

New York State Forest Preserve

The Forest Preserve in the Catskill Park

Contains lands with vary degrees of wildness ranging from remote and trail-less mountain peaks and picturesque streams to extensively-used camping areas and trails.

The Preserve is composed of a variety of terrain, soil, and forest cover types with differing capacities to sustain and recover from recreational use.



Wilderness

A wilderness area, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man--where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.



Wild Forest

A wild forest area is an area of Forest Preserve land whose character as a natural plant and animal community receives the same degree of protection under Article XIV of the Constitution as in areas classified as wilderness.

But Differs in that

The physical characteristics of wild forest areas are capable of withstanding higher levels of recreational use and provide opportunities for a greater variety of recreational activities.





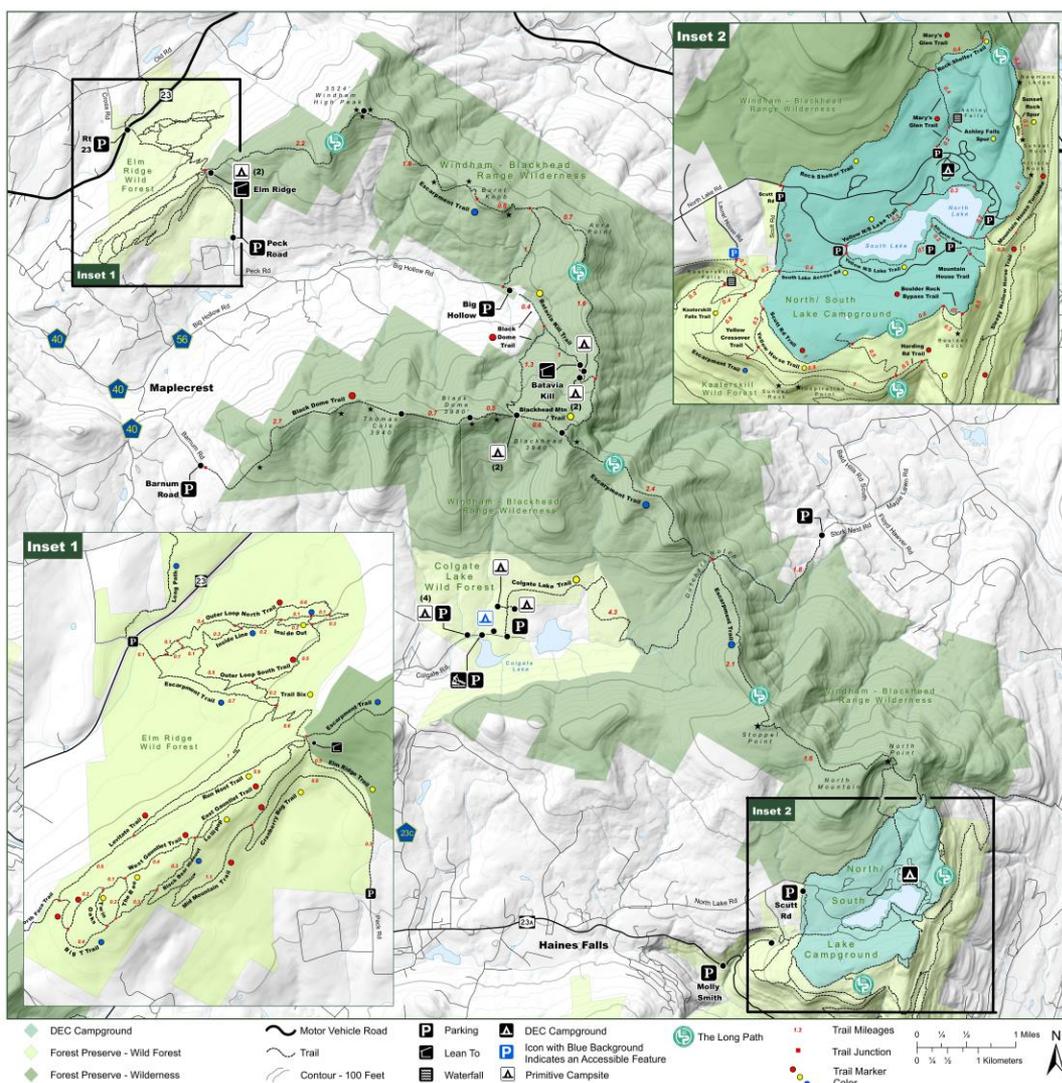
Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Windham – Blackhead Range Wilderness

October, 27 2016

Windham – Blackhead Range Wilderness

Presentation Available at
www.dec.ny.gov/lands/51870.html



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Windham –Blackhead Range Wilderness- Background

- Portions of this unit were previously included in the Windham High Peak Wild Forest Management Plan from 1994.
- This portion includes areas east of the Elm Ridge Trail up until the trail leading from Big Hollow up north towards Acra Point and Burnt Knob.
- All remaining areas in the unit are currently not included in a Unit Management Plan

Windham –Blackhead Range Wilderness- Background

- 16,972 Acres
- Stretches from Elm Ridge to North South Lake Campground
- Towns of Windham, Jewett, Cairo, Catskill, and Hunter
- Multiple Access Points

Route 23

Peck Rd

Big Hollow

Barnum Rd

Stork's Nest Rd

Colgate Lake

Scutt Rd/North South Lake Campground



Windham –Blackhead Range Wilderness- Background

- Approximately 27 Miles of Trails
- 2 Lean Tos (Batavia Kill & Elm Ridge)
- 4 Peaks Above 3500' (Windham, Blackhead, Blackdome, and Thomas Cole)
- Unique environmental qualities on high elevation peaks (Habitat for Bicknell's Thrush and Mountain Fir Forest)
- Very popular for hiking (Escarpment Trail / Long Path)



Purpose of the Meeting

- Initial scoping meeting – Put your thinking caps on!
- Chance for the public to provide comments and suggestions
- Public Comments Accepted until December 12, 2016

r4.ump@dec.ny.gov or via mail at

NYS DEC
65561 State Highway 10 Suite 1
Stamford, NY 12167

Thomas Cole

Black Dome

Blackhead Mtn



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Colgate Lake Wild Forest

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Colgate Lake Wild Forest Background

- 1500 Acres
- Located off County Rd 78 (Colgate Rd) Towns of Jewett & Hunter
- 3 Parking Areas (2 General Public, 1 ADA)
- 1 ADA Fishing Platform and Boat Launch (Hand)
- 7 Primitive Campsites (1 ADA)
- Approximately 2.7 Miles of the Colgate Lake Trail
- Fishing, Paddling, and Swimming



Colgate Lake Wild Forest Background

- Highly visited area especially on holiday weekends.
- Draws overflow use from North South Lake Campground
- Both a local draw as well as a draw for people traveling longer distances.
- Sanitation and Trash have been a concern at times
- Parking has also been a concern



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Thank You

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Elm Ridge Wild Forest Unit
Management Plan Webpage

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/51870.html>



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