail as it currently exists. Preliminary information indicates that the existing trail is in fair to poor condition and will need to be rehabilitated and improved according to established standards which will protect the natural resources and ensure the user's safety. Subsequent to the resolution of the access issues related to the hiking trail, a designated parking and trailhead registration area will need to be constructed to provide off-street parking to users of the hiking trail.

In addition, two (2) designated walk-in campsites will be constructed on this parcel at yet to be determined locations.

Barnes Brook PUA Map #2

The Barnes Brook parcel lies close to the hamlet of Mountain View adjacent to Franklin County Route 27. At the present, GIS information shows that a road system to support landowner's forest management activities has not been developed on this parcel. Initial public use for this parcel will be non-motorized access to activities such as hunting, fishing and trapping. Two (2) designated "walk-in" camping sites will be located on the PUA to facilitate program access. A parking area, situated adjacent to County Route 27, will be constructed to provide off-street parking for persons using the designated camping sites.

Plumadore-Inman PUA Maps #3A and #3B

This large and easily accessible PUA contains a variety of natural features that lend themselves well to the development of public recreation facilities. A mixture of mountains, ponds, streams and forest roads and trails will make this parcel appealing to wide spectrum of recreational users. Facilities proposed for this parcel include:

- The construction of a parking area and designated foot trail which provides fishing access to Plumadore Brook from Franklin County Route 26.

- A mountain bike trail will be constructed from the point where LRC 10 enters the PUA. The trail will comprise a 6.5 mile loop to the west, south and east around an unnamed peak; the southern terminus of the loop will intersect with LRC 9 near where it intersects with Plumadore Brook in the PUA. There are logging roads off this trail which will provide additional riding opportunities.

- A foot trail will be constructed off of the mountain bike trail which starts at the western end of LRC 10. The foot trail will spur off of the main trail near Plumadore Brook and will ascend an unnamed hill located in the center of the mountain bike trail loop. The trail will go to several rock outcrops.

- The construction of at least three (3) designated parking areas in the interior of the PUA to facilitate, and minimize the impacts of, public use. Two parking areas will be located to serve users of the proposed mountain bike loop and hiking trail. The third area will be located within the PUA at a yet to be determined location based on logistical needs at the time the IRMP is implemented.

- The construction of at least ten (10) designated camping sites within the PUA. At least one site will be developed along the mountain bike loop trail south of the hiking trail

spur, and at least one site will be designated along the shoreline of Fishhole Pond.

- Fishing access sites will be constructed to provide public access sites to Fishhole and Grass Ponds. Each access site will be complimented by a designated parking area designed to hold four to six cars apiece. Initially, developed access will accommodate hand launching of water craft; trailering motor boats into these waters will be discouraged, and if need be, prohibited through special regulation.

- The opening of an existing road that traverses the PUA immediately north of Grass Pond. Use of this road by the general public will be by non-motorized means during the spring, summer and fall months. During the winter months, public snowmobile use will be permitted as a means to provide an easier connection from the National Grid utility corridor to other parts of the snowmobile trail network to the west. Persons with disabilities possessing a valid permit will be allowed to use motorized vehicles for program access on the entire extent of this road, as well as a .21 mile loop off of this road, throughout the year, provided seasonal closures designed to minimize resource damage are not in effect.

Sugarloaf PUA Maps #4A, #4B and #4C

At 5,460 acres, Sugarloaf is the largest of the Sable Highlands PUAs. Some outstanding natural features and good road access make this parcel an excellent candidate for public recreational facilities. The parcel is accessible from the northeast via the Goat Path Road (LRC 1 as it passes through private lease areas), from the southeast via LRC 11, and from the northwest via the Sugarloaf Road. Public use facilities in this parcel proposed for implementation under this IRMP include:

- The construction of at least five (5) designated camping sites at yet to be determined locations along the Sugarloaf, Goat Path, Salmon River and W Mountain roads.

- The construction and designation of at least three (3) parking areas to facilitate, and minimize the overall impacts of, public use.

- A mountain biking trail will be designated and opened on the Sugarloaf Road. The trail will begin at the point where public motor vehicle use of that road is discontinued. A reroute of the proposed trail may be necessary to direct public traffic away from nearby private lands located west of Sugarloaf Mountain. Numerous logging roads through the parcel may serve as additional mountain bike riding opportunities.

- The development of public fishing access to Ragged Lake Outlet, the Salmon River and their tributaries in the PUA.

Lilypad PUA Map #5

LRC 2 provides direct motor vehicle access to this parcel from LRCs 1 and 3 which travel from public roads through private lease areas. Otherwise, only a small segment of the parcel has frontage on LRC 1, at a location south of the intersections of LRCs 1 and 3. Three (3) designated camping sites will be constructed adjacent to the existing gravel road that travels into the PUA. A designated parking area, to facilitate public day use for accessing Department programs, will need to be constructed in the PUA at a location that doesn't interfere with the privacy of the designated camping sites. Due to the extensive wetlands and riparian areas located within this parcel, coupled with a lack of currently developed road access, public use management under this IRMP will be geared toward providing a more primitive recreational experience where, exclusive of designated motor vehicle access to parking areas and campsites, users will access programs using non-motorized means. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Rocky Brook PUA Map #6

This PUA is similar in character and access to the Lilypad PUA. Existing roads on the parcel are currently limited to unimproved seasonal "winter roads" developed to support harvesting operations and trails cut and maintained by private lease club members. Presently, this parcel is only accessible to the public with any reliability from the south via LRC 1. Once LRC 1 leaves the Rocky Brook parcel heading north toward the Figure 8 PUA, the road is in a poor and unimproved state that makes it practically impassable to public ATVs and snowmobiles. Improvements to LRC 1 will need to be undertaken in order to provide continuous public motorized access from the Blair Kilns Road in the north to the Wolf Pond Road in the south. Four (4) designated camping sites will be developed on this PUA. A designated parking area will be constructed at the point where LRC 1 crosses into the PUA. As with the strategy outlined for the Lilypad PUA, public use management under this IRMP will be geared toward providing a more primitive recreational experience where, exclusive of designated motor vehicle access to parking areas and campsites, users will access programs using non-motorized means. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Figure 8 PUA Map #7

This PUA is easily accessible from the north via the town-maintained Blair Kilns Road. Access from the south will be improved following the improvement of the currently impassable portion of LRC 1 between Figure 8 and Rocky Brook PUAs. Public recreation facilities development under this IRMP will focus on the designation of eight (8) camping

sites to be accessed from the Goat Path Road. A parking area will be designated at the intersection of the Goat Path Road and Blair Kilns Road to facilitate public day use for program access and the off-loading of public ATVs and snowmobiles. Once the contiguity of LRC 1 has been established as described above, the Department will proceed with the construction of a new road that provides access to Figure 8 and Lilypad Ponds for the purposes of public fishing and paddling use. Future recreation facility development on this parcel will likely include the construction of a fishing access foot path which accesses the Little Trout River and its tributaries within the PUA.

Bigelow PUA ***Map #8***

Primary access to this PUA is via the town-maintained Bigelow Road. This parcel is similar in character and access to the Rocky Brook and Lilypad PUAs. Two (2) walk-in campsites will be constructed at yet to be determined locations adjacent to the Griffin Brook Road. A designated parking area will be constructed at the intersection of the Griffin Brook Road and the Bigelow Road. Public use management of this parcel under this IRMP will be geared toward providing a more primitive recreational experience where, exclusive of the designated motor vehicle access to the parking area, users will access programs using non-motorized means. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Cobble Hill PUA ***Map #9***

Primary access to this parcel is from State Route 374 via LRC 4. A designated parking area will be constructed on the Cobble Hill Road at a point approximately 1 mile inside the PUA boundary. Beyond the parking area, public motorized access will be restricted to persons with disabilities recreating with a valid permit from the Department. Two (2) designated camping sites will be constructed on this parcel at yet to be determined locations. Future recreation facility development on this parcel will likely include the construction of a fishing access foot path which accesses Ouleout Creek and its tributaries within the PUA.

Cold Brook PUA ***Map #10***

This PUA adjoins the Standish Road in the Town of Saranac and is bounded on the west by private lease lands and on the north by LRC 5 (a.k.a Piney Ridge Road). For the effective period of this IRMP, public access to the parcel from the Standish and Piney Ridge Roads will be non-motorized means only. LRC 6, a proposed foot trail which travels through private lease areas to the summits of Norton Peak, Haystack Mountain and Wolf Pond Mountain, is the most significant recreation feature currently proposed in association with this parcel; foot access to LRC 6 will occur across existing roads in the PUA. The portion of this trail that crosses over privately leased lands will be closed to

public use during the Northern Zone Big Game Rifle Season. Two (2) designated camping sites will be constructed in the PUA at yet to be determined locations. Two designated parking areas, the first along the Standish Road, the second along the Piney Ridge Road, will be constructed on the PUA.

Bradley Pond PUA Map #11

Public access to this PUA will likely be restricted to the westernmost portion of the PUA due to the lack of a legal motor vehicle access for the public. Foot or other non-motorized access to the easternmost portion will be discouraged until such time as the boundary lines between the CW property and the adjoining landowner(s) are well signed and marked. Two (2) designated camping sites will be constructed on the PUA; these sites will likely be accessed directly from the town-maintained Bradley Pond Road. In addition, a designated parking area will be constructed adjacent to the Bradley Pond Road in order to provide safe off-street parking for the public. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Barnes Pond PUA Map #12

This PUA is accessed directly from the town-maintained True Brook Road in the Town of Saranac. A well-constructed road system accesses locations deep within the interior of the parcel and lends itself well to development of motor vehicle accessible camping. Two (2) designated parking areas will be constructed on the parcel; the first will occupy the location of the former “Barnes Pond Camp” approximately 0.2 miles south of the True Brook Road. Another will be located approximately 0.75 miles east of the first parking area at the head of a fishing access trail to be constructed to enhance public access to and along True Brook and its tributaries for fishing. A gate will be located at the second parking lot to prevent vehicles from driving past the second parking lot. The logging roads beyond the second parking lot will be designated for use by persons with disabilities under a valid permit issued by the Department. The road will be opened for general public motor vehicle use, depending on road surface conditions, at a point two weeks prior to the start of the Northern Zone Big Game Hunting Season. A total of ten (10) designated camping sites will be constructed at yet to be determined locations on the parcel. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Saranac River PUA Map #13

This parcel is easily accessible through a well-developed road and trail system that connects to the town-maintained Goldsmith Road to the North Branch of the Saranac River. The North Branch, as it is locally known, is one of several revered trout fisheries

located in the area and the portion of it that flows through this PUA is considered by DEC fisheries biologists to be one of its most productive reaches.

