TREATY LINE

UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Executive Summary

A Management Unit
Consisting of Ten State Forests
In The Area Where Broome, Chenango and Delaware Counties Adjoin

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PREFACE

It is the policy of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to conduct management planning on State lands which will maintain ecosystems by providing a wide array of benefits for current and future generations. The Treaty Line Unit Management Plan, comprised of ten State forests, is the basis for supporting a multiple-use goal through the implementation of specific objectives and management strategies. This management will be carried out to ensure the sustainability, biological improvement and protection of the Unit's ecosystems and to optimize the many benefits to the public that these State Lands can provide. The multiple-use goal will be accomplished through the applied integration of compatible and sound land management practices.

The Treaty Line Unit Management Plan is the first cooperative effort between two New York State DEC regions. The plan is based upon a long-range vision for the management of the area. Specific goals and objectives to support that vision are based upon the rapidly evolving principles and technologies of ecosystem management and the increased demands for public use benefits. Further scientific advances are certain to occur within the 20-year projections of the Plan and could influence many of the options and activities proposed. All aspects of the Plan will be subject to a review in five years and a review, revision and update in 10 years. It should also be noted that factors such as fluctuating wood product markets, changing social mores, budget and staffing constraints and forest health problems may necessitate deviations from the schedule based on the judgement of the respective Regional Foresters.

*Article 9, Titles 5 and 7 of the Environmental Conservation Law authorize the Department of Environmental Conservation to provide for the management of lands acquired outside the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. Management as defined by these laws includes watershed protection, the production of timber and other forest products, recreation and kindred purposes. The Draft State Forest Land Master Plan provides direction and a framework for meeting this legal mandate.

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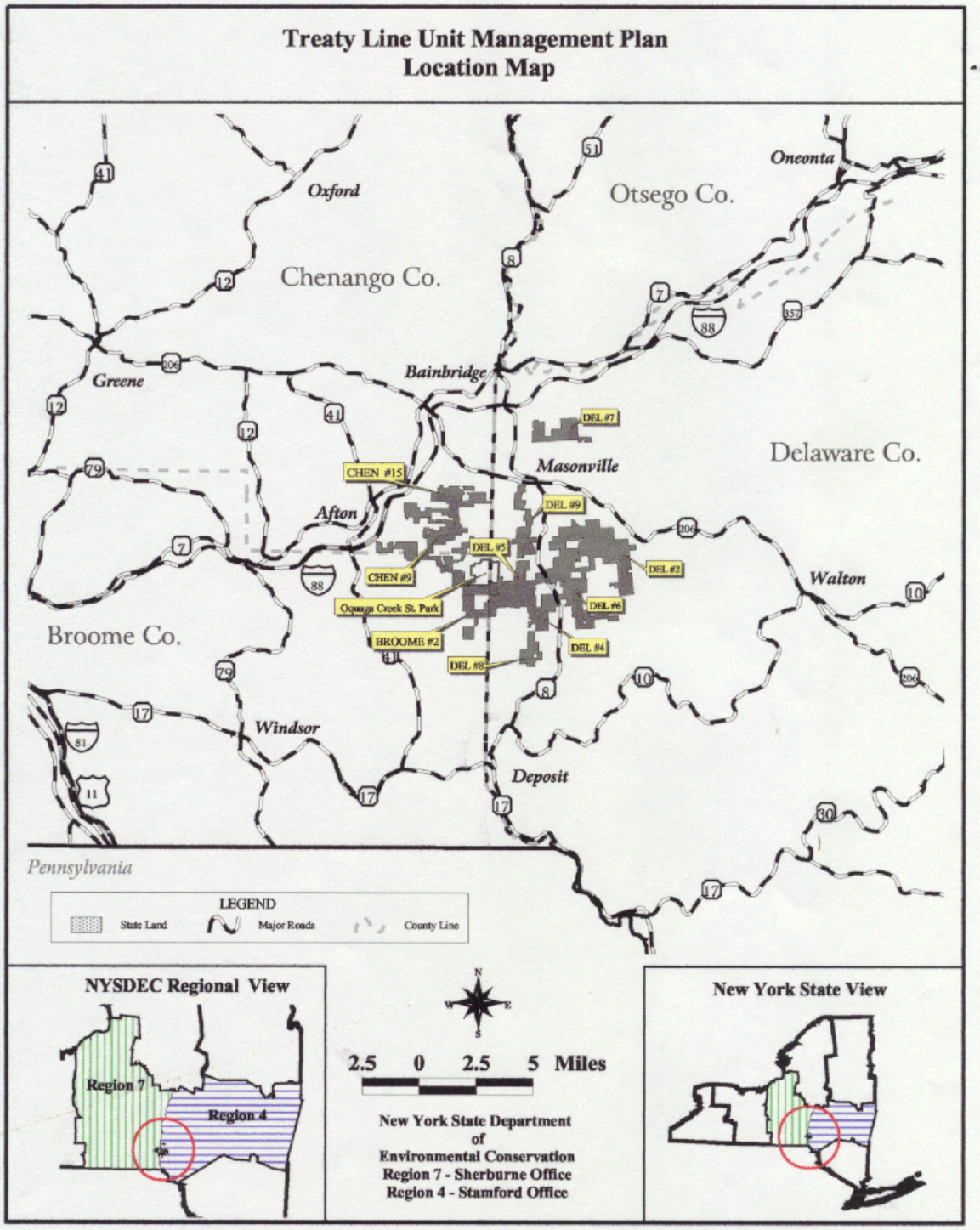
MAP OF UNIT


Treaty Line Unit Management Plan
Location Map
Oxford
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Oneonta
Chenango Co.
Greene
Bainbridge
Delaware Co.
Masonville
Afton
Walton
Broome Co.
Windsor
Deposit
Pennsylvania
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NYSDEC Regional View
Region 7
Region 4
2.5 0 2.5 5 Miles
New York State Department
of
Environmental Conservation
Region 7 - Sherburne Office
Region 4 - Stamford Office
New York State View

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. State Forest History

The 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 woodlands were cleared for cultivation and pasture.

Early farming efforts met with limited success. As the less fertile soils proved unproductive, farms 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 by purchase, for reforestation areas. 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 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, very little was accomplished on the reforestation areas. Plans for further planning, 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.

Today there are nearly 700,000 acres of State Forest Land throughout New York State. The use of these Lands for a wide variety of purposes such as timber production, hiking, skiing, fishing, trapping and hunting is of tremendous importance economically and to the health and well-being of the people of the State.

B. Local History

The two major watersheds of the landscape area of the Treaty Line Unit, the Susquehanna River flowing into the Chesapeake Bay and the Delaware River flowing into the Delaware Bay are the primary reasons the area has a tremendously rich history.

The waterways were a means and corridor of travel for the native Americans long before the European immigrants entered the area. The northern end of these watersheds were inhabited by members of the Delaware Nation and the Iroquois Empire, specifically the Oneidas and the Mohawk Nations.

The first immigrant people to inhabit the area were primarily Dutch fur traders and trappers who traded with the natives.

The Treaty Line Management Plan overlaps not only three present-day counties, but also the

boundary line from the Treaty of Ft. Stanwix of 1768; hence, the name "Treaty Line". There is a mass of influences that the Revolutionary War had upon the local history.

The Treaty Line still exists today as Delaware County's western line and Broome and Chenango County's eastern borders. Hence, the management plan area is split down the middle by this historical revolutionary boundary. The course of European settlement on this area was affected by the conflicts of the Border Wars and this division perhaps more than any other geographical area in the East.

In 1786, in the aftermath of the Revolutionary War, Massachusetts claimed ownership of the lands west of the Treaty Line. Their claims, however, were made to New York and not to the Iroquois Nation.

Negotiations were made and properties divided either as land grants to Revolutionary War heros or as surveyed divisions sold to developers.

The most significant environmental impacts on the Unit area properties were caused by the early pioneers as land clearing for agriculture and in the growth and development of the timber industry.

The late 1700s saw the settlement of most of the towns on the Unit. Territory now known as the Town of Tompkins saw the first European settler in 1785.

As the settlements grew and formed towns, along with them grew the dairy and timber industries. The areas most likely would have developed slowly and primarily as agricultural lands had it not been for two events which unfolded and shaped the direction of the settlers' endeavors. These were the river trade and the War of 1812.

The War of 1812 created a high demand for ship timbers, as the American Navy was engaging in battles with the British. Coupled with growing pioneer settlements, this demand was met by an increase in logging activities throughout the area. The period of 1820-1850 is documented as a time of heavy logging and lumbering in the Town of Masonville's history.

The lure of money for the tall pines and oak trees which once covered the landscape led to heavy logging with many hillsides being high graded or simply cleared entirely. All this logging allowed an easier avenue for settling farmers which turned out to be, in most cases, a short turn at the agricultural business.

For most of the area, the mid 1800s were a time of heavy logging, but by the late 1800s dairying became a principal industry. A census of the Town of Masonville in 1897 showed dairying to be the main land use.

The movement into the industrial age and the development of transportation systems shifted demands for people and resources. Road systems improved, the railroads were opened and America's populations pushed West. Local farms struggled with various pressures due to bad weather and marginal soils. By the turn of the century many were headed for failure.

The development of the railroads and the growth of the industrial age helped many of the already struggling agricultural areas to turn to additional timber harvesting. The acid factories and tanneries of the late 1800s continued large-scale demand for wood products adding to demands from the many smaller businesses which had grown with the settling populations.

The acid factories produced chemicals demanded by the industrial age and the processes for making woolen cloth.

With the bottom lands in the area already cleared for farming, those upland sites not farmed saw continued wood harvesting. By the 1920s, synthetic chemicals were developed in Germany, and the local industry soon faltered. The harsh economic times and the onset of the Great

Depression drove many upland farm properties into bankruptcy and eventually into state ownership where they remain today as managed forest properties.

Many old stone walls can be found on State Lands along with the foundations of some of the original farms in the area. Aside from these physical remnants and the changes in the forest overstory, remaining evidence of the early settlers and the original inhabitants are little more than scattered old quarries, small family cemeteries, old foundation sites and portions of original road systems.

Names given to the current day State Forest properties are generally derived from their geographic locations or the original settlers. Pine Hill State Forest in Masonville is located on Pine Hill. Barbour Brook State Forest surrounds and protects the headwaters of Barbour Brook which flows near the former Barbourville. Beals Pond State Forest borders Beals Pond which is named after the original settler, A. Beals. Michigan Hill State Forest north of Deposit is located atop Michigan Hill.

A few of the forest properties on the Unit acquired names from other avenues. Steam Mill State Forest derives its name from the local steam sawmill which was near the present day intersection of Steam Mill Road and the Mormon Hollow Cross Road. China State Forest is accessed via China Road. Arctic State Forest is so named for a hill top summit named "Arctic" as well as the former hamlet to the immediate west of the property. Melondy Hill State Forest is most likely named for the family Melondy or Melendie of the Afton area.

INFORMATION ON THE UNIT

A. Geographical and Geological Information

The Treaty Line Management Unit is located in the Town of Sanford in Broome County, the Town of Afton in Chenango County and the Towns of Deposit, Masonville and Tompkins in Delaware County. The Unit is located southeast of Interstate Route 88 and the Village of Bainbridge, north of State Route 17 and the Village of Deposit.

The Unit is comprised of ten State Forests:

Number	Name	Acres
Broome # 2	Melondy Hill	1,987.49
Chenango # 9	Melondy Hill	2,330.06
Chenango #15	Melondy Hill	1,139.06
Delaware # 2	Steam Mill	5,617.98
Delaware # 4	Arctic-China	1,190.26
Delaware # 5	Arctic-China	1,768.89
Delaware # 6	Barbour Brook	767.84
Delaware # 7	Pine Hill	1,089.40
Delaware # 8	Michigan Hill	619.45
Delaware # 9	Beech Hill	1,116.43
	Total State Forests	17, 626.86

The Unit abuts the south and easterly sides of Oquaga Creek State Park. The Cannonsville Reservoir Tract, part of New York City's Water Supply System, abuts the southeastern corner of the Unit.

Elevations range from 1150-2157 feet. The lower extremes are found on the southern slopes of the Susquehanna River Valley and nearby tributaries in the northwestern part of the Unit, while the higher elevations with many hilltops are found in the eastern portion of the Unit in Delaware County.

The Unit is located in the western-most portion

of the Catskills Highland subsection of the Catskill Mountain Ecological Unit (U. S. Forest Service Ecological Units of the Eastern United States: First Approximation 1995). Fifteen thousand years ago the receding Wisconsin glacier cut and etched the landscape. It left behind gently rolling flat-topped hills interspersed with low-lying river valleys. Steep side slopes and ravines are found adjacent to watercourses and wetlands are scattered throughout the Unit. The bedrock is composed of sandstone, siltstone and shale formed from marine sediments during the middle and upper Devonian periods.

The majority of the soil types are glacial till which are composed of heterogenous mixtures of particles deposited by the glacier. These soils are gently sloping to steep, deep to moderately deep and medium textured soils. They commonly have a firm substratum, range from poorly drained to well drained and have a seasonal high water table, low fertility, high acidity and erodibility on steeper slopes. More detailed information about soil is located in the U.S.D.A. publications: Soil Survey of Broome County, New York, Soil Survey of Chenango County, New York and Soil Survey of Delaware County, New York.

B. Land Classifications and Stages Within The Unit

Table I.
PRESENT LAND CLASSIFICATION, ACREAGE AND DIAMETER CLASS DISTRIBUTION

		Average Stand Diameters			
		1-5"	6-11"	12"+	
Land Classification	Total Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	% of Total
Office of Children and Family Services	10	-	-	-	<1
Shale Pits	11	-	-	-	<1
Ponds	42	-	-	-	<1
Open Lands	16	-	-	-	<1
Brush/Apple	128	-	-	-	1
Open Wetlands	79	-	-	-	<1
Mixed Hdwd/Nat Conifer*	2999	-	2322	677	17
Hardwoods*	9045	447	6535	2049	51
Conifer Plantation	5296	250	3498	1548	30
Total	17626	697	12355	4274	100

*contains a total of 196 acres of hardwood or mixed hardwood/softwood wetlands

The above data was compiled from existing inventory records and field reconnaissance estimates.

The Land Classification Categories are described as follows. The *Office of Children and Family Services* has a facility on the Unit known as Camp

Brace Residential Center along Route 8 north of Deposit. *Shale Pits* are active sites where shale has been extracted for Unit construction and maintenance projects. *Ponds* are small still bodies of water smaller than a lake that are often man made. *Open Lands* are essentially treeless and contain varying mixtures of grasses, brambles and forbes. *Brushlands* are early successional communities commonly containing shrubs and apple and thorn apple trees along with scattered openings. *Open Wetlands* are wetlands that have few trees and may be open wet meadows to brushy lightly wooded swamps. *Mixed Natural Hardwood/Natural Conifer* stands contain trees that have been established without direct human intervention and are composed of at least 10% eastern white pine or eastern hemlock mixed with natural hardwoods. *Natural Hardwood* stands also have been established without direct human intervention, but consist almost or entirely of hardwood species such as sugar maple, red maple, red oak, beech, white ash and black cherry. *Conifer Plantations* contain trees which have been established by direct human action and are composed of species such as red pine, white pine, Scotch pine, Norway spruce, white spruce, white cedar and larch.

Detailed information about vegetative communities can be found in the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) publication Ecological Communities of New York State by Carol Reschke.

C. Wetlands and Water Resources

In New York State, wetlands qualify as legally protected if they meet the criteria found in section 24-0107 of the Freshwater Wetlands Act and have at least 12.4 acres. The Treaty Line Unit contains all or parts of five Class II wetlands. These wetlands qualify for their Class II rating for the following enumerated characteristics: they are adjacent or contiguous to streams classified C(t) or higher under article 15 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) (664.6[b][5]) and/or they are within a publicly owned recreation area (664.6[e][4]).

With the exception of a few moderate-sized trout streams and several warm water ponds, water resources on the Treaty Line Unit Management Area are primarily small headwater streams. The streams of the northern and western parts of the Unit (Chenango RA #9 and 15 and Delaware RA #7) are part of the Susquehanna River Basin. Delaware RA #9 is split about in half, with the northern part draining into the Susquehanna River Basin and the southern portion draining into the Delaware River Basin. The rest of the watershed of the Unit drains into the Delaware River Basin. The very eastern portion of the watershed of the Unit flows into the Delaware River Basin above the Cannonsville Reservoir Dam at Stilesville, which is part of the New York City water supply system.

The small streams of the Unit support varying levels of wild trout reproduction. Several streams on the Unit are large enough to provide an opportunity for trout fishing. Some portions of Big Brook, Osborne Creek, Cold Spring Creek, Oquaga Creek, East Branch Cold Spring Creek and Steam Mill Branch on State Land are large enough to sustain limited recreational fishing for wild brook and/or brown trout.

Ten ponds are located partially or entirely within the Unit. Limited fisheries' information is available for Beales Pond only, but all are likely to sustain warm water (largemouth bass and sunfish) game fish populations. The Aiken Marsh Pond which is about six acres in size was built in the 1970s through a joint effort of the Delaware County Sportsman's Federation and DEC using Federal Pittman-Robertson funding.

Each of the Unit's forests have water courses variously classified as A(t), A(ts), C, C(t) C(ts) or D standards. The classification system regulations

and accompanying authority are found in ECL Sections 15-0313 and 17-0301.

D. Wildlife Resources

The Treaty Line Management Unit is characterized by mixed hardwood and hardwood/conifer stands and conifer plantations in various age classes. The terrain throughout the area is rolling hills interspersed with numerous creek and brook drainages, sometimes with associated bottomlands. The State Forests of the Unit generally lie on the hilltops. The area is enriched somewhat by the presence of a few scattered wetlands and small ponds. The habitat in the Unit allows for a moderate diversity of wildlife species to exist including many game species. Deer, turkey, grouse and squirrels are numerous.

No formal wildlife survey has been done on the area. Chambers, in his handbook Integrating Timber and Wildlife Management (1983), compiled an extensive list of wildlife species *presumed* to live within the Central Appalachians ecozone. Chambers' mapping of the ecological zones overlaps with the U.S. Forest Service 1995 mapping which classified the area in the Western Catskill Ecological Zone. He further qualified his list by categorizing wildlife species by forest type, stage and special habitat needs. Based on these understandably general characteristics, 49 species of mammals, 19 species of reptiles, 22 species of amphibians and 122 species of birds are *likely to be found* on the Treaty Line Management Unit

Records compiled from 1980-85 for The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State (1988) list all bird species that are considered possible, probable or confirmed breeders in any given Atlas block surveyed. For the blocks in the North Sanford, Trout Creek and Afton quadrangles in which the Unit is located, 113 species were identified.

