Lake Taghkanic State Park

Master Plan

Appendices

June 9, 2025

Figures

Appendices

Figure 1 – Park Location Map

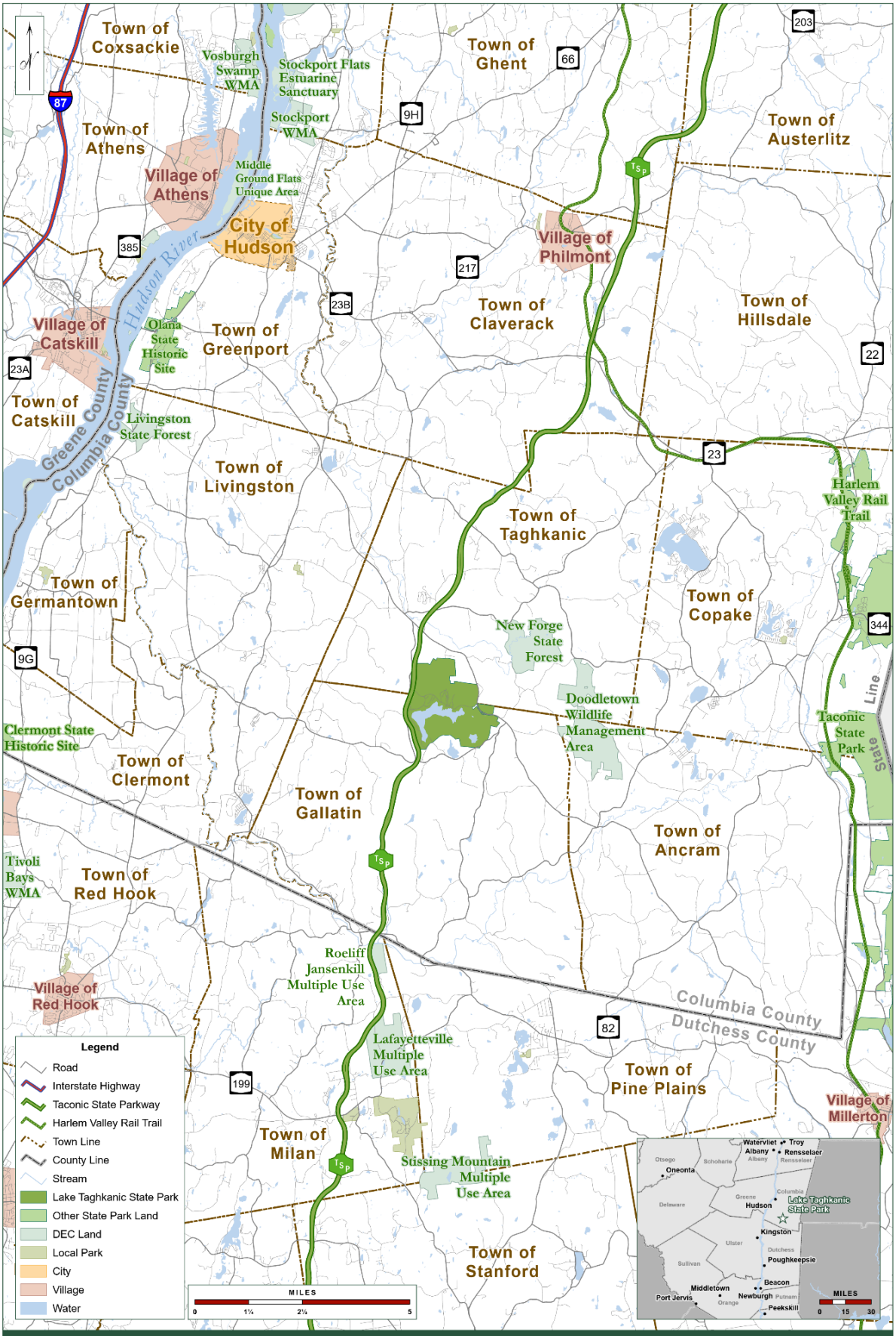

Figure 01 - Site Location

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Figure 2 – Boundary and Topography

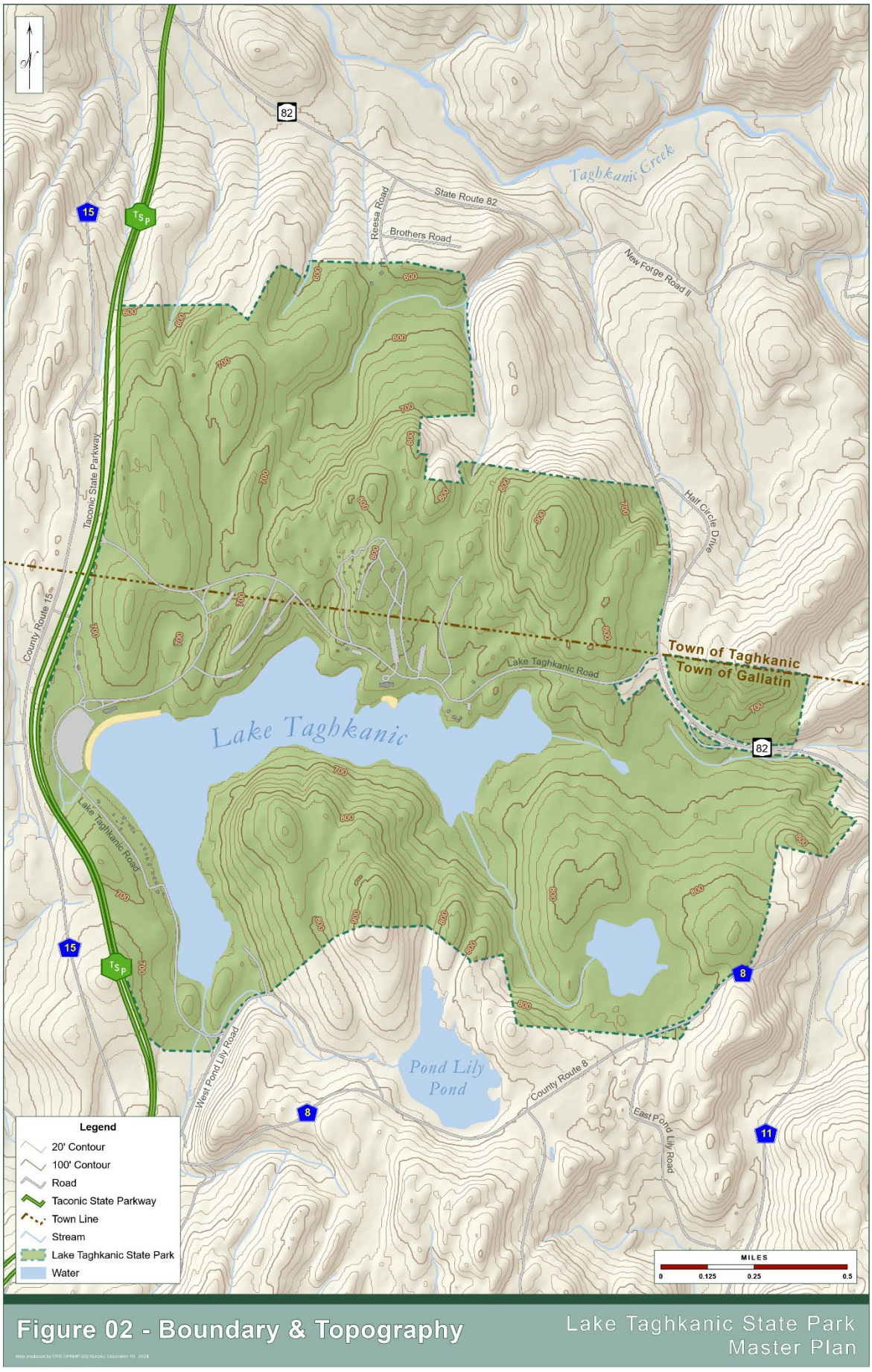

Figure 3 – Adjacent Land Use

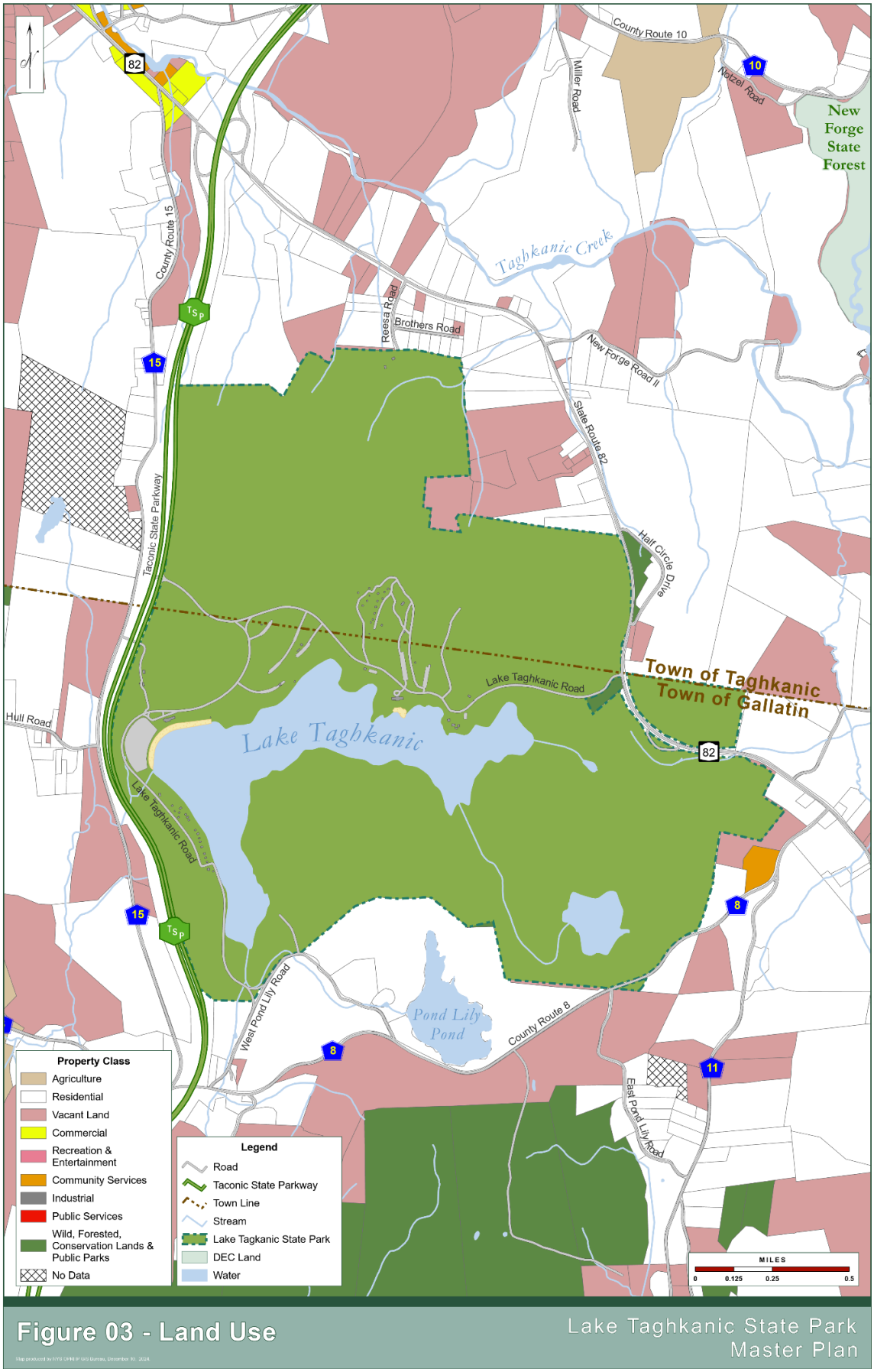

Figure 03 - Land Use

Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan

Figure 4 – Geology

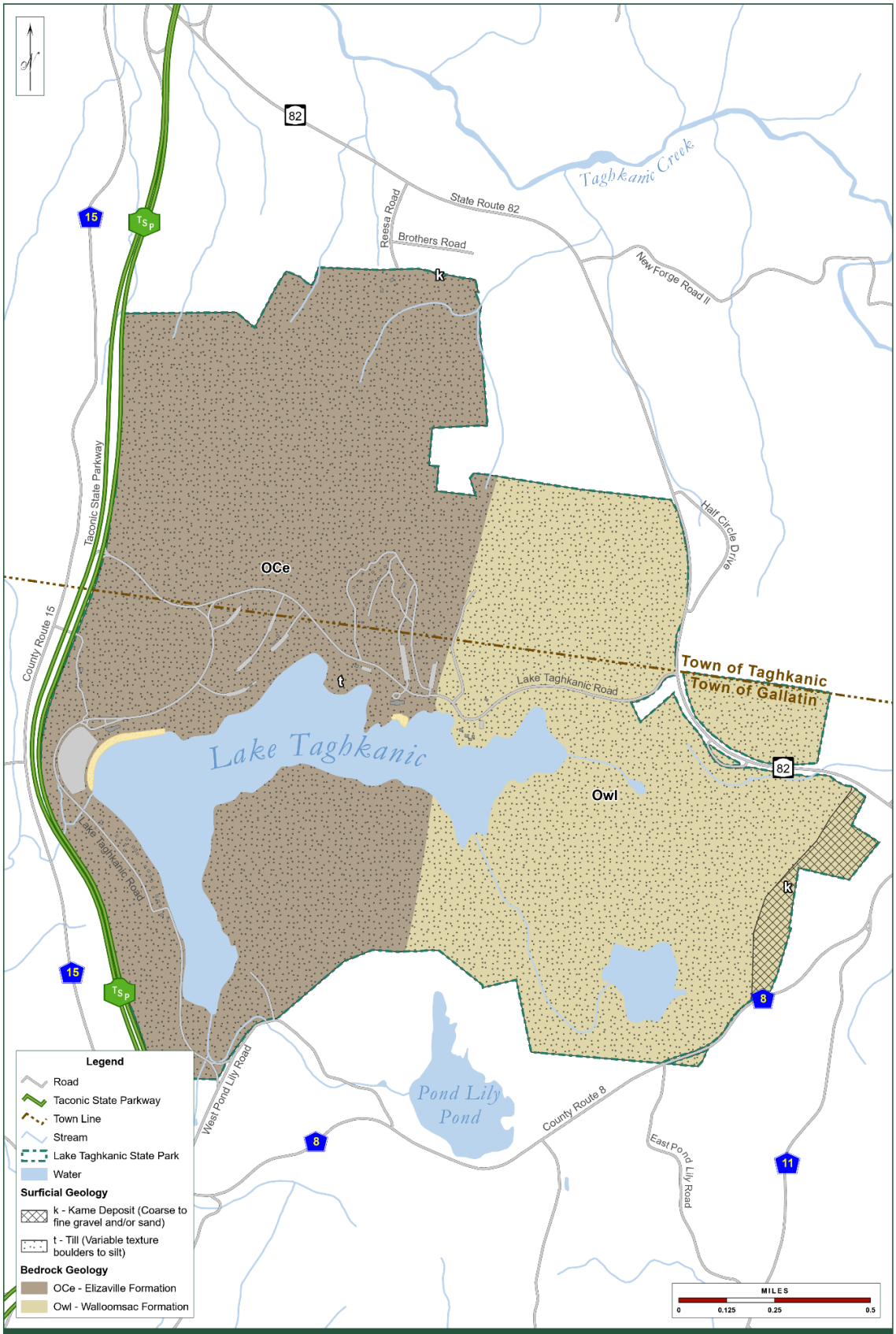

Figure 04 - Geology

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Figure 5 – Soils

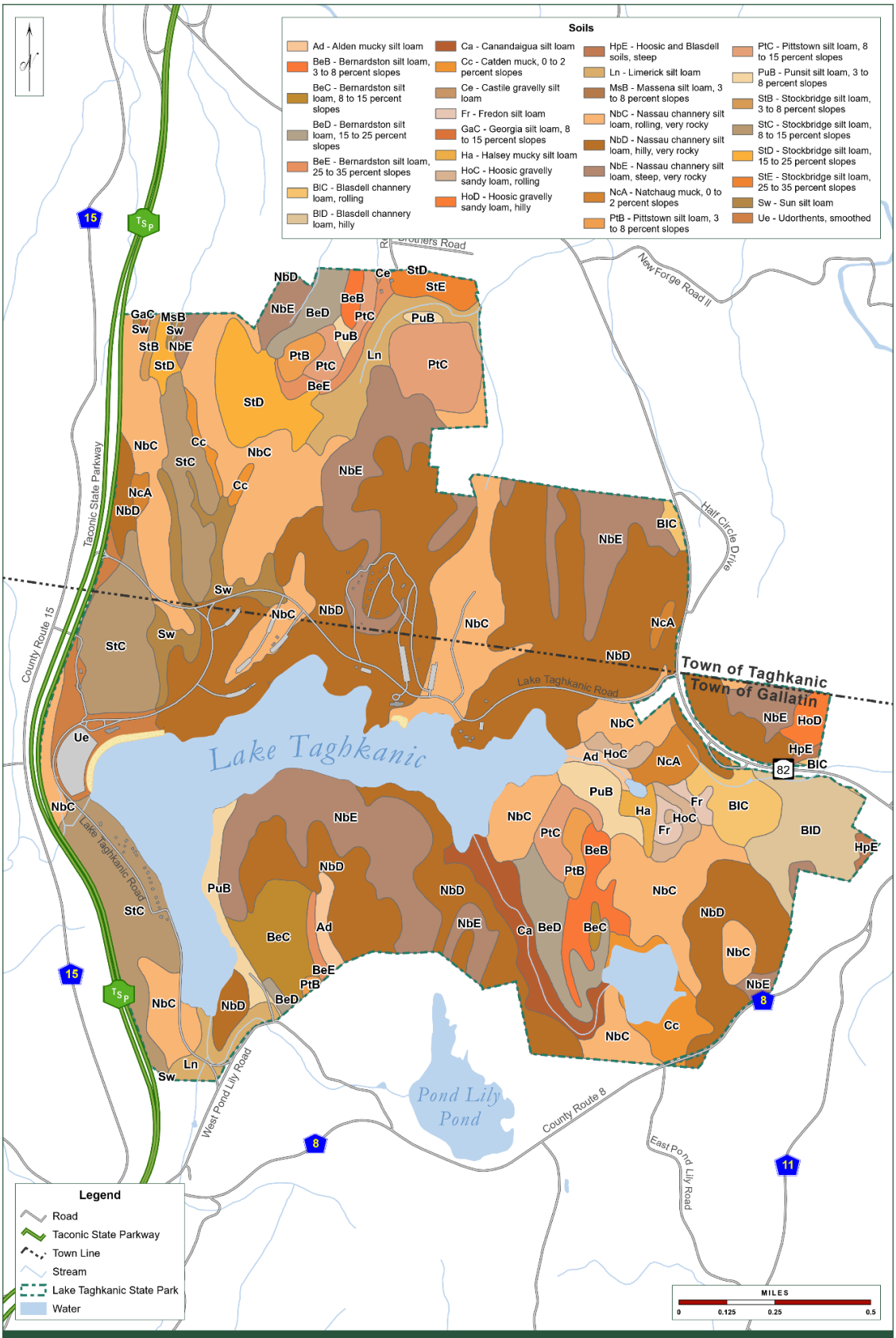

Figure 05 - Soils

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Figure 6 – Water Resources

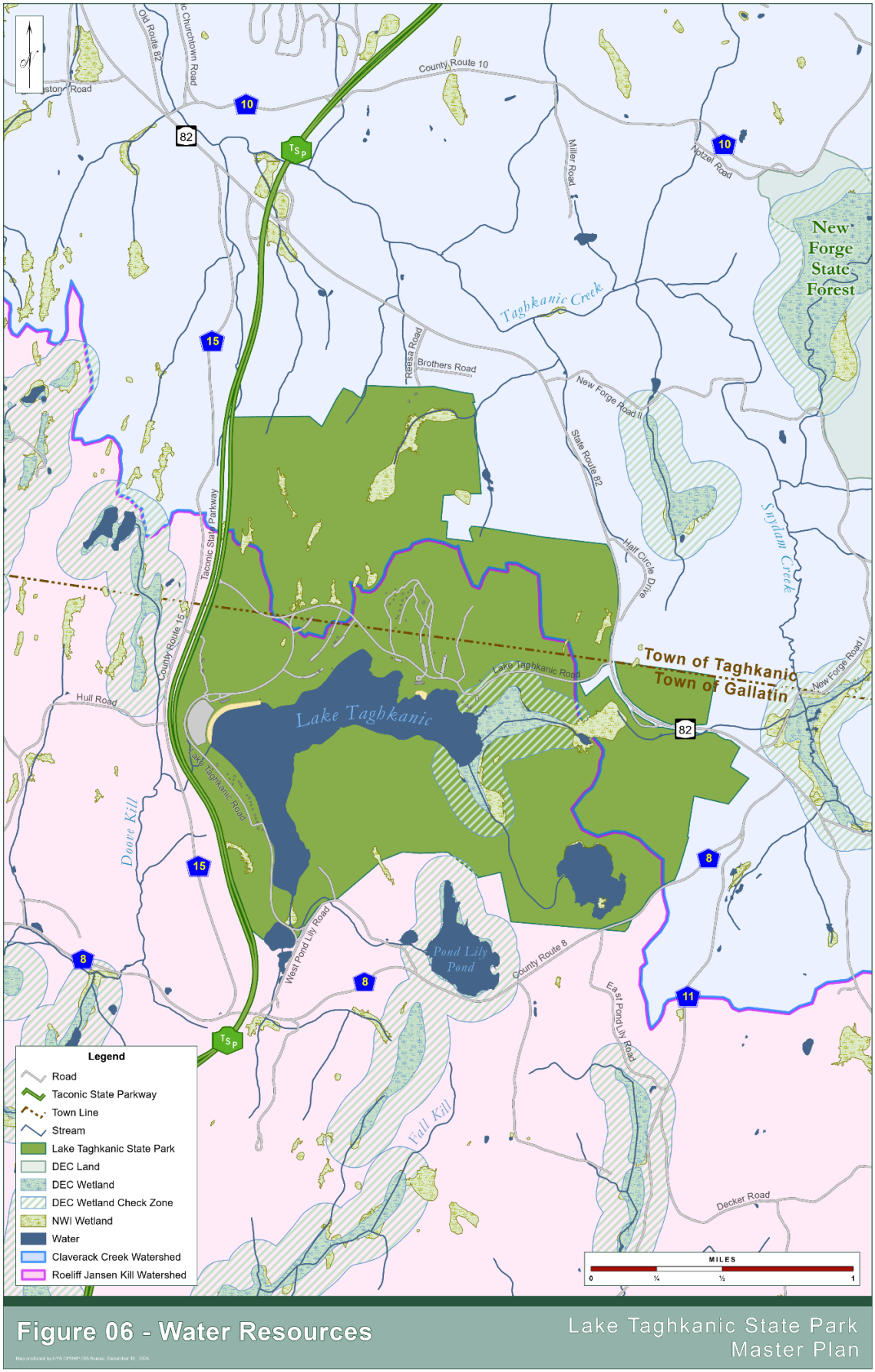

Figure 06 - Water Resources

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Figure 7 – NYNHP Ecological Communities

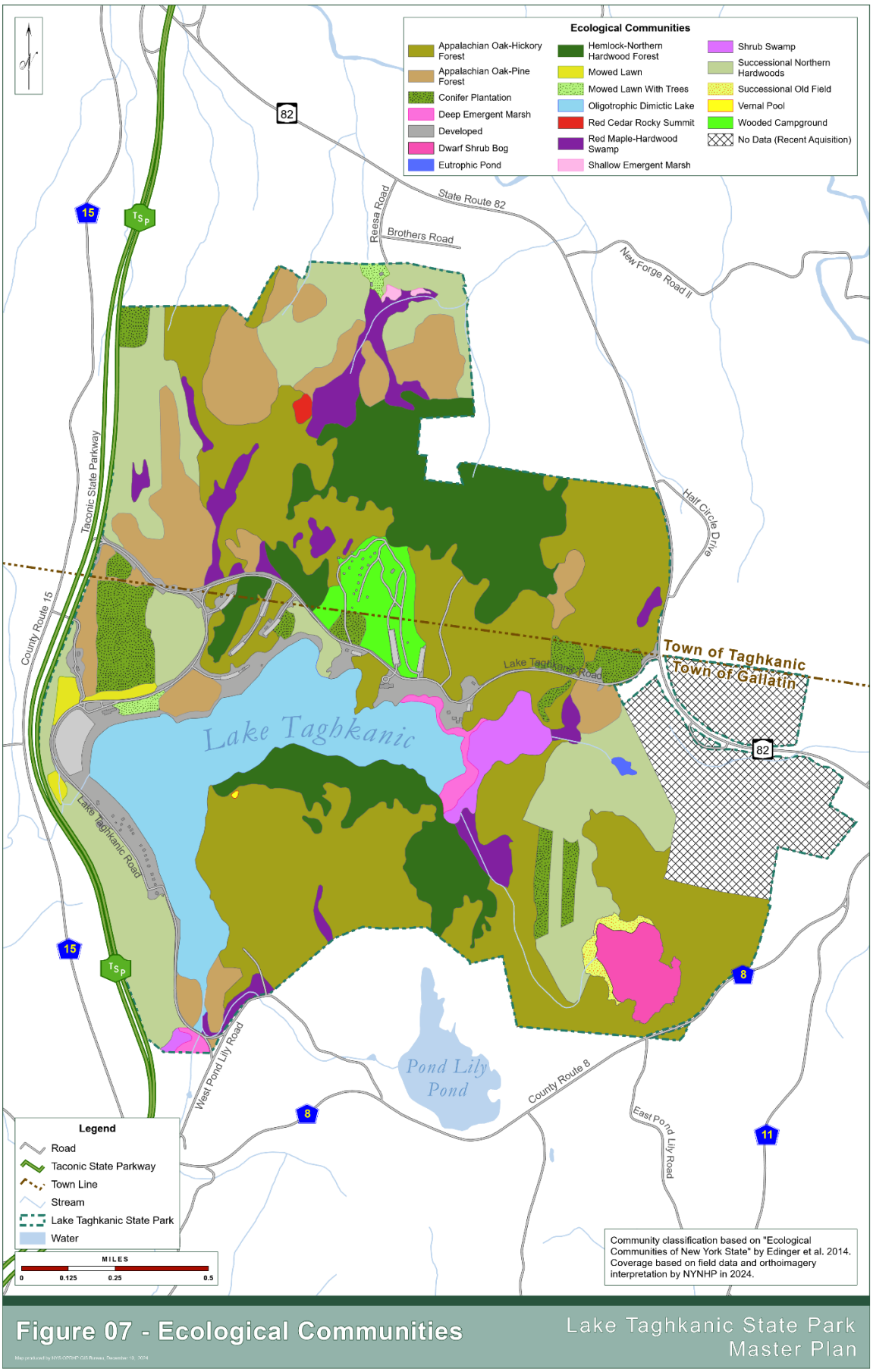

Figure 07 - Ecological Communities

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Figure 8 – Recreational Resources

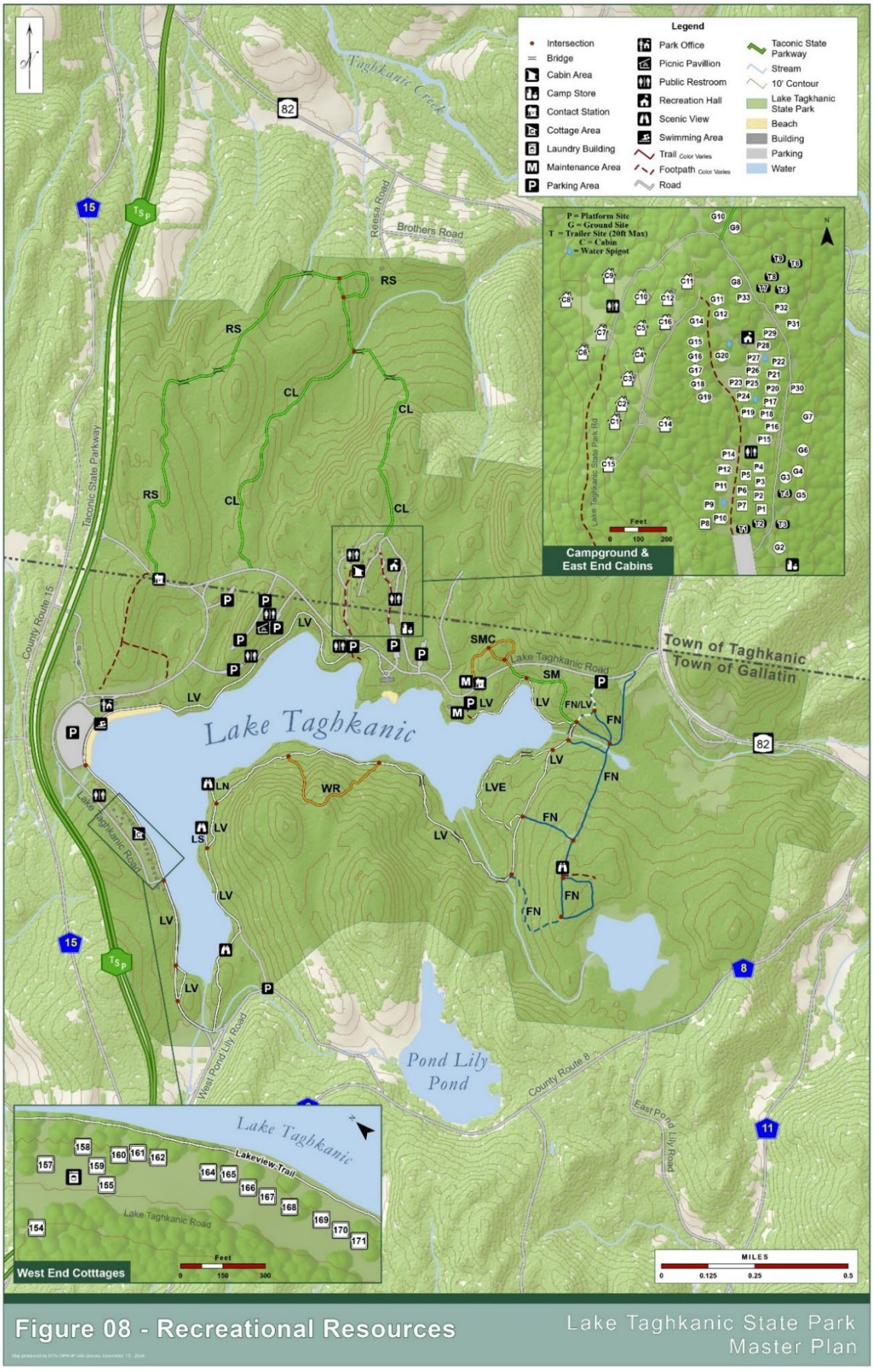

Figure 9 – Elevation

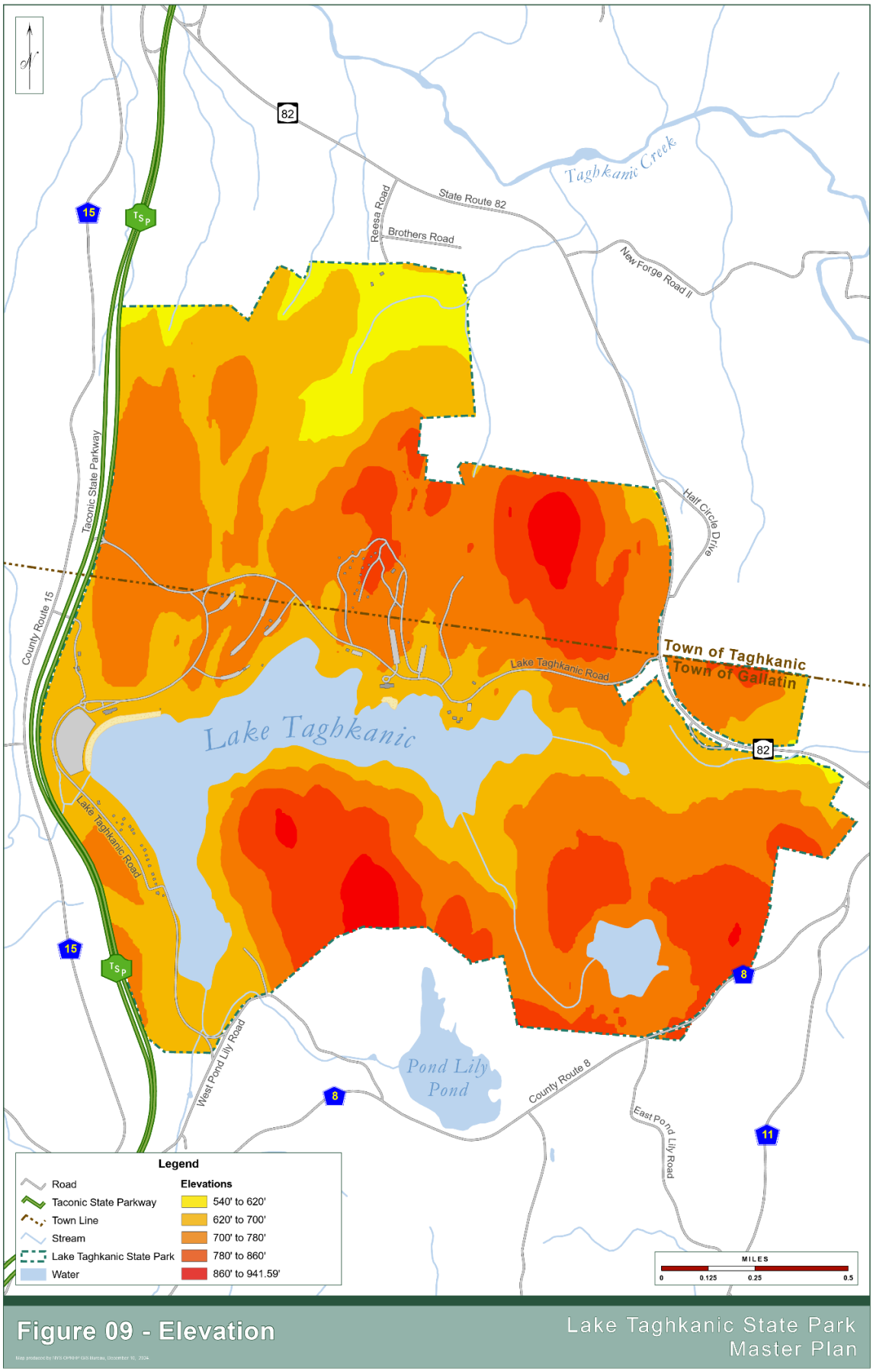

Figure 09 - Elevation

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Figure 10 – Slope

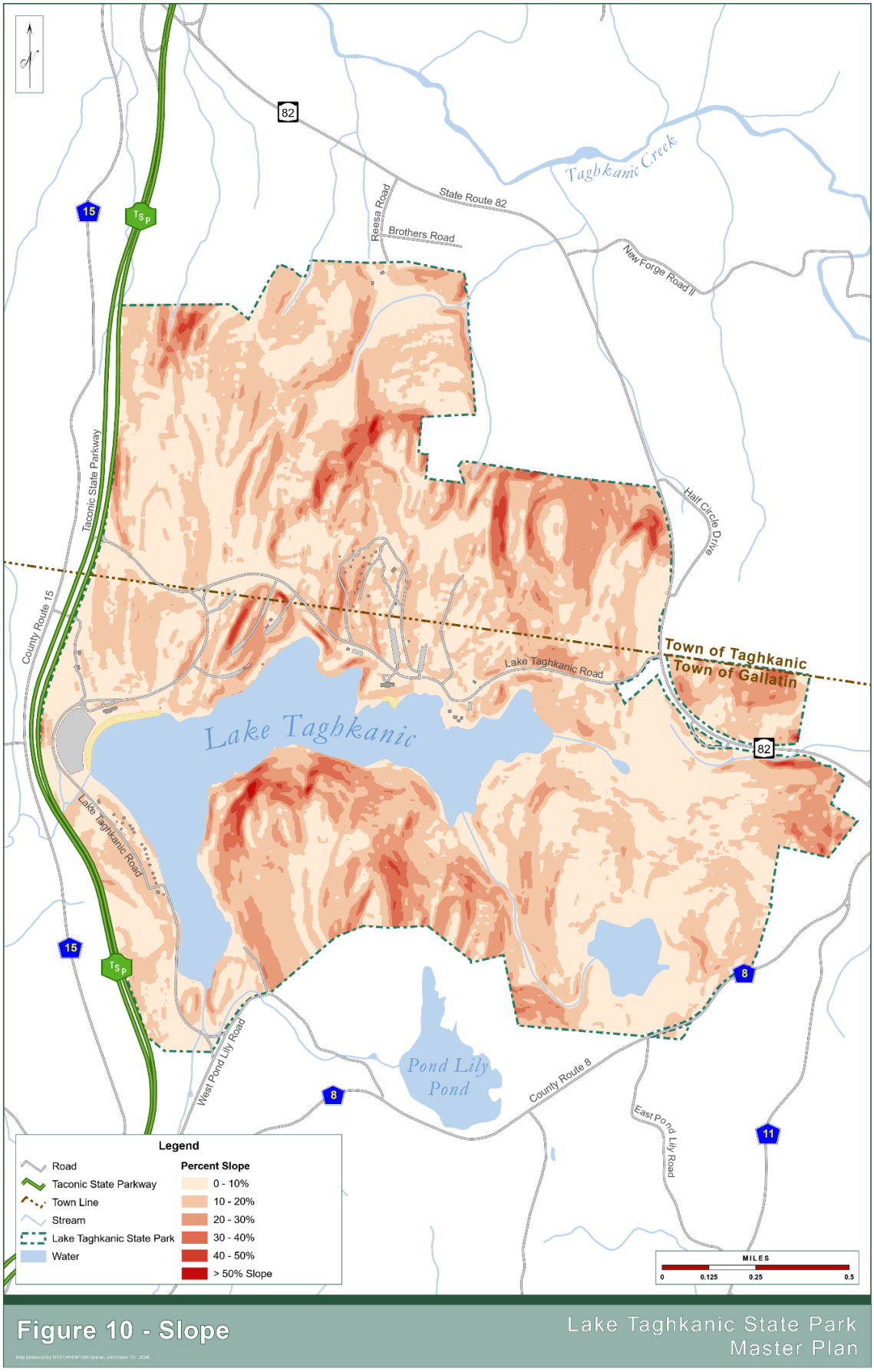

Figure 10 - Slope

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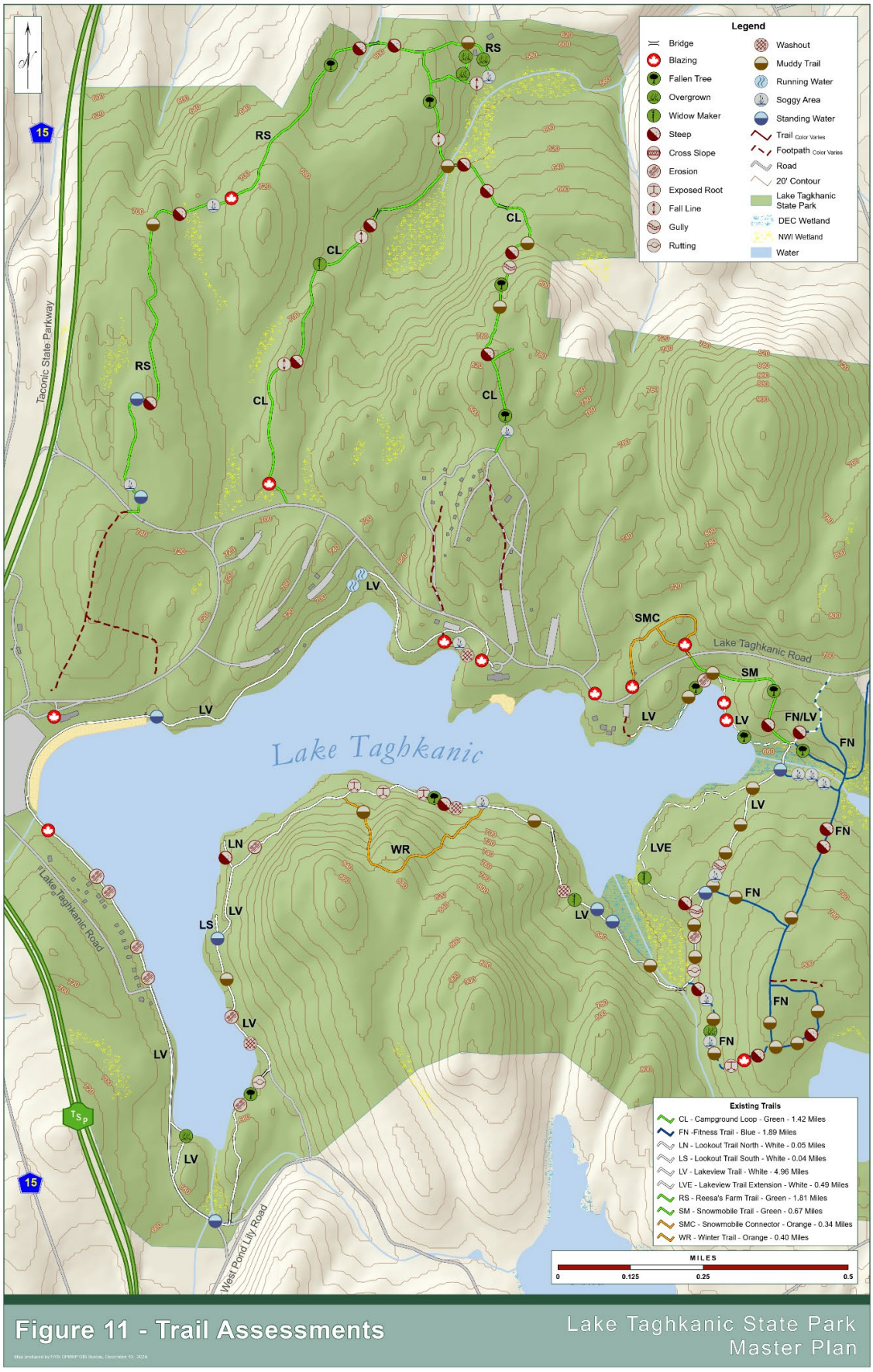
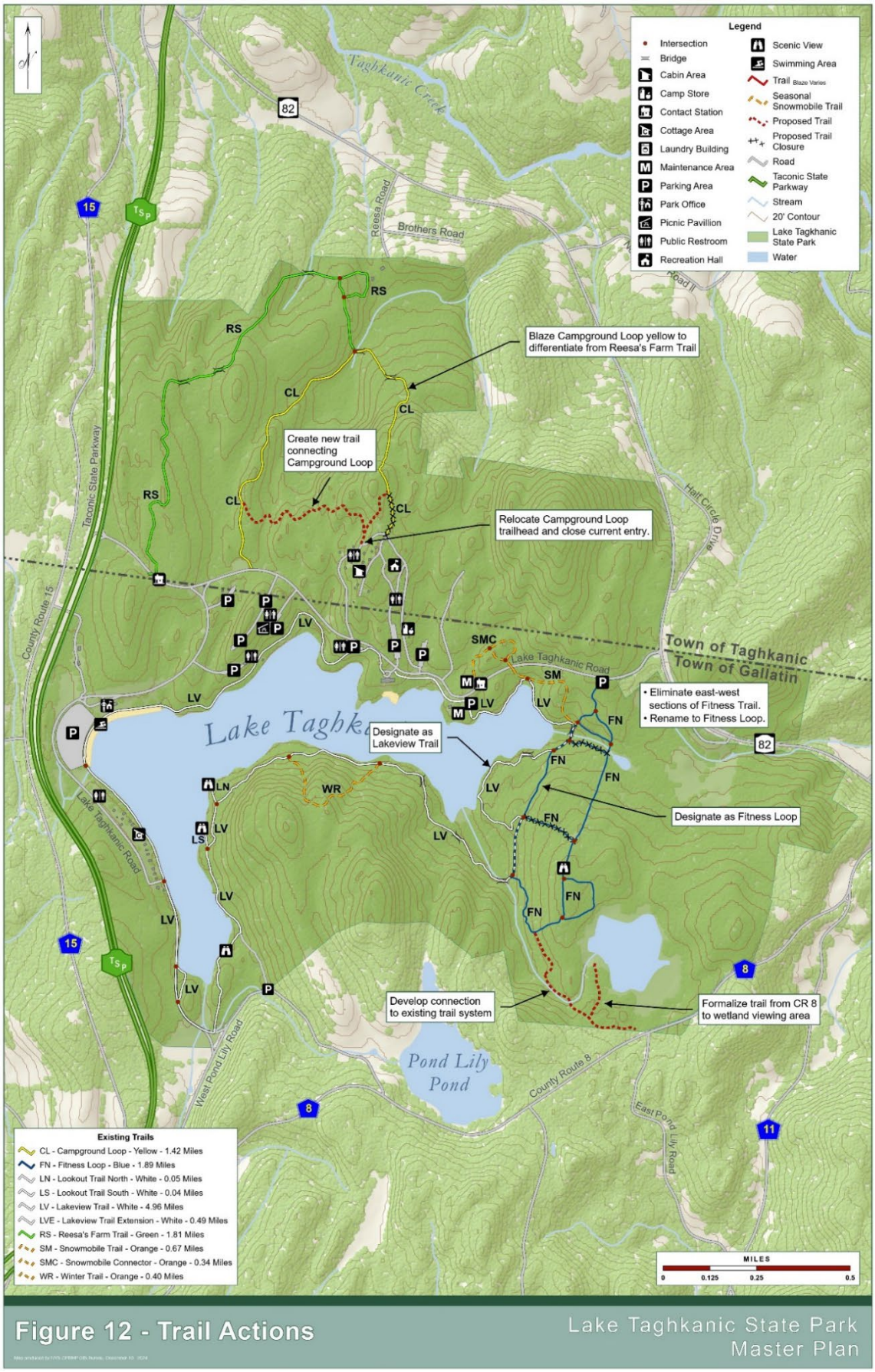


Figure 12 – Trails Actions



Physical Setting

Scenic Resources

Set within the Hudson River Valley and Catskill Mountain viewshed, Lake Taghkanic State Park is part of a region renowned for its rural charm and natural vistas. Columbia County's pastoral, largely undeveloped landscape contributes to its scenic charm across the seasons.