A designated parking area will be constructed on the PUA at a point adjacent to the intersection of the Goldsmith Road and LRC 8 for the purpose of providing a centralized public parking and trailhead information area. A foot trail, extending upstream and downstream from LRC 8 for the entire length of the PUA, will be developed along the southern bank of the river to provide enhanced access for public anglers. Two (2) designated walk-in camping sites will be constructed along the foot trail upstream of where LRC 8 crosses the river. One (1) designated drive-in camping site will be located downstream of LRC 8. The public will access this site with motor vehicles using an existing road located just east of the point where LRC 8 intersects the Goldsmith Road. Near the point where the campsite access road intersects the Goldsmith Road, a parking area will be constructed. This parking area will provide additional parking for the three campsites near LRC 8 and the foot trail. In addition, an existing road leaving this parking area and traveling north to the river bank just west of the PUA boundary will provide ATV access for persons with disabilities who wish to camp and fish on the river. A designated camping site will be constructed at the current location of a former private lease camp scheduled for removal. Access improvements, designed according to current ADA standards, will provide a firm, stable and slip resistant surface which will allow recreationists with mobility impairments to access the river bank. The Department may develop additional motorized and non-motorized access and facilities on this parcel in the future under its affirmative rights accorded by the conservation easement.

Approval of Interim Recreation Management Plan For Sable Highlands Conservation Easement on Chateaugay Woodlands LLC Property

The State of New York, by and through its Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the named Grantee and will be the holder of a Conservation Easement granted by Chateaugay Woodlands LLC, and which shall be recorded in the Offices of the County Clerk for Franklin and Clinton Counties. The Property encumbered by this Conservation Easement (Protected Property) is approximately 84, 000 acres in size, with frontage on State Route Nos. 3 and 374, Wolf Pond Road, and is located in the Towns of Bellmont, Dannemora, Ellenburg, Franklin and Saranac in the Counties of Franklin and Clinton, more particularly described in Schedule A of the Conservation Easement.

Grantee has developed an Interim Recreation Management Plan (IRMP) (50 pages, including the signature and approval pages and16 map pages attached), for Public Recreational Use of the Protected Property. Grantee considers the attached IRMP to comply with the terms and conditions of the Conservation Easement. The attached IRMP is submitted to Grantor to review the “plan” as a vehicle for Grantee’s implementation of its Affirmative Rights in compliance with the Conservation Easement.

Upon completion of Grantor’s review and prior to closing of this Conservation Easement, Grantor will approve the attached Interim Recreation Management Plan as being in compliance with the Conservation Easement and sign below as an indication of Grantor’s approval of the Interim Recreation Management Plan.

ACCEPTED BY GRANTOR:
CHATEAUGAY WOODLANDS LLC
By: Lyme Timberlands, LLC

By: _____
THOMAS R. MORROW
Vice President

IN WITNESS of Grantor's Acknowledgment:
STATE OF New Hampshire)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF Grafton)
On the 8th day of December in the year 2008, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared Thomas R. Morrow, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that she/he executed the same and that by her/his signature on the instrument, she/he, or the person upon behalf of whom she/he acted, executed the instrument.

Faith K. Pushee
Notary Public, State of New ~~York~~ Hampshire

FAITH K. PUSHEE
Notary Public New Hampshire
My Commission Expires October 21, 2010

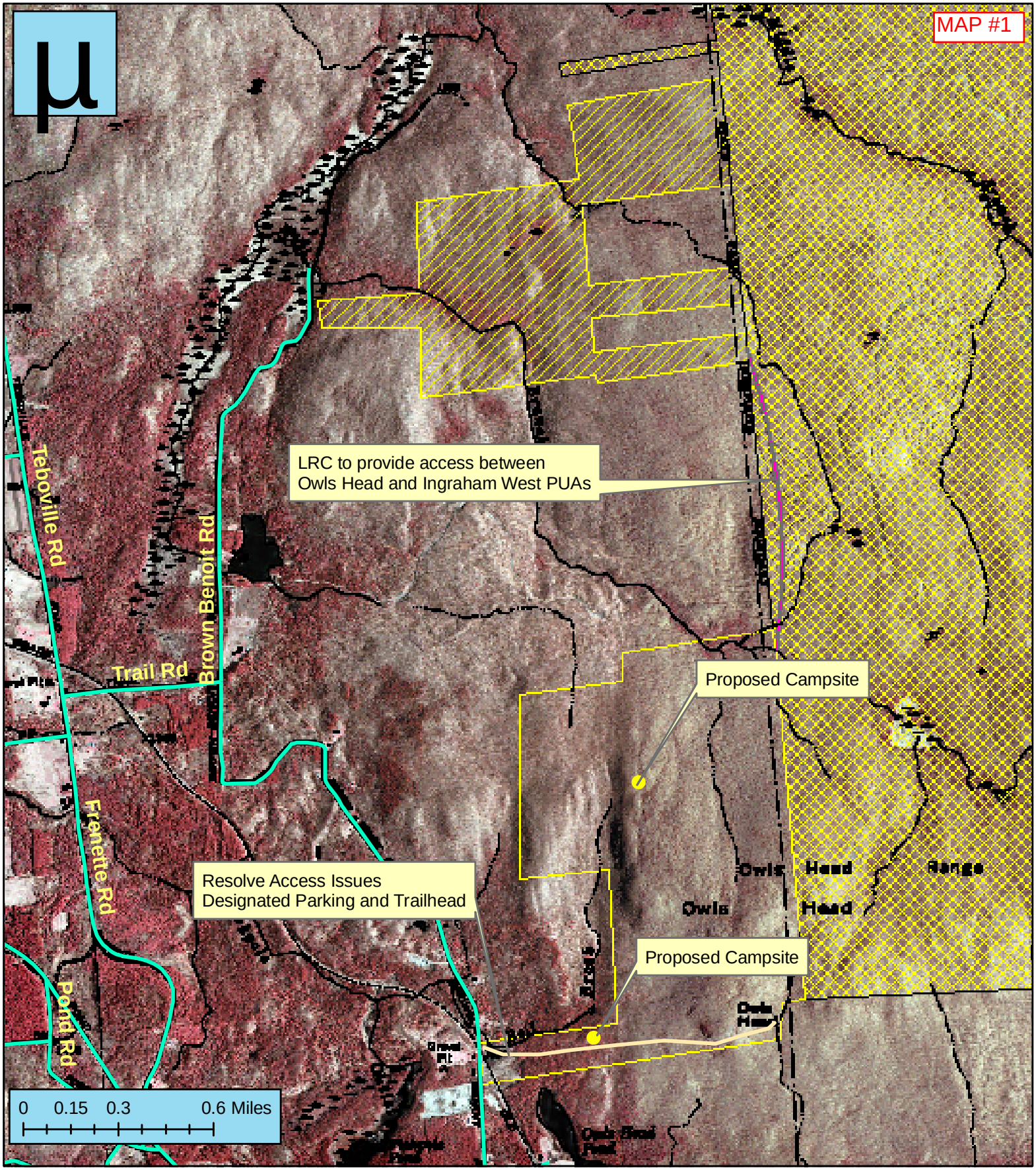
ACCEPTED BY GRANTEE:
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Acting By and Through Their Commissioner of Environmental Conservation

By: _____
NANCY LUSSIER, Director
Division of Management and Budget

IN WITNESS of Grantee's Acknowledgment:
STATE OF New York)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF Albany)
On the 11th day of December in the year 2008, before me, the undersigned, personally appeared Nancy W. Lussier, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that she/he executed the same and that her/his signature on the instrument, she/he, or the person upon behalf of whom she/he acted, executed the instrument.

