



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Carpenter Falls Unique Area

Public Access Improvement Design Plan

August 21, 2019

Meeting Agenda

- Project Conceptual Overview (20 minutes)
- Public comment opportunities (70 minutes)
 - Please fill out a Comment Card
- Opportunities to meet Department team members (30 minutes)
- Please feel to leave your comments in writing tonight, by email or U.S. mail (see the handout provided)
- Comments are accepted until September 23 (2019)



Welcome and Introductions

Acknowledgments

- Potentially Affected Interests
- Town of Niles and Supporting Local Organizations
- Local, State and Federal Agencies Providing Technical Support
- NYSDEC Supporting Team Members

Project Team Members and Technical Experts

- John Clancy - Supervising Forester and Project Coordinator
- Andrew Goeller - Region 7 Regional Forester
- Corey Walsh - P.E (Civil) Division of Operations
- Dan Little - Senior Forester and Land Manager
- Chet Lunt - New York State Forest Ranger
- Aimee Clinkhammer - Watershed Coordinator, Finger Lakes Hub
- Additional DEC Program and Support Staff



Our Goal Today

*To Provide Information About
the Project, Listen to You and
Accept Feedback*



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Public Participation to Date

- Public Meeting held on June 7 (2018) (T) Niles
- Public participation sought in the update of the Hewitt Cayuga Highlands UMP
- Concept of Carpenter Falls Public Access Improvements introduced
- Public requested additional Public Participation Opportunities for the Carpenter Falls Project



Why is the Project Needed?

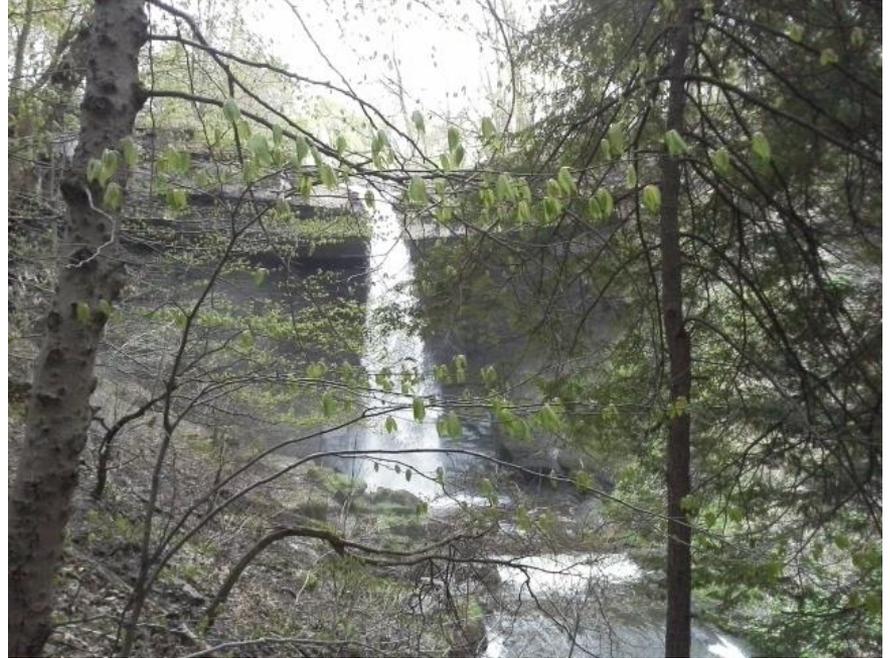
An Opportunity to Improve Public Access for the Greater Good and Sustain the Environment



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Invest In, Improve, Sustain and Enhance Public Access to the Upper Falls

- Provide family friendly Universal Access
- Protect water quality
- Reduce long term impacts to plants and animals
- Inform and educate visitors
- Focus human use on a sustainable footprint
- Improve parking
- Enhance the human experience and add value



Supporting Conceptual Design Work

Completed to Date



Engineering, Archeological and Natural Resource Studies (1)

- Archeological Studies
- Topographic Survey
- Parking Lot Survey
- New York Natural Heritage Program Site Review
- SEQR (review has started, NYSDEC is the Lead Agency)



Engineering, Archeological and Natural Resource Studies (2)

- Soil Engineering Studies
- Stormflow Analysis
- US Fish and Wildlife Service Consultation
- NYSDEC Bureau of Ecosystem Health Consultation
- Adirondack Mountain Club Feedback



