

Fw: Eagle Lake campsites and interrelated boat launch driven by Governor Rockefeller 1972 letter

From: [REDACTED] (com)

To: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 at 04:18 AM EDT

Gerald, Realized after I sent this that I had an email address for you and wanted you to see this

Thank you again for taking the time to discuss this with me and your interest in supporting the Town, County and the ELPOI in keeping this launch open to all manners of use for all NYS residents.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com>

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 06:35:12 PM EDT

Subject: Eagle Lake campsites and interrelated boat launch driven by Governor Rockefeller 1972 letter

I just found this letter written by Gov. Rockefeller in July 1972 regarding campsites and the ASLMP, etc. See image below and link at end. (Thanks to the Adirondack Review Board for posting it.)

The letter points out that the adoption of the ASLMP will have minimal direct impact on the public (Closing a Boat Launch to float on/off traffic 50 years post this being signed, is not a direct impact? Telling a half dozen long term lake residents (several that owned their property well prior to 1972) that have water access only to their places that their access by a larger boat is being taken away, is this not a direct impact?) and that 2 million campers using the public campsites will not be affected as campsites are located in the Intensive Use category. Why or what happened from 1972 to 1988 and again in 2019? The 1988 HPWF UMP identified that EL's Crown Point Bay had 6 campsites. The 2019 HPWF UMP identified only 3 (note sure where the other 3 went). Didn't this piece of land qualify as Intensive Use as defined in the Governor's letter? Or was it classified and now the APA doesn't want to recognize it as such? Will the public, that wants to utilize this campsite location in the future, not be impacted by the 2019 UMP statement "to close the 3 sites and relocate 1" (It's bad when the DEC loses 3 sites from their 1988 count to their 2019 count, but its disheartening when in 2019 they propose closing 2 more, especially without a studied case of overuse or carrying capacity design and state in the 2019 UMP that this is a desired camping site. Again not sure where the APA/DEC "lost" 3 sites from their inventory of 1988)? How many were there in 1972 or prior that I have not yet been able to find documentation to support? Might the DEC/APA have "lost" additional sites at this location due to their disinterest, and/or their lack of maintenance due to constrained State budgets? Does the APA and DEC realize even though they write that these defined and pre-existing EL Crown Point Bay campsites are Boat Access **only**?

The whole argument of EL boat launch with float on/off access yes or no depends on campsites yes or no. and who wrote or said what for the past 50 years.

See 2nd image below that shows inventoried campsites at EL.

What happens when you read further in the 1988 UMP and on page 42 it details hypothetical **camping sites** and clearly states in the first words, "**including Eagle Lake**", but then goes on to **INCLUDE** in this same sentence "Paradox Lake and Lincoln Pond" which clearly got to **keep** and improve **their** campground and **BOAT LAUNCH!** Is

the disconnect between what was inventoried at EL for camp sites, the lean-to and a hypothetical need for additional camping deliberate? Why can they keep a boat launch at Paradox Lake that is under 100 acres and not keep one at EL? See 3rd image below showing overnight capacity and hypothetical consideration "including EL".

Is the APA ignorant of these historic facts? Or are they willfully disregarding what was in the approved 1988 HPWF UMP document. I was recently told by the DEC that the 1988 UMP was taken off the DEC website because the 2019 UMP now supersedes this 1988 document. Does removing it from public access via the website mean that the APA can now willfully disregard the laws and management objectives that were supposed to have been completed in 1988? Surely one would expect that management guidelines of the 1988 UMP should have carried through into 2019 and beyond, or does this only apply to their selective needs?

What's stated above and follows below is just the start of the discussion regarding camping as related to the interrelationship of camping and the boat launch on EL. There are significant other management objective statements in the 1988 HPWF UMP regarding the EL boat launch, its importance, its need to support attendant uses on EL, and that it should have had its own UMP written to cover these needs as was clearly stated should happen, in the 1988 HPWF UMP on page 60. These details can be found in the full 1988 HPWF UMP at the link below. There are also significant other sources of DEC and APA documents written over the past 50 years that reference the opportunity for the DEC and APA to properly assess the need to keep the boat launch at EL as it was in 1972 and has been properly used and respected by the community at large for the past 50 years. These can be shared with anyone making a request to me for them.

