



Adirondack Park Agency

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

DRAFT
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY
WITH RESPECT TO THE FISH CREEK POND PUBLIC CAMPGROUND
UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN
October 14, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act (APA Act) directs the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) 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 Plan (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 and provides that the Agency will determine whether a proposed individual unit management plan (UMP) complies with such guidelines and criteria; and

WHEREAS, DEC prepared a proposed final UMP dated September 2021 (September 2021 Proposed Final UMP) for the Fish Creek Pond Public Campground in the Town of Santa Clara, Franklin County which contains specific proposals for the construction of new facilities, and the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing facilities at the campground; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is an involved agency whose staff have been consulted in the preparation of the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP; and

WHEREAS, DEC has determined that the management actions proposed within the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP are Type II Actions pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 618.2; and

WHEREAS, DEC prepared a draft UMP for the Fish Creek Pond Public Campground in August 2020 (Draft UMP) and accepted public comments on the Draft UMP through October 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2020, DEC presented the Draft UMP to the Agency and the Agency established a public comment period on conformance of the Draft UMP with the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP from May 14, 2021 through June 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Agency received fifteen comments during the public comment period; and

WHEREAS, DEC has prepared the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP proposes to replace six comfort stations that are in poor condition and do not meet accessibility standards; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP provides that DEC will evaluate the wastewater treatment systems associated with the proposal to replace the six comfort stations for adequacy and code compliance and if found deficient, wastewater treatment systems will be replaced and modernized as part of the comfort station replacement; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP proposes to rehabilitate much of the campground's road system to address vehicular and pedestrian safety and stormwater management; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP proposes to reconstruct the boat launch ramp including space for aquatic invasive species monitoring and a boat washing station; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP proposes to continue shoreline protection measures outlined in Wetlands Permit 2009-0116; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP provides that DEC, in consultation with the Agency, will select a minimum of nine campsites per year for temporary closure for rehabilitation to include shoreline stabilization; reduction of erosion, soil loss and soil compaction; revegetation; and replacement of fireplaces and picnic tables; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP also proposes to: construct a new caretaker cabin, expand extra car parking sites, improve the amphitheater, improve the bike path, construct a parking lot at the Floodwood trailhead, extend the internet connection to Rollins Pond for administrative use, and plant trees and shrubs; and

WHEREAS, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP proposes that DEC staff, in consultation with Agency staff, will develop visitor use management and wildlands monitoring guidance to support the planning and management of Intensive Use Areas in the Adirondack Park, consistent with the federal Interagency Visitor Use Management planning framework and establishing desired conditions, indicators, and standards for the management of Intensive Use Area campsites; and

WHEREAS, DEC, in consultation with the Agency, will develop a UMP amendment consistent with the new visitor use management and wildlands monitoring guidance to address the condition of campsites in the Fish Creek Pond Public Campground; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2021 Agency staff presented the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP to the Agency and Agency staff made a presentation recommending that the Proposed Final 2021 UMP conforms with the Intensive Use guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is requested to determine whether the proposed final Fish Creek Pond Public Campground Unit Management Plan, dated September 2021, is consistent with the guidelines and criteria of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the proposed facilities conform to the basic guidelines for Intensive Use Areas and will avoid material alteration of wetlands, minimize extensive topographic alterations, limit vegetative clearing, and preserve the scenic, natural and open space resources of the intensive use area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed campground facilities also conform to the guidelines for Intensive Use Areas and will be rustic in nature without utility hookups, will retain the natural character of the surrounding forest, and will contain only a fireplace or fire ring, a space for a single vehicle with trailer, and a picnic table; and,

WHEREAS, the Agency has considered the foregoing recitals, the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP, Agency staff's September 28, 2021 Memorandum, Agency staff's October 14, 2021 presentations, public comments, and the deliberations of Agency Board Members and Designees at the Agency's October 14, 2021 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the Agency finds the September 2021 Proposed Final UMP, conforms with the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Agency concludes that with respect to climate change, any potential negative impacts associated with September 2021 Proposed Final UMP are not substantial enough to warrant mitigation or a change in the management actions; and

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

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstentions:

Absent: