

ANDREW M. CUOMO Governor TERRY MARTINO Executive Director

DRAFT RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE BLUE MOUNTAIN WILD FOREST UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Proposed for Adoption by the Adirondack Park Agency November 14, 2019

WHEREAS, Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act (APA Act) directs the Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) to develop, in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency (Agency), individual management plans for units of land classified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master (APSLMP) and requires such management plans to conform to the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

WHEREAS, in addition to such guidelines and criteria, the APSLMP prescribes the contents of unit management plans (UMPs) and provides that the Agency will determine whether a proposed individual UMP complies with such guidelines and criteria; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 the Department adopted the UMP for the Blue Mountain Wild Forest (BMWF), located in the Town of Minerva, Essex County, and the Towns of Indian Lake and Long Lake, Hamilton, County, and adopted subsequent amendments to the 1995 BMWF UMP in 2016 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Department proposes a 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment involving the permanent installation of a boat washing station with a small rustic shed and containment pad for boat cleaning at an existing highway pull-off maintained by the NYS Department of Transportation on NYS Route 28, near Lake Durant; and

WHEREAS, the boat washing station is part of a larger network of such stations across the Adirondack Park administered by the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) for the purpose of intercepting boater traffic heading into the interior Adirondacks from the Great Lakes, Finger Lakes, Hudson River, and Mohawk River watersheds which are known to be invaded by numerous small-bodied aquatic invasive animals and aquatic invasive plants; and

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WHEREAS, the network of boat washing stations is considered an important element of a regional program to protect the waters of the Adirondack Park from aquatic invasive species in the Park; and

WHEREAS, on October 11, 2019 the Department and Agency staff jointly presented a draft of the 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment to the Agency and established a concurrent public comment period on the draft 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment and its conformance with the APSLMP, which ran through October 20, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and the Department received six comment letters during the public comment period, all in support of the proposal; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), the Department has determined that the Proposed Final 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment is a Type II action under that Act, which would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and does not require further SEQRA review; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has considered the foregoing recitals, the Proposed Final 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment, the November 6, 2019 Memorandum from Rick Weber to Terry Martino, Agency and Department staffs' October 11, 2019 and November 14 presentations, public comment and Agency and Department staffs' responses, and the deliberations of Agency Board Members and Designees at the Agency's November 14, 2019 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the Agency finds the Proposed Final 2019 BMWF UMP Amendment, dated November 2019 conforms with the APSLMP guidelines and criteria; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Agency Board authorizes its Executive Director to advise the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation of the Agency's determination in this matter.

determination in this matter.
Ayes:
Nays:
Abstentions:
Absent: