

Date: September 7, 2022

September 2, 2022

Mr. John M. Burth Environmental Program Specialist 3 (EPS3) Adirondack Park Agency P.O. Box 99 1133 NYS Route 86 Ray Brook, NY 12977

**APA Project No.: 2021-0248** 

Type of Project: Large-scale Subdivision

Location of Project: Town of Jay, Essex County

Land Use Area: Low Intensity Use and Hamlet Tax Map Nos.: 17.2-1-4, 17.2-1-5.1 & 17.2-1-20.111

#### Re: APA Response received August 23, 2022

In response to your letter regarding the outstanding items for our recent submission in relation to the above referenced project, please see below and attached for the additional information requested:

1. NIPA Item 1: We are including herein all of the resource mapping, revised to represent the Proposed Development Impact areas without any overlay of the project outline, other than on the Concept Site Plan – Map 00

The Site Analysis Map, Map 16, now also depicts all areas potentially suitable for development, without depicting any areas proposed for development. Only showing the boundaries of the parcels themselves.

All Mapped Aquifers are included in the revised mapping, under Map 15.

Other resource mapping includes:

Map 02 Existing Conditions: Base Map

Map 03 Soils Map

Map 04 Slope Map

Map 05 Hydrological Features

Map 06 Wetlands Map

Map 07 Flood Hazards Map

Map 08 Archaeological Resources Map

Map 09 Public areas Visibility Map

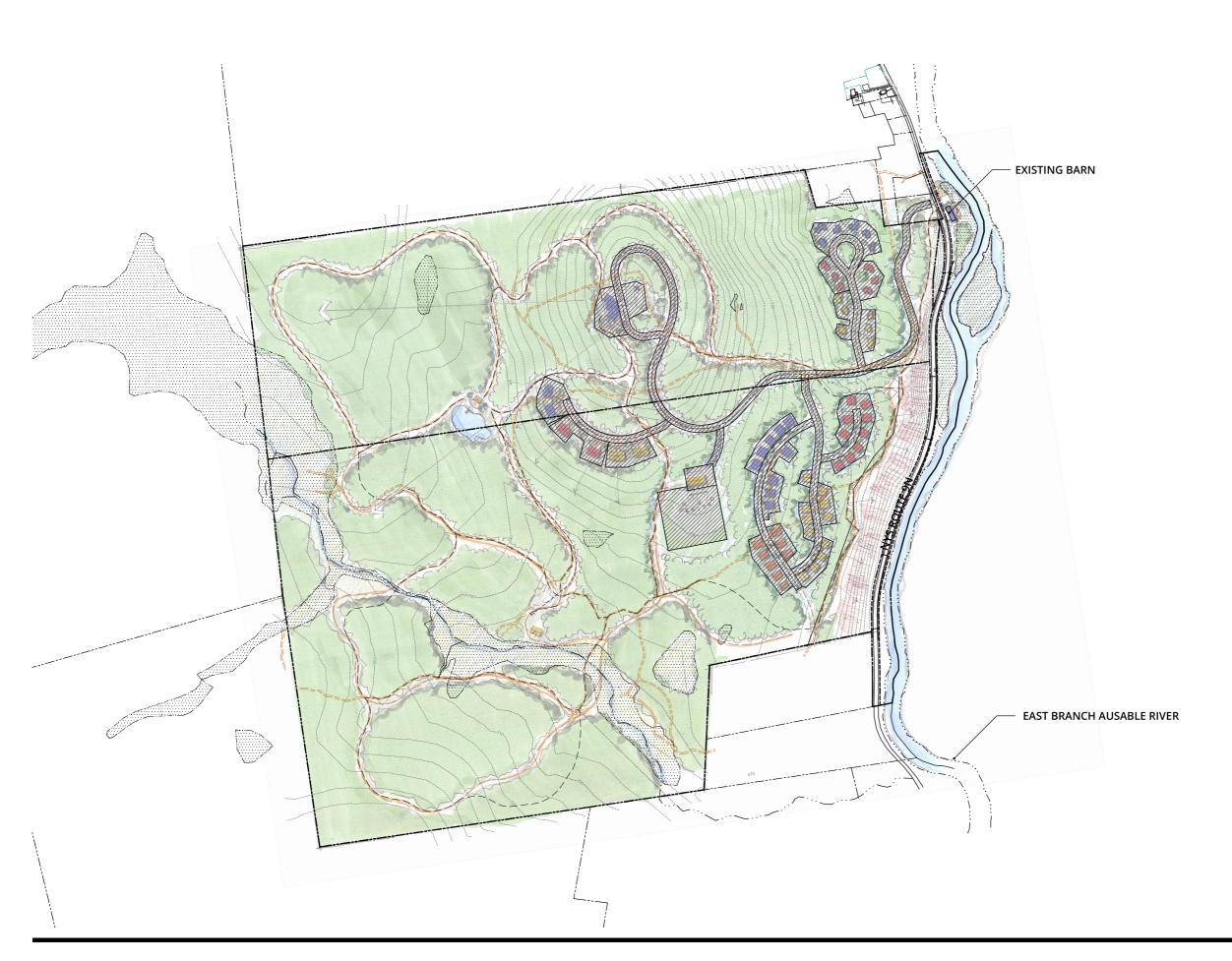
Map 10 Forest Blocks Map;

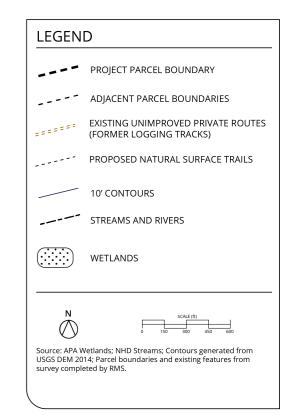
Map 11 Unique Natural Communities and Habitat:

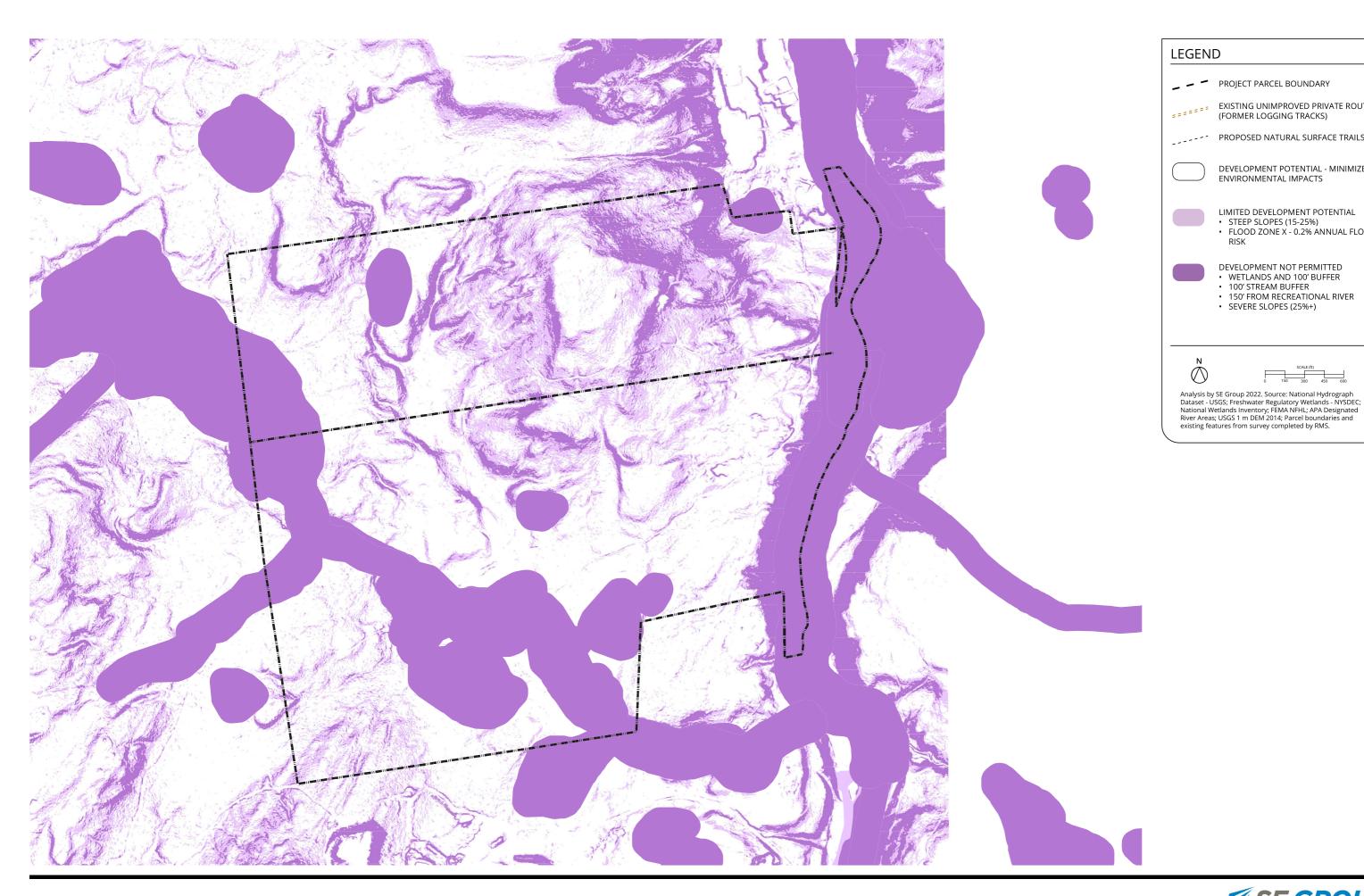
Map 12 Unique Natural Communities;

Map 13 Rare Plants and Animals

Map 14 Breeding Bird Atlas Blocks\*









EXISTING UNIMPROVED PRIVATE ROUTES (FORMER LOGGING TRACKS)

PROPOSED NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS

DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL - MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

LIMITED DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

• STEEP SLOPES (15-25%)