Phase I Concept Upper Falls

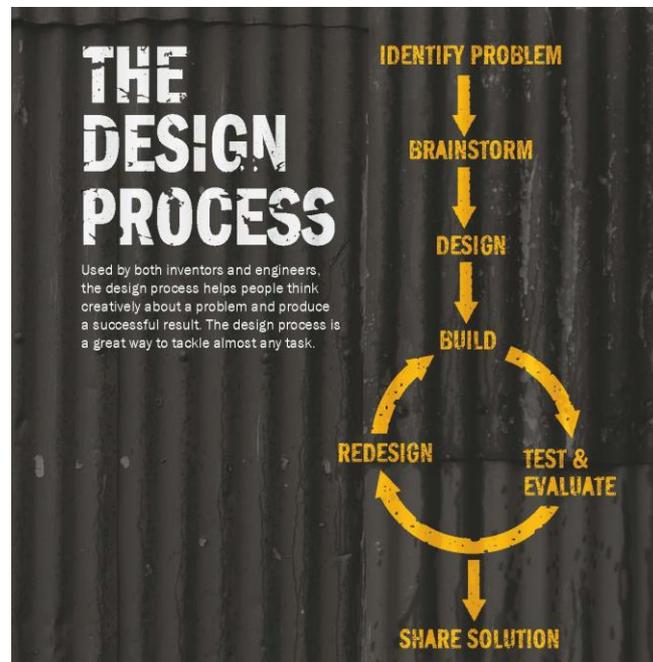
Phase 1 Design Considerations

- **Four** Conceptual Design Options were developed by the Department
- Based on an Elevated Boardwalk System
- Universal Access Focus
- Manage stormwater
- Include an Elevated Upper Falls Viewing Platform
- Protect natural resources
- Inform and educate the Public
- Include a set of stone stairs to provide a viewing area to the base of the Upper Falls



Recommended Design Option

- Considers Public Comments received by the Department to date
- Designed for Universal Access
- Minimizes the amount of gravel and fill material needed
- Includes a Rain Garden with the Stormwater Management Component
- Reasonably accommodates public interest
- Will include a bicycle rack and informational kiosk



Credit: PBS Learning Media,
 New York, Design Process Poster,
 available for Public download

