

Daily Stages - Route #10: Newcomb / Long Lake Traverse

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Newcomb	1				
Day 1	Near Camp Santanoni	0	0	1	6	+670 -520 +150
Day 2	Near Deer Pond	0	0	4	14	+1583 -1657 -74
Day 3	Northeast shore of Long Lake	0	0	2	8	+691 -747 -56
Day 4	Long Lake	1	0	2	8	+985 -1014 -29
	Lodging Facilities in Place	2				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	3				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			2.3		
	Total Miles				36	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				9	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+3929 -3938 -9

Route #11: Dix Mountain Wilderness Circuit

Description:

A demanding route for fit and experienced hikers, the 6-night, 5-day Dix Mountain Wilderness Circuit starts in North Hudson, first taking hikers over the summits of Nippletop Mountain (Town of North Hudson), Old Far, and Little Far mountains, then to a proposed lodge in the vicinity of Jug Mountain. On the second day, the trail continues north over Buck and Saunders mountains, along Lindsey Brook, and through a short but spectacular canyon to a proposed place of lodging in the vicinity of Underwood and routes 73 and 9. On day three, the route becomes considerably more challenging as it climbs the Spotted Mountain ridge en route to the summits of Grace Peak, South Dix, Macomb, and Hough (four 46ers) before going up and over Dix Mountain (a 46er) and down to a place of lodging in St. Hubert's. On day four, hikers again test their stamina by heading up Bear Den and Dial (a 46er) to Nippletop (another 46er), then descending and climbing yet again to the summits of Mount Colvin and Blake Peak (both 46ers) and the Pinnacle before dropping into the spectacular Elk Lake basin and a place of lodging near Elk Lake. A layover day is recommended to take advantage of the opportunity to paddle Elk Lake, and just kick back and enjoy the sublime views. The fifth and final day takes hikers past Clear Pond, then back to the hamlet of North Hudson.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Town of North Hudson](#)
- [Adirondack 46ers](#)
- Nippletop Mountain (North Hudson)
- Old Far & Little Far mountains
- Jug Mountain
- Buck Mountain
- Saunders Mountain
- Canyon near Underwood
- Spotted Mountain
- [Grace Peak](#)
- South Dix
- Macomb Mountain
- Hough Peak
- Dix Mountain
- [Dix Mountain Wilderness](#)
- St. Huberts
- Bear Den Mountain
- Dial Mountain
- Nippletop (46er)
- Elk Pass
- Mount Colvin
- Blake Peak
- Lookout Rock
- Pinnacle

Highlights & Attributes:

1. This route takes hikers up and over nine 46ers, as well as nine other peaks, many of which are rarely climbed.
2. The route also takes hikers through a deep canyon in the landscape near Underwood, with rock walls reaching upwards of 200 feet on both sides.
3. Travelers will enjoy a stay near stunning Elk Lake.

Challenges:

1. The Dix Mountain Wilderness Unit Management Plan (UMP) designates the southeast portion of the Dix Wilderness as trailless; changes will be needed to the UMP to accommodate trails along this part of the route. A fair amount of trail building will be required, but it may be possible to take advantage of herd paths in some places.
2. Lodging will need to be located near the intersection of routes 73 and 9 and Underwood, as well as near Jug Mountain.
3. Lodging capacity is limited near Elk Lake; this might limit the number of hikers that the entire route can accommodate at any given time.

Observations & Questions:

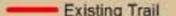
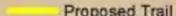
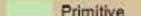
Concept Plan for a Hut-to-hut Destination-based Trail System
for the Five Towns of Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson
Prepared by Leading E.D.G.E. for the NYSDEC

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. This hike is for expert and fit hikers only. The possibility exists for some hikers to overestimate their fitness and ability.
3. This challenging world-class alpine route will appeal to peak-baggers from across the globe and put North Hudson “on the map,” greatly contributing to its tourism economy.
4. Because this entire route is part of the conceptualized Grand High Peaks Circuit (GHPC), the development of the trail and lodging infrastructure will do much to contribute to the realization of the GHPC.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

Desirability: 5

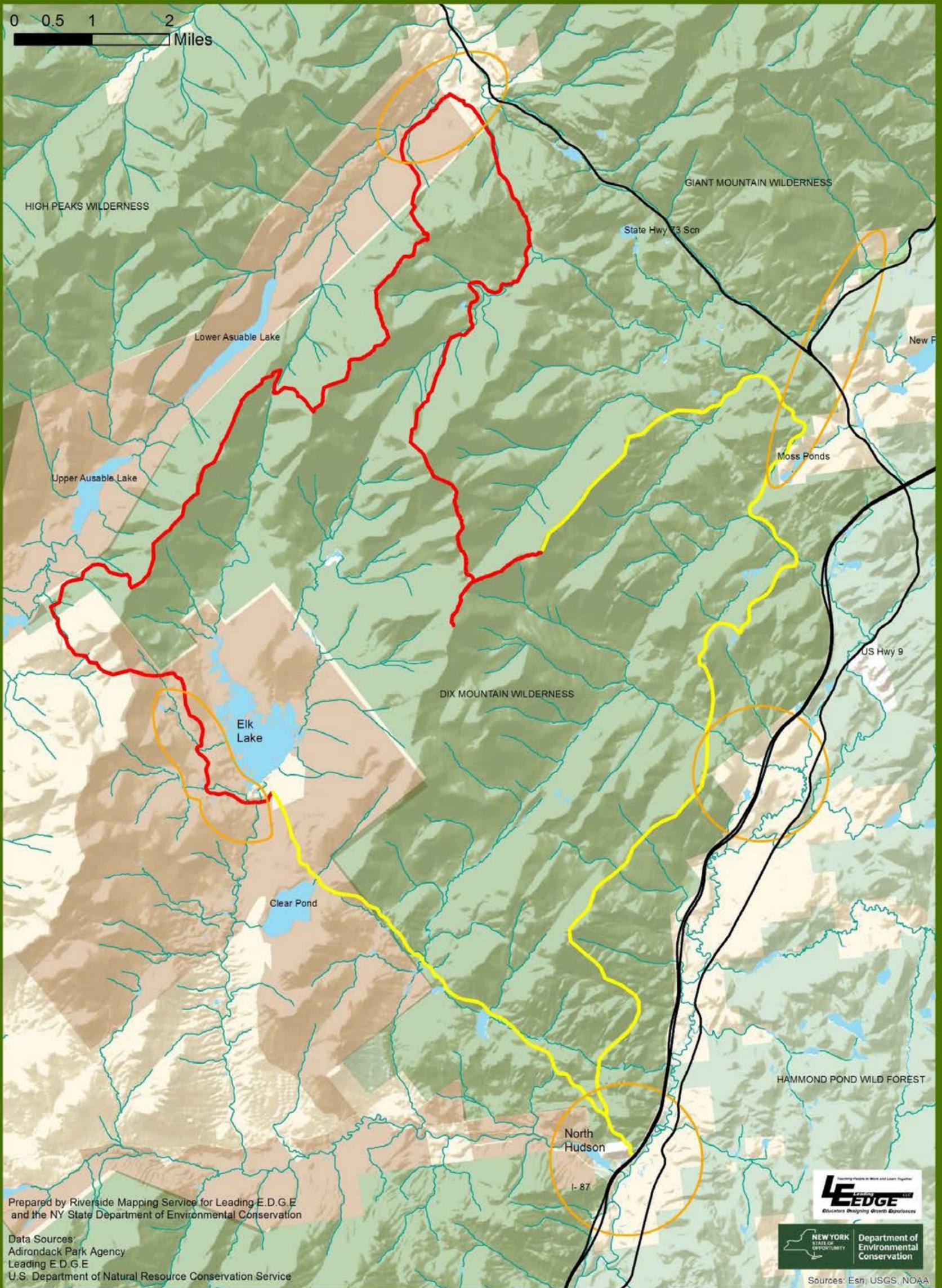
Feasibility: 3

-  Road
-  Existing Trail
-  Proposed Trail
-  N
-  Strategic Lodging Locations
-  Private
-  Wilderness
-  Primitive
-  Wild Forest
-  DEC Easements 2015

Route #11: Dix Mountain Wilderness Circuit November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System for the Five Towns of Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson

0 0.5 1 2 Miles



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation

Data Sources:
Adirondack Park Agency
Leading E.D.G.E.
U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service





Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #11: Dix Mountain Wilderness Circuit