Kathleen R. Tubiolo
Notary Public, State of New York

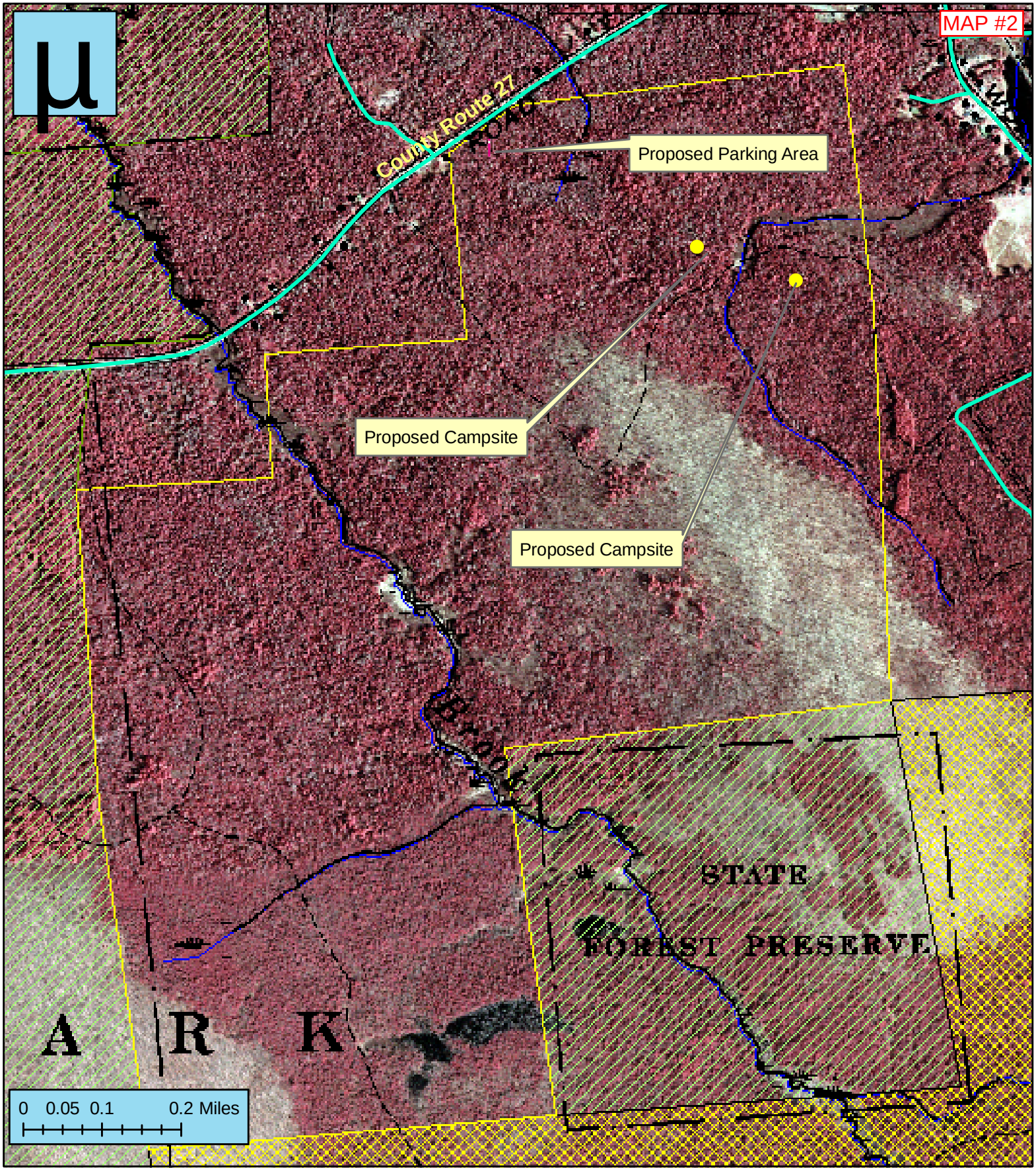
KATHLEEN R. TUBIOLO
Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Schoharie County
Reg. No. 01TU6154579
Commission Expires 10/23/2010



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Ingraham West and Owls Head Public Use Areas
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Type	Sable Highlands
Foot Trail	Owl Mtn. Club Lease
Mountain Bike Trail	LRC 12
Local Streets	Ingraham West PUA
	Owls Head PUA



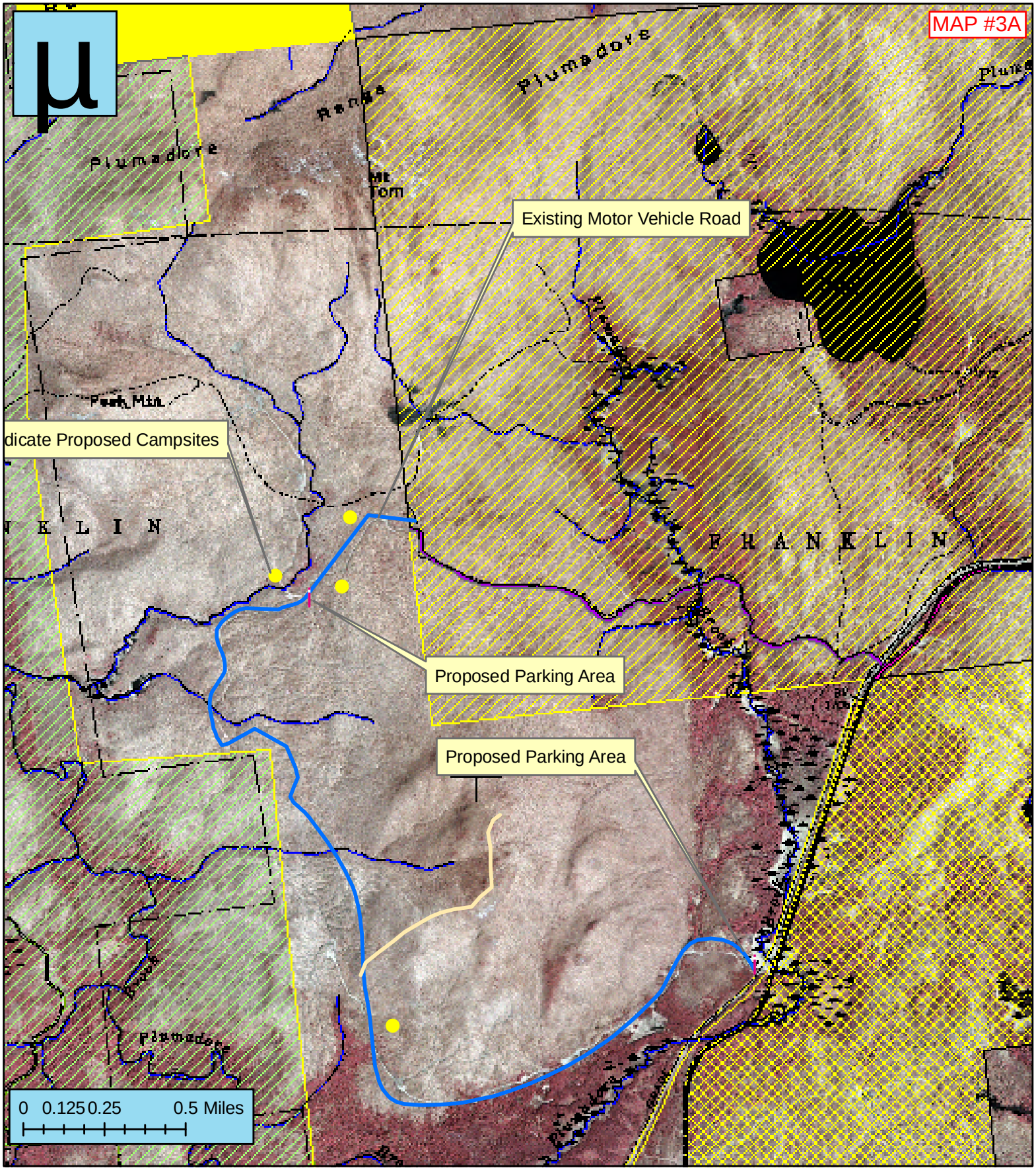
Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Barnes Brook Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Local Streets
Stream, 1:24,000

Sable Highlands

Mount Tom Hunting Club Lease
Barnes Brook PUA

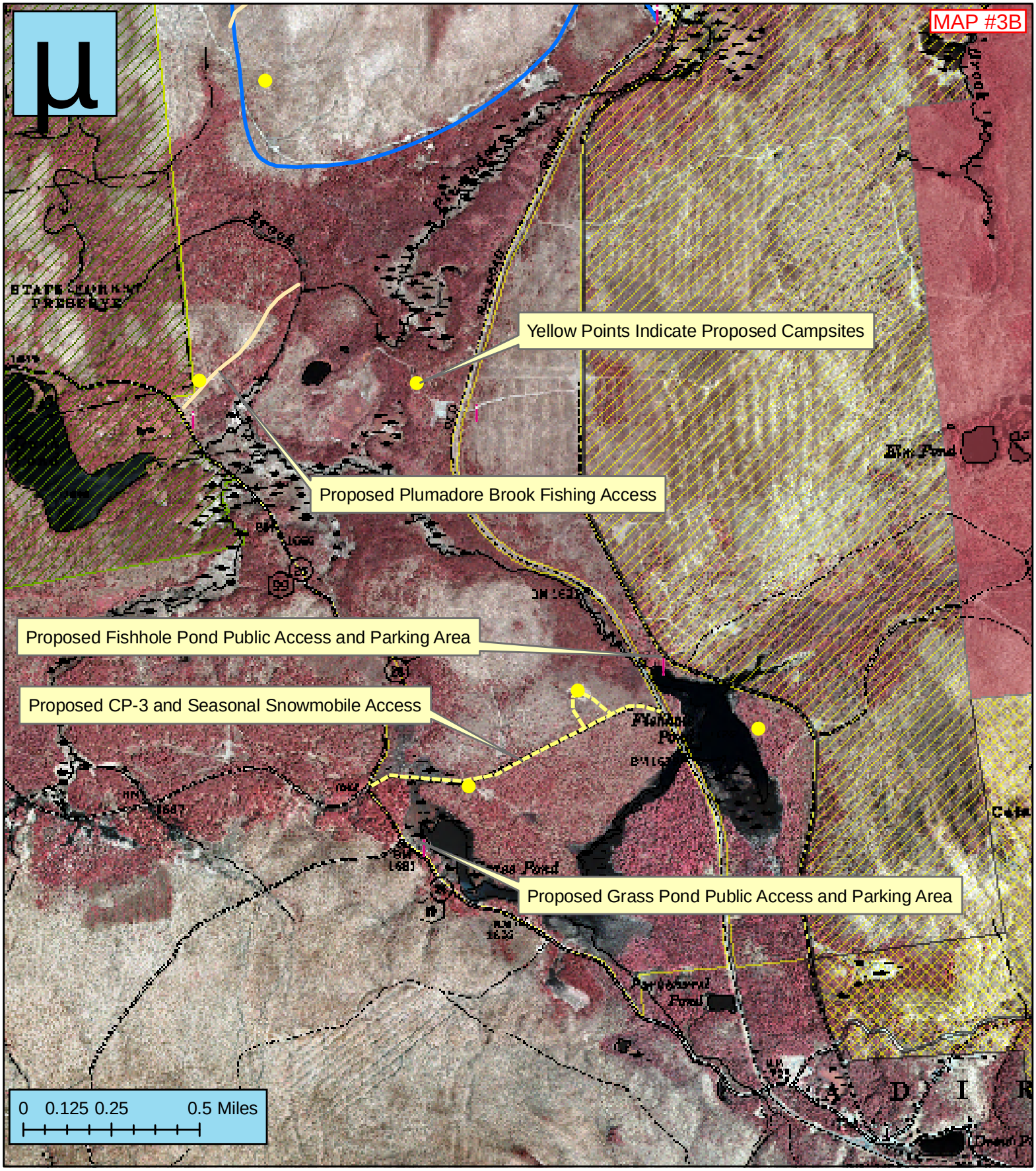


Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Plumadore-Inman Public Use Area-- Northern Section
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Type
- Foot Trail
- Mountain Bike Trail
- Stream, 1:24,000

