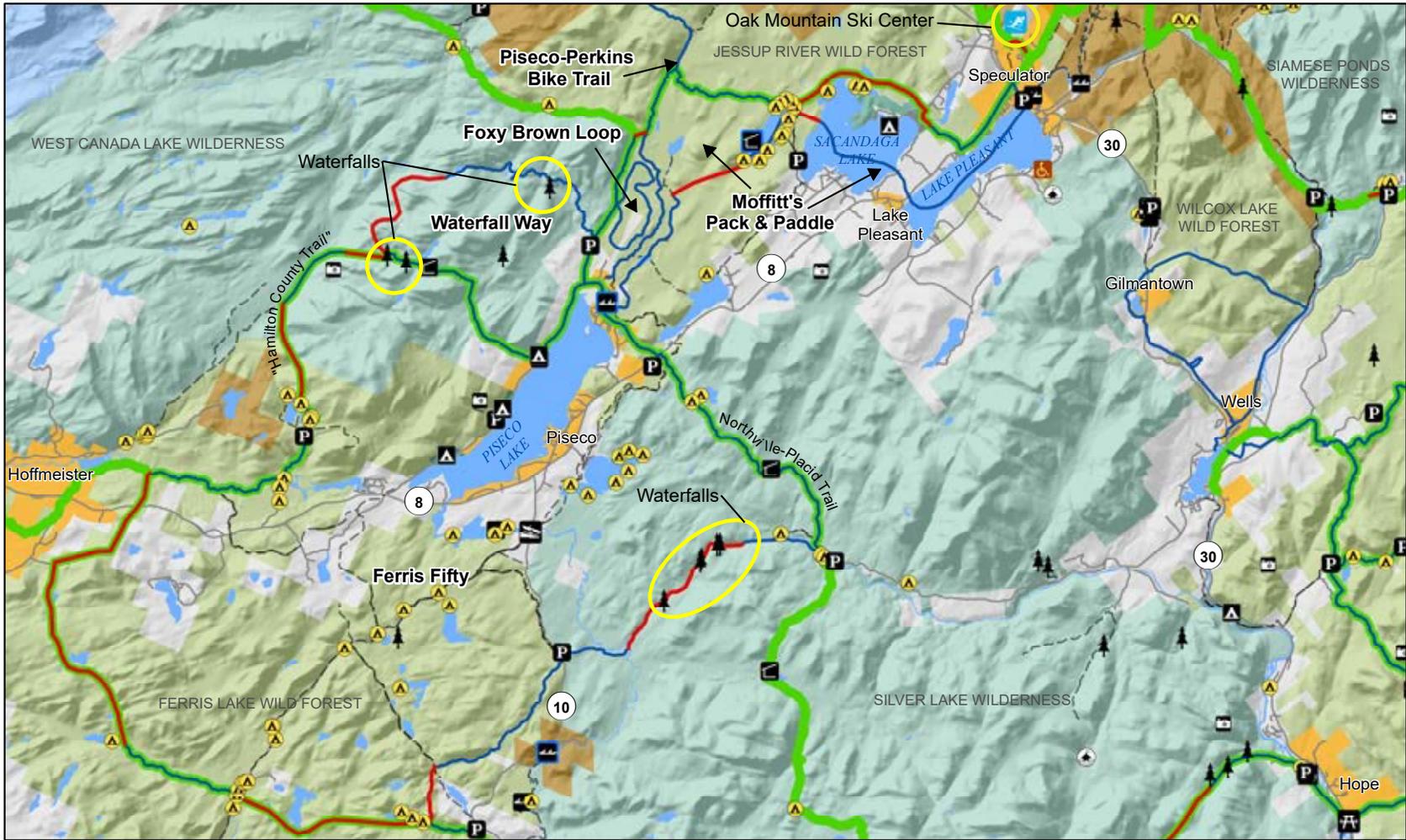
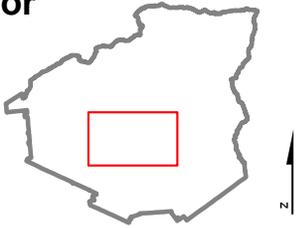
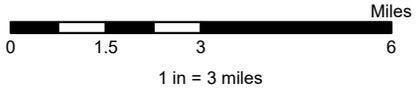