• FLOOD ZONE X - 0.2% ANNUAL FLOOD

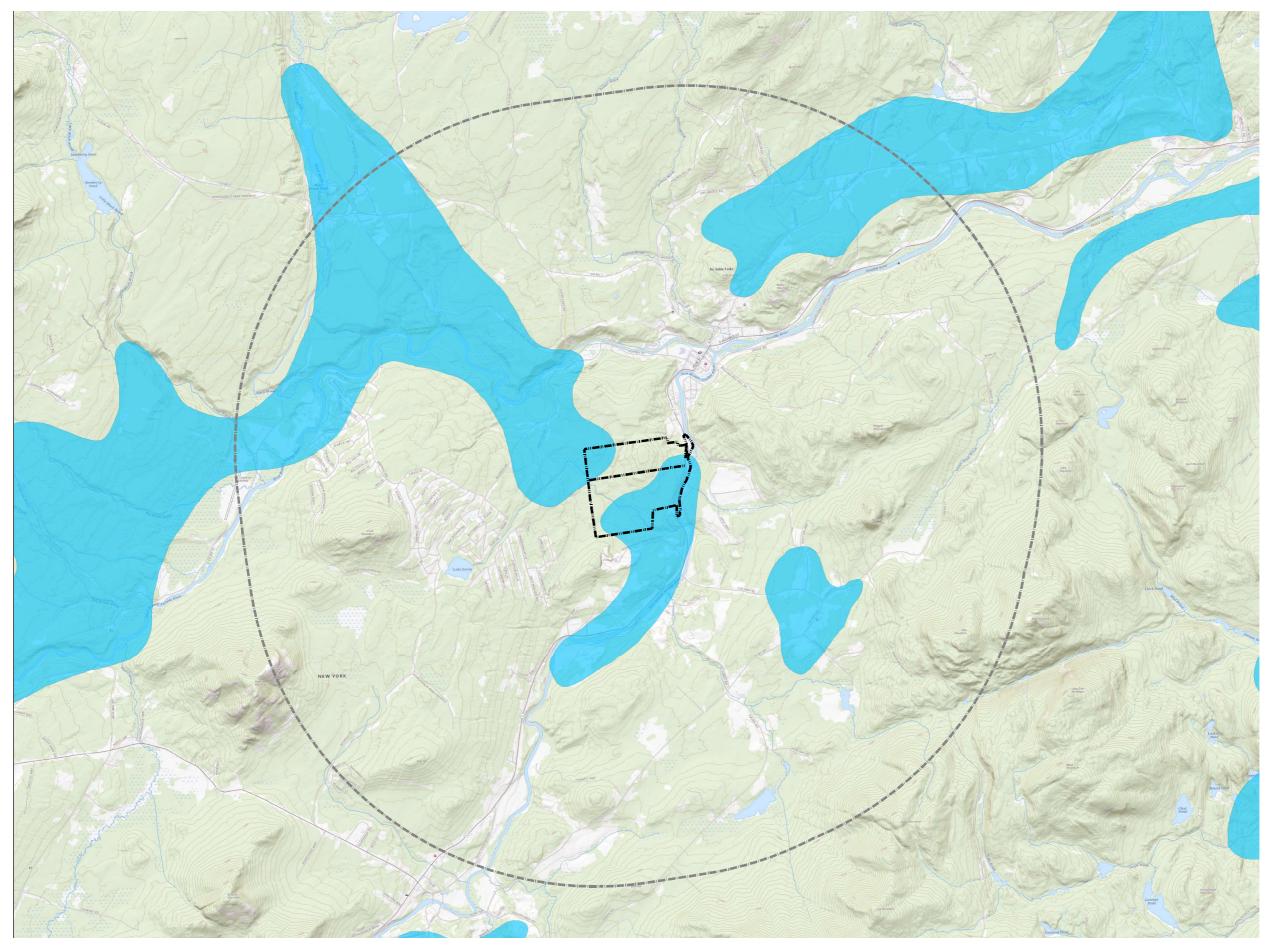
DEVELOPMENT NOT PERMITTED

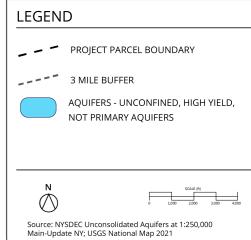
• WETLANDS AND 100' BUFFER

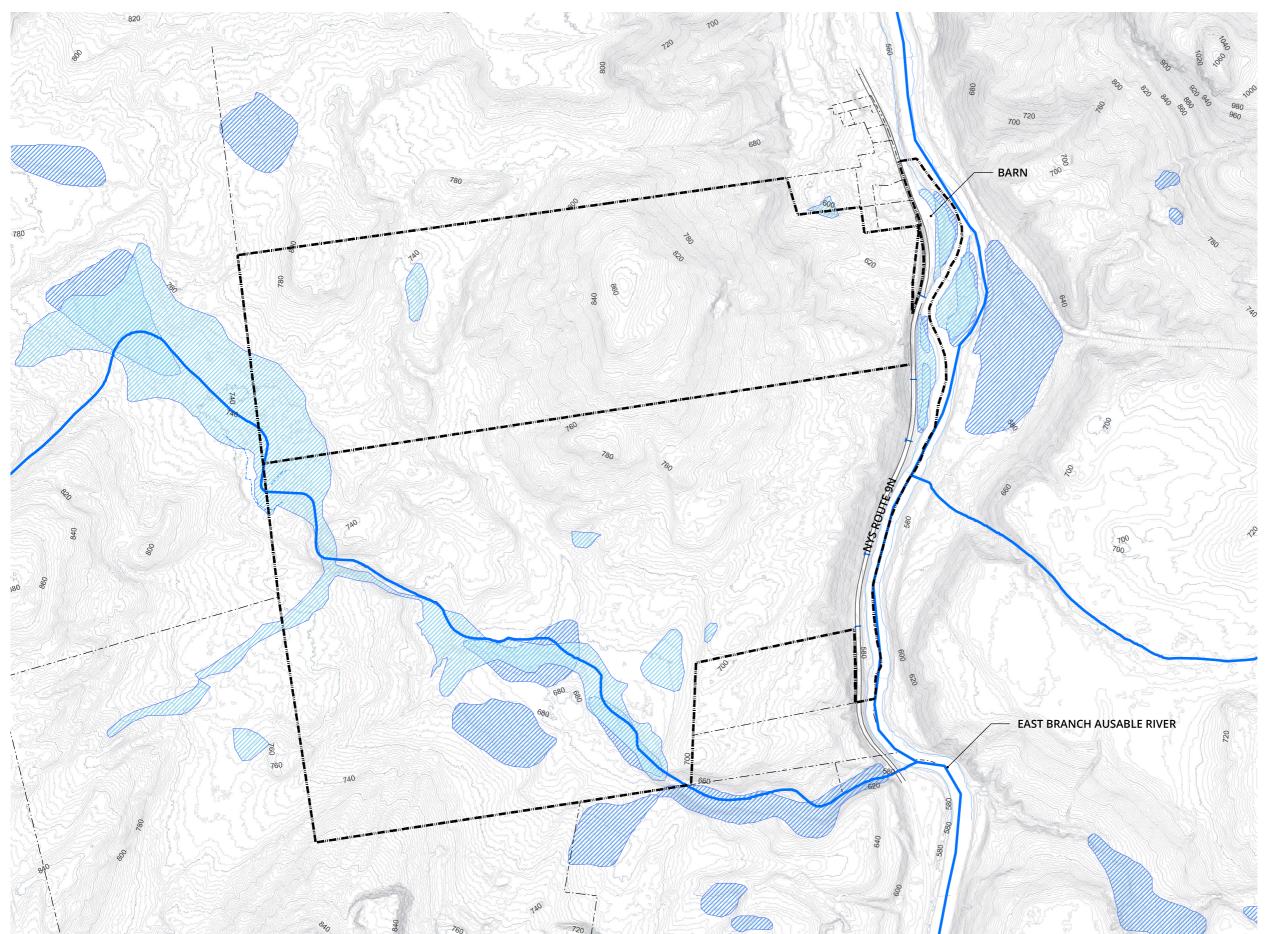
• 100' STREAM BUFFER

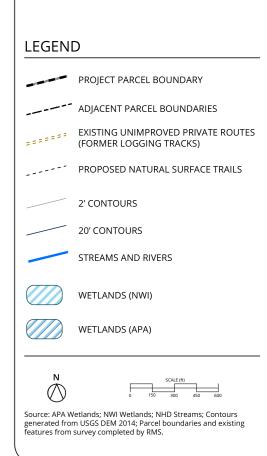
• 150' FROM RECREATIONAL RIVER

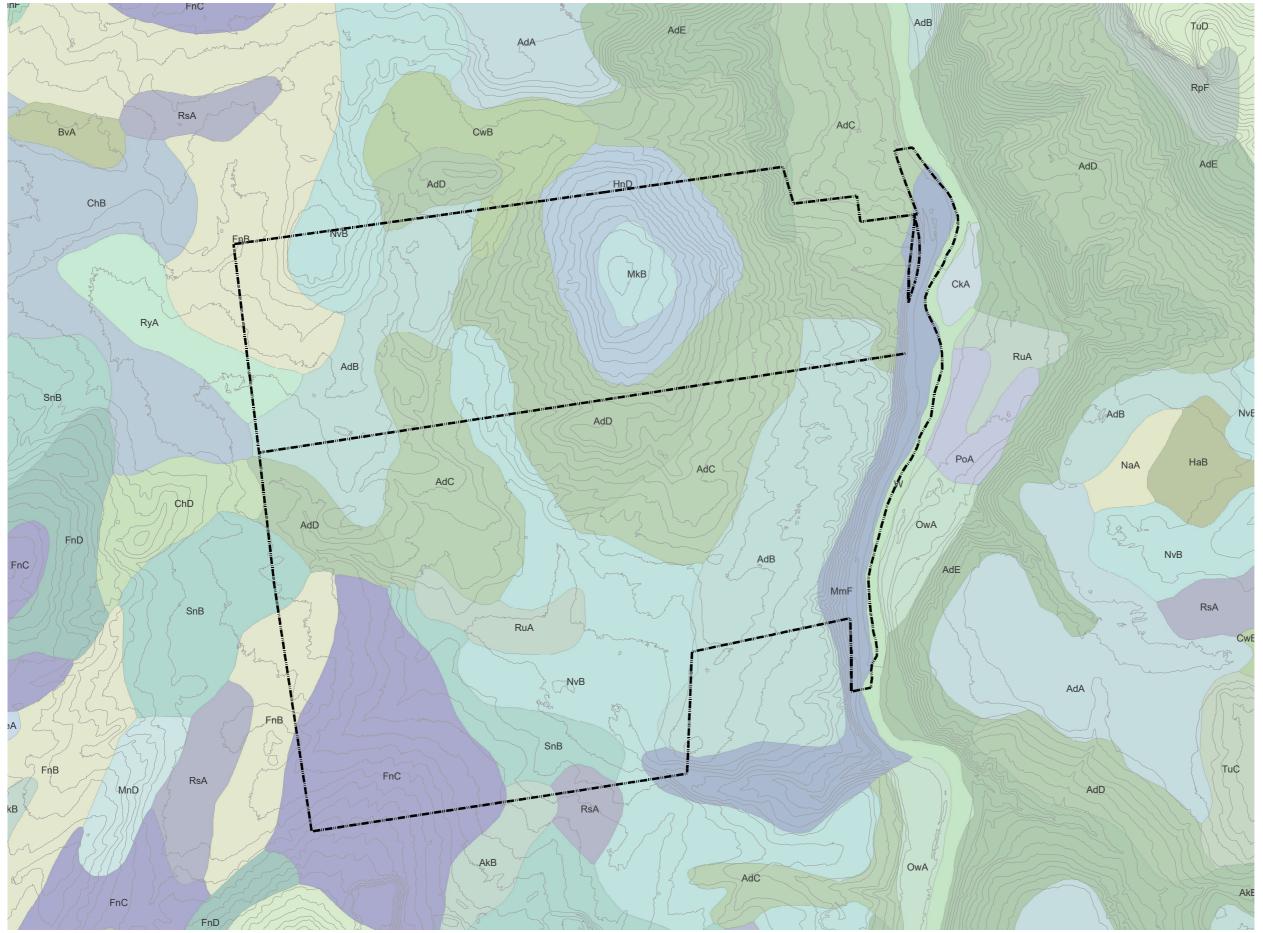
• SEVERE SLOPES (25%+)

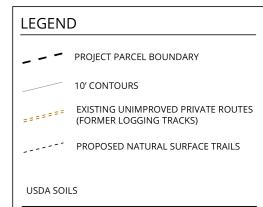










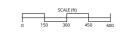


# Man Unit

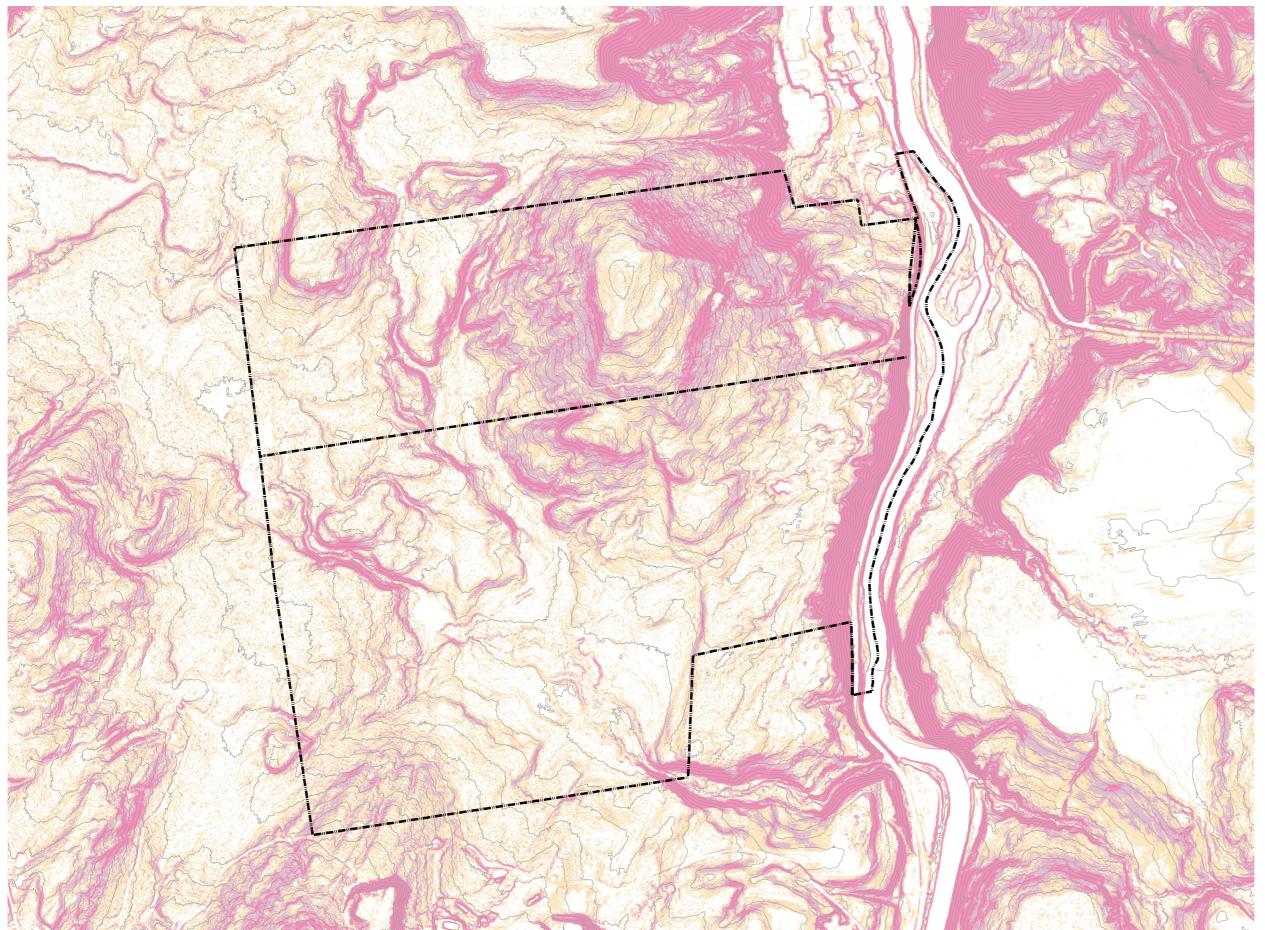
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name			
AdB **	Adams loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes			
AdC	Adams loamy sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes			
AdD	Adams loamy sand, 15 to 25 percent slopes			
AdE	Adams loamy sand, 25 to 45 percent slopes			
AkB	Adirondack fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very bouldery			
CwB**	Croghan fine sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes			
FnB	Fernlake loamy fine sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very bouldery			
FnC	Fernlake loamy fine sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very bouldery			
HnD	Hermon gravelly loamy sand, 15 to 35 percent slopes, very bouldery			
MkB	Monadnock fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes very bouldery			
MnF	Monadnock-Tunbridge complex, 35 to 60 percent slopes, rocky, very bouldery			
NvB *	Nicholville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes			
RsA *	Roundabout silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes			
RyA **	Rumney-Burnt Vly complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes			
SnB	Sunapee fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very bouldery			
W	Water			