Sable Highlands
- Catamount Club Inc. Lease
- Mount Tom Hunting Club Lease
- Plumadore Club Inc. Lease
- LRC 9
- LRC 9 PUA- Private Lease Boundary
- LRC 10
- Plumadore-Inman PUA

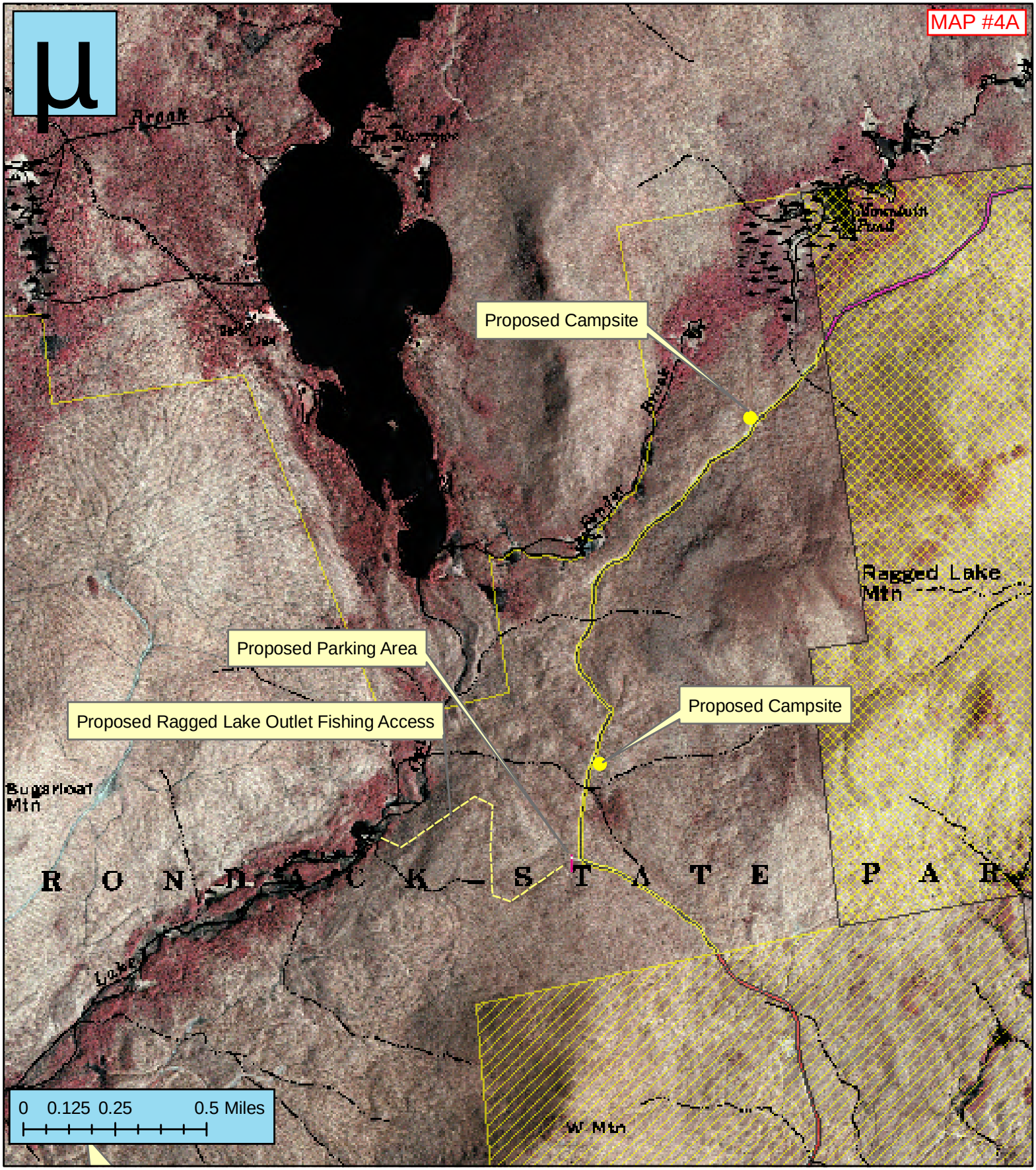


Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Plumadore-Inman Public Use Area-- Southern Section
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Type
- Foot Trail
- Mountain Bike Trail

Sable Highlands
- Catamount Club Inc. Lease
- Loon Lake Beaver Lodge Club Inc. Lease
- Pine Camp Hunting Lodge Inc. Lease
- LRC 9 Public-Private Lease Boundary
- Plumadore-Inman PUA

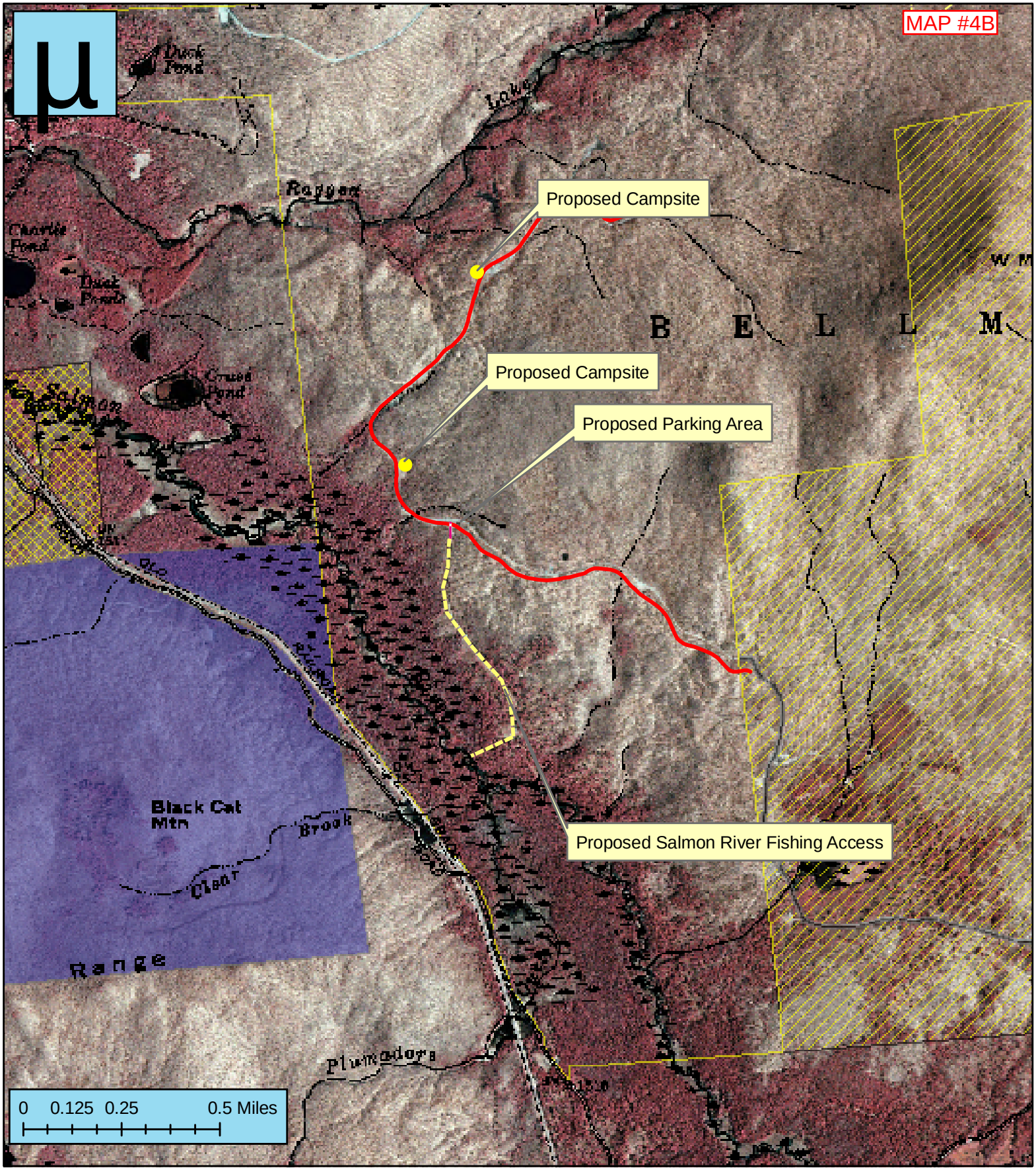


Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Sugarloaf Public Use Area- Northeast Section
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Sable Highlands

- LRC 1 through Hunters Home
- LRC 1 through PUA
- LRC 1 through Lost Pond
- Sugarloaf PUA
- Lost Pond Club Lease
- Hunters Home Rod and Gun Club Reserved Rights