Geology

The physical characteristics of the Park's Hudson Valley setting are a result of geologic events that date back long before the last ice age. Columbia County's present-day landscape was greatly affected by physical and geological processes—both erosion from advancing glaciers and sediments deposited as the glaciers melted away. The region has been shaped by the presence of ancient seas and the movement of glaciers, which helped create the mountains, lakes, valleys, and rock formations in the region today.

Between 1,300 and 800 million years ago, this region was part of a shallow sea where sands, clays, and volcanic ash gradually accumulated. As early continents formed and separated, a rift in the northeast resulted in the formation of a continental shelf in what is today the Hudson Valley.[1] Around 490 and 443 million years ago a chain of volcanic islands formed off the continent, eventually colliding with the coast, resulting in a mountain-building event known as the Taconic Orogeny. That era saw the folding and faulting of marine shales, which today can be seen along the Hudson River north of the Hudson Highlands up as far as Albany.

The period spanning 1.8 million to 10,000 years ago saw the great Pleistocene ice age, during which the erosive processes of at least four major advances and retreats of glaciers shaped the area's picturesque scenery. As the climate warmed, less than 10,000 years ago, the ice retreated, and large post-glacial lakes formed along the Hudson. The region's many lakes and rivers are remnants of this action by the Hudson Valley glacier.

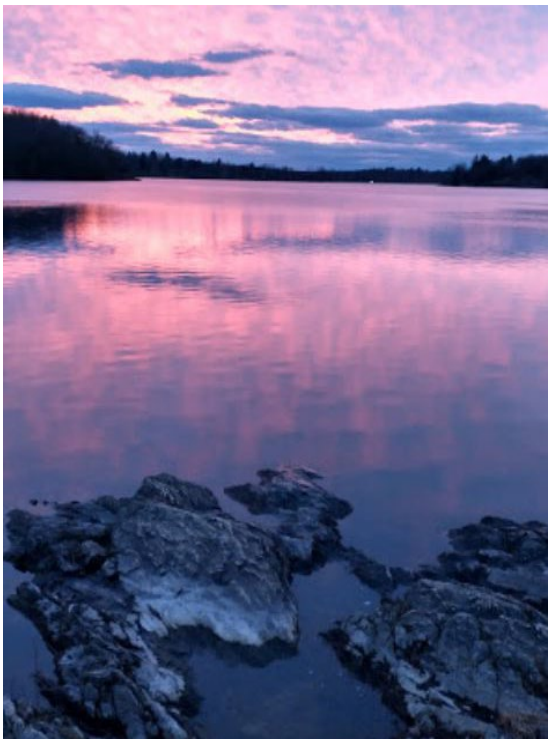
Rocky outcrops characterize the northern shoreline of Lake Taghkanic.

Soils

The hills at LTSP are covered with soils derived from deposited sands and clays or from native sedimentary rock. The predominant soils (over 50% of the site) are Nassau channery and Blasdell channery silt loams, generally found on the summits and backslopes of ridges and hills of glaciated uplands.[2] Shallow, well-drained soils in the Nassau series are derived from shale and slate. They range from nearly level to very steep and are mostly shallow soils that overlie shale bedrock. Other soil types found at the Park include Stockbridge silt loam, a very deep, well-drained soil found on glacial till plains, smooth hills, and low ridges. Poorly drained soils at the Park are at a minimum and include Limerick silt loam and Canandaigua silt loam, which lie very close to the water table (for a map of soil types at the Park, see Appendices, Figure 5).

Topography

The southern portion of Columbia County is characterized by rolling hills with wetlands and marshes, with smaller brooks and streams threaded throughout the landscape. The Park's terrain is typical of the region: hilly, with a maximum elevation of around 945 feet and a minimum of about 530 feet. Aerial images and 1938 topographic data show much of the area as open cropland. Much of the land in the vicinity has been used for agriculture, including some lands within the Park. South of Lake Taghkanic is Mattashuck Hill, the highest point in the immediate area. At 1,104 feet elevation, was also known as Signal Rock because of its purported use for fires and smoke signals that could be seen for many miles.[3]



Lake views are a primary scenic resource at LTSP.

Water

The Park's central feature is its 202-acre lake, which occupies about 11% of the property. Lake Taghkanic is the third largest lake in Columbia County and one of the two major water bodies in the Town of Gallatin (the other is Pond Lily Pond, just south of LTSP).[4] Lake Taghkanic is classified as "oligotrophic dimictic" a type of lake rich in oxygen and low in nutrients, with good water clarity.[5]

Lake Taghkanic is 1.5 miles long, with 3.7 miles of shoreline and an elevation of 650 feet above sea level.[6] Its mean depth is 19 feet with a deepest point of over 40 feet.[7] The shoreline is mostly forested except where Park facilities are sited on the western and northern shores. At the lake's far eastern end is a large swamp (for a map of waterbodies at the Park see Appendices, Figure 7).

The Park's lake, streams, wetlands, and woodlands also provide valuable wildlife habitats in a region increasingly subject to development pressures. These features are also part of a regional ecosystem, and actions implemented within the Park's boundaries can affect the shared watershed and network of larger natural communities.

Watershed

Lake Taghkanic drains westward into the Doove Kill within the Roeliff Jansen Kill watershed. A portion of the Roeliff Jansen's headwaters begin in Massachusetts, in the Berkshires, joining other waterways in Columbia County to become one of the Hudson River's largest tributaries.[8] The Roeliff Jansen is also the traditional boundary between the Mohican and Wappinger tribes.[9] Water quality monitoring by DEC indicates that aquatic life in the Doove Kill and its tributaries may have minor impacts due to nutrient loadings from agricultural and other nonpoint pollution sources.[10]

A parcel added to the Park's southeastern edge in 2020 provides a substantial buffer within the watershed, which includes the headwaters of Lake Taghkanic and a bog altered in the past by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for agricultural purposes. The cleared area, which had been channelized, was modified by beaver dams and is now open water. The successional area surrounding this pond may offer the potential for ecological restoration.

Wetlands

LTSP contains a 36.1-acre NYS Regulated Freshwater Wetland complex, in the southeastern portion of the Park. State-regulated freshwater wetlands are classified into four categories, from I, wetlands that are most beneficial, to IV, those that are least beneficial.[11] The complex is designated as a type II wetland. Smaller wetlands, mapped on the National Wetlands Inventory, are located throughout the Park (for more information on wetlands see Appendices, Figure 7).

Regulation changes effective January 1, 2025, put additional acres of wetlands under DEC's jurisdiction. As a result, several additional wetlands within the Park that were previously unregulated may fall under the DEC's purview.

The NYNHP Database indicates the presence of Red Maple-Hardwood Swamp, Vernal Pool, Deep Emergent Marsh, Shallow Emergent Marsh, and Dwarf Shrub Bog wetland types within the Park. These wetland classifications vary in soil type, water depth, and plant composition. Some may flood seasonally, while others are permanently submerged. Each wetland community type provides a critical habitat that contributes to the overall species diversity of the Park and the region. Any activities proposed that may impact wetlands and their buffer areas will require environmental review and, if necessary, appropriate permitting.

Lake Taghkanic in summer.

Flora

Hundreds of plant species have been identified within the Park. In terms of tree species, oak, hickory, maple, cedar, and hemlock are commonly found throughout LTSP. For more information on flora in the Park, see Appendix F.

Fauna

LTSP is home to a varied assemblage of fauna, generally including species characteristic of Columbia County. Deer, bears, coyotes, beavers, rabbits, squirrels, and raccoons can be found in the Park. Lake Taghkanic supports a range of aquatic species including freshwater mussels, American eel, panfish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, pickerel, brown bullhead, blue gill, rock bass, and several other fish. Largemouth bass over 20 inches and chain pickerel over 25 inches have been reported. For more information on fauna species at the Park, see Appendix F.

Significant Natural Communities

"Significant" natural communities are either rare in New York State or are an outstanding example of a more common natural community. One natural community in the Park is considered significant from a statewide perspective: Hemlock-

Northern Hardwood Forest (NYNHP 2020), encompassing 210 acres, approximately 11% of the Park. Damage from the hemlock woolly adelgid, an invasive pest that kills hemlock trees, has been documented and may reduce the size of this community in the Park. Efforts are being made to preserve some of the Park's hemlocks by controlling the hemlock woolly adelgid through chemical treatments.

Ecological Communities

As part of an OPRHP biodiversity inventory updated in 2021, NYNHP staff characterized and mapped natural and cultural community types in LTSP (NYNHP 2021). These surveys identified 18 distinct ecological community types within the Park, predominantly forested with mixed oak and hemlock-hardwood forests (NYNHP 2021).

Ecological Communities at Lake Taghkanic State Park

System	Subsystem	Community Type	Acres
Terrestrial	Forested Uplands	Appalachian Oak-Hickory Forest	567.8
Terrestrial	Forested Uplands	Appalachian Oak-Pine Forest	161.0
Terrestrial	Forested Uplands	Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest	210.2
Terrestrial	Forested Uplands	Successional Northern Hardwoods	274.1
Terrestrial	Barrens And Woodlands	Red Cedar Rocky Summit	1.9
Terrestrial	Open Mineral Soil Wetlands	Shrub Swamp	22.3
Terrestrial	Open Uplands	Successional Old Field	5.9
Terrestrial	Terrestrial Cultural	Conifer Plantation	66.3
Terrestrial	Terrestrial Cultural	Developed	83.1
Terrestrial	Terrestrial Cultural	Wooded Campground	37.9
Terrestrial	Terrestrial Cultural	Mowed Lawn	8.1
Terrestrial	Terrestrial Cultural	Mowed Lawn with Trees	5.4
Palustrine	Forested Mineral Soil Wetlands	Red Maple-Hardwood Swamp	63.4
Palustrine	Forested Mineral Soil Wetlands	Vernal Pool	0.2
Palustrine	Open Mineral Soil Wetlands	Deep Emergent Marsh	9.7
Palustrine	Open Mineral Soil Wetlands	Shallow Emergent Marsh	1.4
Palustrine	Open Peatlands	Dwarf Shrub Bog	24.8
Lacustrine	Natural Lakes and Ponds	Eutrophic Pond	1.2
Lacustrine	Natural Lakes and Ponds	Oligotrophic Dimictic Lake	172.9
Total Acres			**1717.8***

* *Total Acres does not include the 2024 acquisition*

For more information on ecological communities visit the "Conservation Guides" section of the NYNHP home page at nynhp.org. (See Appendices, Figure 9 for a map of ecological communities at LTSP.)

Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) Species

Lake Taghkanic has no known extant populations of rare plants (NYNHP 2023). A population of Southern Swamp Buttercup (*Ranunculus septentrionalis*) was reported near the lake in 1982, but 2020 and 2024 surveys failed to find it. Other rare plant species documented in the vicinity of the Park and recommended for future surveys are Pleated knotweed (*Polygonum tenue*) and a historical record for Schweinitz's sedge (*Carex schweinitzii*).

A rare animal, the Eastern Pond Mussel (*Ligumia nasuta*) has been recorded in Lake Taghkanic in the past. An S2 species "Imperiled in New York", the Eastern Pond Mussel was once abundant in the Hudson River estuary and across the state.[12] Although August 2024 surveys failed to locate the rare Pond Mussel at LTSP, suitable habitat is present within the lake and further surveys are warranted.

New England Cottontail (NEC) is a Special Concern species and a High Priority SGCN. A 2011 record for New England Cottontail (*Sylvilagus transitionalis*) on the parcel acquired in 2020 indicates the species was once present on this

property, which is now within the Park's boundary (NYSDEC 2011). Forest fragmentation and competition with the Eastern Cottontail have led to a decline in NEC populations.[13] Conservation strategies for NEC focus on identifying and modifying appropriate habitats.[14] In coordination with DEC, OPRHP will continue to monitor for NEC on the property acquired in 2020 and in other areas throughout the Park where suitable habitat may be present. If a viable population is detected, the agency will consider implementing habitat improvement strategies, where feasible.

Special Concern (SC) Species and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)
Numerous Special Concern Species and SGCN have been recorded within the Park. Many of the bird species that have been observed are migratory observations and are not necessarily using the park as habitat.

Category	# Recorded Species	# Bird Species
Special Concern	13	10
High Priority SGCN	15	10
SGCN	40	30

A dragonfly species, Arrowhead Spiketail (*Cordulegaster obliqua*), was discovered in the Park during the 2024 Bioblitz. The Arrowhead Spiketail is an SGCN and has a state conservation status rank of S3 species, meaning it is "vulnerable to disappearing from New York due to rarity or other factors (but not currently imperiled)."[15]

A Marbled Salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*) was discovered during routine trail maintenance in July 2024. The Marbled Salamander, is listed as a Special Concern species in NYS, has a state conservation status rank of S3, and is an SGCN.[16] While not currently listed as Threatened or Endangered, these species should be considered when evaluating target species for conservation planning.

Threats to Natural Resources

Immediate threats to the Park's natural elements are invasive species, vegetation trampling, soil erosion, and sedimentation into the lake from recreational and operational usage. Impacted areas include trails, camping areas, and anywhere visitors access the water. Water quality in the lake is also at risk from the Park's septic systems, many of which were installed years ago and are in variable condition.

While some level of beaver activity is natural and beneficial to wetland maintenance, beaver dams can flood trails and impact vegetated buffers around the lake and ponds. Future methods for the management of beaver activity will be developed and evaluated as necessary.

Climate Change
As the climate continues to change, warming temperatures and different weather patterns will impact the region's ecosystems. New York's climate is changing faster than national and global averages and Hudson Valley communities can anticipate rising temperatures with more frequent, intense storms and flooding, heat waves, drought, and wildfires.[17]

These all have the potential to affect the region's natural resources including:

- Potential impacts on the temperature of the Lake
- Potential spread of harmful invasive species and algal blooms
- Plant and animal species' ranges spreading northwards as average temperatures rise
- Native species decline in conjunction with range expansion of more southernly invasives

Invasive Species
Invasive plants are increasingly impacting the Hudson Valley Region's native ecological communities. One of the greatest threats to natural resources at the LTSP is the spread of exotic species that can potentially outcompete native species or alter habitats. Some of the more problematic invasive plants in the Park are Black Swallowwort (*Vincetoxicum nigrum*), Japanese Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*), Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), Japanese

Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica var. Japonica*), Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*), and Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*).

Invasive Species Identified at LTSP (Report generated on iMap Invasives, Oct 17, 2023)	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry
Reynoutria japonica var. japonica: Fallopia japonica var. japonica	Japanese Knotweed, Japanese Bamboo
Elaeagnus umbellata	Autumn Olive
Potamogeton crispus	Curly Pondweed
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven, Ailanthus
Trapa natans	Water Chestnut
Vincetoxicum nigrum	Black Swallowwort
Veronica officinalis	Common Speedwell
Adelges tsugae	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife
Agrilus planipennis	Emerald Ash Borer
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose

Efforts to remove water chestnut from Lake Taghkanic began in 2020 and are ongoing. Black Swallowwort is also being actively treated and a treatment plan for knotweed is likely to be developed and implemented in the future.

Field surveys noted the presence of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges tsugae)* in LTSP in 2020 (OPRHP 2020). Hemlock Wooly Adelgid (HWA) causes the die-off of hemlock trees which may impact the hemlock-hardwood forest in the Park and the lake's forested buffer. An assessment of the status of the HWA in the Park was done in early 2024 and a treatment plan was created and implemented. In May 2024, approximately 900 trees in three stands were treated for HWA using either basal bark application or trunk injection treatment methods (the treatment method was based on the tree's proximity to water).

The anadromous alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) was likely introduced to the lake – possibly by birds or through bait buckets (NYS OPRHP communications with NYS DEC). Alewife was not a known community member until recently and its presence may be affecting other species within the lake. Alewives compete for zooplankton, causing impacts on other native fish and water clarity. The NYS DEC stocked the lake with approximately 17,000 50-day-old walleye (*Sander vitreus*) between 2017 and 2021. Walleye are predatory fish and their diet includes alewives. The stocking was aimed at both introducing a recreational fishing opportunity for walleye and helping control the lake's alewife population. However, walleye have not been captured in subsequent electroshocking efforts.

Invasive insect species, such as the spotted lanternfly, are of particular concern and may impact the Park in the future. Early detection and active management of invasive species is important for protecting the Park's natural elements. Invasive species management strategies will generally prioritize impacted areas around high-quality habitats, such as wetlands, and those threatening key infrastructure, amenities, or views.

OPRHP has a policy to minimize the use of pesticides wherever feasible (OPRHP Policy on Pesticide Reduction in State Parks and Historic Sites). However, in some instances, pesticides are the only viable method for controlling invasives and will be utilized where necessary and appropriate.

Cultural Resources at the Park

Indigenous communities are known to have lived in the Hudson Valley region for millennia. Archaeological evidence suggests that human occupation in the region stretches as far back as 12,000 years ago, when glacial processes were still shaping the geological features seen today.[18] These early people are believed to have lived as nomadic hunting groups. Some of the region's early occupants were the Mohicans, whose stories tell of ancient predecessors who traveled great distances from the northwest, crossing the Bering Straight, over "great waters" to settle along the Hudson River.[19]

The upper Hudson River Valley was also known by the Mohawk people, who traveled east from the Mohawk River Valley to hunt, trade—and sometimes wage war—with the Mohicans.[20] The Mohicans that settled in the area now known as Columbia County called the lake "Taghkanic," interpreted variously as, "water enough," and "full of timber."[21]

Lake Taghkanic State Park was established in 1929 on the ancestral lands of these groups.

Civilian Conservation Corps at Lake Taghkanic State Park

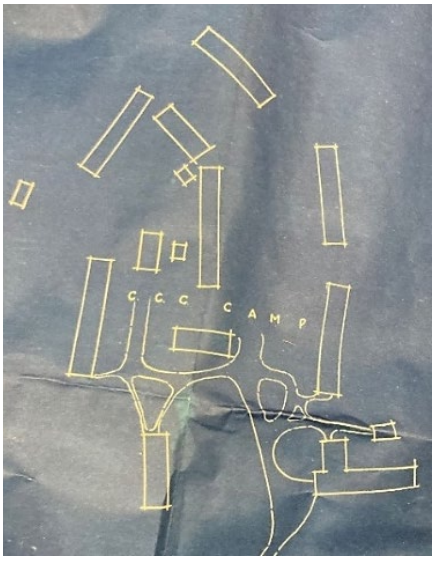
Established in 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) enlisted single men between the ages of 18 and 25 to work programs that ultimately improved public lands across the country. From 1933 to 1942 CCC members worked across New York State to construct roads, trails, cabins, dams, stone walls, and plant trees using mostly hand labor with a pick and shovel.[22] Forty different CCC camps were spread across the state, and many state parks benefited from work performed by the more than 200,000 CCC members.[23] Structures from the CCC era are of interest to history and architecture buffs and offer interpretive potential.

A CCC camp was established at the Park in 1933 to house the laborers who constructed much of the Park's early infrastructure. These historically significant elements, still found in the Park today, include a stone water tower, the East Bathhouse and swimming beach, and campground infrastructure, including rustic cabins, a Recreation Hall, and a Stone Shower House. Most of these elements remain in active use and are integral to the Park's operation.

Still in use at the Campground are 15 cabins, a stone shower house, and a Recreation Hall, in which the chimney and wood portion are from the CCC era. Accessible family restrooms have been added to the historic structure. The CCC-built East Beach Bathhouse and a stone water tower with an observation area, are extant but no longer in use. In 2019 the stone water tower was restored and replaced with a modern water tank.

A 1907 photo shows the Lake's western shore prior to the creation of LTSP, with inns, boarding houses, restaurants, and summer homes.

Original blueprints in the Park's archives show the CCC camp as a cluster of rectangular buildings representing barracks for housing workers, a dining hall, and other outbuildings. All that remains of the original CCC camp today are a pair of stone columns at the former entrance and overgrown foundations, shallow wells, and debris in a wooded area.



(Left) A hand sketch of the CCC Camp layout (Park archives). (Right) Two sone piers flank the entrance to the original CCC Camp. Few remnants of the camp remain.

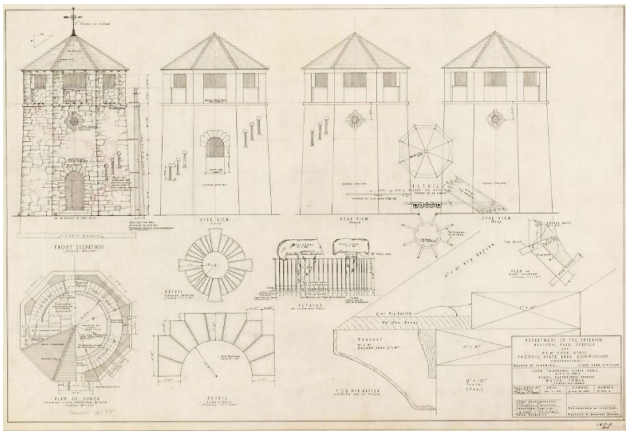
The East Bathhouse is a significant part of the Park's early infrastructure. Constructed by CCC workers to provide changing areas and public restrooms for beachgoers using the nearby East Beach swimming area, it later housed the Park's main office until 2007, when extensive damage from a large water leak forced the Park to shutter the building. The structure was already in poor condition at the time, and the damage coincided with the state's "Great Recession," when the then current administration saw growing budget shortfalls and was consolidating resources, which included closing parks and postponing repairs.[24] The East Beach and Bathhouse have remained closed since that time.
Another state-funded public works program, the National Youth Administration, was established at the Park in May 1939. This program trained young men between 18 and 25 years old in the "…duties and responsibilities of State Park maintenance, operations, and minor construction work."[25] Housed in the buildings constructed and formerly occupied by the Park's CCC camp, trainees worked an average of 70 hours per month, primarily in park maintenance and operations tasks. Classes included instruction in basic "botany, zoology, mathematics, science, arts and social and economic problems."[26]

Cultural Resource Protection and Preservation

Lake Taghkanic State Park has been determined eligible for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places as a park-wide historic district. Features dating from the ca. 1929-1960s era are thus considered historic for their collective depiction of the Park's historic growth and development. As previously mentioned, of particular note are the Park's CCC-built elements, which date back to the mid-1930s. Properties determined eligible for the Registers receive some protection from the effects of proposed projects through a notice, review, and consultation process. No previously known archaeological resources or investigations at LTSP are listed on the NYS Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS).

Historic Cottages

A summer cottage once owned by a member of New York's prominent Livingston Family is located close to the Lake's northeast shoreline. Formerly used as a park manager's residence, a failing septic system has kept it unoccupied for more than 10 years, and it is now used for storage. The cottage is in overall good condition and plans are in place to renovate it for use as staff housing. Work will include addressing some interior code issues and relocating the septic system farther from the lake.



Top: Construction drawing for a stone water tower built by CCC workers. A historic lakefront residence at LTSP, originally owned by a member of the Livingston family.

The Park's lakefront cottages are mostly former private summer homes that the state acquired as it was consolidating property to create the Park. The cottages were relocated from their original sites to form a small cluster of waterfront rental accommodations on the west end of the lake. An assessment by the State Historic Preservation Office determined that several cottages are eligible for listing in the State or National Register of Historic Places. A number were identified as not eligible for listing in the State and/or National Register due to previous alterations, deteriorated condition, or a combination of the two. The cottages are available seasonally and always in high demand.

Cultural Landscape

Cultural landscapes are places that have been affected, influenced, or shaped by human involvement.[27] Over the centuries, waterbodies have shaped where human development occurs. Places with ample freshwater resources provide a steady supply of drinking water and a place where people can fish and hunt animals that come to drink water. At LTSP the lake has always been the focal point for development.

Physical evidence of agricultural use by early European settlers who cleared and cultivated the land include the rubble stone walls still visible at the Park today. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, residences and summer homes were built closely along the lakeshore. The CCC-era development at the Park contributes another layer to the cultural landscape.

The Park's buildings and other infrastructure are generally oriented relative to the lake. The East Bathhouse sits on a knoll facing out across Lake Taghkanic, and the campground is nearby, allowing easy access to water views and former swimming beach. The West Beach Bathhouse and Park Office building was built facing out across the lake, and the Park's main road hugs its perimeter, offering glimpses of the far shoreline through the trees. The popular Lakeview Trail circles the shoreline.

Reesa (Ressa) Farmstead

A significant element of the Park's cultural landscape is the Smith-Ressa property, purchased by the State from the Marie Ressa family in late 1961 or 1962 (spellings for the family name differ – a nearby road sign is spelled "Reesa," used today). The Ressa property was purchased to expand the Park's trail system and protect the land from being developed. Once a part of the vast holdings of the Livingston Manor, this 160-acre parcel on the northeast side of the Park has a 19th-century farmhouse and barn, both vacant and in poor condition. The buildings were assessed and documented in a 2019 internal report by the Taconic Region's Historic Sites Restoration Coordinator.[28] The property was assessed again in 2023 by DHP staff as part of master plan development. The report indicated substantial deterioration in the barn's structural framework, primarily from water penetration. Major beams and other elements have been compromised.

Reesa farmhouse and barn, circa 1872

Stylistic and physical evidence suggests that the house and barn were likely built in the 1870s.[29] The house is a two-story, center hall structure built over a full basement with mortared rubble fieldstone walls. The porch trim and front door are typical of the Italianate style popular in the post-Civil War period. It is a vernacular farmhouse and not a high-style residence. The standing seam metal roof is somewhat intact. Both front porch roofs, and a small 20th century addition on the south side, have collapsed, and the interior has incurred damage from the roots of nearby trees, vandalism, and animal activity.

The barn is an excellent example of mid-19th-century timber framing, retaining much of its original building fabric. The barn may have been built in 1872 (the date found painted on the interior east wall). The structure is laid out in typical English or three-bay barn fashion, with a wide center bay and threshing floor.[30] The barn's original portion was framed with hand-hewn heavy timbers and smaller sawn wood members, all with mortise and tenon joinery. There is a full basement whose wood-framed walls are exposed above grade on the east, south, and west elevations, and a rubble stone retaining wall along the north side. The basement contained a dairy and horse stalls.

Property Acquisition

The latest addition to LTSP is a 152-acre, nineteenth-century farmstead acquired by OPRHP in 2024. The parcel abuts LTSP on its southeasterly border, with significant frontage along both sides of NY 82. An early American style house and classic red barn complex on the property are typical of the region and characteristic of the agrarian lifestyle that once dominated Columbia County. The site's rolling terrain features woodlands, meadows, a pond, and wetlands. The house will be used as a Park Manager's residence and the barns for storage. Open space on the remaining acreage will be evaluated for potential development of trails to connect with existing systems at the Park and in the region.

Additional neighboring properties that help to reach the vision and intended outcomes of the Master Plan will be considered for acquisition in the future as funding allows, and improved as appropriate.

Recreational Resources

The Park's recreation infrastructure has been developed to support the most popular activities, which include swimming, camping, fishing, boating, hiking, sailing, dog walking, running, picnicking, basketball, volleyball, softball, and soccer. The Park features picnic areas, boat launch sites, boat rentals, playgrounds, sports fields, and a rental pavilion. Sailboats, private kayaks, canoes, and standup paddleboards are all popular. Ice skating and ice fishing are permitted when conditions are appropriate.

The focal point at Lake Taghkanic State Park is its large, spring-fed lake. Most development has occurred along its north and west borders. Its wide, sandy beach and clear fresh water attract large numbers of visitors, especially during the summer months, to sunbathe and cool off.

Lake Activities

Swimming
The West Beach is open for swimming on weekends and holidays, from Memorial Day Weekend till the third week in June, then daily through Labor Day Weekend, when lifeguards are on duty. The East Beach is permanently closed for swimming. Visitors also use the West Beach area for volleyball, picnicking, socializing, sunbathing, and relaxing.

Boating
Boating is a popular activity at LTSP. There are two boat launches in the Park, one at the West Beach Parking Lot and the other near the maintenance area on the lake's east side. Visitors may bring their own boat or kayak to use on the lake. Gas-powered motors are not allowed; electric trolling motors are permitted. All boats must have a permit. Seasonal permits are available at the Park Office for $30, and weekly permits for $10. Seasonal boat storage (May-December) is available for an additional $15. Rowboats, kayaks, paddleboats, and canoes are available to rent from early May through mid-October. All boats are $10 per hour or $40 per day.

Fish Species in Lake Taghkanic (NYSDEC)

Large/Smallmouth Bass
Chain Pickerel
Black Crappie
Bluegill
Pumpkinseed
Rock Bass
Redbreast Sunfish
Yellow Perch
White Perch
Brown Bullhead
American Eel
Alewife
Golden Shiner
Creek Chub
Banded Killifish
Tessellated Darter

Fishing
Visitors are allowed to fish when the Park is open. Everyone age 16 or older must possess a valid NYS freshwater fishing license. Ice fishing is available in winter when conditions are appropriate. Special fishing regulations from DEC pertaining to walleye are applicable at the Park.

Concessions
The West Beach Concession serves traditional snack bar food/drink and is open during the swimming operating season.

Day Use Activities

The Park's grounds are open for day use recreation year-round. From Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, the Park is open from 8 am to sunset and from Labor Day through Memorial Day from sunrise to sunset. A $10 daily vehicle use fee is charged seasonally when the beach is open for swimming.

Courts and Ball Fields
The Park has a ball field used for soccer, softball, football, and frisbee. There is also a basketball court.

Disc Golf
A 9-hole disc golf course was installed at the Park in 2024, in the wooded area surrounding the C, D, and E lots.

Beach Activities
The volleyball net on the West Beach is popular with beachgoers. Spike ball, can jam, and ladder ball are also common beach activities.

Pavilion and Recreation Hall
A picnic pavilion, Picnic Area E, is available to rent from late April to late October and can accommodate up to 60 people. There are picnic tables, charcoal grills, and an accessible restroom. Pavilion reservations can be made up to 11 months in advance and must be made at least 3 days before arrival. Reservations can be made online at www.reserveamerica.com or by calling 1-800-456-2267. Rental applications are also available from the Park Office.

The Campground Recreation Hall (which doubles as a storm shelter during inclement weather) is also available for groups to use.

Picnicking
Eight designated picnic areas are located throughout the Park: two primary and six smaller areas. The picnic tables, located throughout the Park, by the beach, and near the playgrounds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Playgrounds
The Park has two playgrounds: one near the East Bathhouse and Campground and the other just south of the West Beach Swimming Area. Both have views of the lake. The West Beach playground has an educational theme and incorporates signage and graphics related to fish species found in the Park. Both were installed within the last 10 to 15 years and are in good condition.

Playground on the lake's east shore.

Winter Activities
Cross country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, ice fishing, and ice skating are available, conditions permitting.

Other Activities
Visitors can participate in geocaching (a type of global treasure hunt for hidden stashes of objects) throughout the Taconic Region. There are several geocaches at the Park.

Hunting
Bow hunting only is permitted, and deer and turkey may be taken in designated areas during the season. A Park Hunting Permit is required which can be found on the NYS Parks webpage for hunting at Lake Taghkanic, https://parks.ny.gov/parks/laketaghkanic/details.aspx.

In general, the Park has been determined capable of supporting recreational hunting for deer and turkey. Hunting program modifications may be considered for population management or to meet changes in recreational demand. Future changes to hunting requirements, including permissible hunting methods, zones, species, seasons, and allowable take, will be determined by Park Management in coordination with OPRHP Stewardship staff. Guidelines to ensure public health and safety will be developed and reviewed prior to implementation. Changes to hunting for deer management will align with DEC's Management Plan for White-Tailed Deer in New York State, 2021–2030.

In 2013, New York State launched the "New York's Open for Fishing and Hunting" initiative, to promote the recreational, economic, and ecological benefits of hunting. OPRHP will, where practicable, to open new state parks (or new areas in state parks) to big game hunting for recreational opportunities. Recent acquisitions will be considered for future hunting program expansion.

Camping

Camping is a primary recreation activity at LTSP with many families coming to camp for multiple generations. The Park's campground is in a hilly, wooded area north of the lake. Available from mid-May to late October, the CCC cabins and tent sites are typically fully booked on weekends. The lakeside cottages are also very popular. While not required, reservations are highly recommended, especially for weekends and holidays, and should be made in advance to ensure accommodations are available. Reservations can be made up to nine months in advance through the New York State Camping Reservation Service (call 1-800-456-2267) or online through Reserve America (www.reserveamerica.com).

Top: Rustic cabins can be rented at the Park's CCC-era Campground.

Above: Lakefront rental cottages are popular for family gatherings.

Campground

The Campground has 60 campsites, 32 of which are tent platform sites. Each campsite can accommodate up to six people. Nine campsites are available for small pop-up campers. The trailer lot can accommodate pop-up campers and smaller RVs up to 20 feet in length. Camping permits require that guests stay within the campground, cabin, and cottage areas outside of general use hours. Utilities at the Campground include water and electricity, with septic infrastructure to manage wastewater. Shower facilities, water fountains, and restrooms have been upgraded and are centrally located. The potable water system is not frost-protected so Campground facilities cannot be kept open year-round.

A Camp Store, located between Parking Lot 1 and the Campground Parking Lot, is open during the camping season only. The store sells firewood, charcoal, lighter fluid, ice, bait, candy, snacks, drinks, ice cream, toiletries, basic clothing, blankets, and camping supplies. The Camp Store is open to all visitors. See the Park Office for operating hours/dates.

Cabins

Fifteen rustic CCC cabins are sited in a wooded campground, north of the Park's tent camping area. Cabins range from one to four bedrooms, with kitchens, screened-in porches, picnic tables, and a communal fire ring with stone benches. Each unit has a small kitchen, running water (most only have cold water), a fireplace, and an indoor toilet. There is a centrally located shower house. Patrons must provide utensils, cookware, linens, and pillows. Some families have rented cabins at LTSP over multiple generations and hold a deep sense of nostalgia for them. They are usually fully booked, and securing reservations can be a challenge.

Cottages

The Park's fourteen lakeside rental cottages are clustered in a lawn area south of the West Beach. Most are from the late 19th century early summer communities that developed around the lake. The cottages represent the efforts of the Taconic State Park Commission to develop visitor amenities and expand the park's offerings during its historic development, and thus contribute to the park's history and Historic Registers eligibility.

Although they appear somewhat uniform, their materials, design, and construction styles are variable as some cottages were built by skilled tradesmen and others by homeowners. The cottages range from one to four bedrooms with drywall interiors. Each has an electric stove, microwave, refrigerator, screened-in porch, picnic table, fire ring, hot and cold water, and a restroom with a shower. Some have electric heat or a fireplace. For standard cottages, patrons must provide all utensils, cookware, linens, and pillows. Four full-service cottages provide these amenities plus eating and

cooking utensils, pots and pans, glassware, furniture, electric heat, a coffeemaker, a toaster, a clock radio, carpeted or hardwood floors, a sofa, and bed linens. Pets are not permitted in the cabins or cottages.

