



Adirondack Park Agency

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

DRAFT
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY
WITH RESPECT TO THE
SENTINEL RANGE WILDERNESS AREA (SRWA)
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN

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, on November 16, 2017 the Department presented a Draft UMP for the Sentinel Range Wilderness Area (SRWA) and Bartlett Primitive Area and Draft River Area Management Plans for the West and East Branches of the Ausable River to the Agency (Draft SRWA UMP); and

WHEREAS, the Department established a public comment period on the Draft SRWA UMP which ran from November 1, 2017 to December 22, 2017 and held a public meeting during the comment period in Ray Brook on December 7, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Department received a substantial number of oral and written comments during the public comment period; and

WHEREAS, the Department revised the Draft SRWA UMP in response to some of the public comments received, and the Agency has considered those revisions; and

WHEREAS, the Department presented to the Agency the Proposed Final SRWA UMP on September 13, 2019 and a public comment period for conformance with the APSLMP was open until October 11, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the public comments raised several points with respect to conformance of the SRWA UMP with the APSLMP guidelines and criteria for the management and use of Wilderness lands and Agency staff have provided responses to those public comments for Agency consideration; and

WHEREAS, to ensure protection of natural resources and the wilderness character of the SRWA lands, the Proposed Final SRWA UMP proposes a phased approach for the implementation of facilities, guided by a Wildlands Monitoring Program; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Final SRWA UMP proposes new recreational opportunities and facilities on the wilderness lands in a manner that maximizes the protection of the wilderness resource and public enjoyment and appreciation of the Forest Preserve, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Department has determined that the Proposed Final SRWA UMP will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and filed notice thereof in the Environmental Notice Bulletin on November 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has considered the foregoing recitals, the Proposed Final SRWA UMP, the November 6, 2019 Memorandum from Rick Weber to Terry Martino, a November 14, 2019 staff presentation, 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 Unit Management Plan for the Sentinel Range Wilderness and Bartlett Primitive Area and River Area Management Plans for the West and East Branches of the Ausable River, dated November 2019, conform with the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; 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.

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absent: