

Public Information Meeting

Draft Northern Finger Lakes Unit Management Plan

August 15, 2017

New York State DEC Region 8 Headquarters 6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd. Avon, NY 14414

Presentation starts at 6:30 PM

The draft UMP is available for review at the following locations:

Online at: www.dec.ny.gov/lands/99 999.html

Wood Library 134 N. Main St. Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 394-1381

Edith B. Ford Memorial Library 7169 N. Main St. PO Box 410 Ovid, NY 14521 (607) 869-3031

New York State DEC Region 8 Headquarters 6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd. Avon, NY 14414-9516 (585) 226-5324 Contact: Linda Vera

New York State DEC 7291 Coon Rd. Bath, NY 14810 (607) 776-2165

Fact Sheet July 2017

Please publicize, copy, post or pass this fact sheet on to anyone who may be interested.

Draft Northern Finger Lakes Unit Management Plan (UMP) Available for Review

Public Information Meeting Announced

Public Meeting

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) seeks to inform the public about the completion of a draft unit management plan (UMP). The UMP covers about 4,549 acres which are located in five counties – Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca and Yates. They include: four Unique Areas - Bare Hill, Junius Ponds, Rush Oak Openings and Squaw Island; three Wildlife Management Areas - Honeoye Creek, Honeoye Inlet and Willard; one Multiple Use Area - Stid Hill; and the DEC Region 8 Avon Headquarters Office (see map on back.)

The draft UMP is currently available at the document repositories listed to the left. You are encouraged to review the draft UMP and provide comments on the proposed plan. You are invited to attend public information meeting on August 15, 2017 at the NYS DEC Region 8 Headquarters - Conference Room located at 6274 E. Avon-Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414.

A half-hour presentation on the draft plan will begin at **6:30 pm**, followed by a question and answer period. Staff will be available until **8:30 pm** to accept comments. The conference room is wheelchair accessible. Please contact Linda Vera at (585) 226-5324 for any further specific accommodations by August 1st.

Comment Period

The public is invited to submit comments on the proposed plan until **September 18, 2017**. In addition to any comments received at the meetings, written comments may be sent to <u>r8.ump@dec.ny.gov</u> or NYSDEC, 7291 Coon Road, Bath, NY 14810.

Plan Summary

It is DEC's policy to manage state lands for multiple benefits to serve the people of New York State. Benefits such as good water quality, a diverse and healthy wildlife population, and recreational enjoyment are ensured by thoughtful land management, including selectively varying the types and growth stages of forested stands within this unit, maintaining and creating

grasslands, and enhancing wetland areas. The plan offers general information on the unit's history and geology, an inventory of the unit's resources, such as vegetative types and stages, fish, wildlife and habitat. It also describes the proposed goals and objectives along with policy considerations for managing the unit.

Public involvement is an important component to the UMP process. We invite you to provide us with your comments or concerns regarding the past or future management of any of the DEC properties included in the UMP.

Some major objectives further detailed in the plan are to:

- Create a balance of vegetative types and stages by the sale of timber resources, clearing, creation and maintenance of grassland, brushland and wetland habitats;
- Enhance and monitor wildlife species diversity and protect rare, threatened and endangered species of plants and animals;
- Recommend new regulations for Rush Oak Openings UA and Junius Ponds UA;
- Implement the Young Forest Initiative on WMAs by converting approximately 10% of the forested acres
 on WMAs back to young forests;
- Comply with Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines for any future increase in recreational facilities;

• Work in partnership with interested organizations such as the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, local

towns/villages, schools, youth programs, NYS Department of Transportation (DOT), NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and the Ruffed Grouse Society, etc. on projects that enhance the state land;

- Specify Best Management Practices for water quality will be used on timber sales, and any other construction activities;
- Maintain existing roads and parking lots, place new identification signs, and two new gates;
- Monitor invasive exotic plants and animals. Specific actions will be based on species and location, but may include prescribed burns, biological controls, pesticide and mechanical removals;
- Restore Honeoye Inlet and adjacent wetlands on Honeoye Inlet WMA to a more natural flood plain and wetland habitat;
- Maintain existing and future recreational facilities.