\*\*Farmland of Statewide Importance \*Prime Farmland

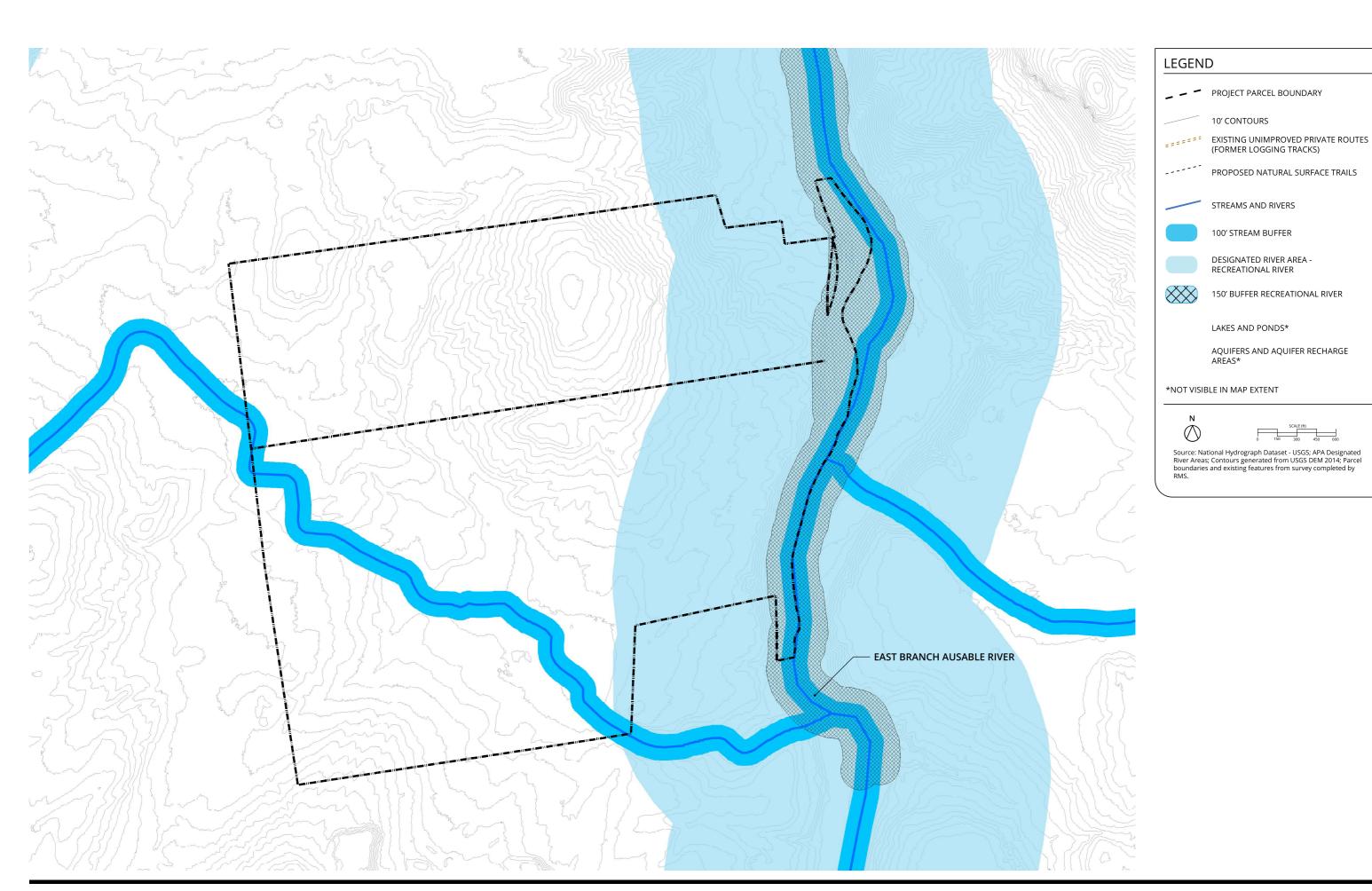


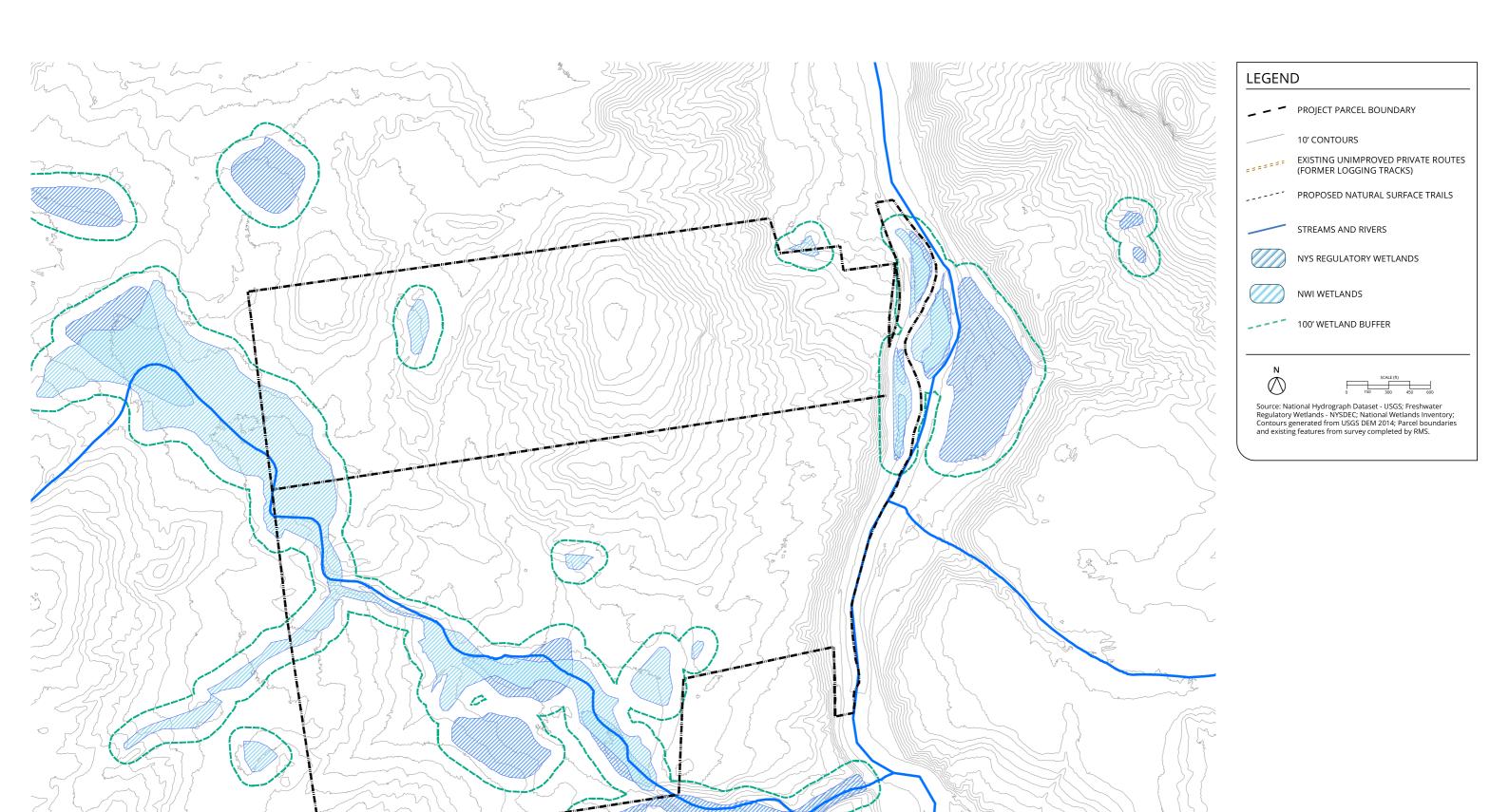


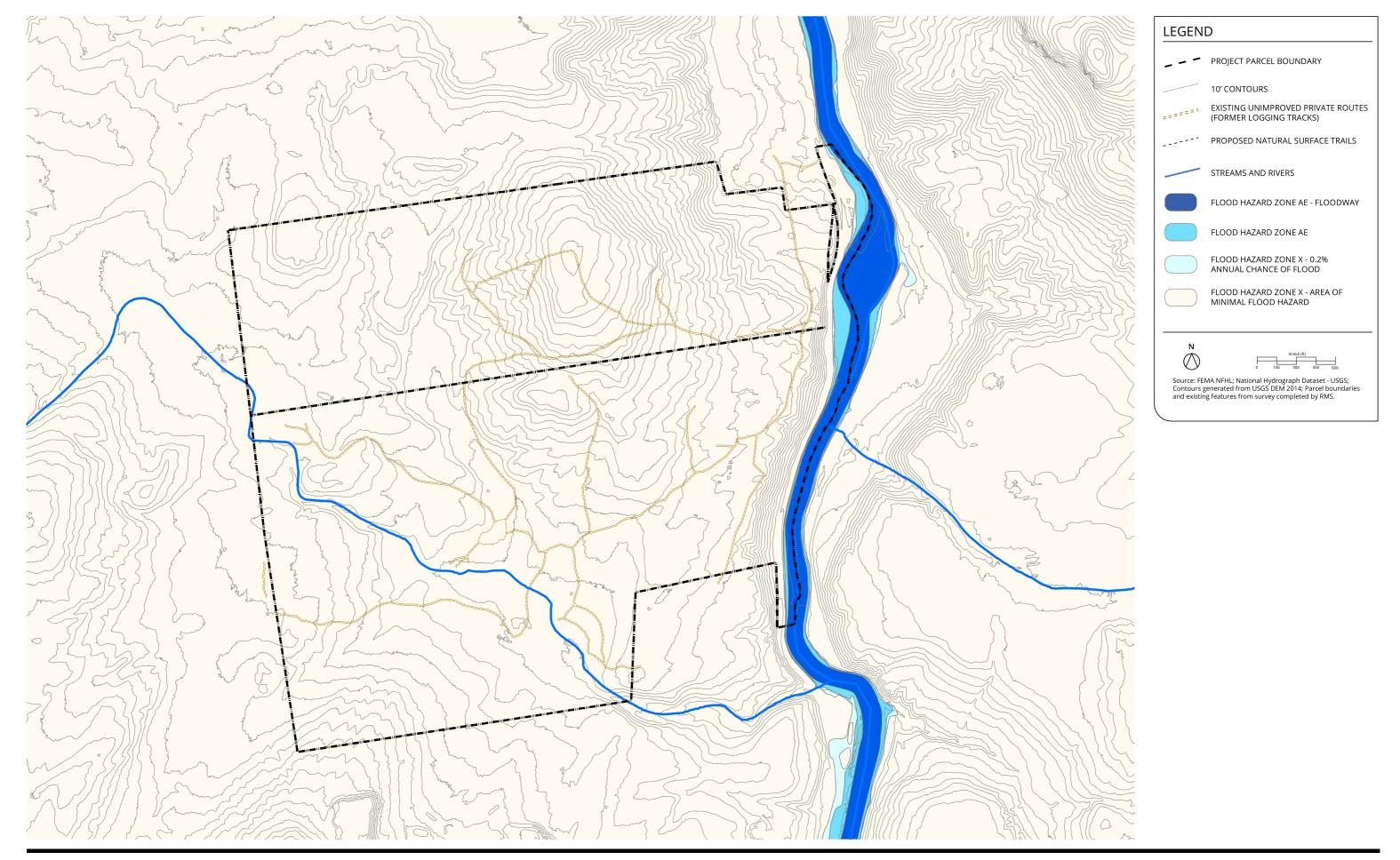
Source: SSURGO Soils - 2013. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service; Contours generated from USGS DEM 2014; Parcel boundaries and existing features from survey completed by RMS.