Image 1

uses within the Park, and curtails or limits some existing uses in keeping with the physical and biological characteristics and other determinants of the classification system.

The strictest classifications of state land are designed to achieve and perpetuate a natural plant and animal community where man's influence is not apparent. The plan continues the prohibition against any and all public use of motor vehicles or equipment. Furthermore it reduces to an absolute minimum - for periodic essential services -- the official use of vehicles and motorized equipment.

While there are relatively few non-conforming structures, as defined by the plan, in the Wilderness area, those in existence are to be removed by December 31, 1975. Interior Ranger facilities will also be phased out in favor of facilities at key points at the edge of the Wilderness areas to provide needed supervision of public use.

Contemplated changes directly affecting the public are minimal. There will be no decrease in the 820 miles of foot trails in the Park, 520 miles of which are in the Wilderness area. Nor will the more than two million annual campers enjoying the public campsites be affected, because most of the sites are in the Intensive Use category specifically designed to provide such public services.

[following emphasis by Local Government Review Board]

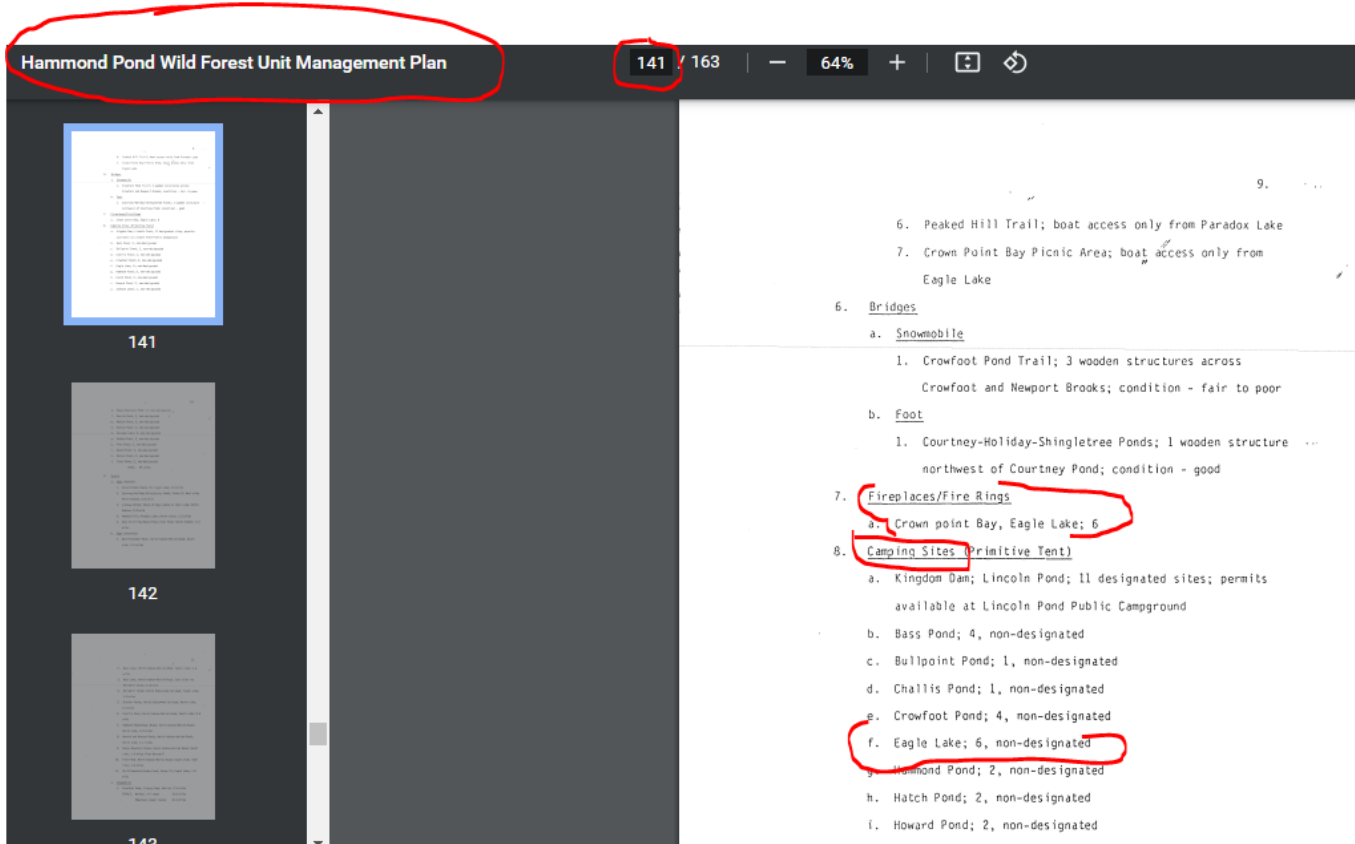
There will be a reduction of about 20 miles of snowmobile trails now situated in Wilderness, but there will be no changes in the additional 930 miles in other land categories. Replacement of Wilderness Areas snowmobile trails being shut down is provided for in areas outside the Wilderness Primitive categories of land.