White-tailed deer are important components of the Unit's fauna. Deer populations are managed in Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) by controlling the number of female deer taken by hunters in each Unit. Deer management permits are issued to accomplish this end, allowing for the harvest of female deer. Citizen Task Forces are formed in each WMU to represent the various community interests in deer management. Task forces consider hunting and agricultural interests, the number of deer/auto collisions, damage to residential shrubbery, and any other impacts deer have on society. They then make a recommendation as to how many deer they want to see in any given wildlife management unit; more, less or the same, up or down a certain percentage. The DEC's Bureau of Wildlife then sets the quota of deer management permits that will be issued to move the deer population in the direction recommended by the task force.

The DEC collects data from tags returned by successful deer hunters to determine the number of deer which were taken during each hunting season. From this data, the number of bucks taken per square mile is calculated and is then used to estimate the total deer harvests in counties, towns and WMUs. The 1997 deer harvest for the Towns of Masonville, Deposit, Tompkins, Sanford and Afton was 1,185, eight hundred thirty of which were bucks. For WMU 4O, which includes part of the Treaty Line Management Unit, the deer take in 1997 was 3,231. Two thousand, three hundred thirty-one bucks were taken which calculates to 2.9 per square mile. For management purposes, the desired harvest rate for WMU 4O is 2.5 per square mile. The deer herd is somewhat uniformly distributed throughout the Unit although more deer are probably found at the lower elevations in valley bottom lands where agricultural activities are concentrated.

The Treaty Line Management Unit is southwest of the primary Catskill black bear range. Bear, however, are becoming more common in the Unit. More sightings have been reported in recent years, and the number of nuisance complaints have risen as well. It is still rare for a black bear to be harvested in the Unit, though that may now change. When it happens it is usually incidental to the deer harvest. Black bears are commonly

harvested in the Delaware County Towns of Colchester, Andes and Roxbury to the east in their primary range.

The New York Natural Heritage Program's Biological and Conservation Data System frequently depends on data from surveys such as The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State and the New York Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project. These formal surveys collect data for blocks of land laid out in a gridwork over the face of the land. The blocks are uniform in size. Blocks in The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State are five kilometers square in size. Those used in the New York Amphibian and Reptile Atlas Project are U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle maps. Species can be found in a block and not be on the Unit. For example, Unit lands may be at the top of a hill on one end of a survey block and the species may be found along a river at lower elevations at the other end of the survey block, ie. different locations, different habitat types, same survey block. One must understand survey methodology and what the resulting data represents to know how it relates to the Unit.

Another unit of land referred to in this Unit Management Plan is the Central Appalachians ecozone. It is 8,830 square miles in size and covers much of the Southern Tier of New York State. The Unit is but a small part of this ecozone. The Central Appalachians ecozone contains a wide array of habitats from mountains, hills and valleys to extensive low-lying riverine systems, notably the Susquehanna. The Treaty Line Unit is at the higher elevations on the top of some of the hills and mountains.

E. Significant Habitats and Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Species

One significant habitat was identified on the Unit in 1989. A great blue heron (Ardea herodias) rookery was located on State Forest Lands near Melondy Hill Road in the Town of Afton on State Forest Lands. The Element Occurrence Records for the New York Natural Heritage Program's Biological and Conservation Data System were consulted for this information. The rookery is currently non-existent; this may have been a temporary response to some logging activity near the site on private land.

The threatened bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) has nested on nearby Cannonsville Reservoir for several years and is frequently seen along the West Branch of the Delaware River. Bald eagles also nest at Schoharie Reservoir and at Minekill State Park on the Blenheim-Gilboa Reservoir. Birds seen along the West Branch are simply moving about in the vicinity of these nesting areas. Bald eagles prey on fish and, as such, are usually associated with aquatic habitats, reservoirs and at lower elevation river bottomlands. Most of the State Forests in the Unit are at higher elevations on the tops of hills and mountains. Most eagles seen on or over the Unit will simply be passing through while traveling to other locations.

Some species of Special Concern, i.e., those not yet recognized as threatened or endangered but for which documented concern exists for their continued welfare in New York, may frequent the Unit where suitable habitats exist. Special Concern species which are likely to be found in the Central Appalachian's ecozone include the Jefferson/blue spotted salamander, spotted and wood turtles, Cooper's hawk, upland sandpiper, eastern bluebird, Henslow's, vesper and grasshopper sparrows and small-footed bats. Not all the Special Concern species found in the ecozone will be found on the Unit. As an example, it is unlikely any of the sparrows would be found on the Unit as almost no grassland habitats exist. Nor is it likely one will find a spotted turtle on the Unit. Bluebirds, however, frequent Oquaga Creek State Park near the Unit, and Cooper's hawks likely frequent the Unit's forests.

F. Significant Plants and Plant Communities

There are no records of any rare plant species on the Unit. As with wildlife species, no formal survey of plants has been done exclusively on the Unit.

G. Cultural Resources

Resources that are culturally important because of their historic significance are protected under the New York State Archeological Historic Preservation Act. The New York State Archeological Site inventory maps identify no prehistoric sites on or near State-owned lands.

There are five known cemeteries that date to the early 1800s on the Unit. Melondy Hill Cemetery on Chenango RA #9 is the burial site of a Civil War veteran. Numerous old foundation sites and stone walls dot the Unit.

H. Roads

The State Public Forest Access Road System provides for both public and administrative access to the Unit. The roads are constructed by DEC to standards that will provide reasonably safe travel and keep maintenance costs at a minimum. These roads are not normally plowed nor sanded. There are three types of roads - Public Forest Access Roads (formerly called Truck Trails), haul roads and access trails - and they provide different levels of access depending on the standards to which they are constructed.

Public Forest Access Roads (PFAR) are permanent, unpaved roads. They may be designed for all-weather use depending on their location and surfacing. These roads provide primary access within the Unit. The standards for these roads are those of the Class A and Class B access roads as provided for in the DEC Forest Road Handbook.

Haul Roads are permanent, unpaved roads, but are not designed for all weather use. They are constructed primarily for the removal of forest products and provide only limited access within the Unit. As such these roads may or may not be open for public use. 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 trails and do not provide all-weather access within the Unit. These trails are originally designed for removal of forest products and may be recreational trails. These trails are constructed according to Best Management Practices.

Town roads serve as access to, from and through some of the state land of the Unit. When road maintenance ceases or they are legally abandoned, their status, maintenance and value to the public also changes.

I. Recreation

Varied recreational opportunities exist and are occurring on the Unit. Numerous organized and developed recreational activities are available at Oquaga Creek State Park. The Unit complements the Park's organized activities with more secluded and primitive opportunities.

Hiking is currently allowed on the Unit, except where prohibited by sign. A ten acre zone around the Children and Family Services facility at Camp Brace is restricted from public access. A portion of the Finger Lakes Trail (FLT) meanders through some of the State Forests on the Delaware County side of the Unit. The Finger Lakes Trail is a system of open and woodland foot trails across beautiful New York State from Canada to the Allegheny Mountains to the Catskills for hikers, backpackers, cross-country skiers, nature lovers, bird watchers, photographers and snowshoers. A spur trail connects the main trail with Oquaga Creek State Park proper. There are four structures on the trail: two lean-tos and two footbridges. Total current mileage on the Unit is approximately 17 miles.

Hunting, trapping and fishing are permitted anywhere on the Unit, except where prohibited by regulation, law or sign. Hunting occurs throughout

most of the Unit, while trapping and fishing occur in those areas of the Unit where success is more likely to be found.

Horseback riding is currently allowed anywhere on the Unit, except on foot trails, snow covered ski and snowmobile trails, and high use areas or where prohibited by sign. There is only occasional use by horse riders, most occurring on the eastern side of the Unit using forest roads.
Camping on the Unit is currently allowed, without a permit, for up to three nights by groups of less than ten persons. Camping is not allowed within 150 feet of a road, trail or water body unless otherwise signed. Camping is otherwise not restricted. Camping is most often occurring along the Finger Lakes Trail and most often by Boy Scouts. Hunting season is a time period when camping activity increases. Many spots used are in violation of regulation with respect to the sites' proximity to water and roads. Occasionally the Unit will receive some over flow camping, if Oquaga Creek State Park is full on a peak visitation weekend.

Snowmobiling is currently allowed anywhere on the Unit, except where prohibited by sign. Snowmobiling occurs mostly on roads. In three areas, snowmobilers had created off-road trails. The building of trails is illegal without authorization from DEC. In 1998 three sections of off-road trails were cleared under a DEC Temporary Revocable Permit, which allowed those trails to be temporarily signed as NYS Snowmobile Corridor Trails during the 1998-2001 snowmobile seasons.

Nordic skiing is currently allowed anywhere on the Unit, except where prohibited by sign. Most skiing in the area is occurring on Oquaga Creek State Park which has signed and groomed trails.

Mountain biking is currently allowed anywhere on the Unit, except where prohibited by sign. Use appears to be minimal and is occurring mostly on forest roads.

All-terrain vehicle (ATV) use is currently prohibited everywhere on the Unit, except for trails specifically signed for individuals with permits for mobility impairments. The trails are located on Delaware Reforestation Area #7. There has been extensive illegal ATV use on the Unit.

Non-motorized boating is currently allowed. Use of gas and electric motors is prohibited by law. Occasional boating is occurring, mostly on Beals Pond in conjunction with fishing activities.

Target shooting is currently allowed in shale pits on the Unit, except where signed and prohibited by regulation or law. Some individuals target shoot at other locations on the Unit and significant damage to trees and signs has occurred.

Other activities, such as nature observation, picnicking, orienteering, and swimming, occur on the Unit though most are in conjunction with other activities. No site suitability or supervision is made with respect to swimming activities or opportunities. Oquaga Creek State Park has facilities designed to cater to the needs of high-use picnicking and swimming activities, as well as a maintained nature trail.

Any competitive or group events require a Temporary Revocable Permit from DEC.

J. Other Facilities

Boundary Lines

Forest Name	Miles
Broome RA # 2	22.2
Chenango RA # 9	25.1
Chenango RA #15	10.2
Delaware RA # 2	32.7
Delaware RA # 4	7.5
Delaware RA # 5	6.2
Delaware RA # 6	7.1
Delaware RA # 7	9.3
Delaware RA # 8	5.7
Delaware RA # 9	11.2

Signs and Registers

Forest Name	Type Sign	# Signs
Broome RA # 2	Area ID 1	
Chenango RA #9 & 15	Area ID 1	
Delaware RA # 2	Area ID 7	
	FLT	2
Delaware RA # 4	Area ID 1	
Delaware RA # 5	Area ID 2	
	FLT	3
	FLT Register	3
Delaware RA # 6	Area ID 2	
	FLT	3
	FLT Register	1
Delaware RA # 7	Area ID 3	
Delaware RA # 8	Area ID 1	
Delaware RA # 9	Area ID 2	
	FLT	2
	FLT Register	1

Gates

Forest Name	# Gates
Delaware RA # 2	6
Delaware RA # 4	3
Delaware RA # 5	3
Delaware RA # 6	3
Delaware RA # 7	1
Delaware RA # 9	4

Shale Pits

Forest Name	Type	Number
Delaware RA # 5	Shale	2
Delaware RA # 2	Shale	1

Parking Areas and Pulloffs

There are 66 areas on the Unit identified as suitable for parking. Most are small pulloffs, areas where the public can safely pull off the road to park, stand or allow other traffic to pass. The areas are wide spots along the roads often created in conjunction with forest product sales. These areas are not signed and are only suitable for one to a few vehicles. Occasionally some pulloffs are used to set up campers, most frequently during the hunting season. There are three small parking areas which are suitable for parking of large vehicles or small groups of vehicles. Parking areas are designated and designed for public parking with signs and established parking parameters.

Miscellaneous Structures

Delaware RA # 4	Lean-to	1
Delaware RA # 2	Footbridge	2
Delaware RA # 4	Gaging Station	1
Delaware RA # 6	Lean-to	1

K. Property Use Agreements

Deeded Rights-of-Way

< Chenango RA # 9

A right-of-way reservation exists over Proposal K, Stands A-1, 2 & 3 to serve the 33-acre parcel to the north of Proposal K "where the road now runs" (as of 1890).

There is a right-of-way across the northwest corner of the westerly parcel of Proposal M from Ives Hill Road to the adjacent parcel to the west. This right-of-way has been abandoned as a new access off State land has been constructed.

< Delaware RA # 2

A right-of-way, two rods wide, exists from a mill site through Proposal CC to Steam Mill Road.

Delaware County has two easements for drainage purposes in Proposal G, Stands G-2 & 3.

A right-of-way to a private cemetery exists from NYS Route 8 through Proposal R, Stand D-23.

A right-of-way reservation to a quarry exists through Proposal T, Stands E-26, 31, 36 & 41.

A right-of-way to a private cemetery exists from Steam Mill Road through Proposal U, Stand E-18.

< Delaware RA #4

A right-of-way reservation for a New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) powerline exists through Proposal D, Stands A-26 & A27.

< Delaware RA # 7

A right-of-way reservation, four rods long by two rods wide, exists from Pecks Road to a spring in Proposal I, Stand A-1.

< Delaware RA # 9

A right-of-way, about 12 rods in length, exists from Beals Road to Beals Pond through Proposal A, Stands A-44, 46 & 53. This right-of-way is for the purpose of cutting, loading and removing ice. It is to terminate upon the death of Clifford Howland.

Property Reservations

< Broome RA # 2

There is a spring and waterline reservation on Proposal H, Stands A-30, 31 & 33.

< Chenango RA # 9

There is a "one-half" mineral rights reservation on that portion of Proposal C that lies in lot 98, Stands B-24, 25, 26, 27, 28 & 15.

A spring and waterline reservation exists on Proposal D to the spring about 10 chains south easterly of the south line of the 2.28 exception parcel on the east side of Preacher Road, Stand C-30.

There is a spring and waterline reservation to the buildings on the four acres exception parcel on Proposal G, Stand A-7 providing the four acres is not sufficient to include the spring.

Use of the water reservoir and pipeline to the buildings on the 10.6 acre exception exists on Proposal H, Stands B-2 & 7.

A spring and waterline reservation exists for a spring located S 12E 36' W, 6.08 chains from the southeast corner of the 4.55 acre exception on Proposal O, Stand A-19 with the waterline running westerly to the 7.61 acre exception parcel.

A spring and waterline reservation exists on Proposal P, Stand C-24. The spring is located about 140 rods east of the southwest corner of Proposal P and about one rod north of the south line of Proposal P. The waterline extends westerly to serve the exception parcel at the southwest corner of Proposal P.

There is a cemetery reservation of 0.39 acres at Melondy Hill Cemetery located three to four chains east of Melondy Hill Road.

< Delaware RA # 2

A 0.1 acre school house reservation exists on Proposal A, Stand A-36.

There is a spring and waterline reservation on Proposal CC.

A reservation exists to maintain a dam and a ditch, 10 feet on each side, leading from the dam to a sawmill site on Proposal G, Stands G-2 & 3.

There is a 0.24 acre cemetery reservation on Proposal R, Stand D-23.

A 1.95 acre reservation for a stone quarry exists on Proposal T, Stand E-41.

A 0.06 acre cemetery reservation is on Proposal U, Stand E-18.

< Delaware RA # 6

A reservation exists to continue any oil & gas lease in existence at the time of the execution of the deed

on Proposal A, Stands A-26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 46, 47 & 52.

< Delaware RA # 7

There exists a spring and waterline reservation on Proposal C, Stand A-47.

< Delaware RA # 9

A spring and water right reservation exists on Proposal C.

There is a spring and water right reservation on Proposal H, Stands B-8 & 9.

Revocable Permit

< Broome RA # 2 and
< Delaware RA # 5

A permit has been granted to the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) to construct and operate a State Park on all that portion of Broome RA #2, Proposal A, north of the lands of the Blowers Farm's northerly line extended westerly to the westerly bounds of Proposal A and Delaware RA #5, Proposal G, west of Beech Hill Road and north of the northerly line of the Blowers Farm extended easterly to Beech Hill Road. The acreage under this permit is approximately 329 acres on Broome RA #2 and approximately 113 acres on Delaware RA #5.

Under the 1972 permit, DEC retains the authority to manage said lands under this permit for forest management purposes and must approve all road locations and recreational development.

OPRHP shall survey and mark the bounds of the park, under the terms of the permit.

Utility Row, Easements and Permits

< Broome RA # 2

Road Name	Type
Hunt	TRP/NYSEG
Melondy Hill	Letter Allowing/NYSEG
North Sandford	Letter Allowing/NYSEG
Chenango RA #9	Letter Allowing/NYSEG

< Delaware RA # 2

Permits have been issued to NYSEG for a power line through Proposals AA, Z & R, Stands D-23, 24 & 30 and E-39 and a power line through Proposal G, Stand G-6.

< Delaware RA # 6

A permit has been issued to NYSEG for a power line through Proposal F, Stand A-37.

< Delaware RA # 9

A permit has been issued to Chenango and Unadilla Telephone Company for a telephone cable through Proposal H, Stands B-2 & 9.

A permit has been issued to NYSEG for a power line through Proposals A & H, Stands A-46 and B-2 & 9.

There is a spring being used on Proposal H, stand B-2 under a Temporary Revocable Permit.

Uses of State Lands Without Known Permits or Easements

< Broome RA # 2

Road Name	Lines/Poles
Blowers	TDS Telecom*

A spring exists on Stand B-1 that did or does serve the old School House lot northwest of North Sanford Road. This spring might well predate, and the use thereof, may have been abandoned prior to State ownership.

< Delaware RA # 7

There is a Contel buried cable line along Parker Hollow Road through Proposal C, Stand A-44.

< Delaware RA # 9

There is a spring being used on Proposal H, Stand B-2.

< Chenango RA # 9

Ives Hill	TDS Telecom*
Oxbow	TDS Telecom*
Hunt	TDS Telecom*
Preacher	TDS Telecom*
Melondy Hill	TDS Telecom*
Ives Hill	NYSEG*
Preacher	NYSEG*

< Chenango RA #15

East Afton	NYSEG*
East Afton	Citizens Telecom Buried Cable

*Placement of utility poles within a road right of way was an acceptable practice in the 1940's and 1950's with a letter granting approval. No such letters were found for these uses, however, line installation may have been under those pretenses.

RESOURCE DEMANDS ON THE UNIT

A. Timber Resources

There is an ongoing demand for a variety of commercial wood products on the Unit. The following list of product demand trends over the past ten years as judged by the foresters on the planning team:

Product	Trend
Fuelwood	Decreased
Softwood Sawtimber	Increased
Hardwood Sawtimber	Increased
Softwood Pulpwood	Stable
Spruce/Fir	Increased
Pine	Stable
Hemlock	Increased
Hardwood Pulpwood	Decreased
Posts	Decreased

Demands for these products are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

The following specified demands regarding timber resources were received at the Public Scoping Session held at Deposit on February 18,

1996:

- < Use forest resources for the production of forest products.
- < Increase forest management activities on the Unit.
- < Do not close timber harvesting activities with new trail development.