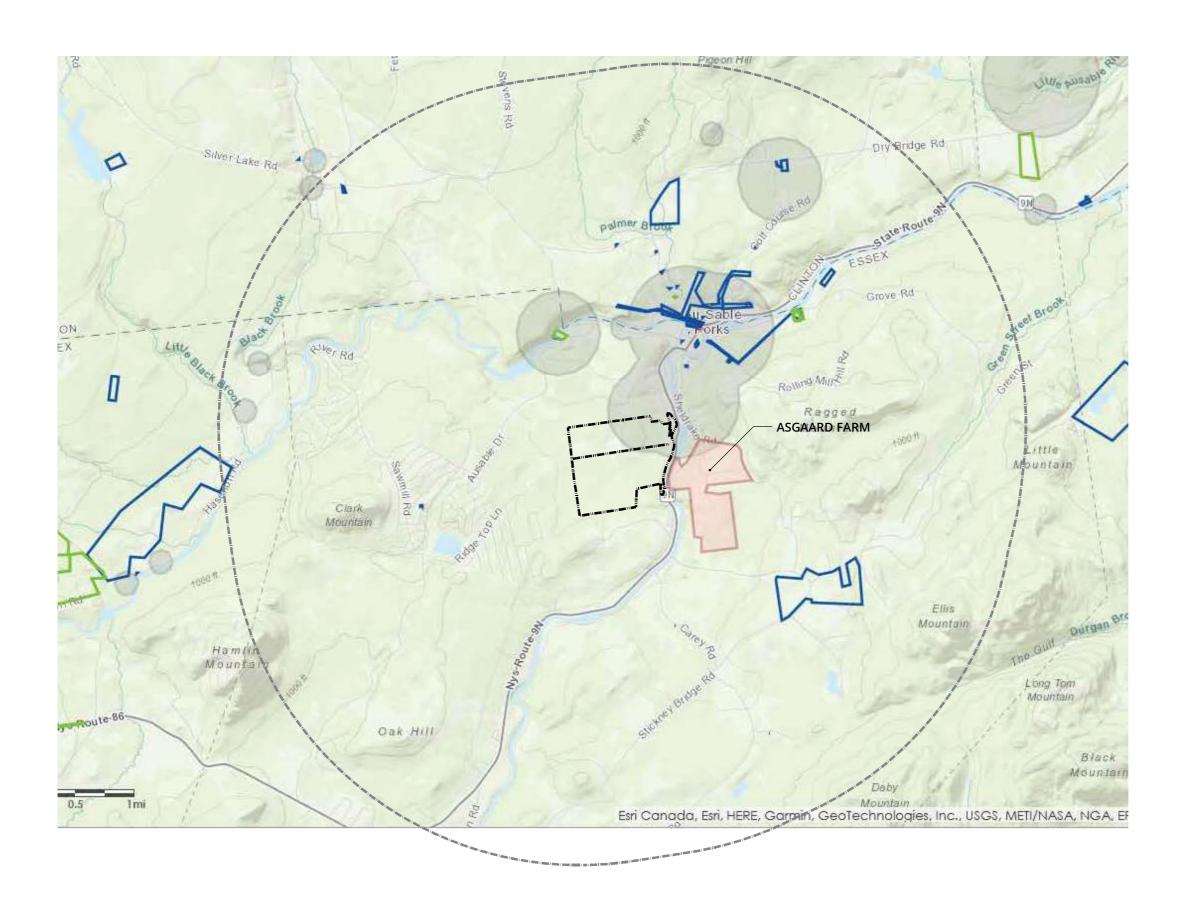


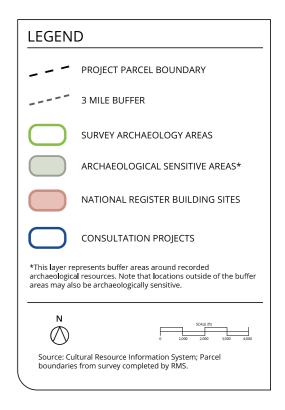


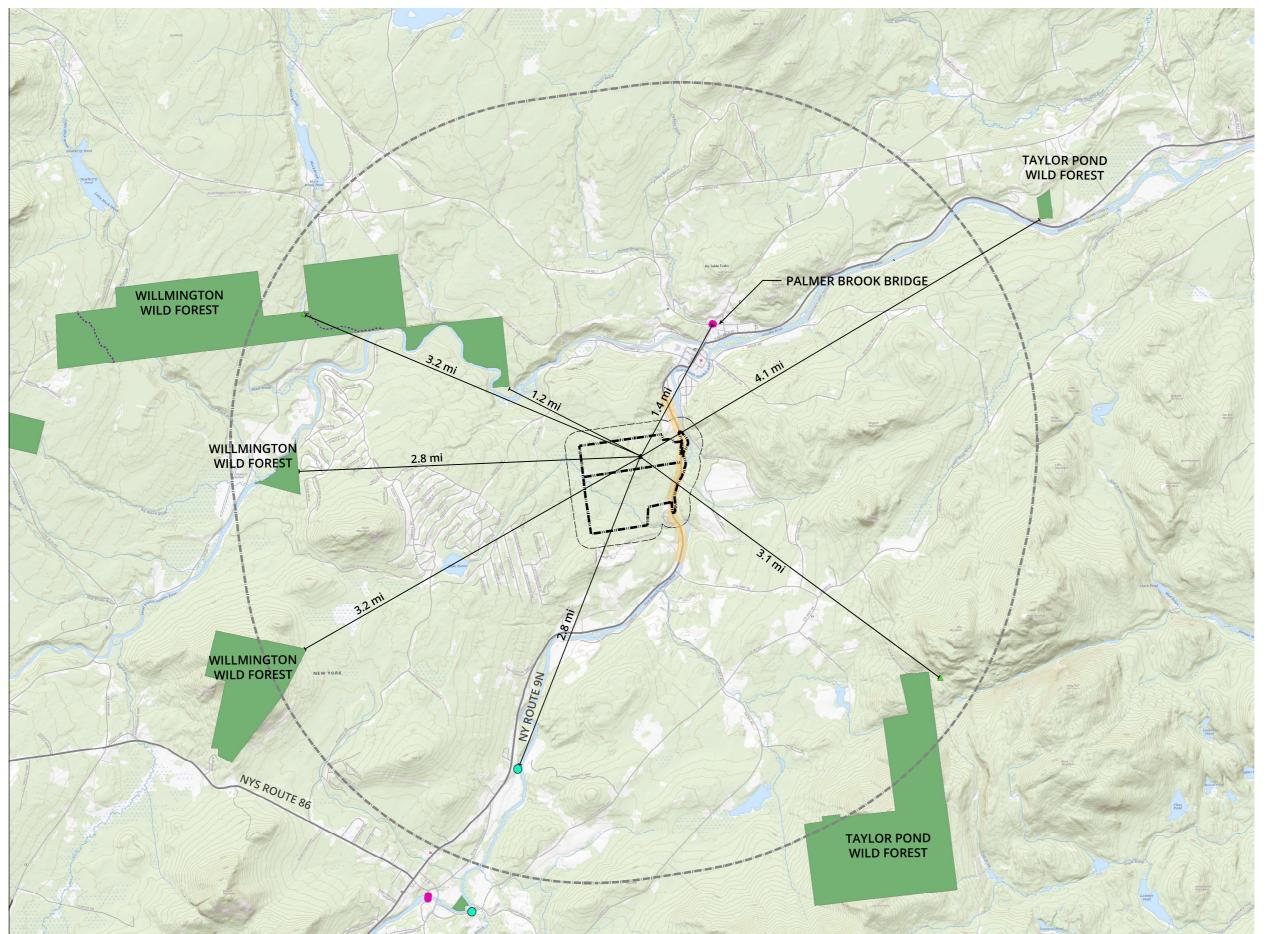


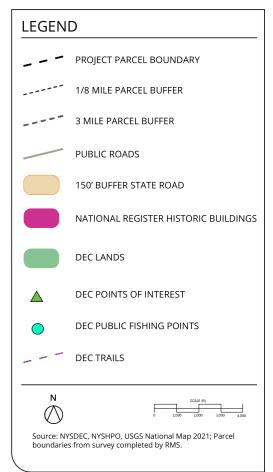


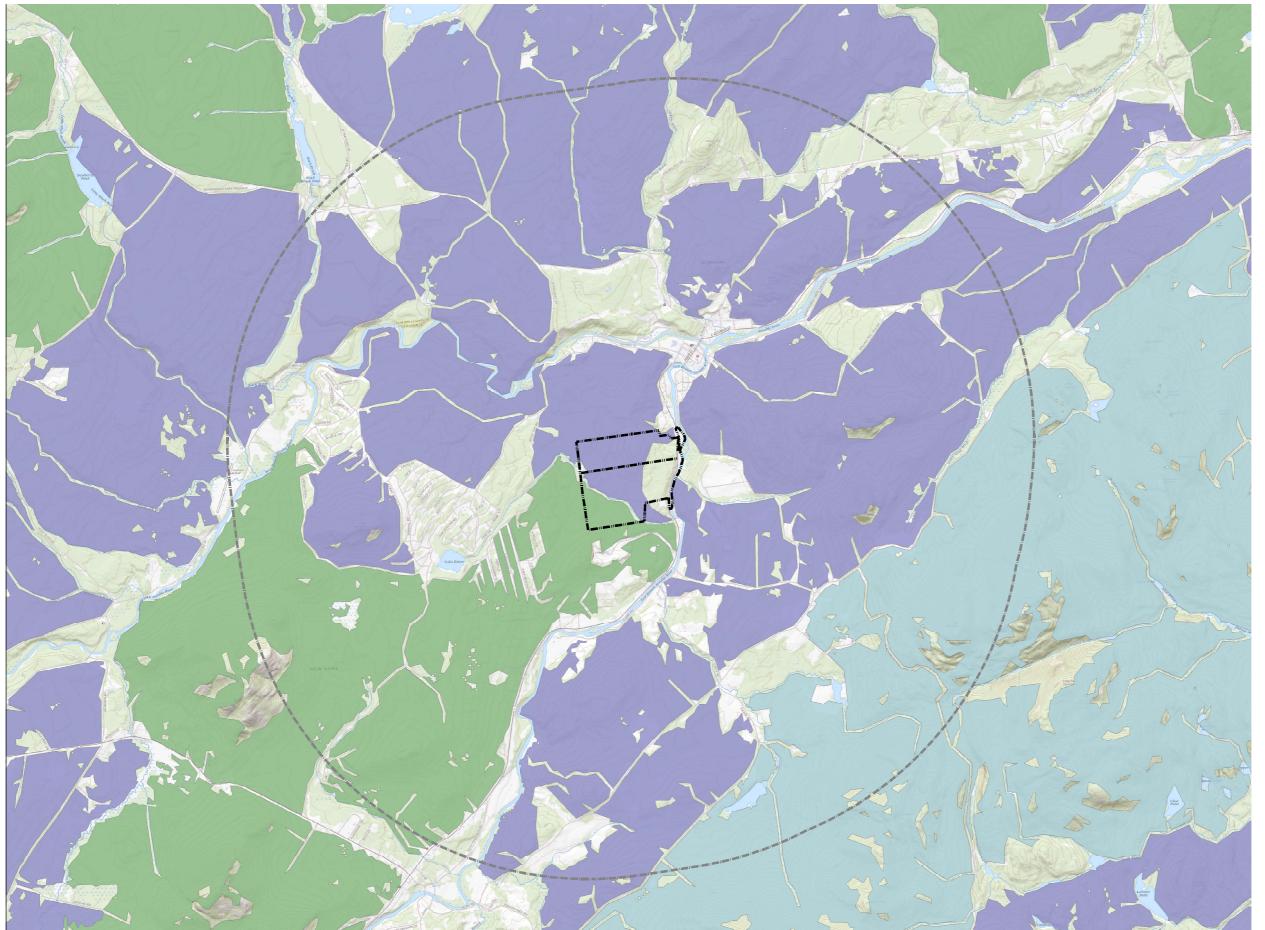


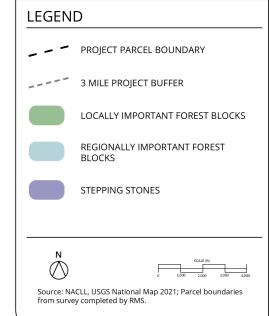


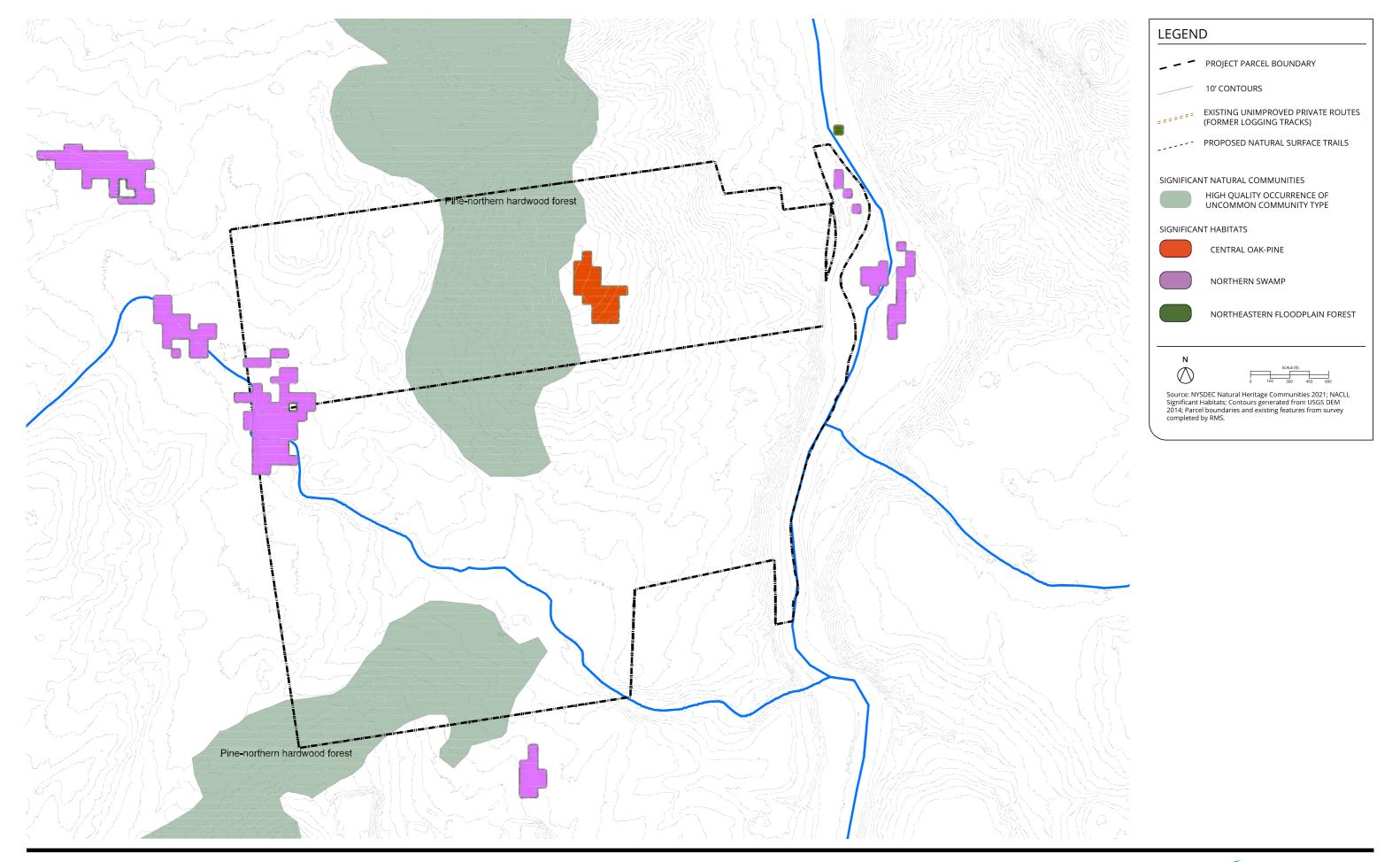


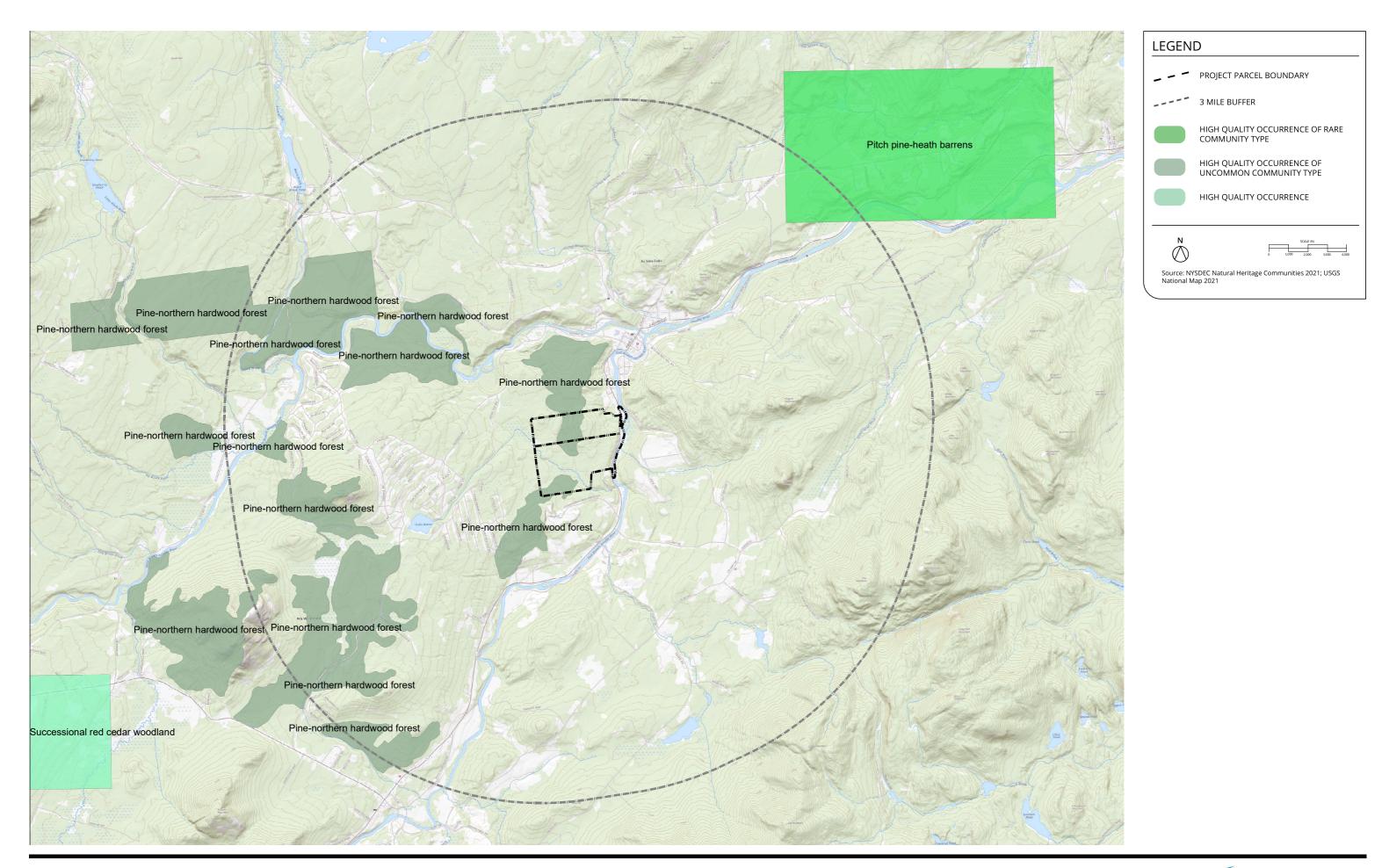


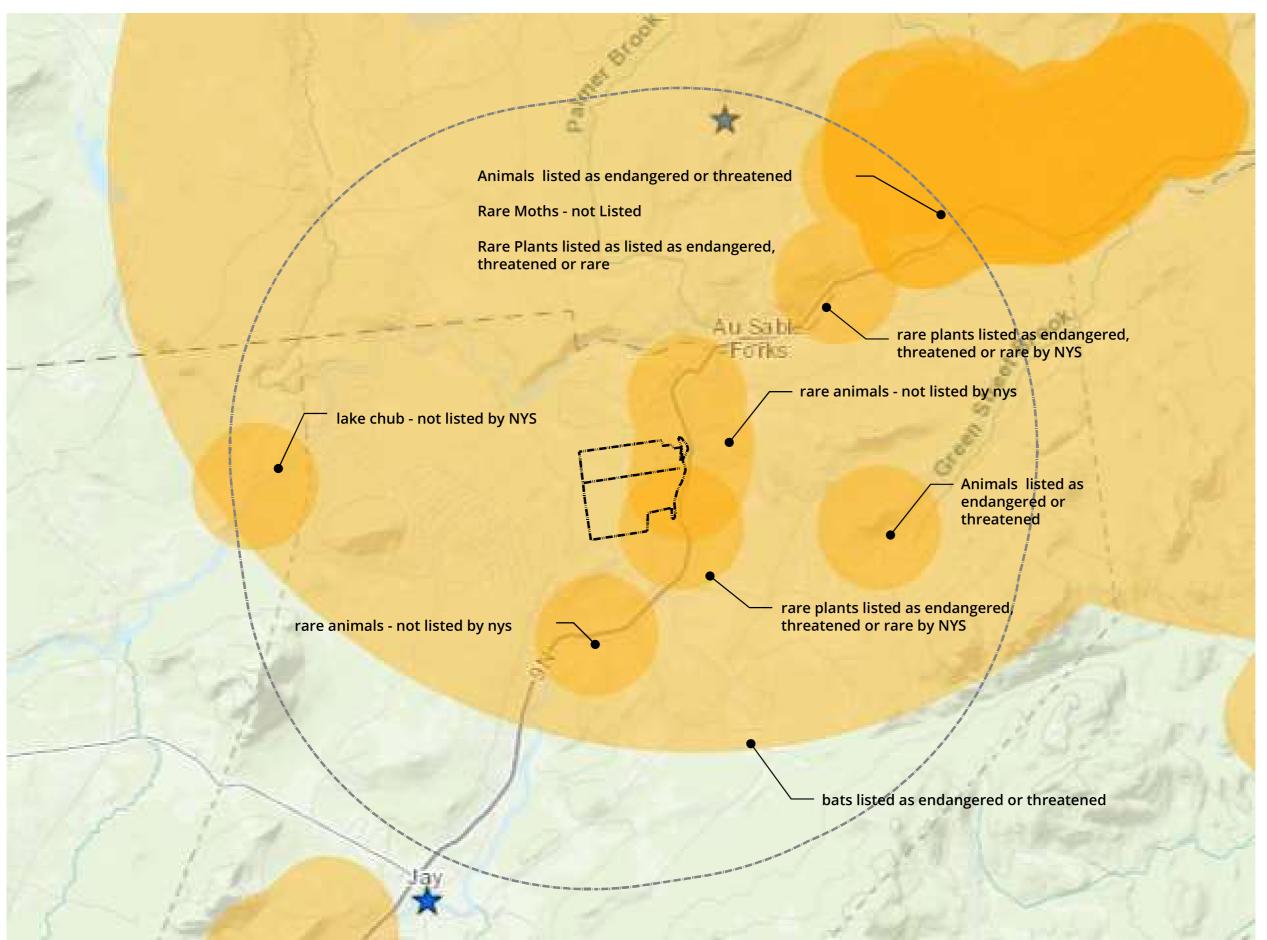


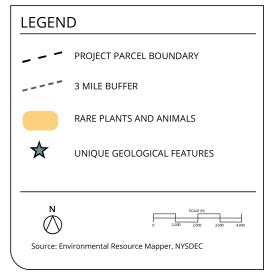


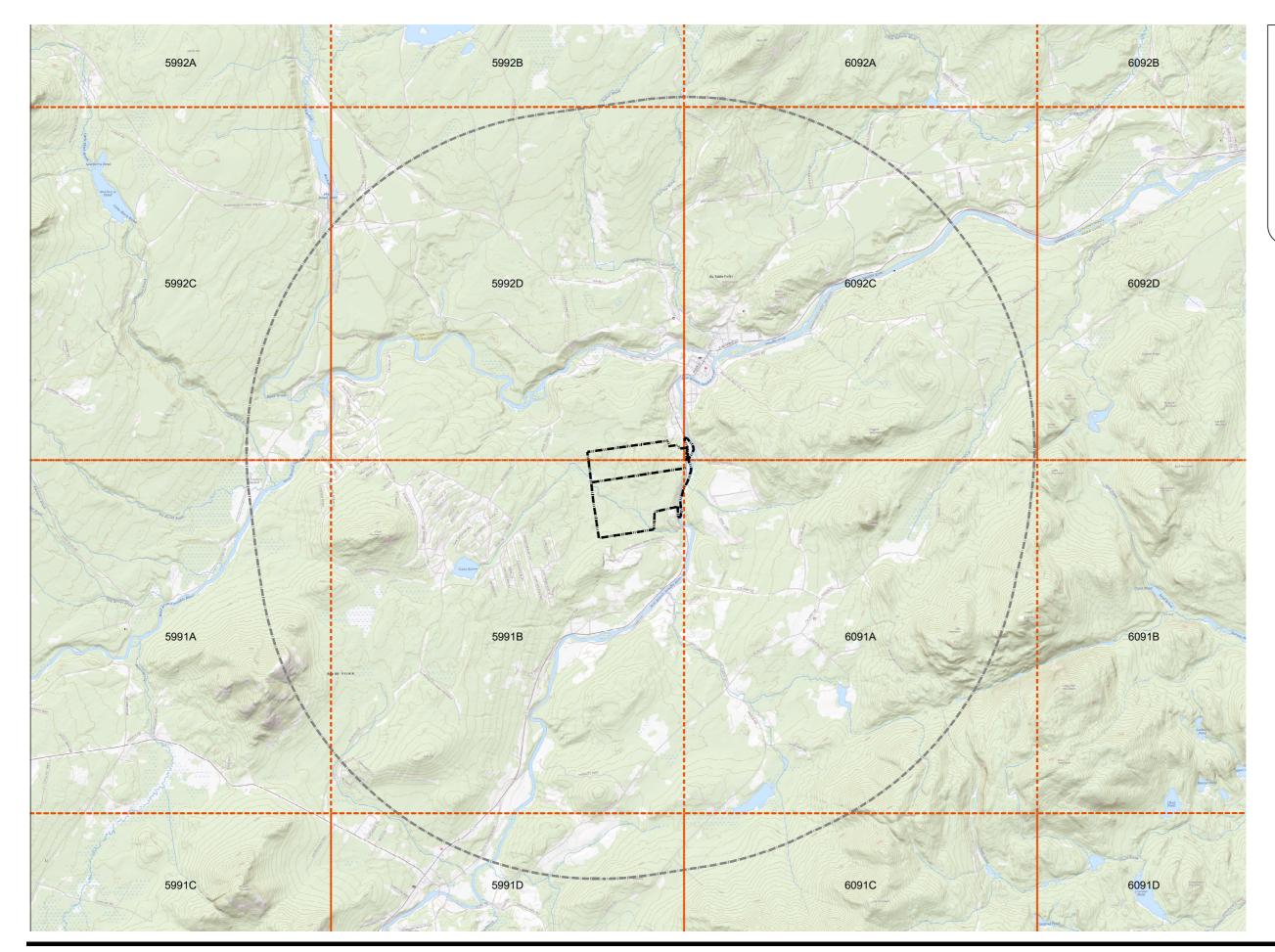


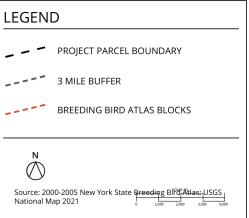












2.	NIPA Item 3: Breeding Bird Atlas Program data for block 5992D was previously erroneously omitted and is now attached.



# NYS Breeding Bird Atlas

Block 5992D

2000-2005



### **Navigation Tools**

#### **Block 5992D Summary**

Perform Another SearchTotal Species:65Remove Duplicate SpeciesPossible:30Sort by Field Card OrderProbable:46Sort by Taxonomic OrderConfirmed:9View 1985 DataTotal Records:85

Click on column heading to sort by that category.

## List of Species Breeding in Atlas Block 5992D

Common Name	Scientific Name	Behavior Code	Date	NY Legal Status
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	P2	6/20/2004	Game Species
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	P2	6/20/2004	Game Species
Common Merganser	Mergus merganser	P2	6/20/2004	Game Species
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	T2	6/20/2004	Game Species
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	X1	6/25/2004	Protected
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected-Special Concern
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	X1	6/20/2004	Threatened
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	X1	7/30/2004	Protected
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Wilson's Snipe	Gallinago delicata	T2	6/20/2004	Game Species

American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	S2	6/20/2004	Game Species
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	X1	6/20/2004	Unprotected
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	X1	6/5/2004	Unprotected
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	S2	6/5/2004	Protected
Chimney Swift	Chaetura pelagica	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	S2	7/21/2004	Protected
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Hairy Woodpecker	Picoides villosus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	N2	6/20/2004	Protected