Trails

Lake Taghkanic has approximately 12 miles of trails that visitors use for hiking, dog walking, mountain biking, hunting access, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and accessing different parts of the Park. Most trails accommodate multiple uses. However, conditions for some uses (mountain biking, snowmobiling, cross country skiing) vary by trail and by season. The Park Office provides trail maps, and the gravel parking lot by the NY 82 Entrance has a kiosk with a large map. Some trail intersections are marked with wood signs and directional arrows.

Providing more trail connections at LTSP and to the region was identified as a master plan goal. In addition to the Park's trails, the regional open space network has trails offering a range of experiences. Hiking trails in New Forge State Forest lead through woodlands to fishing spots and swimming holes. At Taconic State Park, the Copake Falls and Rudd Pond areas have extensive trail systems with terrain that varies from easy to challenging, many offering spectacular views. There are also other trail options across the state border in Massachusetts.

Fitness Trail (FN) (Blue Markers)
The Fitness Trail consists of multiple trail segments looped together in the southeast section of the park. The trails generally follow a mowed, grassy corridor. The full loop takes approximately 30 to 45 minutes to complete. An overlook along the highest point of the trail offers views of the lake, the surrounding Taconic Hills, and the Catskill Mountains to the west. During winter and wet weather, the trail is closed periodically, depending on conditions.

Lakeview Trail (LV) – (White Markers)
This trail loops around the entire lake, near the shore, offering scenic viewpoints. Trail conditions vary by section, with some easier sections located along the picnic and cabin areas, and others traversing more rugged, rocky terrain on the southern edge of the lake. Seasonal closures and re-routes are common during the winter and wet weather. Travel time to complete the loop is approximately 2.5 to 3 hours.

Winter Trail (WR) – (Orange Diamond markers)
This trail is less developed than others in the park and is primarily used during the winter as a snowmobile detour around a narrow portion of the Lakeview Trail. The trail is a strenuous climb as it rises and descends over 300 feet. In winter, views of the lake and Berkshire Mountains are seen to the east.

Campground Loop (CL) – (Green markers)
The Campground Loop provides a connection from the camping area into the northern section of the property. It then loops back to join the Lake Taghkanic Road. Conditions vary along this trail and some segments are steep.

Reesa's Farm Trail (RS) – (Green markers)
This trail connects with the northern leg of the Campground Loop and extends to the former Reesa Farm, then turns south and connects to Lake Taghkanic Road, near the western entry.

Trail Assessments
In the Spring of 2024, staff from the Taconic Region as well as the Albany office performed trail assessments on the trails at LTSP. These assessments evaluated the needs and conditions of trails and trail users at the park and captured general condition, areas of erosion or drainage issues, ease of travel, adequacy of signage and other issues in the trail tread and corridor. Staff considered how trails are used and made recommendations for optimizing the network. Sections in need of repair, re-routing, or closure were identified and documented (see Appendices, Figure 11).

Trails at LTSP lead through wooded areas and to high points with views of the Catskills and lake. Some are used for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter.

Accessible Trail Design

Increasing accessibility for all persons is an OPRHP priority. The Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) establish standards for accessible trail segments and access routes. These standards include surface condition and material, directional and cross slopes, minimum widths, obstacle heights, and more. OPRHP staff trained in the Universal Trail Assessment Process performed a preliminary review of at the Lakeview Trail at LTSP between the F lot and West Beach to consider potential accessible trail improvements. The initial assessment determined the following:

- Many sections of the existing Lakeview Trail (between F lot and West Beach) meet ABA trail grades.
- Some segments are too steep in their current condition or have too great an out-slope or in-slope and will require grading to meet the standards.
- Surfacing along the trail varies; material would need to be added to create a consistently firm and stable surface on the trail.
- In steep sections, resting areas should be built into the trail that are at least five feet long and no more than 5% running grade.
- Some sections of the trail have bedrock which would require additional groundwork.

Considerations for improvements to this section of the Lakeview Trail, informed by this assessment, are included in Appendix B – *Development and Analysis of Recommended Actions*.

Education, Outreach, and Programming

The Park regularly offers activities and events, many during the summer season when demand is highest. Some park patrons are day-use visitors from the Hudson River communities of Poughkeepsie, Catskill, and Hudson, as well as the northern NYC boroughs and New Jersey. Campers may come from even wider-ranging places, driving from Long Island and Massachusetts. Residents from areas local to the Park come regularly, mostly on weekdays, to walk their dogs, fish, canoe, or kayak. Locals who visit tend to be either retired people or high school/college-aged students who run in the Park.

The Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association hosts a monthly Star Party in the West Beach Parking Lot. Visitors bring telescopes and binoculars or use those provided by other amateur astronomers for stargazing.

In 2024, NYS Parks celebrated its 100-year anniversary. As part of the festivities, the agency offers a challenge for visitors to complete as many as possible from a list of 100 state park-related activities.

Nature programs are always well-attended.

The most popular event at LTSP has always been its annual July 4th fireworks display, which for decades filled the large West Beach Parking Lot beyond capacity. Because of operational issues, the Park no longer offers fireworks on July 4th.

Campers have also enjoyed movies in the Park and a Learn to Swim program (which buses children to the Park) has been very popular. The Park has offered nature programming, such as Raptors & Reptiles, which has had a strong response. Campers are a key target group for future programs and activities at the Park. Camping groups are diverse, and generally comprised of family units with children. LTSP occasionally offers various nature-related programs. Nature-related activities are in demand, especially by families staying at the campground. The Park formerly had a small nature center in what is currently the camp store, but it has been closed for more than 15 years due to staff retirement. The Taconic Region has two environmental education centers: the Taconic Outdoor Education Center (TOEC) in Cold Spring, NY, and a nature center in Fahnestock State Park, both located south of LTSP.

Tours

School and adult tours are offered. Canoe tours and guided hikes have been offered in the past.

Special Events

Lake Taghkanic SP hosts special events every year. Past programs and events geared toward the community have included “Get Outdoors and Get Together Day”, offering accessible activities with adaptive equipment, games, canoe tours, and a fishing clinic. Other events have included car shows, live concerts, Iron Man races, bass/fishing tournaments, First Day Hikes, “Make Art in the Park” Day, I Love My Park Day, and the annual model boat/airplane “Float-Fly” event.

Park staff would like to provide more content of interest to both community members and existing visitors. Suggestions for new programs for children and youth might include nighttime hikes with fun games, winter walks on snow and ice, nature walks for underserved youth in the region, learn-to-fish days, or firefly walks. Other events might include plant identification walks, school group visits, and family-friendly movies in the Park. For adults, potential events considered include guided walks on late fall weekends, history walks, and nostalgia-related events that celebrate Park’s history.

Programs geared toward seniors can be a big draw to parks, ideally offering a variety of fun activities such as walking for fitness, yoga, sound therapy, tai chi, forest fitness with stretches and strengthening exercises, nature/outdoor workshops (e.g., plant identification, forest bathing, etc.), and recreation programs such as boating instruction, kayaking, canoeing, nighttime woodland hikes, and winter appreciation walks. A strong Audubon presence in the Hudson Valley can also attract local groups for birding programs. Expanded sports and recreational programs might include short (1-hour) competitions, disc golf or volleyball tournaments, mountain bike races, or a fishing derby.

Interpretation

Existing interpretive content at LTSP includes panels in the campground with information on the CCC elements, four panels in the Park Office lobby that provide an introduction to the Park, and information about the region's wildlife and fish. The lobby also has a monitor for screening videos or other content (currently out of commission). The West Beach Playground has educational content and graphic elements about fish species found in the lake.

Park staff discussed a desire to interpret the full spectrum of the area's history from the perspective of the agency's "Our Whole History" initiative. The Park's site and the region offer a wealth of opportunities to document and convey under-told stories of those who formerly lived here, including the Indigenous communities, Taghkanic basketmakers, and the rich oral histories of people who had homes on the lake, many of whom were impacted by the Park's creation. Conveying this type of material helps to preserve these stories and has the potential to bring the Park to life for its visitors.

Participants gather for a group photo at the June 2024 "Bioblitz" at LTSP. Over forty volunteers spent a full day at the Park surveying species and identifying approximately 500 species of plants, animals, fungi, and protists.

Outreach and Partnerships

Outreach

Information about the Park is mainly publicized using social media; for larger or statewide events the agency may publish a press release. The Park is phasing out the use of printed brochures and handouts as staff report they are less effective. Flyers are used only occasionally to get the word out to the community, posted at the Town Clerk's office, local gas stations, or diners. Park staff expressed the need to improve and expand outreach strategies and methods to reach a broader range of today's visitors.

Partnerships

Park staff work with Scouting America on public service projects and are currently working with a scout troop to help manage litter. The Scouts have completed various Eagle Scout projects at the Park throughout the years, including a kiosk at the small parking lot by the NY 82 Entrance.

A long-term partnership with the Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association has brought groups to the Park after dark for two decades. LTSP has also engaged with New York Triathlon; two triathlon races have been held at the Park. The Park

works with area schools (Taconic Hills School and the City of Hudson school district) for lifeguard recruitment and has worked with the Taconic Outdoor Education Center at Fahnestock State Park. Former collaborations have been with a snowmobiling club and the Columbia County Mountain Biking Alliance.

Operations, Infrastructure, and Facilities

OPRHP is responsible for preserving the integrity of its recreational and historic facilities. In recent years, the added challenges of extreme weather and other climate change impacts have increasingly affected the agency's parks and sites. Power outages are more frequent, and damage to trees, buildings, and park infrastructure must be anticipated and planned for. Underlying these operational issues is the need to develop lower-impact facilities, a key agency goal. Each OPRHP facility must do its part to help meet state milestones for reducing carbon emissions.

The Park's buildings, landscape, and infrastructure are maintained by Park staff and regional maintenance crews. Maintenance tasks encompass a broad scope of day-to-day activities reasonably understood to be basic maintenance. These include mowing, pruning, weeding/raking and hazardous tree monitoring and removal, trail upkeep, trash removal, cleaning sand and debris from culverts, and snow plowing. Staff are also responsible for the upkeep of infrastructure, which includes painting and minor repairs to Park buildings and fences, as well as maintenance and service of all Park equipment. These activities are necessary to provide patrons with a safe and enjoyable visit and prevents or delays more costly replacements or repairs of infrastructure.

Much of the Park's functional infrastructure—its buildings, parking areas, walkways, utilities, and other working components of the facility—are aging and in variable condition. Some Park buildings have been updated or replaced, including several of the public restroom buildings. Originally constructed in 1960-61, the West Beach Bathhouse and Park Office was redone in 2007 and re-roofed in 2008. The roof was not structurally altered in any way when it was re-roofed.

Older buildings in active use at LTSP include a range of maintenance structures and various sheds and outbuildings, and the Park's historically significant buildings. These wood frame structures require an added level of care. They are constructed with specialized materials that can be a challenge for staff to appropriately repair and maintain. The region formerly had a technical crew skilled in historic restoration to help address these issues, but that support staff is no longer available.

Many smaller structures are found throughout the Park, including pump houses, a water treatment plant, garages, and structures for equipment storage (for a complete list of Park buildings, see Appendix E). A Quonset hut on the Park's northwest side is used for storage. The structure is of unknown age (likely from the 40s or 50s; it is visible in aerial mapping in 1958).

Lake Taghkanic State Park has two maintenance areas. The primary maintenance area is the East Maintenance Shop, located near the northeast lakefront on both sides of the Park's main road. This area has multiple buildings for equipment storage and general maintenance work, paved parking areas, and a staff break room. A historic cottage, formerly used as Park Manager's house is sited near the lake shore immediately adjacent to this area. A portion of this maintenance area is on the north side of Lake Taghkanic Road, includes a fueling station and pole barn for large equipment storage. The maintenance facility is in generally poor condition. Some buildings have cracked foundations, inadequate HVAC, and the aging wastewater system needs replacement. The facility is visible to visitors entering the Park from NY 82, as they pass by on the way to the campground, picnic facilities, and West Beach area.

A secondary maintenance area, the Parkway Garage, is located on LTSP's west side along a restricted access road that enters the Park from the Taconic State Parkway. This area houses a woodshop, pole barn, two garage buildings, and is used for storing beach equipment. A modular, wood-framed residential structure modified for Park Police use is also in this area. OPRHP's Taconic Region has Park Police Stations at its north and south ends (North Zone at LTSP; South Zone at Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park), as well as an administrative presence at the Taconic Regional Headquarters in Staatsburg. As LTSP is an overnight camping venue, the North Zone station operates between 8:00 am and midnight.

All OPRHP facilities are required to maintain an approved plan that documents, addresses, and sustains the reduction of mowing, and Lake Taghkanic has a reduced mowing schedule in place. Allowing previously mowed areas to develop into managed grasslands improves habitat for wildlife and pollinators, as well as reducing carbon emissions from fuel consumption. Fewer hours spent mowing also significantly lowers the labor hours needed to maintain lawns and allows maintenance staff to focus on other priority needs.

Vehicular and Pedestrian Infrastructure

A lack of public transportation to LTSP necessitates that most visitors arrive by car. The Park's roads are laid out in a Robert Moses-era design that defines its primary focus on vehicular circulation.

Vehicular
LTSP has around three miles of paved road and one mile of gravel-surfaced road that are in generally good condition. The roadway system is used by both vehicles and bicyclists, who must share the road. The posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour. The primary internal road (Lake Taghkanic Road) runs mostly east-west, curving around the lake's north and west sides, with spurs to the Park's campground, and picnic areas. The road provides direct access to the West Beach and Bathhouse/Park Office, swimming beach, playground, and cottages. Lake Taghkanic Road becomes gravel after it passes the Cottages.

Pedestrian Facilities
The Park's pedestrian facilities include asphalt or concrete paths, gravel roads, and natural surface foot trails. Pathways, sidewalks, and trails vary in material and condition throughout the Park. A paved, accessible path parallels the West Beach swimming area. People often walk their dogs along the Park's main road.

Park Entrances
The Park is bordered by two busy roads – the Taconic State Parkway (TSP) to the west and State Route 82 to the east. The primary entrance, on the west side, is accessed from the northbound lane of the Taconic State Parkway (TSP). Cars heading southbound on the TSP must make a (legal) U-turn to access this entrance. A secondary entrance on the Park's east side is from NY 82. This entrance is used by the public and by delivery trucks, RVs, and camper vans (which are not permitted on the TSP). An entry kiosk for this access point is located about a half-mile into the Park. Both entrances have minimal infrastructure – two contact booths on the west side and one on the east. The contact booths are older and lack utilities. During peak summer season, and especially during large events, traffic at the entrances can move slowly, and backups sometimes extend onto the Parkway. A separate service road enters the Park south of the main entrance from the TSP, primarily for use by staff and authorized vehicles.

A vehicle counting device at the main entrance helps document the number of vehicles/visitors.

Parking
With two large parking areas and multiple smaller lots available throughout the Park, staff report that parking capacity is generally sufficient. Adjacent to the West Beach, the main parking area can accommodate approximately 1000 vehicles and is sized appropriately for large summer crowds. The lot covers around 7.5 acres. Its asphalt pavement is deteriorated and uneven with few pavement markings and no defined pedestrian routes. A second parking area in the Park's east section is located adjacent to the campground and across from the East Bathhouse. This 1.5-acre asphalt lot can accommodate around 150 vehicles.

Other parking options are available at the most popular areas of the Park. Parking adjacent to the picnic areas and the Park Office are primarily to provide accessible parking, staff parking, or visitor drop-offs. During the peak summer season, overflow parking in Picnic Lots A and B is often necessary.

Accessibility
Properties open to the public are expected to follow standards established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). While there are exceptions, to the greatest extent possible, public buildings, recreational amenities, and walks must be

accessible. Park staff at LTSP are working to improve accessibility for all visitor activities. An ADA-compliant beach mat at the West Beach is used during the active swimming season to improve access to the water's edge. Made of synthetic mesh, these mats provide a firmer surface for those who need it to cross sand, such as people who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids. Accessibility for the Park's trails is discussed in the Trails section of this document.

Utilities

Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction
The agency is in the process of transitioning all facilities from fossil fuels to electric equipment, including Electric Vehicles (EVs). LTSP has taken steps to make its operations more energy efficient, using LED lighting and solar panels at the West Beach Office.


East water tower

Potable Water
The Park does not receive municipal water. A potable water treatment plant, brought online in 2003, has one intake location that takes water from the lake and processes it for distribution. The system consists of an ultrafiltration treatment facility, two water storage tanks, a booster pump station, and a distribution piping network consisting primarily of HDPE and PVC piping.

There are two pressure zones for water supply: the West Day Use and Cottage Area, which are served by an in-ground 55,000-gallon water storage tank, and the East Area, served by an above-ground 32,000-gallon water tank with associated water distribution piping, and booster pump station.

The Park's potable water system mostly functions seasonally. Cabins, cottages, and some restrooms are closed in winter and have no water or heat. Only those restrooms that use wells are functional year-round. The five active wells at the Park service the West Bathhouse, the Recreation Hall, the East Maintenance area, the Parkway Garage/Park Police, and one residence (TA-26).

Wastewater
The Park's wastewater is managed with septic systems. Septic waste is discharged in accordance with NYS Environmental Conservation Law. There are 13 total outfalls permitted at the Park; five of those outfalls have been decommissioned or are planned to be decommissioned. A septic pump station building in the west section captures water from the West Bathhouse and cottages. The cottages' septic is connected to the pump station. All other septic systems are managed with septic fields.

The West Beach wastewater collection system services two areas within the Park; the West Cottage Area and the West Beach Area. The West Cottage Area conveys wastewater from the cottages, the two-bedroom staff house, and the laundry facility via three grinder pump stations to the West Beach Pump Station. The West Beach Area serves the West Beach Bathhouse and Park Office, conveying wastewater via a gravity sewer main to the West Beach Pump Station.

At the Parkway Maintenance area, the North Zone Police Building is serviced by a 1,000-gallon septic tank and two 1,000-gallon holding tanks in series. The Carpenter Building is serviced by a septic tank with baffle which is pumped out regularly. The Quonset hut septic system is no longer in use.

Electric
The facility is serviced for electric by National Grid. There is one utility feed entering the Park from the TSP across from the West Beach parking lot, which feeds the majority of the Park's buildings. Power outages are common and, when they occur, impact the ability of Park operations staff and Park police to complete their work.

Solar
A PV system installation on the rooftop of the West Bathhouse building was completed at LTSP in 2017. The building houses Park offices, public bathrooms, changing rooms, and a concession stand. The total PV System is 36 kW in size with four arrays, each one on a different section of the roof. In 2023 it generated approximately 35 MWh of energy. The system is wired along the side of the building and connected to the main electrical panel, inside the back of the building.

Internet
Internet connectivity is generally poor at LTSP. In 2022, portions of the existing internet infrastructure were replaced, including new cable installed from an existing utility pole to the Park office building.

Former Landfill Site
The Park has an inactive solid waste landfill that was used for Park-generated waste when LTSP opened in the 1930s. The Park stopped using the landfill in the early 1980s. Located at the north end of a gravel road, the landfill covers approximately 1.3 acres. A closure plan was prepared in 2018 but the facility has not been officially closed.

Emergency Plans and Services

Lake Taghkanic has an All-Hazard Emergency Action Plan (AHEAP) in place which establishes procedures for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery for severe weather, building evacuation, and medical emergencies. The AHEAP describes staff roles and responsibilities, protocols, and responses to emergencies. A copy is on file at the Taghkanic Fire Department.

Medical Emergencies
If there is a medical emergency, a call is placed to 9-1-1 or local emergency number. While waiting for EMS, contact Park Police, Park office and/or park manager, and, if applicable, alert contact stations of incoming emergency vehicles.

Fire
The Taghkanic Fire Department will respond to and assume command of any reports of fire at the Park maintenance and administration staff, along with Park Police, will ensure the building and/or area of the fire is evacuated and assist in directing the Fire Department to the location of the fire.

Severe Weather and Natural Disasters
Severe weather events include thunderstorms, tornados, floods, hurricanes, and blizzards. Emergencies that occur during a severe weather event should be reported to 9-1-1 and Park Police.

Loss of power is a potential impact of severe weather and occurs periodically at Lake Taghkanic. If the entire facility is impacted, the Park Manager is notified, who in turn notifies the Regional Emergency Management and Administrative staff and reports the outage to the electric provider (National Grid).

Evacuation
All OPRHP facilities have written evacuation procedures for each occupied building. In an emergency, the evacuation of part of or an entire facility may be necessary. In an evacuation, Park staff must immediately notify Park Police and Regional Administration. If assistance is needed from the local Fire Department, EMS and/or local police, Park staff will contact 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.

Emergency shelter areas within the Park are:

1. Park Office
2. Campground Recreation Hall

Evacuation routes:

1. Leave the main parking lot, turn right. At the Y in the road, turn left to return to the Taconic State Parkway.
2. Leave the main parking lot, turn right. At the Y in the road, turn right to return to NY 82.

Animal Encounters

Any direct physical contact with an unknown animal, especially if it results in a bite or scratch, may have serious health consequences. Wild animals, alive or dead, can spread disease and pose potential physical health hazards. In the event of direct physical contact:

1. If necessary, provide first aid care and seek medical treatment immediately by calling 9-1-1.
2. If the encounter includes a wild animal, contact Park Police and animal control.
3. If the encounter includes any species known to carry rabies (typically bats, skunks, raccoons, and foxes), the local health department may need to be notified.

A double rainbow over Lake Taghkanic at the West Bathhouse.

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Appendix B – Development and Analysis of Recommended Actions

Potential actions for improvements at Lake Taghkanic State Park were evaluated on their potential to address the facility's immediate needs, realize the Park's vision, and anticipate shifts in visitor demographics, preferences, and statewide recreation trends. Actions found to be beneficial, reasonable, and that will best accommodate the facility's short- and long-term goals, were recommended for future implementation. The planning group always considers the option of keeping the "status quo" or making no change to the existing facilities, programs, and practices. Unless otherwise indicated, recommended actions include the continuation of existing protections, operations, and facility management practices.

Natural Resources

A guiding principle for the Agency is to conserve, protect, and enhance its natural resources while providing for public enjoyment of, and access to, these resources in a manner that will protect them for future generations. Stewardship of natural resources is crucial to Lake Taghkanic State Park's continued operation and the health of local wildlife and water resources. Issues at LTSP include problematic invasive species, the need to expand protections for sensitive species, and water resource concerns.

Actions Considered for Stewardship

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue existing partnerships to support the protection of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) species, species of Special Concern (SC), and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in the Park.

Considerations:

- Continue to partner with NYNHP and NYSDEC to conduct research and surveys for RTE flora/fauna in the park
- Continue to define and prioritize stewardship actions to support and enhance habitat for known SGCN, RTE, and SC species
- Management of populations of rare and listed species follows appropriate State and Federal guidelines and includes appropriate state and federal permits, as necessary

Action 2 – Expand on the existing knowledge and protection of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered (RTE) species, species of Special Concern (SC), and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in the Park.

Considerations: Same as status quo, and

- Create an invasive species watchlist to help inform staff about potential invasive species that may have a detrimental impact on RTE and SC species
- Encourage citizen science reporting of flora and fauna in the park to identify locations of species of SC and SGCN, e.g., using iNaturalist
- The 2020 and 2024 acquisitions are potentially suitable habitats for sensitive species and will be evaluated for shrubland habitat management projects, and implemented if deemed appropriate
- Explore expanded survey methods to detect RTE and SC species (e.g., using conservation detection dogs)
- Encourage and support the use of native species in plantings and habitat restoration efforts throughout the Park, following OPRHP's Native Plant Policy, in partnership with local conservation organizations
- Compile and periodically update data on newly identified SGCN and species of SC in the Park that are not listed and tracked (e.g., species that are not considered RTE)

Action 3 – Develop and implement an Environmental Stewardship Plan for LTSP.

Considerations:

- An Environmental Stewardship Plan identifies priorities; guides stewardship, land management, and operations; and includes implementation strategies for conserving significant natural resources
- Per statute, Park Preserves and Park Preservation Areas are the priority for Stewardship Plans
- LTSP is not currently designated as a Park Preserve and does not contain any Park Preservation Areas
- The region has limited staff and budget to develop a Stewardship Plan for LTSP

Recommended Actions: 2 and 3

OPRHP's mission guides the agency to steward natural resources responsibly. Protecting RTE, SC, and SGCN species is an important part of this directive and supports the biodiversity of the Park and region. Expanding protections through increased survey work and habitat improvement in partnership with local conservation organizations will further expand suitable habitats for a diverse array of species. An Environmental Stewardship Plan with help to further define and prioritize environmental stewardship projects within the Park.

Actions Considered for Invasive Species

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue to identify, treat, and remove invasive species in the Park using appropriate methods, as determined by the best available science.

Considerations:

- There is no comprehensive invasive species management plan for the Park
- Without proactive management of invasive species, the Park's natural setting may be compromised, resulting in a decline in the visitor experience
- Treatments for Water Chestnut, Black Swallowwort, and Hemlock Wooly Adelgid are ongoing at the Park
- Newly identified invasive species infestations in the Park are treated as they are identified, a strategy known as "Early Detection, Rapid Response"
- Treatment methods may include pesticides, where appropriate
- Continue to assess and document the impact of invasive species within the Park
- Continue to partner with organizations that support the mapping (nyimapinvasives.org), control, and prevention of invasive species (including the Capital Region PRISM)
- Continue to update and develop Invasive Species Control Plans (ISCP) for known and newly identified invasive species as appropriate

Action 2 – Expand invasive species management efforts; develop and implement programs to promote public engagement and participation in invasive species management.

Considerations: Same as status quo, and

- Coordinate with environmental education and stewardship staff to determine invasive species education priorities
- Education materials will include information about the detrimental impacts of dumping bait and aquarium species
- A component of the educational program will include information on what the public can do to protect the park from invasive species (e.g., properly cleaning their boats before launching, cleaning boots before hikes, and staying on marked trails)
- Add a boat cleaning station, including an invasive capture bin, to make it as convenient as possible for people to clean their boats and dispose of any aquatic vegetation before entering the lake
- A boot brush station may be installed, as appropriate
- Relocate and update the "Clean, Drain, Dry" sign
- Education signs about potential invasives may be installed to help detect and control future invasive species infestations at an early stage
- Education materials may include information about invasive species that are already present at LTSP, their impacts, and the management practices that are being employed to control invasive populations
- Expanding invasive species management programs will require additional staff time

Action 3 – Develop and implement a comprehensive Invasive Species Management Plan.

Considerations:

- Supports the agency's mission and Park's vision to protect natural resources
- An Invasives Species Management Plan will inform how to prioritize treatment areas, work with partners, and mobilize volunteers

- Will develop priorities for management based on assessments of various factors including ease of control, potential environmental impacts, potential infrastructure impacts, and the level of threat to human health
- An Invasive Species Management Plan is most effective when there is an existing comprehensive Stewardship Plan in place
- There are limited staff and budget resources to develop an Invasive Species Management Plan at LTSP
- ISCPs for invasive species management projects are more flexible and can be easily adapted

Recommended Action: 2

Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species can cause a nuisance and negatively impact the Park's recreational offerings and biodiversity. Preventing invasive species from entering the lake is critical to maintaining water-based recreation opportunities, supporting native flora and fauna, and ensuring visitor use and enjoyment of the Park. Terrestrial invasives harm the forest canopy which can adversely impact recreation, including hiking, picnicking, and camping. Enhancing efforts to mitigate the spread of invasive species at the Park will increase protections of the Park's natural elements.

Actions Considered for Water Resources

Action 1 – Status quo – No changes to water resource management at the Park.

Considerations:

- The water quality of the Lake is a major draw to the Park for swimming, fishing, and boating
- Without proactive management of water resources, the Park's natural setting may be comprised, resulting in a decline in the visitor experience

Action 2 – Maintain the water quality of Lake Taghkanic by protecting the watershed's integrity and headwaters.

Considerations:

- Where feasible, use green infrastructure (GI) to prevent runoff from entering the Lake around the parking lot and any new construction near the lake shore
- GI used in public areas offers educational opportunities and increases knowledge and understanding of the benefits of these practices
- Protective actions such as riparian stabilization and right-sizing culverts will help to protect water quality and reduce erosion

Recommended Action: 2

As one of the main draws of the Park, protecting the clean, clear waters of Lake Taghkanic is critical to the visitor use and enjoyment of the Park. Reducing surface runoff from entering the lake, where feasible, will ensure and enhance the lake's water quality. The lake drains into the Doove Kill which eventually joins with the Roeliff Jansen Kill to enter the Hudson River. Any changes to Lake Taghkanic will have downstream effects.

Actions Considered for Natural Resource Designations

Action 1 – Status quo: No change to natural resource designations at the Park.

Considerations:

- The Park is classified as a scenic recreation area
- The Park is not currently designated as a Bird Conservation Area (BCA)
- The Park is not currently designated as a Natural Heritage Area (NHA)
- The Park is not currently designated as a Park Preserve and does not contain Park Preservation Areas

Action 2 – Designate LTSP as a Natural Heritage Area (NHA).

Considerations:

- NHA designation was evaluated by NYNHP during the ecological community survey process
- LTSP has a low number of heritage occurrences

- NHA designation does not preclude future or existing land use proposals

Action 3 – Designate the entirety of LTSP as a Park Preserve.
Considerations:
- Passive and low-intensity recreational activities will be supported
- Future proposals for moderate- to high-impact recreational activities may be limited
- Ensures protection of LTSP's flora and fauna, as well as its scenic and historic resources

Action 4 – Designate part of LTSP as a Park Preservation Area (PPA).
Considerations:
- Passive and low-intensity recreational activities will be supported
- Future proposals for moderate- to high-impact recreational activities may be limited
- A PPA would protect the most notable ecological communities, such as assemblages of plants or wildlife that are unique and/or rare in NYS

Recommended Action: 1
At the time the Master Plan was prepared, LTSP did not meet the criteria for Park Preserve, Park Preservation Area, or Natural Heritage Area designation.

Cultural Resources

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Infrastructure

The CCC-built campground buildings are a significant cultural resource at LTSP. While the cabins are rustic and provide very basic accommodation, they are heavily used, and staff receive very few complaints about them. They hold a deep sense of nostalgia for some families who have rented cabins at the Park over multiple generations.

The cabins are subject to ongoing use in summer and to weather impacts year-round. Their original wood siding and stone masonry require ongoing repair. Visitors are generally unaware of the cabins' historic significance. Staff regularly see damage either through normal use or through active impacts (e.g., names carved the into wood paneling).

The campground's Stone Shower House is deteriorated and not ADA-compliant. Accessible family restrooms have been added to the Recreation Hall, which has the original CCC wood section with a stone fireplace.

Actions Considered for CCC Cabins

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue current maintenance and repair regime for the Park's CCC-built cabins.
Considerations:
- The cabins are fully booked every year and receive a lot of wear and tear
- Deteriorating original materials need ongoing repair, and at current staffing levels, only the most urgent repairs can be addressed
- Cabins offer an example of CCC craftsmanship and use of regional materials
- If larger-scale issues are not addressed, the significant, designated historic cabins will further deteriorate and may eventually be lost
- Continued deterioration may result in an increase in public safety issues
- If larger issues are not addressed, some or all of the cabins may become undesirable or unusable, resulting in a loss of revenue for the Park
- Modifications needed to offer fully accessible cabins will not be completed

Action 2 – Improve the Park's CCC cabins by addressing needed repairs and upgrade some with outdoor amenities (e.g., stone patios, picnic tables, and/or seating).

Considerations: Same as Action 1, and

- Addressing repairs and adding new amenities may help visitors better appreciate the cabins and their historical value
- Deteriorated siding, masonry, and interiors impact the overall campground aesthetics
- SHPO considerations must be addressed when adding any new elements to CCC elements
- Repairs are done in-house and allocating staff time for work beyond routine maintenance is a challenge
- Some cabin sites have steep grades that make accessibility a challenge
- Adding outdoor amenities may increase operational issues (e.g., people hanging out late outside, noise complaints)
- Improvements to the site can include upgrades such as adding more water hook-ups throughout the campground

Recommended Action: 2

The historic CCC cabins are an active and integral part of the Park's recreation infrastructure. Now over 80 years old, they need significant work to ensure they may continue to be both functional for visitor use and effective representatives of the CCC's work for years to come. As part of the CCC story in the state overall, and an important part of the Park's interpretive program, the cabins must be cared for appropriately so they will continue to be available for future generations of visitors to enjoy.

Actions Considered for the East Bathhouse (CCC)

Action 1 – Status quo: No action; The East Bathhouse remains vacant and unused with no planned renovation.

Considerations:

- The boarded up and unused structure is in a highly visible and prominent location
- Not taking action to stabilize or renovate the Bathhouse will lead to the eventual loss of the Park's most significant historic structure and example of CCC workmanship
- Public safety and aesthetic concerns from a vacant and deteriorated building will increase
- If left in its current state, it will be a missed opportunity to protect this historic resource and revitalize this part of the Park
- Will not support other planned improvements proposed in this area

Action 2 – Renovate and retrofit the East Bathhouse as a seasonal venue for large events.

Considerations:

- An existing rental pavilion nearby accommodates up to 60 people and addresses current demand for larger group events
- The campground parking area adjacent to the Bathhouse can accommodate large groups
- Water, restrooms, and septic systems must be functional for any type of proposed re-use
- A kitchen would be needed to accommodate weddings, large parties, etc.
- Can include a patio with seating and fire pit overlooking the lake for use by all visitors
- Renovation can include an interpretive area
- Educational element would be secondary to event space function
- Conflicts with campers and other park users may occur (e.g., loud music, noisy groups)
- With the many event venues in the region (local barns for weddings, City of Hudson venues) there may not be sufficient demand for event spaces for larger groups in this location
- Rental cost would need to be kept affordable
- Use would be seasonal, leaving the building vacant part of the year
- Renovating the Bathhouse for any use will address its significant safety and aesthetic issues
- May not be the best public use of the Bathhouse

Action 3 – Renovate and retrofit the East Bathhouse as a community center that includes a central interpretive area, public outdoor space (e.g., patio, seating, fire pit), and flexible interior spaces for programs, meetings, and other public uses.

Considerations:

- The East Bathhouse's central location offers a scenic setting with lake views and is close to a playground, campground, trails, and the main road
- The East Bathhouse will again be a focal point for active public use at the Park
- The large campground parking lot is available nearby to support larger groups or events
- Waterlines, restrooms, and septic systems will need to be functional and up to code for this use
- A glassed-in interpretive space in the central hallway provides the Park a space to develop more educational offerings
- The building's wings can be retrofitted to provide spaces appropriate for public events, lectures, local groups, and staff use
- Supports other proposed actions intended to redistribute activity away from high-use areas
- Will include flexible spaces that can accommodate a range of possible uses and provide a viable option to other local community venues (e.g., Firehouse, American Legion)
- Providing restrooms and outdoor seating area with views will improve the experience for campers and day-use visitors using the playground and picnic areas, walking dogs, or resting from a hike
- Will support new camping facilities proposed in the Master Plan
- The building will be open seasonally; climate control (heating and cooling) is not feasible for most of the building
- Rehabilitation of exterior must be true to historic character and comply with SHPO considerations
- Interior will be up to current ADA/building codes
- Costs to renovate and retrofit the building will be high
- This area will offer a more low-key experience than the West Beach area
- Will not include a food concession (offering food at the East Bathhouse would compete with other Park concessions)

Action 4 – Dedicate a portion of the East Bathhouse for education and interpretation.

Considerations:

- The East Bathhouse is a prime example of CCC architecture and is close to the Park's other CCC elements
- Enclosing the central section with glass may make it possible to provide electric heat and have the space open year-round (creating a "warming hut" for the east side of the Park)
- The Bathhouse is a natural draw, and has the potential to become a focal point for education,
- interpretation, and programming
- Central space can be used for nature programs and as a meeting spot for group walks and other events
- An interpretive/program space is not in conflict with other proposed uses for the Bathhouse
- Bathrooms would need to be closed in winter
- Ties in with a master plan goal to activate less-used portions of the Park and better disperse visitors

Recommended Actions: 3 and 4

The historic CCC-built East Bathhouse is vacant and boarded up. The large building is centrally located and highly visible to visitors. The interior has been vandalized and the internal courtyards are open to the elements. Formerly the Park's most significant feature, the Bathhouse is a wonderful example of CCC architecture, exhibiting a skillful use of local materials and workmanship. Addressing its highly deteriorated condition and re-using this important feature as a community amenity is essential to the Park's integrity.

Actions Considered for the CCC Recreation Hall

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue current use of the CCC Recreation Hall with no changes.
Considerations:

- Alterations have been made to the original structure (e.g., family restrooms added)
- Building is in overall good condition but needs some repairs
- Example of CCC craftsmanship and use of materials
- Functions as a storm shelter for campers during inclement weather

Action 2 – Renovate the CCC Recreation Hall.
Considerations:

- The Rec Hall is an important component of the CCC story at the Park
- Interpretive panels near the building help inform visitors about the CCC work
- Will need to maintain its function as a storm shelter
- Stone chimney and wood section are the only remaining CCC elements
- Has an updated and accessible restroom

Recommended Action: 2
The Recreation Hall has an accessible, family-friendly restroom, and provides dry indoor public space at the campground. The building serves as a safe zone for visitors during hazardous weather. It is a natural gathering space for overnight visitors and a convenient location for meetings. While only a portion of the structure was built by CCC worker remains, it is an example of CCC work and an important historic element at the Park.

Cottages

The Park's lakeside Cottages are generally well-maintained, but many have outdated fixtures and utilities. Most are not universally accessible and do not meet current building codes. Walkways and access paths to most entrances are not accessible, and many have steps. A project to replace some existing cottages with new ADA and code-compliant units was evaluated prior to development of this Plan but never implemented, largely due to the high cost of installing a year-round water system.

Work on the Cottages has been completed in recent years using the dedicated State Parks Infrastructure Fund (SPIF) crew. Taconic Regional Maintenance has also addressed some HVAC issues. In 2024, staff focused on cottage repairs and interior renovations (e.g., refinishing floors, upgrading kitchens, painting). Work included replacing rotted sills, sagging siding, and a failing porch at Cottage 171, which dates back to the 1930s. The Park's rehab crew added energy-efficient heat pumps, new windows and siding, insulation, and new tongue-and-groove pine to the Cottage's interior.

Cottage #159 has been condemned due to structural issues and is used for storage. Cottage #163 was torn down, and Cottage #165 burned in 2023.

Actions Considered for Rental Cottages

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue current maintenance activities at the Park's cottages and landscape.
Considerations:

- With existing levels of use and maintenance, the cottages and landscape may deteriorate, eventually becoming less functional
- May lead to eventual loss of some or all of these historic structures
- Deteriorating buildings and landscape reduce the aesthetic appeal of this scenic part of the park
- Most cottages have outdated kitchens, HVAC, and bathrooms, in addition to building code and accessibility issues
- Aging electrical systems are outdated and will continue to deteriorate
- Site drainage, soil compaction, and erosion issues will worsen

- Vehicular circulation and pedestrian access issues will not be addressed (e.g., cars driving on lawns; people creating informal access points along the lakeshore)
- Cottages are fully booked well in advance and the park receives very few visitor complaints

Action 2 – Upgrade utilities at the Cottages, repair deteriorated materials, and address accessibility and code issues where practicable.

Considerations:

- Many Cottages have multiple code and access issues (e.g., narrow stairs, entrances, electrical/plumbing systems)
- Not all Cottages will be able to meet ADA recommendations for universal accessibility
- Repairs must go beyond routine maintenance to address issues including rotted porches; windows/screens, doors, and replacing deteriorated siding
- Visitors today generally prefer air-conditioned accommodations

Action 3 – Address site drainage issues in the Cottage area; repair eroded and compacted areas and improve access to the lakefront.

Considerations:

- Site drainage in the area is generally poor, with clay soils that are often saturated
- Informal access points to the lakefront are unsightly, with compacted and eroded soils
- Addressing drainage issues appropriately will require a comprehensive stormwater management design and likely require a consultant
- Formalizing locations for visitors to access the lake (i.e., adding steps/railings/native plantings in eroded areas) will improve accessibility and aesthetics, reducing soil erosion and sediment entering the lake

Action 4 – Replace Cottage #163 (demolished due to safety issues) and Cottage #165 (burned), and remove #159, which is condemned due to structural issues.