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	North Hudson	1				
Day 1	Near Jug Mountain	0	7.0	5	7	+3160 -2512 +648
Day 2	Near routes 73/9 & Underwood	0	7.0	5	7	+2082 -1835 +247
Day 3	St. Huberts	1	5.5	5	17	+5902 -6132 -230
Day 4	Near Elk Lake	1	0	5	20	+6937 -6082 +855
Day 5	North Hudson	1	6.5	3	9	+1369 -2563 -1194
	Lodging Facilities in Place	4				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	2				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		26.0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			4.6		
	Total Miles				60	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				12	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+19450 -19124 +326

Concept Plan for a Hut-to-hut Destination-based Trail System
for the Five Towns of Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson
Prepared by Leading E.D.G.E. for the NYSDEC

Route #12: Historic Great Camp Circuit

Description:

The Historic Great Camp Circuit, 6 nights and 5 days, goes north from the village of Raquette Lake to the summit of West Mountain, then descends on a proposed trail to a place of lodging (proposed) on Outlet Bay. On day two, hikers walk along North Point Road to a trail through the Sargent Ponds Wild Forest, linking to a trail that leads east to Castle Rock, with its views of Blue Mountain Lake, then into the village of Blue Mountain Lake (where a layover day is suggested to visit the Adirondack Museum to learn more about the history of Great Camps). On day three, hikers head south on the Cascade Pond Trail and continue to the Northville-Placid Trail, continuing to a place of lodging (proposed) near Wakely Dam and the Cedar River Flow. On the fourth day, hikers ascend Wakely Mountain and climb one of the state's tallest fire towers for spectacular views of the central Adirondacks; from the summit, a proposed trail will go to Cellar Pond, then around Bradley Mountain and Green Top, with a memorable overnight stay near Sagamore Lake. On the fifth and final day of the trek, hikers visit the beautiful stream that becomes South Inlet before returning via a proposed trail to the village of Raquette Lake.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Village of Raquette Lake](#)
- Raquette Lake
- Raquette Lake cruise aboard the [WW Durant](#)
- [West Mountain](#)
- [Sargent Ponds Wild Forest](#)
- [Castle Rock](#)
- Village of Blue Mountain Lake
- Blue Mountain Lake
- [Adirondack Museum](#)
- [Cascade Pond](#)
- [Northville-Placid Trail](#)
- [Cedar River Flow](#)
- [Wakely Mountain](#) & fire tower
- [Cellar Pond](#)
- [Great Camp Sagamore](#)

Highlights & Attributes:

1. This route provides travelers with the opportunity to experience the natural beauty and cultural history of both Raquette Lake and Blue Mountain Lake (e.g., a dinner cruise on Raquette Lake and a visit to the Adirondack Museum). This loop provides a good mix of Adirondack Park backcountry and frontcountry experiences.
2. There are great views from Castle Rock and the Wakely Mountain fire tower, as well as good views from West Mountain.
3. On this route, hikers stay near Sagamore Lake and Great Camp Sagamore, a National Historic Landmark and a classic example of Adirondack Great Camp architecture that was once the wilderness retreat for the Vanderbilt family.
4. The trail takes hikers past several classic Adirondack ponds and to the scenic Cedar River Flow.
5. Hikers get the chance to hike a portion of the Northville-Placid Trail.

Challenges:

1. This route requires a fair amount of trail building.
2. Lodging is needed on the northern part of Raquette Lake at a distance that is reasonably equidistant from the villages of Raquette Lake and Blue Mountain Lake. Lodging, which could be utilized by hikers on the Northville-Placid Trail and other routes, is proposed in the vicinity of Wakely Dam.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.

2. Travelers who arrive in Raquette Lake early enough on the day before their hike can enjoy a cruise on Raquette Lake aboard the WW Durant.
3. The terrain here is mostly family friendly, but the distances between some proposed places of lodging require day hikes that may be too long. Additional places of lodging on both private and public land could be considered to ensure the route's appeal to families.
4. With a vehicle shuttle, the entire circuit could be completed in two segments, a Raquette Lake to Blue Mountain Lake Traverse via West Mountain, the Sargent Ponds Wild Forest, and Castle Rock, and a Blue Mountain Lake to Raquette Lake Traverse via the Northville-Placid Trail.
5. This route requires considerably more field checking.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

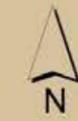
Desirability: 4

Feasibility: 4

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Street
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest
- DEC Easements 2015

Route #12: Historic Great Camp Circuit
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service
Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #12: Historic Great Camp Circuit

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Raquette Lake	1				
Day 1	North shore of Raquette Lake	0	3.5	4	12	+2030 -1983 +47
Day 2	Blue Mountain Lake	1	1.5	4	15	+1255 -1205 +50
Day 3	Near Wakely Dam	0	0	4	13	+1727 -1422 +305
Day 4	Near Sagamore Lake	1	7.0	4	12	+2277 -2442 -165
Day 5	Raquette Lake	1	2.0	1	5	+532 -665 -133
	Lodging Facilities in Place	4				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	2				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		14.0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			3.4		
	Total Miles				57	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				11	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+7821 -7717 +104

Route #13: North Hudson / Newcomb Traverse

Description:

The North Hudson to Newcomb Traverse is a 5-night, 4-day trek that starts on a proposed trail just beyond the I-87 (Adirondack Northway) overpass in North Hudson, past Big and Little Marsh ponds and Clear Pond to Elk Lake Lodge. On the second day, hikers reach a lodging located somewhere between the northeast side of the Boreas Ponds basin and private land west of Walter Coon Brook by either going over Boreas Mountain with its great views or around Lightning Hill to the north on the Elk Lake-Marcy Trail before dropping southward into the basin on a proposed trail. On day three, depending on the lodging location, hikers can opt to travel around Boreas Ponds south of the North River Mountains or traverse the proposed challenging trail over Cheney Cobble and Rist Mountain. The trail on the fourth day takes hikers over the Hudson River and meanders its way around Beaver Flow and Beaver Brook into Newcomb.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Hamlet and Town of North Hudson](#)
- [Elk Lake Lodge](#) & Elk Lake
- [High Peaks Wilderness Area](#)
- Cheney Cobble & Rist Mountain
- [Boreas Mountain](#)
- The upper [Hudson River](#)
- [Boreas Ponds](#)
- Logging & mining history
- [Lake Harris Campground](#)
- [Village of Newcomb](#)
- [Adirondack Interpretive Center \(AIC\)](#)

Highlights & Attributes:

1. The route will provide spectacular views of the High Peaks from a southern vantage point.
2. It will be a world-class route due to its scenery and lodgings.
3. One of two possible routes will traverse the summit of Boreas Mountain.
4. It will provide access to the soon-to-be-acquired Boreas Ponds tract.
5. Hikers could choose to hike Cheney Cobble and Rist Mountain on a proposed trail.
6. The route will cross the upper Hudson River.

Challenges:

1. The following trail sections have to be constructed:
 - a. From North Hudson, a connecting trail to Elk Lake
 - b. From the summit of Boreas Mountain west to the Gulf Brook Road
 - c. From the Gulf Brook Road around the base of the North River Mountains to the bridge crossing the Hudson River south of Sanford Lake
 - d. From Route 25 to the Harris Lake Campground
2. Our knowledge of the area indicates that some existing trails may have to be brought up to world-class standards.
3. Developing lodging near the Boreas Ponds will be challenging.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. Done well, this will be a top-rated, world-class route.
3. It is preferable for this route to be a 5-night, 4-day route with a place of lodging near Boreas Ponds and another place of lodging between Rist Mountain and Perch Pond. This will provide travelers with a shorter hike on the final day to Newcomb while also giving them time to enjoy the Boreas Ponds region for a longer time. This option requires temporary lodging near Boreas Ponds; without a lodging option at Boreas, this trip will be shortened by a day.