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	X1	6/25/2004	Protected
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Contopus virens	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	S2	6/5/2004	Protected
Great Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	S2	7/30/2004	Protected
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	FY	7/30/2004	Protected
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	P2	5/27/2004	Protected
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	S2	7/21/2004	Game Species
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	X1	6/20/2004	Game Species
Common Raven	Corvus corax	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	FY	6/20/2004	Protected
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	X1	6/5/2004	Protected

Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia	P2	6/5/2004	Protected
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	N2	6/20/2004	Protected
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	FY	7/30/2004	Protected
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	FY	6/20/2004	Protected
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	P2	7/2/2004	Protected
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	ON	6/20/2004	Protected
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	P2	6/5/2004	Protected
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	X1	6/24/2004	Protected
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	FY	6/20/2004	Protected
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	FY	6/5/2004	Protected
Brown Thrasher	Toxostoma rufum	X1	7/21/2004	Protected
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	X1	6/20/2004	Unprotected
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	S2	6/5/2004	Unprotected
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	S2	7/2/2004	Protected
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Pine Warbler	Dendroica pinus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	S2	6/5/2004	Protected
Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	X1	5/27/2004	Protected
Eastern Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	S2	7/21/2004	Protected
			II	

Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	DD	6/5/2004	Protected
Lincoln's Sparrow	Melospiza lincolnii	S2	7/30/2004	Protected
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	D2	7/6/2004	Protected
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus Iudovicianus	X1	7/30/2004	Protected
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus Iudovicianus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Indigo Bunting	Passerina cyanea	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	P2	6/5/2004	Protected
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Purple Finch	Carpodacus purpureus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
House Finch	Carpodacus mexicanus	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	X1	6/20/2004	Protected
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	S2	6/5/2004	Protected
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	FY	6/20/2004	Unprotected

Current Date: 9/1/2022



# NYS Breeding Bird Atlas

**Block 5992D** 

2000-2005



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Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
Pine Warbler	Dendroica pinus	T2	6/20/2004	Protected
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Current Date: 9/1/2022

#### 3. NIPA Item 5: Additional conceptual design alternatives -

We had previously internally considered and subsequently rejected two alternatives, enclosed for your reference.

#### Option 1 -

In the first option, a subdivision of multiple and varying acreages would be planned, resulting in 103 lots that were to be developed, sold and built individually.

They encompassed 26,000 linear feet of road and almost maximized the buildout of all allowable parcels within the low density use classification.

Early on the discussion was to do it in a small scale development scenario, releasing them in 24 lot increments of oversized parcels, over a five year plan.

17 PBs would remain available for 'future' but the development would entail a disturbance of all 385 acres at some point or another.

#### Option 2 -

In this second option, we pulled back, eliminating the crossover to the streams and brooks and shortened the roads by 11,000 linear feet.

While still trying to stay with a 24 unit/lot increment plan for staging and development, we would now only subdivide the area into 84 lots. 36 PBs would remain available for 'future'.

