

New York State FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD



**Minutes-NYS Fish and Wildlife Management Board
96th Session March 31, April 1 and April 2, 2005
Clarion Hotel, Albany, New York**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Chairman Banks
Invocation was given by John Tusch.

Roll Call (Present at all or part of meeting)

Board Members

Region	Landowner	Sportsman	Legislator
3	Robert Underhill	Joseph Molinaro	Raymond Merlotto
4	Homer Casler	Michael Zeh	Jim Bertram
5	Robert Banks	William Pike	Don Sage
6	Judy Aldrich	Patricia Arnold	Tom Grow
7	Richard Fox	Harry Woodfield	Barbara Brown
8	Gary Evans	Rick Page	Emory Green Glenn Larison, Alt
9	Chuck Couture	Walt Hallbauer	

Advisors

NYSDEC- Gerald Barnhart, Jack Cooper
 NYS Grange- Dwight Widger
 NYS Farm Bureau- Judy Aldrich
 Izaak Walton League of America- John Tusch
 NYS Conservation Council- Hank D'Auria
 NYS Forest Practice Board- Richard Fox
 Cornell University- Tommy Brown
 SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry- Dr. John M. Farrell
 Conservation Fund Advisory Board- Bud Woodfield

Guests

Denise Sheehan-Acting Commissioner, NYSDEC
Steven Schassler, Region Director, Region 4, NYSDEC
Jack Nasca- NYSDEC, Division of Environmental Permits
Fran Sheehan- NYSDEC Lands and Forests
Doug Stang- NYSDEC Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources
Jeff Williams-NYS Farm Bureau
Doug Thompson- NYS, Nature Conservancy
Richard Henry-NYSDEC, Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources

Approval of Previous Minutes, Fall 2004

A motion was duly made by Judy Aldrich and seconded by Pat Arnold to amend the minutes on page 8, second paragraph to read “ Article 14 of the New York State Constitution in 1895 created the ‘Forever Kept Wild Forests’ that was critical to the establishment of the Adirondack Park.” The remainder of paragraph will remain unchanged. The motion was unanimously approved. A motion was duly made by Bud Woodfield and seconded by Emory Green to accept the Fall 2004 minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

Welcome to the Spring 2005 meeting and Region from Steven Schassler, Director, Region 4.

Director Schassler had the dubious honor of announcing the first case of Chronic Wasting Disease found in New York State. The Director passed out a news release from the NYS Ag and Markets Website. The first positive case was confirmed in an adult white-tailed doe from a captive herd in Oneida County. Ag and Markets have quarantined the herd. The DEC will conduct intensive monitoring of the wild deer population in a 10 mile area around the index farm.

Director Schassler talked about the immigration of passive resource users into Region 4. He talked about how the Hunters Helping the Hungry have made a good impression on non-hunters in the Region. Albany Pine Bush Preserve will establish a visitors center that will focus on the multiple use of the area including hunting and trapping. The Director summarized the Department proposal for the changes to the Southern Zone Deer Season. The Open Space Plan is being revised, he recommended that sportsmen get involved with the planning effort. The Director spent a few minutes answering questions from the Board.

Regional Reports

Region 3 - Pre-filed report

The Region 3 Board held meetings in November, January and March. Elections were held with Bill Connors elected as Chairman and Greg Wunner, Vice-Chairman. Representatives to the State Board were also elected.

The newly formed Habitat/Access Review Committee met in February to review and evaluate habitat/access projects. The committee met with Region 3 Staff to review a total of six projects.

Region 4- Pre-filed report

The Region 4 Board held meetings in November 2004 and February 2005. DEC's Jeff Peil gave a presentation on the deer season restructuring. The Board favored the Saturday opener. There was discussion on a Quality Deer Management area in Region 4. Steve Lorence gave a presentation on the Habitat Stamp, he indicated that there is \$130,000 in the fund as of November. Glass Lake/Crooked Lake was netted to provide the only source of Kokanee salmon eggs and milt. SUNY Cobleskill will propagate eggs and restock lakes in spring. Carlton Hatch will be 80 on his next birthday with 34 years working with FWMB and NYSCC. A \$240,000 restoration project involving 1200 feet of stream (Town Brook) is located near Hobart (Model of latest technology).

July 9th will be Deane Winsor Day in Town of Milford. Six Habitat/Access Grant applications were reviewed. Board opposes the Not-For-Profit requirement in the Habitat/Access Stamp Grant. Deer meeting summary was given. The Board opposed the proposed early muzzle loader season. Assemblyman Reilly announced 70 acres added to Pine Bush. Several counties had good results for hunters for the hungry program. Report on Kokanee fish eggs hatching, close to 1000 are out of egg sacs. Hope to stock 800-900 fish. NYPA donated \$20,000 to SUNY Cobleskill to build two ponds for rearing walleye fry for stocking Schoharie Creek and the two NYPA reservoirs at Blenheim/Gilboa. Local butcher shops reported 40% drop in number of deer processed for 2004 season. New officers: Dave McLean-Chairman, Dave Wood-Vice-Chairman, State Board Reps-Mike Zeh, Sportsmen's rep, Homer Casler-Landowner, Jim Bertram-Legislative rep. Gerald Hamm pointed out that the FWMB started in 1958.

Region 5 - Pre-Filed Report

The Board met in December 2004 and February 2005. Habitat/Access Grant applications were received, evaluated and ranked. Funding recommendations were forwarded to Albany for consideration. Boat Launch improvement projects are being conducted at DEC launches at Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain and Long Lake as well as assisting improvements to a Town of Schroon launch on Schroon Lake.

Lake Champlain Sea Lamprey control program work focused on temporary repairs to a dam which is allowing lamprey passage on the Great Chazy River. A more permanent solution to reducing the number of stream miles needed to be treated with lampricide is being sought.

A State Wildlife Grant funded project on nuisance black bears in the High Peaks Wilderness Area was initiated this summer. Regulations requiring Eastern High Peaks campers to store food and waste in bear-proof canisters have been proposed and are in the rule making process.

A study surveying presence of American Martin by camera bait stations has been conducted in the High Peaks and surrounding areas. Data analysis and interpretation is continuing.

Giant Washbowl in the Giant Mountain Wilderness Area was reclaimed last fall. The pond will be restocked with an Adirondack Heritage strain of brook trout.

Region 6 Pre-filed Report

The Board held a meeting in March 2005. Discussion centered on filling the empty board seats and getting alternates appointed to the board. The Board discussed what the rules are by which the board operated. The Board will require 8 voting members to be present with a minimum of three counties present.