4. Alternative routes might be found from the Boreas tract to the Hudson River, but they must utilize one of the two bridges that cross the Hudson River.
5. Lodging options near Elk Lake need further exploration.
6. We have talked to the proprietors of the lodging facilities in Newcomb; they are all interested in being part of the lodging-and-trails system.
7. We have not talked to lodging owners in North Hudson, but Internet research indicates availability of rental cabins and yurts.
8. Winter lodging currently is not available at Elk Lake, thus limiting the potential for winter use of this route at this time.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

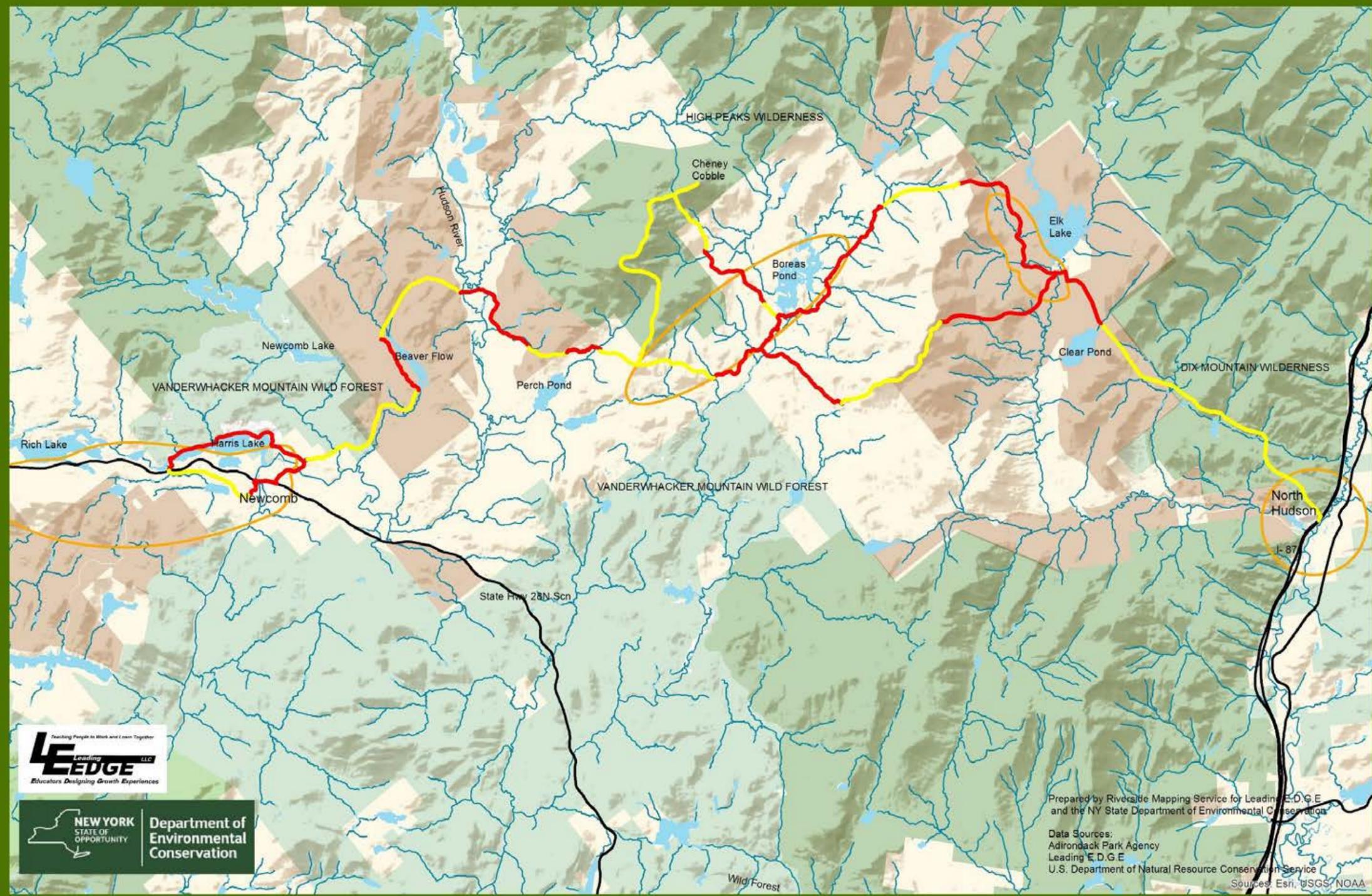
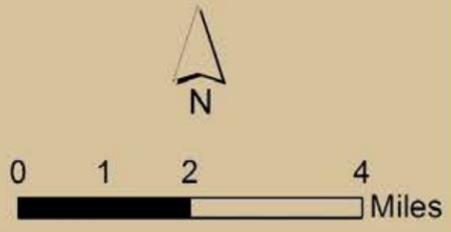
Desirability: 5

Feasibility: 2

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Road
- Strategic Lodging Area
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest
- DEC Easements 2015

Route #13: Newcomb/North Hudson Traverse
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service
 Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #13: North Hudson / Newcomb Traverse

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	North Hudson	1				
Day 1	Near Elk Lake	1	6.5	3	9	+1905 -777 +1128
Day 2	Near Boreas Ponds (Alternative 1: over Boreas Mtn)	0	2.0	4	12	+2575 -2557 +18
Day 2	Near Boreas Ponds (Alternative 2: northern route)	0	1.5	3	8	+1459 -1347 +112
Day 3	Over Rist Mountain (Alternative 1)	0	9.5	5	11	+4397 -4116 +281
Day 3	South of Rist Mountain (Alternative 2)	0	2.5	3	5	+975 -643 +332
Day 4	Newcomb	1	8.5	4	15	+1333 -1586 -253
	Lodging Facilities in Place	3				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	2				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		26.5/19			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			4/3.3		
	Total Miles				47/37	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				12/9	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+12644 -11026 +1618

Route #14: Indian Lake / Newcomb Traverse

Description:

The Indian Lake to Newcomb Traverse, a 4-night, 3-day trip, leaves Indian Lake on Pelon Road then parallels the scenic Cedar River for 3 miles to Elm Island. A new spur trail along the route to Elm Island will provide an optional hike to the summit of an unnamed peak (2234 feet/681m) for expansive views to the south. From Elm Island, the route takes travelers to proposed lodging near the historic Outer Gooley Club farmhouse, with views of the Hudson River. Day two of travel goes north along the Hudson River then traverses Big Pisgah Mountain (proposed) with views to the south. After crossing the Cedar River, the trail follows the river west before traversing Bonnie Mountain (proposed), with views from the upper ledges, then descends to Third Lake. Trekkers continue between Fourth and Fifth lakes and around the northern shore of Fifth and Sixth lakes to a proposed lodge near Goodnow Flow. On the final day, the trail takes trekkers east along the Goodnow River, then north along the Hudson River (proposed) and into the village of Newcomb.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Village of Indian Lake](#)
- [Movie theater in Indian Lake](#)
- [Town of Indian Lake Museum](#)
- [Blue Mountain Wild Forest](#)
- [Pine Lake Primitive Area](#)
- [Cedar River](#)
- Historic Outer Gooley Club
- Confluence of [Indian & Hudson rivers](#)
- [Essex Chain Lakes Complex](#)
- [Hudson River](#)
- [Village of Newcomb](#)
- [Adirondack Interpretive Center \(AIC\)](#)
- Newcomb Historical Society

Highlights & Attributes:

1. The Essex Chain Lakes Complex, opened to the public in 2014, provides hikers and skiers the opportunity to travel through this region that was the location of the Gooley Club, one of the oldest sportsmen's groups in the Adirondacks.
2. It provides travelers with the opportunity to travel along sections of NYS-designated Scenic and Wild rivers, the Cedar and the Hudson, respectively.
3. It provides opportunities along a family-friendly route for scenic views from three small mountains, currently trailless: an unnamed peak (2234 feet/681m), Big Pisgah, and Bonnie.
4. The trail can be designed to serve as an excellent intermediate ski route, providing backcountry skiers the opportunity to ski hut to hut.
5. The trail provides access to the Essex Chain Lakes and will contribute to the economic benefits of this recent addition to the NY State Forest Preserve.