B. Diverse Plant and Animal Habitats and Water Resources

Diverse ecosystems and water quality are general societal demands that are also specific to this Unit. The following specific demands were requested to the Unit management planning team through the team's outreach efforts to the general public for comments on the Unit:

- < Enhance native biological diversity
- < End even-age management
- < Increase habitat for early successional stage species
- < Reduce clear cutting, especially in red pine
- < Protect rare and endangered plants
- < Create areas reserved from timber harvesting
- < Convert non-native stands and mono-cultures to native mixed woodlands
- < Protect water quality
- < Minimize fragmentation
- < Provide significant habitat for avian species
- < Implement a site-specific study for rare and endangered plants and species before any proposed recreational development

PUBLIC USE AND FACILITY DEMANDS ON THE UNIT

A. Recreational Uses

The following lists a variety of uses and their estimated trends based upon observations of the planning team over the past ten years:

	Use	Trend
<	Hunting	Decreasing
<	Trapping	Decreasing
<	Fishing	Stable
<	Horseback Riding	Increasing
<	Hiking	Increasing
<	Camping	Increasing
<	Snowmobiling	Stable
<	Nordic Skiing	Increasing
<	Mountain Biking	Increasing
<	ATV Use Requests	Increasing
<	Nature Observation	Increasing

B. Facilities

Demands for the following facilities have been expressed through written and verbal correspondence and at the Pubic Scoping Session held at Deposit on February 18th 1996:

- < Off Highway Vehicle Trail System
- < All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Trail System
- < Dirt Bike Trail System
- < Nordic Ski Trails
- < Snowmobile Trail System
- < ATV Camp Ground
- < No additional trails
- < Horse trails
- < Horse trail system camping area
- < Improve public access to lands; open gates
- < Provide a nature trail
- < Provide a multiple-use trail system
- < Protect hiking trails
- < Provide quiet peaceful zones
- < Provide more lean-tos and privies for Finger Lakes Trail System
- < Provide more parking areas

MANAGEMENT CONSTRAINTS ON THE UNIT

A. Physical Constraints

The following factors pose limitations on the management of the Unit's lands and waters:

- Fluctuations in wood markets
- Steep slopes
- Geologic properties
- Soil characteristics
- Recreational facilities
- Potential insect and disease infestations
- Limited access
- Presence of cultural resources
- Proximity of the Unit's forests
- Presence of county, town and state roads
- Electrical transmission and telephone lines
- Deeded rights-of-way
- Revocable permit
- Concurrent use agreements
- Introduced conifer species planted on incompatible soils

B. Administrative Constraints

- Inadequate budgets
- Staffing shortages
- Availability of inmate work crews

C. Societal Constraints

- Public opinion on trapping, hunting, clear cutting, public ownership, pesticides, old forest reserves and recreational demands

D. Departmental Rules, Regulations and Laws

VISION STATEMENT

We inherit a legacy of change from the original virgin forests to agricultural land clearing and forest product exploitation, to farm abandonment and then to forest re-establishment and management. We build upon the past and direct our future management actions to sustain a healthy forest that can be enjoyed and utilized by future generations.

By the middle of the 21st century, the Treaty Line Unit will exhibit the following characteristics:

- A full range of forest developmental stages ranging from the seedling/sapling condition to climax forest;
- A diverse array of terrestrial and aquatic habitats with their associated species;
- Soils, water and wetlands protected from degradation;
- A pleasant atmosphere where one can enjoy a variety of recreational activities in a natural setting;
- The combination of vegetative management, watershed protection and providing the opportunity for a variety of quality recreational experiences which are compatible with the Unit's goals and resource capabilities;
- A landscape of ownerships implementing compatible ecosystem-based management plans complimenting the attributes of the Unit and the landscape as a whole; and,
- Continued provision for forest product-based employment and other economic opportunities through management.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I. LAND MANAGEMENT GOAL

The Unit will be managed for multiple benefits to serve the needs of the People of New York State. The goal is to ensure the biological diversity and protection of the ecosystem, but also to optimize the many benefits to the public that these lands can provide.

Ecosystem Management Principles Applied:

a). Take a landscape perspective when setting objectives.

Look outside the lands of the Unit itself, to the surrounding area for a determination on what the Unit can best contribute to the many ecosystems of the landscape area of the Unit. Make recommendations for landscape objectives for needs that are not practical to be fulfilled on the Unit.

b). Maintain a variety of forested habitats.

Manage for a variety of forested habitats and a landscape with openings large and small which mimic natural disturbance patterns. Create this diverse mosaic of habitat types at various ages of growth.

c). Protect water quality and sensitive sites from degradation.

d). Maintain at least 25% of the forest acreage in stands with a significant component of softwood species.

e). Group like management direction schemes to enhance the value of respective habitats.

f). Create corridors of unbroken forest canopy.

g). Maintain at least eight percent of the Unit in forest openings, being grassy or brush openings or early successional stages of a young forest.

h). Enhance wildlife habitat with site specific actions.

i). Encourage natural regeneration favoring first native species, then naturally regenerating species, then replanting reforestation species.

j). Minimize the use of herbicides.

k) Protect ecosystems from invasive species.

Objectives:

A. Open Land Ecosystems:

Open land ecosystems are composed primarily of grasses, herbaceous plants, shrubs and other woody vegetation. Open lands provide primary habitat for many birds, small animals and insects. Here species such as deer and rabbits, can find forage, seeds or berries. Many species, especially birds, seasonally use open lands for nesting, brood cover, courtship and food. Open lands provide edges where ecotypes meet and overlap. These edges form a transition zone called ecotones. Some wildlife species such as bluebirds and song sparrows require the special habitat conditions that the transition zone provides.

Open and brush land habitats are diminishing within the landscape as succession is occurring, replacing the brush lands with young forests. Those brush lands we have should be maintained.

1.

Maintain 16 acres of grassland.

2. **Maintain 128 acres of brush land and set back succession on 31 acres of young forests to brush land.**

3. **Create larger landings, ½ acre and larger, during applicable commercial forest product sales.**

Grasslands will be maintained by mowing or the application of prescribed fire on a three-year schedule as needed. Mowing will take place after July 15, so as not to interfere with breeding birds. Brush land maintenance will include inspecting sites on a five-year cycle and using mowing, burning or removing trees when necessary to prevent plant succession.

Forest product landings are areas where forest products are often cut to market length and/or sorted, stockpiled and loaded on trucks for hauling to market. Increasing the size of these openings will provide more open land habitat. This practice of increasing landing size will only be done in areas of the Unit under even aged management and in applicable locations. Seeding and mulching of landings will be required after grading where heavy soil disturbance has occurred. Seeding and mulching will provide herbaceous food and cover sites, as well as protect water quality.

B. Aquatic, Riparian, and Wetland Ecosystems:

The aquatic, riparian and wetland ecotypes on the Unit are diverse and productive. They provide food, breeding areas and cover for innumerable plant and animal species. They are an integral part of the hydrologic cycle (the route water takes from evaporation to rainfall) providing sediment filters, regulating runoff and recharging aquifers. They help to clean water for human consumption.

1. **Protect the water quality of classified trout C(t) streams.**

2. **Protect class D streams.**

3. **Protect 42 acres of ponds.**

4. **Protect 79 acres of open wetlands and 196 acres of forested wetlands. Evaluate five of the larger wetlands for inclusion in the Fresh Water Wetland Act.**

Protection will include establishing a buffer of protection forest along streams and wetlands where harvesting is prohibited or restricted to have minimal impact. Necessary crossing of streams will require the use of Best Management Practices to protect the stream bank and prevent sedimentation from entering the stream channel. Wetlands will be avoided in silvicultural treatments and recreational trail development.

5. **Maintain seven CCC constructed water holes.**

These water holes have been neglected for a number of years. Leaves, branches and natural sedimentation has filled them in and the stone side walls have deteriorated in places. Maintenance will include cleaning out sedimentation and repairing walls and structure to restore their water holding capacity.

6. **Maintain one impoundment.**

Maintenance includes annually mowing the dike and cleaning the drop box, trickle tube and spillways when necessary.

C. Forest Ecosystems:

Diversity within the forested areas on the Unit can be broadly described by the variety of species and the range of forest developmental stages present. Maintaining and enhancing such diversity will require a great variety of specific objectives and actions.

In addition to forest protection, foresters employ

two silvicultural systems when managing a stand of trees. They are even-aged or uneven-aged management. An even-aged stand is one whose individual trees originated at approximately the same time, either naturally or by planting. It grows, is cared for, may undergo various intermediate cuttings during its development and is ultimately removed in one or more major harvest cuts after which a new stand is released or established. Such a stand, consequentially, has a beginning and an ending time.

This even-aged management system is important because it creates early forest developmental stages necessary for the survival of many plant and animal species. It favors the establishment of shade intolerant tree species such as cherry, oak and ash. These species have some of the highest timber values. Even-aged management favors the establishment of many of the hard mast species.

The uneven-aged management system differs from the even-aged system in several important ways. Instead of maintaining one dominant age condition within the stand, this system establishes and maintains many age groups ranging from seedlings and saplings to very large, mature trees. The uneven-aged system tends to favor shade tolerant tree species such as hemlock, beech and sugar maple. Many of these species are long lived. Through this system, a vertical layering of tree crown canopy is created with each layer providing distinct habitat niches. This maintains a relatively continuous tree crown canopy which lessens the impact for species that cannot tolerate substantial changes within their habitat.

Of the two systems even-aged management is the most controversial and least publicly accepted. Over 95 percent of the Unit's forests are essentially even-aged stands as result of past historical practices (see State Forest and Local History sections). Recommendations to convert stands to uneven-aged management were made where conditions were suitable and other objectives were not compromised. Options remain open for more stands to be converted to uneven-aged stands as they develop.

Forest product sales are the primary means of achieving the desired structures.

1. **Manage 1849 acres of native hardwoods and mixed native hardwood/conifer types favoring the conifer component using the uneven-aged management system with a 20-year cutting interval.**

2. **Manage 26 acres of plantation softwood for conversion to mixed native hardwoods/conifer types using the uneven-aged management system with a 20- year cutting interval.**

3. **Manage 360 acres as mixed native hardwood/native conifer types using the uneven-aged management system with a 30-year cutting interval.**

4. **Manage 313 acres of primarily even-aged mixed native hardwoods and white pine (native and plantation) stands using uneven-aged management on 20-year cutting intervals.**

Using the uneven-aged system, management will favor a continuation of the white pine component to large diameters. Actions to perpetuate white pine through natural regeneration will be favored and may include some even-aged management techniques.

White pine is a native species of the Unit and occupies a dominant position in the forest canopy at maturity. The retention and perpetuation of white pine will enhance diversity, provide a conifer component to the landscape and offer habitat to species that require conifers such as the red-breasted nuthatch.

5. **Manage 128 acres of even-aged mixed native hardwoods and planted Norway spruce using the uneven-aged management system with 15 to 20-year cutting intervals**.

Even-aged Norway spruce dominates these stands

at present. Future treatments will use the selection system to achieve an uneven-aged stand structure and maintain a conifer component with natural regeneration. Trees will be grown to a maximum age of 120 years.

6. **Manage 3620 acres of mixed natural hardwoods using the uneven-aged management system with a 20-year cutting interval.**

7. **Manage six acres of mixed hardwood/white pine and 218 acres of plantation types for native hardwoods using the uneven-aged management system with a 20- year cutting interval.**

8. **Manage 73 acres of mixed natural hardwoods using the uneven-aged management system with a 30-year cutting interval.**

These objectives will favor the perpetuation of tolerant hardwoods and keep the site occupied with an overstory canopy, except for pockets of group selection designed to establish and release patches of new stems needed to maintain the uneven-aged structure.

The 30-year interval will allow a longer period of time for the tree crown canopy to remain relatively closed. Less disturbance and mechanical intrusion will aid the habitat requirements of territorial nesters such as raptors.

9. **Manage 2378 acres of native hardwood types for native hardwoods using an even-aged management system on a 100-year rotation length with 20-year cutting intervals and create five distinct forest developmental stages.**

Many stands in this Unit have red maple and beech as major components of the overstory. Beech bark disease is prevalent in most of these stands. This disease kills many beech before they can reach maturity but it does not prevent the diseased trees from sending up new sprouts from the roots. Stands with this disease often have a heavy understory of beech sprouts with very few healthy trees in the overstory.

Thinning in these stands encourages the sprouting of beech from the roots and stumps of cut trees and seems to favor the establishment of New York and hayscented ferns. Both the ferns and beech can grow so thickly as to restrict the light and available moisture necessary for the establishment of other tree species. The ferns tend to decline when exposed to full sunlight.

The even-aged system will help retain the red maple component in these stands while promoting the establishment of black cherry, red oak and white ash. It will also work toward the reduction of species that interfere with desired regeneration, such as beech , striped maple and certain fern species.

Five age classes or developmental stages of an even-aged forest will be developed. These five stages of the forests will be composed of the following:

Forest Stage	DBH*
Seedling/Sapling	Less than 6" (Young forests as set forth in the open land objectives)
Small Poles	6- 8"
Large Poles	9-11"
Small Sawtimber	12-14"
Medium to Large Sawtimber	15" +

* Diameter at Breast Height

Beginning at 40 years of age and on 20-year intervals, intermediate improvement cuts will be conducted. Adequate advance regeneration will be established before the final harvest cut. Alternatively, other actions may be taken to establish the new stands.

10. **Manage 16 acres of native hardwood/natural conifer types for**

native hardwoods using an even-aged management system on a 100-year rotation length with a 20- year cutting interval.

These stands are primarily poor quality white pine stands with a large component of hardwoods in the overstory as well as the understory.

11. Manage 1261 acres of even-aged softwood plantations for conversion to native even-aged hardwoods using even or two-aged management schemes on 65 to 100-year rotations with 15 to 20-year cutting intervals.

These plantations are reaching maturity on their respective sites and an understory of desirable hardwoods have regenerated or are regenerating naturally. Many of the stands are red and Scotch pine plantations that will be converted to native hardwoods, when conditions are favorable for successful establishment of new stands, using the even-aged management system. The resulting hardwoods will likely be in one or two-aged class stands. *Management of these new hardwood stands could potentially be uneven-aged in the future.*

12. Manage 29 acres of plantation for conversion to mixed native hardwood/natural conifer types using the even-aged management system on a 100- year rotation length with a 20-year cutting interval.

13. Manage 576 acres of mixed natural hardwoods/natural conifer types favoring the conifer component using the even-aged management system on a 100-year rotation length with a 20-year cutting interval.

Many of these mixed stands have a very small conifer component and the hardwood species present are favored by the even-aged system. Some of these stands have large diameter white pine which are declining due to a combination of factors. These include age, poor site quality and infection of the trees by white pine blister rust. Healthy conifers in these stands will be retained when conversion cuts are made and should lead to an increase in the percentage of conifers in the new stands.

14. Manage 126 acres of even-aged native hardwoods consisting principally of aspen and associated species on a 60-year rotation.

This objective will be carried out by using the even-aged management system, which is the preferred method to regenerate aspen and associated tree species. Aspen can be a prolific seeder germinating well under the right conditions and is well known for its sprouting capabilities. Cutting stands to induce regeneration by sprouts is known as the coppice method. The conditions created in this approach provide essential habitat for many species, most notably woodcock and ruffed grouse. The regenerated aspen thickets provide ideal brood cover while older trees provide good winter food.

Aspen are relatively short-lived trees with a typical average life span of about 60 to 80 years.

15. Manage 2459 acres of oak mixed hardwood types, and 84 acres of mixed oak hardwood/conifer type and six acres of plantation with oak under story, using the even-aged management system on a 100 to 120-year rotation with a 20-year cutting cycle. This objective is to enhance and maintain the oak component of these sites.

Red oak, white oak and the hickory species have been highly valued as a food source for wildlife and as a timber resource. The oak types in the region have been called transition oak types, since

the percentage of oak declines as shade tolerant species occupy the site. Heavy overstory removal actions, either natural or man- implemented, favor the perpetuation of oak species provided interfering species have not become heavily established. Partial cutting tends to favor non-oak species.

Logging on private lands where oaks have been heavily targeted is very common in this region. According to the U.S. Forest Service surveys between 1980 and 1993, the acreage of oak types in the South Central Highlands Unit have declined by 35%. The Treaty Line Unit lies within the Forest Service's South Central Highland Unit.

The existence of American chestnut sprouts indicates that these sites were once occupied by this species. The even-aged management system on these sites will maintain the sprouting viability of the chestnut and assist in research efforts to restore the species.

16. Manage 824 acres of even-aged plantations through stand maturity and replace the sites with plantation softwood species using the even-aged management system on 65 to 120-year rotation with 15 to 20-year cutting intervals.

These plantations currently exhibit a poor chance for natural regeneration to adequately re-establish the sites. Upon harvest, they will be replanted to softwood species. However, it is not expected that most of these sites will remain as plantations.

After the second rotation of plantation species, most of these sites will be renewed by natural regeneration, although some may require site preparation and planting again.

17. Manage 2317 acres of even-aged spruce plantations for natural regeneration of spruce, native conifers and hardwoods using the even-aged management system on a 65 to 120-year rotation with a 15 to 20-year cutting schedule.

Norway spruce has proven to be very adaptable to the heavier soils of the Unit and naturally regenerates under suitable light and moisture conditions. Norway and white spruce both provide desired habitat sought by many wildlife species.

18. Manage 78 acres as natural areas reserved from land management actions.

Natural areas are not rare, within the landscape area of the Unit. Adjacent to the Unit is Oquaga Creek State Park where forests are not managed for forest products. The Unit also abuts the Cannonsville Reservoir property of the New York City Watershed. Much of that property is designated as "protection area" and is not to be harvested. To the east and southeast begins the Catskill Preserve with an isolated parcel close by; all of these areas are treated as preserves. These natural areas and protected areas allow trees to grow to their full biological maturity. Eventually these areas will attain a climax condition which is the oldest stage in forest succession.

19. Manage 366 acres of upland forests and 196 acres of wooded wetlands as protection forests (see Aquatic Wetland Objective 2d.).

Protection forests are restricted from silvicultural and mechanical activities for environmental and aesthetic reasons. These forests occupy sensitive sites such as wetlands, steep slopes or stream banks. The stream bank's riparian zones are protected so that mechanical disturbance does not cause excessive soil movement, erosion and degradation of water quality. The number of stream crossings created for timber extraction through these zones will be kept to a minimum. All crossings will comply with the DEC Protection Of Waters Program and the New York State Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality.