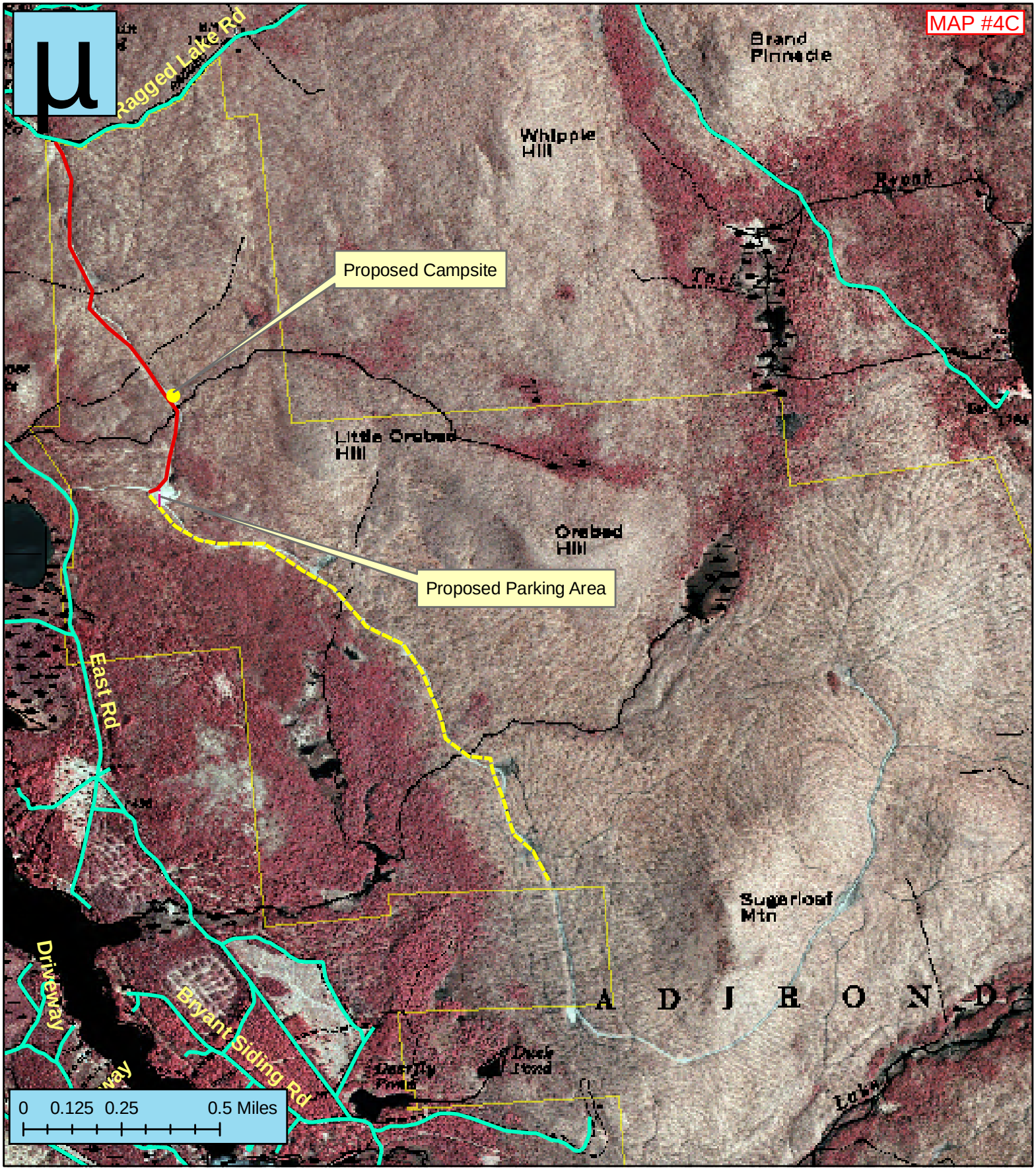
Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Sugarloaf Public Use Area- Southern Section
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

W Mountain Road

Sable Highlands

- LRC 11
- LRC 1 through Lost Pond
- Sugarloaf PUA
- Mount Tom Hunting Club Lease
- Lost Pond Club Lease
- Twisted Horn Hunting Club Lease



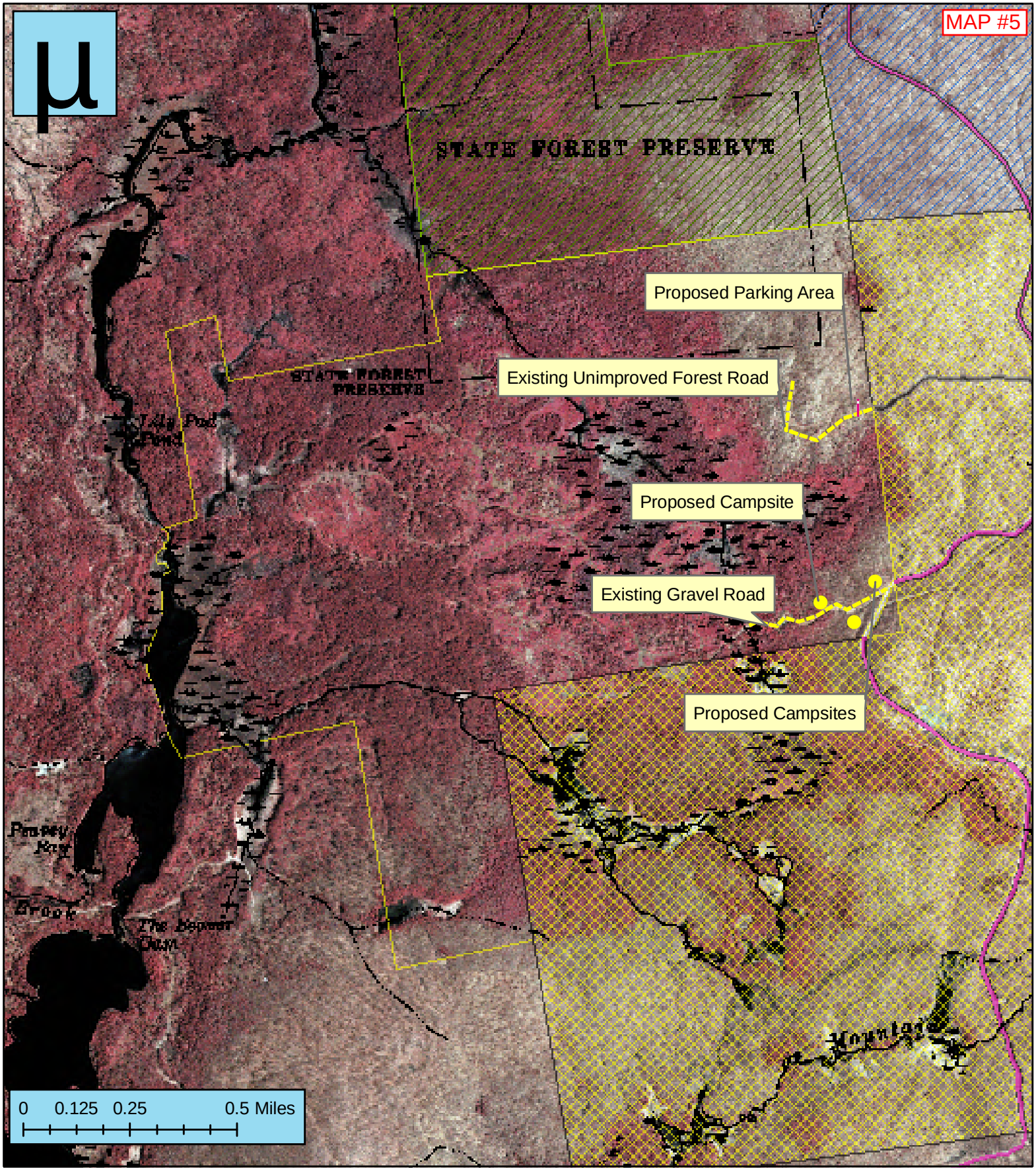
Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Sugarloaf Public Use Area- Western Section
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

- Local Streets
- Proposed Mountain Bike Trail
- Motor Vehicle Road

Sable Highlands

- Sugarloaf PUA



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Lilypad Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