Challenges:

1. This route requires the following:
 - a. Temporary lodging near the Outer Gooley Club farmhouse and also, preferably, the Inner Gooley Club on Third Lake
 - b. Construction of the planned bridge over the Cedar River
 - c. Construction of a new trail north of the Cedar River bridge over the summits of Big Pisgah and Bonnie mountains
 - d. Purchase or construction of a quality (ideally waterfront) lodging facility on Goodnow Flow that is amenable to neighbors and members of the Goodnow Flow Association
 - e. A trail from the Polaris Bridge north along the Hudson River to Newcomb (where only a herd path now exists)
 - f. A community trail south of Newcomb that will allow travelers to access amenities

- g. Amendments to the draft Essex Chain Lakes Primitive Area UMP
- h. A trail up a nameless peak that is 2234 feet in elevation
- i. Construction of new trail along the Cedar River

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. More field checking needs to be conducted to confirm the routes along the Cedar River and over the unnamed peak (2234 feet in elevation), and Pisgah and Bonnie mountains.
3. The general location of the Inner Gooley Club will make for an excellent strategic location for lodging. This will make the traverse one day longer, and the daily mileage considerably shorter.
4. The road from Route 30 to the Outer Gooley Club could be used in place of the trail along the Cedar River and eliminate the need for 4.4 miles of new trail; however, this option will involve walking along Route 30 for approximately 1.3 miles and walking the Outer Gooley Club Road for about 4 miles, as opposed to an extended walk along the Cedar River. In the winter, this will mean that cross-country skiers will share the road with snowmobiles.
5. This route has potential for excellent hut-to-hut skiing.
6. Stretches of the trail for skiing may require intermediate or above skiing ability; in these locations, the snowmobile trail provides an alternate route.
7. Alternative routes from the Outer Gooley Club exist with routes on trails proposed by the draft UMP, but the route proposed and described here deviates on occasion from the UMP route and provides more variation in terrain, as well as the opportunity to realize views from two different summits.
8. Development of this route requires completion of the bridge over the Cedar River and allowance for temporary lodging on Forest Preserve land.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

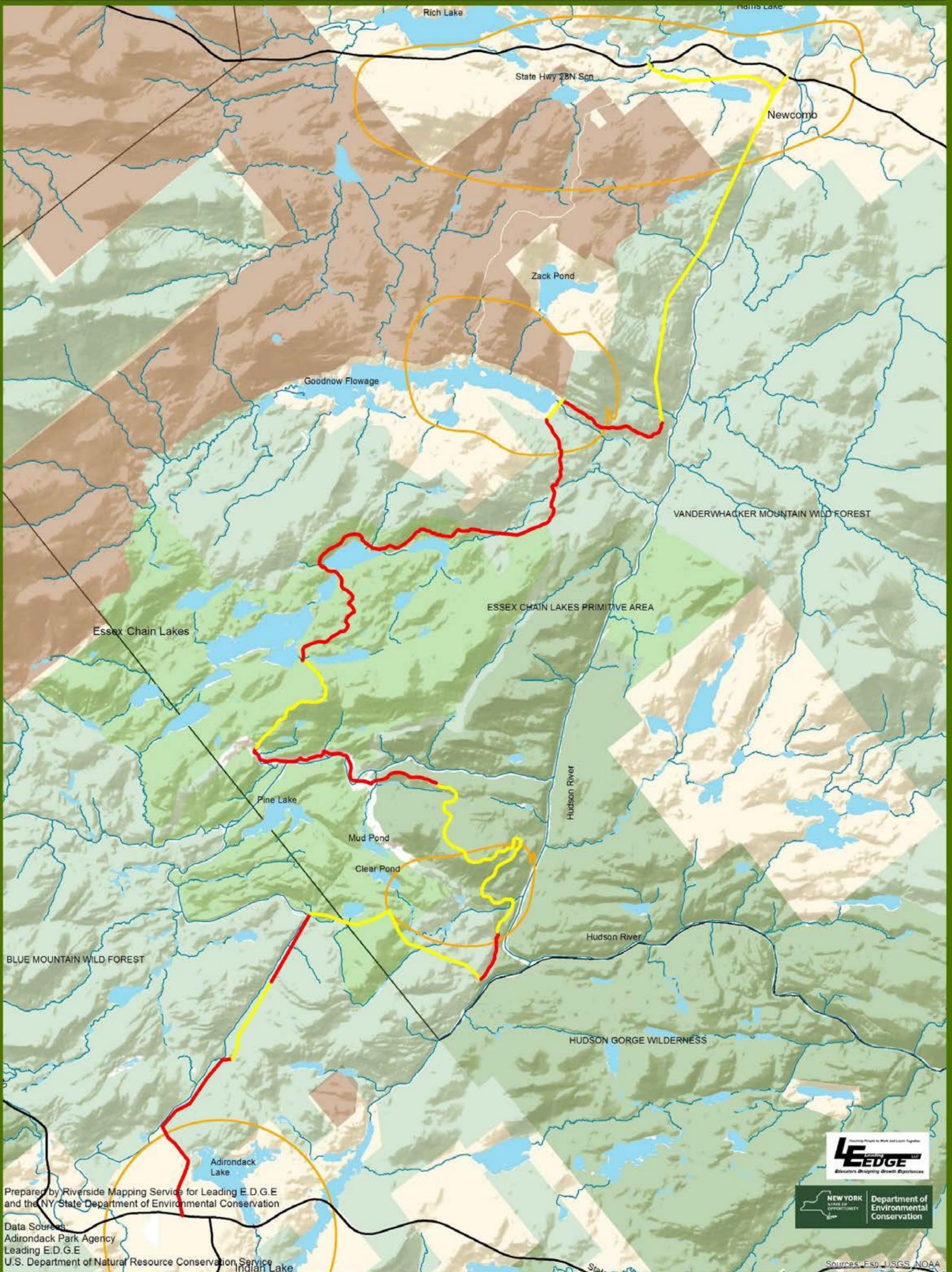
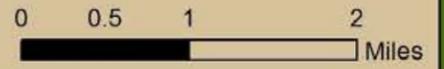
Desirability: 4

Feasibility: 3

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Road
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- DEC Easements 2015
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest

Route #14: Indian Lake/Newcomb Traverse
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service



Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #14: Indian Lake / Newcomb Traverse

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Indian Lake	1				
Day 1	Near Outer Gooley Club farmhouse	0	3.5	2	7	+594 -846 -252
Day 2	Near Goodnow Flow	0	4.0	3	13	+2218 -2102 +116
Day 3	Newcomb	1	4.5	2	7	+1117 -1204 -87
	Lodging Facilities in Place	2				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	2				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		12.0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			2.3		
	Total Miles				27	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				9	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+3929 -4152 -223

Route #15: Grand Siamese Ponds Circuit

Description:

The 11-night, 10-day Grand Siamese Ponds Circuit begins in Indian Lake, going east along Route 28 then south over McGinn Hill on a proposed trail, past Clear and John ponds, and over Chimney Mountain via a proposed trail en route to the first night's lodging at Kings Flow. On the second day, hikers travel east through the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area to a place of lodging near Thirteenth Lake. On day three, the trail heads east along the Raymond Brook Trail to a place of lodging in North Creek, with an optional hike to the summit of Gore Mountain along the way. From North Creek, a proposed trail passes Chatiemac Pond en route to some sites of historic interest - Mateskared, where Howard Zahniser wrote the Wilderness Act, and the former home of Adirondack conservationist and wilderness advocate Paul Schaefer - before continuing over Eleventh Mountain to a place of lodging (proposed) along Route 8. On the fifth day, a proposed spur trail passes Kibby Pond to connect with the Bartman Trail, which hikers follow south to overnight accommodations (proposed) near Baldwin Springs. Day six takes hikers northwest on the Oregon Trail before heading southwest to Griffin and a night's lodging (proposed) along the East Branch of the Sacandaga River. On the seventh day, the route passes Auger Falls Rapids and Austin Falls before proceeding on a proposed trail across easement land and into Speculator for the next night's lodging. A layover day is suggested here for travelers to enjoy mountain biking or boating, or just to relax on the shore of Lake Pleasant. From Speculator, hikers take the Elm Lake Road north on day eight to its terminus and a place of lodging (proposed) near the Kunjamuk River. On the ninth day, hikers follow the Rock Pond - Long Pond Trail and the John Mack Pond Trail to the shore of Indian Lake, then head north on a proposed trail along the eastern shore of beautiful Indian Lake to that night's proposed lodging just off the Crotched Pond Trail. On the trek's tenth and final day, hikers continue along the eastern shore of Indian Lake on a proposed trail to Norman's Cove, ascend the Baldface Mountain trail for spectacular views to the west, then descend on a proposed trail north to County Road 18, the causeway over Lake Abanakee, and into Indian Lake.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Village of Indian Lake](#)
- [Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area](#)
- Clear & John ponds
- [Chimney Mountain](#) & cave
- [Kings Flow](#)
- Puffer & Hour ponds
- Optional hike: [Peaked Mountain](#)
- [Thirteenth Lake](#)
- Optional hike: [Gore Mountain](#)
- Village of North Creek/[Town of Johnsbury](#)
- Historic [Zahniser](#) cabin
- Historic [Schaefer](#) cabin
- Eleventh Mountain
- [Wilcox Lake Wild Forest](#)
- East Branch Sacandaga River
- [Auger Falls](#)
- [Austin Falls](#)
- [Village of Speculator/Town of Lake Pleasant](#)
- Rock, Long, & John Mack ponds
- [Baldface Mountain](#)
- [Lake Abanakee](#) causeway

Highlights & Attributes:

1. The route passes through the northern portion of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area.
2. This route provides hikers with the opportunity to climb three modest peaks with spectacular views, with optional hikes up Peaked and Gore mountains.
3. Arrangements with a guide service can be made to facilitate a day exploring the Chimney Mountain cave.
4. The route connects three Adirondack villages.
5. A number of classic Adirondack ponds are along the proposed route, as are tranquil King's Flow and

Thirteenth Lake.