Elections were held for the first time in four years. Robert Grose was elected as Chairman, Judy Aldrich-Vice Chair and State Board representatives will be July Aldrich- Landowner rep, Tom Grow-Legislative rep, Patricia Arnold -Sportsmen rep. The Region 6 Executive Committee will include Robert Grose, Judy Aldrich and Pat Arnold. A letter will be drafted and sent to County Legislature outlining the need for representation to the board both as member and alternates.

Two resolutions were passed to be carried to the State Board meeting. Reports were given by Law Enforcement and Fisheries. A draft ATV report was available for review. Forest preserve roads draft report is also available for comment. Work continues to be done to resolve the issues surrounding the International Paper transfer of rights to the State. Work to resolve the issues surrounding the bridge in Colton for snowmobile trail and hiking use continues and is slowly progressing.

Region 6 only has one location on the DEC website for access/PFR listings.

Region 7 - Pre-filed report

The Board met nine times in the past year, with one being a dinner meeting.

The Board supported and funded work done at the Cleveland Dock Fishing Access Site located on the north side of Oneida Lake. The Board agreed to appropriate monies leftover in the Region 7 FWMB annual budget to purchase pressure-treated poles for delineation of the parking area at the Cleveland Dock site.

NIMO gave the DEC land along the Salmon River Corridor in place of fines. Will be open for recreational opportunity.

Region 8 - Pre-filed report

The Board discussed and provided ideas regarding the sales and promotion of the Habitat Stamp. A Habitat Stamp Committee was formed to review habitat and access grant proposals. Nine projects were submitted for review in Region 8 committee on February 11. Scored projects were sent on to Albany for Divisional review in March. A special thanks go to the members of the Region 8 Review team.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has purchased the Merrell Smith Estate located in the Towns of Naples and Italy in Ontario and Yates County. The Parcel is contiguous to the High-Tor Wildlife Management Area and consists of approximately 210 acres. The Department has in the past pursued acquisition of this parcel in the 1980's as part of the West river wetlands Project. However, the owner was not a willing seller at the time and the acquisition was tabled. The parcel is included within the High-Tor/Bristol Hills Priority Project (#110) in the 2002 NYS Open Space Conservation Plan. The Department has resumed the acquisition process for this parcel as TNC is willing to sell this land to the Department. In addition, the core property of the 725

Junius Ponds Complex is being sold by the Village of Lyons. The parcel includes the ponds and supports threatened, rare and endangered flora and fauna. The Department hopes to acquire this parcel through the Open Space initiative.

Once again, Empire Farm Days and National Hunting and Fishing Days will be “high-profile” public events during 2005. Empire Farm Days will be held in August; National Hunting and Fishing Days in September

During the February 11, 2005 meeting the Election Committee presented the following slate of FWMA Board nominees for 2005. The following is the list of new officers:

Chairman	Glenn Larison-Schuyler/Legislative
Vice-Chairman	Wayne Housemen-Ontario/Legislative
Secretary	Randy Nemecek-NYSDEC
State Board Legislative Rep	Emory Green-Yates
State Board Alt. Legislative Rep	Glenn Larison-Schuyler
State Board Landowner Rep	Gary Evans- Ontario
State Board Alt. Landowner Rep	Royce Kilmer-Steuben
State Board Sportsmen Rep	Rick Page-Monroe
State Board Alt. Sportsmen Rep	John Andrews-Seneca

The board wished to thank Ted Konieczka for his commitment and dedication as the Region 8 Fish and Wildlife Management Advisory Board’s Chairman.

Report Respectfully submitted by Glenn Larison, Gary Evans, Emory Green

Region 9 Pre-Filed Report

The Region 9 Board has held two meetings since the fall State Board meeting. The principle topic of discussion has been the Habitat/Access Stamp Program and the possible projects that could be funded by it. Region 9 has received nine application that were reviewed and scored by our committee. Our top four were very close in total points to each other.

Natural Resources supervisor, Russ Biss, reported that the Region 9 deer take appears to be down thirty-five percent. Their proposed changes to deer regulation have created a lot of interest at the public meetings. Russ also reported on the following fisheries acquisition issues: The handicapped access site on the Genesee River at Wellsville has been completed. The paperwork for purchase of a one-mile section of public fishing rights on Elton Creek is being completed. The Fisheries Unit is still pursuing a canoe access site on Tonawanda Creek. A ten-acre parcel of property along Eighteen Mile Creek in Erie County has been turned over by the DOT to the DEC. The Fisheries staff is providing technical advice to the Town of Evans for development of property on the Eighteen Mile Creek. This is a popular site for steelhead anglers.

The DEC is working on acquiring more of the last parcel of undeveloped land on Chautauqua Lake. This would include more of the Cheney family farm land purchased earlier. The Region 9 staff has expended considerable time negotiating with NY Power Authority on the relicensing of the Robert Moses Power Project. Over the fifty year life of the project approximately 30 million

will be expended on fish and wildlife habitat, improvements to public access, land acquisition and research.

Jim Agle, Region 9 Chairman

Advisory Members Reports

Farm Bureau

List of Farm Bureau Policies provided to the Board, included as New York State Fish and Wildlife Management Board Resolution #2005-01-04:

New York Farm Bureau * 159 Wolf Road, PO Box 5330 * Albany, NY 12205* (518) 436-8495
* FAX: (518) 431-5656

1. Support continued use of the steel jaw foothold and body traps.
2. Support the following in an ongoing attempt to control wildlife damage to farmland:
 - a. The continuance of the extended muzzle loader season;
 - b. Increasing the number of doe permits issued;
 - c. The activation of implement licenses for New York State residents which allows people the opportunity to take a deer during the rifle or shotgun, bow and muzzle loader seasons;
 - d. Active year round management of wildlife;
 - e. The active monitoring of diseases in wildlife by DEC;
 - f. An increase in the number of turkeys allowed taken during spring season where populations are high and allow for the taking of a hen turkey in the spring in those areas of high populations and where damage occurs;
 - g. Support sections 11-0521 and 11-0523 of Environmental Conservation Law allowing agriculturists to protect their crops, animals and property from wildlife; and
 - h. Support easing the restrictions surrounding nuisance permits, disposal of carcasses, and reporting times.
3. Support a bear management program similar to the deer management program.
4. Landowners should be entitled to ask for and receive the identification of trespassers on their property.
5. Encourage the DEC to fully implement, simplify and support the Deer Management Assistance Permit (DMAP) Program. Support the increased availability of nuisance permits and DMAP permits to farmers, as well as increasing where bow hunting is allowed.
6. Support voluntary management plans to develop wildlife areas on privately owned land.
7. Recommend that opening day of bear season coincide with the opening day of the gun season for deer in the Southern Zone.