Considerations:

- There is always high demand for Cottage rentals
- The Park loses revenue from unused or lost Cottages
- Replacement Cottages can be a model for the future replacement design/process
- Replacement Cottages will be code- and ADA-compliant
- Historic preservation considerations SHPO approval is required for any retrofits to existing cottages or design of new construction
- Will need to demonstrate need for removal (14.09 process)
- Replacement Cottages can incorporate architectural elements reflective of the historic structures
- Demolition process is expensive (i.e., the agency's permission process, design, bidding)
- If the Cottages need to be reconfigured with fewer bedrooms to become accessible, new cottages can be added to meet demand
- Any cottage rehabilitation must address their foundations (many sit directly on the ground)
- If costs are higher to rehabilitate than to replace some cottages, it may be preferable to build new
- Each cottage will need to be assessed individually

Recommended Actions: 2, 3, and 4

The Park's Cottages are "legacy" buildings and part of Park's development history. Constructed by private homeowners in the late 19th to early 20th century, each offers a different experience. The Cottages vary in number of bedrooms, views, and layouts, and they are popular in part because of their individual quirks. Although recent work has been completed for some, most interiors are outdated and some need new roofs. A percentage of accessible accommodations of similar type are required at all public facilities, and new cottages will be accessible and have up-to-date utilities.

Reesa Farmstead

A house and barn on the Reesa property date from circa 1870s. No work has been completed on the structures since the property was acquired in 1962 and the house and barn are in an advanced state of deterioration.

Actions Considered for Reesa Farmstead

Action 1 – Status quo: No improvements or action taken for the Reesa farmhouse or barn.

Considerations:

- The house and barn are both highly deteriorated and the barn is unstable
- Other than trail development, no work has been done on the property since its acquisition
- Buildings are National Register-eligible
- Informal assessments were completed by Agency historic preservation staff during Master Plan development
- The house and barn present public safety issues
- Staff have not identified a clear purpose for future use of either the house or barn
- The site's location at the periphery of the Park is not convenient for equipment storage or staff housing
- Cost to restore or retrofit the house or barn will be high, with no clear benefit to the Park

Action 2 – Stabilize the house and/or barn for future renovation.

Considerations: Same as Action 1, and

- Any proposed changes will require 14.09 review (process of the NYS Historic Preservation Act)
- The barn's structural framework has substantially deteriorated, and major beams have been compromised, primarily from water penetration
- Two front porch roofs and a small 20th century addition to the house have collapsed, and the interior has incurred damage from the roots of nearby trees, vandalism, and animal activity
- A partnership with an organization or individual focused on restoration and reuse of the structures may be beneficial to raise funding, invest in the buildings, and provide maintenance/interpretation
- Time required to cultivate partnership postpones action and contributes to continued deterioration
- Cost of stabilizing alone does not warrant investment as there is no benefit or purpose for future use

Action 3 – Demolish and remove the barn and house.

Considerations: Same as Actions 1 and 2, and

- 14.09 review will be required to request demolition, along with justification for why these two resources are proposed for removal
- The cost for demolition and removal of the structures will be high, but presumably less than the cost of complete stabilization and rehabilitation for new uses
- This area could be used as a hunting access point and needs to be safe for public use
- Loss of historic vernacular elements for the region, i.e. Reesa House and Barn represent a Columbia County farm from the post-Civil War period
- Can investigate the possibility of salvaging materials from buildings (e.g., heavy timbers) for potential reuse
- The park may be able to reuse some of the framing elements, but selectively salvaging and storing material will likely add to demolition costs

Recommended Action: 3

Reesa House and Barn are representative of post-Civil War era architecture and agrarian culture in Columbia County. They are both, however, in an advanced state of deterioration with significant structural issues that make their retention and rehabilitation problematic from a financial standpoint. Their location on the northern periphery of the park is problematic from a practical standpoint and not conducive to repurposing for active facility use.

Recreational Resources

Actions Considered for Bicycling

Casual bicycling is popular at LTSP but opportunities for this activity are somewhat limited. By expanding the range of support equipment, enhancing signage and mapping, and improving conditions and connections, the Park can better accommodate this activity and become a more popular destination for biking.

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes to biking opportunities at the Park.

Considerations:

- Although biking is allowed on Park roads, on-road biking may not feel safe for all user groups
- Variable trail conditions limit opportunities for biking within the Park
- Adding or improving popular recreational activities is important to address changing visitor preferences
- Without new recreation infrastructure there will be no additional maintenance requirements

Action 2 – Enhance biking amenities to facilitate non-vehicular transportation within the Park.

Considerations:

- Driving is the most common mode of transportation within the Park
- Enhancements may include a bike repair station
- Clear signage indicating where cyclists are permitted, what destinations are accessible by bike, and how many miles to reach the destination will enhance the "bikeability" of the Park
- Relocate/add bicycle storage racks
- Improve the trail surface and drainage on the Lakeview trail to increase the feasibility of biking between the Campground and the West Beach

Action 3 – Explore options for providing bike/scooter rentals for use within the Park.

Considerations:

- The West Beach and the Campground are the two most popular destinations in the Park
- Providing bike rentals would help to reduce the total number of vehicle trips within the Park
- If operated by OPRHP, could be located out of the Main Office; maintenance may be an issue
- If operated by a concessionaire, an RFP/RFQ or a 1-year activity permit would be required

Recommended Actions: 2 and 3

Increasing the use of bikes for transportation within the Park was identified as a Master Plan goal. While biking is permitted in the Park, a lack of dedicated amenities limits the desirability of biking at the facility. Adding bike racks, signage, and a repair station will be useful for those traveling within, and through, the Park and supports the multi-use path proposed in the Plan. Providing bike rentals would further expand the opportunities for biking at the Park. Enhancing biking amenities will provide additional transportation options and promote healthy activity, while providing an additional recreation opportunity at the Park.

Courts and Ballfields

Some recreational facilities at the Park are aging. The well-used basketball court needs resurfacing, and the softball diamond has all but disappeared. Poor drainage affects some areas, particularly the ballfield, which takes up to a week to dry out after periods of steady rain.

Trends in outdoor sports have shifted since LTSP was first developed. Park staff have seen the use of its sports fields change from softball to soccer and soccer nets were added to the Park's ball field in 2023. Softball remains in demand, and the backstop was replaced in 2024. A disc golf course was officially opened to the public in September 2024, in the area around the C, D, and E lots. Parking, public restrooms, and picnic areas are available near the course. Due to its increasing popularity, pickleball has been identified as a potential addition to the Park's recreational offerings.

Actions Considered for Courts and Ballfields

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes to the Park's existing ballfield or court.

Considerations:

- The basketball court is aging and will continue to deteriorate if not addressed
- Drainage of the ballfield is an issue during wet/rainy times of the year
- Adding or improving recreational amenities is important to address changing visitor preference
- Without new recreation infrastructure there will be no additional maintenance requirements

Action 2 – Install a multi-use pickleball/basketball court.

Considerations:

- Will result in no or minimal increase to the developed area of the park
- Will include court markings, pickleball net, and basketball hoops
- Will likely be used by the local population during the summer and into the shoulder seasons, as well as patrons staying at the campground/cottages/cabins
- The current basketball court is deteriorating and in need of repairs
- May result in user conflicts

Action 3 – Install a standalone pickleball court to the ballfield area.

Considerations:

- Increases the developed area of the park
- Ball field is space-limited and adding a pickleball court may crowd out other activities
- Will likely be used by the local population during the summer and into the shoulder seasons, as well as patrons staying at the campground/cottages/cabins

Action 4 – Install a pickleball court at Parking Lot B.

Considerations:

- Will reactivate a previously disturbed area that is currently underutilized
- Will create a dedicated area for pickleball
- Better disperses activities throughout the Park
- Will result in no (or small) increase to the developed area of the park
- Restrooms are located nearby at the A parking lot – a pathway that allows for easy access to restrooms/water fountains should be considered as part of the court design
- Will likely be used by the local population during the summer and into the shoulder seasons, as well as patrons staying at the campground/cottages/cabins
- Potential to include multiple courts

Action 5 – Update the Basketball Court to meet current safety standards.

Considerations:

- Court is aging
- Replace the existing asphalt court with more appropriate surfacing and repaint lines
- The court will remain in the Ball Field area as an alternative activity close to the West Beach

Action 6 – Improve the drainage at the ballfield by raising and resurfacing the area.

Considerations:

- Drainage has been a long-term issue
- Mowing can be a challenge after rain
- Improved drainage channels will keep the field drier

Recommended Actions: 4-6

Over the last several years, pickleball has become increasingly popular with New Yorkers of all ages. Adding a pickleball court to Parking Lot B will reactivate an underutilized section of the Park, adding an additional activity for campers and beachgoers, and will likely draw in new visitors to the Park.

Improvements and enhancements of the ballfield area and basketball court will ensure there is a wide range of activities available at the Park to meet the needs of a diverse visitorship to LTSP.

Actions Considered for Lake Activities

Lake Taghkanic's calm waters are ideal for boating. Boat rentals and permits for private boat storage are popular and contribute important revenue to the Park. Wear and tear on the Park's boat fleet is an ongoing issue, and repairs and replacement boats are needed each year. The Park would like to add an accessible dock for launching boats and an accessible fishing pier for anglers.

Action 1 – Status quo: No improvements or changes to lake activities at the Park.

Considerations:

- The road to access the boat launch is in poor condition
- Boat storage appears haphazard
- Aquatic vegetation makes entering and exiting the water difficult
- Rental boats incur wear and tear due to launching from the shore
- There are no accessible boat launches
- Patrons fish along the shoreline, off rock cliffs, etc.
- The shoreline can be accessed on foot, by rental rowboats, or by personal boats for fishing
- No accessible routes to the water except by West Beach (where fishing is not permitted)

Action 2 – Install a boat storage structure by the East Boat Launch.

Considerations:

- Boat storage is permitted from May through December 1st
- Include sufficient storage spaces to match the number of boat permits that are issued
- Short-term: Add metal racks for boat storage
- Long-term: Consider potential relocation of the maintenance shop and use of the existing maintenance garage as boat storage (which may allow for year-round storage)

Action 3 – Relocate the East Boat Launch for more direct access to the lake.

Considerations:

- Shift the location of the boat launch slightly from its current location to a new location straight down to the lake from the Boat Launch parking lot
- Redesign the road and pathway for ADA accessibility
- Add ADA standard parking spaces
- Will make it easier to back trailers down to the lake
- Requires coordination with the fire department regarding the dry hydrant (may need to be relocated)
- Aquatic vegetation will still need to be removed to create a channel for boats to travel through

Action 4 – Install an ADA accessible kayak launch at the East Boat Launch.

Considerations:

- An ADA-compliant kayak launch will improve the accessibility of the lake
- Will need to be removed seasonally and put into appropriate storage
- Installation may require dredging and/or excavation
- May increase the popularity of LTSP as a kayaking destination

- More traffic may increase the risk of invasive species being introduced to the lake

Action 5 – Improve the Park's boat rental facilities by adding an accessible dock and upgrading connectivity for credit card use at the rental shed.

Considerations:

- Will improve the visitor experience by saving time and effort required to pull boats on and off the shore
- Will allow boats to tether to the dock
- Need to consider how pedal boats will be tied up
- Add a storage rack for kayaks and canoes
- Will increase the Park's accessible features
- Accessible parking, sidewalks, and restrooms are already in place nearby
- Will require additional staff time to position boats in the morning and store in the evening
- Boats may fill with water if left tied up to the dock during heavy rain
- Installation may require dredging and/or excavation
- Adding electricity and internet to the boat rental shed will expand the range of payment options (currently cash only), but deposits will still be an issue (current POS system cannot accept deposits)

Action 6 – Install an ADA-compliant fishing pier at the West Beach.

Considerations:

- Will improve the accessibility of the lake
- Will require some level of disturbance to the lake
- Installation may require dredging and/or excavation
- Will have a visual impact
- Potential locations: between the West Beach swimming area and boat rental area; just past the boat rental area; or on the southern end of the beach

Recommended Actions: 2-6

Improving the supporting infrastructure for boating will enhance visitor use and experience of this popular activity. The kayak launch and accessible rental dock will improve access to the lake for all boaters. Formalizing boat storage and the access road to the East Boat Launch will improve the aesthetics and functionality of the area.

Both local and out-of-town visitors enjoy fishing in Lake Taghkanic for its variety of fish and clean, calm waters. Ensuring everyone has equal access to recreation within NYS Parks is a priority for the agency. By adding an ADA-compliant fishing pier, anglers of all ages and abilities will be provided with safe opportunities to fish at the Park.

Trails

Increasing trail connections was identified as a Master Plan goal. Creating a vibrant trail network that supports a variety of "landscape experiences" – shared-use trails, areas to experience nature and forest bathing, and wildlife viewing areas – is also a goal of the Master Plan.

The OPRHP Statewide Trails Planner, Regional Trails Coordinator, and other OPRHP staff walked LTSP's existing trail network to assess the overall condition and identify steep grades, wet areas, and other maintenance issues, as well as to update the Park's trail map. Staff considered how trails are used and made recommendations for optimizing the network. Sections in need of repair, re-routing, or closure were identified and documented (see Figure 11).

The well-used Lakeview Trail has some of the best views and, while some sections need improvement, the trail is in good shape overall. Tree roots, grade changes, and rock outcroppings are just some of the complications affecting this trail. Wet and poorly drained areas of this trail ae the most problematic. In recent years, heavy rainfall has led to an increase in standing water and erosion, with the potential for the Lakeview Trail to increase sedimentation into the lake.

The Campground Trail needs the most work, with some deteriorating footbridges, overgrown areas, and drainage issues. There is potential for re-routing a portion of the trail to improve drainage.

The Fitness Trail is in fact a network of trails rather than a single trail. When looking at the map, all segments have the same name and are marked the same way, which introduces confusion and may cause visitors to get lost. During a large portion of the year, the soils here are poorly drained and do not provide an enjoyable experience. Trail planners also noted potential redundancies in the Fitness Trail.

The Winter Trail is somewhat undeveloped and in generally poor condition. It is mostly used as a snowmobile trail connection around a narrow part of the Lakeview Trail. Due to decreased snowfall in the region, this trail is needed less frequently.

Overall, the Park's trail system needs well-marked trailheads to indicate where to access trails. Beyond the trail actions recommended here, other trail connections or new routes may be investigated and implemented, if deemed appropriate.

Actions Considered for Trails (General Improvements)

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or improvements to the Park's trail system.

Considerations:

- Hiking and walking are popular activities at the Park and in the region
- Some trails are deteriorated and eroded, with wet areas that may result in safety or user experience issues
- Most existing trail segments are not accessible to visitors with mobility issues or strollers
- Wet and muddy conditions can limit biking opportunities on the Park's trails

Action 2 – Repair or reroute low, wet, unsustainable, and eroded sections of the Park's existing trail system – repair culverts and bridges.

Considerations:

- Provides a safer, more enjoyable user experience
- Allows better access for maintenance and in case of emergency
- Reduces the need for frequent, recurring trail maintenance and larger-scale repairs
- Reduces environmental impacts and protects natural resources
- May increase park attendance

Action 3 – Develop and implement a park-wide Trail Wayfinding Signage and Marking Plan.

Considerations:

- Considers wayfinding elements holistically, including maps, blazing, intersection signs, trailhead kiosks, and other signage
- Indicates what activities are suitable on which trails
- May recommend changes to trail marker colors for easier wayfinding
- Identifies the different trail types, ranging from single-track to multi-use
- Helps to inform Park users of the variety of hiking trails that are available in the Park, which may help to redistribute trail users more evenly

Action 4 – Improve the Snowmobiling experience by clearly indicating, both on the map and through signage on the trails, where snowmobiles are permitted.

Considerations:

- Trail map currently includes snowmobile trails that are not maintained for year-round use, which can cause confusion

- Distinguish between snowmobile trails and hiking/multi-use trails by adding a dashed line to indicate winter use only on the trail map
- Add/replace signage to indicate that SMC, WR, and SM are open for winter use only
- Repair and replace bridges to bring them up to a standard that allows for snowmobiling

Action 5 – Expand the existing parking lot at the trail kiosk by the East Entrance (NY 82).

Considerations:

- Provides a designated parking lot for hikers and improves access to trailheads
- Will separate uses and give hikers a quieter experience away from the beach and the campground
- The existing parking lot is well-established as a hiking trailhead and the kiosk is already in place
- Alternative parking areas for hikers are available at the boat launch and by the south end of the West Beach

Action 6 – Designate the C and D lots as parking for trailhead access.

Considerations:

- Provides a designated parking lot for hikers
- Will improve the visibility and access to trailheads
- May include a crosswalk to reach the north side of Lake Taghkanic Road
- Enhances signage and trailheads to better direct people from the parking area to the trails
- Will separate uses and give hikers a quieter experience away from the beach and the campground
- Parking for hikers is available elsewhere in the Park, in the gravel lot by the East Entrance, at the boat launch, and on the south end of the West Beach parking lot
- The C and D lots were designated as the Disc Golf Area in the Fall of 2024

Recommended Actions: 2-5

A major draw to the Park, the existing trail network has areas that are deteriorated due to age, location, and site hydrology. Creating a more resilient trail system will improve its functionality and reduce the need for trail repairs and maintenance. Trail conditions will be improved, and the visitor experience will be enhanced by re-routing wet sections, repairing broken/deteriorated bridges, and improving signage for easier, more intuitive wayfinding.

Actions Considered for Existing Trails (Lakeview and Fitness Trails)

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes to the Park's Lakeview and Fitness Trails.

Considerations:

- The Lakeview and Fitness Trails are two of the most popular and well-used trails at the Park
- Visitor experience is compromised by the current condition of the trails
- Issues with drainage and erosion will not be addressed
- Maintenance challenges caused by exposed roots and rocks will persist
- The Fitness trail is generally wet and boggy due to the underlying soil type
- Multiple segments of the Fitness Trail are named and blazed the same way, which can be disorienting and cause confusion

Action 2 – Rehabilitate and improve the Lakeview Trail (LV) on the south side of the lake and designate the Lakeview Extension Trail (LVE) as the new Lakeview Trail for hiking.

Considerations:

- The Lakeview Trail is typically wet/muddy on the east and south sides of the lake
- The trail has multiple areas with drainage issues
- NYNHP identified a vernal pool to avoid adjacent to the trail
- Trail width allows for light machinery to perform grading, surfacing, and drainage work
- Improved surface and drainage will improve the user experience and allow for easier maintenance access

- Install puncheon bridges on sections of the trail where re-routing is not viable/possible

Action 3 – Eliminate wet trail segments of the Fitness Trail (FN), designate the section of the Lakeview Trail between the two intersections with the LVE as part of the FN, rename the trail as the Fitness Loop, and improve signage.

Considerations:

- There are few opportunities for reroutes due to soil types
- Establish a main loop and blaze appropriately
- Eliminate the east-west cross-trails to simplify the trail network
- Rename the Fitness Trail as the Fitness Loop

Recommended Actions: 2 and 3

As two of the most well-trafficked trails at LTSP, addressing the sustainability of the Lakeview and Fitness Trails is critical to addressing the overall quality of the Park's trail network. Rerouting and improving drainage will help stabilize the trail surface, mitigate waterlogged sections, and reduce the width of trails that have been widened due to hikers walking off-trail to avoid muddy areas and/or pooled water. Reroutes will also lessen negative impacts on natural resources in the Park. Simplifying and renaming the trail as the "Fitness Loop" will help users navigate this section of the Park more easily.

Actions Considered for Existing Trails (Reesa Farm and Campground Trails)

Action 1 – No changes or improvements to the Reesa Farm or Campground Loop Trails.

Considerations:

- There are multiple missing or failing footbridges, overgrown areas, and drainage issues on the Campground Loop Trail
- The Campground Loop and Reesa Farm Trails are not true loop trails and hikers must complete the loop by walking on the road or turning around and backtracking

Action 2 – Develop a true Campground Loop Trail by adding an east-west cross trail connection from the left branch of the Campground Loop back to the Campground Loop trailhead; adjust the location of the Campground Loop trailhead for better access and less intrusion into campsites.

Considerations:

- The existing trail entrance is located at the rear of a campsite
- Will provide more privacy to campsites near the trail
- An alternative trailhead location already exists slightly west of the existing trailhead
- Will require new signage
- Will provide a true loop trail to/from the campground
- Will add approximately .5 miles to the trail system
- Will result in a small increase to the total amount of trail maintenance required at the Park

Action 3 – Assess potential route options for creating an east-west trail connection between the Reesa's Farm Trail and the Campground Loop and implement if a viable route is determined.

Considerations:

- Would create a desirable "stacked loop" trail network in combination with the new Campground Loop segment
- Would eliminate the need for some users to walk along the roadway
- Will likely need to be a narrow hiking trail (single-use trail)
- Will add approximately .33 miles to the trail system
- Will increase the total amount of trail maintenance required at the Park

- Ground conditions may not be ideal for a sustainable trail tread; puncheon bridging or other treatments may be necessary

Recommended Actions: 2 and 3
The Campground Loop/Reesa Farm Trails were identified by the planning group as potentially underutilized. Improving the overall quality of these trails and reducing intrusion into campsites will augment the visitor experience, for both hikers and those camping in sites adjacent to the Campground Loop trailhead. Assessing the feasibility of creating additional loop trails in the northern section of the park will address the Master Plan goal of providing alternatives to walking on the road.

Actions Considered for New Trails and Connections

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or additions to the Park's Trail Network.
Considerations:

- Maintenance requirements will not be increased
- No new routes will be added

Action 2 – Evaluate route options for a trail connecting from the Campground Loop east to the gravel parking lot by the East Entrance (NY 82) and implement if a viable route option is determined.
Considerations:

- Will increase the total amount of trail maintenance required at the Park
- Will add hiking route options
- Will add a recreational use in an "underutilized" area of the Park
- Will result in disturbance to a previously undisturbed area of the Park
- Will provide additional hunting access routes to the northern section of the Park

Action 3 – Develop a linear trail in the southeast portion of the Park from County Route 8 to the Wildlife Viewing Area.
Considerations:

- The Wildlife Viewing Area provides an enjoyable destination and an opportunity to view aquatic species and migratory birds
- Will provide access to a new area of the Park
- Will not connect directly to the Park's trail system
- Will add approximately .33 miles to the trail system

Action 4 – Develop a linear trail in the southeast portion of the Park from County Route 8 to the Fitness Trail, with a spur leading to the Wildlife Viewing Area.
Considerations:

- The Wildlife Viewing Area provides an enjoyable destination and an opportunity to view aquatic species and migratory birds
- Provides access to and recreation in a new area of the Park
- A small "exploratory" trail connecting to the Fitness Loop will help determine route viability over time
- Challenging soils and wet areas closer to the Fitness Loop may present an obstacle
- Will require a stream crossing (the permitted use types will dictate the size of crossing that is required)
- Will add approximately .5 miles to the trail system

Action 5 – Evaluate the viability of a loop trail in the southeast portion of the Park, beginning at County Route 8, to the Wildlife Viewing Area, and around the wetland, and implement if appropriate.

Considerations:

- Requires significant boardwalks or raised structures to avoid wetlands (150+ feet of boardwalk), due to the proximity of the wetland to County Route 8
- Will bring recreational use into an undisturbed area of the park
- Clay soils in this area of the Park are not ideal for trail use
- Will add approximately 1.1 miles to the trail system

Action 6 – Investigate options for connecting existing trails to the newly acquired property on old NY 82 and implement if appropriate.

Considerations:

- The recent addition to LTSP provides an additional opportunity for hiking trails at the Park
- There is a large wetland on the property
- The southern portion of the property is included in the boundary for the historic record of New England Cottontail and could potentially be suitable habitat
- Potential routing may be adjacent to future staff housing
- Trails crew will need to develop/design routes and establish whether existing trails are appropriate to make connections
- New trails would need to be designed to support habitat protection/management and wetland considerations for routing
- Will need to be surveyed for rare species (seasonal constraints for assessments)
- Trails at the new property may help the Park make a connection with the nearby New Forge State Forest

Action 7 – Investigate the possibility of connecting the LTSP trail network to New Forge State Forest and implement, as appropriate.

Considerations:

- New Forge Forest provides good fishing opportunities and a scenic waterfall
- Connection to New Forge Forest for a more “undeveloped” experience
- Opportunity to make the connection to New Forge by providing information at Lake Taghkanic
- Continue to assess the possibility of creating a fully off-road pathway or a path with some on-road sections
- The route between properties isn't apparent due to topography, etc.

Recommended Actions: 2, 4, 6, 7

Providing a wide range of trail experiences was highlighted as an overall goal for trail planning at the Park. Increasing the overall mileage of trails adds to the variety, distance, and experience of the Park’s trails, particularly the Wildlife Viewing area on the southeastern pond of the 2020 acquisition. Connections to the Campground Loop, New Forge Forest, and property acquired in 2024 will provide more variety for hikers using the Park’s trail system.

Camping

The campground includes wood-frame cabins, a shower building, a recreation hall, tent platforms, a paved road, and a camp store. Water and electric are available. Despite almost constant use throughout the open season, the campground is generally functional and well-kept. Some operational issues cannot be addressed with routine maintenance. Poor drainage in the campground leads to erosion, standing water, compacted soils, and deteriorated walkways, which can present safety issues. Rock outcroppings and variable, steep terrain also contribute to challenges in site maintenance, and slopes and tight turns limit the size of trailers able to maneuver within the campground.

When the campground was constructed in the 1930s and 1940s, camping was a social activity for larger groups and extended families. Some tent sites reflect this trend, with platforms grouped closely together, clustered around a

common social area. Recent public surveys and visitor comments indicate that today's campers sometimes find them too small and close together.

Actions Considered for Camping Infrastructure

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or additions to the Park's camping facilities.

Considerations:

- Cabins and tent sites will continue to be at risk from further deterioration
- Drainage issues, compaction, and erosion will not be addressed
- May result in a decrease in visitor experience
- People love the campground cabins, and the park receives very few complaints
- Platform density is an issue
- Would not achieve the goal of enhancing/adding RV camping

Action 2 – Redevelop a portion of existing campground parking lot for tent campsites and relocate some existing platforms to decrease density.

Considerations:

- The tent site layout reflects an older pattern of visitor camping preference for clustered family groupings
- Parking lot is oversized for the level of demand in this part of the park, with capacity for around 100 cars
- Retrofit can include installing water/electricity for sites
- Will include accessible tent camping site(s)
- Will be integrated with improvements to vehicular circulation at the campground and the campground trail loop
- Will include adding planted buffers between existing and new tent sites to improve privacy, aesthetics, and comfort
- Reducing impervious surfaces and adding plantings has environmental benefits

Action 3 – Improve the campground's vehicular circulation, creating a defined entrance and providing a "gateway" experience for campers.

Considerations:

- Visitors enter the Campground through a large parking lot and no maps or camping information are available
- Current condition does not provide a sense of arrival
- Creating a dedicated entrance for all camping access with an information kiosk, site maps, wayfinding, rules, and information about all Park amenities will help provide a defined gateway into the campground
- An existing road [possibly the original CCC campground entrance] can be redeveloped as a single access point for both the existing campground and the proposed RV camping area
- Updates can include a loop road so cars can drive completely around the campground
- Improvements will include a small contact station for campground check-in (the original camping office was in East Bathhouse), so campers won't have to drive to the Park Office to check-in

Action 4 – Redevelop Parking Lot 1 for RV camping.

Considerations:

- There is strong demand for RV camping in the region with few options
- RV camping is currently available only at private sites nearby (TSP allows limited RV camping)
- Will open the camping experience to more people
- Good location near the lake, boat launch, camp store, East Beach and Bathhouse, and playground
- Offers the opportunity to create a new, combined "gateway" into the CCC Campground and RV area
- Area is previously disturbed and level
- RVs/sites will be visually unobtrusive from other parts of the park
- Keeps RVs from driving into campgrounds where it is hard for them to maneuver
- A seasonal stream crosses under the area via culverts
- Water and electricity are already located nearby for service extension to this area

- Will need to install a dump station
- Septic design will be a consideration
- Can consider creating fewer/larger sites with planted buffers to offer a more natural experience
- Stockpiled materials at the site will need to be relocated to appropriate alternative storage area
- An existing trailer lot near Recreation Hall can be repurposed for either pop-up campers or naturalized

Action 5 – Develop new tent campsites near the lake west of the East Bathhouse.

Considerations:

- Demand for camping at LTSP is high and waterfront camping is very popular
- The area is already partially developed with a service road, picnic tables, and grills, and mowed areas
- This is a wooded area and adding campsites would further develop the area
- Woodlands here have no understory and likely offer minimal wildlife habitat
- Visitors currently use this area for boating access
- Provides an opportunity to install ADA/accessible campsites
- Would be integrated into the redevelopment of the overall East Beach/Bathhouse area
- Provides rationale for funding the bathhouse restoration (e.g., need for restrooms)
- Water is available nearby
- The Lake Trail does not go through this area
- Soil compaction is an issue for tent sites, but they can be stabilized and contained with stone dust and native plants to mitigate compaction and visually delineate campsites
- Will need to include a road and utilities
- Appropriate stormwater management will be installed
- Conflicts may occur between campers and other visitors

Action 6 – Improve the accessibility of selected CCC cabins.

Considerations:

- Will make the Park more welcoming and inclusive
- Entrance ramps and/or grade changes, and minimum doorway widths are needed to meet ADA requirements, which may not be possible for some cabins
- Some sites have steep grades that make accessibility improvements untenable
- Cabins sited next to the road may be easier to retrofit for ADA
- Turning radii in some cabin interiors may make it difficult to meet ADA (e.g., furniture can prevent sufficient room for maneuvering wheelchairs)
- May require full renovation and/or floor plan alterations (e.g., a 4-bedroom cabin may be reconfigured as a 3-bedroom)
- Any retrofits to cabins are subject to SHPO review/approval
- Need to address repairs and long-term maintenance issues prior to implementing any alterations or additions to cabins or sites
- Changes to the cabins could impact revenue

Recommended Actions: 2-6

Reviews from today's visitors indicate that the sites are too close together and do not offer enough privacy from other campers. Noise complaints are also common. Increasing the privacy of campsites will address visitor comments and concerns.

There is demand for RV camping. The Park's current RV size limit is 30'-35'. Creating a new RV campground will expand the Park's clientele.

Education, Interpretation, and Programming

Lake Taghkanic State Park is in a rural area and not associated with a specific community. Activities and programs designed to engage area residents have had mixed success. A farmers' market at the Park drew too few customers, likely due to competition from the many established farm stands and markets in Columbia and Dutchess Counties. Similarly, a Fall Festival with hayrides, face painting, and kids' activities did not have a significant turnout, and the event required considerable staff time to plan and implement. A similar low attendance rate was noted at the Park's "Community Day" event and "I Love My Park Day". A lack of public transportation to the Park may be a limitation for some.

There is high demand at the Park for nature content and programs. While LTSP does not require a purpose-built environmental or nature center, educating visitors about wildlife at the Park is a priority. Both regional topics (e.g., the Park's location within a flyway used by bald eagles and osprey), as well as global issues (helping visitors understand environmental issues such as climate change) are potential topics for nature programs.

Actions Considered for Education, Interpretation & Programming

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue the current approach to programming, educational content development, and interpretation.

Considerations:

- The Park is not currently meeting the high demand for activities and educational content
- A former nature center at the Park has been inactive for years due to lack of staffing
- Overnight visitors at the campground and cottages are a diverse group, primarily families and often multi-generational, and the Park would like to offer fun nature programs and activities
- The Park lacks dedicated staffing to develop and implement more varied programs and educational content
- Although staff have the ability to develop and implement new programs in-house, it is very labor-intensive
- Information on the CCC is scattered in various locations and is not comprehensive
- The Park's setting and region offer a wide range of potential content for new educational material, including Park and regional history, the natural environment, as well as contemporary issues and recreational trends

Action 2 – Develop new activities, educational content, and programs that will engage existing and new visitors and attract area residents to the Park year-round.

Considerations:

- There is high demand for programs and activities, especially in summer/peak seasons and for campers
- The Park is rural and not centered in a community, and it can be a challenge to engage residents
- Large draws such as fireworks that formerly brought crowds to the Park are no longer offered
- Park would like to have a more cohesive, engaging approach to programs, interpretation, and education
- Staff would like to offer more programs in "shoulder" (off-peak) seasons

Action 3 – Expand the Park's interpretative content, incorporating multi-modal methodologies (e.g., audio, visual, programming, tactile/interactive elements).

Considerations:

- The Park would like to develop a more inclusive approach to interpretation
- Expanded accessibility is a goal for the Park and agency
- Would like to preserve the oral histories of the people who formerly lived along the lake (e.g., how they were impacted by creation of the park)
- More broadly developed interpretation content will help place the Park in its broader context; how it has been shaped by its setting and location and that it does not exist in a vacuum

Action 4 – Develop educational programs and content that help to expand access to all, including multilingual content.

Considerations:

- Physical accessibility can be a challenge for some who wish to participate in certain programs or activities
- Content will reach more people, expanding the audience for educational materials and Park programs

- The Park's visitors are very diverse and there is a need for programs and material in other languages (e.g., Spanish, Mandarin, Braille)
- Will make content available for different learning modalities (i.e., visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile)
- Park can provide outdoor mobility mechanisms (e.g., a track chair)
- Recreation Hall is currently accessible and with some upgrades can be used as a focal point for new program offerings and provide a meeting point for activities

Action 5 – Create an interpretive "timeline" walking route that illustrates the Park's background from prehistory up to the present.

Considerations:

- Route would be developed on the proposed shared-use trail
- Lakeview Trail has the most foot traffic and potential for improved access
- Will encourage people to walk/bike from the Campground to the West Beach
- Will consider impacts along the lakefront (e.g., visual, natural resource, use conflicts)
- Will incorporate content appropriate to the agency's "Our Whole History" directive (e.g., natural history, indigenous peoples' history, regional lore, stories of early residents, experience of enslaved people in the region, Taghkanic basketmakers community)
- A timeline has the potential to incorporate a wide range of content, including science (formation of the land, early flora and fauna), history (Park beginnings, CCC, local lore), contemporary issues (climate change, urbanization of rural/agricultural areas), and the future (technology, AI)
- Can be developed as multi-modal (e.g., audio/tactile elements) to broaden access
- A consultant will be needed to develop the content

Action 6 – Develop a nature-interpretive walk along a segment of the Lakeview Trail with interactive/tactile content appropriate for a greater range of abilities.

Considerations:

- Would help get kids out into the woods and moving
- An audience exists for this type of experience, and it can function as a self-guided route
- Can offer kids a small incentive if they complete the route (e.g., a sticker or decal)
- Signage will be designed to integrate into the Park's larger signage program
- Can use the route for more elaborate seasonal programs as special events
- Can be developed as a low cost, small-scale capital project
- Could be integrated into the proposed "timeline" route along the Lakeview Trail

Action 7 – Create seasonal "floating" staff positions to develop and implement education/interpretative content at multiple parks across the Taconic Region.

Considerations:

- Park staff can develop and implement some programming but there is high demand for activities at the Park
- It is difficult to recruit educational staff, especially for seasonal/part-time positions; the pay rate is not competitive, and the Park is not able to provide housing
- Ideally would like a dedicated, full-time person year-round to recruit/train/direct part-time/seasonal staff
- Summer visitors are a very diverse group and there is the opportunity to provide bilingual programs
- If the Recreation Hall is repurposed as an education center, seasonal staff could be based there
- Creating a shared education staff position in the region could be a model for other regions
- As staff moves to different parks, cross-pollination will be facilitated across the region

Action 8 – Develop and implement nature programming for visitors of all ages.

Considerations:

- Environmental/outdoor programs are in high demand at the Park (e.g., tree identification, forest bathing, nighttime woodland hikes, winter appreciation walks, etc.)

- There is no public environmental education center available in the area
- Proposed rehabilitation of the East Bathhouse in the Master Plan will incorporate a central location for educational material and function as a central meeting place for outdoor programs
- The Park has large natural areas with many elements appropriate for outdoor classroom programs
- Would like to educate visitors about the wildlife in the park and the impacts of climate change on these populations and nature in general

Action 9 – Educate visitors/campers about the historic value of the cabins and other CCC buildings to raise awareness of their significance.

Considerations:

- Ongoing visitor use is hard on cabins and their aging materials are vulnerable to damage
- Could develop a short educational film (one developed for Copake was very effective)
- Park has some possible locations for education/outreach (e.g., show a video at the park office about CCC history and cabin interiors--people are curious)
- There is in-house capability to produce video content (e.g., Peebles created a video for the water tower)

Action 10 – Develop a Comprehensive Signage Plan for the overall park, including a needs assessment and recommendations for all signage types.

Considerations:

- An important support for other improvements proposed in this Master Plan
- Will include a plan for signage needs in proposed new use areas (RV campground, lakeside camping)
- Will improve circulation and wayfinding at the park
- A complete update of interpretive signage in Park is needed
- Information on the CCC is scattered in various locations in the Park and is not comprehensive
- The main parking lot could incorporate informational panels on e.g., managing litter, bird interpretation, wayfaring, etc.

Recommended Actions: 2-10

Implementing these actions will result in the Park becoming a more integral resource within its community. Proposed educational material and recreational programs will be supported by new and retrofitted infrastructure, with the goal expanding accessibility for all aspects of the park's offerings.

Outreach and Partnerships

Actions Considered for Outreach

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue the current approach to publicizing the Park's programs, events, and recreational offerings.

Considerations:

- The Park may not reach as wide a range of visitors
- The region and Park would like to foster a greater connection with its community
- Visitor attendance may remain focused on the summer season
- Accessibility of programs will not be expanded
- Staff indicate that kids programs on weekends are in high demand

Action 2 – Create entertaining, 15-second informational videos to inform and educate visitors about the Park's amenities and expectations for behavior (e.g., "How to be a good camping neighbor;" "10 'must-do' things at Lake T" "Refuse Reduction/ Recycling Education").

Considerations:

- Outreach is most effective when it is catchy, engaging, and provided in "quick bites"

- Staff have capacity to create video content in-house, but time constraints and workloads may not permit full development and some technical support is needed to implement
- Camping etiquette videos will include information about protecting CCC infrastructure (e.g., do's and don'ts)
- Posting on social media reaches many visitors and the videos can also be running on a monitor in the Park Office
- This type of content can be more effective than static social media posts
- There is a need to educate visitors about all the Park's offerings, especially as the Master Plan is implemented
- The regional office has a graphic designer who may be available to provide assistance

Recommended Action: 2
Park staff expressed a need for more targeted approaches for reaching potential visitors. Creating entertaining and brief informative videos will expand outreach and inform visitors about all amenities at the Park.

Actions Considered for Partnerships

Action 1 – Status quo: Continue current levels and approaches to developing partnerships.
Considerations:

- The Park will continue to develop partnerships and collaborations with organizations, including community schools, nonprofits, trails or conservation groups, and municipalities
- Cultivating a variety of partnerships has the potential to bring in a wider range of visitors and better engage the community
- Developing partnerships and/or a volunteer force requires staff time for outreach, training, and supervising and Park would need more staff to fully engage new partnerships

Action 2 – Explore possibilities for partnerships to help develop new programs and activities.
Considerations:

- The Park offers an ideal setting for getting kids out of school rooms and urban areas into green space
- Staff would like to offer fun, outdoor programs (e.g., snowshoeing, themed hikes, "Outdoor Immersion" programs)
- Expanded programming can be supported by local volunteers or special interest organizations
- Offers an opportunity to bring people into the Park outside of the peak summer season
- Student Conservation Assoc. could provide a rotating/seasonal interpretive staff to assist
- A strong Audubon presence exists in the Hudson Valley region and birding groups are a possibility for partnerships
- Can partner with specialized groups to develop programs geared toward visitors with different abilities or needs
- Developing new partnerships requires staff time for outreach, training, supervising will make additional demands on current workloads

Recommended Action: 2
Partnerships can be a valuable asset to a public park. Initiating and maintaining successful partnerships also requires staff time and effort, and it is important to select groups able to make the most valuable contribution to the Park while not requiring a significant amount of staff time to manage.

Operations, Maintenance, and Management

Maintenance
The primary maintenance shop for the Park is the East Maintenance Area, located close to the lake's east shorefront. Most components in the complex are aging and the area needs full rehabilitation. Visitors entering from State Route 82 pass by the area, and it is visible from the main Park Road. Adjacent to the maintenance area is also a historic cottage,

formerly used as a Park Manager's residence. A second maintenance area, the Parkway Garage, is located on Park's west side along a restricted access road that enters the Park from the Taconic State Parkway.

Actions Considered for Park Maintenance Facilities

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or improvements to the Park's maintenance areas.

Considerations:

- Buildings are in poor condition and lack comfortable staff areas
- Visitors pass this maintenance area and the equipment and buildings are unsightly
- The area septic system is too close to the lake
- No separation between maintenance buildings/activities and the historic cottage
- The existing location is convenient for Park operations
- Lakeshore land use and viewshed should be available for recreation use and undeveloped, natural areas
- Need a more comfortable staff break room with year-round facilities

Action 2 – Relocate the East Maintenance Area to the fuel station/pole barn location with updated facilities.