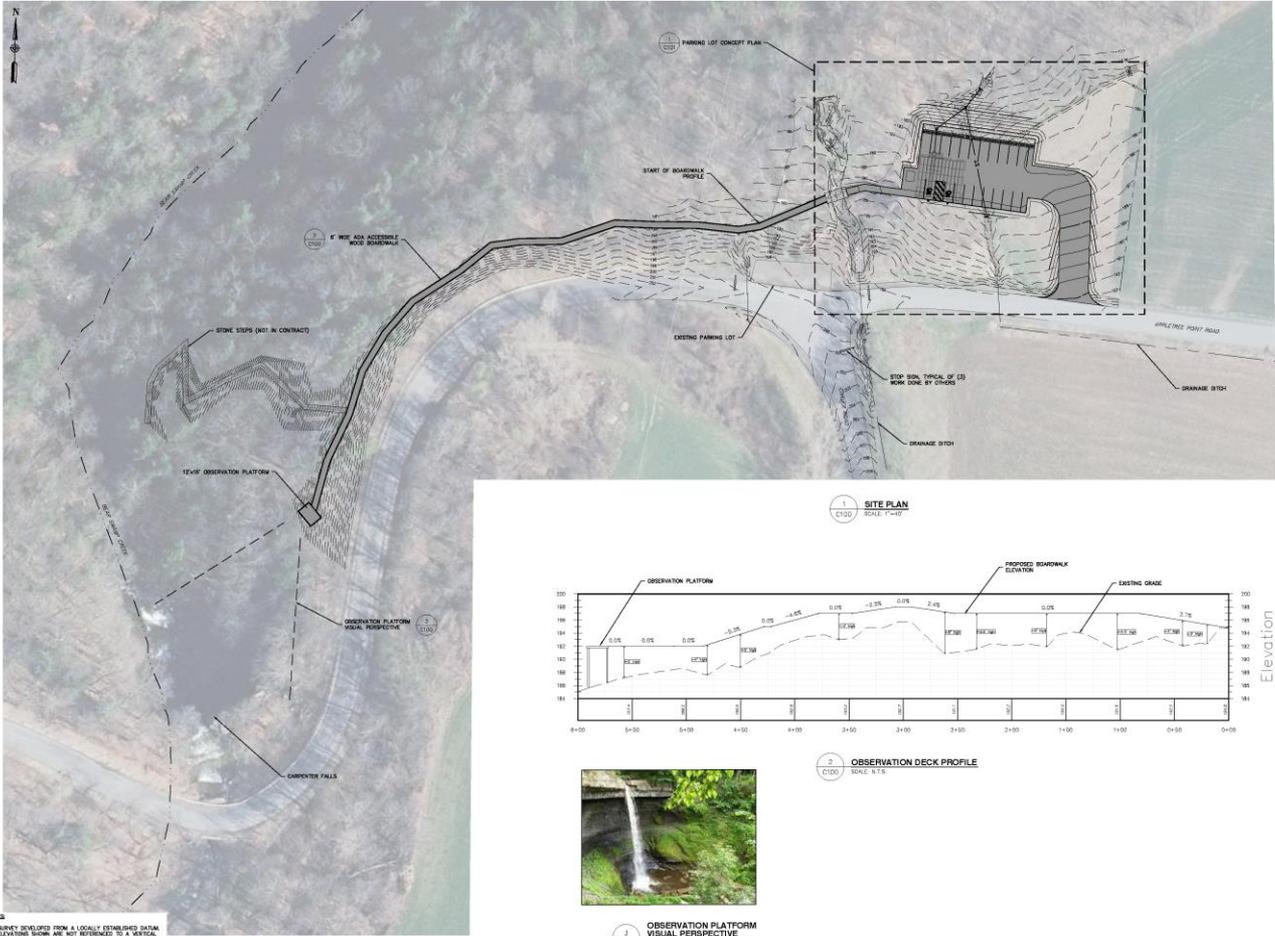


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Boardwalk, Bridge and Upper Falls Viewing Platform Specifications

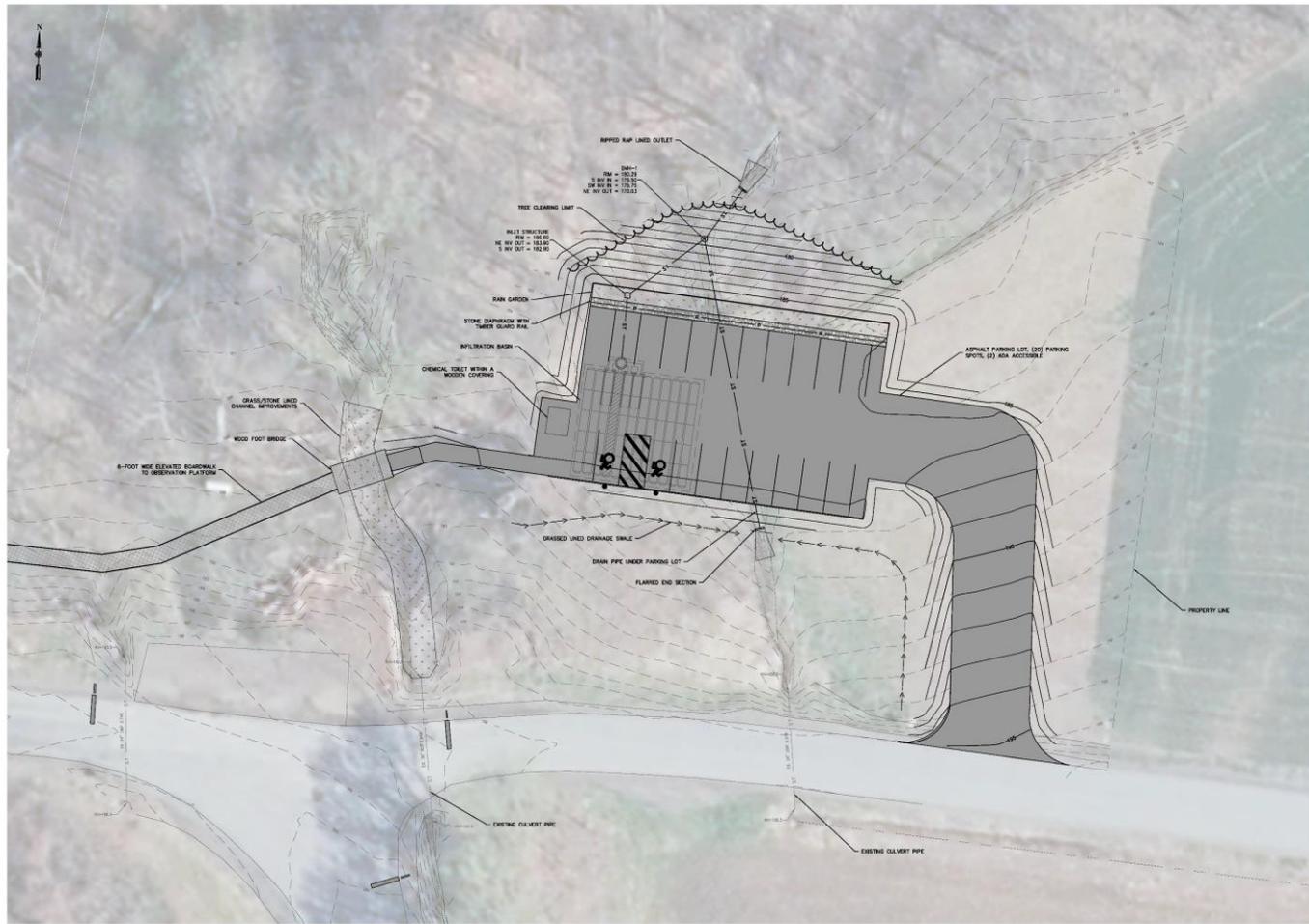
- Parking Area Access Ramp is 55 ft. long x 6 ft. wide
- Connecting Wood Bridge is 20 ft. long by 6 ft. wide
- Boardwalk is 620 ft. long x 5 ft. wide
- Viewing Platform is 12 ft. by 16 ft.





NOTES:
1. SURVEY DEVELOPED FROM A LOCALLY ESTABLISHED DATUM. ELEVATIONS SHOWN ARE NOT REFERENCED TO A NATIONAL COORDINATE SYSTEM.

		Department of Environmental Conservation DIVISION OF OPERATIONS BUREAU OF MAINTENANCE & TECHNICAL SERVICES
DESIGNED BY: [] CHECKED BY: [] DRAWN BY: [] APPROVED BY: []	REVISIONS NO. DATE DESCRIPTION BY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION CARPENTER FALLS OBSERVATION PLATFORM SITE PLAN
FACILITY NAME CARPENTER FALLS		AS BUILT
FACILITY NO. [] PROJECT NO. []		DATE 8/21/2019 SCALE AS SHOWN
DRAWING NO. C-100		CONCEPT PLAN - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



Department of Environmental Conservation



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BUREAU OF MAINTENANCE & TECHNICAL SERVICES

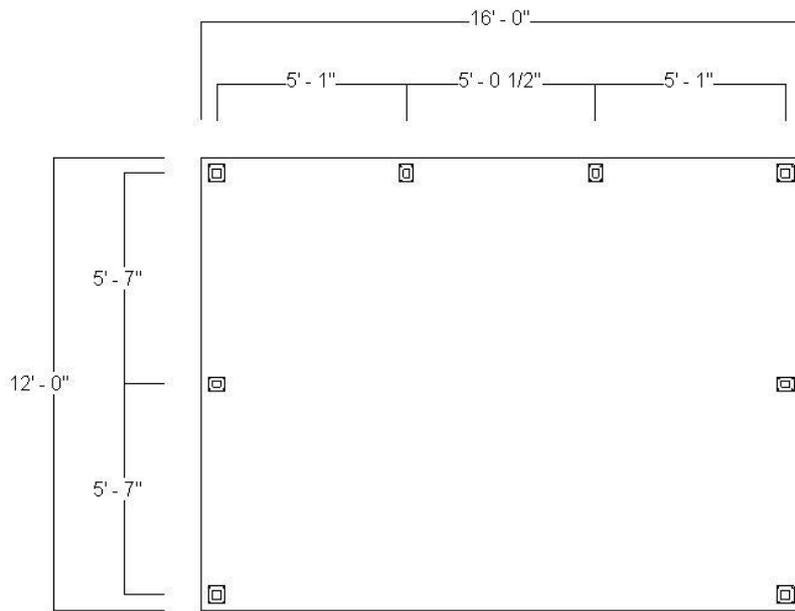
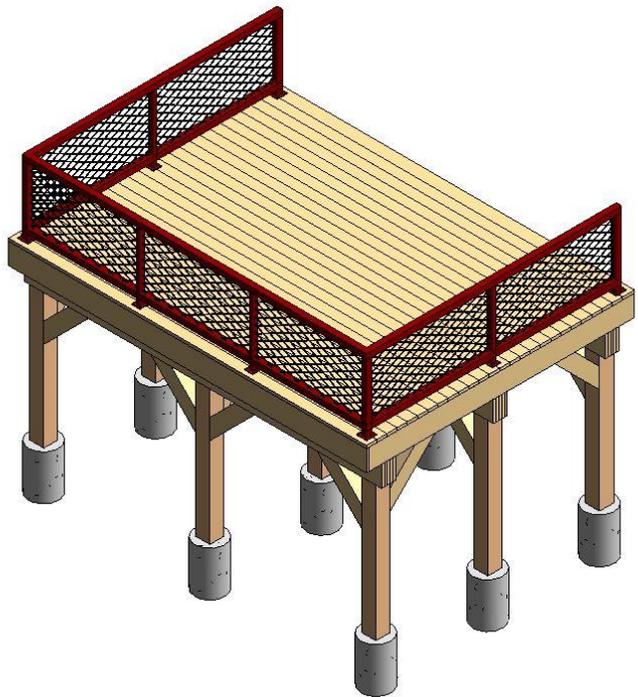
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DATE: [blank]