8. Support increasing the seasonal take of wild turkeys as follows: four Toms during the spring season and four of either sex during the fall season.
9. Recommend the DEC encourage sportsmen to take does as well as bucks and issue the adequate permits to balance the herd.
10. Recommend that the age limit for a big game license be reduced from 16 to 14 years of age with licensed parent or legal guardian supervision until that person reaches 16 years of age.
11. Support the use of crossbows for deer hunting.
12. Recommend that deer season open on a Saturday.
13. Support allowing hunters in the Southern Tier to hunt deer and bear in the regular season with handgun, rifle, shotgun, muzzle loading firearm, and archery.
14. Recommend the following changes to the General Obligations Law:
 - a. That the landowner not be held liable for any damages to vehicles, equipment, or the personal injury of trespassers;
 - b. The addition of forms of outdoors recreation to the General Obligations Law, Section 9-103; and
 - c. The ability of landowners to charge fees for legitimate outdoor activities without incurring liability.
15. Oppose legislation which would reduce the minimum requirement for wetlands regulation.
16. Support:
 - a. The adjustment of land assessments for those landowners owning regulated wetlands to reflect the decreased value and usability of this property;
 - b. Full compensation for seizure of property rights; and
 - c. That no additional wetlands be designated.

Izaak Walton League Report

The IWLA continues to stress outdoor ethics as a vital program. Renewable energy, particularly wind energy, which continues to gain support as research continues. Introduction of exotic species is also a topic of great interest. All of these issues will be discussed at our next National Convention in Dubuque, Iowa, July 19-22, 2005.

Our State Division is very interested in the proposed construction by the Empire Pipe line, which is proposed to run from Penfield, Monroe County to Elmira in Chemung County. It is proposed to cross thru much Ontario County, NW to SE, all of Yates and Schuyler Counties (N-S) then a short distance in either Chemung or Steuben Counties.

Although many devices are available that would keep environmental impacts to a minimum, such as drilling underground, coffer dams, stone ditches, etc., experience teaches us that some

times these devices come second to expediency. This did happen in our state a few years ago and there were many places where fishing holes were filled and rather severe siltation occurred. Some smaller streams were diverted, possibly impacting aquifer recharge. Also, land owners drainage pipes have been broken and plugged. Many other problems may occur.

The Farm Bureau has held at least one meeting for the public in mid march. The purpose was to discuss receiving proper compensation for damages that certainly will occur.

Our Lake Keuka Chapter has sponsored many programs. We donate books on conservation to four libraries, we have sponsored five youths to our state conservation camps this summer. We donate a \$500.00 scholarship annually for a student in the field of conservation, hold hunter safety training courses and much more.

We are working with the DEC and Soil and Water Conservation District for habitat enhancement. One plot is 20 acres at the head of Keuka Lake. And the other is 2 acres from our club house grounds. We are also working on a platform over the inlet stream to be wheelchair accessible for the handicapped.

Submitted by John A. Tusch

New York State Conservation Council

Presented by Hank D'Auria. The NYSCC is worried about the Conservation Fund. Council supports the 14-15 year old big game license bill, A1815a/S1536. The Council opposes Assembly bill A2343 to raise the age for hunting to 18 years old.

New York State Grange

Congress is eyeing tax hikes to offset revenue lost to tax cuts. Among them: tight limits on deductions for conservation easements to preserve open space, wildlife habitat or quality of land and water. Stricter appraisal standards would be applied to valuating the easements. Provided by Dwight Widger from "The Kiplinger Agriculture Letter" Volume 76 Number 4, Feb. 18, 2005.

New York State Forest Practice Board - Pre-filed Report

Mr. Fox reported that in the 25 years that he has served on the region 7 Board there has only been one meeting, last fall. Forestry Awareness Day in Albany was attended as a co-sponsor. Issue related about the taxing of forest products and the land that it grows on. State Forest lands are taxed on both. This is a touchy subject, the real loser is the forest landowner. Problem needs to be addressed to avoid future problems for forest landowners.

Presented by Richard Fox.

Soil and Water Board

No report provided.

Cornell University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences - Pre-filed Report

Black Bear Research - Research on educational strategies for helping residents live with an increasing black bear population is continuing in Region 3. Materials are currently being printed and will be circulated in the treatment towns as rapidly as possible (Warwick and Woodstock). Evaluation of human responses will occur through this summer, and a survey will be conducted in October.

Hunter Education Course Evaluation - HDRU staff worked with Gary Goff to complete an evaluation of DEC's hunter training course in hope of that doing so would point out some areas where the course could be improved. The focus was on ethics. Changes were made to the hunter training manual and Master Instructors were given updated training on ethics in hunting.

King Ferry Quality Deer Management Effort - HDRU and Region 7 DEC staff continue to work with landowners of the King Ferry coop. and hunters who use the area to assess the degree to which characteristics of the deer population can be changed, resulting in greater hunter satisfaction through voluntary restrictions by hunters on the types of deer they shoot.

Exurban Development and Human-Wildlife Interaction in the Adirondack Park - Research funded by the Wildlife Conservation Society is exploring relationships among exurban development, human wildlife interactions and attitudes in the Adirondacks. Conflicts between humans and wildlife are increasing. This graduate research project examines how social-economic characteristics and landscape attributes associated with exurban development influence the pattern and perceptions of human-wildlife interactions.

Presented by Tommy Brown

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry -

Vision of the Faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology - "The faculty of Environmental and Forest Biology will lead in teaching, research and public service in environmental biological problems, particularly in forested systems and waters. We seek as scientists and teachers to integrate basic scientific principles with the pressing problems faced by the world's biota, to create new ways to apply technology to these problems and to stimulate students to evolve in their scientific and personal lives as leaders in environmental problem solving."

Research Activity Highlights in NYS Fish and Wildlife Services - Onondaga Lake Restoration and its fisheries; natural reproduction of Salmonids in the Salmon River; restoration of Atlantic Salmon; American Eel tributary use in the Hudson River Drainage; effect of stocking age-2 brown trout on native fish communities in NYS streams; restoration of muskellunge and northern pike fisheries; walleye management and population enhancement in eastern Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River System; wildlife population dynamics and management; deer disease transmission and waterfowl use and production in restored mucklands.