Considerations: Same as Action 1, and

- Highest value land along the lakefront is currently used for maintenance
- Current location impacts the viewshed
- The area for relocation is close to the existing maintenance facility and will continue to be convenient for Park operations
- Will be less visible to visitors and have an improved overall appearance
- Staff working conditions will improve, with code-compliant, comfortable, year-round facilities, including a new staff break room
- New buildings can be sited/designed to be more out of public view
- Opportunity to restore/naturalize the existing maintenance site and use it for recreation
- Will improve environmental conditions and protect water quality in the lake
- Will result in a more appropriate setting for the historic residence
- The cost to demolish and restore the existing site may be significant
- Some maintenance buildings/activity will still be visible from the visitor route, but screening can be added
- The new location at the fueling station will need to be investigated for capacity for well installation
- Will require cameras/alarm systems to protect equipment, if kept in a more isolated area
- Buildings in the existing area can be repurposed
- Disturbed areas west of fueling station provide opportunities to improve habitat for known SGCN
- Area to the east of the fueling station would require more clearing but would be less impactful than additional disturbance to the west

Action 3 – Improve and upgrade the East Maintenance area at its current location.

Considerations:

- Located in a scenic, waterfront area which should be used for recreation
- Potential water quality impacts (septic systems, mechanical equipment leakage, etc.)
- Buildings are deteriorated and reaching the end of their useful life
- Layout of the maintenance area was developed piecemeal over many years and is not optimal for workflow/use
- Current location is convenient for staff/Park operations
- Existing buildings are deteriorated and will need assessment and structural evaluation; some will need to be rebuilt or replaced
- Staff working conditions need improvement (e.g., need to provide a separate break room, there is no HVAC)
- Structures are not insulated and improving energy efficiency will be a challenge
- Proximity of maintenance area to historic cottage is undesirable

Action 4 – Consolidate the East and West Maintenance areas at the Fueling/Pole Barn location to provide a single, updated maintenance facility for the Park.

Considerations:

- East location works well for most activities (e.g., trucks not allowed on TSP so deliveries arrive through NY 82 Entrance)
- If relocated, both existing areas could be restored to more natural conditions, improving Park ecology and aesthetics
- The Park is large, and having one maintenance location may be less convenient for staff
- The woodshop at Parkway Area and needs to be kept separate from other workspaces
- Most carpentry work is for the cottages, and the Parkway location is more convenient for access to the carpentry shop
- The existing fueling station/pole barn at the east area will need to be expanded to accommodate all Park maintenance requirements
- Beach equipment stored outdoors at the Parkway Maintenance Area (lifeguard stands/swim lines/buoys) would need to be transported a greater distance during the high season and require staff to drive farther
- An expanded maintenance complex can be designed and screened to be less visible to visitor areas
- The existing East Maintenance Area has a working well and relocating operations to the fueling station/pole barn will be dependent on the feasibility of building a well in that location
- The Parkway Area was originally a DOT yard and not designed for maintenance
- Parkway area could still be used for vehicles and large equipment storage
- Consolidating into one location has some efficiencies/economies (e.g., may decrease need for duplicated equipment and materials)

Action 5 – Improve and update the West (Parkway) Maintenance Area in its current location.

Considerations:

- Maintenance shares this location with the Park Police
- This area is used to store beach equipment outdoors and the Park needs better storage options
- Woodshop in this location needs to be kept separate from other activities
- Visitors do not enter this area, so visibility is not an issue
- Carpentry shop needs significant asbestos abatement
- If carpentry were relocated to the East Maintenance Area, it could be possible to use building for beach storage
- Could add a storage building for beach equipment and keep carpentry operation here

Recommended Actions: 2, 5

Park staff determined that relocating the Parkway Maintenance Area functions would decrease efficiency, and therefore that this facility should remain in its existing location. The buildings and site at the East Maintenance Area are in generally poor condition, some with cracked foundations and overall inadequate HVAC. Pavements are deteriorated and the aging wastewater system is a concern due to its proximity to the lake. Relocating and upgrading these facilities was selected as the recommended action. Existing buildings in the area will be repurposed, if possible, with the option of demolition and removal in the future if any structures or elements present safety issues or become unusable for other reasons.

Park Police Building

A 2018 internal report assessing the existing Park Police building found that the facility presents operational challenges for police functions. Deficiencies include a lack of soundproofing in areas used as interview rooms and a

need for a separate waiting area for the public.[1] The building also is not energy efficient. Members of the Park Police joined planning discussions to assess the current conditions of the LTSP facility, and to develop the following actions.

Actions Considered for the Park Police Building

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or upgrades to the existing Park Police Building.

Considerations:

- The structure is a prefabricated residential building and the layout is not fully effective for Park police operations (e.g., changing rooms/restrooms; no secure location for holding area)
- Existing building is not energy-efficient and does not meet ADA or current building codes
- Police need a facility appropriate for their needs to fully operate according to their mission
- The Staatsburg Park Police facility cannot accommodate many more staff and as staff numbers increase a substation will continue to be needed at LTSP
- The Park Police facility at the Park is used for equipment testing
- Building is currently in acceptable condition
- Park and regional maintenance staff are responsible for maintaining the building
- The building location separate from public areas and Park activities is not optimal

Action 2 – Remodel and update the existing Park Police Building.

Considerations:

- Will address ADA and building code issues and have a more functional layout
- Building can be updated to be more energy efficient
- A full gut renovation is needed to fully address existing issues
- The building is not historically significant and there are no historic preservation considerations
- Park Police staff numbers are increasing, and spatial needs may surpass the existing building size
- Re-using an existing structure is more cost-efficient and environmentally friendly than building new
- Will likely require an architectural term consultant

Action 3 – Replace the Park Police Building with a new building in its current location.

Considerations:

- Will provide an ADA and code-compliant facility with a more efficient layout
- A new building will be energy-efficient
- The building at LTSP is not a primary Park Police station and investment in a new building will be high
- A new building would be preferred for police purposes
- If Park Police receive dedicated capital funding they will make decisions regarding how it is allocated and there may be higher priorities statewide
- Park operations could benefit more from a police presence near high-activity areas such as the campground (e.g., at the East Maintenance Center) and the West Beach office

Action 4 – Replace the Park Police Building with a new facility in a different location.

Considerations: Same as Action 3, and

- LTSP building is not a primary Park Police station and investment in a new building will be high
- New construction would be preferable for police purposes
- If a new facility is constructed it should be located closer to areas of high activity
- Would have a higher visibility and Park Police presence
- Proximity to the Parkway is not as important as having a Police facility located in a more active part of the park
- The Park office at the West Beach Bathhouse is the most active part of the park

[1] OPRHP, prepared by the Statewide Design Squad, November 21, 2018. Existing Conditions Report, New York State Park Police, North Zone Station - Taconic Region.

- If relocated, Police will continue to need secure, easily accessible storage (for 2-3 Snowmobiles, UTVs, other equipment), which can be located separately from the new facility (e.g., add a joint-use pole barn in west maintenance area)

Recommended Actions: 2, 4

While it is important to maintain a Park Police presence at LTSP, the current location is outside of the Park's active public areas and a more central and visible location is preferred. The existing building is in moderately good condition and can be adapted to be more energy efficient and to improve its internal layout until a new facility can be built. A location for a new Park Police building has not yet been determined.

Vehicular Infrastructure

Traffic volumes and vehicle size and types have changed significantly since the Park was opened, and the park's circulation infrastructure needs to be updated to accommodate contemporary use patterns. Issues include the location of check-in booths at both east and west entrances, which impacts circulation. The main parking lot is in poor condition, and pedestrian infrastructure needs improvements to increase accessibility and encourage less car use. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities need to be more comprehensively planned and accessible.

As stormwater infrastructure ages, some components are not able to readily manage runoff, especially after periods of heavy rainfall. Deteriorated or undersized culverts may be unable to accommodate the increasing volumes of stormwater runoff. Incorporating green infrastructure elements — bioswales, permeable pavements, and tree islands — when redeveloping roads and parking areas, helps to address these issues.

Included in this section are actions proposed to improve the Park's roads and parking systems, entrances, and accessibility.

Actions Considered for Park Circulation

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes to the Park's circulation infrastructure (including roads, parking, walks, and entrances).

Considerations:

- Improving the West Beach Parking area is a priority for the Park
- The West Beach Parking area is the highest-use lot, is highly visible, and its deteriorated pavement is unsightly
- The lot's undefined layout, with no pavement markings, pedestrian paths, or tree islands, results in poor circulation and potentially unsafe conditions
- The pavement will continue to deteriorate
- Accessibility considerations will not be addressed (parking lots are required to provide a smooth and level surface and appropriate percentage of designated handicapped spaces to meet ADA)
- Many people walk barefoot in the parking area, and may be injured by crumbling pavement
- Use conflicts will continue (cars, pedestrians)
- Stormwater drainage infrastructure consists primarily of culverts that send runoff toward the lake, causing beach erosion and potentially impacting the lake's water quality
- State Route 82 entrance booth is located on the wrong side of the road which results in unsafe conditions and poor circulation
- Traffic backups on peak days can be hazardous
- Park entrance booths don't have electricity or phones (NY 82 has power/radio booster; Parkway entrance has no power - need to use battery-operated payment system)
- Wayfinding and informational signage at (or near) entrances needs improvement

Action 2 – Rehabilitate the West Beach Parking Lot with green infrastructure, including permeable pavement, tree islands, pedestrian walks, EV chargers, bicycle racks, and signage.

Considerations: Same as status quo, and

- Providing an accessible, green parking area will create a safer, more comfortable visitor experience in this high-use area
- Tree islands, pervious surfaces, bioretention areas, and plantings will help to cool the area
- Will improve circulation and aesthetics at the Park
- Will improve stormwater management and help protect the lake's water quality
- Adding EV chargers/dark-sky lighting complies with agency directives
- Can plow a "winter" area for seasonal parking and the full lot will be available in peak season

Action 3 – Improve pedestrian and vehicular circulation in the Cottage area by adding a paved loop road for access to some cottage entrances.

Considerations:

- Patrons drive their vehicles on lawns and on the lakefront path to access the cottages, damaging and compacting lawns and creating informal paths
- The natural surface path along the lake in front of the cottages is deteriorated partially due to vehicle use
- Paths leading to the cottage entrances are in generally poor condition
- With a road, more cottages would be able to be ADA (only one is currently accessible)
- Adding a loop road for access to cottage entrances will increase accessibility and keep vehicles from driving on the lawn
- Potential archaeological impacts from construction
- A permeable surface is preferred reduced impervious surfaces will improve drainage
- Eroded areas where people have created access routes to the lakefront need to be stabilized and "legitimized" (e.g., by adding steps/railings with natural restoration of eroded sides)
- Could consider eliminating the existing road and using the new loop as the primary access
- Asphalt is easy to maintain
- Less impact and expense from improving pedestrian infrastructure, installing paved paths or boardwalk ramps to cottage entrances
- Only a portion of the cottages need to be accessible
- Consider adding an accessible parking space and a driveway at accessible cottages
- Park is proposing to build new cottages that will meet ADA/building codes

Action 4 – Relocate the West ("Parkway") Entrance contact booths deeper into Park and add electric/phone service, and a battery-operated payment system.

Considerations:

- The overall entrance experience at the park needs to be improved
- Will improve circulation on high-use days and help prevent backups onto the Parkway, which can create hazardous conditions
- Parkway entrance booths have no power and neither the east nor west entrance booths have phone service (NY 82 has power/radio booster)
- Entrance needs improved wayfinding and informational signage
- A new location will need to accommodate large vehicles (buses, RVs) and an existing cleared area has been identified as appropriate
- DHP has determined that Parkway booths are functionally obsolete
- Replacing with new booths will address aesthetic and functional issues (utilities, fiber, security issues)
- Offers the opportunity to add security elements (add cameras, secure doors/windows, etc.) to increase staff security (e.g., fee collection)
- Can assess the possibility of installing solar panels to power relocated entrance booths
- Will need appropriate DHP review (archaeological, etc.)

- Contact booths have no AC and updated booths will improve staff comfort
- Some signage has been updated at the entrances, but both need improved wayfinding and informational signage at the entrances

Action 5 – Relocate the Park's East Entrance (NY 82) booth and upgrade with electric/phone service.

Considerations:

- The visitor experience when entering from the East (NY 82) Entrance needs improvement
- Entrance booth has power/radio booster but no phone service, and cell connectivity is unreliable
- The booth is located on the passenger side of entering cars, which results in poor circulation and unsafe conditions (i.e., staff needs to walk around to the driver's side and stand in an active roadway)
- Will improve circulation and help prevent slow-downs on high-use days
- Adding a battery-operated payment system will improve circulation, moving cars through more efficiently
- An updated booth will improve staff comfort (e.g., existing booth has no AC)
- Entrance needs improved wayfinding and informational signage
- Several possible locations for relocated booths are feasible and to be considered
- Will incorporate a turn-around area at the new booth location to improve circulation

Recommended Actions: 2, 4, 5

Most people arrive at LTSP by car, and during the peak summer season there is a large demand for parking at the West Beach Parking Lot. Upgrading this lot with green infrastructure offers the greatest opportunity for upgrading the Park and increasing resilience. It is key to improving visitor safety and comfort as well as protecting the lake water from pollutants and sediment in stormwater runoff.

Non-Vehicular Infrastructure

The Park's design encourages car use. Its roadway system dominates circulation, and there are few dedicated and accessible pedestrian routes to different areas in the Park. The distance from the Campground to the West Beach is about a mile, and most campers will drive. Staff would like to encourage less use of cars within the Park and to improve the accessibility of its various recreation areas. the Lakeview Trail, which can be used to get to the West Beach, currently is not clearly marked or universally accessible.

Actions Considered for Non-vehicular Infrastructure (Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities)

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes to the Park's non-vehicular (pedestrian/bicycle) facilities.

Considerations:

- Pedestrian routes to many of the Park's elements have deteriorated pavements, loose gravel, erosion, lawn, and/or steep sections that present safety and accessibility challenges
- Walkways in poor condition limit the ability of visitors to safely experience and enjoy the full range of the Park's amenities and activities
- Will not address accessibility limitations at the facility, including universal access to some programs and events
- People will continue to walk and bike on the road, with potential use conflicts and safety issues
- Cars will continue to dominate the Park's circulation system
- Public facilities are required to be accessible and equitable to the extent practicable

Action 2 – Add "Share the Road"/ "Sharrows" pavement markings to the Park's roads.

Considerations:

- Sharrows are low-cost and offer directional and wayfinding guidance
- Provide the least amount of protection from vehicles
- Markings reinforce the legitimacy of bicycle traffic on the road and indicate where bicyclists should ride
- Drivers are not always clear what sharrows mean (i.e., who has the right-of-way)
- Sharing the road is generally less desirable than providing cyclists with separate off-road facilities

- Drivers do not always comply or do not see cyclists in active traffic lanes
- When used effectively, sharrows can make people on bicycles safer, but only if they're understood by both drivers and cyclists
- Separate bicycle facilities are safer, and keep cyclists off the road

Action 3 – Create an on-road bike lane on Lake Taghkanic Road.

Considerations:

- Park roads are narrow and may not accommodate protected bike lanes
- People do not always drive the speed limit at the Park
- Well-defined cycling routes can encourage more people to ride instead of drive around the Park
- With a clearly delineated bike lane, cyclists may feel safer on roads
- Lower-cost alternative to constructing a separate shared-use path
- Separate facilities reduce the risk of accidents with motor vehicles
- On-road bike lanes serve as a visual indication to motorists that cyclists will be on the road
- Bike paths that are separated from motorized vehicles are preferred overall for safety and the highest-quality cycling experience
- Some user groups may not feel comfortable biking on-road (e.g., families with small children)

Action 4 – Create a shared-use trail on the section of the Lakeview Trail between the West Beach and the Campground.

Considerations:

- The trail distance from West Beach to the Campground is approximately one mile
- Improves user experience and reduces safety issues and use conflicts
- Signage will indicate the distance, trail surface, and grade so trail users can make an informed decision about using the trail to access the beach or campground
- Will include information about amenities (e.g., benches, educational signs, and scenic views) so patrons know what to expect
- Will be designed with appropriate width and meanders so that it does not negatively impact Park aesthetics
- Trail will be designed to prevent erosion and washouts to the extent practicable
- Final surface will be firm and stable
- The existing Lakeview Trail route will be evaluated as an option for an accessible trail

Action 5 – Improve pedestrian facilities in paved areas by painting lined routes and crosswalks.

Considerations: as status quo, and

- Currently no lined roadways/parking areas indicating pedestrian use routes (e.g., crosswalks)
- Pedestrian routes should be clearly marked and, wherever possible, accessible to all
- Will require a design consultant for a comprehensive park plan

Recommended Actions: 4 and 5

Separating uses helps foot traffic, strollers, and cyclists to be more inclined to leave their cars behind when accessing different parts of the park.

Utilities and Water Infrastructure

The Park's utility infrastructure is aging with some deteriorated components. Wastewater treatment is a park-wide concern; most septic systems in the park are older and some are sited close to the lake. A large absorption field for the Parkway maintenance area septic system needs upgrades to improve functionality. The Park's potable water distribution and treatment system is aging. Other Park infrastructure, including fiber and electric system, need to be updated.

Actions Considered for Fiber

Action 1 – Status quo: No new action related to fiber installation.

Considerations:

- The maintenance area (east), campground, and contact stations do not currently have fiber
- As park is further developed fiber will become more important
- Makes communications difficult – point of sales
- Employee trainings/LATS need to go to one building – limited space/computers
- No landline phones in maintenance buildings – safety issues could arise

Action 2 – Install fiber at key points in the Park.

Considerations:

- The maintenance area (east) is a high-priority need
- Connectivity at entry stations is important
- As park is further developed fiber will become more important
- Public Wi-Fi in visitor areas in high demand
- Cost is high – needs to be underground

Recommended Action: 2

Visitor preferences indicate that there is high demand for internet connectivity at parks. Staff needs will be better supported by ensuring they are able to use internet while working. Going forward, demand for coverage will grow, and it is important to plan to meet future needs.

Actions Considered for Electric Infrastructure

Action 1 – Status quo: No actions for the Park's electric utilities.

Considerations:

- Utilities by the ballfield interfere with activities and need to be buried
- Much of the Park's electric infrastructure is above ground and vulnerable to damage from storms and trees
- Electric poles are sited along the lakeshore and at the cottages, detracting from views of the lake

Action 2 – Move electric lines that are currently on poles underground in recreation areas.

Considerations:

- Bury underground electric by the cottages and ballfields
- Will improve safety and reduce outages (i.e., trees falling)
- Will reduce visual impacts on the viewshed
- Will better withstand severe weather

Recommended Action: 2

With projected increases in severe and intense storms, moving electric utilities underground has multiple benefits. In addition to visual impacts, electric poles and lines can present operational and safety challenges in recreation areas.

Actions Considered for the Potable Water System

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or upgrades to the Park's potable water infrastructure.

Considerations:

- The potable water treatment system is aging and has an operational lifespan

- As components deteriorate, maintenance demand will Increase, there will be increased failures, and the system may become irreparable and need to be replaced
- Potable water system uses surface (lake) water and there is no intention to change the water source
- Most Park infrastructure that requires potable water functions seasonally
- Providing potable water to some facilities in winter could expand recreational opportunities (e.g., Park could offer winter camping)
- Due to the amount of rock near the surface, most waterlines are shallow and not frost-protected so reinstalling waterlines below the frost line would be prohibitively expensive

Action 2 – Increase the Park's quantity production for potable water in the Park.
Considerations: Same as status quo, and

- If the Park were to decide to offer year-round cabins, the system would need to add waterlines
- Volume of water production has improved since a new tank was installed at the campground
- If there were a failure in the water main, the Park would not be able to produce enough for demand and would need to truck in water or shut down
- Improved treatment technology is needed for additional water production using surface water
- A planned capital project will address backwash; settling tanks to clean water and re-feed into treatment system

Recommended Action: 2
The Park's water treatment system is capable of producing potable water of excellent quality. However, to ensure that future needs are met, it is important to upgrade the system to produce more potable water. As improvements in the Master Plan are implemented, demand for potable water will likely increase, and the Park needs to be prepared with a sufficient supply of potable water.

Wastewater Treatment

A large septic system that services the West Bathhouse and Cottages is in poor condition; collection and pumping system components need upgrading. An absorption field for the Parkway Maintenance Area septic system is functional, but associated collection/pumping components need upgrades and should be connected to an outfall across from the main parking lot. The Police Building and carpenter shop are serviced by several holding tanks which, according to a 2019 engineer report, are not in compliance with DEC standards.[2]

A pump station at the East Beach Playground functions year-round. A septic tank in this area was partially removed and abandoned in place during playground construction. The East Bathhouse's sanitary system and outfall are not currently in use. Planned future use of the Bathhouse will require NYSDEC review to determine any necessary permit modifications.

Actions Considered for Wastewater Infrastructure

Action 1 – Status quo: No changes or upgrades to the Park's wastewater infrastructure.
Considerations:

- Much of the Park uses septic systems and many are at the end of operational life
- Water quality issues – need to protect the lake
- Aging infrastructure will eventually begin to fail
- Some septic systems need to be relocated farther away from the lake

[2] Lake Taghkanic State Park Wastewater Disposal Systems Existing Condition Investigation NYSDEC Permit No. NY 003 1186. February 18, 2019. Prepared for OPRHP by Chazen Engineering, Land Surveying & Landscape Architecture Co., D.P.C.

Action 2 – Modernize the Park's east wastewater system (campground, east maintenance).

Considerations: Same as Action 1, and

- Entire system needs comprehensive upgrades and replacements
- East Maintenance Area has a septic system that needs to be relocated away from the lake and redesigned
- Campground septic systems are undersized, need to be much larger (must be pumped every year)
- East Bathhouse rehabilitation will require a new septic system

Action 3 – Upgrade wastewater treatment systems in the West portion of the Park.

Considerations: Same as Action 1, and

- Lift stations at the cottages need to be upgraded
- The Parkway Maintenance and Park Police septic systems need to be connected to Outfall Area 1
- The main lift station (at West Playground) needs to be replaced (a revamped underground system is planned)

Recommended Actions: 2 and 3

Most of the Park's septic systems and waste treatment infrastructure are older and some have begun to require replacement. As the Lake is the Park's primary recreational resource and drinking water supply, any potential water quality impacts from septic fields and/or aging infrastructure must be anticipated and addressed before any issues arise that may affect facility functionality.

Actions Considered for the Landfill Site

A landfill was established when LTSP opened in the 1930s. Located on a service road approximately a half-mile north of the East Maintenance Area, it was primarily used for the disposal of Park-generated wastes such as glass, plastic, cans, food, and paper. The landfill is covered by dense vegetation. Park staff do not add material, mow, or otherwise maintain the area.

Action 1 – Status quo: No new action undertaken for the Park's landfill site.

Considerations:

- The site has never been formally closed (DEC procedure)
- Does not support agency stewardship goals
- Large quantities of invasive plants grow in this area and may spread into adjacent woodlands
- The cost to complete the closure process is high and the Park has limited resources

Action 2 – Complete the formal process for closing the landfill site.

Considerations:

- Technical specifications for closure and a Post-Closure O & M Manual were developed in 2017 (revised 2018)
- Cost to complete the closure process is high (cost estimates were completed in 2018 and will be considerably higher now)
- Will be in keeping with the agency's mission to be good stewards of the land

Recommended Action: 2

A plan to formally close the Park's landfill has been developed. Cost has been the primary factor in finalizing the landfill closure process.

Solar Development

The OPRHP has a system-wide directive to reduce fossil fuel use at its facilities, and the State has goals to reduce its carbon footprint by increasing renewable energy production. The agency has committed to transitioning to 100 percent renewable electricity by 2030. The only solar installation in the Park is on the West Beach Bathhouse which has panels on its roof.

Actions Considered for Solar Energy Development

Action 1 – Status quo: Do not develop additional solar infrastructure at the Park.

Considerations:

- Does not support agency goals to reduce its fossil fuel use
- The Park has an existing solar installation on the West Bathhouse roof
- State and Agency goals include reducing fossil fuel use
- The potential for educational material about environmental issues
- There will be no new visual impacts from solar arrays at the Park

Action 2 – Evaluate opportunities for installing a free-standing solar project at the Park and implement if an appropriate location is identified.

Considerations:

- Supports agency goals to reduce the use of fossil fuel at its facilities
- Large arrays have been successful at other NYS parks
- Several locations at LTSP have been considered as potential sites but require further analysis
- Will need to consider/mitigate any adverse visual and environmental impacts to the Park
- Maintaining areas with ground-mounted panels can be a challenge (e.g., difficult to mow)
- May add significantly to staff maintenance workloads

Action 3 – Install small-scale solar installations on existing rooftops (cottages, bathrooms, maintenance buildings).

Considerations:

- Supports agency goals to generate more renewable energy at its facilities
- Will need to consider/mitigate any adverse visual impacts to the Park's buildings
- Historic Preservation considerations for impacts to historically significant or visual features (e.g., cottages, views)
- Roof panel maintenance is minimal
- Would result in a relatively small addition to the facility's energy production overall
- Buildings must be oriented appropriately which may limit the number of installations

Action 4 – Incorporate solar elements such as carports as part of the redevelopment of the West Beach Parking Lot.

Considerations:

- Supports agency goals to generate more renewable energy at its facilities
- The lot is large, and a solar installation could potentially offset the Park's energy needs
- Can be integrated into the proposed parking lot redevelopment project
- A new parking lot that incorporates both solar elements and green infrastructure could be a model for green redevelopment at other state parks
- Climate change impacts are projected to include greater temperature extremes and more frequent periods of intense rainfall and incorporating solar carports would provide a more comfortable visitor experience (e.g., shade/shelter)
- Offers a potential educational component
- Any form of solar will result in visual impacts to this scenic area
- A small or pilot installation can be sited to minimize visual prominence
- Will add to staff maintenance loads
- Project cost is high

Recommended Actions: 2-4

The solar installation on the West Beach Bathhouse has been a success story for the Park and generates a good quantity of electric power. It requires little maintenance, has no visual impacts to views and, since it is on a newer building, does not affect any historic elements.

Public Participation

Lake Taghkanic State Park Site has a varied user base, with a core of nearby residents using the Park year-round and others in the wider region having a long history of visiting the Park. Comments received on the Draft Master Plan from these and other stakeholders during the public comment period are compiled in this section, along with the agency's responses.

A full Draft Master Plan was published on the agency's website on October 31st, 2024, and a public comment period was held from October 31st to December 5th, 2024. On November 14th, 2024, virtual and in-person meetings were held which included a presentation summarizing actions in the Draft Plan, followed by an open discussion.

Valuable feedback was received at these meetings from an engaged group of area residents, representatives of local municipalities and other stakeholders. The comments received were considered for any potential impact to Plan content, and revisions and/or additions to the Plan were made accordingly. Substantive comments received during this time appear below, with OPRHP's responses.

No substantive revisions to the Master Plan were made as a result of public comments received.

The OPRHP appreciates the time and effort that those interested in LTSP's future have invested in providing comments on the Draft Master Plan. A list of those who provided comments on the Master Plan is included at the end of this chapter.

General Comments of Support

A significant number of people expressed general support for the Master Plan, both at public meetings and in writing. Most noted their positive experiences with the Park and/or encouraged the agency to move forward with implementing the improvements described in the Plan.

Responses to Comments

The following section summarizes the comments and questions received on the Draft Master Plan. Comments have been edited for length and clarity and are categorized by subject area. The agency's responses are provided, along with page numbers referring to relevant Plan sections.

Comments on Historic Resources

East Bathhouse

Comment: *I am so interested in seeing what can be done with the East (stone) bath house. It's such a beautiful park and it would be nice to see the entire park utilized again.*

Response: The Master Plan proposes to renovate and retrofit the East Bathhouse as a community center that includes a central interpretive area, public outdoor space, and flexible interior spaces for programs, meetings, and other public uses with a portion of the building dedicated for education and interpretation. (For details on these actions see Appendix B, p. 44).

Comment: *The East Bathhouse needs immediate stabilization, particularly on the damage to the roofs.*

Response: The Master Plan addresses the stabilization and rehabilitation of the East Bathhouse. (For more details on proposed reuse of the East Bathhouse see Appendix B, p. 44).

Property Acquisitions

Comment: *The draft plan makes little mention of the Jaffe (Williams) Farm. Will a use or plan within the Master Plan be developed for that recent acquisition?*

Response: The former Jaffe home will be used for staff housing and the barn for storage. The Master Plan also includes a proposed action to investigate options for connecting existing trails to the 2024 acquisition (former Jaffe Property) on old NY 82 and to implement new trails, if appropriate routes are determined. (For more information see Appendix A, p. 24 and Appendix B, p. 56).

Reesa Farm

Comment: *Will there be any changes to the Reesa Farm area of the Park?*

Response: The barn's structural framework exhibits structural deterioration, primarily from water penetration. Major beams and other elements have been compromised. The house also exhibits signs of advanced deterioration. Without an intended use, the high cost associated with stabilizing the buildings is problematic. The Master Plan includes a recommended action to demolish the Reesa House and Barn. (For more information see Appendix A, pp. 23-24 and Appendix B, p. 47).

Comment: *I strongly disagree with the assessment that the Smith-Ressa (Reesa) farm buildings are beyond rehabilitation. In the past, Parks rescued historic structures that were in far worse condition due to their historic significance, not because they had an immediate use.*

Response: The decision to remove the Reesa House and Barn was informed in part by a field visit to the site made in December 2023, at which time the barn and house exhibited advanced deterioration resultant from deferred maintenance and water penetration. The condition of both buildings suggests considerable investment would be required to stabilize and ultimately rehabilitate them; there does not at present appear to be an identified use for either, which presents a significant obstacle towards justifying such an investment and, ultimately, their retention and reuse.

Lake Taghkanic State Park has been determined eligible for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places ("S/NRHP"); as such, any proposed plans for features defined as historic therein, such as the Reesa Barn, will be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office under Section 14.09 of the State Historic Preservation Act of 1980. In the case of demolition, existing conditions will be considered as part of an alternatives analysis.

Funding

Comment: *How will the renovation of the Jaffe and Livingston Houses be funded?*

Response: Capital projects within NYS Parks are largely funded by the New York Works budget allocation and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding streams.

Comments on Community Engagement

Nature Walks

Comment: *Perhaps for the winter months you could offer an interpretive hike or two. I am not familiar with other parts of the park and am a little afraid to try but would be happy to do so with a guide. This would have the benefit of bringing in local residents*.

Response: The Plan recommends developing new activities, educational content, and programs to engage existing and new visitors and to attract area residents to the Park year-round and developing and implementing nature programming for visitors of all ages, as well as creating a seasonal "floating" staff positions to develop and implement education/ interpretation content at multiple parks across the Taconic Region. A winter interpretive hike aligns with these actions

and may be pursued in the future as staff time and funding allows. (For more information on these actions see Appendix B, pp. 59-61).

Community Events

Comment: *Has the Park considered community events such as live concerts, drone shows, and fishing tournaments?*

Response: Community organizations host several fishing tournaments at the Park on weekends throughout the year. Those interested can contact the Park Office for more information and to be put in touch with event organizers. The Park is open to larger community events and hosted by local community organizations. In the past community events such as car shows, live concerts and fireworks displays have been held at the Park. Funding and security are important considerations for larger events.

Comments on Recreational Resources

Biking

Comment: *An activity that could be added to the park is bicycling. Some trails could be adapted to include bikes, and bikes could be available for rental. There are several biking groups in the county that use local roads. The park could sponsor a biking event as well.*

Response: The Master Plan proposes to improve the trail surface on the Lakeview Trail between the West Beach and the Campground to enhance the biking experience between these two locations, as well as adding biking amenities such as bike racks and a bike repair station to increase the feasibility of using bikes as a means of transportation within the Park. Additionally, the plan proposes exploring options for providing bike and scooter rentals. (For more details see Appendix B, p. 48).

Boating

Comment: *What does installing a boat storage structure entail?*

Response: In the short-term, the Master Plan proposes installing a boat storage structure to raise kayaks and canoes off the ground thereby improving the visual appeal and operability of the boat launch area. Consideration of larger vessels will be included in the design of storage solutions. As a long-term strategy, pending the relocation of the maintenance facility to the north side of Lake Taghkanic Road, the existing garage may be repurposed as year-round boat storage. (See Appendix B, pp. 50-51 for more information).

Comment: *Has consideration been given to a boat tie up on the south side of the lake?*

Response: The Park has a small team of skilled carpenters and can investigate the possibility of installing a small dock on the southern shore of the lake providing a rest area for boaters and tying into the Lakeview Trail.

Swimming

Comment: *Will the swimming area at the west beach be expanded and deepened? Currently, the shallow area is appropriate for children playing but not adults who would enjoy swimming in the beautiful lake.*

Response: The Park is not currently considering dredging and does not plan to add to the 5 existing lifeguard chairs at the West Beach. Lifeguard recruitment at the Park has been consistent for the past several summers, but Park Management is aware that there has been a nation-wide lifeguard shortage in recent years. The park allows for open swimming, except for from the West and East Beaches. Entering from the East Beach is not permitted due to depth hazards in that area. Distance swimmers may enter the water from the shoreline in the picnic area and along trails.

Comment: *Will swimming lanes for lap swimming be added? Could water aerobics classes be offered, perhaps once a week?*

Response: The Park is not currently considering any changes to the swimming area. The Park is open to working with community groups who wish to organize water aerobics classes.

Trails

Comment: *Will trails be added to the new properties that have recently been acquired?*

Response: Trails will be added to the property acquired in 2020 (former Cloud Property). The regional trails crew has determined as exploratory trail alignment and will continue to assess use and trail surface conditions and will address adjustments or maintenance needs as necessary. The Park may consider adding a trail to the 2024 acquisition (former Jaffe Property) in the future. Consideration will need to be given to the planned Park Residence and wetlands.

Comment: *Will the Park continue to maintain the snowmobile trails?*

Response: The Park will continue to maintain the snowmobile trails. The Park partners with local snowmobile clubs to maintain the trails. For several years no snowmobile club was active at the park. For the 2024-2025 season, the Park has found a local partner who will be maintaining the trails. Snowmobile trails are still open for other uses. Skiers, snowmobilers, and snowshoers must stay alert, be courteous and share the trails.

Pickleball

Comment: *I've been kayaking in the Lake for a long time, it's great to just sit and listen to the sounds of the Park. Have echoes from the pickleball court been taken into consideration?*

Response: The proposed pickleball court location is surrounded by natural rock features which will help attenuate noise. Additionally, over 1,000 feet of vegetation separate the proposed location from the lake's edge, providing an additional buffer. The Park will investigate and determine if the proposed location will impact noise levels on the lake.

Glamping

Comment: *What is the status of the glamping equipment?*

Response: The company that ran the glamping sites filed for bankruptcy in early 2023 and is no longer in business. While litigation was pending the Park was required to leave glamping equipment in situ. As of mid-December, all tents and equipment have been removed from the shorelines of Lake Taghkanic. The platforms will remain in place until a suitable location is determined to repurpose the structures, possibly for picnicking or in the campground.

Disc Golf

Comment: *What is the Park's plan for disc golf course maintenance and expansion?*

Response: A disc golf course was installed at the Park in September 2024. Temporary signage is in place and the Park will continue to implement signage upgrades as feasible. Expansion will be revisited in the coming year as use and maintenance needs of the existing 9-hole course are assessed.

Comment: *Would the Park consider hosting events like disc golf tournaments?*

Response: The Park is open to partnering with local community groups interested in hosting disc golf tournaments at the Park. Interested groups are encouraged to contact the Park Office.

Comments on Operations & Vehicular Circulation

Comment: *Has there been any discussion about the dry hydrants for fire suppression?*

Response: The Park will continue to work with the local fire department to ensure dry hydrants are operational.

Comment: *If things go well, there will be much higher attendance. Has any interaction occurred with the Town of Taghkanic to upgrade offerings off Exit 80?*

Response: Currently offerings off Exit 80 include a diner, gas station, pizza shop, and the fire station, as well as private residences. Development actions in the Master Plan focus on locations within the Park that are under OPRHP jurisdiction. Demand is likely to determine any additional offerings.

Comment: *There is a serious traffic hazard at the NY 82 entrance/exit. There are two sets of lanes in and out and people use the wrong lane to make turns when exiting the Park.*

Response: NY 82 is a State Route. As such, the Park and Region will need to consult with NYSDOT in order to make any changes or improvements. The Park will reach out to NYSDOT to explore options for improving the NY 82 entrance/exit.

Comments on Open Space Conservation

Comment: *Can conservation easements within the Lake Taghkanic surrounding areas be encouraged?*

Response: The primary purpose of conservation easements is for habitat and other natural resource protection. The Region works closely with the Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC). Those interested in discussing specific properties are encouraged to contact State Parks or the CLC to discuss in more detail.

Comment: *Will the footprint of the park expand?*

Response: The footprint of the Park has been gradually expanded over the last few years as properties became available and sellers were willing to sell to State Parks. Parks will continue to evaluate parcels that add to trail connections and complexity in the coming years as property becomes available.

Persons/Organizations Who Provided Comments (Alphabetically)

Katherine Bainer	Daniel Hills Jr.
Sue Bergquist Strong	Benjamin Maron
Brian Bull	Fred Osborn
Kathy Costello	Jeffrey Tallackson
Jeff Feld	Patrice Tomaso
Arthur Griffith	George Wachtel
Richard Gromek	Richard Wolchok

Lake Taghkanic State Park/Building, Structure and Landscape Feature List

Lake Taghkanic State Park was determined eligible for listing on the National Registers of Historic Places (NRHP) by the State Historic Preservation Office in 2019. The park, developed by the Taconic State Park Commission for public recreational beginning in the 1930s, satisfies NRHP Criterion A in the areas of park planning, conservation, and recreation, and NRHP Criterion C in the area of architecture, for its recreational architecture including rustic-style buildings and landscape features erected in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The period of significance begins in 1929 with the first land acquisition and extends with the growth of the park to 1970. Resources that date to within the 1929-1970 timeframe are generally considered historic ("contributing"), unless materially altered; a number of resources predate the creation of the park but nevertheless contribute to the park's significance.

The following list consists of buildings and structures that are recorded in the state's Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS). Resources include both the State Financial System (SFS) asset number, where applicable, and the Unique Site Number (USN), which is the number assigned to resources within CRIS. Dates of construction, or date ranges, are provided where known. Some smaller resources, such as playgrounds, sports fields and small landscape/infrastructure features, were omitted from this list.

Abbreviations: N/A (non-applicable); NC (non-contributing); NC/A (non-contributing/altered); R (ruinous); R/F (ruinous; foundation only).