6. The trail passes close by Mateskared, the Zahniser family cabin where Howard Zahniser drafted the Wilderness Act.
7. The trail also passes the cabin of Adirondacker Paul Schaefer, who was a key player in the protection of the Adirondack Forest Preserve.
8. The trail goes past scenic Auger and Austin falls.
9. The route goes along the shore of Indian Lake for several miles, where hikers can swim and enjoy the lakeside scenery.

Challenges:

1. This route requires a considerable amount of trail construction.
2. Location of trails and lodging, if on easement land, will be consistent with the terms of the conservation easement.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. The Speculator to Indian Lake stretch of this route could be connected to the Indian Lake to Newcomb Traverse and the Newcomb to Lake Placid Traverse to create the Speculator to Lake Placid Traverse, an alternative to the north-south Northville-Placid Trail that could be combined with the NPT to create another “grand circuit.”
3. This proposed route purposefully avoids the trailless area established by the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area UMP.
4. This route integrates the village of Speculator into the destination-trail system.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

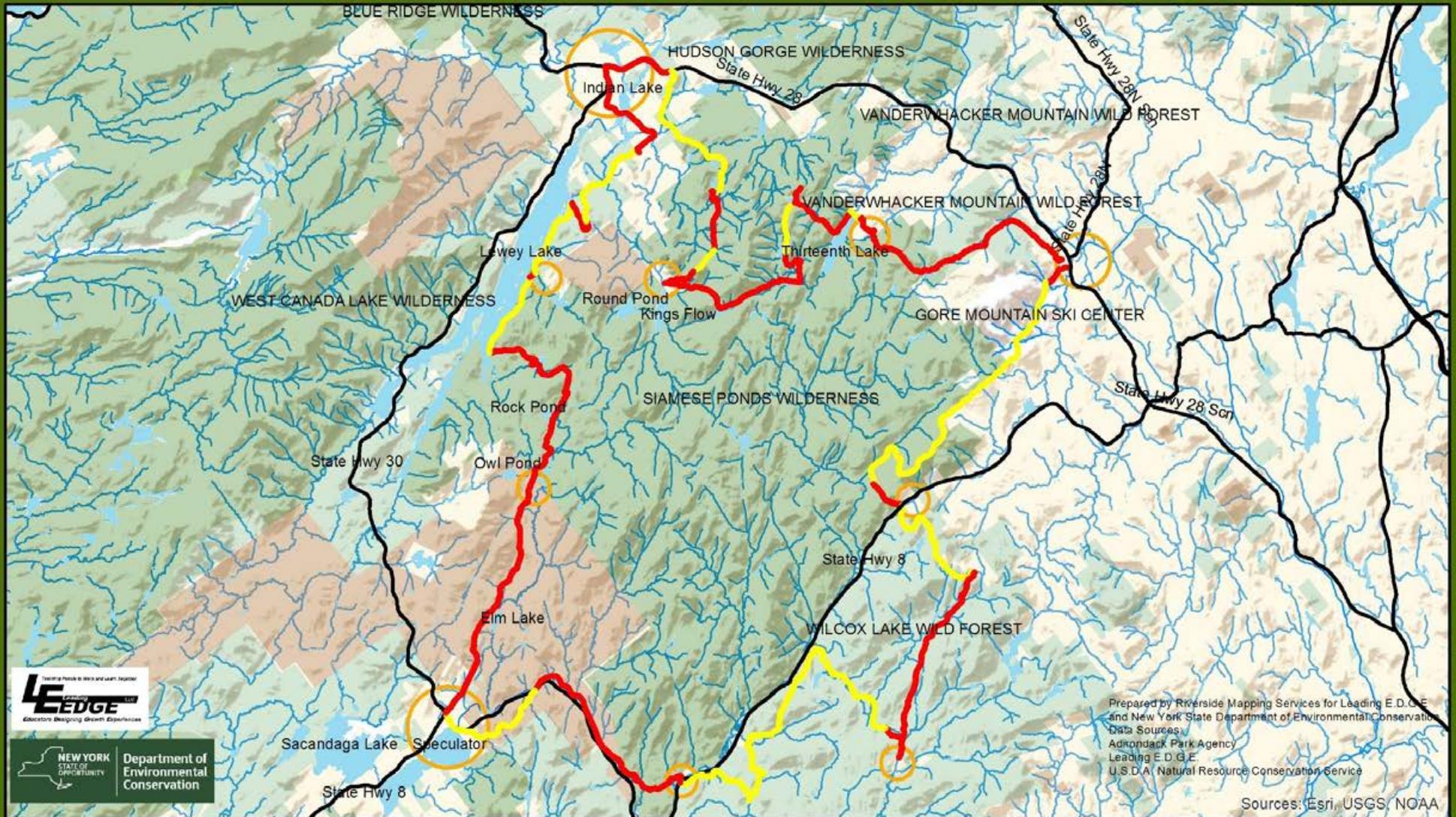
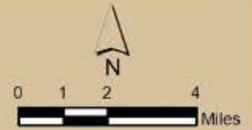
Desirability: 5

Feasibility: 3

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Major Road
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest
- DEC Easements 2015

Route #15: Grand Siamese Ponds Circuit
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Services for Leading E.D.G.E. and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S.D.A. Natural Resource Conservation Service

Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stage - Route #15: Grand Siamese Ponds Circuit

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Indian Lake	1				
Day 1	Kings Flow	1	5.5	3	11	+1816 -1829 -13
Day 2	Thirteenth Lake	1	2.0	4	13	+1324 -1103 +221
Day 3	North Creek	1	0.0	2	8	+994 -1838 -894
Day 4	Near Eleventh Mountain	0	11.0	4	13	+3587 -2871 +716
Day 5	Near Baldwin Springs	0	3.5	3	11	+1570 -1822 -252
Day 6	Griffin	0	0	4	14	+1927 -2081 -154
Day 7	Speculator	1	2.5	3	10	+1105 -617 +488
Day 8	Northern terminus of Elm Lake Road	0	0.0	2	8	+580 -552 +28
Day 9	Near Crotched Pond Trail	0	3.0	3	11	+1374 -1296 +78
Day 10	Indian Lake	1	6.0	3	11	+344 -274 +70

	Lodging Facilities in Place	6				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	5				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles	33.5				
	Overall Difficulty Rating		3.1			
	Total Miles				110	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				11	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+14621 -14283 +288

Route #16: Blue Mountain Lake / Indian Lake Traverse

Description: This 3-night, 2-day trip from Blue Mountain Lake to Indian Lake begins on a proposed section of trail connecting the village center with the existing trail to the summit of Blue Mountain, then down the north side of Blue Mountain, along the western shore of Tirrell Pond, and over Barker Mountain to lodging (proposed) on Barker Pond. On the second day, hikers cross the Rock River, traverse Stark Hills and Ledge Mountain, with good views to the south, then cross the Cedar River. Upon reaching the terminus of Benton Road, hikers proceed directly into the village of Indian Lake and can reward themselves with dinner, and popcorn and a movie at the cozy Indian Lake Theater.

Features & Amenities:

- [Village of Blue Mountain Lake](#)
- [Adirondack Museum](#)
- [Blue Mountain Lake Scenic Boat Tours](#)
- [Blue Mountain](#) & fire tower
- [Barker Mountain](#)
- [Stark Hills & Ledge Mountain](#)
- [Village of Indian Lake](#)
- [Movie theater in Indian Lake](#)
- [Town of Indian Lake Museum](#)

Highlights & Attributes:

1. This route provides travelers with the opportunity to combine a short, family-friendly backcountry overnight hike with a visit to Blue Mountain Lake and the Adirondack Museum.
2. This trip visits a classic Adirondack fire tower atop Blue Mountain, with great 360-degree views.
3. The route also proposes a new trail up and over Barker Mountain, Stark Hills, and Ledge Mountain, each of which provides good views to the east and south.