Protection forests often provide a corridor of continuous overstory canopy linking them with natural areas and areas managed with uneven-age management techniques. Both the reserve area and protection forests are or have the potential to become old climax forests. Climax forest are unique both structurally and functionally. They usually contain large numbers of snags and cavity trees of varied sizes and a substantial amount of downed and dead material referred to as coarse, woody debris. These structures provide habitat not only to the more common plants and animals but also to the myriad of organisms that may be essential to the sustenance of forest ecosystems.

20. Protect the natural resources from fire, insects, disease and trespass.

A program of protection from wildfire will be maintained to assure minimum risk of loss to humans, structures and forest resources. This program is the responsibility of the Forest Rangers of the Division of Forest Protection and Fire Management.

The protection of resources from injurious insects, diseases and invasive species will be accomplished through a program of integrated pest management. This program includes elements of reconnaissance, analysis and determination of thresholds and controls when necessary, emphasizing natural methods.

The integrity of boundary lines is important for resource protection. Periodic maintenance of 137.2 miles of boundary lines and surveying when necessary will maintain the integrity of the property lines.

21. Protect cultural resources.

The five known cemeteries on Chenango RA #9 and Delaware RA #2 & 7 are protected from human disturbances. Stone wall and old foundation sites are also protected. Forest management action and recreational trail plans will buffer these sites from disturbances. Should stone wall disturbances be necessary for access during forest product sales, the contracts shall require repair of the structures to their pre-impact condition. Old waterholes built by the CCC's will be cleaned and repaired as necessary.

22. Conduct natural resource research and data collection.

Natural resource research influences and updates management decisions and strategies. Periodic data collection of the vegetation and wildlife will monitor ecosystem conditions and future changes.

Periodic forest inventory and re-inventory after each silvicultural treatment will be conducted.

23. Provide a variety of habitat structures.

Biological diversity can be improved by providing a variety of habitat structures. These structures, alive or dead, serve as biological legacies, providing ecological continuity for forest organisms. The following practices will be done in managed stands on acres capable of producing them:

a. Provide an average of four snags and four cavity trees per acre.

Tree Diameter	Snags	Cavity Trees
11-17"	2	2
18+0	2	2

Snags and cavity trees provide a number of habitat functions for animal species. They are repositories of many organisms providing food and shelter. Snags provide perching sites and eventually become downed woody debris. By providing a range of tree diameters, a variety of large and small cavity users will be accommodated. Emphasis will be given to maintain these structures near water, fields and edges where possible. This will be applied in both even and uneven-aged systems.

b. Provide downed woody debris.

Downed woody debris is an important component

of the forest ecosystem. Downed wood stores moisture, provides habitat niches for insects, plants and fungi and cycles nutrients as it decays. Downed wood naturally occurs when limbs break, trees are blown over or snags fall.

Additional downed wood will be provided as follows:

< Tops of felled trees will not be sold for firewood following sawtimber harvests, except along travel corridors or where aesthetics are important.
< Non-commercial logs will be left in the woods during harvesting.
< Minimum utilization limits will generally not be enforced.
< Whole tree harvesting will not be permitted.

24. Enhance wildlife habitat with site-specific actions.

The following specific actions will further enhance the diversity of habitats:

a. Release and prune apple trees to perpetuate them and to stimulate bud and fruit production.

Without release efforts, plant succession will shade the apple trees, lower their fruit productivity and eventually kill the trees. Pruning will further enhance fruiting and availability of desired browse.

b. Reseed disturbed sites of larger logging roads and log landings with herbaceous species having value as wildlife food and cover.

c. Favor fruit and mast producing trees.

Release and thin around mast producing trees in both commercial and non-commercial thinning to increase mast production.

d. Thin pole stands to increase stand structure.

Pole size stands often have the least vertical structure and little ground vegetation. Thinning of these stands will add downed woody debris and stimulate vegetation regeneration on the forest floor.

e. Encourage winter cutting of hardwoods, whenever practical.

Winter harvesting under ideal conditions causes less disturbance of the site and soils and provides some winter browse and less interference with active nesting sites.

f. Develop small potholes where practical.

Small potholes and even some ruts from logging operations can provide valuable vernal pools which are desirable habitat for many species. In limited sites, some ruts will purposely not be repaired and water holes may even be constructed to provide the desired habitat.

g. Erect wood duck boxes around ponds and open wetlands.

25. Oil or Gas Exploration will be conditioned.

Oil and gas are valuable natural resources which can provide energy and revenue to the people of the state as well as the opportunity to construct new roads, parking areas or other potential improvements to the unit. The exploration, extraction or storage of oil and gas is permitted by ECL 9-0507 "upon such conditions that the exercise of such leasehold rights shall not interfere with the operation of such reforestation areas for the purposes for which they were acquired". Any drilling leases will contain specific conditions to insure site protection, restoration and compatibility with existing or planned use.

The leasing process for oil and gas exploration is usually initiated by an oil and gas exploration company submitting a request to the Department to put up for bid a particular parcel or parcels of

state owned lands. The land manager will establish surface restrictions to prevent surface disturbance associated with oil and gas exploration and extraction activities. The restrictions on surface disturbance will be determined through a tract assessment process that identifies sensitive resources of the unit. These resources include wetlands, 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.

Subsequent to the establishment of restrictions on surface disturbances, the plan will be amended to reflect the proposed protected acreage. The proposed amendment to the plan will be available for public review and comment.

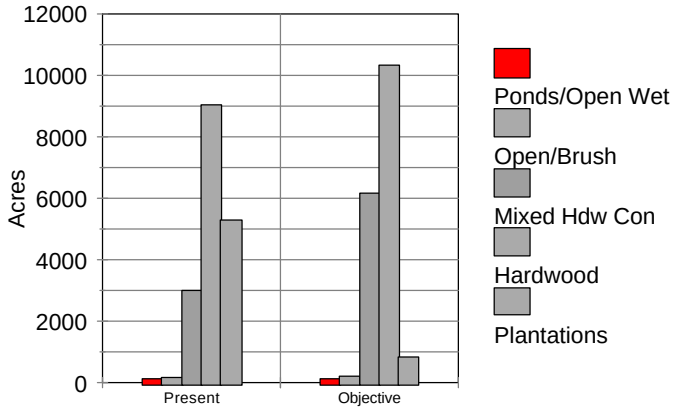
Summary of Ecotypes

The ecotype distribution and forest management objectives are presented in Figure 1 and Table II.
Figure 1.

Table II.

PRESENT AND OBJECTIVE ECOTYPE DISTRIBUTION

Vegetative Type	Present Acres	%	Objective Acres	%
High-Use Zone	10	<1	10	<1
Shale Pits	11	<1	11	<1
Ponds	42	<1	42	<1
Grass Land	16	<1	16	<1
Wetlands/Open	79	<1	79	<1
Brush and Apple	128	<1	159	1
Mixed Nat Hardwood/Conifers	2999	17	6181	35
Natural Hardwoods	9045	51	10304	58
Plantations	5296	29	824	5
Total	17626	100	17626	100



II. PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION

Recreational demands on the Unit will be accommodated by providing and enhancing the opportunity for a variety of quality recreational experiences that are sustainable and compatible with the Unit's resources.

Compatible recreation is a mainstay within a use-oriented management plan. Outdoor activities are widely enjoyed by millions of Americans. The Treaty Line Unit Management Plan provides opportunities for both active and passive forms of recreation. Some of the important attributes that contribute to pleasurable recreational experiences include public safety, accessibility, aesthetic character and quality of facilities.

A landscape perspective was applied when considering recreational opportunities. The Treaty Line Unit Management Plan proposes not to duplicate services and opportunities found nearby or within the landscape. The Oquaga Creek State Park, located near the center of the Unit, provides numerous developed recreational

opportunities. Many of those services requested through public involvement for the Unit are currently provided by the State Park or could be provided by State Parks due to their development character. There are two primary components to the recreation and public use section of this plan:

< Maintaining and enhancing public access
< Maintaining and enhancing recreational opportunities and facilities

A. Maintaining And Enhancing Public Access

Public access will be enhanced by maintaining and/or improving existing facilities, creating additional pulloffs and parking areas, controlling access where vehicular traffic is not compatible with objectives and acquisition of certain parcels of adjoining private land.

1. Maintain 14.6 miles of existing Public Forest Access Roads, 6.6 miles of haul roads, three miles of access trails and .25 miles of Administrative Access Road.

The Public Forest Access Road system exists to provide reasonable vehicular access throughout the Unit for management activities and recreational purposes. Well maintained Access Roads are important for safe, enjoyable vehicular travel. Periodic maintenance activities include road grading, culvert cleaning, road shoulder mowing and replacement of culvert posts and signs.

Access trails are not built to Public Access Road standards. They endure less travel and, therefore, require less maintenance, sufficient only to keep the road passable unless scheduled for an upgrade. Haul roads, used at the time of forest product sales, are maintained during forest product sale activities.

2. Maintain three shale pits comprising 11 acres.

Shale from the three pits on the Unit will occasionally be used to surface or rehabilitate the forest access roads, build permanent log landings and create parking lots. If there is a need for more than 1,000 tons/year from one pit, a mined land plan will be made for that pit according to the Mined-Land Reclamation Law. When the shale from a portion of the pit has been depleted, that portion of the pit will be reclaimed.

3. Maintain 63 existing pulloffs and three existing small parking areas.

Maintenance will include annual brushing, grading and litter removal when needed. Additional access opportunities will be enhanced through access routes established via land management actions during removal of forest products. Refer to the Public Use Maps for locations.

4. Maintain 3.0 miles of trails open to four or more wheeled ATV use by qualified people with mobility impairments.

There are two trails, totaling about 3.0 miles in length, located on Delaware RA # 7 which are available for four or more wheeled ATV access use by qualified people with mobility impairments and a permit for use of such designated trails. One and a half miles of dead end trails starts on the west side of Bundy Hollow Road where it meets Peck Road. Another trail, 1.5 miles in length, may be accessed at either the east side of Pine Hill Road or on the east side of Pine Hill Road #1.

5. Install vehicular barriers to restrict traffic.

These barriers are needed to prevent illegal vehicular travel. Maintenance costs would be reduced and some public safety concerns alleviated through this measure. The blocked roads would continue to serve the public for foot travel.

Broome RA # 2

Totally abandon that portion of the qualified abandoned portion of Blowers Road that lies within the bounds of Broome RA # 2. Install a gate between stands B-31 & B-27.

Chenango RA # 9

Totally abandon that part of the discontinued portion of Lord Road and the qualified abandoned portion of Preacher Road that lies wholly within the bounds of Chenango RA # 9. Construct or install a vehicle barrier.

6. Upgrade and maintain 12.5 miles of roads to Public Forest Access Road standards.

Upgrading the following roads will improve administrative and public access:

Delaware RA # 2

Upgrade 1.2 miles of Zion Hill Road from the intersection with Lynda Maria Road to Public Forest Access Road to Class A standards. Zion Hill Road is an old, abandoned town highway which has become unsafe. The upgrade will not proceed until a determination has been made on the legal status of this road.

Resurface 1.5 miles of Public Forest Access Road.

Delaware RA # 4

Upgrade 0.5 miles of that part of Dunbar Road located on State Land to Class A standards. Construct a 75' radius turnaround at the point where the road enters State Land. Dunbar Road is an abandoned town highway which has become unsafe.

Resurface 1.2 miles of Public Forest Access Road and replace culverts.

Delaware RA # 5

Resurface 0.9 miles of Public Forest Access Road.

Delaware RA # 6

Upgrade 0.8 miles of Barbour Brook Road to Class A standards. This stretch of Barbour Brook Road is unmaintained and is in rough condition.

Delaware RA # 7

Upgrade 1.0 mile of Pecks Road to Class A standards. Construct a 75' radius turnaround at the end of State Land. Peck Road is a qualified abandoned town highway which has become unsafe and unusable.
Upgrade 0.4 miles of Reservoir Road to access trail standards. Construct a 75' radius turnaround at the end of State Land. Reservoir Road is a qualified abandoned town highway which has become unsafe. The upgrade will not proceed until a determination has been made on the legal status of this road.

Delaware RA # 9

Upgrade 0.8 mile of Getter Hill Road to Class A standards. Construct a 75' radius turnaround at the end of the road and close public vehicular access by installing a “No Motor Vehicles Beyond This Point” sign. Getter Hill Road is an abandoned town highway which has become unsafe and unusable.

7. Construct 17 pulloffs and upgrade one pulloff.

Construct small pulloff

Stand #	Broome RA # 2
A-20	West side of Melondy Hill Road
A-27	East side of Melondy Hill Road

Chenango RA # 9

A- 7 West side of Melondy Hill Road
B-26 North side of Hunt Road

Chenango RA #15

A-18 East side of East Afton Road
A- 5 West side of East Afton Road

Delaware RA # 2

B-25 East side of Steam Mill Road
C-44 West side of the Carroll Hill PFAR
E- 1 East side of the Zion Hill PFAR
E-18 West side of Steam Mill Road
F-14 East side of the Carroll Hill PFAR
F-16 East side of the Carroll Hill PFAR

Delaware RA # 6

A-39 East side of Dry Brook Road

Delaware RA # 7

A- 1 East side of Bundy Hollow Road
A- 8 West side of Bundy Hollow Road
A-18 East side of Pine Hill Road # 1
A-21 West side of Pine Hill Road

Upgrade small pulloff

Stand # Chenango RA # 9

C-11 West side of Oxbow Road

8. Acquire 2015 acres of private property from willing sellers.

The purchase of in holdings and the consolidation of boundary lines will facilitate public and administrative access. The DEC will pursue fee simple title of 51 parcels from willing sellers when funding becomes available. Two proposed acquisitions involve old town roads. The status of the State's legal right to use Lord Road in the Town of Sanford in Broome County and Old Tie Road in the Town of Afton in Chenango County would dictate the State's interest in the respective parcels.

B. Maintaining And Enhancing Recreational Opportunities And Facilities

1. Produce a public use brochure including a map of the Unit.

This brochure will describe the natural features and history of the Unit. Land management goals, objectives and actions will briefly be described. A map will be included to show the location of state forests and their public use facilities.

2. Install nine information signs.

Nine kiosks will be constructed and placed at various public access locations on the Unit. The kiosks will hold the Unit brochures, a map of the Unit and various information pertinent to public use of the Treaty Line Unit forests.

3. Maintain existing public-use facilities on the State Reforestation Areas of the Unit in a rustic manner.

Normal maintenance activities include mowing, periodic painting, latrine upkeep and litter removal. Maintaining a rustic character in these areas will complement the surrounding natural environment.

The Finger Lakes Trail will be maintained with assistance of volunteers. The land managers will plan for land management actions in the vicinity of the trail to have little impact on the usability of the trail. Re-routes to improve the quality of the trail or to keep the trail open during forest product sales will be coordinated with the respective FLT section manager.

The lean-tos off NYS Route 8 and Dry Brook Road will be maintained.

4. Construct two privies.

Construct 2 privies: one at the lean-to site east of Dry Brook Road and the other at the lean-to site west of NYS Route 8.

5. Enhance snowmobiling on the Unit

Snowmobiles routinely use roads on the Unit. A segment of the NYS Corridor Snowmobile Trail System Route # 2 crosses the Unit. The NYS Corridor Snowmobile Trail System is a network of public accessible snowmobile trails traversing through much of upstate New York. The Department will work cooperatively with user groups through Adopt a Natural Resource Agreements in efforts to enhance and maintain the Corridor Trail segment east to west through the Unit. The Corridor System requires that each segment must end at points of public access. Trail location will be distanced from private residences. The temporary section on the west side of Melondy Hill Road will be relocated with the current trial location closed. No additional loops or connecting trails will be constructed for snowmobiles.

The following requests for recreational facilities are not being met with this draft plan for the stated reasons.

The ATV trail system proposal has been withdrawn. The ATV trail system was determined to be incompatible with the goals and objectives of the plan. See responses to public comments.

OHV Trail System - An off-highway vehicle trail system for vehicles heavier than ATV's was not deemed suitable with the goals and objectives of the Unit nor compatible with other recreation planned uses.

Nordic Ski Trail - A trail already exists within the general area of the Unit with a trail on Oquaga Creek State Park. Skiers are welcome to ski on the forest roads, and trails and may go off trail if so desired.

Snowmobile Trail System - A self enclosed snowmobile trail loop system within the Unit was determined to be incompatible with the goals and objectives of the plan. The riders of newer and larger machines want and need essentially roads to travel on. Snow fall is often a limiting factor in providing a reasonably long period of use. See responses to public comments.

Horse Trails - There are currently two major horse trail systems serving the area in Bear Spring Wildlife Management Area and the Brookfield Horse Trail System within 50 miles of the Unit. Therefore another major system was not deemed necessary.
Nature Trail - A marked nature trail is located on Oquaga Creek State Park.

Oquaga Creek State Park - Specific requests:
Specific requests with respect to the Park were not addressed in this plan for the Unit.