Members of the Adirondack Park Agency, in addition to Mr. Lawrence, are James R. Bird, Racquette Lake; Whitman Daniels, Delmar; Henry L. Diamond, Albany; William J. Foley, Utica; Peter S. Paine, Jr., New York City; Mary F. Prime, Lake Placid; Joseph P. Tonelli, New York City; Richard A. Wiebe, Albany.

Copies of the Master Plan are available from the Adirondack Park Agency, Box 99, Rav Brook, New York

If you overlay the Governor's statement above on the 1988 Hammond Pond APPROVED UMP below, where on page 141 or 9 depending on how the document is read, you see that EL has 6 campsites identified, also 6 fireplaces/fire rings, maybe these amenities were placed there intentionally to support these campsites.

Image 2



Then read what is stated on page 42 or 36 of the HPWF UMP where it states calculating overnight capacity on "large water bodies as 100 surface acres" and "potential camping sites INCLUDING those portions of EAGLE LAKE,...". In this text from the 1988 UMP a large water body is considered 100 surface acres, the ASLMP states the "large water bodies of 1000 acres or more will get a boat launch ". Which measurement should one take as the meaning of "Large"? Should EL retain its boat launch because according to the 1988 UMP it is on a LARGE body of water? Should or does this 1988 HPWF UMP size delineation supersede the 1972 ASLMP? I was told by the DEC with regard to the 1988 HPWF UMP that the 2019 one supersedes it. Having found this does the ELPOI get to pick? How should one decide what to believe in the APA writings? Are they applying the right decision to the closing of the boat launch?

Just asking here as I'm not sure what to believe of what is written in these and many other APA documents.

Image 3

Hammond Pond Wild Forest Unit Management Plan 42 / 163 67%

-36-

a. Overnight Capacity

The user who impacts an area the greatest is the one who stays overnight. The overnight capacity of the Hammond Pond Wild Forest has not been inventoried. A calculated inventory follows:

1. Small bodies of water, here defined as less than 100 surface acres in size, had hypothetical camping sites assigned taking into account total surface acreage, shoreline irregularity and campsite location practicality, usually relating to site wetness;
2. Large bodies of water, 100 surface acres or more in size, were assigned hypothetical camping sites utilizing the State Land Master Plan guidelines.

Using the above procedure and considering camping possibilities on some 20 bodies of water that have potential camping sites including those portions of Eagle Lake, Paradox Lake and Lincoln Pond, a total of 59 primitive campsites were hypothetically located including one existing lean-to location (see Table 27 for detailed listing). A "primitive tent site" is defined in the State Land Master Plan as: "an undeveloped, primitive tent site providing space for not more than 3 tents, which may have an associated pit privy and a fire ring, designed to accommodate a maximum of 8 people on a temporary or transient basis, and located so as to accommodate the need for shelter in a manner least intrusive on the surrounding environment". These sites can be grouped further to accommodate a maximum of 20

Thank you to those cc'd on this email for your interest in helping the ELPOI and the Town of Ticonderoga protect the use of the Boat Launch and the quintessential campsites located on EL for all of the community and lake residents to enjoy, now and for future generations.

The full "Governor letter" can be found at this link:
https://adkreviewboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Rockefeller-Press-Release_Accessible.pdf

The full 1988 HPWF UMP can be found here:
http://www.eaglelake1.org/archives/documents/2018_boat_launch_change/hpwfump.pdf