Challenges:

1. This route will require a fair amount of new trail construction, including a bridge over the Rock River.
2. Location of trails and lodging, if on easement land, will be consistent with the terms of the conservation easement.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. Can the service road to the summit of Blue Mountain be utilized as an officially designated public hiking and skiing trail?
3. This route is family-friendly.
4. A proposed new trail will go east from the village of Blue Mountain Lake through a minor pass to the Northville-Placid Trail (NPT) just north of O'Neil Flow. This trail will provide families and others going to Indian Lake the opportunity to bypass the summit of Blue Mountain on their way to Barker Pond; this proposed connector trail also will provide an alternative route for NPT hikers to access the village of Blue Mountain Lake and skiers looking to complete a loop from Tirrell Pond back into the village.
5. Construction of this route with its trail and lodging infrastructure will contribute to the completion of the Grand Central Adirondack Circuit.
6. A winter option will provide good cross-country skiing and snowshoeing opportunities.
7. This route provides a family-friendly, overnight backcountry experience connecting the communities of Blue Mountain Lake and Indian Lake.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

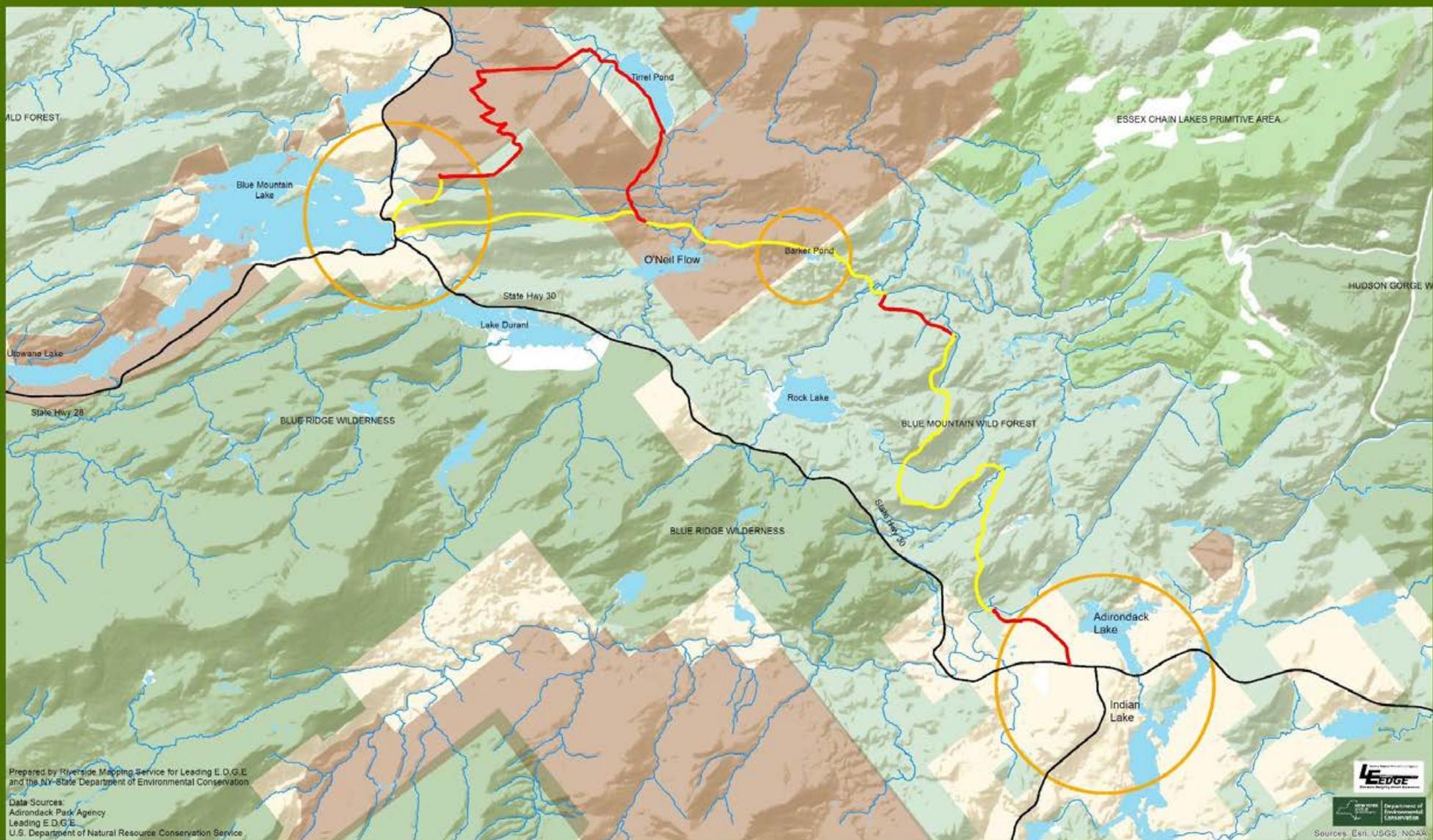
Desirability: 4

Feasibility: 4

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Road
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest
- DEC Easements 2015

Route #16: Blue Mountain Lake to Indian Lake Traverse
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY-State Department of Environmental Conservation

Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service

Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #16: Indian Lake / Blue Mountain Lake Traverse

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Blue Mountain Lake	1				
Day 1	Near Barker Pond	0	3.0	4	10	+2730 -2668 +62
Day 2	Indian Lake	1	6.0	3	9	+2093 -2229 -136
	Lodging Facilities in Place	2				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	1				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		9.0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			3.5		
	Total Miles				19	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				10	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+4823 -4897 -74

Route #17: Newcomb / Long Lake Circuit - North

Description:

The Newcomb and Long Lake Circuit is a 7-night, 6-day circuit starting and finishing in the village of Newcomb. From Newcomb, hikers trek to the historic Santanoni Lodge. Day two goes up to Shattuck Clearing, the site of a former DEC Interior Ranger Station, then down to a proposed lodging facility at a location northwest of Deer Pond on the edge of SUNY-ESF property. Day three takes hikers up to the Northville-Placid Trail (NPT) to a potential lodging location on private land south of Plumley Point on Long Lake. Day four leads to Long Lake on a section of the NPT, where a variety of lodging options exist. To return to Newcomb from the village of Long Lake via foot or mountain bike, this route utilizes an existing snowmobile trail parallel to route 28N through Upper Hudson Woodlands ATP lands to a strategic lodging location near Pickwacket Pond. From there, the route continues east toward Newcomb, continuing roughly parallel to Route 28N and north of Fishing Brook. After an enjoyable hike or bike from Long Lake, travelers enjoy a night's lodging in Newcomb, "The Heart of the Adirondacks."

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Village of Newcomb](#)
- [Adirondack Interpretive Center \(AIC\)](#)
- [Camp Santanoni Historic Area](#)
- [Shattuck Clearing on the Cold River](#)
- [Northville-Placid Trail](#)
- Family-friendly bicycling
- [High Peaks Wilderness Area](#)
- Eastern shore of Long Lake
- Working forests
- Pickwacket Pond
- [Village of Long Lake](#)

Highlights & Attributes:

1. It travels through classic areas of the western High Peaks Wilderness Area, including:
 - a. Shattuck Clearing
 - b. Calahan Brook
 - c. Long Lake
2. No new trails need to be developed for this circuit.
3. It utilizes a portion of the Northville-Placid Trail (NPT).
4. The route will utilize Upper Hudson Woodlands ATP lands that largely have not been accessible to the general public.
5. A portion of this circuit (UHW ATP lands) could be a very attractive, family-friendly, bicycle route.

Challenges:

1. Hiking from the Santanoni Lodge to a potential lodging location on SUNY-ESF land is nearly 14 miles.
2. Lodging needs to be located:
 - a. Near Santanoni Lodge
 - b. Near Deer Pond (SUNY-ESF)
 - c. On the northeast shore of Long Lake
 - d. Somewhere around Pickwacket Pond
3. Location of trails and lodging, if on easement land, will be consistent with the terms of the conservation easement.
4. The existing trail on UHW ATP lands will have to be developed for year-round use.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. New lodging options on private lands have not been discussed with landowners.