Lilypad PUA

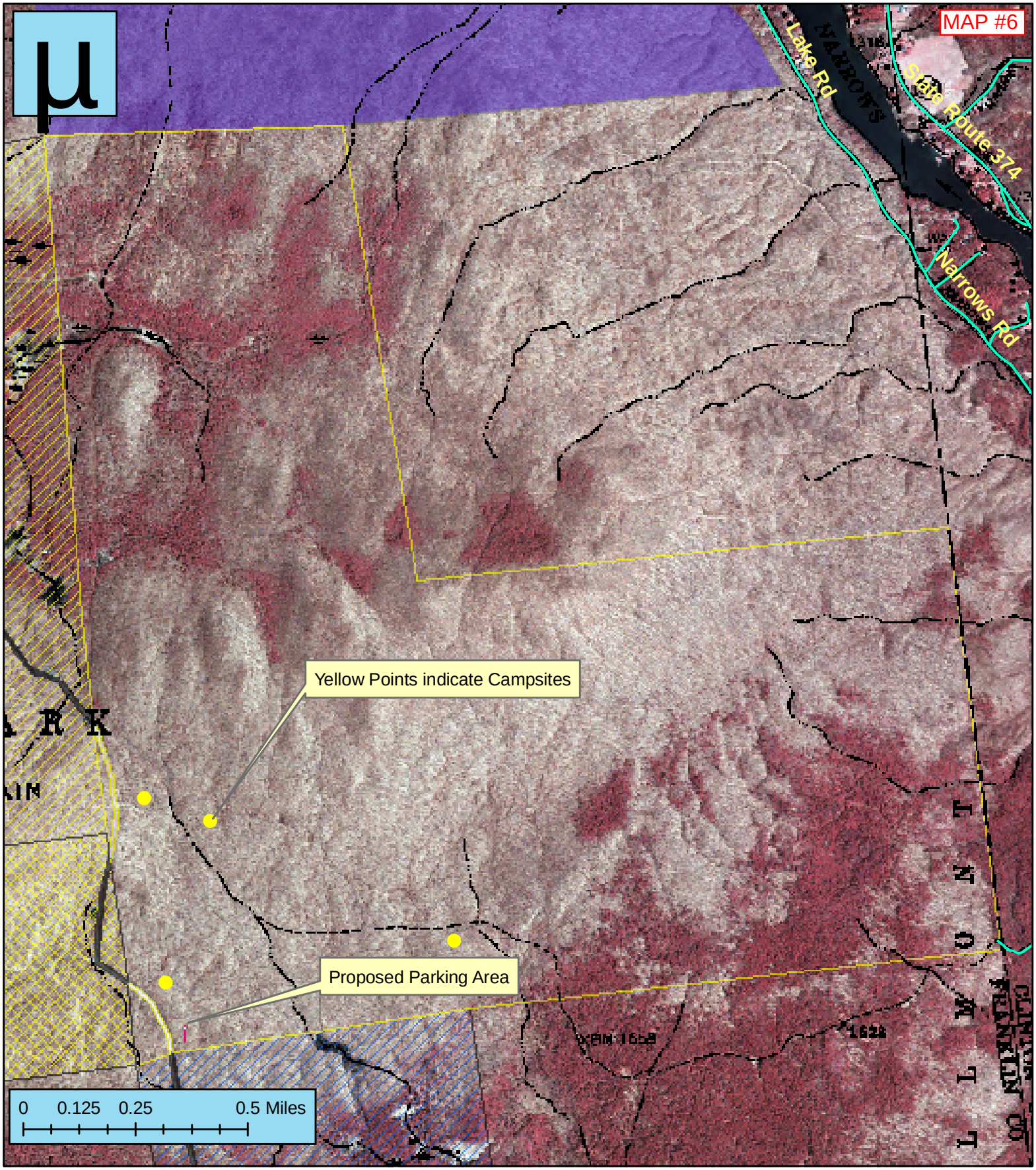
LRC 2

LRC 1 Through PUA

LRC 1 Through Private Lease

Johnson's Hunting Club Reserved Rights

Big Horn Club Lease

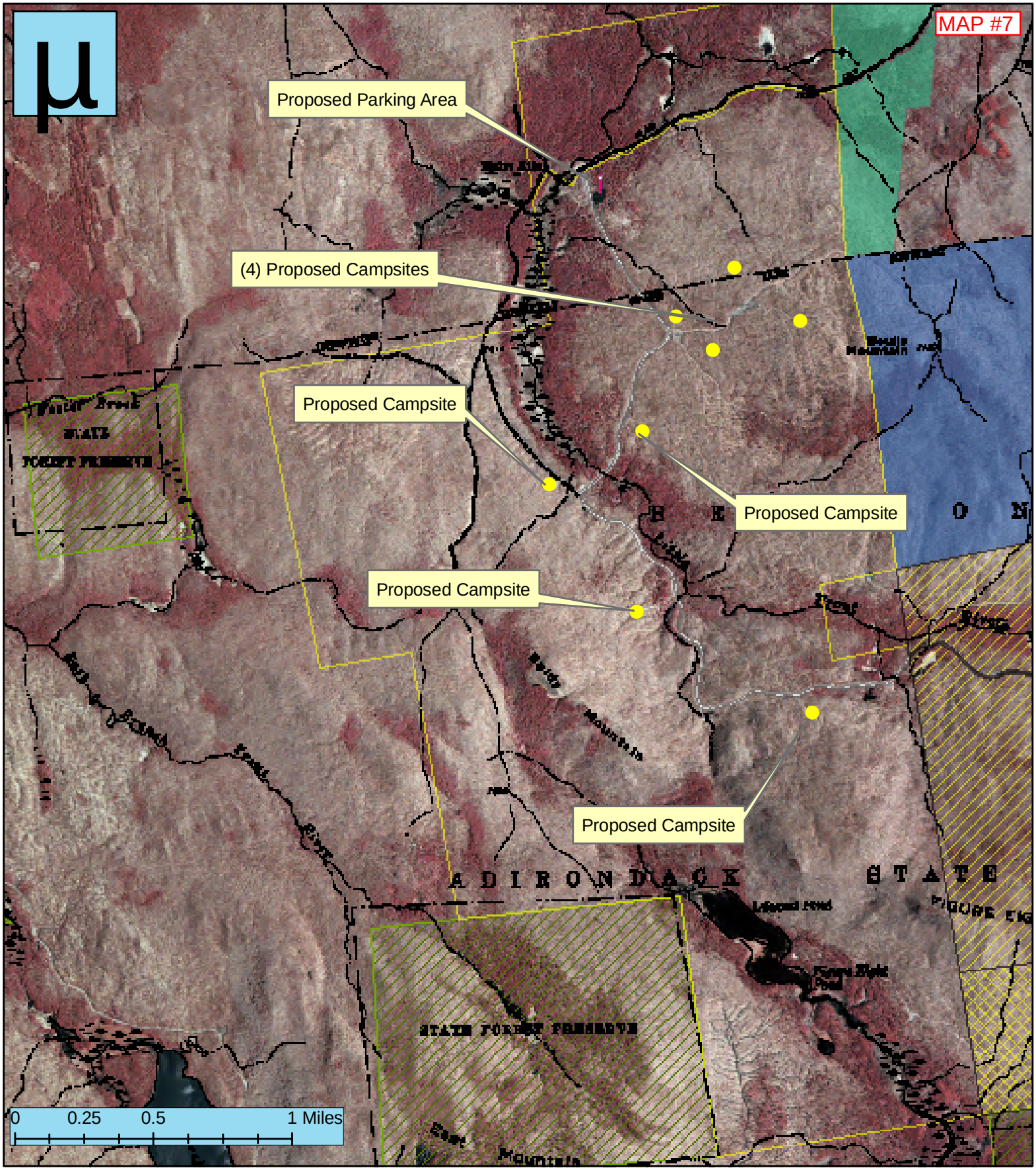


Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Rocky Brook Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Sable Highlands

- 43 Club Inc Lease
- Lot 32 Hunting Club Lease
- Rocky Brook PUA
- Lot 63 Hunting Club Lease
- LRC 1 Through PUA
- LRC 1 Through Private Lease
- Johnson's Hunting Club Reserved Rights



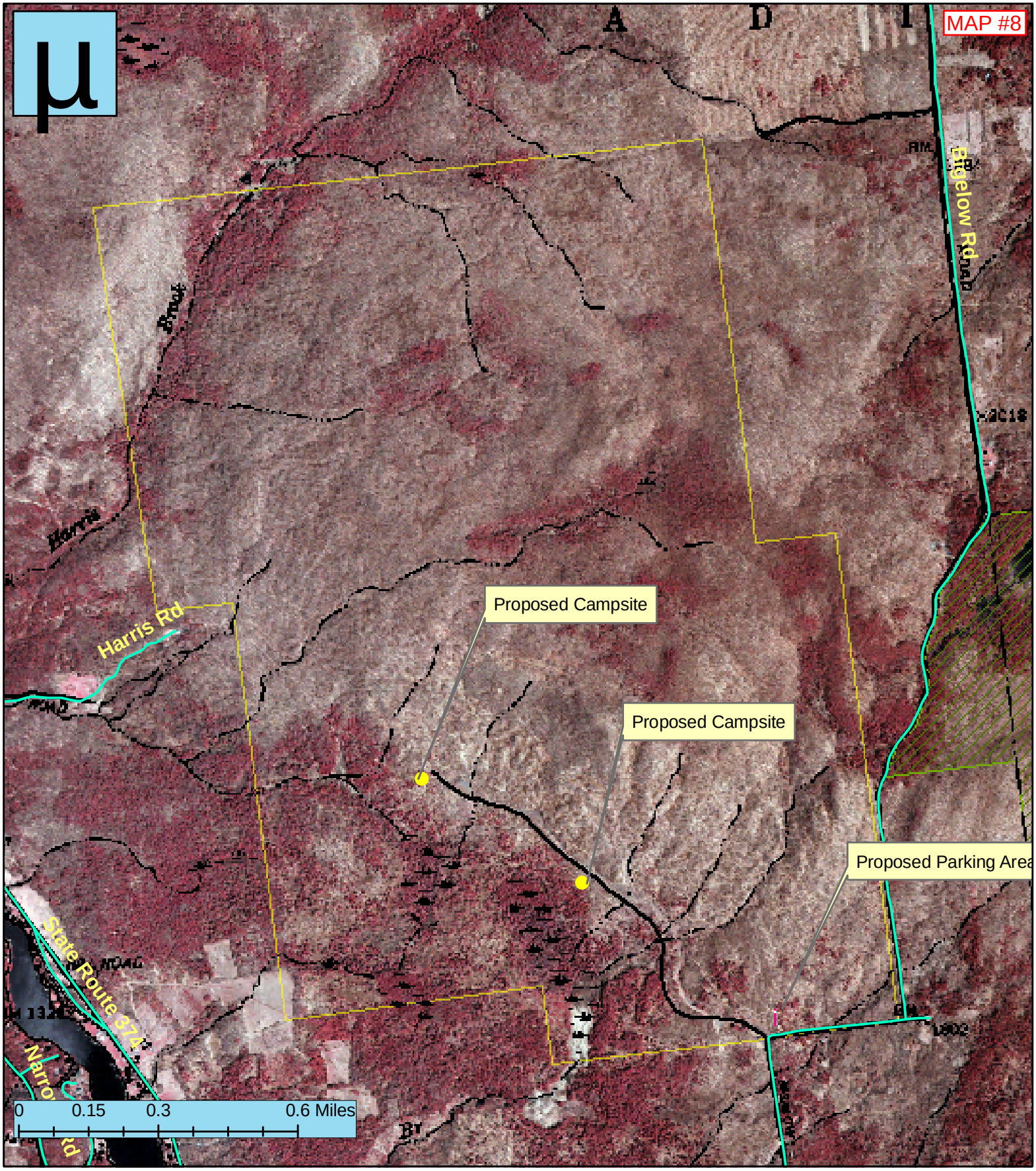
Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Figure 8 Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

- Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

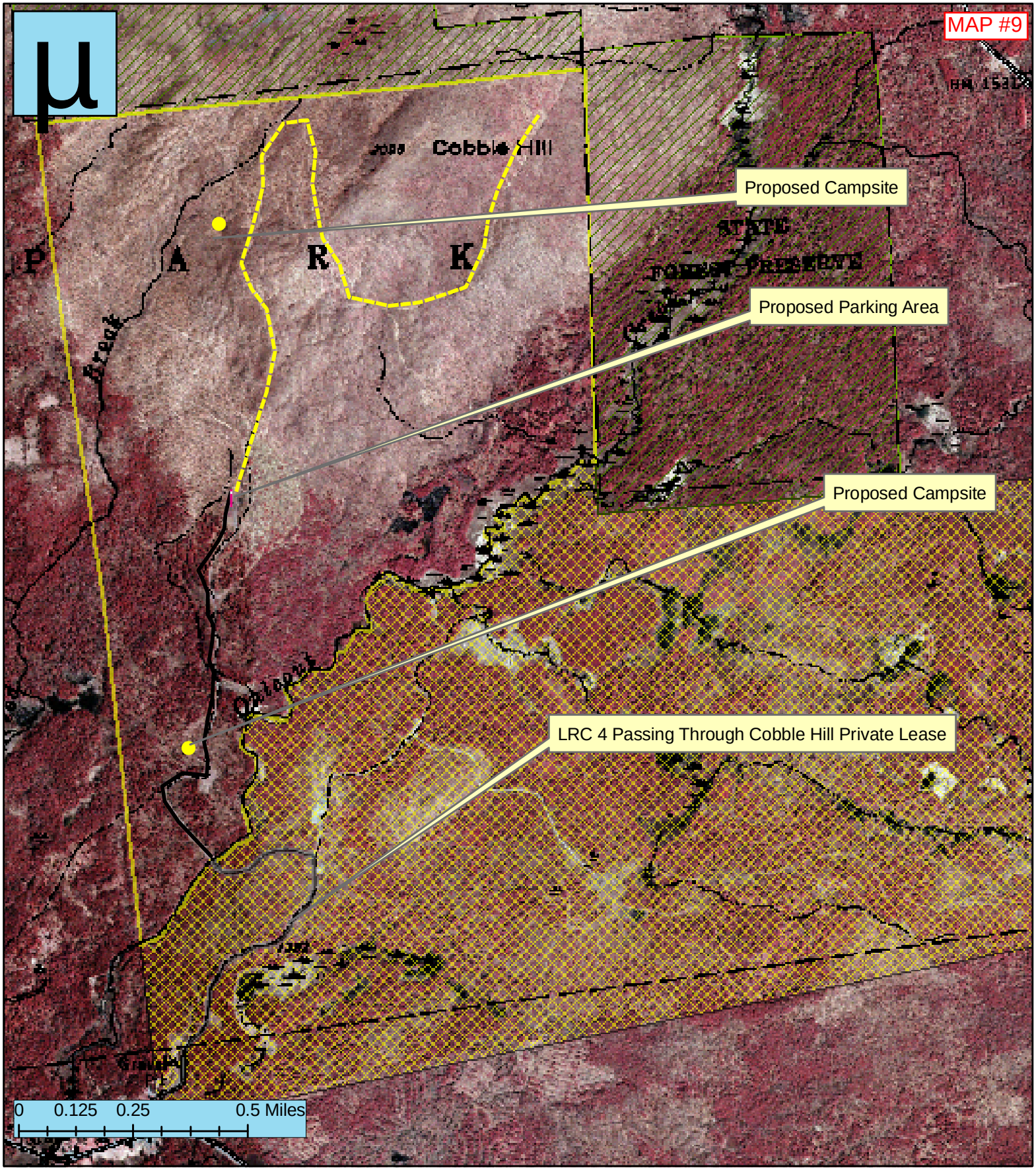
- Figure 8 Mountain Hunting Club Lease
- Blairs Kiln Hunt Club Lease
- Figure 8 PUA
- 43 Club Inc Lease
- Lot 63 Hunting Club Lease
- LRC 1 Through PUA
- LRC 1 Through Private Lease



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Bigelow Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

- Forest Preserve Lands
- Bigelow PUA
- Local Streets
- Griffin Brook Road



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Cobble Hill Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

Cobble Hill PUA

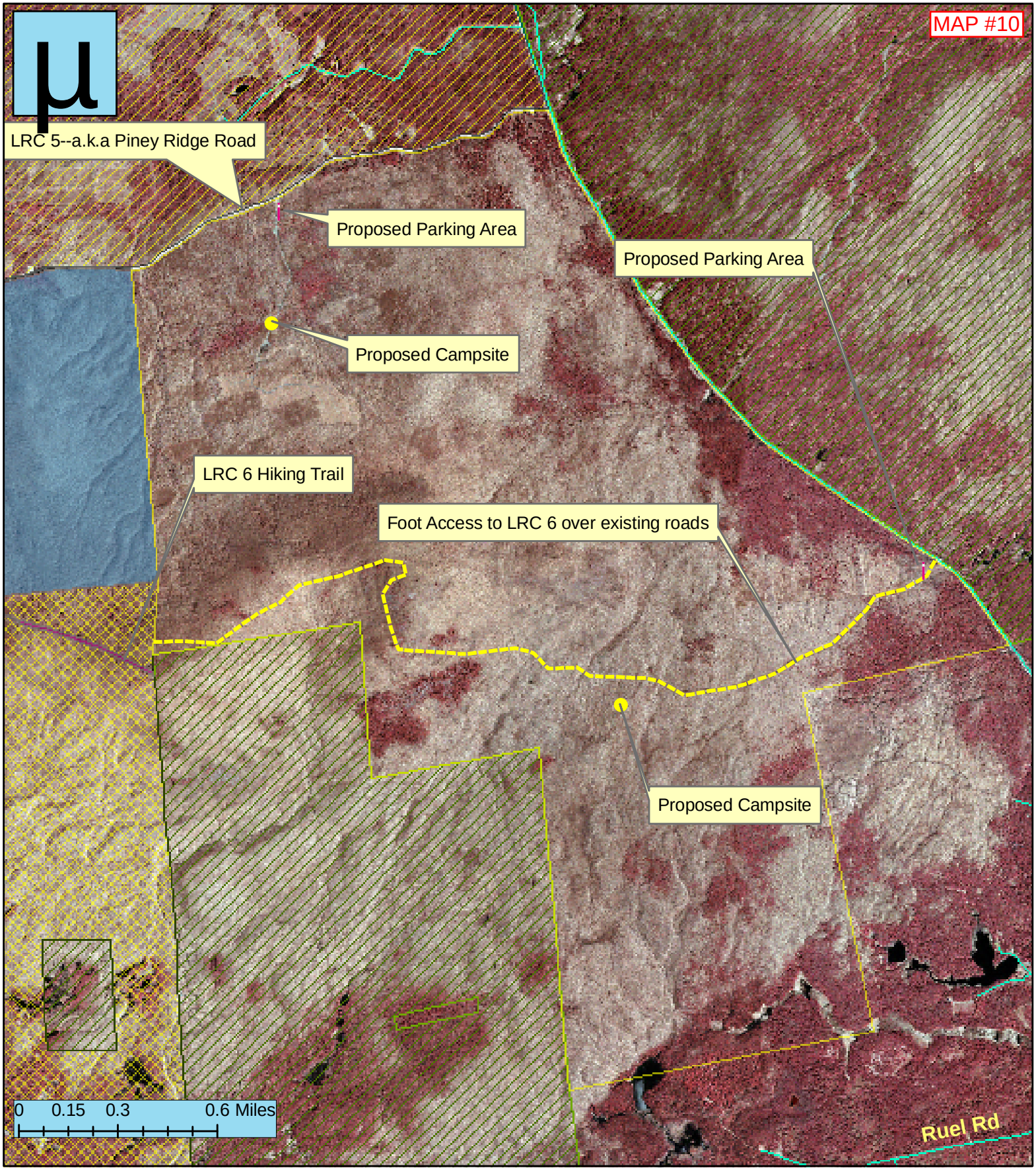
LRC 4

Cobble Hill Hunting Club Lease

Type

CP-3 Trail

Motor Vehicle Road



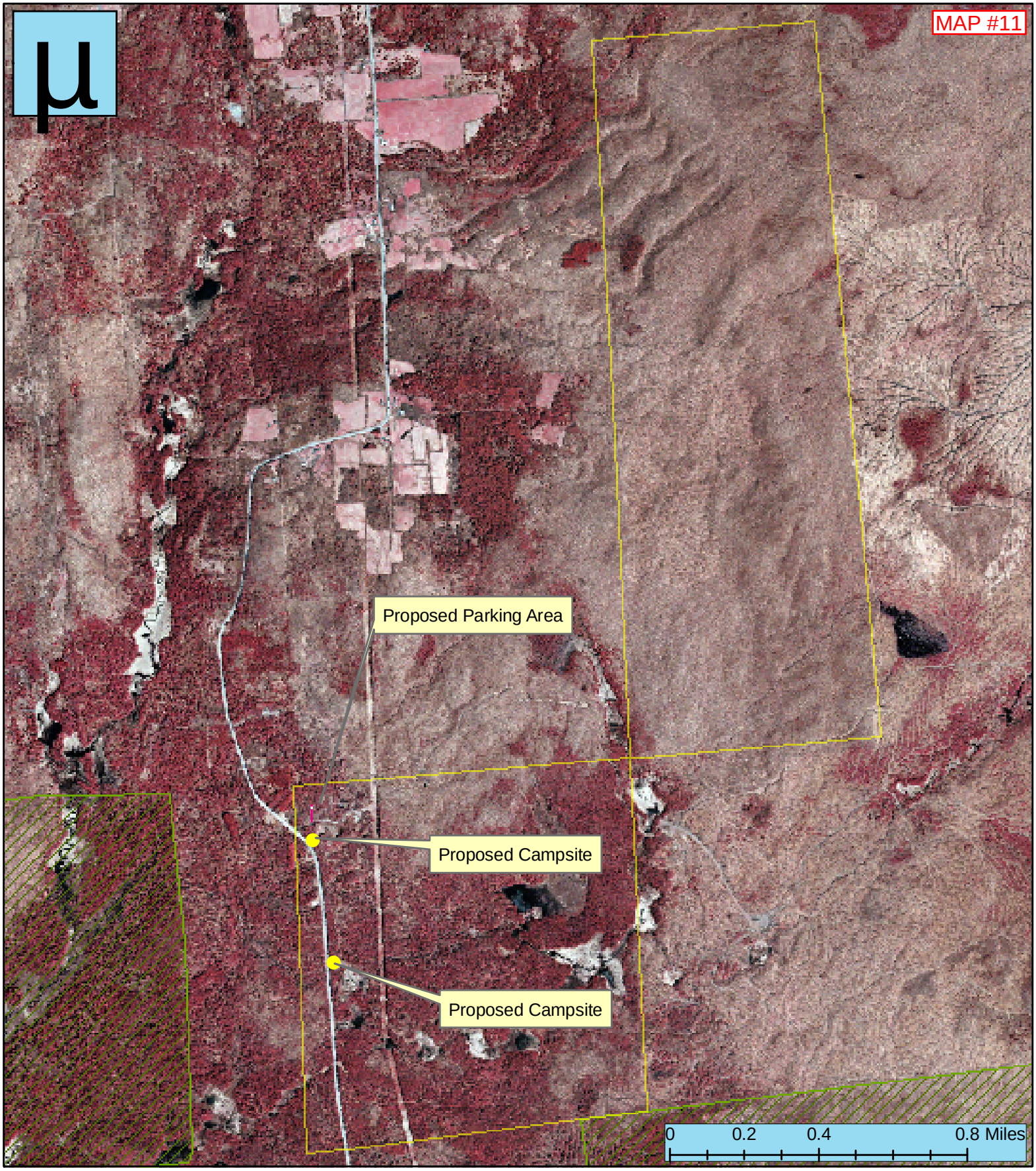
Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Cold Brook Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

