

APPENDIX H
SEQR DOCUMENTS

SEQR Negative Declaration

mapped by volunteers. It is necessary for public safety reasons. No significant impacts are anticipated as a result of this action.

The relocated parking areas will involve new construction. The capacity of both parking areas will remain the same, at five at the Old Godfrey Road parking area with one new van accessible spot and at 10 at the West River Road parking area with one new van accessible spot. These parking areas will provide access to the NPT and adjacent public lands. Parking area construction will consist of tree cutting, grading, and surfacing. No significant impacts are anticipated as a result of this action.

Two additional primitive roadside campsites will be designated along the West River Road to compensate for the sites no longer accessible by car after the road closure. Campsite designation will entail brushing and marking appropriate locations. No significant impacts are anticipated as a result of this action.

Location: The Silver Lake Wilderness Area is located in the Towns of Lake Pleasant, Benson, Wells, Hope and Arietta in Hamilton County.

Reasons Supporting This Determination: A majority of the proposed management actions consist primarily of monitoring and maintenance to protect the natural resources of the area. The construction of new parking areas and trails will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines established in the Division of Operations Handbook for building trails and parking areas in addition to all other applicable Department rules, regulations, policies and guidelines. Any tree cutting will be in compliance with the Commissioner's Delegation Memorandum #84-06 on Tree Cutting in the Forest Preserve and LF-91-2 Policy on Cutting, Removal or Destruction of Trees and Other Vegetation on Forest Preserve Lands .

Parking area construction will involve some tree removal. Rock or earth will not be removed from the site. Disturbed areas that are not part of the parking area will be re-seeded.

Parking area construction and relocation projects will be developed in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, and will incorporate the use of Best Management Practices, including but not limited to such considerations as:

- Locating parking lots to minimize necessary cut and fill;
- Locating parking lots away from streams, wetlands, and unstable slopes wherever possible;
- Locating parking lots on flat, stable, well-drained sites;
- Locating parking lots in areas that require a minimum amount of tree cutting;
- Limiting construction to periods of low or normal rainfall;
- Wherever possible, using wooded buffers to screen parking lots from roads;
- Limiting the size of the parking lot to the minimum necessary to address the intended use.

The trail re-route would eliminate public safety concerns as well as improve the user experience and overall character of the trail. Trail construction and relocation projects will be developed in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, and will incorporate the use of Best Management Practices, including but not limited to such considerations as:

- Locating trails to minimize necessary cut and fill;
- Wherever possible, lay out trails on existing old roads or clear or partially cleared areas;

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- Locating trails away from streams, wetlands, and unstable slopes wherever possible;
- Use of proper drainage devices such as water bars and broad-based dips;
- Constructing stream crossings at right angles to the stream;
- Locating trails to minimize grade;
- Using stream crossings with low, stable banks, firm stream bottom and gentle approach slopes;
- Limiting stream crossing construction to periods of low or normal flow;
- Using natural materials to blend the structure into the natural surroundings;
- Using stream bank stabilizing structures made of natural materials such as rock or wooden timbers;
- Consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency to determine if an agency wetlands permit is required.

All bridge construction and relocation projects will incorporate the use of Best Management Practices, including but not limited to such considerations as:

- Minimizing channel changes and the amount of cut or fill needed;
- Limiting construction activities in the water to periods of low or normal flow;
- Minimizing the use of equipment in the stream;
- Installing bridges at right angles to the stream channel;
- Constructing bridges to blend into the natural surroundings;
- Using stream bank stabilizing structures made of natural materials such as rock or wooden timbers;
- Stabilizing bridge approaches with aggregate or other suitable material;
- Using soil stabilization practices on exposed soil around bridges immediately after construction;
- Designing, constructing and maintaining bridges to avoid disrupting the migration or movement of fish and other aquatic life;
- Consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency in cases where existing bridge abutments must be replaced.

Campsite designation and relocation projects will be developed in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, and will incorporate the use of Best Management Practices, including but not limited to such considerations as:

- Locating campsites to minimize cut and fill;
- Locating campsites to minimize tree cutting;
- Locating campsites so that they are properly separated from one another;
- Locating campsites away from wetlands, streams, and unstable slopes;
- Locating campsites on flat, stable, well drained sites;
- Use of drainage structures on access trails to prevent water flowing into the site;

Fishery management projects will be developed in accordance with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan and the following Environmental Impact Statements:

- The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on the Fish Species Management Activities of the DEC, Division of Fish and Wildlife, June 1980
- The Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the NYSDEC Program of Liming Selected Acidified Waters, October 1980, as well as the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Liming Policy

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- The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Habitat Management Activities

Recreational opportunities for people with disabilities will be increased by creating an accessible trail, tent pad, pit privy and paths between these elements that will be constructed at West Stony Creek. Preparation of the site will involve minor grading and surfacing the road.

If Conditioned Negative Declaration, provide on attachment the specific mitigation measures imposed.

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Eric J. Kasza
Address: NYSDEC
PO Box 89
225 North Main Street
Herkimer, NY 13350

Telephone Number: (315) 866-6330

For Type I Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a Copy of this Notice Sent to:
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233;
Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation; Office of the Chief
Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located.

Applicant (if any)

Other involved agencies (if any)