3. The opportunity for lodging near Pickwacket Pond has not been researched.
4. A hiking and mountain biking circuit will combine a hike from Newcomb to the Village of Long Lake, then travel by mountain bike back to Newcomb. Outfitters could be utilized to rent and/or shuttle bikes.
5. Route #24: Newcomb / Long Lake via the Fishing Brook Range is an adventurous alternative to this route.
6. Some sections of these trails may need to be brought up to world-class standards.
7. This circuit requires more research and field checking.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

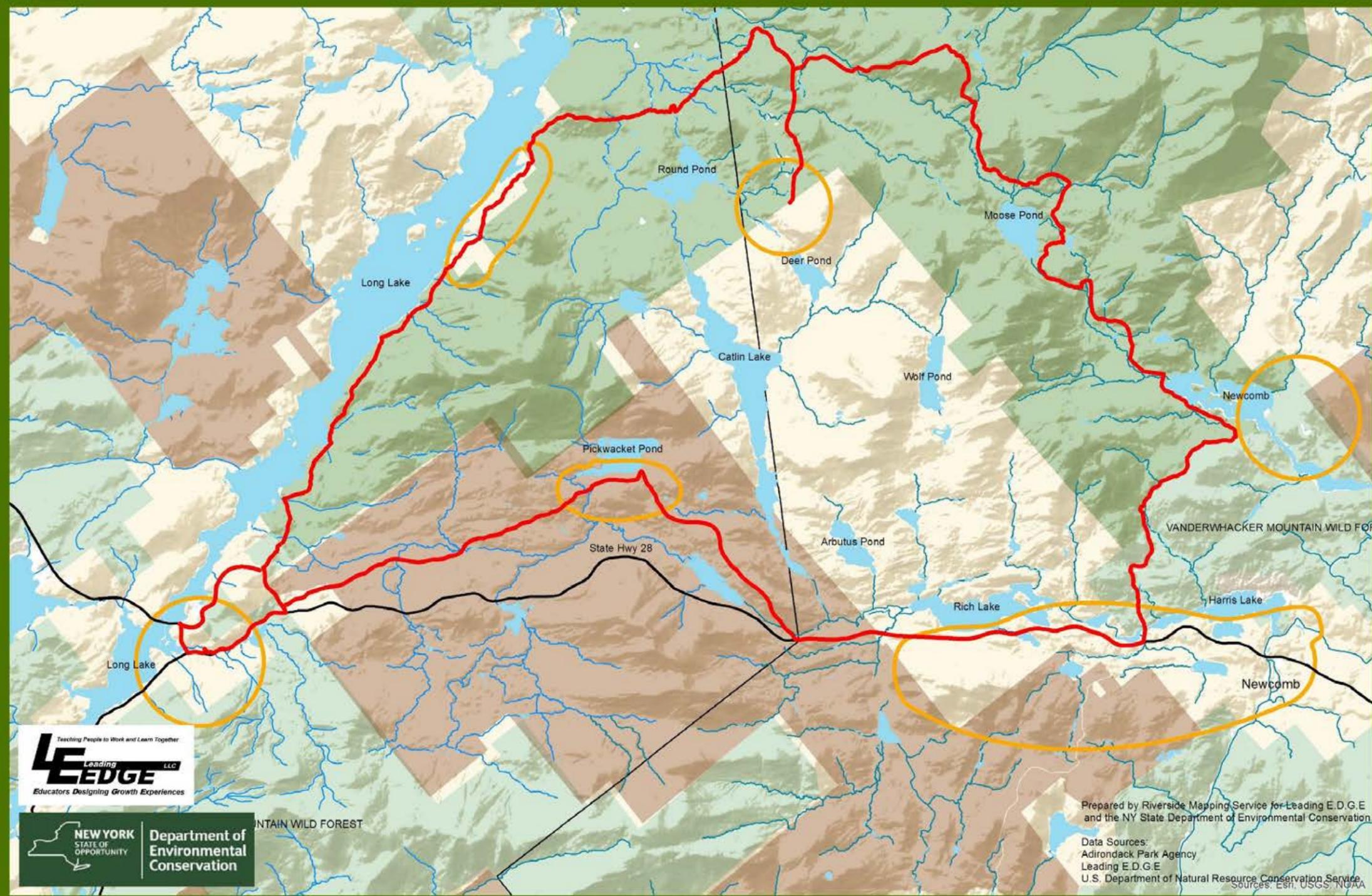
Desirability: 4

Feasibility: 2

- Existing Trail
- Road
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- DEC Easements 2015
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest

Route #17: Newcomb to Long Lake Circuit
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service
Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #17: Newcomb / Long Lake Circuit - North

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Newcomb	1				
Day 1	Camp Santanoni	0	0	1	6	+670 -520 +150
Day 2	Deer Pond	0	0	4	14	+1583 -1657 -74
Day 3	Northeast shore of Long Lake	0	0	2	8	+691 -747 -56
Day 4	Long Lake	1	0	2	8	+985 -1014 -29
Day 5	Near Pickwacket Pond	0	0	2	7	+618 -432 +186
Day 6	Newcomb	1	0	2	9	+829 -1074 -245
	Lodging Facilities in Place	3				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	4				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		0			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			2.2		
	Total Miles				52	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				9	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+5376 -5444 -68

Route #18: Newcomb / Tahawus / Boreas Circuit

Description:

The 6-night, 5-day Newcomb / Tahawus / Boreas Circuit begins on the Newcomb Lake Road through the Camp Santanoni Historic Area, and the first night's lodging will be located near this historic Adirondack Great Camp. On the second day, hikers travel north along a proposed trail past quiet Lake Andrew to a place of lodging near Henderson Lake. The third day's route heads southeasterly past the Tahawus mining operation and Lake Sally, then through the pass between Allen Mountain and Cheney Cobble on a proposed trail and down to a place of lodging near Boreas Ponds. The fourth day takes hikers on a proposed trail up and over rugged Cheney Cobble and Rist Mountains, although hikers not able or inclined to tackle the more strenuous route can choose a less-challenging proposed trail; lodging is proposed near a ridge southwest of the North River Mountains, high above Perch and Trout Ponds. On the fifth and final day, hikers travel west back toward Newcomb, crossing the Hudson River and passing Beaver Flow on their return.

Features & Amenities:

- [Village of Newcomb](#)
- [Adirondack Interpretive Center \(AIC\)](#)
- [Camp Santanoni Historic Area](#)
- Lake Andrew
- [Henderson Lake](#)
- [Upper Works in Tahawus](#)
- [McNaughton Cottage](#)
- [McIntyre Blast Furnace](#)
- [Boreas Ponds](#)
- Cheney Cobble & Rist Mountain

Highlights & Attributes:

1. This route provides travelers with the opportunity to experience some of the Adirondack's rich Great Camp and mining history.
2. Wildlife viewing could be premium around Boreas Ponds, an area noted for moose sightings.
3. The hike over Cheney Cobble and Rist Mountain on a proposed trail will provide a hearty challenge and splendid views.
4. Local guide services can take advantage of the opportunity to provide canoes, kayaks, and associated gear, as well as guided trips, at Henderson Lake and Boreas Ponds.

Challenges:

1. Lodging will be needed in four locations:
 - a. Near Camp Santanoni
 - b. Near Henderson Lake
 - c. Northeast of the Tahawus Club
 - d. Near North River Mountain
2. This route requires considerable trail building, especially challenging where the route traverses Cheney Cobble and Rist Mountain. The route could take advantage of some old logging roads.
3. Permission from private landowners will be needed to locate a trail that connects to and uses a bridge that goes over the Hudson River to the Tahawus Road.

Observations & Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. Layover days along this route will allow visitors to take advantage of unique opportunities to: canoe or kayak on Henderson Lake, and to visit the Upper Works in Tahawus, the McNaughton Cottage, and the McIntyre Blast Furnace; and/or, to arrange with an outfitter to canoe or kayak on Boreas Ponds.
3. This route has the potential to provide an excellent intermediate backcountry ski route.