Budget - Estimated Needs

Budget Land Management and Public Use

Equipment

1 Snowmobile equipped for enforcement	10,000
1 Snowmobile rescue sled	1,000

Task/Project	Unit	Cost	Prof	Tech	Year
Annual					
Public Forest Access Roads	23.4 miles	21,000		180	
General unit maintenance		5,000		40	
Forest product sales and treatments	avg. 811 ac /yr		312		
Coordination with other agencies/offices			2		
Coordination with public users interests			2		
Supervision, training & reporting			10		
Disease control			5		
Post treatment inventory			18		
Boundary lines	137.2 miles	1,500		46	
Law enforcement, fire protection & suppression			30		
Periodic					
Acquisition of inholdings	2015 acres	1,600,000	150		2001+
Aspen regeneration cut	18 acres	2,000	5		2001
FITFPS* construct pulloffs	2	*	1		2001
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	54 acres	*	14		2001

Task/Project	Unit	Cost	Prof	Tech	Year
Remove trees*	1 acre	100	1		2001
Apple tree release	48 acres		4	10	2001
FITFPS reforestation	58 acres	8,100+*	10		2001
Upgrade abandoned town road	0.5 miles	35,000	3		2001
Replace culverts & resurface Public Forest Access Road	1.2miles	36,000	2		2001
Release young plantation	12 acres	1,440	1		2001
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2001
Boundary surveys	0.7 miles	5,000	12		2002
Close snowmobile trail west of Melondy Hill Road	1.5 miles	500	1	3	2002
Construct alternate snowmobile trail route west of Melondy Hill Road	1.5 miles	1,500	2	4	2002
Designate NYS Corridor Snowmobile Trail #2 on Chenango # 9 & 15	4 miles	500	2	2	2002
Abandon portions of Lord & Blowers roads	0.8 miles		5		2002
FITFPS construct pulloffs	2	*	1		2002
FITFPS upgrade road	0.4 miles	*	4		2002
FITFPS upgrade haul road	1.25 miles	*	6		2002
Apple tree release	5 acres		1	2	2002
Site prep	74 acres	0	8		2002
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	60 acres	0	15		2002
Release young plantation	15 acres	1,800	2		2002
Clean and restore water holes	4	2,000	1	8	2003
Publish Unit brochure		2,000	4		2003
Construct and install small kisoks	11	6,000	5	30	2003

Task/Project	Unit	Cost	Prof	Tech	Year
FITFPS construction pulloffs	3	*	2		2003
FITFPS upgrade to haul road	0.8 miles	*	6		2003
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	24 acres	*	6		2003
Site prep	67 acres	*	8		2003
Construct small pulloff	2	2,000	1	4	2003
Apple tree release	8 acres		2	4	2003
FITFPS reforestation	42 acres	5600+	10		2003
Release young plantation	20 acres	2,400	3		2003
Resurface Public Forest Access Road	1.5 miles	19,500	1		2003
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2004
FITFPS construct haul road	1.25 miles	*	6		2004
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	38 acres	*	14		2004
Upgrade abandoned town road	1.2 miles	72,000	3		2004
Apple tree release	15 acres		2	4	2004
FITFPS reforestation	32 acres	4,300+	7		2004
Release young plantations	23 acres	2,760	3		2004
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2005
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	7 acres	*	3		2005
Apple tree release	15 acres		2	4	2005
FITFP reforestation	50 acres	6,800+	10		2005
Site prep	67 acres	*	8		2005
Upgrade abandoned town road	0.8 miles	48,000	3		2005
Upgrade abandoned town road	1.0 miles	60,000	3		2006
FITFPS construct haul road	0.4 miles	*	4		2006

Task/Project	Unit	Cost	Prof	Tech	Year
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	50 acres	*	19		2006
Remove trees	2 acres		1		2006
Apple tree release	17 acres		2	5	2006
FITFPS reforestation	45 acres	6,100+	9		2006
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2007
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	68 acres	*	17		2007
FITFPS reforestation	14 acres	2,100+	5		2007
Apple tree release	4 acres		1	2	2007
Release of young plantations	46 acres	6,900	2		2007
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2007
Upgrade unmaintained town road	0.8 miles	48,000	3		2007
Site prep	48 acres	*	6		2007
Inventory	7047 acres	400	201		2008
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	21 acres	*	5		2008
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2008
Apple tree release	3 acres		1	1	2008
FITFPS reforestation	30 acres	4000+	6		2008
Site prep	47 acres	*	6		2008
FITFPS construct pulloff	2	*	2		2009
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	32 acres	*	12		2009
Apple tree release	15 acres		2	5	2009
Remove trees	4 acres		1		2009
Site prep	73 acres	*	7		2009
Inventory	4960 acres	400	140		2009

Task/Project	Unit	Cost	Prof	Tech	Year
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2010
Aspen reg cuts	10 acres	500	3	2	2010
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2010
Inventory	5618 acres	400	160		2010
FITFPS construct haul road	0.6 miles	*	5		2011
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	49 acres	*	19		2011
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2012
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	8 acres	*	3		2012
FITFPS reforestation	21 acres	2800+	4		2012
FITFPS construct pulloff	1	*	1		2013
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2013
FITFPS expand pulloff	1	*			2014
Site prep	62 acres	*	6		2014
FITFPS non-commercial thinning	10 acres	*	3		2015
Remove trees	8 acres	*	2		2015
Aspen reg cuts	11 acres	500	3	2	2015
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2016
Aspen reg cuts	42 acres	2,000	8	10	2017
Aspen reg cuts	8 acres	1,000	2		2019
Grassland maintenance	16 acres		1	2	2019

*FITFPS - Facility Improvement through Forest Product Sales

Public Comments

Public comments were received at the May 2, 2000 public meeting and through written correspondence through June 2, 2000. The vast majority of the comments were regarding the ATV trail system proposal.

Response to ATV Trail Comments:
The ATV Trail Proposal has been withdrawn from the Treaty Line Unit Management Plan. The team withdrew the proposal to develop an 80-100 mile ATV trail system from the plan due to unresolved environmental issues of air and noise pollution and the impact of the trail system causing significant socially unacceptable changes in the character of the Treaty Line State Forests and surrounding area.

In 1993 the Department issued a policy directive to address the issue of All Terrain Vehicles on State Reforestation Areas. The Department position stated that ATV's would be allowed on State Reforestation Areas, if they were both environmentally compatible and socially acceptable. This criteria was used on the Treaty Line ATV trail system proposal. Significant public opposition, potential conflicts with other users and neighbors, along with unresolved environmental issues, led to removing the proposal from the plan.

The proposed trail system included a number of measures to mitigate the impacts through trail design, layout, patrol and maintenance. The trail proposal was strongly supported by ATV trail groups. Environmentalist groups were strongly opposed. Other recreational users were greatly divided in support of and opposition to the trail proposal. Hikers and birders generally opposed the trail proposal, while other recreationists more often supported the trail proposal. Most local residents opposed the ATV trail proposal even though the trail system would potentially have provided an economic boost to the region through increased tourism and growth of associated small businesses. Comments in opposition to the trail mentioned concerns over increased traffic, trespassing, safety, noise and environmental degradation.

In addition the 1993 DEC Position Paper states "all cost associated with an ATV Trail must come from an ATV Trail maintenance and development fund. No costs will be directly charged to Department resources." Although such a fund once existed in New York, it no longer does. Recently, attempts have been made by interest groups working with legislation to reestablish an ATV trail fund. Without an ATV trail maintenance fund, sufficient staffing to properly administer, maintain and patrol the proposed ATV trail system was not guaranteed.

Comments were submitted in the form of e-mails, letters, post cards, petitions, individual speeches at the May 2nd Public Meeting and meeting comment cards. There were 2696 individuals submitting comments regarding the ATV trail proposal in the draft plan which were received within the comment period ending June 2, 2000.

The following is a summarized listing of edited comments and questions to the Draft Plan and specifically the ATV trail proposal. Since the decision is to remove the ATV trail proposal, responding to specific comments is not necessary or applicable. Comment listing in this report is by no means an endorsement of the accuracy or validity of the comment, many are just opinions.

1. The impact of the trail is so significant that it should be removed from the plan. Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society Inc.
2. Thank you for the vision, persistence and extensive effort, particularly regarding the planning, construction, maintenance, administration and enforcement. The attention to detail and consideration

of environmental concerns should serve as a role model for other land managers nationwide. The New York State Off Road Vehicle Association (NYSORVA) strongly supports the ATV proposal contained in the Treaty Line Draft Unit Management Plan. ATV riders have long suffered. The Motor Cycle Industry Council supports the proposal in the draft Plan. The New York State Trails Council supports the proposed plan.

Economic issues

3. Cost - the project will cost nearly $3 million for trail construction and acquisition. This is an unjustified expense to benefit few, hurt many and damage the environment. Waste of tax dollars.
4. We understand that building the trail is expensive. There is federal government money for motorized trails. If the ATV trail fund passes in Albany, that should help fund the trail. There are also many ATV'ers who dutifully pay taxes and registration with no return in trails or facilities. Funding from the Executive Budget should be sought considering the millions of dollars paid by riders to date
5. I wish to commend your efforts; a lot of state money will flow into the region because of this.
6. Cost not fair to taxpayer.
7. Build a good system for both ATV's and snowmobiles, and the public will support it in huge numbers for the economic benefit of the area.
8. Who is going to pay for ambulance and fire service?
9. Grants from manufacturers should be obtained to supply need machines. Have you looked into free machines or equipment through dealerships for policing and emergency response?
10. Eight thousand dollars a mile is totally unjustified for a plan that would turn 18,000 acres into a theme park for one special interest only.
11. How is this cost going to be financed?
12. The concerned environmental groups should be donating the funding of the flora and fauna study.
13. Federal Funding Available: Additional funding is available for motorized recreation via the National Recreation Trails Act (TEA-21, RTF). Under 2000 funding, $390,000 is available to New York's motorized-only trails and an additional $520,000 for combined motorized/non-motorized shared use trails.
14. Will some staff cost be able to be offset by volunteer time?
15. Separate types of ATV trails may be a funding problem for OPRHP should the proposed trail funding bills pass. OPRHP will need to develop special rules.
16. When does the fiscal year start for such a project?
17. NYSORVA will at least be willing to donate the funds for the annual cost of hosting the Advisory Committee.
18. Administration cost for non-ATV trail use should not come out of the funds for the ATV trail maintenance.
19. The counties of Franklin, St. Lawrence, Lewis and Clinton have adopted resolutions in support of the ATV Trail Fund Bill and made a statement that ATV trail development will generate recreational and economic outcomes for their communities.
20. Economic impact: Brookfield Horse Trail System, Otter Creek Horse Trail System and the Old Forge Snowmobile System are good examples of the economic impact a trail system can have in an area in creation of jobs and small businesses.

Wildlife impacts

21. Wildlife - nesting birds, breeding bird populations i.e. Scarlet tanager, ovenbird, wood thrush, forest hawks, - habitat destruction. Wildlife impacts can be either direct or indirect. Direct would be the actual physical disturbance of wildlife, harassing and even running over and killing of animals. Direct impact may alter animal behavior and displace animals from present habitat. There will be an indirect loss of habitat and ultimate reduction in reproduction levels. Some wildlife are very

sensitive to sound disturbances. Species such as the pileated woodpeckers, broad winged hawks, cooper's hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, great horned owls, and barred owls. Ground nesters such as ovenbirds, hermit thrushes, juncos, and white-throated sparrows will be directly affected by habitat loss and nest destruction. The period of greatest ATV use will correspond with the breeding season, when birds are most vulnerable. Other wildlife such as amphibians and reptiles and invertebrates will also be disturbed and negatively impacted by the machines.

22. Birds would disappear and never return.
23. 99 decibels would disturb wildlife.
24. What about the impact to the deer wintering area where the trail crosses Route 8?
25. It will disturb the W.V. whites - a butterfly path crossing treaty line
26. Trail clearing would cause fragmentation of the forest and increase edge effect.
27. Proposed wildlife study not long enough.

Environmental Issues

28. What kind of pollution prevention has been considered for the entire trail system (water, air, land and noise)?
29. Object to the noise impact.
30. Support limiting any racing type banshee or MX machines.
31. Decibel levels of heavy traffic is 70-80; a riveter is 90-100.
32. One off-road machine on the trail will essentially use 200 square miles of forest, even if the vehicle does not leave the trail (which we know they will), in pollution of noise, air and disturbed wildlife.
33. Perspective of impact: 2 miles of trail 4 feet wide would be one acre of land. Therefore 100 miles would be on only 50 acres of the 4 million acres of public land. That is only .00125%!
34. There will be erosion and soil compaction.
35. There will be impacts such as stream siltation, lowering of water quality
36. There will be impacts on vegetation including root damage, soil compaction, direct physical damage and outright trampling of vegetation to the point of lack of tree regeneration and denuded areas.
37. ATV'ers do care about the environment. We support this plan as proposing an environmentally sound trail system.
38. Littering will increase.
39. Organize Adopt-a-Trail for ATV's.
40. Air pollution will increase.
41. Fuel use will increase.
42. Federal lands are being closed to snowmobiles, so how can ATV's be allowed on state lands?
43. One ATV puts out as much pollution as 1000 cars.
44. There will be spills - gas, oil, battery acid.
45. Up to 100 miles is too much, and the proposed concentration is too great.
46. If this trail is built, it will be the only one of its kind in the state and will draw a greatly increased number of clandestine or unofficial trails to these state lands and area private lands. This will cause greater environmental degradation.
47. The construction of the trail will cause environmental damage to fisheries and aesthetics.
48. Economic growth (the ATV trail) does damage to the habitats (fragmentation).
49. Ecologically sensitive trail design is environmentally sound.

Social Issues

50. I feel the Department's goal for these forests should be to allow the greatest number of uses that are compatible with each other while protecting the environment.
51. All public land should be shared.
52. I am an avid horse rider but feel an area is needed just for ATV's.

53. ATV enthusiasts are ready to assist in trail development and design. The ATV community needs this opportunity to work with the public and the DEC to create this successful trial system. Much stereotyping has cast ATV'ers as insensitive to environmental issues with disregard for landowners, other user groups and state and local agencies.
54. This is the right place to put the Trail.
55. Is this the best area for an ATV trail? Have locations been looked at elsewhere? Might other areas be better suited such as to the north, east or west? A trail should be built where there is higher demand.
56. There is no ATV trail system: Other than a few miles of motor vehicle road, ATV enthusiasts have no legally authorized access to a trail system on public land.
57. Equal access to public land: Not all persons can or wish to gain access to the outdoors via muscle power (hike, bike, horse or x-c ski). All users of state land should have a reasonable level of access, where identified as appropriate, based on their preferred mode of travel.
58. Increased interest in ATV recreation: Interest is growing at a rate greater than or comparable to snowmobiling. Notably due to the longer season. DMV registration figures show an increase of 36% since 1997. The 1994 document published by the State called the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) states that ATV/ OHM riders are the most under-served recreational user group in the state.
59. There are heavy statewide restrictions on ATV use: Four million acres are already set aside for wildlife , environmental protection and foot only travel. ATV's are not allowed in state parks and the Catskill preserve. Access in the Adirondacks is limited to less than 40 miles of motor vehicle trails.
60. There are ATV trails on state lands - don't need more!
61. Support from other trail user groups: The New York State Trails Council and the NYS Snowmobile Association, as well as other outdoor recreation groups, support ATV's position.
62. Single user groups such as the Finger Lakes Trail should not be excluding others from using state land.
63. Object to not allowing off-highway motor cycles from using the proposed trail until after completion of the Phase I of the plan. Discriminating between ATV's and OHM's sets a bad precedent and should be avoided if at all possible.
64. Advisory Committee should have a balance of interests, trail users to non trail users.
65. Avoid camping areas and other visitors of the forest.
66. Excluding ATV trails will only further exacerbate the already existing problem of lack of legal ATV trail opportunities.
67. The proliferation of the sport, however, without the development of legal recreational trails, will place great strains on communities as they attempt to wrestle with appropriate and suitable places for ATV enthusiasts to enjoy their sport.
68. Object to not allowing off- highway motor cycles in phase I.
69. Development of trails for ATV's will lead to ATV domination of the forests, especially with the loud noise associated with this use.
70. ATV'ers will be interfering with other users.
71. Loss of hunting opportunities.
72. Increased traffic on local roads.
73. ATV riders are "bad."
74. No place left on earth to experience quiet majesty or nature.
75. Fear large amount of ATV money will result in more trails in more state forests thus no or few "wild" areas.
76. Could affect horse riders.
77. ATV trails are not compatible with forests.
78. We need increased attendance at the park; this would be ideal.

79. To build so closely to the park will cause the park to suffer. This is irresponsible to the park.
80. No ATV's in parks.
81. Need 500 yard buffer near FLT.
82. Favors out of area people over locals.
83. ATV'ers should be 18 years old.
84. Should have a public referendum.
85. Local communities should vote on trail.
86. Would out-of-state ATV's be allowed?
87. Is there enough buffering around the trail so private properties can remain free of ATV trespassing and noise?
88. The assumption that more enforcement will keep ATV'ers on the designated trails is flawed. The fact is there are ATV'ers who won't stay on designated trails, and they will cause damage that cannot be mitigated.
89. I don't think the plan has properly addressed the needs of this area. The area is already too fragmented and broken up by too many roads, parking lots and trails.
90. The state seems to care more about special interests, but what about people who want less access, more quiet and timber harvests. Let the local vote have the say.
91. Adjacent landowners will be subject to increased noise and traffic.
92. Patriotism is to use less gas, not more
93. According to the map the proposed trail would surround my property on Rte 8 between Masonville and Deposit. NO!
94. One would think that if there are trails designed specifically for ATV's, they'd stay on them; but they don't.
95. Yes, there are law-abiding, polite, non-intrusive ATV operators. But there are also very obviously law-ignoring, rude, and intrusive ATV operators. Attracting them all to the area is sad.
96. We are opposed to the proposed roads for ATV's and snowmobiles for all kinds of reasons - (petitions).
97. ATV'ers don't want pleasant rolling and winding trails. They want extreme speed and dangerous, challenging trails.
98. Object to proposed gate at intersection of Lord Road and Perry Road. It will become an unplanned public access point for entry on the trail system.

Safety Issues and Enforcement Issues

99. ATV riders drinking?
100. Safety of children using area
101. Have you planned for emergency and fire cost?
102. Increased ATV's in the general area will endanger the public safety.
103. There will be an increase in trespassing.
104. There will be an increase in forest fires.
105. With the threat to adjacent properties there is a need for more enforcement than listed in plan.
106. There will be an increase in use of area roads without provisions for increase in police, ranger, sanitation and health services.
107. Unrealistic to think riders will obey rules & laws. It is foolish to think DEC's staff will be able to enforce the rules. Increased staffing is not adequate to police the trails and impacted areas.
108. Current enforcement inadequate to monitor increased use.
109. Vandalism will increase.
110. There is a high liability risk with ATV trails.
111. New trails will be illegally made.
112. Teenage parties will be encouraged.

113. There will be an impact on livestock/pets.
114. ATV trail will help reduce deer overpopulation by improving access for the area poachers.
115. Who tests the ATV's for noise level?
116. Enforcement - how, who, what penalties?
117. ATV'ers would hunt from ATVs.
118. What keeps regular riders off ATV trails for the disabled?
119. ATV'ers will want to go every where.
120. There should be rules: no firearms, bows or knives
121. There is no one to monitor this activity now. Few wear helmets, few are registered, they go anywhere they want. Young group access hard to control areas for parties and littering. Hunters are racing around without helmets and carrying guns.
122. You will have confrontations with hikers and birders verbally and physically assaulted by young bikers and their machines.
123. NYS V& T Law 2406 requires a muffler system to meet federal standards 40 CFR Part 205.166 subpart E. The noise level proposed by this plan is within these standards and any noise exceeding these standards are a violation of the law.
124. Should be able to use existing forest roads.
125. Allow snowmobiles on ATV trails
126. Allow OHM to operate on a day pass issued by DEC Offices

Alternatives

127. Acquisition - buy ATV'ers their own land. Privately fund their own land
128. Open back roads.
129. Put ATV's in Adirondacks, NYC, downstate.
130. Put them around airports - a win-win scenario to keep birds away. Another solution is to put them along selected sections of state roads where DEC owns adjacent land. This may reduce vehicle wildlife collisions.
131. Trail should be in open land.
132. This should be a private venture on private land only, with safeguards for safety, emergency response and mechanical support included in their plan.
133. Why can't existing access roads be used for ATV's, and how about Dept. of Transportation right of ways?
134. Can rules for roadways be amended for legal use?
135. Go buy the ATV'ers some new land, fence it in and turn them loose.
136. Open the right place for ATV's, not present state forest lands in this area. Buy other lands in the area and open the back roads for them.

