



TO: Terry Martino  
Executive Director

FROM: Kathy Regan  
Senior Natural Resources Planner

*Kathy Regan*

Date: June 2, 2014

Re: Cranberry Lake Wild Forest  
UMP Amendment 2  
Cranberry 50 East and West Trail Connectors  
Designated Campsite

This memo provides my comments on the Proposed Final Draft of the Cranberry Lake WF UMP Amendment 2, dated May 2014 for compliance with the APSLMP and a summary of the public comments received by the Agency for this amendment.

The Cranberry Lake 50 is an exciting challenge that offers 50 miles of trails which loop around one of the largest Adirondack lakes - Cranberry Lake. This lake is located in the western portion of the Adirondack Park in the Towns of Clifton and Fine. The Cranberry Lake 50 challenge can be completed over multiple days or seasons. Once a hiker has finished this challenge, they may contact the Five Ponds Partners to receive their CL50 patch and add their name to the roster of completions. The Cranberry 50 has drawn attention to this area and increased visitor use of both the Forest Preserve and local businesses.

The Cranberry 50 was first proposed in the Five Ponds Wilderness UMP (1995) and when completed, included 5.7 miles along NY State Route 3. This amendment removes 4.14 miles of the trail, east and west of the Hamlet, from NY State Route 3, enabling a safer hiking experience without bypassing local businesses.

The Western Connector Trail will use the existing Peavine Swamp Trail, create a new section of trail in Forest Preserve, a new section of trail in easement lands, and then connect to the Town River Walk and Town Roads. A new campsite will be created along the Peavine Swamp Trail. The Eastern Connector Trail will start at an existing parking area, use some existing trails and add approximately 1 mile of new trail, following the footprint of an abandoned logging road.

The Agency received one public comment for this UMP amendment. This email was in support of the proposed amendment and added a suggestion that the trails be open for mountain bike use.

The Agency will work in cooperation with the Department to determine if mountain bike use is appropriate for the connector trails.

State land staff find this UMP amendment to be compliant with the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.

EC:           Rob Davies  
                  Karyn Richards  
                  Jim Townsend