Working with Cape Vincent Research Station on Walleye research especially restoration. IJC waters level study nearing completion. Models developed to evaluate impacts on fur bearers and fish. Seaway expansion budget has been cut significantly. A series of Northern Pike spawning beds have been created on the St. Lawrence.

Presented by Dr. John Farrel

Conservation Fund Advisory Board -

The Board has new members from Region 8 , Charles Hancock and Region 9, Fred Langdon. The Board is concerned about the amount of money in the Conservation Fund. License sales are down thus receipts are down. The Board successfully got money restored to the Fund that had been wrongly placed in the Natural Resources Account. Interest from the Lifetime License account will be placed in the Fund. The CFAB is concerned about the amount of money being spent from the Conservation Fund for Fringe Benefits for Division employees.

The Board has been trying to get members to become more involved in “Open Space” meetings at the regional level. Two priority items for the Board is the Jr. Big Game License and the Cross-bow. The fall field trip will be in Region 1 this July-August.

The Board is working on getting better monthly reports from the department. The Board is concerned about the DECALS system and it’s costs.

There was some discussion on how monies from oil and gas leases and timber sales are used on state land and WMAs. There was a suggestion that someone from Minerals should give the Board and update on the Oil and Gas Program in NYS at the Fall FWM Board meeting.

Presented by Bud Woodfield

Chairmans Report

Chairman Banks wanted to clarify the this is the Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB). Some people have referred to the Board as the FWMA Board but it was the Fish and Wildlife Management Act the created the Board. The chairman indicated that the Board should stress that the preferred way to manage game and fish in New York is through regulated hunting, fishing and trapping.

Good response from Regions on a request for changes in their membership and the county representation.

Good attendance in this meeting.

Judy Aldrich asked about the guidance on preparation of resolutions that was promised at the Fall 2004 meeting. Chairman Banks indicated that did not happen, but that every member has a copy of the Fall 2004 resolutions that were sent, current resolutions should follow that format. The Resolution Committee should review all resolutions.

A motion was duly made by Joe Molinaro and seconded by Bud Woodfield to have the Resolutions Committee to draft a format for how resolutions should be prepared and submitted to the Board.

The State Board By-Laws Article VIII, Section IV(C1-12) outlines the format and procedures for submitting resolutions to the State Board.

The motion was duly made and seconded to call the vote. The motion to call the vote was defeated.

Additional discussion on the original motion; Chairman Banks recommended that the minimum requirements for a resolution be a “Title” and a “resolved” and additional items or “whereas (s)” can be inserted and that any resolutions that this Board passes to say that it is from this Board. Chairman Banks called the original motion for vote. The motion was approved. Chairman Banks indicated that he and the Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee would work on the guidance.

Habitat/Assess Stamp Grant Application Review

The Board was presented a list of the projects reviewed and scored by the Regional Review teams and selected by a DEC DFWMR selection committee. Projects selected by the DFWMR committee were chosen from the highest priority projects from the regional teams. Projects competed with other projects within the Region and did not compete with projects from other Regions. Below is a list of the projects selected by the DFWMR committee:

Habitat/Access Stamp Proposals Selected for 2004-05

Region / Project #	Applicant	Grant Request Amount	Score	Project Description
REGION 1				
1-1	Suffolk County	\$14,999	A-73	Construction of Smith Point Access/Fishing Pier on <u>Great South Bay</u>
1-2	Town of Riverhead	\$ 7,000	H-52	Grangebél Park Eelway: Construction of eelways at two locations on the <u>Peconic River</u>
REGION 2				
2-1	Prospect Park Alliance	\$14,999	H-85	Lullwater Habitat Restoration and Access at <u>Prospect Park</u>
REGION 3				
3-4	Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs	\$ 3,000	A-75	<u>Silver Lake Access</u> : Parking area and path
REGION 4				
4-8	Town of Oneonta	\$ 2,383	A-68	<u>Otego Creek Access</u> : Car top launch, parking, bank stabilization
4-2	Town of North Greenbush	\$ 2,500	A-63	<u>Snyders Lake Access</u> : Car top launch, parking and dock
REGION 5				
5-1	Town of Milton	\$10,500	A-67	<u>Kayderosseras Creek Access</u> : Parking, handicap access, path, stream improvement
5-3	Batten Kill Watershed Alliance	\$ 3,500	H-91	<u>Batten Kill</u> stream improvement: replace rock and log vane to protect eroding bank
REGION 6				
No Project Selected				

Region 7				
7-2	Pheasants Forever	\$ 5,000	H-93	<u>Upper Lisle WMA</u> Habitat Project: Create grassland habitat, improve access, improve habitat
7-10	Town of Redfield	\$ 6,000	A-58	<u>Salmon River Access</u> : Redfield Island Disabled Fishing Access Pier, Parking
REGION 8				
8-6	Friends of Montezuma	\$ 9,000	H-93	Grassland Habitat Development at <u>Montezuma Wetlands Complex</u> : Site preparation and planting
8-4	Town of Greece	\$ 7,483	A-64	Access to Town of Greece Parcel "Burger Property": access road, parking, fishing platform on <u>Buttonwood Creek</u>
REGION 9				
9-2	Wyoming Co SWCD	\$ 5,000	H-97	<u>Eighteen Mile Creek Access</u> - Joel Harvey Fishing Access Site: Parking, signage to meet ADA requirements
9-7	Town of Evans	\$ 5,000	A-66	<u>Wiscoy Creek</u> streambank restoration project at Wyoming County Fairgrounds
TOTAL \$96,364				
14 projects - 8 Access, 6 Habitat				

A motion was duly made by Emory Green and seconded by Don Sage to accept the Habitat/Access Projects as ranked by the Regional teams and selected by the DFWMR selection committee. The motion was approved.

There was a concern that over 30 % of the habitat stamp money was being awarded in Regions 1 and 2 where there is no representation on any Fish and Wildlife Management Board. There was also some discussion as to whether we could tell whether people buying a habitat stamp also bought a hunting license.

Committee Assignments

The following is the assignments as of 10/28/04

Executive: Bob Banks Region 5
 Pat Arnold Region 6
 Emory Green Region 8
 Walt Hallbauer Region 9
 Joe Molinaro Region 3

Habitat: Gary Evans Chairman
 Richard Fox
 John Tusch
 Emory Green
 Ray Merlatto

Access: Bill Pike Chairman
 Pat Arnold
 Barlow Rhodes

Tom Grow

Resolutions: Glenn Larison Chairman
Barbara Brown
Judy Aldrich
Walt Hallbauer

Legislative: Bud Woodfield
Joe Molinaro

Farm Days: Emory Green
Joe Molinaro
Bud Woodfield
Carlton Hatch
Pat Arnold
Gary Evans

Nominating: Walt Hallbauer
Joe Molinaro
Bill Pike

Friday April 1, 2005

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Fall 2005 FWM Board meeting will be held in Region 3, October 27, 28 and 29, 2005. The Executive Committee will meet to plan the meeting on September 15, 2005 in Herkimer.