Other

137. Registration fee collected and unused: Chapter 402. Laws of 1986 initially established the ATV Trails Development and Maintenance fund. $5.00 out of every $10 registration fee collected was to be set aside for an ATV Trail Development and Maintenance Fund. The Fund was abolished by Chapter 190, Laws of 1990, the money reverting to the general fund, but the requirement to register and collect the $10 fee continues.
138. No EIS/SEQRA: DEC did not comply with SEQRA and did not file an EIS for either the plan or the ATV Trail. An agency must determine if a type one action is proposed. The proposed ATV Trail is a type one action. At a minimum, a full environmental review of the trail should be carried out to allow adequate consideration of the site specific effects of the trail. As of this date, DEC has held a hearing and public comment session yet has not prepared an Environmental Assessment Form and or draft Environmental Impact statement (DEIS).

139. It's a done deal!
140. How do you regulate the number of people using the trails?
141. DEC should be neutral.
142. Put ATV registration dilemma back on "DOT."
143. Will someone with ATV trail expertise be consulted?
144. Will the destination for the money from the ATV registration change so a trail and maintenance fund can be developed?
145. Proposed staffing is insufficient and in the next budget downturn, those positions would be cut.
146. Proponents say the trail will only become a reality when additional DEC staff are created to enforce laws and manage the intensively used area. To the contrary, DEC staff positions have been created where the expressed purpose has been entirely forgotten. The Albany Office has not committed to the proposed positions.
147. Motorized use is against DEC goals of healthy forests and clean water and air.
148. DEC should be protecting our future.
149. 1993 DEC Position Statement on ATV's which states ATV trails can be established, maintained and used with no irreversible damage and ATV trails should be established where feasible on State Reforestation Areas.
150. The NYS DEC and OPRHP are charged to be our environmental stewards, not condoning such noise, polluting, environmentally damaging machines. I cannot understand how DEC can be considering a plan that is so destructive to the environment. Commissioner Jorling and the Department were wrong in their 1993 Position Statement on ATV's.
151. Has there been sufficient study of archeological sites in the affected area?
152. How many informational packets were sent to local landowners?
153. There are many miles of ATV trails in use in this area now, that is enough! 100 miles is too much, maybe a few would be acceptable, but even that would result in destruction.
154. The correct name of NYSORVA should be New York State Off- Highway Recreational Vehicle Association, Inc.
155. Timbering could continue in trails areas, thus contracts should ensure the protection of the trails and repair of damages to the trails by harvesting contractors.
156. Trails should remain open for hiking, x-c skiing and mt. biking during the off- season, except when such activity would be detrimental to the tread surface.
157. We support the prohibition of competitive events on the proposed trails. Does this prohibit organized rides such as poker runs (ATV), turkey runs, or dual sport events?
158. Is it true no part of Phase I or II will be in the New York City Watershed?
159. Allow winter use of the ATV trail.
160. Consider handicap people who would like to use the ATV trail for hunting and fishing.
161. I would like to see an addition to the Advisory committee being the sporting public such as a fish and wildlife board member.
162. I understand horses being prohibited from the ATV trails. Does this include mules engaged in coon and coyote hunting? They would not be using the trails for recreational purposes, but perhaps crossing the trail? Should lama trekking also be excluded.
163. ATV's should also be allowed for ice fishing as are snowmobiles on frozen lakes.
164. I would suggest that you connect the two sections of Phase I at that time. One 40 mile trail is better than two twenty mile trails because of the hassle of loading and hauling all our gear.

Perceptions and questions on Plan details

165. Vast tracts of trees will be cut down.
166. What restrictions would be on ATV's?

167. If shut down, how will land be reclaimed?
168. What is planned for bathroom facilities?
169. Would there be an opportunity to comment before phase II?
170. How close to residences?
171. How long a season?
172. Can space on the forest be saved by combining ATV and snowmobile trails.
173. How narrow are the trails?
174. Why are two way trails necessary on an origin to destination trail system?
175. Will certain trails be more challenging than others?
176. Will the proper number of staffing be hired and will more be hired for phase II?
177. Will months of operation change?
178. In the event the trail will shut down, will it be shut down so it is only accessible by foot?
179. Will trails be moved or shut down if degradation to the area becomes too bad?
180. How will ATV trail intersections with other trails be managed? Who will ultimately maintain and pay for the maintenance of the intersections?
181. Where is phase II to cross Route 8? Where does it go?
182. What happens when trail use overlaps: ATV + Hike + Snowmobile? You do most of your improvements with forest product revenue.
183. Would the ATV trail affect quiet trails and activities?
184. Why ATV's and not skiing trails, or horseback trails or mountain biking trails?

Acquisition

185. The proposed acquisition of in holdings and neighboring property does not adequately describe how and why these purchases should take place. To facilitate administrative and public access is just ambiguous jargon. I am firmly opposed to acquisition that facilitates ATV trails. I might support purchases for actual improvements of the forest, to consolidate habitat, to protect sensitive areas or for acceptable low impact uses.
186. What is next after willing sellers, condemnation maybe?

The Department also received comments to other parts of the Draft Plan. The essential thought expressed in the comments are listed below and the Department's response follows.

Comment: Object to oil and gas exploration on state forests.
Comment: Oil and gas leases are proposed. Oil and gas exploration are often associated with environmental impacts such as spoils, pipelines, road building, clearing of land, spills, etc. The management plan fails to address basic questions on why, where and how this will be done. Is it possible to identify specific parcels that would be involved?
Response: *The land manager will be involved in establishing surface restrictions to protect wetlands, riparian zones along streams, steep slopes, high use recreation areas and other similar sites. The land manager will also regulate the location of roads and pipe lines. These restrictions would become part of the lease agreement.*

Comment: How many acres do the drilling sites require?
Response: *Drill sites using current technology for wells going roughly 10,000 feet deep are approximately three acres in size.*

Comment: How many wells could be expected if oil or gas is found?

Response: *Deep well drilling targets result in wells spaced approximately one mile apart and that the stipulations will include procedures to minimize, to the greatest extent possible, cleared areas. Specifics would be in accordance with Article 23 of the ECL Titles 5, 7 and 9.*

Comment: How much revenue would be raised?
Response: *Don't really know until the well is struck. Could be just the bid and lease amounts, if the well is not drilled, unsuccessful or the amount of gas found is insufficient to be extracted. If gas is hit and extracted, in addition to the lease amounts, revenues would include royalties as per the contract*.

Comment: How are the sales conducted?
Response: *By a competitive bid process administered by the DEC Division of Mineral Resources and in accordance with Title 6 of the Conservation Law Chapter V Subchapter B Mineral Resources and in accordance with the State Finance Law.*

Comment: Can local citizens and non-profit bid during these sales if they have no intention to utilize the resource?
Response: *If they can meet the bidding and bonding requirements they may bid; however, the leases are for a period of only five years. The lease protects the interests of the people of the State of New York and can be terminated for lack of site development when such development would better serve the state's interests.*

Comment: Where does the money go and for what purpose?
Response: *The general fund of New York State Government. The purpose is to suit the needs of the People of the State of New York as determined by our legislative branches.*

Comment: Will roads need to be built? How deep will the roads penetrate the forest?
Response: *Most likely roads will need to be built. The leasee selects the site on the leased property within the confines of the lease and the law and with the approval of the Department. Access roads will be located to utilize existing roads and clearings as much as possible. After the wells are plugged and abandoned, the roads and well clearings will be reclaimed to the land manager's specifications.*

Comment: What type of supply lines or storage facilities will be needed?
Response: *In general most natural gas well sites have 3 to 4 common pieces of equipment as follows:*
Wellhead Assembly
Brine Collection Tank
Methanol Tank
Heater Treater (often with a metering device)
At some point, either at the wellhead or near the connection of the gathering pipeline to the sales pipeline, a metering device will be installed.

Comment: Can land be taken by eminent domain to build pipelines?
Response: *There are eminent domain powers for projects approved by the Federal Government under the Federal Power Act. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issues a certificate of public need for inter-state pipelines. We are not sure whether the Public Service Commission has similar provisions for intra-state pipelines.*

Comment: Is there a reasonable expectation that there are gas or oil reserves in the area?

Response: *The Trenton Black River Formation is proving to yield some significant finds of natural gas in the southern central Finger Lakes Region. Exploration interests have been extending easterly. Natural gas wells have been successful in Broome and Madison Counties. The Treaty Line Unit is in an unproven area of the state with very little historical data available. Companies have not expressed any interest in leasing Unit lands to date.*

Comment: DEC should acquire more land in the area.
Comment: Must land be acquired and what will happen if land can be bought?
Response: *Should is the more relevant question. The Open Space Plan identifies the need to seek acquisition of private parcels to add to existing state land properties where the acquisition would compliment public and administrative access and management of those state lands. Acquisition will be following procedures established in the New York State Open Space Plan. Acquisition of in holdings and lands that contribute to the goals and objectives of the plan as identified in the UMP are those being sought. As development pressures expand many of these parcels may not be as desirable or would be much more costly to acquire. As lands are purchased, they will be incorporated into the management plans for the area.*

Comment: Where would the acquisitions be?
Response: *See the Proposed Public Access Map or the full version of the plan and specifically the listing of desired acquisitions on page 113.*

Comment: What is the revenue source to acquire lands.
Response: *The Environmental Protection Fund is the current source of funding for the type of land acquisitions proposed in this UMP. Other sources of funding might be utilized if they became available.*

Comment: Will eminent domain ever be used to acquire any lands? Never ever say never!
Response: *Both the policy recommendations of the Open Space Plan and restrictions set by the use of funding from the Environmental Protection Fund greatly limit the potential use of eminent domain for the acquisition of lands for open space protection. There are no plans to use eminent domain for acquisitions proposed as part of this UMP.*

Comment: Will sellers receive fair market value for their property and homes along with relocation expenses?
Response: *Sellers receive fair market value for their properties based on an independent appraisal. For the sale to proceed the owner must accept that offer of the appraised value. Relocation expenses are only associated with eminent domain actions and no such action is being proposed (see previous comment and response).*

Comment: I strongly suggest the state add two areas to the priority acquisition list to enhance the value of the resource. The areas are two high elevation sites in the area: one being at USGS BM Slawson in Broome County and a 2040 foot area 0.25 miles west of East Afton. This is needed for individuals who have the hobby of hiking to the highest elevations in our NYS Counties.
Response: *Acquiring the higher elevation sites would require acquisition of all or part of several hundred acres of land from several owners. There is no indication these sites offer any other unique and significant value to the people of the state of New York. Acquiring sites of the highest elevation in each county is not an objective of the Open Space Plan, therefore we will not be pursuing acquisition of those sites.*

Comment: Will more hiking trails or nature trails be constructed in or around the state forests? Will any trails be planned for harvest areas?.

Response: *None are planned. Currently there is the Finger Lakes Trail which crosses the Unit. Oquaga Creek State Park has hiking, skiing and nature trails adjacent to the Unit. State Forests are open to hiking and nature observation which are a common occurrence on old logging trails.*

Comment: What is the funding for activities other than ATV trail? Are there specific grants or loans for each activity?

Response: *Funding for staff time is primarily from the Natural Resources - Special Revenue Account, General Fund, and the Conservation Fund. Some actions are planned to be accomplished as trade-offs through forest product sales. Grants have occasionally been obtained for some projects. Snowmobile clubs routinely obtain grants from the New York State Snowmobile Fund for some of the costs of snowmobile trail maintenance. The snowmobile fund is derived from snowmobile registrations and is administered by the OPRHP. Volunteer groups and individuals accomplish a number of projects such as maintenance of the Finger Lakes Trail. The Boy Scouts frequently take on a number of volunteer projects on the Unit, some as Eagle Projects.*

Comment: What happens when log roads are turned into trails and are then needed for subsequent harvests? Many trails were log roads first, then trail users don't want them used for logging.

Response: *Often hiking and other trails' origins are on old logging roads as they logically might have been on the best ground for trails and are often the easiest to initially clear. Subsequent harvesting around trails sets priority to the "recognized" trail, not traveling on the trail and crossing the trail in as few locations as possible. Occasionally skidding/hauling operations are designed to use a section of a recreation trail where the impact of moving elsewhere would be adversely significant. Contracts will contain special trail stipulations when harvesting operations are near a recreation trail. Recreationists need to be appreciative of the past history of the trail and considerate of other uses and users of the forest, just as the timber harvester should be appreciative of the recreationist's rights and interests. A Unit brochure is planned that will make note to recreationists on harvesting and trail origin.*

Comment: Wants large snowmobile trail system.

Comment: Object to increased access for snowmobiles.

Comment: Snowmobiles are noisy and destructive, and for that reason I am opposed to anything that would increase snowmobile usage of the forests.

Response: *No significant changes in snowmobiling were proposed or are being proposed (see the section on snowmobiling on page 30). The plan does not call for increased access for snowmobiles nor a large snowmobile system. Snowmobiles are allowed to go anywhere on state forests, except on skiing or hiking trails or where prohibited by signs. Just because they are allowed to go most anywhere does not allow snowmobilers to create trails (the clearing of trees, brush, woody debris, erecting signs or structures). The plan calls for recognizing and allowing the NYS Snowmobile Corridor Trail 2 to pass through the Treaty Line Unit State Forests as a formally recognized trail. Most of this route is on unplowed roads. Snowmobiles have many of the similar impacts of ATV's. Increasing the number of snowmobile trails would increase the impacts of snowmobiles and increase the ease of illegal ATV access. Illegal ATV access can have a significant adverse impact on trails not designed for their use.*

Comment: Put motor boats on NYC Reservoirs.

Response: *Not applicable to the planning area and not within the jurisdiction of this plan or DEC.*

Comment: Walk around naked.
Comment: Four wheelers need more places to ride.
Response: *See other recreational demands on the Unit page 30. No provisions are being made for roads for 4 wheeling. Motor vehicles are only allowed on roads designated for motor vehicle use.*

Comment: From the map I find it difficult to tell where horse riding is allowed and rig parking is appropriate.
Response: *By policy, horses are allowed anywhere on state forests except on designated foot trails, snow covered snowmobile and skiing trails, and where prohibited by sign. The Finger Lakes Trail location and the Snowmobile Corridor Trail #2 location are shown on the Public Use Maps. The maps also show current and proposed parking areas. Since there are no formal horse trails, there are no plans to develop parking areas designed specifically for horse trailers. A Unit brochure is planned that will show parking areas and pulloffs with the number of cars that may be accommodated.*

Comment: What happens to harvested trees? Are they reused or are they sold for outside the forest uses?
Response: *A vast majority of the harvested trees are sold for outside the forest uses.*

Comment: Where does revenue from the sales of harvested wood go and what can it be used for?
Response: *The revenue goes into the Natural Resource Special Revenue Account. That fund is used to pay some Division of Lands and Forests staff salaries and some operational expenses. The fund is also used for other unspecified state needs.*

Comment: Is it cheaper for the DEC to contract out for tree harvesting, instead of doing it from within?
Response: *The timber is sold to private companies and individuals via a competitive bid process.*

Comment: When an area is managed, roughly how many trees are harvested or what percent of the total acreage is harvested.?
Response: *The number of trees harvested varies greatly. Sales are prepared to follow a prescription to manage the forest stands to meet the goals and objectives set forth in this plan. A thinning in a young pole stand may cut hundreds of trees per acre, while a thinning in a mature stand may only remove a few to a couple of dozen or so trees per acre. 16569 acres on the Unit are planned to be managed with or as trade offs of forest product harvesting practices. Some of that acreage will be treated on a 15 to 20 year cycle, some a 30 year cycle, some are now seedling sapling stands and will not be treated for decades. Approximately 800 acres are planned to be treated each year in the first 20 years of this plan.*

Comment: It seems timber harvest funds go to build more trails and parking lots instead of more foresters marking more timber.
Response: *Current state administration policy is not to add more staffing. DEC land managers have been putting a priority on implementing approved management plans. Once unit management plans have been completed for all state forests there will be a clear defendable estimate of the staff time needed to implement all the unit management plans and all state forests on a sustainable basis. It is then hoped the Department will be granted the means to implement all actions in the plans.*

Comment: Wants more timber available for local manufacturing, i.e. pulpwood and small scale sales.

Response: *The management plan establishes an action plan to attain the goals and objectives of the plan. Current staffing priorities implement area with UMPs while areas without UMPs receive less attention. You can expect timber harvests to be offered in accordance with the Timber Harvesting Schedule Table B found in the full version of the plan and with the constraints listed on page 16.*

Comment: Will a Generic Environmental Impact Statement be part of the final plan? Generic impact statements cover some actions of the plan.

Response: *There are generic impact statements covering: State Forest Commercial Product Sales Program, Wildlife Management Program, Oil and Gas Drilling, Red Pine Plantation Clearcut Program, Plan and Final GEIS for Conserving Open Space in New York State, and the State Forest Recreation Management Program. An Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) has been completed. The negative declaration is included with this final plan. An EAF was initiated with the draft; however, the decision was to address SEQR only on the final plan after decisions on the components of that plan. Certain components of the plan may or may not required a full Environmental Impact Statement.*

Comment: What was the original purpose for purchasing these lands; weren't future timber harvests a bigger priority then, and why aren't they now?

Response: *State Forest lands were acquired for wildlife habitat, protecting water quality, providing recreational opportunities, production of timber and other kindred uses. The law authorizing the acquisition did not favor one purpose over another. Societal changes shift demands on the state land. Hunting has declined, but other outdoor recreation demands have increased over the decades. The forests too have changed. The acreage has more older age forests, which, along with increased timber values, has differing values to the many users, uses and benefactors of the forest. This land is intended to be managed in all the interests of the people of the State of New York.*

Comment: I have a concern about what I perceive to be a gap between intentions and actual practice!

Response: *A plan is just that, a plan. Good plans must be flexible. Land managers use the plan as the guiding document to manage the lands and its uses. The constraints section identifies situations which may cause deviations from the plan. Minor changes are made by the land manager and are documented as part of public record, however significant changes are required to be made via an amendment to the plan.*

Comment: Object to clear cutting. The sites are not cleaned up or replanted.

Response: *Overstory removal, that which is often called clear cutting, is part of even-aged management. Even-aged management techniques are used to attain the land management goals. When a percentage of the forest is desired to be in young seedling/saplings stands, cuts have to be made to create those young stands and their beneficial habitat. Indeed overstory removal typically is a very unsightly action in most human perceptions, but only for a period of time. That overstory removal may put slash (downed woody debris) on the forest floor which is desired by many forest inhabitants, releases thousands of seedlings and sapling trees (habitat desired by many species and the start of a new forest), and generates significant revenue to the state and the local economy. Please also see the following comments and responses.*

Comment: Some of the clear cuts should be converted to open grassy areas along with planting of apple trees to further supplement browse for wildlife.