Map 8 ► Lake Pleasant, Piseco and Speculator



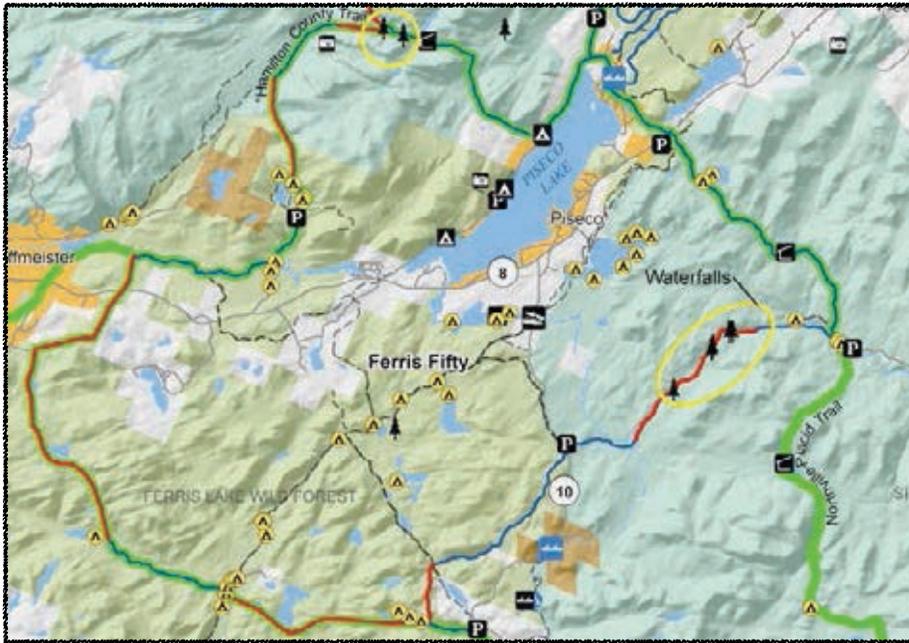
	ADA Accessible		Day Use Area		Proposed Feature		Community
	Lodging		Downhill Ski Center		Local Network		Intensive Use
	Boat Launch		Historic Site		Regional Network		Pending Classification
	Natural Feature		Lean-to		Construction Required		Primitive
	State Campground		Paddling Access		DEC Trail		State Administrative
	Primitive Campsite		Parking		Road		Wild Forest
			Scenic Area				Wilderness
							Easement

Lake Pleasant, Piseco, Speculator



Map produced by the Great South Woods Project Team at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Map 8 ► Piseco-Speculator Ferris Fifty Circuit



Access: Links together several isolated trail segments, long-distance trails and backcountry points of interest in four DEC units.

Connectivity: Links Piseco and Hoffmeister by foot trail via HCT regional route (proposed). Connects at NPT-HCT junction with nearby features such as Moffitt's P&P, Foxy Brown Loop, Waterfall Way, etc.

Stewardship: Approximate routes intersect with mapped wetlands, requiring careful planning to minimize impacts. Trail segment in Silver Lake Wilderness along cascades will pose challenges. Additional signage and trail registers needed at access points and parking areas.

Destination: A backcountry hiking trip with unique natural and historic points of interest, with potential for mountain biking in Ferris Lake WF.

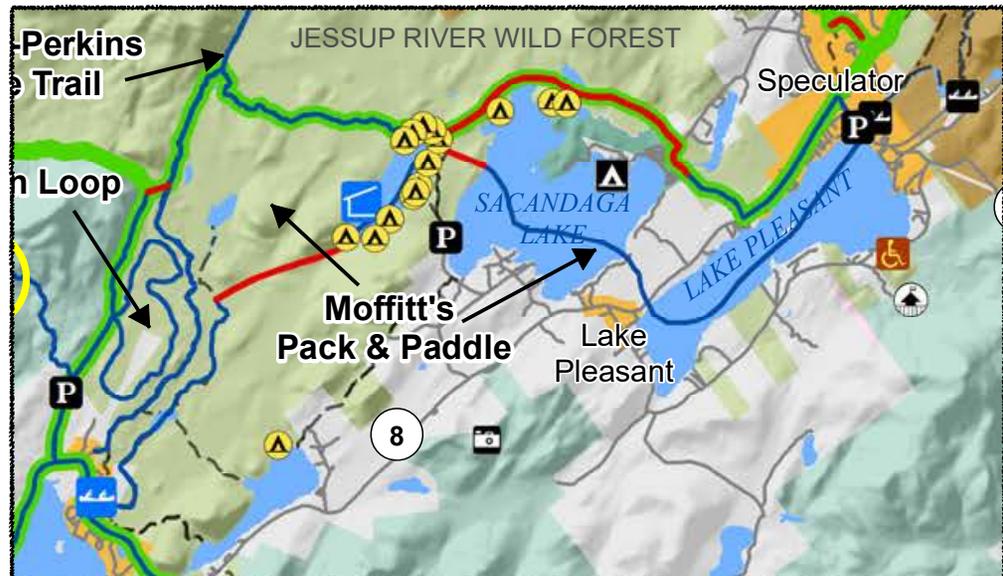
Partnerships: Could be developed as a trail run / ultra marathon to complement Piseco triathlon. Design and develop opportunities for specialized trails and infrastructure, especially for skiing and biking.