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS DESCRIPTION	BY	AS BUILT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
CARPENTIER FALLS
OBSERVATION PLATFORM
PARKING LOT SITE PLAN

FACILITY NAME: CARPENTIER FALLS
FACILITY NO.: ---
PROJECT NO.: ---
DATE: 8/21/2019
SCALE: 1"=10'

Conceptual Upper Falls Observation Platform



Stone Step Concept to View Bottom of Upper Falls

- Similar in concept to other NYSDEC Projects
- About 250 ft. long by 3 ft. wide
- Similar examples
 - Kaaterskill Falls
 - Salmon River Falls
 - Tinker Falls



Parking Lot Size Selection

- Currently 7 spaces
- Based on vehicle count
 - High vehicle count of 20
 - Low of 0
 - Average of 6 vehicles observed
- General public feedback
- Sized similarly to NYSDEC managed properties in Region 7
 - Salmon River Falls
 - Tinker Falls



Parking Lot Size Selection

Option	Parking Lot Spaces	Fill Material (CY)
1	37	6850
2	13	2250
3	19	3100
4	20	700

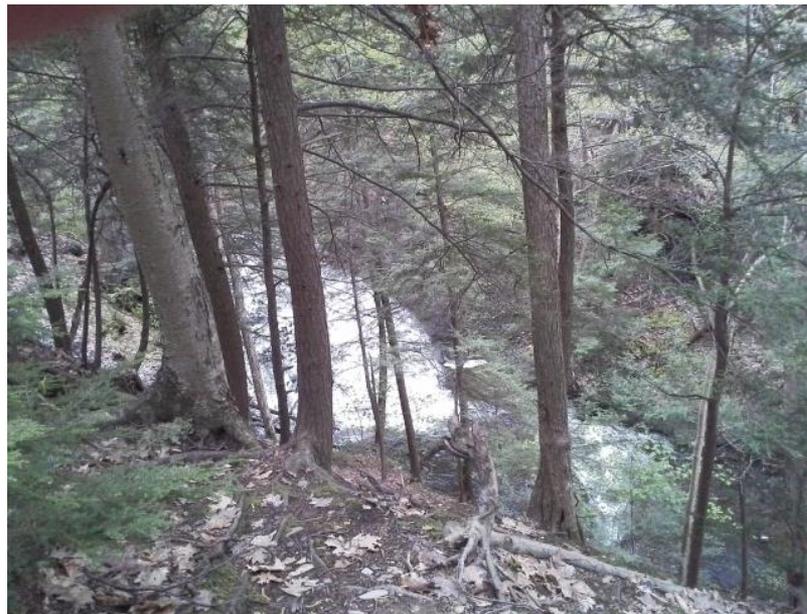
Phase II Concept

Lower Falls



Phase II (Lower Falls)

- Existing foot trail connects the Carpenter Falls Unique Area to the Finger Lakes Land Trust's Bahar Preserve
- Repair and improve the existing foot trail footprint
- Build stone steps to create public access to the Lower Falls (additional design work and funding is needed)



Opportunity to Comment

*Comments in Writing are
Always Appreciated*



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Comment Session Ground Rules

- Please fill out a Speaker Card
- First come, first serve basis
- 3 minutes per Speaker *please*
- All comments are considered equally



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PUBLIC MEETING SPEAKER CARD

NAME (Please print)	DATE:
ADDRESS	
CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
YOUR TITLE & ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (If any)	

Note: A time limit may be imposed depending upon the number of persons requesting to speak.



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Thank You

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- Supervising Forester
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- (607) 753-3095 x224

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*We appreciate you sharing your
valuable time with us*



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