Response: *The landing areas are to be seeded with grasses. Those areas disturbed to top soil and not seeded typically become established with grasses for a period of time. The landing areas are intended to increase in size in even-aged management zones thus increasing the acreage in grasses. Apple trees are being protected and released in brush land sites.*

Comment: You point out that landing areas help provide open land habitat. Of course as you know, parking and camping areas provide such habitat.

Response: *Sites actively used by humans for camping and parking would, to some extent, disturb wildlife attempting to use those areas for nesting, breeding, etc. Occasional parking and camping at forest product landing areas left accessible to motor vehicles (pulloffs) is expected.*

Comment: What are the proposed percentages of the even-aged and uneven-aged management?

Response: *Thirty-seven percentage of the Unit is planned to be managed in forest cover with uneven-aged management practices, and fifty-seven percent is planned to be managed with even-aged management practices.*

Comment: I only support even-aged management to the extent that it serves higher goals such as specific wildlife management objectives, the establishment of shade intolerant trees or the conversion of plantations to mixed forests. Would prefer to see even-aged stands kept to a small amount. The majority of the land in the unit should be harvested selectively through uneven-aged management.

Comment: The Ruffed Grouse Society strongly supports the use of even-aged treatments to regenerate early-successional forest communities as outlined in the draft. These habitat management treatments are essential if ongoing declines of early-successional forest communities and constituent wildlife species are to be arrested. In our eastern forests, young forests have declined by 41% over the past 2-3 decades. Many wildlife species' populations are declining as a direct result of the ongoing maturation of our eastern deciduous forest. Franzreb and Rosenberg (1997) found that songbirds that require young forest shrub habitats for breeding are almost twice as likely to be declining (46.1%) as are birds that breed in mature forests (26.6%). Askins (1993) found that far more bird species dependent upon young forest habitats are decreasing than are increasing throughout the east. Conversely, far more birds dependent upon mature forest habitats are increasing than are decreasing.

Comment: Concerned over balance of various types of woodland and habitats. The clearings, logging roads, and edges resulting from the rotational cutting will seriously reduce the value of nesting habitat for birds, such as rose-breasted grosbeak, scarlet tanager, wood thrush and black throated blue warbler. There needs to be a sufficient number of large tracts (1000- 7000 acres) of mature unbroken woodlands. Efforts should be made to increase the corridors and common boundaries between uneven-aged stands, both on and off the state lands.

Comment: The Ruffed Grouse Society strongly commends the DEC for proposing to implement even-aged treatments in hardwood communities and urges the final plan to expand that acreage.

Response: *The comments present two perspectives on even-aged vs uneven-aged management goals. The considerations for percentages for even-aged management versus uneven-aged management took into account the overall landscape of the area around the Unit and stand or site-specific conditions. Some species and stand conditions are not conducive to maintaining a healthy stocked forest through uneven-aged management. The objective is a balance of habitats, both for species richness and species of special concern. We are managing for both early successional and older closed canopy forest habitats. Establishing corridors was in the land manager's consideration when proposing management objectives. Older even-aged stands, 60*

plus years, serve both as corridors and nesting sites for species identified above. Theoretically, once a sustained management cycle has been attained at least two thirds of the Unit will always be in older forest cover at any one time. Additional parcels have been identified as desired acquisitions that would serve as corridors or improve upon existing corridors.

Planning considerations were considering a landscape approach and deficiencies within the landscape of the Unit. According to the U.S. Forest Service report in The Timber Resources of New York, Ferguson and Mayer, in 1966 to 1968 surveys they estimated that 51.6 percent of the combined forest land in the three counties of Broome, Chenango and Delaware were seedling/sapling or non stocked forests. In the 1993 survey conducted by the U.S. Forest Service, Forest Statistics for New York: 1980 and 1993, Alerich and Drake, the acreage of seedling/sapling and non stocked had declined by 388 thousand acres and in 1993 represented only 14.2 percent of forested landscape.

To the south and adjacent to the Treaty Line Unit is the New York City Watershed Cannonsville property with a land area of 9588 acres. None of that acreage is delineated for even-aged management.

Comment: The plan does anticipate reducing plantations, with corresponding increases in hardwood and mixed hardwood/conifer stands. This will improve habitat for interior bird species. However the acreage will receive even-aged management, which is less desirable for nesting habitat.

Response: *Page 20 in the Objectives section C. Forest Ecosystems states that "options remain open for more stands suitable to be converted to uneven-aged stands as they develop." If a stand area was now identified as uneven-aged management and the current treatment to remove that overstory was via logical even-aged practices, someone might perceive there to be a gap between intentions and actual practice. (See a previous comment). Plans are scheduled to be amended every ten years. Changes in management direction will be a consideration that will improve corridors between uneven-aged management blocks. Many linking areas are impeded by ownership fragmentation and species types not adaptable to uneven-aged management. With some acquisitions and changing species composition through management, the linking corridors will be formalized.*

Comment: The Ruffed Grouse Society recommends the Department identify additional forest stands for regeneration using the two-aged shelter method. The residual basal areas should not exceed 25 square feet of basal area to maximize under story development and habitat quality.

Response: *Prescriptions for a treatment are based on stand analysis and consideration for other factors that may impact the success to attain the objective. The two age shelter wood method as well as the two stage and three stage shelter wood methods are viable options for regenerating even-aged stands. Residual basal areas of 25 square feet or less are very susceptible to wind throw in certain species types and sites typically found on the Unit. Low stocking of residuals often provides ideal predator perch sites which could impact the nesting success of some species. There will be a balance of sites conducive to both successful nesting and desired feeding sites of predators. There are no plans to increase the even-aged acreage on this unit.*

Comment: The use of even-aged management to establish shade intolerant trees is a desirable goal. I am concerned the higher deer populations locally may make this difficult. I urge the different divisions of DEC to work together to assure the success of this endeavor. If it is deemed that the deer populations in the immediate areas would need to be reduced for several years to accomplish this goal, please do so.

Response: *Last year, the NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife implemented the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP). While Deer Management Permits (DMPs) are used to maintain balanced deer populations at the Wildlife Management Unit level through the harvest of antlerless deer, DMAP was created to help control populations at specific sites within a unit. Many farmers and owners of woodland acreage experience damage from the presence of too many deer. Deer forage on corn and alfalfa crops and through browsing negatively impact forest regeneration. The Bureau of Wildlife issues DMAP permits to these individuals. These permits allow the permittees to hand out DMAP tag sets to hunters who hunt the permittee's land so they can harvest additional antlerless deer. It is the female component of any deer population that must be controlled if the population as a whole is to be kept in check, at a level where it is not impacting too negatively on society by causing too many vehicle accidents and destroying crops and area forest's potential to regenerate. In its second year, DMAP continues to grow in popularity. If issuance of DMPs and DMAP permits does not do the job, then nuisance damage permits can be issued to remove the problem deer at any time of the year. With time, local deer populations will be controlled and nuisance damage maintained at an acceptable level.*

Comment: Reserve and natural areas should be a larger part of the mix. Any state forest of reasonable size should have 10 -15 percent in reserve areas.

Comment: The plan sets aside only 78 acres as natural areas other than those too steep or wet to be logged. A larger portion should be designated as natural areas to allow the important biological processes and habitat development characteristic of old growth forests continue.

Response: *For the most part if the acreage protected as wet sites, riparian zones and steep slopes are not too wet or steep to be logged, they could "physically" be logged; however, we choose to protect those more sensitive areas and thus they are essentially reserves. In the landscape there are very significant holdings in reserve on the New York City Watershed, the Oquaga Creek State Park and the Catskill Preserve.*

Comment: Thoreau was right when he said "I think that each town should have a park or rather a primitive forest of five hundred or a thousand acres, either in one body or several, where a stick should never be cut for fuel, nor the Navy, nor to make wagons, but stand and decay for higher uses - a common possession forever for instruction and recreation."

Response: *New York State has over 3 million acres of reserves. The landscape around the Unit has a significant component of reserves in the Oquaga Creek State Park, New York City Watershed and the Catskill Preserves. Some unit management plans have designated areas as reserves, particularly where there is little or no reserves in the surrounding landscapes.*

Comment: I would like to see the state stop growing plantations. Norway spruce regenerates naturally to provide the desired coniferous habitat. Is there a possibility that other native tree species such as black spruce were here historically? If so could the Department consider planting of these trees on the unit?

Response: *Plantations add many benefits to the Treaty Line Unit landscape. Plantations provide thermal cover for many species and add to the aesthetic diversity of the Unit. The hemlock component of the Unit may be threatened by the Hemlock Wooly Adelgid. Its area of infestation to the southeast is expanding north and west toward the Unit annually. The plan is to greatly reduce the acreage of plantation. Norway spruce does not regenerate well naturally on all sites. Should the hemlock become imperiled some sites may need to be planted to attain desired softwood component goals for the Unit.*

Black spruce (Picea mariana) is also known as bog spruce, Trees of the Central Hardwood Forests of North America, Leopold, McComb, Muller. Black spruce is not a consideration for planting as it is in its southern range in this area and is essentially a wet site species in New York State. It may have been here historically, but so were the glaciers. Red spruce (Picea rubens) has been considered as a substitute for Norway spruce as it will grows on well drained sites. Although even red spruce is most often exists on cooler sites and climates than found on the Unit. The DEC Nursery at Saratoga has been attempting to grow red spruce. Your suggestion has been passed on to the DEC's Saratoga Nursery.

Comment: Planting of mast trees would be beneficial. The state allows harvesting for firewood, pulp, and timber but does not put anything back, except what nature chooses.

Comment: More emphasis should be placed on encouraging the growth of our native species of trees such as oak, maple, birch and cherry. I would suggest cutting back on European larch, Norway spruce, red pine. In the long run the hardwoods will be worth more. Let the hemlock seek its own preferred habitat, and let the white pine mix naturally.

Response: *Foresters use the regeneration characteristics of trees species to help decide the management direction of a stand and actions to be taken in a treatment. To meet objectives, foresters will use natural regeneration as a very cost effective tool to sustain or reestablish a forest stand. To a certain extent species composition can be manipulated through treatments. The plan delineates that the oak types and mast producing trees are to be favored. In the acreage where there is retention of oak types, planting may be an option to attain that goal. The acreage of larch, spruce and red pine plantations are planned to be reduced from current levels.*

Comment: Should have a plant and animal study for a baseline even without the trail.

Response: *Volunteers are welcome; without the proposed trail the need is no longer critical. The Department routinely works with educational institutions on research projects.*

Comment: Maintaining the 3 miles of trails for 4 or more wheeled ATV use for the disabled is a worthy gesture. I would support a modest increase and other access if the need was indicated.

Comment: I am disabled and do not use an ATV to access the outdoors, I use a horse.

Response: *Additional need was not expressed other than to open the whole area and the draft plan proposal for an ATV trail system to ATV's for hunting purposes. There are no plans to increase the mileage of trails designated for those individual with permits for mobility impaired disabilities. Horses are not restricted from going anywhere on the State Forest of the Unit, except on foot trails, snow covered snowmobile trails and where prohibited by sign.*

Comment: Leaves gates constructed on Barbour Brook Road and Mormon Hollow Road open until after deer season..

Response: *These roads have fairly steep grades and high crowns. In the past, a number of vehicles have slid off these roads when conditions were icy. Because of concern for public safety, it was decided to gate these roads during the months when winter weather can be expected.*

Comment: The landlocked parcels on Chamberlain Brook are completely surrounded by New York City Watershed property where anyone wishing to access these lands may be ticketed by DEP for trespass. These public lands should be accessible to the public.

Response: *These public lands are detached Forest Preserve parcels and are not part of the Treaty Line Unit. The DEC has encouraged New York City to make its land more accessible to the public.*

Comment: The state has limited access selectively so that private in holders must get a permit, yet you propose access through private lands to get to state lands. This seems to be a double standard.
Response: *Proposal to reopen roads is only asserting legal access that came with original title of the land. To not utilize that right would be detrimental to the State of New York.*

Comment: Don't reopen Dunbar Road.
.**Response:** *The approach to Dunbar Road on NYS Route 8 has a very short site distance. Because of a concern for public safety, only the portion of Dunbar Road on state land will be rehabilitated and opened to the public.*

Comment: Silvilcultural activities should follow NYSDEC Harvesting Guidelines.
Response: *The Timber Harvesting Guidelines are part of all forest product sale contracts.*

Comment: Explain BMP's that will be implemented to protect water quality and prevent erosion.
Response: *BMPs are Best Management Practices adopted by DEC which are incorporated in the State Water Quality Management Plan. The intent of the guidelines is to adopt practices which greatly reduce non-point source water pollution from timber harvesting activities. Copies of the Silvicultural Best Management Practices are available from DEC forestry offices.*

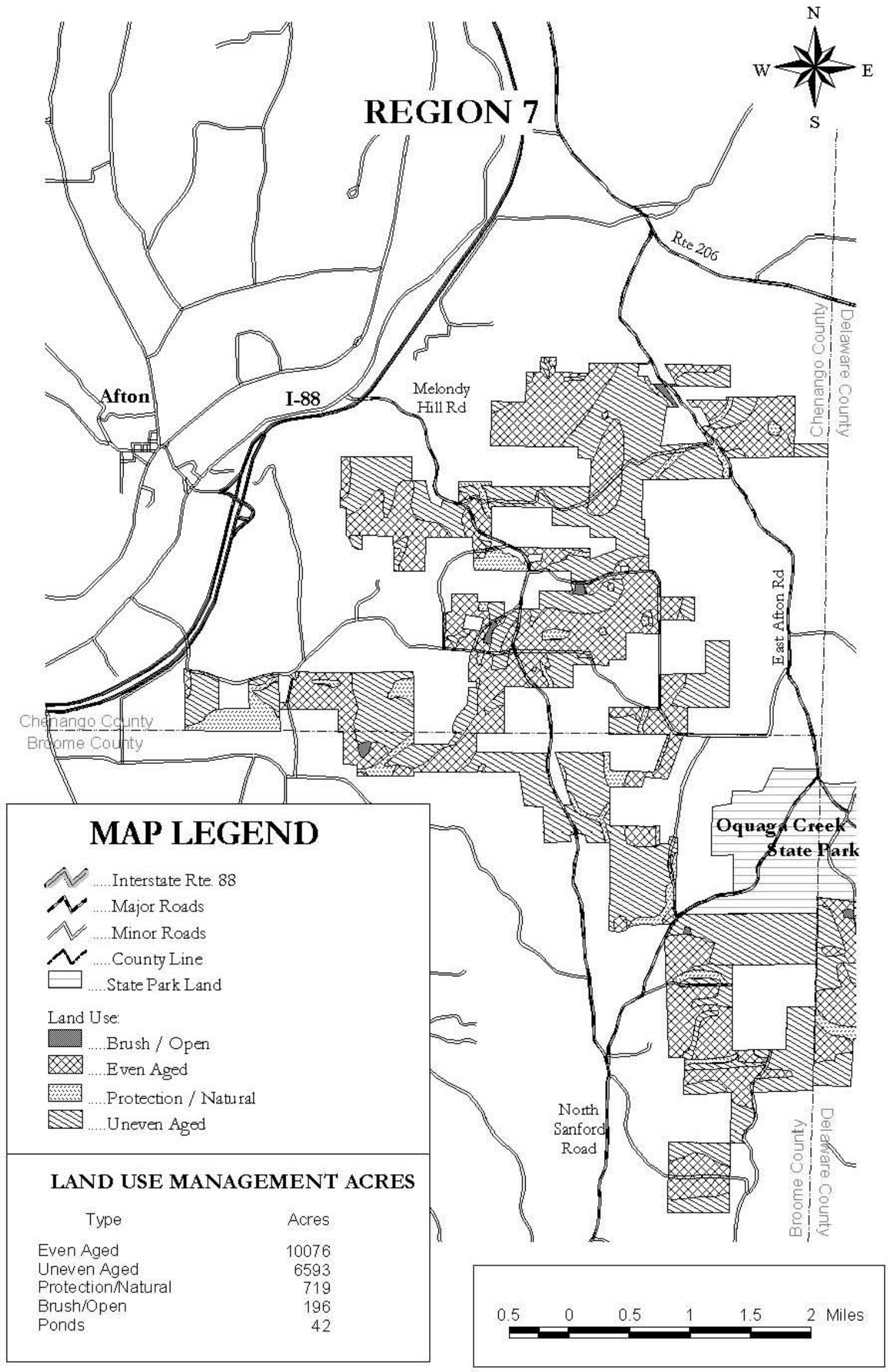
Comment: Skid trails should run parallel to the natural topography and contours.
Response: *Skid road layout is a very important aspect of harvesting operations. Following natural topography and contours is not always an option with consideration for property lines, cultural features, recreation trails, soft soils, spring seeps and sensitive sites.*

Comment: Where crossing streams or water courses, temporary removable spans should be used.
Comment: Vehicular trafficking should be restricted to areas outside buffer zones surrounding wetlands, water courses and hydrologically sensitive areas.
Comment: Storm runoff from access roadways, parking lots, or any trailway over which vehicular traffic occurs should be directed, contained, infiltrated or otherwise managed so as not to impact or contaminate any surficial water feature.
Response: *Harvesting and construction practices will follow Best Management Practices to protect water quality.*

Comment: Decrease the protected wetland acreage from 12 acres to 6 acres.
Response: *The 12 acre protection is a state regulation. This plan protects all wetlands on the Unit.*

Comment: Object to girdling of trees, it creates hazards and the trees break off and make a mess.
Response: *The practice of girdling is greatly diminished in recent years by a procedural change due to OSHA recommendations. Girdling is only to occur in limited situations where the dead tree would not cause hazard risks near recreation trails and the felling of the tree would cause significant damage to a number of surrounding trees and the felling would be a great risk to the operator.*

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT DIRECTION MAP
TREATY LINE UMP



MAP LEGEND

- .....Interstate Rte. 88
- .....Major Roads
- .....Minor Roads
- .....County Line
- .....State Park Land