LRC 5 Public-Private Lease Boundary
LRC 6
LRC 5
Cold Brook PUA
Stillwater Hunting Club Lease
Rangers Retreat Inc. Lease
Lonesome Lodge Lease

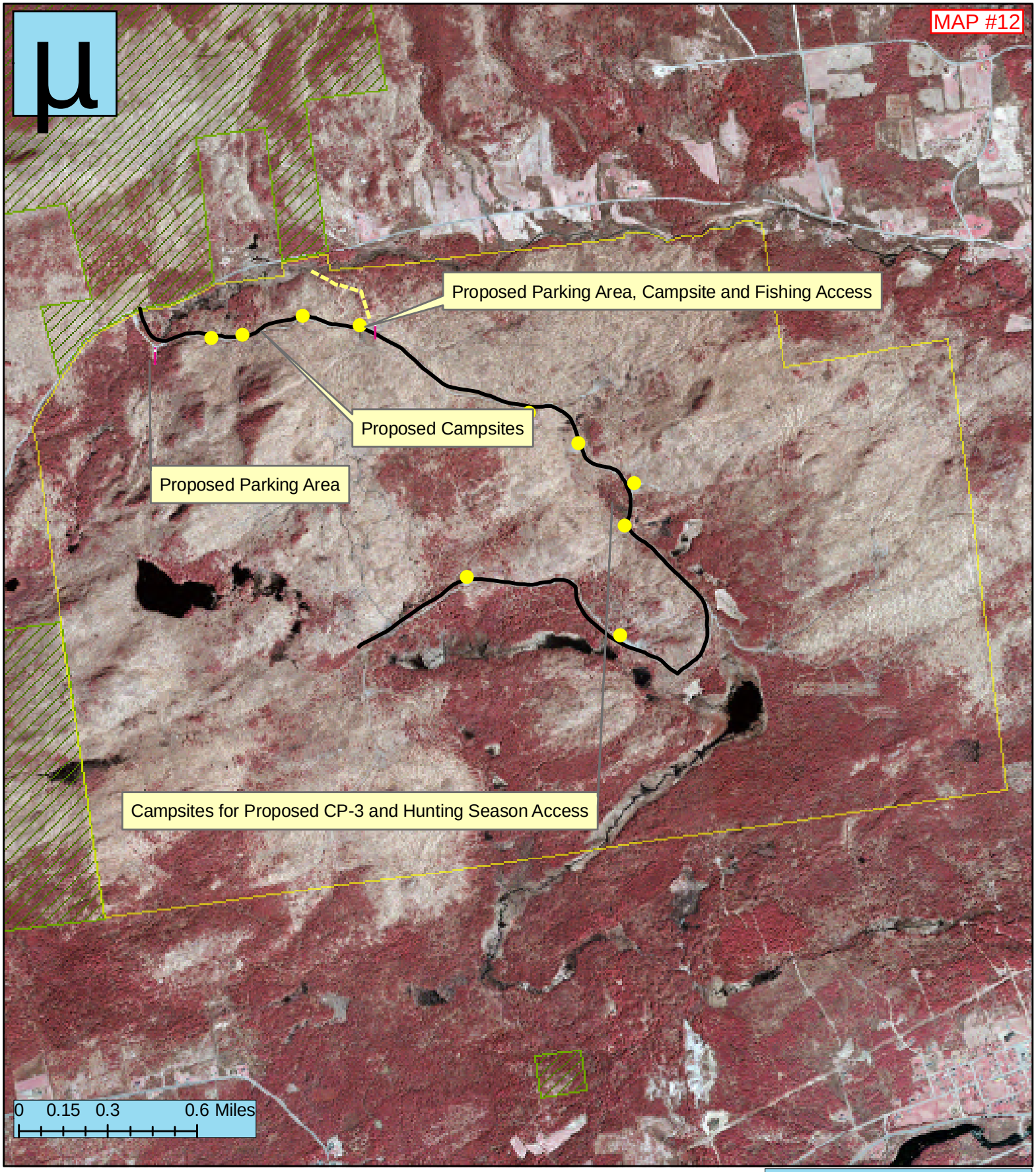


Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Bradley Pond Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Bradley Pond PUA



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Barnes Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

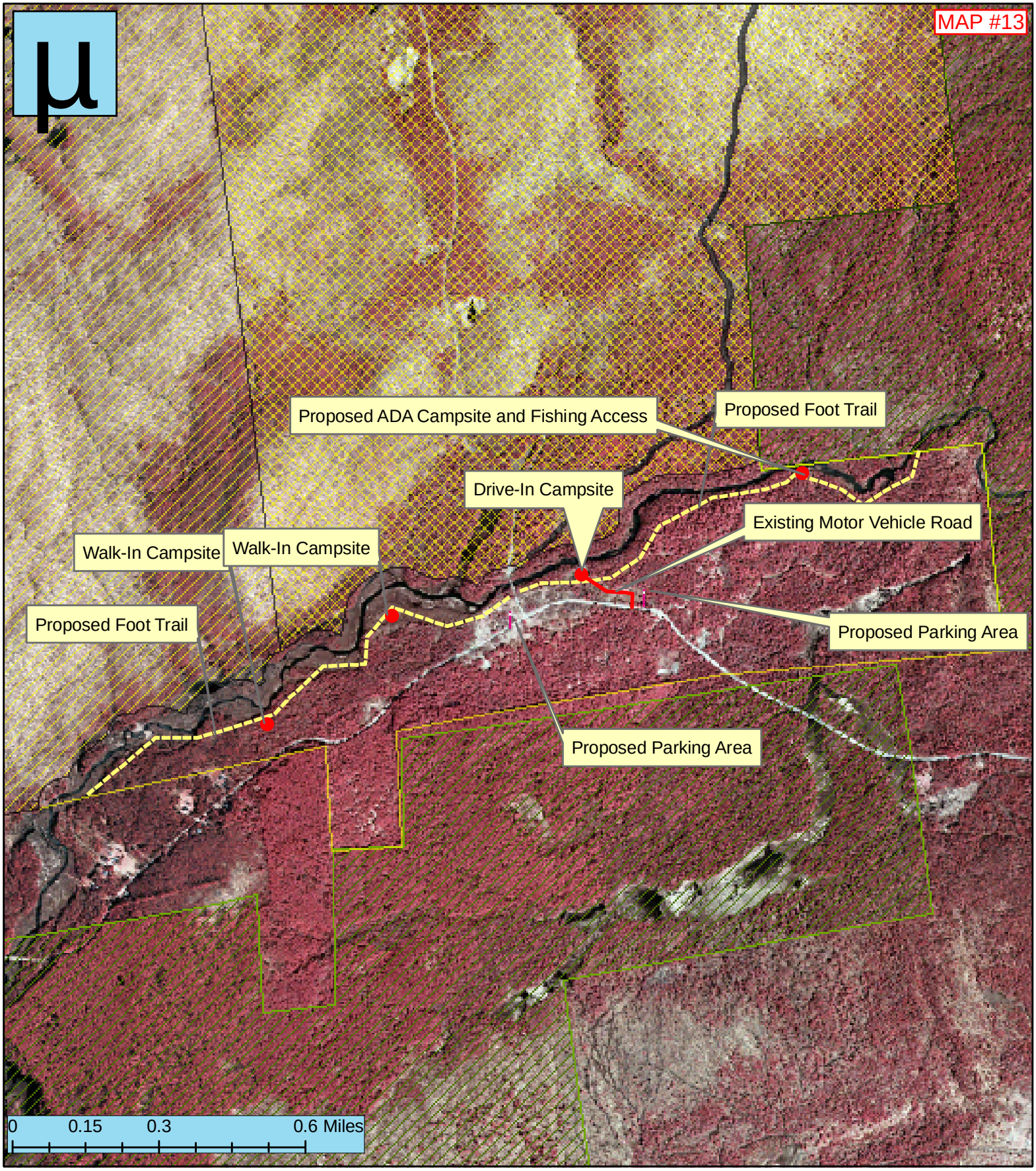
Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

Barnes Pond PUA

Barnes Pond Road



Sable Highlands Conservation Easement
Interim Recreation Management Plan
Proposed Public Recreation Facilities and Improvements
Saranac River Public Use Area
April 2009
Symbols Indicating Facilities Show Approximate Locations Only
Final Facility Location/Re-location will be dictated by Site Conditions

Legend

Forest Preserve Lands

Sable Highlands

Saranac River PUA

LRC 8

R.R. Lapier Hunting Association Inc. Lease

Happy 25 Hunt Club inc. Lease