The Spring 2006 FWM Board meeting will be held in Albany, March 30, 31 and April 1, 2006. The Executive Committee will meet to plan the meeting on February 2, 2006 in Herkimer.

The 2005 Empire Farm Days will be held August 9, 10 and 11, 2005. There was discussion about Board members selling Habitat Stamps at the Empire Farm Days. This is possible according to the DEC License Sales Unit.

The Committee discussed the lack of Regional Fish and Wildlife Management Boards in Region 1 and 2. Should discuss with Director Barnhart to determine if there is a logical reason why there is no boards in Region 1 and 2. It was suggested that representatives from Region 1 and 2 be invited to the Fall 2005 meeting in Region 3.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee consists of Joe Molinaro, Bill Pike and Walt Hallbauer (chairman).

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates for consideration by the full Board to include:

Chairperson	Robert Banks
Vice Chairperson	Patricia Arnold
CFAB	Bud Woodfield
Executive Board Members	Joseph Molinaro, Gary Evans, Walt Hallbauer
Secretary	Jack Cooper

Anyone who is a Regional representative to the Statewide Board and represents either landowners, sportsmen or Legislators can vote and hold office on the State Board.

Habitat Committee

The committee considers the Habitat/Access Stamp Grant Program to be a high priority. They would like to see the DEC do a better job at marketing the stamp program including the consideration of a Habitat Pin that could be used to stimulate sales of the stamps.

The committee is anxious to see how this year's projects will turn out.

Access Committee

The committee discussed a number of topics to include:

- Trying to get Federations to clean up garbage and litter on PFRs
- Problems with boaters and non-fishermen using PFR parking lots
- Domar Property Acquisition
- Problems with landowner changes on PFR leases and impacts on posting and use by fishermen.
- Question about how long PRF leases last and what is needed when a landowner changes.
- Questions about Habitat Stamp Sales- can DECALS sort by buyers address and county.

Resolutions Committee

Three resolutions were submitted to the committee

- 2005-01-01 A resolution in support of the recommendation put forth by the NYS DEC for changes in the Southern Zone Hunting Season Dates
- 2005-01-02 A resolution requesting the NYS DEC review the fine structure for violations of the Conservation Law
- 2005-01-03 A resolution in support of changing regulations in regard to the manufacture of animal feeds.
- 2005-01-04 A resolution in support of New York Farm Bureau Policies

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee recommend that letters of support be sent to the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the Assembly and the Majority Leader, Minority Leader, All Committee Chairmen of the Assembly and Senate and all concerned that the FWM Board is requesting their support for the passage of the following bills:

- A1537/S120. Reduces the required minimum age for obtaining a junior archery license from 14 to 12 years of age.
- A1815/S1536. Creates a junior big game hunting license for ages 14-16.
- A2047/S158. Proposing an amendment to the NYS Constitution relating to the right to fish, hunt and trap.
- A2280/S2891. Allows trappers to conduct studies of cable-restraint devices for the capture of wildlife
- A5808/S20891. Provides a free fishing license to an adult that takes a kid fishing.

The committee asked that the Board support these bills and support the preparation of a letter of support from the State Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

Guest Speakers

Jeff Williams - NY Farm Bureau

The Farm Bureau is monitoring the CWD issue. Deer farming is getting to be a big business in NY, many are members of Farm Bureau. However, the Farm Bureau sees a push by animal rights groups to ban hunting on preserves and the holding of captive deer. Farm Bureau will be working closely with DEC and Ag and Markets and Department of Health on CWD and captive deer issues.

The State Budget was passed, however, there are some important Farm Bureau interests that were not addressed in the budget: EPF, effects of Medicare on property taxes and landowners. The budget does contain a 3% cap on increasing local taxes.

The Farm Bureau supports the following:

- The Saturday opener for the Southern Tier Deer Season
- Rifle hunting in the Southern Tier
- 14/15 year old big game license
- Additional harvest of deer and DMAP permits

The Farm Bureau has worked with Cornell HDRU on the deer damage survey. The Farm Bureau also recognizes that bear are becoming a major nuisance problem.

Doug Thompson - Nature Conservancy

Nature Conservancy and it's evolution with hunting- The mission is to protect high diversity of species, communities. The Conservancy focuses on protection of habitats. Mr. Thompson indicated that he has an office in Polaski and Rochester and works with large forests, dune

systems, Lake Ontario, grasslands and other landscapes. The TNC was formed here in New York in 1951, with offices in 50 states and 27 countries and a membership of about a million. The TNC has about 3000 employees and manages about 7 million acres across the US.

The TNC helps other states and federal government acquire property. NY has several chapters of the TNC. Within NY the TNC has protected 400,000 acres and own and manage 180 conservation sites. The TNC has a hunting policy, hunting is part of the landscape, deer management is critical to protect landscapes. The TNC sees hunters as allies in management of landscapes. The TNC's scientific basis for hunting is the protection of vegetative species and communities. In NY the TNC generally only allows deer hunting, but in some cases hunting is allowed for other species. Hunting is usually determine on a Chapter by Chapter basis. In NY there are some lease hunting on some TNC bigger properties. Some properties have permit hunting. Other properties are open to public hunting. The TNC allows trapping in situations where animals are causing nuisance or damage.

Many properties acquired by TNC are transferred out to NYS. These properties do not carry any restrictions on hunting or trapping. The TNC uses many volunteers to conduct their land management activities. The TNC tries to work with cooperatively sportsmen.