The **Ferris Fifty Circuit** is a 48.5-mile loop trail that incorporates sections of the Northville-Placid Trail, the Hamilton County Trail (proposed) and existing and proposed trail segments in Ferris Lake WF and Silver Lake Wilderness. Based in Piseco, the 6-8 day hiking trip features two sets of waterfalls (including T Lake Falls and a series of cascades currently inaccessible by trail), 26 primitive campsites (many situated on ponds and lakes), scenic views at Eagle Bluffs, the White House historical site (on NPT), and the DEC Poplar Point campground on Piseco Lake. Trail biking may be done on snowmobile trail sections during summer, and backcountry skiing on foot trail sections during winter. There is significant potential to develop more specialized infrastructure, especially for mountain biking, adjacent to sections of trail in Ferris Lake WF near Hoffmeister. Ferris Fifty can be accessed via trailheads on NYS Rt 8 and 10, as well as via regional trail routes (NPT, HCT). 17.5 miles of trail construction is needed to complete the circuit, based on approximate routes.

Map 8 ► Piseco-Speculator Moffitt's Pack-and-Paddle



Moffitt's Pack & Paddle is a 29-mile land-and-water circuit that combines hiking, flatwater boating and waterfront camping at both primitive sites and the Moffitt Campground on Sacandaga Lake. Paddlers begin at a proposed DEC hand launch in Piseco, up the navigable waterway through Fall Lake, then a 1.4-mile portage to primitive camping (and a proposed lean-to) along the shore of Fawn Lake. After a 0.5-mile portage to Sacandaga Lake, paddlers cross over the outlet flow into Lake Pleasant and head to Speculator. From town, heading west along the lake shore, hikers can either rest at Moffitt Campground or return to a primitive campsite at Fawn Lake. The rest of the trip follows the existing trail west through Jessup River WF, where it meets the Northville-Placid trail on the way to the starting point in Piseco. The Moffitt's P&P Circuit has several potential access points with parking areas in Piseco, near Fawn Lake and in the village of Speculator.



Access: Hiking access to Fawn Lake campsites from Speculator; foot trail linkage with Moffitt Campground; uses NPT segment near junction with Hamilton Co Trail (proposed).

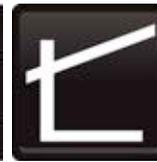
Connectivity: Links Piseco, Lake Pleasant and Speculator directly with adjacent Jessup River WF campsites and DEC campgrounds. Circuit located at junction of NPT and HCT regional routes.

Stewardship: Boat washing stations and aquatic invasive species education / mitigation at multiple access points; hand launches, campsites and trail segments on lake shores may require special management zones

Destination: 3-5 days of paddling, hiking and camping on the lakefront, with meals and lodging at halfway point in the historic village of Speculator.

Partnerships: Almost 6 miles of trail construction, including 1.5-mile portage. A local outfitter could help with boat rental, transport and storage. If portage is needed between Sacandaga Lake and Lake Pleasant, landowner permission(s) will need to be negotiated.

Map 8 ► Piseco-Speculator Waterfall Way



Waterfall Way is a 14-mile circuit that features a series of backcountry waterfalls, with a lean-to available near the popular T-Lake Falls. Can be a weekend trip leaving from Piseco -- or a scenic detour on a thru-hike (via NPT or HCT). By adding a 2.7-mile segment to connect the existing spur trail with the Hamilton County Trail route (proposed), the circuit brings hikers from the backcountry of West Canada Lakes Wilderness to the DEC Poplar Point Campground on the shore of Piseco Lake. In winter, the loop could be a challenging but rewarding excursion for nordic skiing and snowshoeing.

Access: Increases ease of access to waterfalls and scenic points of interest in southeastern West Canada Lakes Wilderness; provides day or overnight trip into the backcountry from DEC Poplar Point campground on Piseco Lake.

Connectivity: The circuit connects directly to the Village of Piseco and the town road along northwest shore of Piseco Lake. It is adjacent to the junction between the Northville-Placid Trail and the Hamilton County Trail (proposed), which provide connections to multiple other communities in the GSW complex.

Stewardship: Waterfalls and cascades involve sensitive riparian and headwater wetland habitats, and can also pose safety issues for hikers. Signage and other infrastructure, such as bridges and handrails, may be necessary. Trail passes through beech-maple mesic woods, and the proposed (approximate) routes may cross mapped wetlands, requiring careful trail design and construction. Depending on use intensity, an additional lean-to or primitive campsites may be needed. Signage and possibly trail registers needed at junction with NPT and Hamilton Co. Trail (proposed).

Destination: A challenging day-long or more relaxed weekend excursion from Piseco or the DEC Poplar Point Campground that takes hikers, snowshoers and nordic skiers along a series of backcountry waterfalls and cascades in the West Canada Lakes Wilderness.

Partnerships: Trail design, construction and maintenance; potential guide opportunities; outdoor education / group excursions.