Resource Name	SFS Asset #	Unique Site Number	Date	Historic Status
Reesa House	04BR08507500	02118.000060	ca. 1870	Historic/Contributing
Reesa Barn	04BR08507900	02118.000061	ca. 1870	Historic/Contributing
Jaffe House	N/A	02108.000105	ca. 1840s	Historic/Contributing
Jaffe Barn Group	N/A	02108.000111	ca. 1840s	Historic/Contributing
Superintendent's Cottage (Livingston Cottage)	04BR08506500	02108.000007	ca. 1920	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 1	04BR08505000	02118.000042	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 2	04BR08505100	02118.000043	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 3	04BR08505200	02118.000044	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 4	04BR08505300	02118.000045	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 5	04BR08505400	02118.000052	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 6	04BR08505800	02118.000046	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 7	04BR08505900	02118.000047	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 8	04BR08506100	02118.000049	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 9	04BR08506200	02118.000050	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 10	04BR08506300	02118.000051	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 11	04BR08505700	02118.000055	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 12	04BR08505600	02118.000054	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 14	04BR08504900	02118.000041	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 15	04BR08504800	02118.000040	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Cabin 16	04BR08505500	02118.000053	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Restroom/Shower Building (Cabin Area)	04BR08508700	02118.000048	mid-1930s	Historic/Contributing
Stone Water tower/ Observation Building	N/A	02118.000007	ca. 1936	Historic/Contributing
Stone Restroom Building	04BR08504600	02118.000005	1930s	Historic/Contributing
Recreation Building	04BR08504700	02118.000057	ca. 1934	
East Bathhouse	04BR08508000	02108.000009	1937-38	Historic/Contributing

CCC Camp Building ((Non-extant)	N/A	02108.000011	ca. 1933	NC; R/F

Resource Name	**SFS Asset #**	**Unique Site Number**	**Date**	**Historic Status**
Pumphouse (Stone)	N/A	02108.000028	1930s	Historic/Contributing
Pumphouse (Concrete)	N/A	02108.000027		To Be Confirmed
Water Treatment/ Filter Building	04BR085A8300	02108.000038	ca. 1930s	Historic/Contributing
Garage/Apartment	04BR08500400	02108.000042		Historic/Contributing
Lot A Restroom Building	04BR08509000	02108.000055		NC
Lot B Restroom Building	04BR08503800	02108.000043		To Be Confirmed
Lot E Restroom Building	04BR08508900	02108.000044	post-2000	NC
Lot E Picnic Shelter	04AR08500100	02108.000045		To Be Confirmed
Lot F Restroom Building	04BR08509100	02108.000087	post-2000	NC
Cottage 154	04BR08502700	02108.000067		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 155	04BR08502600	02108.000061		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 157	04BR08502400	02108.000068		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 158	04BR08502300	02108.000070		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 159	04BR08502100	02108.000071		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 160	04BR08502000	02108.000062		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 161	04BR08501800	02108.000063		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 162	04BR08501700	02108.000064		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 164	04BR08501500	02108.000065		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 165	04BR08501300	02108.000066	ca. 1940	Historic/Contributing
Cottage 166	04BR08501200	02108.000058		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 167	04BR08501100	02108.000060		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 168	04BR08501000	02108.000039		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 169	04BR08500900	02108.000046		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 170	04BR08500700	02108.000041		Historic/Contributing
Cottage 171	04BR08500600	02108.000047		Historic/Contributing
Laundry Building (Cottage Area)	04BR08502200	02108.000069		To Be Confirmed
Pumphouse (Cottage Area)	04BR08500700	02108.000110		To Be Confirmed
Restroom Building (West Picnic Area)	04BR08508800	02108.000075	post-2000	NC
Quonset Hut/Workshop	04BR08502800	02108.000073		Historic/Contributing
TSP Contact Station/North	04BR08500100	02118.000038		To Be Confirmed
TSP Contact Station/South	04BR08500200	02108.000108		To Be Confirmed
West Bathhouse/Park Office	04BR08503100	02108.000077	ca. 1962	NC/A
Park House	04BR08500300	02108.000048		NC
Boat Storage Garage	04BR08506800	02108.000051		To Be Confirmed
NYS Park Police Station (North/Taconic Zone)	04BR08507200	02108.000052		To Be Confirmed
Boat Rental Building (West)	04BR08509200	02108.000053		NC
Storage Shed	04BR08509300	02108.000109		NC
Open Shed (Maintenance Area)	04BR08507800	02108.000096		To Be Confirmed
Garage (Maintenance Area)	04BR08506900	02108.000091		To Be Confirmed
Garage (Maintenance Area)	04BR08507600	02108.000090		To Be Confirmed
Maintenance Garage	04BR08506700	02108.000089		To Be Confirmed

Harder Pump House (Maintenance Area)	04BR08506600	02108.000092	N/C
Tool Shed (Maintenance Area)	N/A	02108.000093	Historic/Contributing
Contact Station (East)	04BR08507100	02108.000095	To Be Confirmed
Camp Store (Former Nature Center)	04BR08504500	02108.000080	To Be Confirmed

Lake Taghkanic State Park Building and Structure List (Source: OGS)
Contact Stations (2) (at Parkway Entrance)
Asst Manager's Residence
Garage Apartment (vacant)
Cottage #154
Cottage #155 (ADA Accessible)
Cottages #157-162
Cottage #164
Cottages #166-171
Pump House
Brick Laundry Storage (at cottages)
Quonset Hut Shop
West Beach Bathhouse - Park Office
East Beach Bathhouse (closed)
Camp Store
Campground Restroom (Stone/CCC)
Recreation Hall & Restroom
Cabins #1-12
Cabins #14-16
Park Manager's Residence (vacant)
Harder Pump House
Main Garage
Boat Garage
Lube Garage
Tractor Storage Shed
Rear Contact Station (NY 82 Entrance)
Park Police - North Zone Station
Reesa Farmhouse
Reesa Barn
Garage
Pole Barn
Lot E Wood Shelter (Pavilion)
Water Treatment Plant
Booster Pump Station
Cabin Shower Building
Restrooms (5) LOT A, LOT B, LOT E, LOT F, HUT
West Beach Rental Boat House
North Zone Shed

Appendix E (a) – Cottage Inventory Photos

Cottage #154




Cottage #155




Cottage #157




Laundry Building



Cottage #158




Cottage #159




Cottage #160




Cottage #161




Cottage #162




Cottage #164




Cottage #166

Cottage #167

Cottage #168




Cottage #169




Cottage #170

Cottage #171

Appendix E (b) – Cabin and Campground Building Inventory Photos

Cabin #1

Cabin #2

Cabin #3

Cabin #4

Cabin #5

Cabin #6




Cabin #7




Cabin #8

Cabin #9

Cabin #10




Cabin #11




Cabin #12




Cabin #14




Cabin #15

Cabin #16

Campground Shower House

Campground Store

Campground Restroom

Campground Rec Hall

Appendix E (c) Restroom Inventory Photos

A Lot Restroom




B Lot Restroom

E Lot Restroom

E Lot Pavilion

F Lot Restroom




Hut Restroom




West Beach Restroom

Appendix E (d) Contact Station Inventory Photos

Parkway (West) Entrance Contact Stations

NY 82 (East) Entrance Contact Station

Lake Taghkanic SP Fauna List – NYS Listing Abbreviations	
Abbreviation	**Meaning**
E	Endangered
Exotic	Non-native
T	Threatened
S1	Critically Imperiled
S2	Imperiled
S3	Vulnerable
S4	Apparently Secure
S3S4	Not enough information to distinguish
S5	Secure
SC	Special Concern
SGCN	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
HPSGCN	High Priority SGCN
SNR/SNRN/SNA	No Status Rank or Not Applicable
Anything lacking a status is S5 (definitely secure), not ranked, or not applicable because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities (e.g. Exotic).	

Fauna - Lake Taghkanic State Park					
Category	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially There, not confirmed**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
AMPHIBIANS					
Frogs and Toads	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Anaxyrus americanus	American Toad		S5	OPRHP staff
	Dryophytes versicolor	Gray Treefrog		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lithobates catesbeianus	American Bullfrog		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lithobates clamitans	Green Frog		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Lithobates palustris	Pickerel Frog		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Lithobates sylvaticus	Wood Frog		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Pseudacris crucifer	Spring Peeper		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
Salamanders and Newts	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Ambystoma maculatum	Spotted Salamander		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Ambystoma opacum	Marbled Salamander		SC, SGCN, S3	OPRHP staff (Nathan Wenzel), 7/19/2024
	Ambystoma laterale x *jeffersonianum*	Blue-spotted/Jefferson Salamander Complex		SC, SGCN	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Eurycea bislineata	Northern Two-lined Salamander		S5	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz, NY Herp Atlas
	Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed Salamander		HPSGCN, S4	OPRHP staff (Nathan Wenzel), 10/20/2024
	Notophthalmus viridescens	Red-spotted Newt		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Plethodon cinereus	Eastern Red-backed Salamander		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Plethodon glutinosus	Northern Slimy Salamander		S5	OPRHP/NYNHP staff
BIRDS					
Loons and Grebes	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Gavia immer	Common Loon		SC, SGCN, S4	eBird April 2024
	Podiceps auritus	Horned Grebe		SGCN, SNRN	eBird April 2017
	Podilymbus podiceps	Pied-billed Grebe		T, SGCN, S1	eBird May 2024, no breeding records
Herons, Ibis, and Allies	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Ardea alba	Great Egret		SGCN, S4	eBird August 2013
	Ardea herodias	Great Blue Heron		S5	eBird July 2024
	Botaurus lentiginosus	American Bittern		SC, SGCN, S4	eBird April 2009
	Butorides virescens	Green Heron		S5	eBird April 2023
Swans and Geese	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Anser caerulescens	Snow Goose		SNRN	eBird April 2018
	Branta canadensis	Canada Goose		S5	eBird July 2024
	Cygnus olor	Mute Swan		Exotic	eBird April 2017
Dabbling Ducks	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Aix sponsa	Wood Duck		S5	eBird May 2024
	Anas carolinensis	Green-winged Teal		S3	eBird April 2024; formerly *Anas crecca*
	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard		S5	eBird May 2024
	Anas platyrhynchos x rubripes	Mallard x American Black Duck		Hybrid	eBird April 2017
	Anas rubripes	American Black Duck		HPSGCN, S3	eBird April 2024
	Mareca americana	American Wigeon		S3	eBird October 2019; formerly *Anas americana*
Diving Ducks	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Aythya affinis	Lesser Scaup		SGCN, SNA	eBird April 2017; no listing for NY
	Aythya marila	Greater Scaup		SGCN, SNRN	eBird April 2001
	Aythya collaris	Ring-necked Duck		S3	eBird May 2024
	Bucephala albeola	Bufflehead		SNRN	eBird April 2024
	Bucephala clangula	Common Goldeneye		SGCN, S3	eBird March 2018
	Mergus mergansus	Common Merganser		S5	eBird April 2024
	Lophodytes cucullatus	Hooded Merganser		S4	eBird April 2024
Pelicans and Cormorants	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested Cormorant		S3	eBird April 2024
Diurnal Raptors	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Accipiter atricapillus	American Goshawk/Northern Goshawk		SC, SGCN, S3	eBird March 1990; formerly *Accipiter gentilis*
	Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's Hawk		SC, S4	eBird March 2022
	Accipiter striatus	Sharp-shinned Hawk		SC, S4	eBird May 2023
	Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle		E, SGCN, S1	eBird December 2014, not habitat dependent on Park

	Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed Hawk		S5	eBird June 2024
	Buteo lineatus	Red-shouldered Hawk		SC, SGCN, S4	eBird October 2024
	Buteo platypterus	Broad-winged Hawk		S5	eBird May 2024
	Cathartes aura	Turkey Vulture		S4	eBird October 2024
	Circus hudsonius	Northern Harrier		T, SGCN, S3	eBird April 2009, irregular visitor to park
	Coragyps atratus	Black Vulture		S3	eBird October 2024
	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Bald Eagle		T, SGCN, S2	eBird May 2024, no breeding
	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey		SC, S4	eBird June 2024
Upland Game Birds	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Bonasa umbellus	Ruffed Grouse		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
	Meleagris gallopavo	Wild Turkey		S5	eBird June 2024
Rails, Gallinules, and Allies	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Antigone canadensis	Sandhill Crane		S1	eBird May 2020
	Fulica americana	American Coot		S3	eBird April 2024
	Porzana carolina	Sora		S4	eBird May 2020
	Rallus limicola	Virginia Rail		S5	eBird May 2024
Shorebirds	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Actitis macularius	Spotted Sandpiper		S5	eBird May 2024
	Calidris alba	Sanderling		SGCN, SNRN	eBird July 2018
	Calidris minutilla	Least Sandpiper		SNRN	eBird September 2023
	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer		S5	eBird May 2024
	Gallinago delicata	Wilson's Snipe		S5	eBird April 2023
	Scolopax minor	American Woodcock		SGCN, S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tringa flavipes	Lesser Yellowlegs		SNRN	eBird May 2020
	Tringa melanoleuca	Greater Yellowlegs		SGCN, SNRN	eBird May 2020
	Tringa solitaria	Solitary Sandpiper		SNRN	eBird May 2024
Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Chroicocephalus philadelphia	Bonaparte's Gull		SGCN, SNRN	eBird April 2001
	Larus delawarensis	Ring-billed Gull		S4	eBird December 2018
	Larus marinus	Great Black-backed Gull		S4	eBird August 1994
Pigeons and Doves	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Columba livia	Rock Pigeon		Exotic	eBird January 2015
	Zenaida macroura	Mourning Dove		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
Cuckoos	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Coccyzus americanus	Yellow-billed Cuckoo		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Black-billed Cuckoo		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
Owls	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Aegolius acadicus	Northern Saw-whet Owl		S3	eBird December 2022
	Bubo virginianus	Great Horned Owl		S5	eBird October 2023
	Megascops asio	Eastern Screech Owl		S5	eBird May 1987
	Strix varia	Barred Owl		S5	eBird May 2024
Goatsuckers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk		SC, HPSGCN, S2	eBird May 2007
Swifts	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift		S5	eBird May 2024
Hummingbirds	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Archilochus colubris	Ruby-throated Hummingbird		S5	eBird May 2024
Kingfishers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Megaceryle alcyon	Belted Kingfisher		S5	eBird July 2024
Woodpeckers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Dryobates pubescens	Downy Woodpecker		S5	eBird October 2024
	Dryobates villosus	Hairy Woodpecker		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Dryocopus pileatus	Pileated Woodpecker		S5	eBird October 2024
	Colaptes auratus	Northern Flicker		S5	eBird October 2024
	Melanerpes carolinus	Red-bellied Woodpecker		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Sphyrapicus varius	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
Falcons	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Falco columbarius	Merlin		S3	eBird May 2023
	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon		E, SGCN, S3	eBird September 2017; migratory

	Falco sparverius	American Kestrel		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2023
Tyrant Flycatchers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Contopus cooperi	Olive-sided flycatcher		HPSGCN, S3	eBird May 1987
	Contopus virens	Eastern Wood-Pewee		S5	eBird July 2024
	Empidonax alnorum	Alder Flycatcher		S5	eBird May 2021
	Empidonax flaviventris	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		S3	eBird August 1987
	Empidonax minimus	Least Flycatcher		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Empidonax traillii	Willow Flycatcher		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Empidonax virescens	Acadian Flycatcher		S3	eBird May 2024
	Myiarchus crinitus	Great Crested Flycatcher		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Sayornis phoebe	Eastern Phoebe		S5	eBird October 2024
	Tyrannus tyrannus	Eastern Kingbird		S5	eBird July 2024
Vireos	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Vireo flavifrons	Yellow-throated Vireo		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Vireo gilvus	Warbling Vireo		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Vireo olivaceus	Red-eyed Vireo		S5	eBird July 2024
	Vireo philadelphicus	Philadelphia Vireo		S3	eBird October 2022
	Vireo solitarius	Blue-headed Vireo		S5	eBird May 2024
Jays and Crows	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Corvus brachyrhynchos	American Crow		S5	eBird October 2024
	Corvus corax	Common Raven		S4	eBird October 2024
	Cyanocitta cristata	Blue Jay		S5	eBird October 2024
	Corvus ossifragus	Fish Crow		S4	eBird June 2024
Larks	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Eremophila alpestris	Horned Lark		SC, HPSGCN, S3	eBird January 2015
Swallows	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow		S5	eBird July 2024
	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota	Cliff Swallow		S5	eBird May 1987
	Riparia riparia	Bank Swallow		S5	eBird July 2024
	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	Northern Rough-winged Swallow		S5	eBird May 2023
	Tachycineta bicolor	Tree Swallow		S5	eBird July 2024
Chickadees, Nuthatches, and Their Allies	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Baeolophus bicolor	Tufted Titmouse		S5	eBird July 2024
	Certhia americana	Brown Creeper		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Poecile atricapillus	Black-capped Chickadee		S5	eBird October 2024
	Sitta canadensis	Red-breasted Nuthatch		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Sitta carolinensis	White-breasted Nuthatch		S5	eBird October 2024
Wrens	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Cistothorus palustris	Marsh Wren		S5	eBird May 2020
	Thryothorus ludovicianus	Carolina Wren		S5	eBird October 2024
	Troglodytes aedon	Northern House Wren		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Troglodytes hiemalis	Winter Wren		S5	eBird April 2024
Kinglets and Gnatcatchers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Polioptila caerulea	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Corthylio calendula	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		S3	eBird October 2024; formerly *Regulus calendula*
	Regulus satrapa	Golden-crowned Kinglet		S5	eBird April 2024
Thrushes	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Sialia sialis	Eastern Bluebird		S5	eBird October 2024
	Catharus fuscescens	Veery		S5	eBird July 2024
	Catharus ustulatus	Swainson's Thrush		S5	eBird May 2022
	Catharus guttatus	Hermit Thrush		S5	eBird October 2024
	Catharus minimus	Gray-cheeked Thrush		SNA	eBird September 2018
	Hylocichla mustelina	Wood Thrush		SGCN, S5	eBird July 2024
	Turdus migratorius	American Robin		S5	eBird October 2024
Mimids	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Dumetella carolinensis	Gray Catbird		S5	eBird October 2024
	Mimus polyglottos	Northern Mockingbird		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Toxostoma rufum	Brown Thrasher		HPSGCN, S3	June 2024 BioBlitz
Waxwings	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**

	Bombycilla cedrorum	Cedar Waxwing		S5	eBird October 2024
Starlings, Myna, and Bulbul	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Sturnus vulgaris	European Starling		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
Wood-warblers	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Cardellina canadensis	Canada Warbler		HPSGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
	Cardellina pusilla	Wilson's Warbler		SNA	eBird May 2020
	Geothlypis philadelphia	Mourning Warbler		S5	eBird September 2007
	Geothlypis trichas	Common Yellowthroat		S5	eBird July 2024
	Helmitheros vermivorum	Worm-eating Warbler		SGCN, S4	eBird May 2023
	Leiothlypis peregrina	Tennessee Warbler		SGCN, S2	eBird May 2024; formerly *Oreothlypis peregrina*
	Leiothlypis ruficapilla	Nashville Warbler		S5	eBird May 2024; formerly *Oreothlypis ruficapilla*
	Mniotilta varia	Black-and-white Warbler		S5	eBird May 2024; June 2024 BioBlitz
	Parkesia motacilla	Louisiana Waterthrush		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
	Parkesia noveboracensis	Northern Waterthrush		S5	eBird May 2024
	Seiurus aurocapilla	Ovenbird		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Setophaga americana	Northern Parula		S3S4	eBird May 2022
	Setophaga caerulescens	Black-throated Blue Warbler		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga castanea	Bay-breasted Warbler		HPSGCN, S2	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga cerulea	Cerulean Warbler		SC, SGCN, S3	eBird May 1999
	Setophaga citrina	Hooded Warbler		S5	eBird May 2023
	Setophaga coronata	Yellow-rumped Warbler		S5	eBird October 2024
	Setophaga discolor	Prairie Warbler		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga fusca	Blackburnian Warbler		S5	eBird June 2023
	Setophaga magnolia	Magnolia Warbler		S5	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga palmarum	Palm Warbler		S2	eBird April 2024
	Setophaga pensylvanica	Chestnut-sided Warbler		S5	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga petechia	Yellow Warbler		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Setophaga pinus	Pine Warbler		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Setophaga ruticilla	American Redstart		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Setophaga striata	Blackpoll Warbler		S3	eBird May 2024
	Setophaga tigrina	Cape May Warbler		HPSGCN, S2	eBird May 2020
	Setophaga virens	Black-throated Green Warbler		S5	eBird October 2024
	Vermivora cyanoptera	Blue-winged Warbler		SGCN, S5	eBird May 2024
Tanagers, Cardinals, & Allies	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern Cardinal		S5	eBird August 2024
	Coccothraustes vespertinus	Evening Grosbeak		S5	eBird November 1990
	Passerina cyanea	Indigo Bunting		S5	eBird May 2024
	Pheucticus ludovicianus	Rose-breasted Grosbeak		S5	eBird May 2024
	Piranga olivacea	Scarlet Tanager		SGCN, S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
Emberezine Sparrows & Allies	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Junco hyemalis	Dark-eyed Junco		S5	eBird October 2024
	Melospiza georgiana	Swamp Sparrow		S5	eBird May 2024
	Melospiza melodia	Song Sparrow		S5	eBird July 2024
	Passerculus sandwichensis	Savannah Sparrow		S5	eBird May 1987, 2001
	Passerella iliaca	Fox Sparrow		SNRN	eBird October 2019
	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	Eastern Towhee		S5	eBird July 2024
	Spizella passerina	Chipping Sparrow		S5	eBird July 2024
	Spizella pusilla	Field Sparrow		S5	eBird May 2024; June 2024 BioBlitz
	Spizelloides arborea	American Tree Sparrow		S4	eBird December 2022; formerly *Spizella arborea*
	Zonotrichia albicollis	White-throated Sparrow		S5	eBird October 2024
	Zonotrichia leucophrys	White-crowned Sparrow		SNRN	eBird May 2001
Icterids	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged Blackbird		S5	eBird October 2024
	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Bobolink		HPSGCN, S5	eBird August 1994
	Euphagus carolinus	Rusty Blackbird		HPSGCN, S2	eBird April 2024
	Icterus galbula	Baltimore Oriole		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Icterus spurius	Orchard Oriole		S4	eBird May 2023
	Molothrus ater	Brown-headed Cowbird		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Quiscalus quiscula	Common Grackle		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz

Finches and Old World Sparrows	Scientific Name	Common Name	Potentially	NYS Listing	Source/Comments
	Acanthis flammea	Common Redpoll		SNRN	eBird February 1994
	Haemorhous mexicanus	House Finch		Exotic	eBird June 2024
	Haemorhous purpureus	Purple Finch		S5	eBird October 2024
	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Spinus pinus	Pine Siskin		S5	eBird December 2020
	Spinus tristis	American Goldfinch		S5	eBird July 2024
FISH					**Source/Comments**
	Alosa pseudoharengus	Alewife		SGCN, S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells). Native but exotic to the lake. Likely baitfish release.
	Ameiurus nebulosus	Brown Bullhead		S5	NYS DEC website
	Ambloplites rupestris	Rock Bass		S5	NYS DEC website
	Anguilla rostrata	American Eel		HPSGCN, S2	January 2016 Technical report, NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells)
	Coregonus artedi	Cisco		SGCN, S3	may no longer be present, or at low density
	Esox niger	Chain Pickerel		S5	NYS DEC (Jeff Loukmas), June 2024 BioBlitz
	Etheostoma olmstedi	Tessellated Darter		S5	NYS DEC website
	Fundulus diaphanus	Banded Killifish		S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells), June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lepomis auritus	Redbreast Sunfish		S3	NYS DEC website
	Lepomis gibbosus	Pumpkinseed		S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells), June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lepomis macrochirus	Bluegill		S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells), June 2024 BioBlitz
	Micropterus dolomieu	Smallmouth Bass		S5	NYS DEC website
	Micropterus nigricans	Largemouth Bass		S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells), June 2024 BioBlitz
	Morone americana	White Perch		S4	NYS DEC website
	Notemigonus crysoleucas	Golden Shiner		S5	NYS DEC July 2015 (Scott Wells)
	Perca flavescens	Yellow Perch		S5	NYS DEC website
	Pomoxis nigromaculatus	Black Crappie		S4	NYS DEC website
	Rhinichthys atratulus	Eastern Blacknose Dace		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Semotilus atromaculatus	Creek Chub		S5	NYS DEC website
MAMMALS					
Bats	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Eptesicus fuscus	Big Brown Bat	Y	S5	would need to survey to confirm
	Lasionycteris noctivagans	Silver-haired Bat	Y	SGCN, S2	would need to survey to confirm
	Lasiurus borealis	Eastern Red Bat	Y	SGCN, S3	would need to survey to confirm
	Lasiurus cinereus	Northern Hoary Bat	Y	SGCN, S3	would need to survey to confirm
	Myotis lucifugus	Little Brown Bat	Y	HPSGCN, S1	would need to survey to confirm
Carnivores	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Canis latrans	Eastern Coyote		S5	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz
	Didelphis virginiana	Virginia Opossum		S5	OPRHP staff
	Lynx rufus	Bobcat		S5	OPRHP staff, trail camera photo confirmation
	Mephitis mephitis	Striped Skunk		S5	OPRHP staff
	Neogale vison	American Mink	Y	S5	
	Pekania pennanti	Fisher		S4	OPRHP staff visual confirmation and photo, 10/19/2024
	Procyon lotor	Raccoon		S5	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz
	Ursus americanus	American Black Bear		S5	OPRHP staff, iNaturalist June 2024
	Vulpes vulpes	Red Fox		S5	OPRHP staff
Even-toed Ungulates	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Odocoileus virginianus	White-tailed Deer		S5	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz
Rabbits and Hares	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Sylvilagus floridanus	Eastern Cottontail		Exotic	NYS DEC - DNA analysis
	Sylvilagus transitionalis	New England Cottontail		SC, HPSGCN, S1	NYS DEC - DNA analysis
Rodents	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Condylura cristata	Star-nosed Mole		S5	OPRHP staff - Jesse Jaycox July 2024
	Marmota monax	Woodchuck		S5	OPHRHP staff
	Ondatra zibethicus	Common Muskrat		S5	iNaturalist, June 2024 BioBlitz
	Peromyscus leucopus	White-footed Deermouse		S5	OPRHP staff
	Sciurus carolinensis	Eastern Gray Squirrel		S5	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tamias striatus	Eastern Chipmunk		S5	OPRHP staff, iNaturalist June 2018
REPTILES					

Turtles	Scientific Name	Common Name	Potentially	NYS Listing	Source/Comments
	Chelydra serpentina	Snapping Turtle		SGCN, S4	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Chrysemys picta	Painted Turtle		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Clemmys guttata	Spotted Turtle	Y	SC, HPSGCN, S3	NY Herp Atlas adjacent to park
	Glyptemys insculpta	Wood Turtle	Y	SC, HPSGCN, S4	NY Herp Atlas adjacent to park
	Sternotherus odoratus	Musk Turtle		HPSGCN, S4	NY Herp Atlas (1995); DEC electrofishing survey 2020
	Terrapene carolina	Eastern Box Turtle	Y	SC, HPSGCN, S3	NY Herp Atlas adjacent to park
	Trachemys scripta	Sliders		Exotic	OPRHP staff 2023
Snakes	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Diadophis punctatus	Ring-necked Snake		S5	NY Herp Atlas (1995 record)
	Lampropeltis triangulum	Eastern Milk Snake		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Nerodia sipedon	Northern Watersnake		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
	Opheodrys vernalis	Smooth Green Snake		SGCN, S4	OPRHP staff
	Pantherophis allegheniensis	Eastern Ratsnake/Black Ratsnake		SGCN, S5	OPRHP staff
	Storeria dekayi	DeKay's Brown Snake		S5	OPRHP staff
	Storeria occipitomaculata	Red-bellied Snake	Y	S5	Appropriate habitat but no confirmation
	Thamnophis sauritus	Eastern Ribbonsnake		SGCN, S4	OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz
	Thamnophis sirtalis	Common Gartersnake		S5	OPRHP staff, NY Herp Atlas
BRYOZOA					
Freshwater Bryozoans (Phylactolaemata)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Class Phylactolaemata	a Freshwater Bryozoan			June 2024 BioBlitz
INVERTEBRATES					
Ants, Bees, Wasps (Hymenoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Ants					
	Camponotus chromaiodes	Ferruginous Carpenter Ant		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Camponotus pennsylvanicus	Eastern Black Carpenter Ant		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Formica fusca	Silky Ant		No Rank	iNaturalist June 2018
	Formica neogagates	New World Mound Ant		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tapinoma sessile	Odorous House Ant		No Rank	iNaturalist July 2022
Bees					
	Andrena sp.	a Mining Bee			iNaturalist May 2023
	Apis mellifera	Western Honey Bee		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Augochloropsis sp.	a Sweat Bee			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Bombus bimaculatus	Two-spotted Bumblebee		S4	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Bombus impatiens	Common Eastern Bumble Bee		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Halictus ligatus	Ligated Furrow Bee		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Pyrobombus sp.	Bumblebees (Subgenus)			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Xylocopa virginica	Eastern Carpenter Bee		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
Sawflies					
	Taxonus sp.	a Sawfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
Wasps					
	Amphibolips confluenta	Spongy Oak Apple Gall Wasp			iNaturalist August 2019
	Amphibolips cookii	Oak Apple Gall Wasp			iNaturalist August 2019
	Amphibolips quercusinanis	Larger Empty Oak Apple Wasp			iNaturalist May 2022
	Bicyrtes quadrifasciatus	Four-banded Stink Bug Wasp		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Callirhytis seminator	Wool Sower Gall Wasp			iNaturalist May 2023
	Diplazon laetatorius	Common Hover Fly Parasitoid Wasp		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Odontocolon sp.	Ichneumon Wasps			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Podium luctuosum	a Thread-waisted Wasp			June 2024 BioBlitz
Arachnids (Arachnida)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Harvestmen					
	Leiobunum sp.	a Harvestman Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Phalangium opilio	European Harvestman		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
Spiders					
	Larinioides cornutus	Furrow Orbweaver		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Larinioides sclopetarius	Grey Cross Spider		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lycosidae sp.	a Wolf Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Neoscona crucifera	Spotted Orbweaver		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Neriene radiata	Filmy Dome Spider		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz

	Pityohyphantes sp.	a Hammock Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Schizocosa sp.	a Brush-legged Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Wadotes sp.	a Funnel Weaver Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Xysticus sp.	a Ground Crab Spider			June 2024 BioBlitz
Mites					
	Aculops rhois	Poison Ivy Leaf Mite			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Arrenurus sp.	a Water Mite			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Vasates quadripedes	Maple Bladdergall Mite		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
Beetles & Weevils (Coleoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Agrilus planipennis	Emerald Ash Borer		Exotic	iNaturalist August 2019; iMap Invasives January 2016
	Calopteron reticulatum	Reticulated Net-winged Beetle		No Rank	iNaturalist July 2019
	Centronopus calcaratus	Spurred Darkling Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Chrysochus auratus	Dogbane Leaf Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Colaspis sp.	a Leaf Beetle			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Coleomegilla maculata	Spotted Pink Lady Beetle		No Rank	iNaturalist August 2019
	Diabrotica undecimpunctata	Spotted Cucumber Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Dictyoptera aurora	Golden Net-winged Beetle		No Rank	iNaturalist April 2015
	Elateroidea sp.	Click, Firefly, and Soldier Beetles			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Euferonia sp. (subgenus of *Pterostichus*)	a Blackclock Ground Beetle			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Exomala orientalis	Oriental Beetle		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Harmonia axyridis	Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Hydrocanthus iricolor	a Burrowing Water Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Hydrovatus pustulatus	Blistered Predaceous Diving Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Laccophilus sp.	a Diving Beetle			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Limonius quercinus	Oak Click Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lucidota atra	Black Firefly		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Monochamus scutellatus	White-spotted Sawyer		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Mordella marginata	Tumbling Ragdoll Flower Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Mordellistena sp.	a Tumbling Flower Beetle			iNaturalist July 2022
	Necrophila americana	American Carrion Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Osmoderma scabra	Rough Hermit Beetle/Scabby Flower Chafer		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Photinus pyralis	Common Eastern Firefly/Big Dipper Fly		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Platydracus maculosus	Brown Rove Beetle/Maculate Rove Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Popillia japonica	Japanese Beetle		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Pterostichus sp.	a Ground Beetle			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Strangalia sp.	a Longhorn Beetle			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tetraopes tetrophthalmus	Red Milkweed Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Trichiotinus affinis	Hairy Flower Scarab		S3S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Tropisternus glaber	Hairless Water Scavenger Beetle		No Rank	June 2024 Bioblitz
	Typocerus velutinus	Banded Longhorn Beetle		S4S5	June 2024 Bioblitz
Butterflies, Skippers & Moths (Lepidoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Butterflies					
	Ancyloxypha numitor	Common Least Skipper		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Argynnis cybele	Great Spangled Fritillary		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Atalopedes huron	Huron Sachem/a Grass Skipper		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Callophrys gryneus	Juniper Hairstreak		S4	iNaturalist May 2019
	Celastrina ladon	Spring Azure		S5	iNaturalist April 2015
	Celastrina neglecta	Summer Azure		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Danaus plexippus	Monarch		SGCN, S5	June 2024 BioBlitz; proposed for federal listing
	Epargyreus clarus	Silver-spotted Skipper		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Euphyes vestris	Dun Skipper		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Cupido comyntas	Eastern Tailed-Blue		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Lethe appalachia	Appalachian Eyed Brown		S4	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Megisto cymela	Little Wood Satyr		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Pterourus glaucus	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail		S5	iNaturalist July 2018; formerly *Papilio glaucus*
	Pterourus troilus	Spicebush Swallowtail		S5	iNaturalist August 2019; formerly *Papilio troilus*
	Pieris rapae	Cabbage White		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Polites egeremet	Northern Broken-Dash		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells); formerly *Wallengrenia egeremet*

	Polygonia comma	Eastern Comma		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Polygonia interrogationis	Question Mark		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Satyrium calanus	Banded Hairstreak		S5	iNaturalist June 2021 (Julie Lundgren)
	Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Vanessa virginiensis	American Lady		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Vernia verna	Little Glassywing		S5	iNaturalist June 2019; formerly *Pompeius verna*
Moths					
	Acronicta sp.	a Dagger Moth			iNaturalist June 2022
	Anacampsis niveopulvella	Pale-headed Aspen Leafroller Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Automeris io	Io Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist July 2022
	Besma quercivoraria	Oak Besma Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist June 2024
	Caenurgina erechtea	Forage Looper Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2018
	Catocala antinympha	Sweetfern Underwing		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Ceratomia undulosa	Waved Sphinx Moth		S3S4	iNaturalist June 2024
	Choristoneura sp.	a Tortricid Moth			iNaturalist June 2024
	Chytolita morbidalis	Morbid Owlet		No Rank	iNaturalist June 2024
	Eusarca confusaria	Confused Eusarca Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Geina periscelidactylus	Grape Plume Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Herpetogramma sp.	a Crambid Snout Moth			iNaturalist September 2018
	Lophocampa caryae	Hickory Tussock Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist June 2024
	Lymantria dispar dispar	Spongy Moth		Exotic	OPRHP Staff, June 2024 BioBlitz; iMap Invasives June 2024
	Nadata gibbosa	White-dotted Prominent Moth		SNR	iNaturalist June 2024
	Noctua pronuba	Large Yellow Underwing Moth		Exotic	iNaturalist June 2023
	Olethreutes fasciatana	Banded Olethreutes Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Panthea furcilla	Eastern Panthea Moth		SNR	iNaturalist June 2023
	Paonias excaecata	Blinded Sphinx Moth		S4S5	iNaturalist June 2024
	Parapoynx badiusalis	Chestnut-marked Pondweed Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Peridea sp.	a Prominent Moth			iNaturalist June 2024
	Pero morrisonaria	Morrison's Pero Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist July 2018
	Plagodis sp.	a Plagodis Moth			iNaturalist June 2023
	Pyromorpha dimidiata	Orange-patched Smoky Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist June 2022
	Renia sp.	a Renia Moth			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Renia adspergillus	Speckled Renia Moth		No Rank	iNaturalist August 2019
	Spilosoma virginica	Virginia Tiger Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Stigmella rhoifoliella	a Pygmy Leaf-mining Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Zanclognatha jacchusalis	Wavy-lined Fan-foot/Wavy-lined Zanclognatha Moth		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
Caddisflies (Trichoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Chimarra sp.	a Little Black Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Hydropsyche sp.	a Netspinning Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lepidostoma sp.	a Bizarre Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Triaenodes sp.	a Long-horned Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Neophylax sp.	an Autumn Mottled Sedge/a Uenoid Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Pycnopsyche sp.	a Northern Caddisfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
Cockroaches and Termites (Blattodea)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Parcoblatta uhleriana	Uhler's Wood Cockroach			iNaturalist June 2018
	Reticulitermes flavipes	Eastern Subterranean Termite			iNaturalist September 2018
Crustaceans (Crustacea)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Amphepods (Amphepoda)					
	Hyalella sp.	an Amphipod			June 2024 BioBlitz
Copepods (Copepoda)					
	Family Cyclopoida	a Copepod			June 2024 BioBlitz
Decapods (Decapoda)					
	Faxonius immunis	Calico Crayfish		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
Fishflies (Megaloptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Chauliodes pectinicornis	Summer Fishfly/a Hellgrammite		No Rank	iNaturalist August 2019
Flatworms (Planaria)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Family Dugesiidae	a Free-living Freshwater Flatworm			June 2024 BioBlitz
Flies (Diptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Anopheles sp.	a Marsh Mosquito			June 2024 BioBlitz

	Apedilum sp.	a Non-biting Midge			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Family Ceratopogonidae	a Biting Midge			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Chrysops sp.	a Deer Fly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Copestylum vesicularium	Iridescent Bromeliad Fly		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Dixella sp.	a Miniscus Midge/a Dixid Midge			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Drosophila immigrans	Immigrant Fruit Fly/a Pomace Fly		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2018
	Laphria sericea	a Robber Fly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Leschenaultia sp.	a Parasitic Fly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Limnophila sp.	a Crane Fly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lucilia sericata	Common European Greenbottle Fly/a Blow Fly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Pedicia albivitta	Giant Eastern Crane Fly/a Hairy-eyed Cranefly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Rainieria antennaepes	a Stilt-legged Fly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Rhagio tringaria	Marsh Snipe Fly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Rhingia nasica	American Snout Fly		SNR	iNaturalist September 2018
	Subfamily Sciapodinae	a Long-legged Fly			
	Subfamily Tanypodinae	a Tanypod			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tipula abdominalis	Giant Crane Fly		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Toxomerus marginatus	Margined Calligrapher		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Toxomerus politus	Maize Calligrapher		SNR	iNaturalist August 2019
	Xenox tigrinus	Tiger Bee Fly		No Rank	iNaturalist July 2019
Grasshoppers, Locusts, Crickets (Orthoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Amblycorypha sp.	a Round-headed Katydid			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Orchelimum minor	Lesser Pine Katydid		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2021
	Scudderia sp.	a Bush Katydid			June 2024 BioBlitz
Isopods (Isopoda)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Armadillidium vulgare	Common Pill Woodlouse		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Caecidotea sp.	an American Waterslater			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Trachelipus sp.	a Woodlouse			June 2024 BioBlitz
Mantids (Mantodea)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Tenodera sp.	a Praying Mantis			June 2024 BioBlitz; likely exotic
Mayflies (Ephemeroptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Baetis sp.	a Small Mayfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Caenis sp.	a Small Square-gilled Mayfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Cloeon sp.	a Mayfly			June 2024 BioBlitz
Mussels	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Sagittunio nasutus	Eastern Pondmussel		HPSGCN, S2	Corey et al 2006; State Rare, but not listed; formerly *Ligumia nasuta*
	Elliptio complanata	Eastern Elliptio		S4	NY NHP August 2024
	Pyganodon cataracta	Eastern Floater		S4	NY NHP August 2024
Nematodes	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Litylenchus crenatae mccannii	Beech Leaf Disease Nematode		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
Odonates (Odonata)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Damselflies (Zygoptera)					
	Argia fumipennis violacea	Variable Dancer/Violet Dancer		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Enallagma geminatum	Skimming Bluet		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Ischnura posita	Fragile Forktail		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Ischnura verticalis	Eastern Forktail		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
Dragonflies (Anisoptera)					
	Anax junius	Common Green Darner		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Celithemis elisa	Calico Pennant		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Celithemis eponina	Halloween Pennant		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Celithemis fasciata	Banded Pennant		S3	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Cordulegaster obliqua	Arrowhead Spiketail		SGCN, S3	June 2024 BioBlitz (Ed McGowan). Rare but not listed.
	Dorocordulia libera	Racket-tailed Emerald		S5	iNaturalist July 2020
	Epitheca sp.	a Baskettail			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Erythemis simplicicollis	Eastern Pondhawk		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Ladona sp.	a Corporal			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Leucorrhinia intacta	Dot-tailed Whiteface		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Libellula cyanea	Spangled Skimmer		S4	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Libellula incesta	Slaty Skimmer		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)

	Libellula luctuosa	Widow Skimmer		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Libellula pulchella	Twelve-spotted Skimmer		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Pachydiplax longipennis	Blue Dasher		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Phanogomphus exilis	Lancet Clubtail		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Plathemis lydia	Common Whitetail		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
	Sympetrum sp.	a Meadowhawk			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Tramea lacerata	Black Saddlebags		S5	June 2024 BioBlitz (Alan and Della Wells)
Scorpionflies (Mecoptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Panorpa nebulosa	Clouded Scorpionfly		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2018
Snails and Slugs (Gastropoda)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Arion subfuscus	Western Dusky Slug/Dusky Arion Slug		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Bithynia tentaculata	Mud Bithynia		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Callinina georgiana	Banded Mystery Snail		SNR	iNaturalist April 2015; exotic in surrounding states
	Campeloma decisum	Pointed Campeloma		S5	iNaturalist April 2015
	Neohelix albolabris	Eastern Whitelip Snail		SNR	June 2024 BioBlitz
Terrestrial Arthropods (Myriapoda)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
Centipedes (Chilopoda)					
	Order Scolopendromorpha	a Bark Centipede			June 2024 BioBlitz
Millipedes (Diplopoda)					
	Narceus americanus	American Giant Millipede Complex		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Oxidus gracilis	Greenhouse Millipede		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Pseudopolydesmus serratus	Common Pink Flat-back/Flat-backed Millipede		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
True Bugs (Hemiptera)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Acanthocephala terminalis	a Leaf-footed Bug		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Adelges tsugae	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Family Aphrophoridae	a Spittlebug			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Family Aphididae	an Aphid			iNaturalist June 2021
	Belostoma flumineum	a Giant Water Bug		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Buenoa sp.	a Backswimmer			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Clastoptera proteus	Dogwood Spittlebug		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Fiorinia externa	Elongate hemlock scale		Exotic	iNaturalist January 2024
	Graphocephala fennahi	Rhododendron Leafhopper		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Leptoglossus occidentalis	Western Conifer-seed Bug		Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Lycorma delicatula	Spotted Lanternfly		Exotic	NYS OPRHP staff September 2024, adult caught in trap
	Lygus sp.	a Plant Bug			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Graphocephala fennahi	Rhododendron Leafhopper		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Mormidea lugens	a Stink Bug/a Shield Bug		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2018
	Neotibicen tibicen tibicen	Common Swamp Cicada		No Rank	iNaturalist September 2017
	Notonecta irrorata	a Typical Backswimmer		No Rank	June 2024 BioBlitz
	Oncopeltus fasciatus	Large Milkweed Bug		No Rank	iNaturalist October 2024
	Pelocoris sp.	a Creeping Water Bug			June 2024 BioBlitz
	Ranatra sp.	a Water Scorpion			iNaturalist May 2024
	Family Reduviidae	an Assassin Bug			June 2024 BioBlitz
Segmented Worms (Annelida)	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**Potentially**	**NYS Listing**	**Source/Comments**
	Amynthas sp.	a Jumping Worm		Exotic	iMap Invasives June 2024
	Class Hirudinea	a Leech			OPRHP staff, June 2024 BioBlitz

Lake Taghkanic SP Flora List – NYS State Status Listing Abbreviations	
Abbreviation	**Meaning**
S5	Demonstrably secure
S4	Apparently secure
S3	Vulnerable
S2	Imperiled
S1	Threatened
SNR/SNA	No Status Rank or Not Applicable
SH	State Historic/Possibly Extirpated

Wetland Indicator Status (NCNE) Meanings		
Abbreviation	**Meaning**	**Definition**
OBL	Obligate wetland	Almost always occur in wetlands under natural conditions.
FACW	Facultative wetland	Usually occurs in wetlands but may occur in non-wetlands.
FAC	Facultative	Occur in wetlands and non-wetlands.
FACU	Facultative upland	Usually occurs in non-wetlands but may occur in wetlands.
UPL	Upland	Almost never occur in wetlands under natural conditions.
NI	No Indicator	Not listed/insufficient data.