For more information check out the Nature Conservancy's website at www.TNC.org

Jack Nasca - Chief, Energy and Management Bureau, Division of Environmental Permits

Wind Power in NYS

- ◆ Renewable Portfolio Standards
 - Policy to increase renewable energy
 - Issues September 2003
 - Renewable energy current - 19.3%
 - Goal is 25% by December 31, 2003
 - Addition of 3700 Mws
- ◆ Renewable Energy Includes:
 - Hydropower
 - Wind
 - BioFuels
 - Photovoltaics
- ◆ Focus on Wind
 - Wind most "mature" renewable
 - 3000MW of Goal from Wind
 - Financial Incentives
 - On land vs. off shore
- ◆ Wind Potential in NYS - map of NYS showing locations where wind energy is most feasible
- ◆ Wind Sites in Operation
 - Fenner - Madison County (30 MW)
 - Madison - Madison County (11.6 MW)
 - Wethersfield - Wyoming County (6.6 MW)
- ◆ Fenner Wind Farm

- Largest NYS Farm (30 MW)
- 20 - 1.5 MW GE Turbines
- 213 Ft. Tower - 329 Ft. Blade height
- In Operation November 2001
- ◆ Wind Sites Under Construction
 - Flat Rock - Lewis County (320 MW)
- ◆ Wind Sites under Review
 - Chautauqua Wind - Chautauqua County (50 MW)
 - Prattsburgh Wind Farm - Steuben/Yates County (79.5 MW)
 - Prattsburgh Wind Park - Steuben/Yates County (79.5 MW)
- ◆ Local Issues in Wind Development
 - Zoning
 - Property Values
 - Aesthetics
 - Noise
- ◆ State Issues in Wind Development
 - Birds - resident/migratory/endangered species
 - Bats - resident/migratory/endangered species
 - Aesthetics
 - Decommissioning
- ◆ Sampling Techniques
 - Mobile Radar Lab
 - Spotlights
 - Night vision optics
 - Acoustic Methods
 - NEXRAD
- ◆ For More Information - Websites
 - NYSERDA <http://www.powernaturally.org>
 - NYS Wind Map <http://truewind.teamcamelot.com/NY/start.html>
 - National Wind Coordinating Committee <http://www.nationalwind.org/>
 - National Wind Technology Center <http://www.nrel.gov/wing/>

Fran Sheehan - Division of Lands and Forests

Updating NYS's Open Space Conservation Plan

- ◆ NYS Open Space Conservation Plan
 - For the past ten years has served as the blueprint for conservation of open space in NYS
 - Grassroots, bottom-up approach to open space conservation
 - Board based support - county, region and state approval
 - Many Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) have representatives from sportsman groups
 - Over 900,000 acres have been protected since 1995
 - invested over \$500 million from the EPF and Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act
 - Support objectives of sportsmen through purchase of Public Fish Rights, inholdings, consolidation of State Lands
 - Recent concentration on Working Forest Conservation Easements protects wildlife habitat and ensures continued hunting through traditional hunting club leases and public access

- ◆ Open Space Plan as a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Tool
 - 38.7 miles of PFR
 - 81 parcels totaling 3,063 acres purchased for consolidation/inholdings acquisition, many added to WMAs
 - Over 265,000 acres have been conserved to protect streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands
 - Lundy Estate, Ulster County
 - Vly, Bearpen and Plateau Mountains
 - Neversink River, hunting and fishing rights on 1693 acres and 2 miles of stream
 - Delaware River Tailwaters, 2 miles of East Branch and 1045 acres in Tomannex State Forest
 - Beaverkill/Willowemoc
 - Northern Montezuma Wetlands
 - High Tor WMA
 - Severne Point, Yates County, Seneca Lake Fishing Access site
 - Braddock Bay, Monroe County
 - Motor Island, Erie County
 - Chautauqua Lake
- ◆ 2005 OSP Update
 - January 2005-May 2005 - Regions work with Regional Advisory Committees to update regional advisory committee reports and regional accomplishments for chapters 2 and 5
 - May - November 2005 - Central Office compiles statewide draft update; distributes it widely on web site and through regions; statewide hearings held in each region.
 - January 2006 - September 2006 - Central Office with assistance from regions, assess public comment and prepares final plan, with updated regional report, new priority projects and policy initiatives.
 - September 2006-December 2006 - Governor Pataki approves new plan, final plan distributed on web and through hard copies; plan implemented through EPF and other available funding (NAWCA/Forest Legacy/LWCF).
- ◆ What's new?
 - If it ain't broken, don't fix it.
 - Better depiction of accomplishments, priority projects, resource areas and inventory data via web/GIS incorporating imaging capabilities.
 - Suggestions from Regions
 - Generic WMA/State Forest priority project for improved access, expansion and consolidation.
- ◆ Regional Committee Report
 - Issues
 - Policy Recommendations
 - Priority Projects/Descriptions
 - Committee Members - County, Appointed and At-Large Members, State Agency Representatives
 - Meeting Date and Locations
- ◆ Public Input for OSP Update
 - The Regional Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public
 - The Department encourages sportsmen groups to participate in the RAC process.
 - Contact the Natural Resources Supervisor for your region for more information on

- how to participate.
- Comments may also be submitted to DEC's Central Office through DFWMR Director Gerald Barnhart
- ◆ Quality Communities
 - Quality Communities Task Force - explores ways that the State can enhance its ability to work with local governments, private landowners, conservation organizations and other interested parties to preserve the quality of life in communities throughout New York.
 - Open space conservation is a cornerstone of quality communities.
- ◆ Local Open Space
 - For every project the State undertakes to protect open space there are several projects that do not happen on the local level.
- ◆ Encourage Local open space planning
 - identify resources in need of protection
 - Develop revenue sources to fund local open space protection
 - Protect local open space through many tools - acquisition, regulation, landowner incentives, careful land use
- ◆ Local Open Space Planning Guide
 - Gives Communities guidance on: local open space planning process, open spaces resources to be conserved, open space conservation tools
 - www.qualitycommunities.org

Doug Stang - Chief Bureau of Fisheries

Bureau of Fisheries FY 2005 - 2006 Work Plan

- Mission - Conserve and enhance New York State's abundant and diverse populations of freshwater fishes while providing the public with quality recreational angling opportunities. This will be accomplished by employing scientifically sound fisheries management and fish culture techniques.
- Bureau of Fisheries staff are located in the Great Lakes Unit (12), Central Office (8), Regional Offices (49) and hatcheries (74)
- Distribution of Staff - Hatcheries (52%), Regional Offices (34%), Great Lakes Units (8%) and Central Office (6%).
- The majority of BOF staff are funded from the Conservation Fund (131) and Federal Aid (12).
- BOF program funds include \$9.1 million from Conservation Fund, \$3.8 million from Federal Aid and \$0.3 million from General Fund.
- Outcomes of the BOF programs - Satisfaction with fisheries restoration and habitat protection, self-sustaining fisheries, effective and efficient program delivery, ethical anglers, quality information, satisfied anglers, quality hatchery fish, safe, accessible public access, well-trained professional staff.