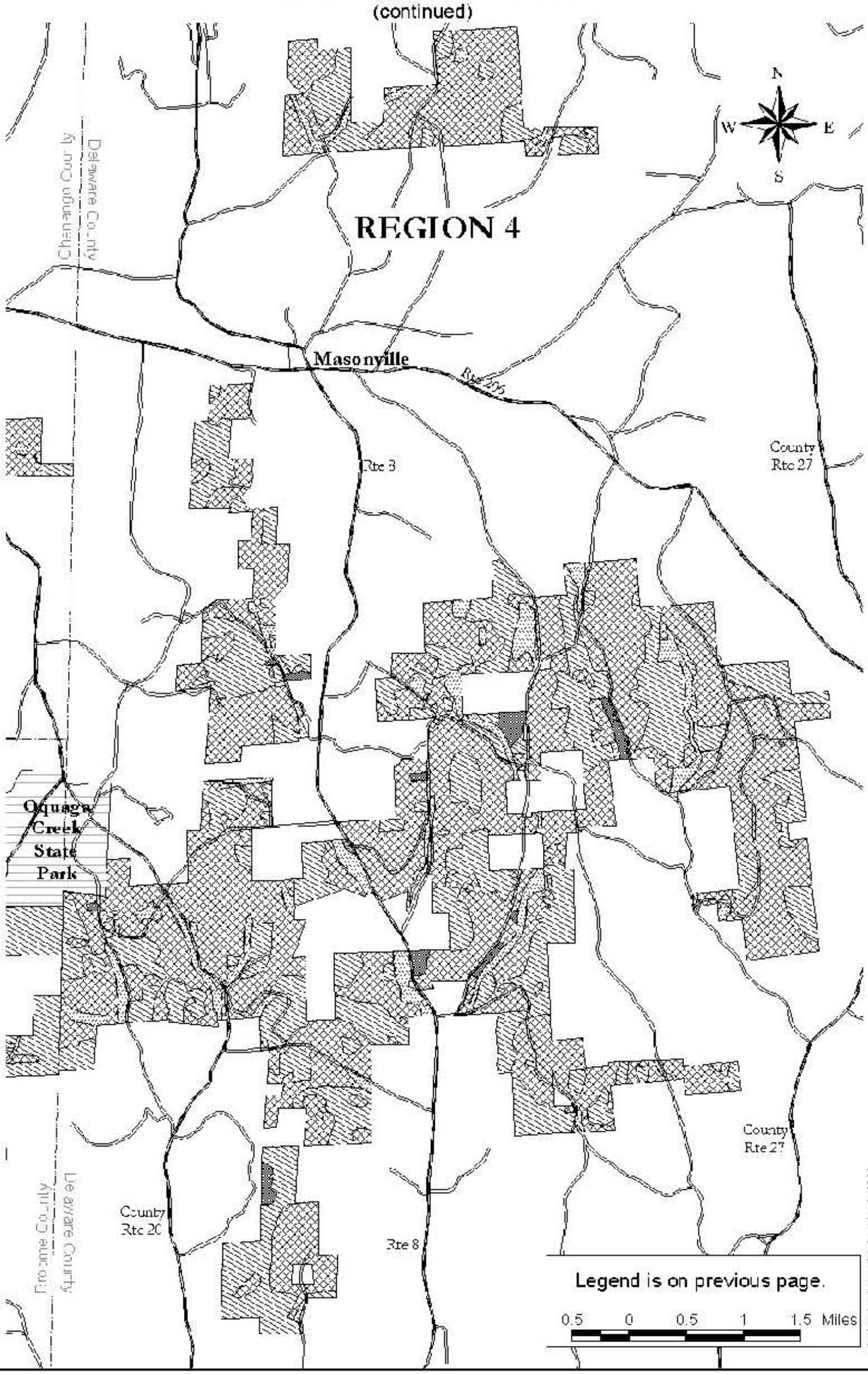
Land Use:

- .....Brush / Open
- .....Even Aged
- .....Protection / Natural
- .....Uneven Aged

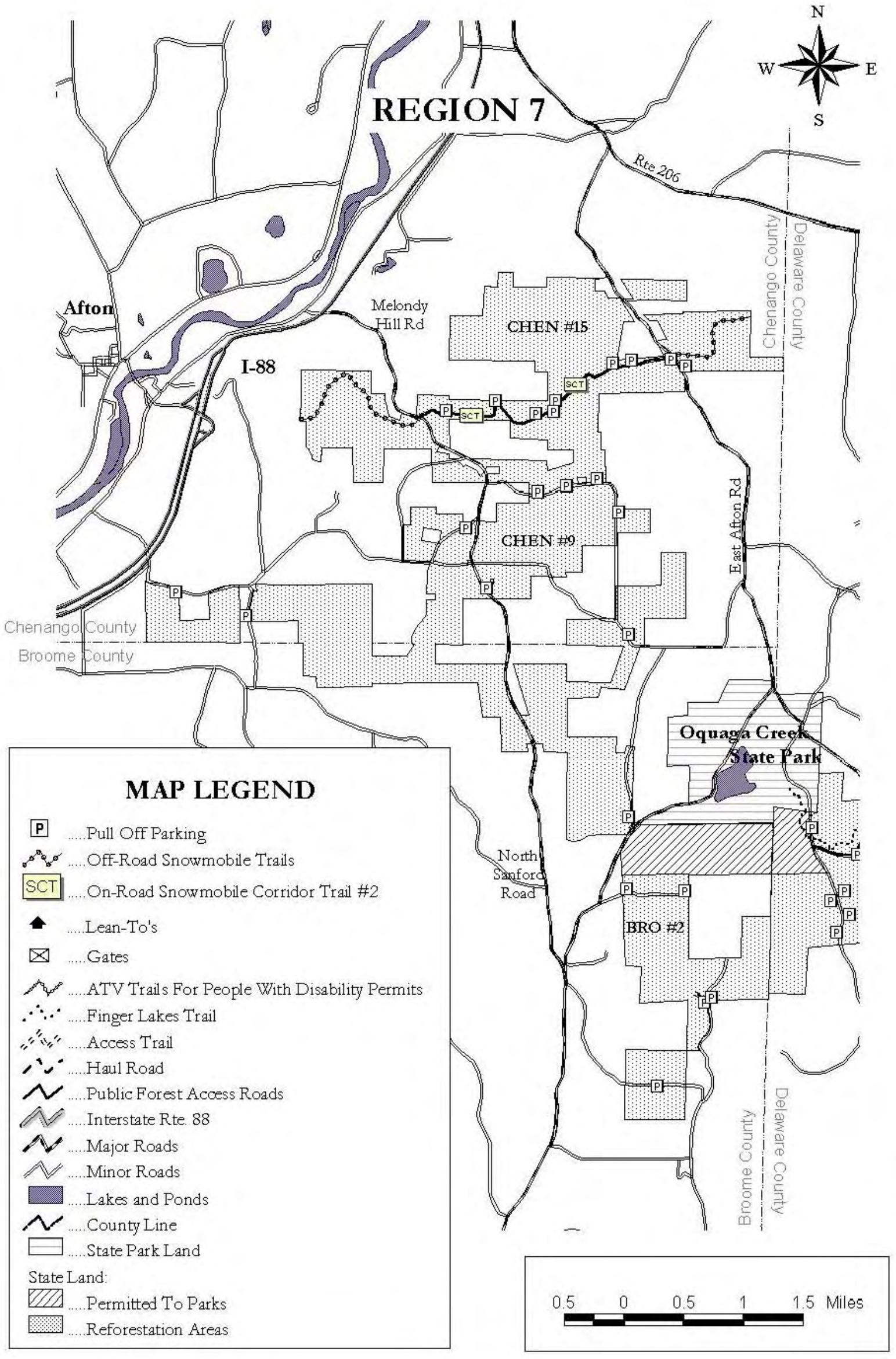
LAND USE MANAGEMENT ACRES

Type	Acres
Even Aged	10076
Uneven Aged	6593
Protection/Natural	719
Brush/Open	196
Ponds	42

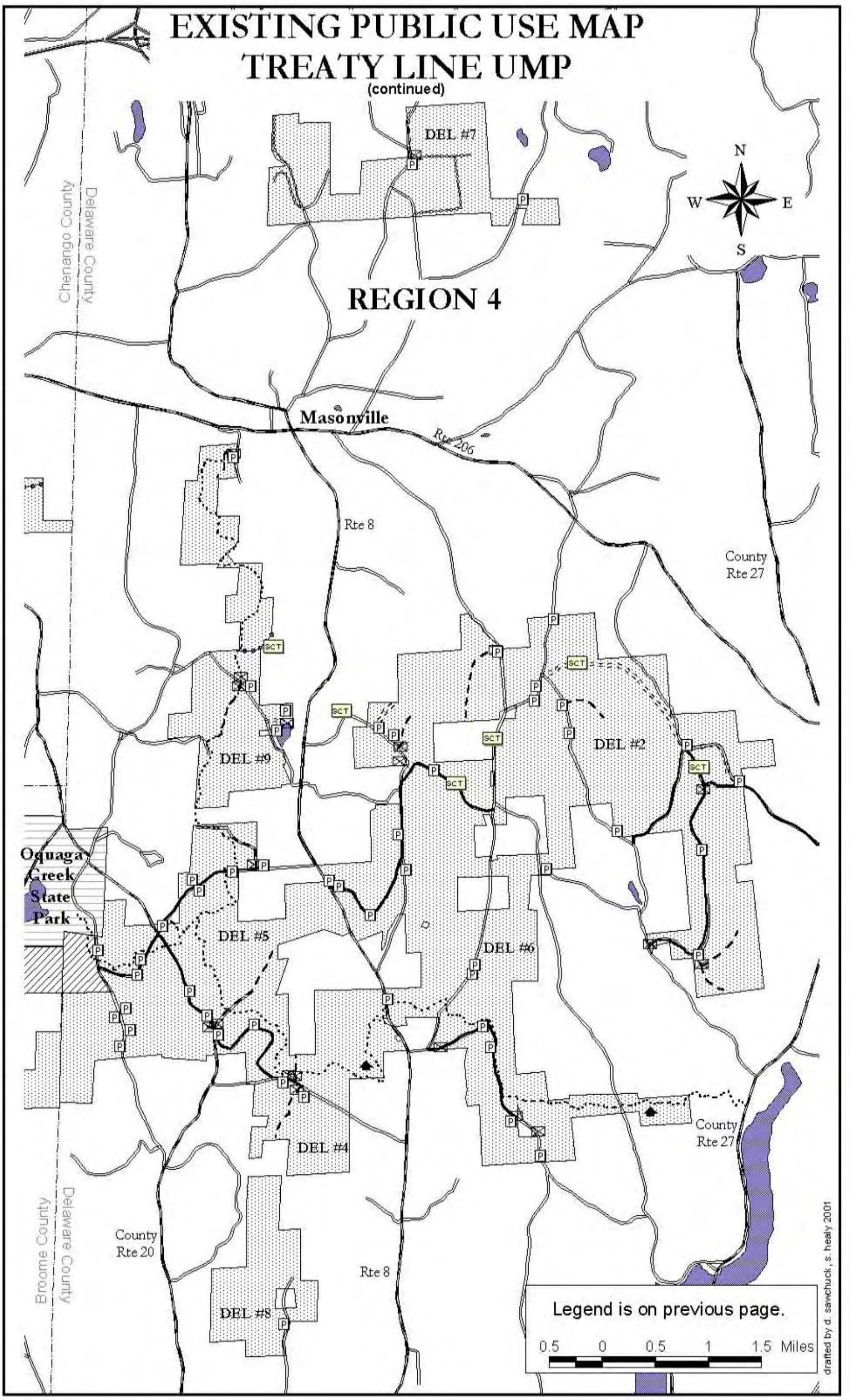
PROPOSED MANAGEMENT DIRECTION MAP
TREATY LINE UMP
(continued)



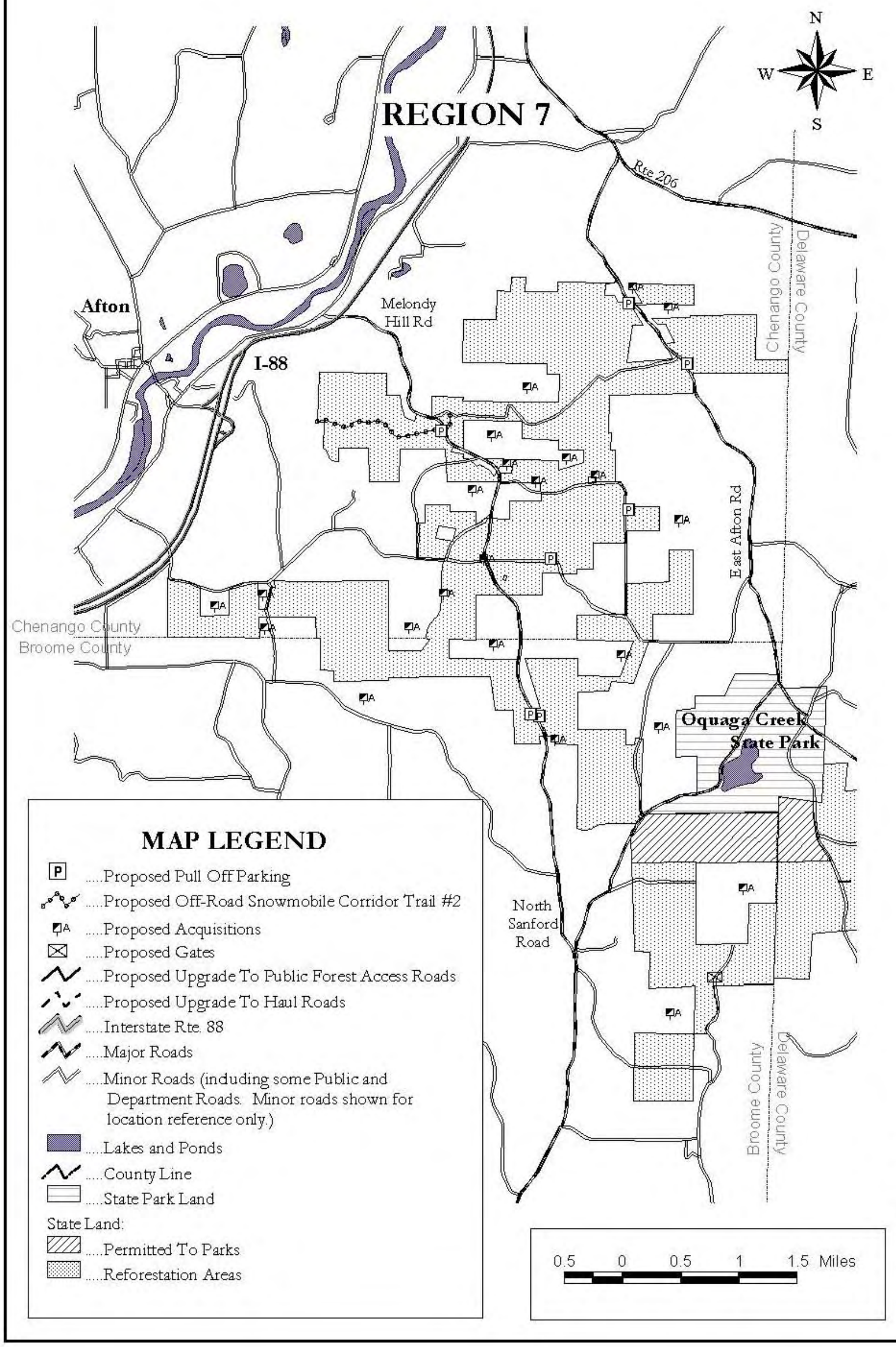
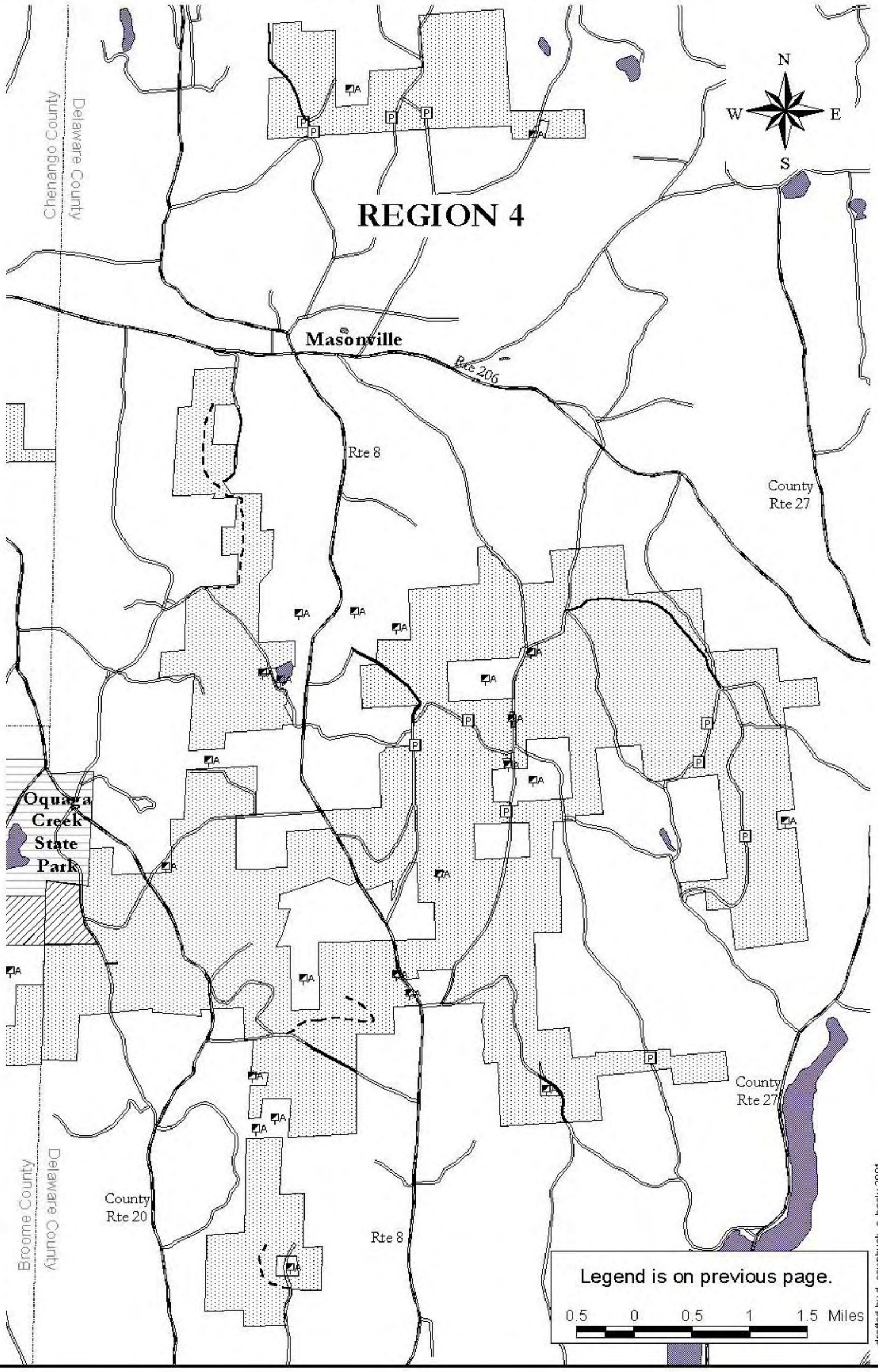
EXISTING PUBLIC USE MAP
TREATY LINE UMP



EXISTING PUBLIC USE MAP
TREATY LINE UMP
(continued)



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS
TREATY LINE UMP



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS
TREATY LINE UMP