Flora - Lake Taghkanic State Park						
Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**State Status**	**Native?**	**Invasive?**	**Wetland Indicator Status (NCNE)**	**Source/Comments**
AQUATIC						**Source/Comments**
Brasenia schreberi	Watershield	S5	Y		OBL	NYS OPRHP staff July 2023
Ceratophyllum demersum	Coontail	S5	Y		OBL	iNaturalist July 2020
Lemna minor	Common Duckweed	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Nuphar variegata	Common Yellow Pond lily	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Nymphaea odorata	Fragrant White Water Lily	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Pontederia cordata	Pickerel Weed	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Potamogeton sp.	a Pondweed	S5	Y		OBL	iNaturalist July 2020
Potamogeton crispus	Curly Pondweed	SNA	N	Y	OBL	iMap January 2005 (USGS)
Potamogeton robbinsii	Robbins' Pondweed/Fern Pondweed	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Spirodela polyrhiza	Common Duckmeal	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Trapa natans	Water Chestnut	SNA	N	Y	OBL	iMap July 2023; iNaturalist July 2020
Typha latifolia	Broad-leaved Cattail/Wide-leaved Cattail	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Utricularia vulgaris ssp. *macrorhiza*	Greater Bladderwort	S4	Y		OBL	iNaturalist July 2020
FERNS						**Source/Comments**
Adiantum pedatum	Maidenhair Fern	S4	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Asplenium platyneuron	Ebony Spleenwort	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Asplenium trichomanes ssp. *trichomanes*	Maidenhair Spleenwort	S4	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Athyrium angustum	Northern Lady Fern	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Dennstaedtia punctilobula	Hay-scented Fern	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Dryopteris carthusiana	Spinulose Wood Fern	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Dryopteris intermedia	Evergreen Wood Fern/Fancy Wood Fern/Common Wood Fern	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Dryopteris marginalis	Marginal Wood Fern	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive Fern	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Osmunda claytoniana	Interrupted Fern	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Osmunda spectabilis var. *spectabilis*	Royal Fern	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Osmundastrum cinnamomeum var. *cinnamomeum*	Cinnamon Fern	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Polypodium virginianum	Virginian Rock Polypody/Virginian Polypody	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Thelypteris palustris	Marsh Fern	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
GRAMINOIDS						**Source/Comments**
GRASSES (Poaceae)						**Source/Comments**
Avenella flexuosa	Common Hair Grass/Wavy Hair Grass	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Bromus ciliatus	Fringed Brome	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Bromus pubescens	Canada Brome/Hairy Woodland Brome	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Danthonia compressa	Northern Oat Grass	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Danthonia spicata	Poverty Grass	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Complex *Dichanthelium acuminatum*	a Rosette Grass	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Dichanthelium depauperatum	Poverty Rosette Grass	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Festuca subverticillata	Nodding Fescue	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Glyceria striata	Fowl Manna Grass	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Leersia virginica	White Cut Grass	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Microstegium vimineum	Japanese Stilt Grass	SNA	N	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canary Grass	SNR	N	Y	FACW	iMap Invasives August 2024
Poa compressa	Canada Blue Grass/Flat-stemmed Blue Grass	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Sphenopholis intermedia	Slender Wedgescale/Slender Wedge Grass	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
RUSHES (Juncaceae)						**Source/Comments**
Juncus effusus	Common Soft Rush	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Juncus pylaei	Pylaie's Rush/Pylaie's Soft Rush	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Juncus tenuis	Path Rush	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Luzula multiflora	Common Wood Rush	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024

SEDGES (Cyperaceae)					Source/Comments
Carex bromoides	Brome-like Sedge	S5	Y	FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex communis	Common Sedge	S5	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex comosa	Bristly Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex digitalis	Slender Woodland Sedge	S5	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex gracillima	Graceful Sedge	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex hirsutella	Smooth-fruited Hirsute Sedge/Fuzzy Wuzzy Sedge	S5	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex hirtifolia	Pubsescent Sedge/Hairy Sedge	S4	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex intumescens	Bladder Sedge	S5	Y	FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex laxiflora	Loose-flowered Sedge	S5	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex lupulina	Hop Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex lurida	Sallow Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	iNaturalist June 2021
Carex pedunculata	Long-stalked Sedge	S5	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex pellita	Woolly Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex pensylvanica	Pennsylvania Sedge	S5	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex platyphylla	Broad-leaved Sedge	S5	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex prasina	Elegant Drooping Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex sparganioides	Bur-reed Sedge	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex stipata	Awl-fruited Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex stricta	Tussock Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex swanii	Swan's Sedge	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex virescens	Ribbed Sedge	S5	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Carex vulpinoidea	Fox Sedge	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Scirpus atrovirens	Dark-green Bulrush	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Scirpus cyperinus	Common Wool Grass	S5	Y	OBL	NYNHP consultation
Scirpus hattorianus	Mosquito Bulrush	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
HERBACEOUS					**Source/Comments**
ORDER APIALES (carrots, parsnips, etc.)					**Source/Comments**
Aralia nudicaulis	Wild Sarsaparilla	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Cicuta bulbifera	Bulb-bearing Water Hemlock	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot/Queen Anne's Lace	SNA	N	UPL	iNaturalist August 2019
Sium suave	Hemlock Water Parsnip	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Zizia aurea	Common Golden Alexanders	S5	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Araceae (arums)					**Source/Comments**
Arisaema triphyllum	Common Jack-in-the-Pulpit	S5	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Peltandra virginica	Green Arrow Arum/Tuckahoe	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Symplocarpus foetidus	Skunk Cabbage	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER ASPARAGALES					**Source/Comments**
Allium vineale	Field Garlic	SNA	N	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Hemerocallis fulva	Orange Day Lily	SNA	N	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Hypoxis hirsuta	Yellow Star Grass	S5	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Asparagaceae (asparaguses)					**Source/Comments**
Convallaria majalis	Eurasian Lily-of-the-valley	SNA	N	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Epipactis helleborine	Helleborine/Weed Orchid	SNA	N	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Maianthemum canadense	Canada Mayflower	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Maianthemum racemosum	False Soloman's Seal	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Polygonatum pubescens	Hairy Solomon's Seal	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Iridaceae (irises)					**Source/Comments**
Iris versicolor	Blue Flag	S5	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Sisyrinchium angustifolium	Narrow-leaved Blue-eyed Grass	S5	Y	FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER ASTERALES					**Source/Comments**
Family Asteraceae (asters)					**Source/Comments**
Achillea millefolium	Common Yarrow	SNR	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Ageratina altissima	Common White Snakeroot	S5	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Antennaria sp.	a Pussytoes		Y		BioBlitz June 2024

Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	SNA	N	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Centaurea jacea	Brown knapweed	SNA	N	Y	FACU	iMap Invasives August 2024
Centaurea stoebe	Spotted Knapweed	SNA	N	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Cirsium vulgare	Bull Thistle	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Erechtites hieraciifolius var. *hieraciifolius*	Common Pilewort/American Burnweed	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Erigeron strigosus	Small Daisy Fleabane	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Boneset	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Eurybia divaricata	White Wood Aster	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Eurybia macrophylla	Large-leaved Aster	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Eutrochium sp.	a Joe Pye Weed	S5	Y			BioBlitz June 2024; likely *E. maculatum* based on location.
Helianthus divaricatus	Woodland Sunflower	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hieracium venosum	Rattlesnake Hawkweed	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Lactuca canadensis	Tall Lettuce	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	SNA	N	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Mycelis muralis	Wall Lettuce	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Nabalus sp.	a Rattlesnake Root	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Packera aurea	Golden Ragwort	S5	Y		FACW	iNaturalist March 2020
Pilosella piloselloides	Glaucous-leaved Hawkweed/Smooth Hawkweed	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Rudbeckia hirta	Common Black-eyed Susan	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Solidago altissima	Tall Goldenrod	S5	Y		FACU	NYNHP consultation
Solidago bicolor	Silver Rod	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Solidago caesia	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod/Wreath Goldenrod	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Solidago canadensis	Canada goldenrod	S5	Y		FACU	NYNHP consultation
Solidago gigantea	Swamp Goldenrod	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Solidago juncea	Early Goldenrod	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Symphyotrichum lateriflorum	Calico Aster	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist October 2024
Tussilago farfara	Coltsfoot	SNA	N		FACU	iNaturalist March 2020
ORDER BRASSICALES						**Source/Comments**
Family Brassicaceae (mustards and cabbages)						**Source/Comments**
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	SNA	N	Y	FACU	iNaturalist May 2023; iMap Invasives June 2024
Cardamine pensylvanica	Pennsylvania Bitter Cress	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER CARYOPHYLLALES						**Source/Comments**
Family Caryophyllaceae (pinks and carnations)						**Source/Comments**
Dianthus armeria	Deptford Pink	SNA	N		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Paronychia canadensis	Smooth Forked Chickweed/Forked Nailwort	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Silene vulgaris	Bladder Campion	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Polygonaceae (smartweeds and knotweeds)						**Source/Comments**
Persicaria arifolia	Halberd-leaved Tearthumb	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Persicaria longiseta	Low Smartweed/Bristly Lady's-thumb	SNA	N		FAC	iMap Invasives November 2023 (listed under *Polygonum caespitosum* var. *longisetum*)
Persicaria sagittata	Arrow-leaved Tearthumb	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Reynoutria japonica	Japanese Knotweed	SNA	N	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Rumex acetosella	Sheep Sorrel	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER ERICALES (heathers and allies)						**Source/Comments**
Impatiens capensis	Spotted Jewelweed/Spotted Touch-me-not	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Monotropa uniflora	Ghost Pipe	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Primulaceae (primroses)						**Source/Comments**
Lysimachia arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel/Poor Man's Weather-glass	SNA	N		FACU	iNaturalist June 2019
Lysimachia borealis	Starflower	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping Jenny/Moneywort	SNA	N		FACW	iNaturalist June 2021
Lysimachia quadrifolia	Whorled Loosestrife	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Lysimachia terrestris	Swamp Candles	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER EQUISITALES (horsetails)						**Source/Comments**
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail/Common Horsetail	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist September 2024

ORDER FABALES (legumes and milkworts)						**Source/Comments**
Polygaloides paucifolia	Gaywings/Fringed Milkwort	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Fabaceae (legumes/peas)						**Source/Comments**
Amphicarpaea bracteata	Hog Peanut	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Lathyrus latifolius	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea	SNA	N		NI	iNaturalist June 2022
Lespedeza capitata	Round-headed Bushclover	S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist July 2022
Lespedeza violacea	Wand-like Bushclover	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist August 2023
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Melilotus albus	White Sweet Clover	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2023
Melilotus officinalis	Yellow Sweet Clover	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2023
Trifolium arvense	Rabbit Foot Clover	SNA	N		NI	iNaturalist June 2021
Trifolium aureum	Large Hop Clover	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Trifolium repens	White Clover	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Vicia tetrasperma	Lentil Vetch	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER GENTIANALES						**Source/Comments**
Family Apocynaceae (dogbanes and milkweeds)						**Source/Comments**
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading Dogbane	S5	Y		UPL	iNaturalist May 2021
Apocynum cannabinum	Indian Hemp	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed	S4	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Vincetoxicum nigrum	Black Swallowwort	SNA	N	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Family Rubiaceae (bedstraws and madders)						**Source/Comments**
Galium album	Hedge Bedstraw/White Bedstraw	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Complex *Galium aparine*	a Bedstraw					BioBlitz June 2024
Galium circaezans	Forest Wild Licorice/Licorice Bedstraw	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Galium tinctorium	Southern Three-petaled Bedstraw/Stiff Marsh Bedstraw	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Galium trifidum	Northern Three-petaled Bedstraw	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Mitchella repens	Partridge Berry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER GERANIALES (geraniums)						**Source/Comments**
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER LAMIALES						**Source/Comments**
Melampyrum lineare	Cow Wheat/Narrowleaf Cow Wheat	SNR	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Mimulus ringens	Allegheny Monkey Flower	S5	Y		OBL	iNaturalist August 2020
Verbascum thapsus	Common Mullein	SNA	N		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Verbena hastata	Blue Vervain	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Lamiaceae (mints)						**Source/Comments**
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild Basil	SNR	Unk		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hedeoma pulegioides	American Pennyroyal	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Lycopus americanus ssp. *americanus*	American Bugleweed/American Water Horehound	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Prunella vulgaris	Common Selfheal	SNR			FAC	BioBlitz June 2024, probably Eurasian subspecies
Scutellaria galericulata	Marsh Skullcap	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Scutellaria lateriflora	Side-flowering Skullcap/Mad Dog Skullcap	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Thymus pulegioides	Large Thyme	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Plantaginaceae (plantains and veronicas)						**Source/Comments**
Chelone glabra	White Turtlehead	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Linaria vulgaris	Butter-and-eggs/Common Toadflax	SNA	N		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Penstemon digitalis	Foxglove Beardtongue	SNA	N		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Plantago major	Common Plantain	SNA	N		FACU	iNaturalist November 2024
Veronica officinalis	Common Speedwell	SNA	N		FACU	iMap July 2001
ORDER LILIALES						**Source/Comments**
Veratrum viride	False Hellebore	S5	Y		FACW	iNaturalist May 2021
Family Colchicaceae						**Source/Comments**
Uvularia perfoliata	Perfoliate Bellwort	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024

Uvularia sessilifolia	Sessile-leaved Bellwort/Wild Oats	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Liliaceae (lilies)						**Source/Comments**
Erythronium americanum	Yellow Trout Lily	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist April 2015
Lilium canadense	Canada Lily	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Medeola virginiana	Indian Cucumber Root	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER MALPIGHIALES						**Source/Comments**
Euphorbia cyparissias	Cypress Spurge/Graveyard Spurge	SNA	N	Y	NI	iNaturalist April 2021; iMap Invasives August 2024
Family hypericaceae (St. John's Worts)						**Source/Comments**
Hypericum perforatum	Common St. John's Wort	SNA	N		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives June 2024
Hypericum punctatum	Spotted St. John's Wort	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Hypericum virginicum	Virginia Marsh St. John's Wort	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Violaceae (violet)						**Source/Comments**
Viola cucullata	Marsh Blue Violet	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola fimbriatula	Northern Downy Violet	S4	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola labradorica	American Dog Violet	SNR	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola pubescens	Downy Yellow Violet	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola rostrata	Long-spurred Violet	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola sagittata	Arrow-leaved Violet	S4	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola sororia	Common Blue Violet	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola striata	Striped Violet/Pale Violet	SNR	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Viola subsinuata	Wavy-leaved Violet/Palmate-leaved Violet	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER MYRTALES						**Source/Comments**
Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	SNA	N	Y	OBL	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Family Onagraceae (willowherbs and evening primroses)						**Source/Comments**
Epilobium sp.	a Willowherb	S5	Y		OBL	iNaturalist August 2020
Ludwigia palustris	Water Purslane	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER OXALIDALES						**Source/Comments**
Oxalis stricta	Common Yellow Wood Sorrel	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER RANUNCULALES						**Source/Comments**
Family Papaveraceae (poppies)						**Source/Comments**
Capnoides sempervirens	Rock Harlequin/Pink Corydalis	S4	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot	S4	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Ranunculaceae (buttercups)						**Source/Comments**
Actaea pachypoda	White Baneberry/Doll's Eyes	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Aquilegia canadensis	Wild Columbine/Red Columbine	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Clematis virginiana	Virgin's Bower	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Hepatica americana	Round-lobed Hepatica	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Ranunculus abortivus	Kidney-leaved Buttercup/Kidney-leaved Crowfoot	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Ranunculus acris	Tall Buttercup/Tall Crowfoot	SNA	N		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Ranunculus flabellaris	Yellow Buttercup/Yellow Water Crowfoot	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Ranunculus recurvatus	Hooked Buttercup/Hooked Crowfoot	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Thalictrum thalictroides	Rue Anemone	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER ROSALES						**Source/Comments**
Boehmeria cylindrica	False Nettle	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Family Rosaceae (roses, strawberries, cinquefoils)						**Source/Comments**
Agrimonia sp.	an Agrimony					iNaturalist August 2023
Fragaria virginiana ssp. *virginiana*	Common Wild Strawberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Geum canadense	White Avens	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Potentilla simplex	Common Cinquefoil/Oldfield Cinquefoil	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
ORDER SAXIFRAGALES						**Source/Comments**
Micranthes virginiensis	Early Saxifrage	S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist April 2021
Sedum sexangulare	Tasteless Stonecrop					iNaturalist May 2021
ORDER SOLANALES (nightshades, morning glories)						**Source/Comments**
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed	SNR	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Solanum dulcamara	Bitter-sweet Nightshade	SNA	N		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024

LIVERWORTS						Source/Comments
Frullania eboracensis	New York Scalewort	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Lophocolea heterophylla	Variable Crestwort	No Rank	Unk		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Metzgeria furcata	Forked Veilwort	No Rank	Unk		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Ptilidium sp.	a Liverwort				NI	BioBlitz June 2024
MOSSES						**Source/Comments**
Anomodon attenuatus	Tree-skirt Moss/Common Tree-apron Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Arrhenopterum heterostichum	One-sided Groove Moss/Goose Egg Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Atrichum angustatum	Lesser Smoothcap Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Atrichum crispulum	Strongly Crisped Smoothcap Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Brachythecium campestre	Field Short Tooth Moss/Field Ragged Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Bryhnia novae-angliae	New England Mat Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Bryum argenteum	Silvery Bryum Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Callicladium haldanianum	Beautiful Branch Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Calliergonella cuspidata	Common Large Wetland Moss/Pointed Spear-moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Ceratodon purpureus	Fire Moss/Redshank/Red Roof Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Climacium americanum	American Tree Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Dicranum fulvum	Fineleaf Broom Moss/Boulder Broom Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Dicranum scoparium	Common Broom Moss/Broom Forkmoss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Entodon seductrix	Round-Stem Silk Moss/Seductive Entodon Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Fissidens taxifolius	Common Pocket-Moss/Yewleaf Pocket Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Grimmia longirostris	Long-beaked Grimmia Moss/North Grimmia	SH	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hedwigia ciliata	Ciliate Hedwig's Moss/Ciliate Hoarmoss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hygroamblystegium varium	Willow Feather Moss/Tangled Thread Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hypnum imponens	Pellucid Plait Moss/Brocade Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hypnum lindbergii	Lindberg's Plait Moss/Lindberg's Hypnum Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Hypnum pallescens	Lesser Plait Moss/Stump Plait Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Leskea polycarpa	Many-fruited Leske's Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Leucobryum glaucum	White Pincushion Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Orthotrichum stellatum	Star Bristle Moss	S3	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Plagiomnium ciliare	Wavy-leaf Moss/Toothed Leafy Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Plagiomnium cuspidatum	Woodsy Thyme-moss/Woodsy Leafy Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Platygyrium repens	Flat Brocade Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Pleurozium schreberi	Red-stemmed Feather Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Polytrichum commune	Common Haircap Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Polytrichastrum ohioense	Ohio Haircap Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Polytrichum juniperinum	Juniper Haircap Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Rhizomnium punctatum	Dotted Thyme-moss/Dotted Leafy Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Rhynchostegium serrulatum	Dark Beaked Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Sphagnum capillifolium	Northern Peatmoss	No Rank	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Sphagnum girgensohnii	Girgensohn's Peatmoss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Thuidium delicatulum	Delicate Fern Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Ulota crispa (complex)	Crisped Pincushion Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Ulota hutchinsiae	Hutchins' Pincushion Moss	SNR	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
SHRUBS						**Source/Comments**
Amelanchier sp.	a Shadbush/Serviceberry	SNR	Y		FAC	iNaturalist April 2024
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	SNA	N	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist June 2021
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Buttonbush	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Comptonia peregrina	Sweet Fern	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Cornus amomum ssp. *amomum*	Silky Dogwood	S5	Y		FACW	iNaturalist November 2021
Cornus racemosa	Gray Dogwood/Red-panicled Dogwood	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Cornus rugosa	Round-leaved Dogwood	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Diervilla lonicera	Bush Honeysuckle	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist June 2019
Elaeagnus umbellata	Autumn Olive	SNA	N	Y	NI	iMap August 2024

Euonymus alatus	Burningbush/Winged Euonymus	SNA	N	Y	NI	iNaturalist April 2024; iMap Invasives August 2023
Forsythia sp.	a Forysthia	varies	N		NI	iNaturalist June 2021
Gaylussacia baccata	Black Huckleberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Hamamelis virginiana	Witch-hazel	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Ilex verticillata	Common Winterberry/Winterberry Holly	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Lindera benzoin	Spicebush	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Lonicera canadensis	American Fly Honeysuckle	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Lonicera dioica	Smooth-leaved Honeysuckle/Glaucous Honeysuckle	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Lonicera morrowii	Morrow's Honeysuckle	SNA	N	Y	FACU	BioBlitz June 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Lyonia ligustrina	Maleberry	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Rhododendron viscosum	Swamp Azalea	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Rhamnus cathartica	European Buckthorn/Common Buckthorn	SNA	N	Y	FAC	iMap August 2024
Rhus glabra	Smooth Sumac	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist October 2024
Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist October 2024
Ribes cynosbati	Prickly Gooseberry/Dogberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Rosa carolina	Carolina Rose/Eastern Pasture Rose	SNR	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose	SNA	N	Y	FACU	iNaturalist May 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Rosa palustris	Swamp Rose	S5	Y		OBL	BioBlitz June 2024
Rubus allegheniensis	Common Blackberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Rubus occidentalis	Black Raspberry	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Spiraea alba	White Meadowsweet	S4S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Spiraea tomentosa	Steeplebush	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Vaccinium angustifolium	Common Lowbush Blueberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Vaccinium corymbosum	Highbush Blueberry	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Vaccinium myrtilloides	Velvet-leaved Blueberry	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
Vaccinium pallidum	Hillside Blueberry	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Vaccinium stamineum	Deerberry	S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist May 2022
Viburnum acerifolium	Maple-leaved Viburnum	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Viburnum dentatum var. *lucidum*	Smooth Arrowwood	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist April 2024
Viburnum rafinesqueanum	Downy Arrowwood	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
SUBSHRUBS						**Source/Comments**
Chimaphila maculata	Striped Wintergreen/Spotted Wintergreen	S4	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Epigaea repens	Trailing Arbutus	S4	Y		NI	iNaturalist March 2021
Gaultheria procumbens	Wintergreen/Teaberry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Pyrola americana	Round-leaved Shinleaf/American Wintergreen	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Rubus hispidus	Swamp Dewberry	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
TREES						**Source/Comments**
CONIFEROUS						**Source/Comments**
Pinus rigida	Pitch Pine	S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist March 2020
Pinus strobus	White Pine	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar	S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist October 2024
Tsuga canadensis	Eastern Hemlock	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
DECIDUOUS						**Source/Comments**
Acer pensylvanicum	Striped Maple	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	SNA	N	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore Maple	SNA	N	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist October 2024
Acer rubrum var. *trilobum*	Three-lobed Red Maple	SNR	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	S5	Y		FACW	iNaturalist June 2021
Acer saccharum	Sugar Maple	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of Heaven	SNA	N	Y	UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Betula lenta	Black Birch	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Betula populifolia	Gray Birch	S5	Y		FAC	NYS OPRHP staff (Rebecca Ferry)
Betula sp.	Weeping Birch/Silver Birch	SNA	N		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024, potentially *B. papyrifera*

Carpinus caroliniana ssp. *virginiana*	Musclewood/Ironwood/American Hornbeam	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Carya cordiformis	Bitternut Hickory	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Carya glabra	Pignut Hickory	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Carya ovata	Shagbark Hickory	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Catalpa speciosa	Northern Catalpa	SNA	N		FACU	iNaturalist September 2024
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood	S4S5	Y		FACU	iNaturalist October 2024
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Fraxinus americana	White Ash	S5	Y		FACU	NYNHP consultation
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green Ash	S5	Y		FACW	NYNHP consultation
Malus toringo	Toringo Crab Apple	SNA	N	Y	NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Nyssa sylvatica	Blackgum/Black Tupelo/Sourgum	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Ostrya virginiana	Ironwood/Eastern Hophornbeam	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Platanus occidentalis	Eastern Sycamore	S5	Y		FACW	iNaturalist October 2024
Populus deltoides ssp. *deltoides*	Eastern Cottonwood	S5	Y		FAC	iNaturalist June 2021
Prunus serotina	Wild Black Cherry	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Quercus coccinea	Scarlet Oak	S5	Y		NI	iNaturalist July 2022
Quercus ilicifolia	Bear Oak/Scrub Oak	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Quercus montana	Chestnut Oak	S5	Y		UPL	BioBlitz June 2024
Quercus rubra	Northern Red Oak	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Quercus velutina	Black Oak	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust	SNA	N	Situational	FACU	iMap Invasives August 2024
Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	S5	Y		NI	BioBlitz June 2024
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Ulmus americana	American Elm	S5	Y		FACW	BioBlitz June 2024
WOODY VINES (LIANAS)						**Source/Comments**
Celastrus orbiculatus	Oriental Bittersweet	SNA	N	Y	FACU	iNaturalist July 2024; iMap Invasives August 2024
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024
Smilax herbacea	Common Carrion Flower	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Toxicodendron radicans ssp. *radicans*	Eastern Poison Ivy	S5	Y		FAC	BioBlitz June 2024
Vitis aestivalis	Summer Grape	S5	Y		FACU	BioBlitz June 2024

Fungi - Lake Taghkanic State Park			
Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**State Status**	**Source**
ASCOMYCOTA (Sac Fungi)			
Bisporella citrina	Yellow Fairy Cups/Minute Lemon Cups		October 2022 iNaturalist
Cladonia pyxidata	Pebbled Pixie-cup Lichen		August 2024 iNaturalist
Galiella sp.	a Cup Fungus		June 2024 BioBlitz
Fusicolla merismoides	Deer Vomit		May 2024 iNaturalist
Taphrina robinsoniana	Eastern American Alder Tongue Gall Fungus		July 2022 iNaturalist
Lichens			
Cladonia rangiferina	Gray Reindeer Lichen		March 2020 iNaturalist
Flavoparmelia baltimorensis	Rock Greenshield Lichen		September 2019 iNaturalist
Flavoparmelia caperata	Common Greenshield Lichen		August 2019 iNaturalist
Phaeophyscia rubropulchra	Orange-cored Shadow Lichen		June 2024 BioBlitz
Porpidia albocaerulescens	Smokey-eye Boulder Lichen		August 2024 iNaturalist
Punctelia caseana	Moondust Speckled Lichen/Case's Speckled-back Lichen		August 2024 iNaturalist
Usnea strigosa	Bushy Beard Lichen		June 2024 BioBlitz
BASIDIOMYCOTA (Club Fungi)			
Amanita flavoconia	Yellow Patches		June 2021 iNaturalist
Clitocybe gibba	Common Funnel/Funnel Cap Mushroom		June 2024 BioBlitz
Conocybe apala	White Dunce Cap		August 2019 iNaturalist
Craterellus ignicolor	Flame Trumpet/Flame Coloured Chantrelle		October 2021 iNaturalist
Galerina sp.	Moss Bells		June 2024 BioBlitz
Laccaria amethystina	Amethyst Deceiver		October 2021 iNaturalist
Laccaria laccata	Deceiver/Lackluster Laccaria		October 2022 iNaturalist
Laetiporus sulphureus	Sulfur Shelf/Chicken of the Woods		June 2024 BioBlitz
Lycoperdon marginatum	Peeling Puffball		August 2019 iNaturalist
Macrolepiota macilenta	Parasol Mushroom		August 2024 iNaturalist
Marasmius strictipes	Orange-yellow Marasmius/Tightly Bunched Marasmius		June 2024 BioBlitz
Megacollybia rodmanii	Eastern American Platterful Mushroom		June 2022 iNaturalist
Mycena inclinata	Clustered Bonnet		October 2021 iNaturalist
Omphalotus illudens	Jack O' Lantern Mushroom		August 2023 iNaturalist
Parasola plicatilis	Pleated Inkcap/Japanese Umbrella		June 2024 BioBlitz
Phyllotopsis nidulans	Stinking Orange Oyster/Smelly Oyster		January 2022 iNaturalist
Pleurotus citrinopileatus	Golden Oyster Mushroom	Exotic	June 2024 BioBlitz

Pluteus cervinus	Deer Mushroom	June 2018 iNaturalist
Sebacina schweinitzii	Jellied False Coral Fungus	June 2024 BioBlitz
Stereum complicatum	Crowded Parchment	January 2022 iNaturalist
Trametes versicolor	Turkey Tail	June 2024 BioBlitz
Tremella mesenterica	Witch's Butter	June 2022 iNaturalist
Tricholoma terreum	Grey Knight	October 2022 iNaturalist
Chanterelles		
Cantharellus cinnabarinus	Red Chanterelle	July 2021 iNaturalist
Cantharellus minor	Small Chanterelle	October 2021 iNaturalist
Polypores		
Cerioporus leptocephalus	Blackfoot Polypore	August 2019 iNaturalist
Cerrena unicolor	Mossy Maze Polypore/Gray Polypore	August 2019 iNaturalist
Ganoderma tsugae	Cedar Lacquer Polypore/Hemlock Varnish Shelf	June 2024 BioBlitz
Phellinus robiniae	Cracked Cap Polypore	June 2024 BioBlitz

Appendix G – SEQR Documentation (EAF Parts 1, 2, & 3)

Instructions for Completing Part 1

Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the applicant or project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1is accurate and complete.

A. Project and Applicant/Sponsor Information.

Name of Action or Project: Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map): Lake Taghkanic State Park, 1528 NY-82, Ancram, NY12502		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need): Changes in visitor preferences, demographic shifts, aging infrastructure, and environmental concerns at the park warrant a comprehensive approach to future improvements. The Master Plan proposes multiple actions park-wide to improve recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities and operational efficiencies. The actions recommended in the plan are aimed at rehabilitating aging infrastructure, revitalizing underutilized areas, and meeting demand for recreation activities in the region. Protections of natural and historic / cultural resources are also included. See Appendix B - Development of Recommended Actions for a complete list of proposed actions within the master plan.		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor: Linda G. Cooper - OPRHP Taconic Regional Director	Telephone: (845) 889-4100 E-Mail: linda.cooper@parks.ny.gov	
Address: PO Box 308- 9 Old Post Road		
City/PO: Staatsburg	State: NY	Zip Code: 12580
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role):	Telephone: E-Mail:	
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor):	Telephone: E-Mail:	
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

B. Government Approvals Some individual actions may require county, state and or federal permits. However, all actions are currently conceptual. Permits will be obtained, as needed, as each proposed action is undertaken.

B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Counsel, Town Board, or Village Board of Trustees ☐Yes ☐No		
b. City, Town or Village Planning Board or Commission ☐Yes ☐No		
c. City, Town or Village Zoning Board of Appeals ☐Yes ☐No		
d. Other local agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
e. County agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
f. Regional agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
g. State agencies ☐Yes ☐No		
h. Federal agencies ☐Yes ☐No		

i. Coastal Resources.

i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway? ☐Yes ☑No

ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program? ☐Yes ☑No

iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area? ☐Yes ☑No

C. Planning and Zoning

C.1. Planning and zoning actions.

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☐Yes ☑No

- **If Yes,** complete sections C, F and G.
- **If No,** proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

C.2. Adopted land use plans.

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☑Yes ☐No
Town of Gallatin Comprehensive Plan, June 2023 and Town of Taghkanic Comprehensive Plan, 9/3/2009.

If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☐Yes ☑No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway; Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

Lake Taghkanic State Park is within the boundaries of the Hudson River Valley Greenway and the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson Valley National Heritage Area.

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☑Yes ☐No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

Columbia County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan, June 19, 2013.

C.3. Zoning Local zoning requirements are preempted by the State which precludes the applicability of and the need to comply with local zoning ordinances. This applies to property owned by the People of the State of NY under OPRHP jurisdiction. This response covers C.3. a, b. and c.

a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance. N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?

b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit? N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No

c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? N/A ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes,
i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site?

C.4. Existing community services.

a. In what school district is the project site located? Germantown Central School District

b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?
State Police, NY State Park Police, Columbia County Sheriff

c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?
Taghkanic Fire Department

d. What parks serve the project site?
The proposed action is within a state park.

D. Project Details

D.1. Proposed and Potential Development

a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)? Recreational

b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? ~1,850 acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? * acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? ~1,850 acres

*Acreage to be disturbed is currently conceptual. However, proposed actions are intended to have a light footprint on the environment and total disturbance will be to a small fraction of the the park acreage.

c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use? ☐ Yes ☑ No
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % _____ Units: _____

d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes,
i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)

ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
iii. Number of lots proposed? _____
iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum _____ Maximum _____

e. Will the proposed action be constructed in multiple phases? ☑ Yes ☐ No
i. If No, anticipated period of construction: _____ months
ii. If Yes:
- Total number of phases anticipated _____
- Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) _____ month _____ year
- Anticipated completion date of final phase _____ month _____ year
- Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases:
Mainly, the individual elements of the master plan are independent from each other.

The master plan is a 20 year plan. Individual actions will be undertaken as funding allows.

f. Does the project include new residential uses? ☐Yes ☑No
See note 1.
If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.

	One Family	Two Family	Three Family	Multiple Family (four or more)
Initial Phase				
At completion of all phases				

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? ☑Yes ☐No
See note 2.
If Yes,
i. Total number of structures _____
ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____height; _____width; and _____ length
iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? ☐Yes ☑No
If Yes,
i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____
ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: ☐ Ground water ☐ Surface water streams ☐Other specify:
_____
iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source.
_____
iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres
v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length
vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete):
_____

D.2. Project Operations

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? ☑Yes ☐No
(Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite)
See note 3.
If Yes:
i .What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____
ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site?
- Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____
- Over what duration of time? _____

iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them.
_____
_____
iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? ☐Yes ☐No
If yes, describe. _____
_____
v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____acres
vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres
vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet
viii. Will the excavation require blasting? ☐Yes ☐No
ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____
_____
_____

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? ☐Yes ☐No
See note 4.
If Yes:
i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): _____
_____

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

_____

_____

_____

_____

iii. Will the proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes, describe: _____

iv. Will the proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: _____
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: _____
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): _____

_____

- proposed method of plant removal: _____
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): _____

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: _____

_____

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water? **See note 5.** ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: _____
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐Yes ☐No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐Yes ☐No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐Yes ☐No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

_____

- Source(s) of supply for the district: _____

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

If, Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: _____

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: _____

_____

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), what is the maximum pumping capacity: _____ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes? **See note 6.** ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): _____

_____

_____

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: _____
- Name of district: _____
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐Yes ☐No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐Yes ☐No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐Yes ☐No

- Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No
- Will a line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____

_____

_____

iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? ☐Yes ☐No

If Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____

v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge or describe subsurface disposal plans):

_____

_____

vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____

_____

_____

e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? ☐Yes ☐No

See note 7.

If Yes:

i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel?

_____ Square feet or _____ acres (impervious surface)

_____ Square feet or _____ acres (parcel size)

ii. Describe types of new point sources. _____

_____

iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)?

_____

_____

- If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____

_____

_____

- Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? ☐Yes ☐No

iv. Does the proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? ☐Yes ☐No

f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? ☑Yes ☐No

Mobile sources during construction.

If Yes, identify:

i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles)

_____

ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers)

_____

iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation)

_____

g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) ☐Yes ☐No

ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate:

- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N_2O)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydroflourocarbons (HFCs)
- _____Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____

ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____

_____

i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust):

_____

_____

j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? ☐Yes ☑No

If Yes:

i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): ☐ Morning ☐ Evening ☐Weekend

☐ Randomly between hours of _____ to _____.

ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of truck trips/day and type (e.g., semi trailers and dump trucks): _____

_____

iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____

iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? ☐Yes ☐No

v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe:

_____

vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within ½ mile of the proposed site? ☐Yes ☐No

vii Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? ☐Yes ☐No

viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? ☐Yes ☐No

k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? ☐Yes ☐No

Not a commercial or industrial project.

If Yes:

i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____

_____

ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other):

_____

iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade, to an existing substation? ☐Yes ☐No

l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.

i. During Construction:

- Monday - Friday: Normal work hours.
- Saturday: Potentially, normal work hours.
- Sunday: N/A
- Holidays: N/A

ii. During Operations:

- Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to sunset
- Saturday: 8 a.m. to sunset
- Sunday: 8 a.m. to sunset
- Holidays: 8 a.m. to sunset

m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? See note 8. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes:

i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration:

_____

_____

ii. Will the proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe: _____

_____

n. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes: See note 9.

i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures:

_____

_____

ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe: _____

_____

o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? See note 10. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____

_____

_____

p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? See note 11. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Product(s) to be stored _____

ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year)

iii. Generally, describe the proposed storage facilities:_____

_____

q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe proposed treatment(s):

Some invasive species are best treated using chemical means. Those species will be treated with pesticides, as needed.

_____

_____

_____

ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? ☐ Yes ☐ No

r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? Not a commercial or industrial project. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility:

- Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)
- Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)

ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste:

- Construction: _____

_____

- Operation: _____

_____

iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site:

- Construction: _____

_____

- Operation: _____

_____

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: See Note 12.

i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): _____

ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:

- _____ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
- _____ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment

iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: _____ years

t. Will the proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: _____

ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: _____

iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated _____ tons/month

iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: _____

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: provide name and location of facility: _____

If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility:

E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site

a. Existing land uses.

i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.