- Bureau of Fisheries Planned Effort by Division Goal - Ecosystem Protection (19%), Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources Extension (6%), Resource Use and Allocation (61%), Organizational Effectiveness (14%), Protection of Health, Safety and Welfare (less than 1 %).
- Program Goals - Ecosystem Protection - By 2007 achieve a high degree of satisfaction with efforts to restore fish populations and protect aquatic habitat (5% of Staff days, 16 % of NPS Costs). Type of activities involved: investigate fish kills, NYC reservoir releases monitoring, NYC permit compliance, clean vessel act. EIS review and comment, Brook trout restoration.
- Ecosystem Protection - Maintain self-sustaining populations of 165 freshwater and anadromous fishes in NY waters (8% of Staff days, 3 % NPS costs). Type of activities involved: water quality reclassification, whirling disease impact evaluation, statewide fisheries database, Great Lakes fish community and biological productivity assessment.
- Extension - By 2007, achieve a high degree of satisfaction with the quality of information provided by the BOF (4% of staff days, 2% of NPS Costs). Type of activities involved: I FISH NY, attend sportsmen's group meetings, hot lines, news releases, develop and distribute info on fishing opportunities, website information.
- Recreational Use - By 2007, achieve a high degree of satisfaction with the numbers and sizes of fish surveyed angles catch from NY inland and Great Lakes waters (58% of staff days, 32% of NPS costs). Activities involved include: hatchery production and distribution, coldwater fisheries management, warmwater fisheries management, beaverkill project, Great Lakes fisheries management, sea lamprey control, creel surveys, statewide angler survey.
- Planned distribution of effort and cost (recreational use)

	Staff Days	NPS Costs
Great Lakes	4750	\$147,000
Coldwater Fisheries	1200	\$18,000
Warmwater Fisheries	1200	\$10,000
Hatchery Production/ Distribution	16,000	\$1,175,500

- Recreational Use - Acquire ten miles of public fishing rights (PFR) easements annually and maintain PFR network for optional angler use and enjoyment (2% staff days, 7% NPS costs).
- PFR Acquisition in 2003/2004: Willowemoc Creek (Region 3), Town Brook (Region 4), Poestenkill (Region 4), Kayaderoseras Creek (Region 5), North Sandy Creek (Region

6), Black River (Region 6), Chenango River (Region 8), Catharine Creek (Region 8), Sleeper Creek (Region 8).

- PFR Acquisition in 2004/2005: Wappinger Creek (Region 3), N. Branch Callicoon Creek (Region 4), 3 locations on W. Branch Delaware River (Region 4), Kayaderosseras Creek (Region 5), 2 locations on Owasco Inlet (Region 7), Naticoke Creek (Region 7), East Koy Creek (Region 9).
- Parking Area Acquisitions in 2004/2005 - 4 site acquired in Regions 3, 4 and 7
- Parking Area Acquisitions in 2003/2004 - 11 sites acquired in Regions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.
- Parking Areas were Developed in 2004/2005 on Chenango Creek (Region 7) and Wiscoy Creek (Region 9)
- PFR Mapping Project underway to digitally mark PFR holding with the Catskill Park.
- PFR Project Status - GIS coverage completed in Region 3, 4, 8 and 9; initiated in Region 6; “Ground-truthing” done in Region 4, initiated in Region 3; Regions 8 and 9 will be next.
- Recreational Use - Acquire new waterway access parcels as opportunities and funding permit. Complete development of three boating access sites annually, while maintaining the waterway access network for optimal angler use and enjoyment (1% of staff days, 25% of NPS money).
- Waterway access acquisition 2003/2004: Neversink River (Region 3), Schoharie Creek (Region 4), Mohawk River at Oriskany Flats (Region 6) and Sangerfield River (Region 7).
- Boat Launch Construction and Rehabilitation: Narrowsburg (Delaware River) \$575,000, Ticonderoga (Lake Champlain) \$1.2 million, Long Lake Boat Launch (Franklin County) \$475,000.
- 2004/2005 Capital funds proposed projects include upgrades of: Village of Schroon Lake Boat Launch, Fort Pond Fishing Access site (Suffolk County), Grass Lake Fishing Access Site (St. Lawrence County), Seneca River (Port Byron), Dredging at Goldens Marina (Jefferson County), 2 Mohawk River Ramps (Amsterdam and Nelliston) and various miscellaneous small projects.

Richard Henry - Bureau of Wildlife

2004 Deer Season Results:

- 2004 Total Deer Take - 208,000 deer, an 18% decrease from the 2003 take of 253,000
- 2004 Buck Take - 88,700, an 18% decrease from the 2003 take of 107,000, the winter of 2002-2003 had a long term effect in many areas.
- 2004 adult female take - 80,200, the 2004 DMP quotas target was 95,000

- 2004 deer take - 42.9% adult males, 38.4% adult females, 9.9% young male and 8.8% young female
- 28 DMUs had a buck take higher than the 2003 objective, 25 units had a take lower than the 2003 objective and 15 had a take within 10% of objective.
- In 2004 there were almost 47 DMUs that were lower than the 2004 objectives, only 10 DMUs exceeded 2004 objectives and 18 were within 10% of objective.
- Reasons for the decrease - deer numbers, behavior and distribution have changed over time; deer populations peaked in 2002 and have been declining since that time; deer are not evenly distributed throughout the landscape and changing land ownership patterns create refuges; Recent deer management efforts were designed to reduce the deer population; winter mortality losses were greater than detected during field surveys; weather and field conditions impact both hunter success and deer behavior.
- Some misconceptions - predation does not play a major role, deer damage permits do not impact populations, predators such as cougars, wolves and mountain lions have not been introduced into NY, and the auto insurance industry does not influence deer management in NY

2005 Deer Season Restructuring Proposal

- Southern Zone Archery Opener - Saturday after Columbus Day
- Southern Zone Gun Season Opener - Third Saturday in November for 23 days
- Southern Zone late archery and muzzle loader opens on the first day after gun season closes and runs for 9 days.
- Concern about opening day on Saturday - Based upon a HDRU/Cornell study 1) currently 78% go afield on the Monday Opener, 2) slightly over 72% go afield on the First Saturday, 3) 80% of the hunters indicated they would hunt on Opening Day if I were to be changes to Saturday and 4) 89% of the hunters indicated the total number of days hunted would increase or remain the same.
- Pilot Program for Antler Restrictions - pilot program tried in WMUs 3C and 3J for 3 years, A legal buck with have to have 3 points on either side, Data suggest that up to 90% of the yearling bucks could advance to the 2 ½ year old class.
- Effects on SZ Pheasant and Turkey Hunting - No change in the number of day of hunting, changes to Saturday openers, where opening day is currently on Monday.
- SZ Black Bear Hunting - Catskill Region - Monday after Saturday Deer Opener; Allegheny Region - Saturday after the Saturday deer opener.