4. This route, in combination with several others, will help establish Newcomb and North Hudson as top-notch outdoor recreational destinations by encouraging visitation to the Route 28N/Blue Ridge Road corridor.
5. Incorporation of Adirondack history will further public support for the preservation of the particular historic buildings and sites along this route, as well as others in the Adirondack Park.
6. This route has potential for a high-quality backcountry ski trip, and subsequent economic benefits to Newcomb and North Hudson.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

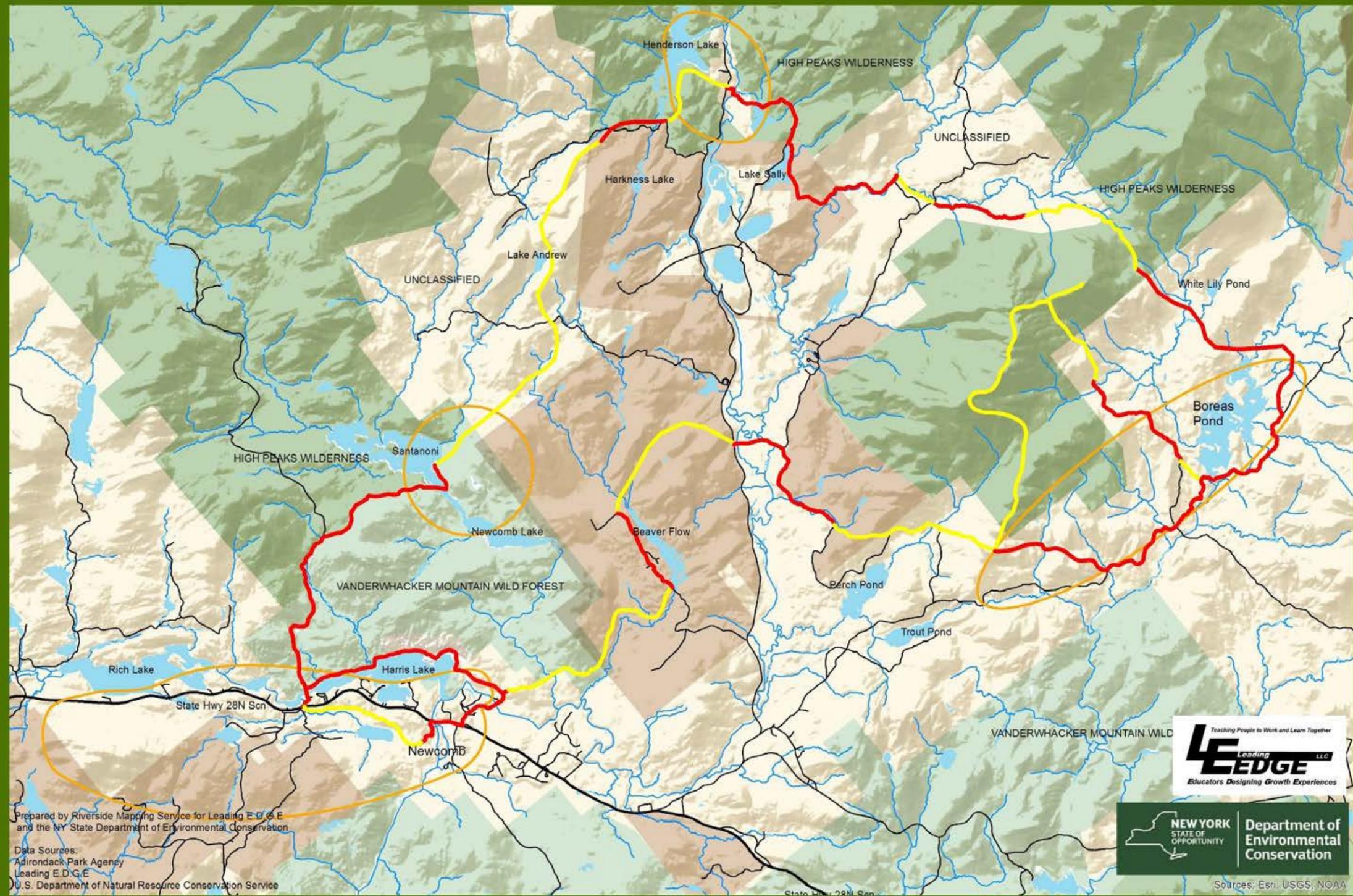
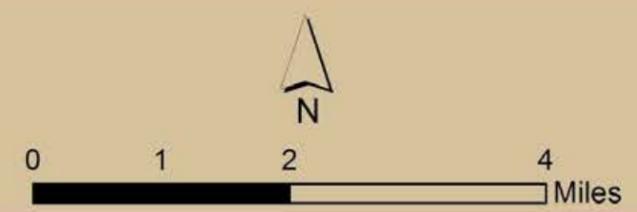
Desirability: 5

Feasibility: 3

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Strategic Lodging Locations
- Road
- Private
- Wilderness
- Primitive
- Wild Forest
- DEC Easements 2015

Route #18: Newcomb/Boreas Circuit
November 2015

Concept Plan for a Destination-Based Hut to Hut Trail System
for the Five Towns of
Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva, and North Hudson



Prepared by Riverside Mapping Service for Leading E.D.G.E. and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Data Sources:
 Adirondack Park Agency
 Leading E.D.G.E.
 U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service



Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA

Daily Stages - Route #18: Newcomb / Tahawus / Boreas Circuit

	Daily Stage Destination	Lodging in Place (1 = yes, 0 = no)	New Trail Needed, Approx. # of Miles	Difficulty Rating by Daily Stage	# of Miles	Elev. change (feet): Up Down Net
First Night	Newcomb	1				
Day 1	Near Camp Santanoni	0	0	1	6	+670 -520 +150
Day 2	Near Henderson Lake	1	6	2	7	+1335 -1397 -62
Day 3	Near Boreas Ponds	0	2.5	3	11	+1541 -1356 +185
Day 4	Near power line / Perch & Walter Coon brooks	0	9.5	5	11	+4397 -4116 +281
Day 5	Newcomb	1	8.5	4	15	+1333 -1586 -253
	Lodging Facilities in Place	3				
	Lodging Facilities Needed	3				
	Total New Trail, Approx. # of Miles		24.5			
	Overall Difficulty Rating			3		
	Total Miles				50	
	Ave. Miles Per Day				10	
	Total Elevation Change - Feet					+9276 -8975 +301

Route #19: Newcomb / Minerva Traverse

Description:

The Newcomb to Minerva Traverse is a 5-night, 4-day trek that heads south out of Newcomb along the western shore of the Hudson and northeast along the Goodnow River to lodging (proposed) near Goodnow Flowage. On the second day, hikers cross the Hudson on the Polaris bridge and head east on a proposed trail to a place of lodging (proposed) at the southern base of Vanderwhacker Mountain in the vicinity of the Moose Pond Club. On the third day, hikers could opt to ascend Vanderwhacker Mountain before continuing eastward, utilizing a proposed trail parallel to the Moose Pond Club's access road and connecting to an existing trail west of Route 28N near Aiden Lair, the site of proposed lodging. After crossing Route 28N, a short section of road walking on Hewitt Road on the fourth day leads to an existing trail on the west side of Hewitt Pond, then to Barnes and Stony ponds, along part of the proposed North Country Scenic Trail, and into the village of Minerva.

Natural Features & Attractions:

- [Village of Minerva](#)
- Minerva Lake
- Big Sherman, Little Sherman, Stony, Center, Barnes & Hewitt ponds
- [Aiden Lair](#)
- [Boreas River](#)
- [Vanderwhacker Mountain](#)
- [Hudson River](#)
- Goodnow Flowage
- [Village of Newcomb](#)
- [Adirondack Interpretive Center \(AIC\)](#)

Highlights & Attributes:

1. The route provides the opportunity for hikers to learn about the history of Teddy Roosevelt in the Adirondacks through the proposed lodging at Aiden Lair.
2. The trail parallels the NYS-designated Scenic Boreas River for a short distance.
3. The route provides hikers with the opportunity to summit Vanderwhacker Mountain, with great vistas from a fire tower.
4. The route crosses the Hudson River and follows along its western shoreline for several miles into Newcomb.

Challenges:

1. Proposed lodging at Aiden Lair will need to be built.
2. Proposed lodging will need to be developed near the Moose Pond Club property.
3. A trail will need to be built from the Polaris Bridge to the Vanderwhacker Mountain trail.

Observations/Questions:

1. Lodging owners in the communities need to be approached and presented with the benefits of being part of the destination-trail system.
2. This route presumes the continued existence of the Polaris Bridge. The trail will need considerable rerouting if the Polaris Bridge was removed.
3. On day two, an alternative route could cross the Hudson on the Polaris Bridge, then head south along the river's eastern shore to proposed temporary lodging on state land at the confluence of the Indian and Hudson rivers (outside the wild river buffer). This proposed route will then continue along the range of mountains on the northern rim of the Hudson Gorge to a proposed place of lodging near where the Northwoods Club Road crosses the Boreas River. From here, travelers will head north along the western shore of the Boreas River on a proposed trail to proposed lodging near the Moose Pond Club. This route will add a day to the traverse but have considerable appeal to backcountry recreationists.

4. If the area between the Polaris Bridge and Vanderwhacker Mountain is too wet, the route's first day of travel could utilize a former snowmobile trail east of the Hudson River to the proposed lodging near the Moose Pond Club. Trail routing also will depend on routing of a snowmobile trail.

Desirability & Feasibility (1 = Low, 5 = High):

Desirability: 4

Feasibility: 3