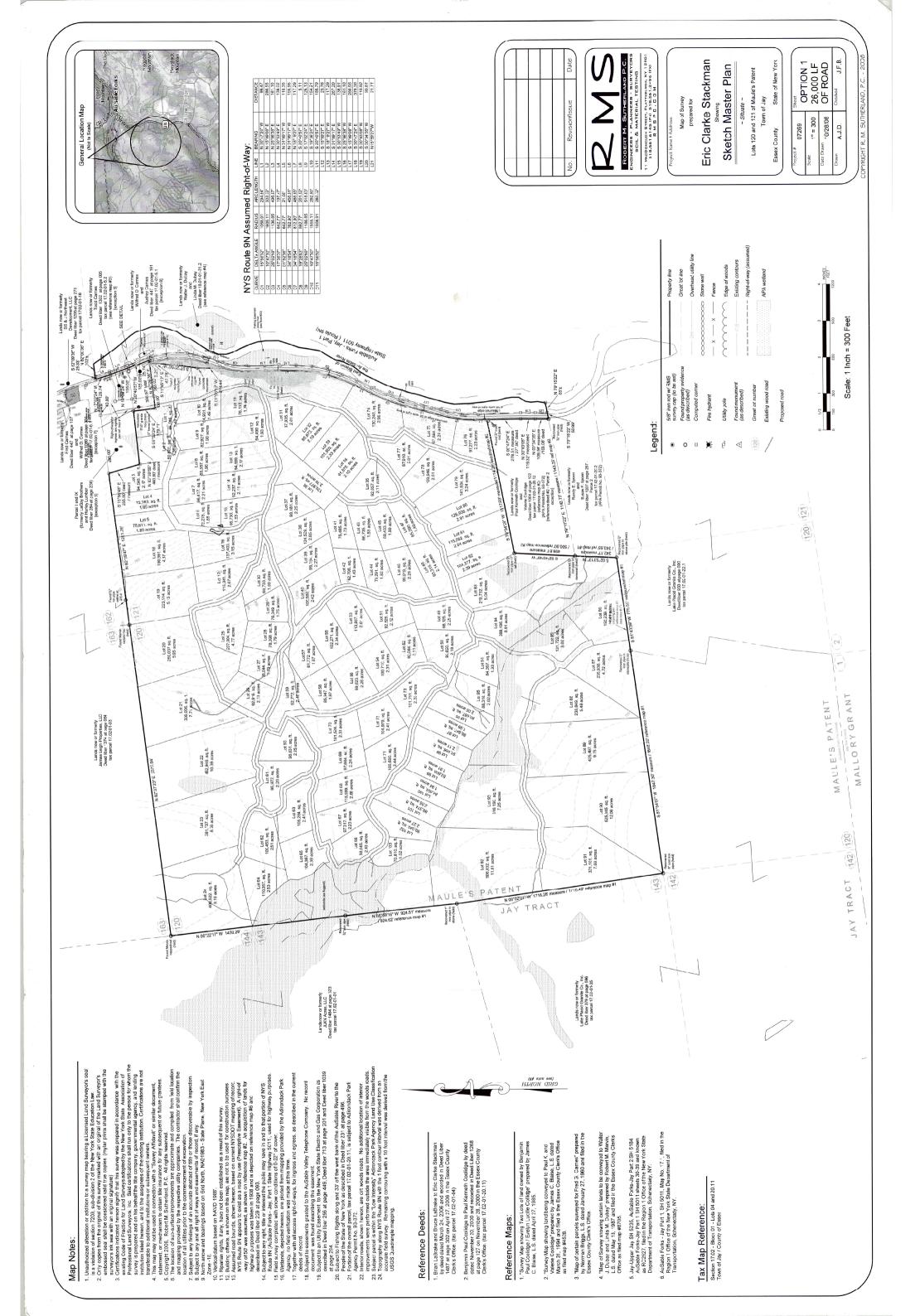
Roughly 260 acres would be 'developed' but 126 acres or Open Space Lots were identified in key eco and geological locations, that would remain 'reserved'.

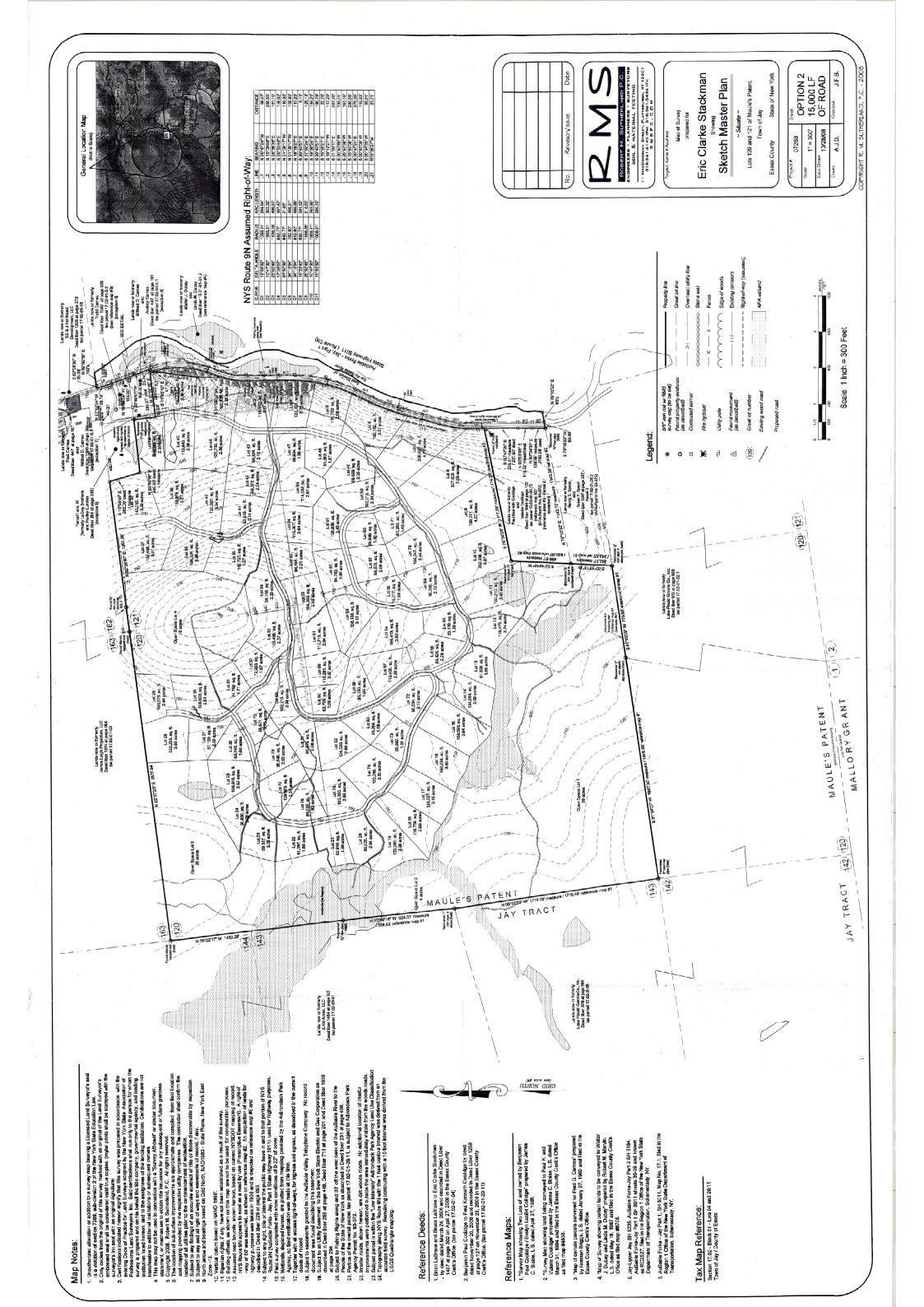
Both approaches would entail a substantial amount of land movement, construction and disturbance to certain sensitive areas. One of the options would have needed to cross over the wetlands, and both options would take us as close as allowed to the boundaries and buffer zones around existing unique natural and hydrological features. They would also have required us to address challenging issues on the topographical layout.

In late 2020/early 2021, during preliminary discussions (prior to submitting our application), we had certain conversations with members of the APA team, and maximized the principal building rights in a more clustered format as you are seeing in the application.

With the summary we presented then (late 2020/early 2021) the APA suggested that the Large-Scale Subdivision application would be the appropriate application to submit. However, for planning and permitting purposes, it was recommended we show what development would be expected within the next 5 years and apply for that. A preliminary sketch map of that level of anticipated development was submitted for staff to understand the proposal and begin an analysis of potential impacts to resources, as you are seeing in the application.

This is why we have strived to create a development that despite its scale, is maintaining the environmental well-being of a forever wild community. We do feel that landowner rights and APA guidelines that have been set forth for decades, ensure that we be held to those rules and regulations and comply with the requirements to move forward with the project, the right way.





Regarding the proposed extension of city or county utilities for the tie in of existing water, sewer or electrical services, we have already entered into preliminary discussions with NYSEG and NYSDOT.

Our engineering team has reviewed the water system plans and services for the Town of Jay, and Ausable Forks water District public water supply, and has determined it appears to have ample flow and storage to service the development with some infrastructure improvements.

We understand that the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's SPDES general permit application for stormwater discharges from construction activities requires that the owner or operator of a construction activity not disturb greater than 5 acres of soil at any one time without prior written authorization. As such, we will seek such authorization, as required, and use best means and methods.

We have begun and are actively working on our applications for the Town of Jay, Ausable Forks and the NYS Departments of Environmental Conservation, Transportation and Health and we intend to continue our submissions and applications to all municipalities and agencies, as required, concurrent with our application process with the APA's purview, in order to finalize the project's site plan approval and move forward from there.

We look forward to receiving additional comments and directive to engage in further investigations and reports necessary to complete our application process.

If further details or clarification are required, kindly advise us at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Eric Stackman
Project Sponsor
PO Box 402422
Miami Beach, FL 33141

Cc: Environmental Program Specialist 2 (EPS2) Devan Korn by e-mail to devan.korn@apa.ny.gov

Robbe Baer, Town of Jay Code Enforcement Officer by e-mail to codes@townofjayny.gov