Discussion of Regional FWM Board Procedures

Region 6- Continues to have difficulty working with the Region 6 DEC Office and in getting board members appointed. Region 6 DEC staff maintains that the By-Laws only apply to the Statewide FWM Board and not the Regional Board.

Actions on Resolutions

A motion was duly made by Gary Evans and seconded by Richard Fox to review and vote on the 2005 Resolutions. The motion passed unanimously.

- 1) Resolution 2005-01-01 Title: A Resolution in Support of the recommendation put forth by the NYS DEC for changes in the Southern Zone Hunting Season Dates. A motion was duly made by Charles Couture and seconded by William Pike to support resolution 2005-01-01. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 2) Resolution 2005-01-02 Title: A Resolution requesting the NYS DEC review the fine structure for violations of the Conservation Law. A motion was duly made by Barbara Brown and seconded by Emory Green to support resolution 2005-01-02. The motion was approved with 3 opposed.
- 3) Resolution 2005-01-03 Title: A Resolution in support of Changing Regulations in regard to the manufacture of animal feeds. A motion was duly made by Barbara Brown and seconded by Bud Woodfield to support resolution 2005-01-03. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 4) Resolution 2005-01-04 Title: A Resolution in support of NY Farm Bureau Policies. A motion was duly made by Emory Green and seconded by Walt Hallbauer to support the policies outlined by the Farm Bureau. A motion was duly made by Robert Banks and seconded by Richard Fox to amend the 3rd bullet. That motion was unanimously approved. The original motion was unanimously approved.

The Board voted on sending letters of support for the following bills recommended by the Legislative Committee:

- A1537/S120. Reduces the required minimum age for obtaining a junior archery license from 14 to 12 years of age. **-Board approved a letter of support.**
- A1815/S1536. Creates a junior big game hunting license for ages 14-16. **-Board approved a letter of support.**
- A2047/S158. Proposing an amendment to the NYS Constitution relating to the right to fish, hunt and trap. **-Board approved a letter of support.**
- A2280/S2891. Allows people to conduct studies of cable-restraint devices for the capture of wildlife **-Board approved a letter of support.**

- A5808/S3232. Provides a free fishing license to an adult that takes a kid fishing.
-Board opposed a letter of support.

Letters of support will be sent from the Board to the Commissioner of DEC, Speaker of the Senate and Assembly and Committee Chairmen.

A motion was duly made by Charles Couture and seconded by Walt Hallbauer to request the DEC Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources purchase 10,000 access signs from the grant monies left over from the Habitat/Access Stamp Grant Awards. The motion was approved with one abstention.

Banquet Speaker - Acting Commissioner Denise Sheehan

Commissioner Sheehan indicated that New York is a leader in:

- Environmental Quality
- Land, Water and Air Quality
- Protecting Natural Resources
- Quality Recreational Opportunities

Specific Issues:

- Acid Rain is a high priority. The Department is pursuing stronger regulations at the Federal Level.
- Mercury is of concern in lakes, rivers and streams leading to fish health advisories. The Department is pushing for Federal Programs that will require reduction.
- Superfund/Brownfields - help to preserve open space and provide potential for development of past sites.
- Water Quality and sewage treatment plants
- PCB Dredging in the Hudson River and the proper disposal of wastes
- Onondaga Lake Remediation - A \$45 million dollar clean-up plan is being proposed. A plan should be out by July 2005.
- Great Lakes and Buffalo River Water quality

Natural Resources Goals

- Open Space Protection- goal to preserve 1 million acres, currently at 900,000 acres
- PFR and Access sites - 80 million since 1995
- Habitat/Access Stamp Grants - \$100,000
- Need to get more young people involved in outdoor recreation
- Hunting - Youth turkey hunt a success
- CWD - Department is working closely with Department of Health and Ag and Markets.
- Budget- EPF not included, need to work on getting \$150 million back into the budget
- Wetlands enhancement package also not included in budget
- ATVs - need to capture fees
- Deer season proposal- restructure of Southern Zone seasons

Acting Commission Sheehan received a warm welcome from the Board. She spent some time after the presentation to talk one-on-one with Board members.

Saturday April 2, 2005

Election of Officers - Walt Hallbauer presented the slate of candidates for the Boards consideration - positions to be filled include: Chairman, Vice-chairman, the Statutory Member of the CFAB, Secretary, 3 members of the Executive Committee.

Slate of Candidates:

Chairman - Robert Banks, Secretary cast one vote for Robert Banks, Region 5, elected Chairman

Vice-Chair - Patricia Arnold, Secretary cast one vote for Patricia Arnold, Region 6, elected Vice-Chair

Secretary - Jack Cooper, Secretary cast one vote for Jack Cooper, NYS DEC, elected Secretary

FWMB representative to Conservation Fund Advisory Board - Bud Woodfield, Region 7, Secretary cast one vote for Bud Woodfield, Elected CFAB representative

Executive Board Member - Joseph Molinaro, Region 3, Secretary cast one vote for Joseph Molinaro, Elected Executive Board Member

Executive Board Member - Gary Evans, Region 8, Secretary cast one vote for Gary Evans, Elected Executive Board Member

Executive Board Member - Walt Hallbauer, Region 9, Secretary cast one vote for Walt Hallbauer, Elected Executive Board Member

ATV Access/Policy

The DEC has a new policy on use of ATVs on state land. What is the policy?

What is the Access policy in Board member's home Region?

What are private landowners desires on ATV access?

Users need to police themselves!

ATV access is not the responsibility of the FWM Board? Or is it? Only when connected to hunting and fishing activities.

Some ATV clubs take the initiative to find places to ride and to maintain and police those properties.

Need a solution on how to allow ATV use on state lands where appropriate. Members should find out how ATV access is working in their Region: how is it working, where is the access and what are restrictions. Bring this information back to the Fall 2005 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Members: Representatives of County Boards of Supervisors/County Legislators, Landowners and Sportsman

Advisory Members: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, New York State Conservation Council Inc., Farm Bureau of New York, New York State Grange, New York State Forest Practice Board, Izaak Walton League of America; New York State Division, New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee, New York State College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University, New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University.