☐ Urban ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Residential (suburban) ☑ Rural (non-farm)
☑ Forest ☑ Agriculture ☑ Aquatic ☑ Other (specify): Parkland

ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site. **Proposed actions are conceptual. However, minimal changes to land uses and covertypes are proposed.**

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: _____			

c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation? ☑ Yes ☐ No

i. If Yes: explain: Yes, the project site is a state park.

d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes,

i. Identify Facilities:

e. Does the project site contain an existing dam? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:

- Dam height: 3 feet
- Dam length: Unlisted feet
- Surface area: 162 acres
- Volume impounded: 2,950 AF gallons OR acre-feet

ii. Dam's existing hazard classification: Low Hazard Dam

iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:

6/23/1998 - Not Rated

f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Has the facility been formally closed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, cite sources/documentation:

ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility:

iii. Describe any development constraints due to the prior solid waste activities:

g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred:

h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site? See note 13. ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes – Spills Incidents database Provide DEC ID number(s):

☐ Yes – Environmental Site Remediation database Provide DEC ID number(s):

☐ Neither database

ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures:

iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, provide DEC ID number(s):

iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- If yes, DEC site ID number: _____
- Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____
- Describe any use limitations: _____
- Describe any engineering controls: _____
- Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Explain: _____

E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site See note 14 for E.2. a.-f.

a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? _____ feet

b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? ☑ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____%

c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site: _____ _____%
_____ _____%
_____ _____%

d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: _____ feet

e. Drainage status of project site soils: ☐ Well Drained: _____% of site
☐ Moderately Well Drained: _____% of site
☐ Poorly Drained _____% of site

f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes: ☐ 0-10%: _____% of site
☐ 10-15%: _____% of site
☐ 15% or greater: _____% of site

g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If Yes, describe: _____

h. Surface water features.

i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? ☑ Yes ☐ No

ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes to either *i* or *ii*, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.

iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? ☑ Yes ☐ No

iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:

- Streams: Name 863-15, 863-20, 863-19, 863-436, 863-436.1, 863... Classification C, C(T), C(TS), B(TS)
- Lakes or Ponds: Name Lake Taghkanic Classification B(TS)
- Wetlands: Name Federal Waters, NYS Wetland, Federal Waters, Fe... Approximate Size NYS Wetland (in a...
- Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) A-11, A-8

v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____

i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? ☐ Yes ☑ No

j. Is the project site in the 100-year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☑ No

k. Is the project site in the 500-year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☑ No

l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? ☑ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:

i. Name of aquifer: Principal Aquifer

m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site:

Green Frog	Monarch Butterfly	Common Snapping Turtle
Eastern Newt	American Toad	Blacked-capped Chickadee
Common Garter Snake	White-tailed Deer	Red-tailed Hawk

n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): Inland Poor Fen, Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest

ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation:

iii. Extent of community/habitat:

- Currently: 0.33, 239.42 acres
- Following completion of project as proposed: _____ acres
- Gain or loss (indicate + or -): _____ acres

No significant changes to SNC acreage are proposed.

o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Species and listing (endangered or threatened): Southern Swamp Buttercup

p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Species and listing: New England Cottontail, Pleated-leaved Knotweed

q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: Both hunting and fishing are allowed within Lake Taghkanic State Park.

E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site

a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes, provide county plus district name/number:

b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? ☑ Yes ☐ No

i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? 26.2 acres (1.4% of the site)

ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): Web Soil Survey and NYS A&M 2024 Agricultural Land Classification.

c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of the natural landmark: ☐ Biological Community ☐ Geological Feature

ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent:

d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. CEA name:

ii. Basis for designation:

iii. Designating agency and date:

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of historic/archaeological resource: ☐ Archaeological Site ☐ Historic Building or District

ii. Name: Eligible property:Wastewater Treatment Plant, Eligible property:Jaffe Property, Eligible property:Lake Taghkanic Stat...

iii. Brief description of attributes on which listing is based:

Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory? ☐ Yes ☑ No

g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Describe possible resource(s): _____

ii. Basis for identification: _____

h. Is the project site within fives miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource? ☑ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Identify resource: Lake Taghkanic State Park

ii. Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): State Park

iii. Distance between project and resource: 0 miles.

i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666? ☐ Yes ☑ No

If Yes:

i. Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____

ii. Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No

F. Additional Information

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

G. Verification

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name Linda G. Cooper Date September 7, 2024

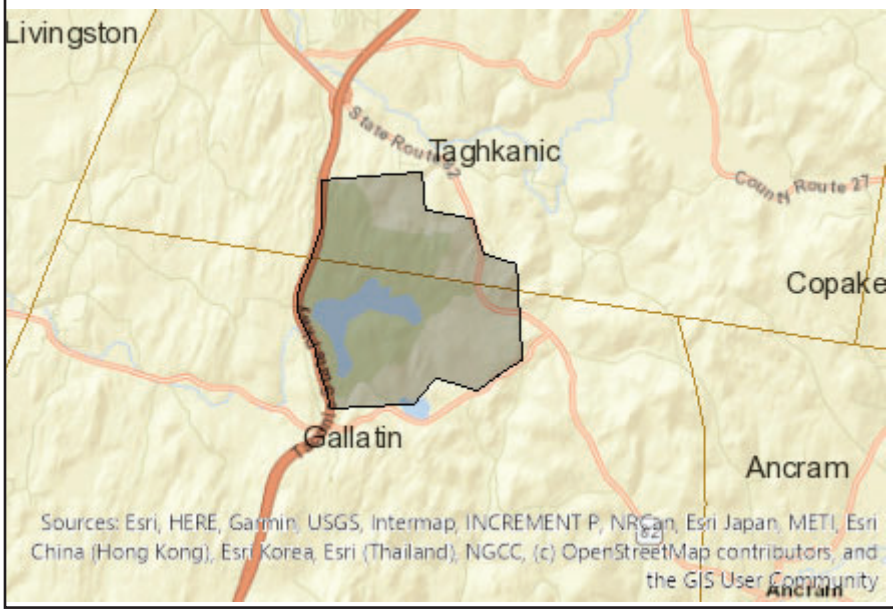
Signature Linda G Cooper Digitally signed by Linda G Cooper Date: 2024.09.07 11:21:18 -04'00' Title Regional Director - OPRHP Taconic Region

Prepared by: Daniel Lewis, OPRHP Environmental Analyst I

PRINT FORM

EAF Mapper Summary Report

Monday, July 15, 2024 10:13 AM



Disclaimer: The EAF Mapper is a screening tool intended to assist project sponsors and reviewing agencies in preparing an environmental assessment form (EAF). Not all questions asked in the EAF are answered by the EAF Mapper. Additional information on any EAF question can be obtained by consulting the EAF Workbooks. Although the EAF Mapper provides the most up-to-date digital data available to DEC, you may also need to contact local or other data sources in order to obtain data not provided by the Mapper. Digital data is not a substitute for agency determinations.

B.i.i [Coastal or Waterfront Area]	No
B.i.ii [Local Waterfront Revitalization Area]	No
C.2.b. [Special Planning District]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.1.h [DEC Spills or Remediation Site - Potential Contamination History]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.1.h.i [DEC Spills or Remediation Site - Listed]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.1.h.i [DEC Spills or Remediation Site - Environmental Site Remediation Database]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.1.h.iii [Within 2,000' of DEC Remediation Site]	No
E.2.g [Unique Geologic Features]	No
E.2.h.i [Surface Water Features]	Yes
E.2.h.ii [Surface Water Features]	Yes
E.2.h.iii [Surface Water Features]	Yes - Digital mapping information on local and federal wetlands and waterbodies is known to be incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.2.h.iv [Surface Water Features - Stream Name]	863-15, 863-20, 863-19, 863-436, 863-436.1, 863-18, 863-16
E.2.h.iv [Surface Water Features - Stream Classification]	C, C(T), C(TS), B(TS)
E.2.h.iv [Surface Water Features - Wetlands Name]	Federal Waters, NYS Wetland
E.2.h.iv [Surface Water Features - Wetlands Size]	NYS Wetland (in acres):42.6, NYS Wetland (in acres):36.1
E.2.h.iv [Surface Water Features - DEC Wetlands Number]	A-11, A-8
E.2.h.v [Impaired Water Bodies]	No

E.2.i. [Floodway]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.2.j. [100 Year Floodplain]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.2.k. [500 Year Floodplain]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
E.2.l. [Aquifers]	Yes
E.2.l. [Aquifer Names]	Principal Aquifer
E.2.n. [Natural Communities]	Yes
E.2.n.i [Natural Communities - Name]	Inland Poor Fen, Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest
E.2.n.i [Natural Communities - Acres]	0.33, 239.42
E.2.o. [Endangered or Threatened Species]	Yes
E.2.o. [Endangered or Threatened Species - Name]	Southern Swamp Buttercup
E.2.p. [Rare Plants or Animals]	Yes
E.2.p. [Rare Plants or Animals - Name]	New England Cottontail, Pleated-leaved Knotweed
E.3.a. [Agricultural District]	No
E.3.c. [National Natural Landmark]	No
E.3.d [Critical Environmental Area]	No
E.3.e. [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites]	Yes - Digital mapping data for archaeological site boundaries are not available. Refer to EAF Workbook.

E.3.e.ii [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites - Name]	Eligible property:Wastewater Treatment Plant, Eligible property:Jaffe Property, Eligible property:Lake Taghkanic State Park, Eligible property:Pumphouse, Eligible property:Van Tassel farmhouse & outbuildings, ca. 1860, Eligible property:Superintendent's Cottage, Eligible property:East Bathhouse, Eligible property:Observation/Water Tower in Lake Taghkanic State Park, Eligible property:Public Restroom, Eligible property:Contact Station (south), Eligible property:Laundry building, Eligible property:Cabin 9, Eligible property:Cabin 6, Eligible property:Lot F Public Restroom, Eligible property:Cabin 16, Eligible property:Cabin 12, Eligible property:Cabin 11, Eligible property:Cottage 158, Eligible property:Quonset hut, Eligible property:Reesa Barn, Eligible property:Garage/Apartment, Eligible property:Electric car charging station, Eligible property:Stone culvert abutments, Eligible property:Boat Storage Garage, Eligible property:Cabin 3, Eligible property:Cabin 4, Eligible property:Cabin 7, Eligible property:Open Shed, Eligible property:Cottage 166, Eligible property:Boat Rental Building (west), Eligible property:Lot A Public Restroom, Eligible property:Cottage 159, Eligible property:East Beach Playground, Eligible property:Cottage 170, Eligible property:Ball field, Eligible property:Lake Taghkanic Cottage 165, Eligible property:Cottage 157, Eligible property:Contact station (north), Eligible property:Stone-faced culvert, Eligible property:Cottage 167, Eligible property:Cottage 164, Eligible property:Cottage 154, Eligible property:Lakeside picnic area, Eligible property:Cottage 160, Eligible property:State Park Police Station (North/Taconic Zone), Eligible property:Reesa House, Eligible property:Harder Pump House, Eligible property:West Beach Bathhouse/Park Offices, Eligible property:Lot E Public Restroom, Eligible property:Cottage 169, Eligible property:Park House, Eligible property:Cottage 155, Eligible property:Cottage 162, Eligible property:Camp Store (Former Nature Center), Eligible property:Maintenance Garage, Eligible property:Fuel Station, Eligible property:Booster Pump Station, Eligible property:Tool Shed, Eligible property:Lot B Restroom Building, Eligible property:Concrete steps and pipe railing, Eligible property:Lot E Picnic Pavilion, Eligible property:Cottage 171, Eligible property:Cottage 161, Eligible property:Basketball court, Eligible property:Playground, Eligible property:Cabin 14, Eligible property:Cabin 10, Eligible property:Storage tank, Eligible property:Tent platform (representative), Eligible property:Cabin 8, Eligible property:Cottage 168, Eligible property:Picnic area, Eligible property:Concrete steps, pipe railing and stone wall, Eligible property:Effluent Pumphouse, Eligible property:Cabin 2, Eligible property:Recreation Hall, Eligible property:Cabin 15, Eligible property:East Contact Station, Eligible property:Cabin 5, Eligible property:Storage Shed, Taconic State Parkway
E.3.f. [Archeological Sites]	No
E.3.i. [Designated River Corridor]	No

Lake Taghkanic State Park
Master Plan
Full Environmental Assessment Form Part 1 Notes

Note 1 – All proposed actions are conceptual. No new residential buildings are proposed. Two cottages, one lost to fire and one removed due to structural deficiencies, will be replaced in kind, in place. An additional existing cottage is proposed to be removed and replaced (in kind, in place) due to structural issues. Storm water off of the rebuilt cottages will be addressed. In addition, the Superintendent's house (Livingston Cottage / park residence by the East Maintenance area) is proposed to be rehabilitated for occupation. Existing sanitary system is too close to the lake shore. Occupation of the Superintendent's house will require the installation of a new sanitary system farther from the lake. Lastly, the residence on the newly acquired parcel at the Park's southeast corner will also be rehabilitated for occupation. The status of that structure's current on-site sanitary waste treatment system is unknown and may need to be replaced on-site.

Note 2- All proposed actions are conceptual. The proposed action includes new non-residential construction. Plan includes the possibility of relocating the maintenance facility to a new location, which would require the construction of a new maintenance facility. If relocated, existing buildings could be repurposed (boat storage), or removed as needed. In addition, relocation of the Park Police building to a new location would require the construction of a new building. A separate alternative is the remodeling of the existing Park Police building in its current location. Lastly, both Park Police office options may be pursued, remodeling the existing building now and construction of a new building later with repurposing of the existing building for storage or other Park Police uses. Both a new Park police office and new maintenance buildings are likely to have similar footprints compared to other park buildings. Neither new Park Police nor maintenance buildings would be more than one story. Although, a one-story maintenance building would be taller than traditional one-story buildings, to accommodate maintenance equipment. Both new buildings would create additional space to be heated and cooled. Both new buildings would create stormwater that would need to be addressed. Lastly, the existing storage Quonset hut is deteriorated. It is proposed to be replaced (in place) with a new storage building that will be similar in size. Storm water from this new building would not be an increase over existing but could still be addressed.

Note 3 - All proposed actions are conceptual. Currently there is a public boat launch east of the maintenance facility at the end of a 260' x 50' channel. Boats are small and without much draft. Spot dredging is required as lake sediment builds up in the channel. If the boat launch remains at this site, the need to spot dredge will continue. Dredged volumes are so minimal that deposition along the shoreline (above top of bank) has been adequate disposal. Dredged material is mostly sand although occasionally SAV is removed. Boat usage in the channel normally prevents significant growth of SAV. Pore water normally returns to the lake prior to deposition. Any remaining water sheet flows back to the lake. Return water volume and velocity is so minimal that erosion has not been identified. Relocating the boat launch to the front of the channel has been proposed. Small amounts of dredging will be required to install the launch and spot dredging will still be needed directly in front of the launch to maintain access. Material, deposition and dewatering will be similar between the dredge locations.

Note 4 - All proposed actions are conceptual. The proposed action may cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area. Currently, several conceptual proposed actions would involve work at the shoreline of Lake Taghkanic or in the immediately adjacent waters of the lake. Potential actions include construction

of docks / fishing piers and new boat launches. See Note 3, above, regarding dredging. Additionally, new trails may intersect surface water features. Trail crossings may include stepping stones, small bridges or culverted crossings. Lastly, new trails may intersect wetland areas. Bog bridges or more permanent boardwalks may be used to cross wetlands. These actions may minimally impact bottom sediments and / or aquatic vegetation. Pesticide use for these projects is not likely.

Note 5 – All proposed actions are conceptual. The proposed actions may require an increase in potable water use. Expansion of park facilities, including new buildings, expanded campgrounds and increase amenities may use additional water. Park water is from multiple sources, but primarily from the lake. Expansion of the Park's ability to produce potable water from the lake is a proposed alternative. Improvements to potable water infrastructure will account for predicted need / increases in use. No water comes from municipal sources. No changes to municipal sources / infrastructure are required. The other sources of potable water are 5 active wells: West Bathhouse winter well, Recreation Hall winter well, Maintenance Shop / East Park Residence shared well, Parkway Garage / Park Police shared well and the West Park Residence well. The maintenance area, if relocated, would need a new well. The existing well would remain for the East Park Residence. The East Bathhouse has water service from the main water distribution system, but would need a new well if used year-round. There is one inactive well in the vicinity of the West Park Residence, but that well would need rehabilitation to be put back in to service.

Note 6 – All proposed actions are conceptual. The proposed actions may result in an increase in wastewater generated. Expansion of park facilities, including new buildings, expanded campgrounds and increase amenities may create additional wastewater. Currently, wastewater is treated at multiple locations throughout the park. Individual restrooms and shower facilities have septic tanks that discharge to leaching fields. Two buildings (Park Police Office and Carpenter Shop) have holding tanks that get pumped as needed. Waste from the West side facilities (West Beach Bathhouse, Park Manager residence, laundry, restrooms and cottages) all get treated and discharge to Doove Kill, which leaves the Park. New maintenance facility, rehabilitated Superintendent's house and rehabilitated East Beach Bathhouse will all require new on-site sanitary systems that will discharge to ground. Systems will be sized appropriately. Any improvements to the west side will be added to the treatment that discharges to Doove Kill. That treatment facility has the capacity to accept additional waste. All discharges will be reviewed and permitted by NYS DEC and local municipalities (as needed). No wastewater is sent to municipal treatment infrastructure. No changes to municipal infrastructure are required.

Note 7 - All proposed actions are conceptual. The proposed action may disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff. Cumulatively, the proposed actions are likely to disturb more than one acre. Individually, some projects may disturb more than one acre. Some projects propose increases in impervious surfaces. Projects that result in increases in stormwater runoff will direct that water to stormwater treatment, with the potential creation of infiltration basins, bioswales or similar. Proposed actions will use pervious materials when appropriate. No storm water will be directed off site. Currently, storm water off of the main park road discharges at multiple locations with the lake being the final destination. However, there is usually significant vegetated areas between the road and the lake that allow for complete infiltration of small rain events and some infiltration and retention before discharge to the lake for bigger rainfall events. If new stormwater is to be directed to the lake or other surface waters, it will receive treatment before discharge.

Note 8 - All proposed actions are conceptual. Some of the proposed actions may create noise above ambient levels during construction. Noises will be limited to standard construction noise related to large

equipment. Those noises will be restricted in location and duration and will be temporary. Removal of screening vegetation is likely to be minimal to none. No construction noise is likely to be heard beyond the park boundary.

Note 9 - All proposed actions are conceptual. Currently, exterior lights at the Park Police Office, West Beach Bathhouse and campground restrooms stay on all night. Those lights will be retrofit with dark sky compliant fixtures. Some new structures, including the improved parking lot, maintenance facility, or Park Police building may have external lights associated with them. Those lights may be left on all night, as needed. New lights will be dark sky compliant. Removal of screening vegetation is likely to be minimal to none. No new light sources are likely to be seen beyond the park boundary.

Note 10 - All proposed actions are conceptual. Some of the proposed actions may create odor above ambient levels during construction. Odors will be limited to standard construction equipment and construction materials. Those odors will be restricted in location and duration and will be temporary. No construction odor is likely to be detected beyond the park boundary.

Note 11 – Currently, there are three fuel storage tanks greater than 185 gallons. The Park maintains 2 fueling tanks for park vehicles at the maintenance facility, one gasoline and one diesel. Both tanks are 500 gallons. If the maintenance facility is relocated it is likely to be located adjacent to these fuel pumps. No changes to these tanks are proposed, either way. The park has one a residential sized oil tank (200 gallons) for furnace heating fuel at the Carpenter Shop. No proposed actions impact the Carpenter Shop. No new tanks are proposed.

Note 12 - There is an existing landfill on site. The landfill has not been used since the 1980s. The landfill had accepted standard daily operational waste from the park (camper's and patron's trash) and some construction debris. The landfill will be officially decertified, a process requiring a closure plan and approval from NYS DEC. Landfill will be cleared of vegetation and capped, and monitoring wells will be installed. A perimeter swale will move storm water away from the landfill. Cap will be surfaced with herbaceous species which will be mowed regularly to prevent woody debris from growing and damaging the cap. No other proposed actions occur at the landfill, except for continued maintenance removal of vegetation and any invasive species control, as needed.

Note 13 – No remediated sites, or RCRA corrective activities, were identified within 2,000 feet of the park on the NYS DEC's Info Locator website. One spill was identified using the NYS DEC Spill Incidents Database (Spill # 9315138). However, information on that spill is sparse. Spill was of an unknown volume of gasoline on 3/24/1994. At some point treatment was set up on site such that filtered discharge was included on the Park's SPDES permit. A review of that permit indicates that the spill was on the west side of the lake as that is where the SPDES permit shows the discharge. DEC records indicate that the incident was closed on 9/29/2000. No identifiable infrastructure, of the treatment or discharge, remains. No records of any institutional control limits have been identified.

Note 14 – USDA Web Soil Survey results identify:

E.2.a. - 53.4% of the soil has a shallow depth to bedrock at 43 centimeters. The remainder has a deeper depth to bed rock shown as > 200 centimeters.

E.2.b. (not from WSS) – Significant bedrock outcroppings occur on site. A survey for outcroppings across the 1,700 acre site has not been completed.

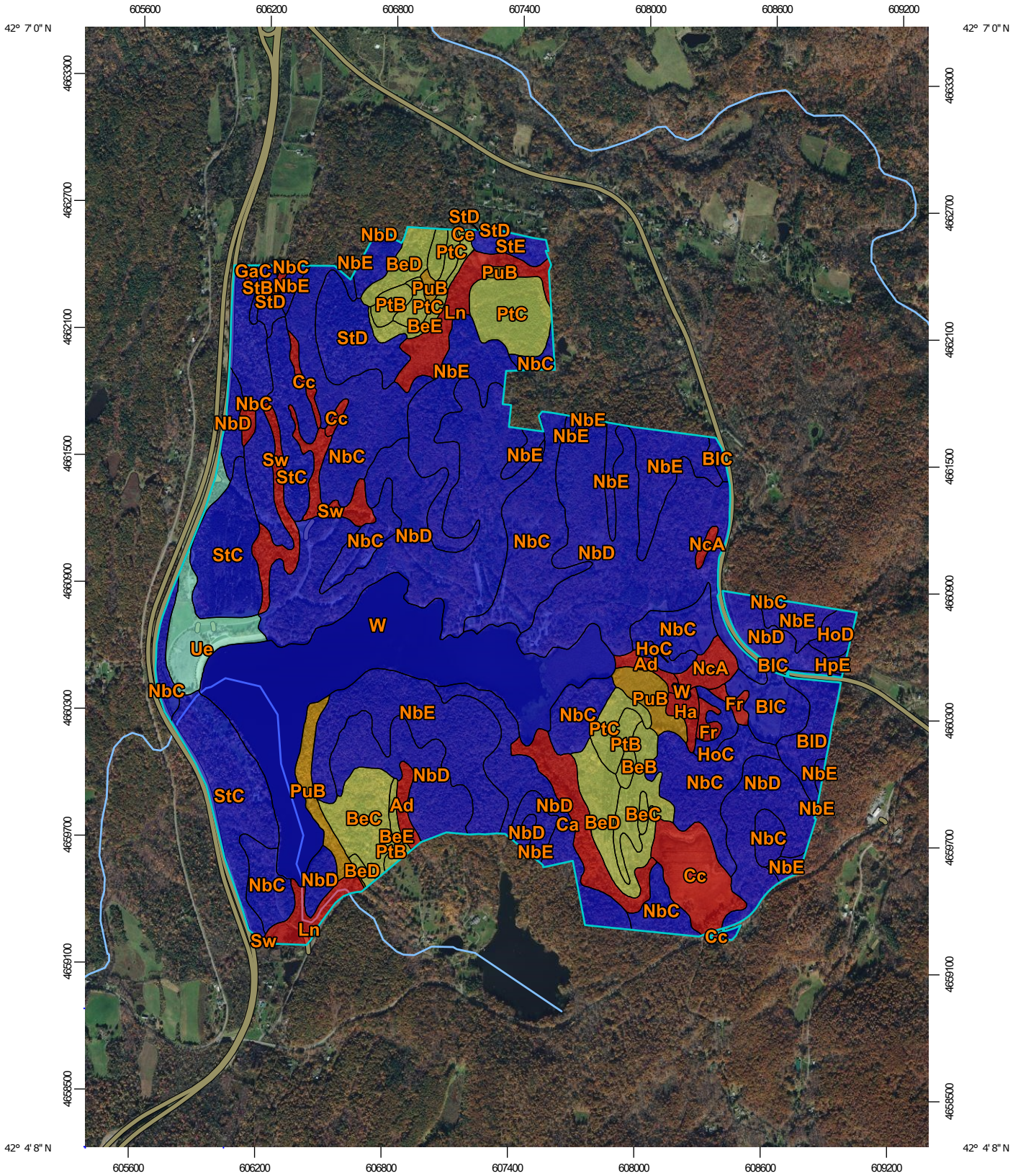
E.2.c. - Nassau channery silt loam, hilly, very rocky (NbD, 26.4%), Nassau channery silt loam, rolling, very rocky (NbC, 16.2%), Nassau channery silt loam, steep, very rocky (NbE, 10.8%).

E.2.d. – Depth to water table is quite variable across the 31 soil types present. Any average would provide meaningless information. A table with the depth to water table data by soil type and acreage is attached.

E.2.e. - Nassau channery silt loam, hilly, very rocky (26.4%) - **somewhat excessively drained**, Nassau channery silt loam, rolling, very rocky (16.2%) - **somewhat excessively drained**, Nassau channery silt loam, steep, very rocky (10.8%) **- somewhat excessively drained**.

E.2.f. – Slope is quite variable across the 31 soil types present. Any average would provide meaningless information. A table with slope data by soil type and acreage is attached.

Depth to Water Table—Columbia County, New York
(Lake_T_Boundary_with_Jaffe)



Map Scale: 1:25,800 if printed on A portrait (8.5" x 11") sheet.

N

Meters
0 350 700 1400 2100

Feet
0 1000 2000 4000 6000

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 18N WGS84

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)
- Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

Soil Rating Polygons
- 0 - 25
- 25 - 50
- 50 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 150 - 200
- > 200
- Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Lines
- 0 - 25
- 25 - 50
- 50 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 150 - 200
- > 200
- Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Points
- 0 - 25
- 25 - 50
- 50 - 100
- 100 - 150
- 150 - 200
- > 200
- Not rated or not available

Water Features
- Streams and Canals

Transportation
- Rails
- Interstate Highways
- US Routes
- Major Roads
- Local Roads

Background
- Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Columbia County, New York
Survey Area Data: Version 19, Sep 5, 2023

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Aug 15, 2021—Nov 8, 2021

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Depth to Water Table

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating (centimeters)	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Ad	Alden mucky silt loam	0	10.4	0.6%
BeB	Bernardston silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	54	23.4	1.3%
BeC	Bernardston silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	54	30.6	1.6%
BeD	Bernardston silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	54	40.9	2.2%
BeE	Bernardston silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	54	12.4	0.7%
BlC	Blasdell channery loam, rolling	>200	24.5	1.3%
BlD	Blasdell channery loam, hilly	>200	22.3	1.2%
Ca	Canandaigua silt loam	0	29.0	1.6%
Cc	Catden muck, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0	39.8	2.1%
Ce	Castile gravelly silt loam	54	0.5	0.0%
Fr	Fredon silt loam	15	7.3	0.4%
GaC	Georgia silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	69	0.3	0.0%
Ha	Halsey mucky silt loam	8	5.8	0.3%
HoC	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, rolling	>200	12.4	0.7%
HoD	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, hilly	>200	7.9	0.4%
HpE	Hoosic and Blasdell soils, steep	>200	1.6	0.1%
Ln	Limerick silt loam	23	40.4	2.2%
MsB	Massena silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	31	0.1	0.0%
NbC	Nassau channery silt loam, rolling, very rocky	>200	301.3	16.2%
NbD	Nassau channery silt loam, hilly, very rocky	>200	490.2	26.4%
NbE	Nassau channery silt loam, steep, very rocky	>200	200.9	10.8%
NcA	Natchaug muck, 0 to 2 percent slopes	0	15.6	0.8%

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating (centimeters)	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
PtB	Pittstown silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	69	13.9	0.7%
PtC	Pittstown silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	69	50.3	2.7%
PuB	Punsit silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	31	31.4	1.7%
StB	Stockbridge silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	>200	2.3	0.1%
StC	Stockbridge silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	>200	129.0	7.0%
StD	Stockbridge silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	>200	39.1	2.1%
StE	Stockbridge silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	>200	10.0	0.5%
Sw	Sun silt loam	0	31.9	1.7%
Ue	Udorthents, smoothed	137	32.8	1.8%
W	Water	>200	197.1	10.6%
Totals for Area of Interest			**1,855.4**	**100.0%**

Description

"Water table" refers to a saturated zone in the soil. It occurs during specified months. Estimates of the upper limit are based mainly on observations of the water table at selected sites and on evidence of a saturated zone, namely grayish colors (redoximorphic features) in the soil. A saturated zone that lasts for less than a month is not considered a water table.

This attribute is actually recorded as three separate values in the database. A low value and a high value indicate the range of this attribute for the soil component. A "representative" value indicates the expected value of this attribute for the component. For this soil property, only the representative value is used.

Rating Options

Units of Measure: centimeters

Aggregation Method: Dominant Component

Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified

Tie-break Rule: Lower

Interpret Nulls as Zero: No

Beginning Month: January

Ending Month: December

Lake Taghkanic
Grade by Soil Type

Type	% cover	% slope
Ad	0.6	0-3
BeB	1.3	3-8
BeC	1.6	8-15
BeD	2.2	15-25
BeE	0.7	25-35
BiC	1.3	5-15
BiD	1.2	10-30
Ca	1.6	0-3
Cc	2.1	0-1
Ce	0.0	0-3
Fr	0.4	0-3
GaC	0.0	8-15
Ha	0.3	0-3
HoC	0.7	6-16
HoD	0.4	15-30
HpE	0.1	25-35
Ln	2.2	0-3
MsB	0.0	3-8
NbC	16.2	6-16
NbD	26.4	16-30
NbE	10.8	25-35
NcA	0.8	0-2
PtB	0.7	3-8
PtC	2.7	8-15
PuB	1.7	3-8
StB	0.1	3-8
StC	7.0	8-15
StD	2.1	15-25
StE	0.5	25-35
Sw	1.7	0-3
Ue	1.8	0-3
W	10.6	0

Agency Use Only [If applicable]

Project : Lake Taghkanic SP Master Plan

Date : 11/1/2024

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Identification of Potential Project Impacts

Part 2 is to be completed by the lead agency. Part 2 is designed to help the lead agency inventory all potential resources that could be affected by a proposed project or action. We recognize that the lead agency's reviewer(s) will not necessarily be environmental professionals. So, the questions are designed to walk a reviewer through the assessment process by providing a series of questions that can be answered using the information found in Part 1. To further assist the lead agency in completing Part 2, the form identifies the most relevant questions in Part 1 that will provide the information needed to answer the Part 2 question. When Part 2 is completed, the lead agency will have identified the relevant environmental areas that may be impacted by the proposed activity.

If the lead agency is a state agency **and** the action is in any Coastal Area, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

Tips for completing Part 2:

- Review all of the information provided in Part 1.
- Review any application, maps, supporting materials and the Full EAF Workbook.
- Answer each of the 18 questions in Part 2.
- If you answer "**Yes"** to a numbered question, please complete all the questions that follow in that section.
- If you answer "**No"** to a numbered question, move on to the next numbered question.
- Check appropriate column to indicate the anticipated size of the impact.
- Proposed projects that would exceed a numeric threshold contained in a question should result in the reviewing agency checking the box "Moderate to large impact may occur."
- The reviewer is not expected to be an expert in environmental analysis.
- If you are not sure or undecided about the size of an impact, it may help to review the sub-questions for the general question and consult the workbook.
- When answering a question consider all components of the proposed activity, that is, the "whole action".
- Consider the possibility for long-term and cumulative impacts as well as direct impacts.
- Answer the question in a reasonable manner considering the scale and context of the project.

1. Impact on Land

Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. (See Part 1. D.1)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 2.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet.	E2d	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.	E2f	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.	E2a	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material.	D2a	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases.	D1e	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides).	D2e, D2q	☑	☐
g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area.	B1i	☑	☐
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

2. Impact on Geological Features

The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). (See Part 1. E.2.g)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", move on to Section 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Identify the specific land form(s) attached: _____ _____	E2g	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may affect or is adjacent to a geological feature listed as a registered National Natural Landmark. Specific feature: _____	E3c	☐	☐
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

3. Impacts on Surface Water

The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface water bodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). (See Part 1. D.2, E.2.h)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - l. If "No", move on to Section 4.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may create a new water body.	D2b, D1h	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water.	D2b	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or water body.	D2a	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body.	E2h	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediments.	D2a, D2h	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water.	D2c	☑	☐
g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s).	D2d	☑	☐
h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving water bodies.	D2e	☑	☐
i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any water bodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action.	E2h	☑	☐
j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any water body.	D2q, E2h	☐	☑
k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities.	D1a, D2d	☐	☑

l. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

4. Impact on groundwater

The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. (See Part 1. D.2.a, D.2.c, D.2.d, D.2.p, D.2.q, D.2.t)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 5.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells.	D2c	☑	☐
b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. Cite Source: _____	D2c	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services.	D1a, D2c	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater.	D2d, E2l	☐	☑
e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated.	D2c, E1f, E1g, E1h	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer.	D2p, E2l	☑	☐
g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources.	E2h, D2q, E2l, D2c	☑	☐
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

5. Impact on Flooding

The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. (See Part 1. E.2)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", move on to Section 6.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway.	E2i	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100 year floodplain.	E2j	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500 year floodplain.	E2k	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns.	D2b, D2e	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding.	D2b, E2i, E2j, E2k	☑	☐
f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade?	E1e	☑	☐

g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

6. Impacts on Air

The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. (See Part 1. D.2.f., D.2.h, D.2.g) ☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", move on to Section 7.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases at or above the following levels:			
i. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide (CO_2)	D2g	☐	☐
ii. More than 3.5 tons/year of nitrous oxide (N_2O)	D2g	☐	☐
iii. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon equivalent of perfluorocarbons (PFCs)	D2g	☐	☐
iv. More than .045 tons/year of sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6)	D2g	☐	☐
v. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent of hydrochloroflourocarbons (HFCs) emissions	D2g	☐	☐
vi. 43 tons/year or more of methane	D2h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants.	D2g	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.	D2f, D2g	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above.	D2g	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.	D2s	☐	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

7. Impact on Plants and Animals

The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. (See Part 1. E.2. m.-q.) ☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 8.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2o	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government.	E2o	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population, or loss of individuals, of any species of special concern or conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2p	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government.	E2p	☑	☐

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect.	E3c	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. Source: NY Natural Heritage	E2n	☑	☐
g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding, foraging, or over-wintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site.	E2m	☑	☐
h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Habitat type & information source: _____ ~20 acres of previously farmed land, now meadow, may be allowed to revert to forest.	E1b	☐	☑
i. Proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves use of herbicides or pesticides.	D2q	☐	☑
j. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

8. Impact on Agricultural Resources

The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. (See Part 1. E.3.a. and b.) ☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 9.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System.	E2c, E3b	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc).	E1a, Elb	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land.	E3b	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District.	E1b, E3a	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system.	El a, E1b	☑	☐
f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland.	C2c, C3, D2c, D2d	☑	☐
g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan.	C2c	☑	☐
h. Other impacts: _____		☐	☐

9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources

The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. (Part 1. E.1.a, E.1.b, E.3.h.)

☑ NO ☐ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 10.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views.	E3h, C2b	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points: i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons) ii. Year round	E3h	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is: i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work ii. Recreational or tourism based activities	E3h E2q, E1c	 ☐ ☐	 ☐ ☐
e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource.	E3h	☐	☐
f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile ½ -3 mile 3-5 mile 5+ mile	D1a, E1a, D1f, D1g	☐	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources

The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. (Part 1. E.3.e, f. and g.)

☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 11.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historical Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places.	E3e	☐	☑
b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.	E3f	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Source: _____	E3g	☑	☐

d. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐
e. If any of the above (a-d) are answered "Moderate to large impact may occur", continue with the following questions to help support conclusions in Part 3:			
i. The proposed action may result in the destruction or alteration of all or part of the site or property.	E3e, E3g, E3f	☑	☐
ii. The proposed action may result in the alteration of the property's setting or integrity.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E1a, E1b	☑	☐
iii. The proposed action may result in the introduction of visual elements which are out of character with the site or property, or may alter its setting.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E3h, C2, C3	☑	☐

11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation

The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan.
(See Part 1. C.2.c, E.1.c., E.2.q.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 12.

☐ NO ☑ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or "ecosystem services", provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat.	D2e, E1b E2h, E2m, E2o, E2n, E2p	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource.	C2a, E1c, C2c, E2q	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources.	C2a, C2c E1c, E2q	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource.	C2c, E1c	☑	☐
e. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas

The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). (See Part 1. E.3.d)
If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", go to Section 13.

☑ NO ☐ YES

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quality of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	☐	☐
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

13. Impact on Transportation

The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. ☐ NO ☑ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.j)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 14.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network.	D2j	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles.	D2j	☑	☐
c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access.	D2j	☑	☐
d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.	D2j	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods.	D2j	☑	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

14. Impact on Energy

The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. ☐ NO ☑ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.k)
If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 15.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation.	D2k	☑	☐
b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use.	D1f, D1q, D2k	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity.	D2k	☑	☐
d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed.	D1g	☑	☐
e. Other Impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light

The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. ☐ NO ☑ YES
(See Part 1. D.2.m., n., and o.)
If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 16.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation.	D2m	☑	☐
b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.	D2m, E1d	☑	☐
c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day.	D2o	☑	☐

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties.	D2n	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions.	D2n, E1a	☑	☐
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

16. Impact on Human Health

The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. (See Part 1.D.2.q., E.1. d. f. g. and h.) ☐ NO ☑ YES

If "Yes", answer questions a - m. If "No", go to Section 17.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No,or small impact may cccur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home or retirement community.	E1d	☑	☐
b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction).	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health.	E1g, E1h	☑	☐
f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health.	D2t	☑	☐
g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility.	D2q, E1f	☑	☐
h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste.	D2q, E1f	☑	☐
i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste.	D2r, D2s	☑	☐
j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.	E1f, E1g E1h	☑	☐
k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures.	E1f, E1g	☑	☐
l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site.	D2s, E1f, D2r	☑	☐
m. Other impacts: Pesticide Use _____ _____		☐	☑

17. Consistency with Community Plans

The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use plans. ☑ NO ☐ YES

(See Part 1. C.1, C.2. and C.3.)

If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", go to Section 18.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action's land use components may be different from, or in sharp contrast to, current surrounding land use pattern(s).	C2, C3, D1a E1a, E1b	☐	☐
b. The proposed action will cause the permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located to grow by more than 5%.	C2	☐	☐
c. The proposed action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.	C2, C2, C3	☐	☐
d. The proposed action is inconsistent with any County plans, or other regional land use plans.	C2, C2	☐	☐
e. The proposed action may cause a change in the density of development that is not supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.	C3, D1c, D1d, D1f, D1d, Elb	☐	☐
f. The proposed action is located in an area characterized by low density development that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.	C4, D2c, D2d D2j	☐	☐
g. The proposed action may induce secondary development impacts (e.g., residential or commercial development not included in the proposed action)	C2a	☐	☐
h. Other: _____ _____		☐	☐

18. Consistency with Community Character

The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. ☑ NO ☐ YES

(See Part 1. C.2, C.3, D.2, E.3)

If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", proceed to Part 3.

	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures, or areas of historic importance to the community.	E3e, E3f, E3g	☐	☐
b. The proposed action may create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire)	C4	☐	☐
c. The proposed action may displace affordable or low-income housing in an area where there is a shortage of such housing.	C2, C3, D1f D1g, E1a	☐	☐
d. The proposed action may interfere with the use or enjoyment of officially recognized or designated public resources.	C2, E3	☐	☐
e. The proposed action is inconsistent with the predominant architectural scale and character.	C2, C3	☐	☐
f. Proposed action is inconsistent with the character of the existing natural landscape.	C2, C3 E1a, E1b E2g, E2h	☐	☐
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		☐	☐

PRINT FULL FORM

Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts
and
Determination of Significance

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

Reasons Supporting This Determination:
To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

See "LTSP Master Plan FEAF Part 3 Attachment.pdf", below.

Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions

SEQR Status: ☑ Type 1 ☐ Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project: ☑ Part 1 ☑ Part 2 ☑ Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as lead agency that:

☑ A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

☐ B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.7(d)).

☐ C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action: Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan

Name of Lead Agency: Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Linda G. Cooper

Title of Responsible Officer: Regional Director, OPRHP Taconic Region

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency: Linda G. Cooper Date: 5/27/2025

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer) Daniel Lewis Date: 5/21/2025

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Tana Bigelow

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Telephone Number: 518-474-0456

E-mail: tana.bigelow@parks.ny.gov

For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)
Other involved agencies (if any)
Applicant (if any)
Environmental Notice Bulletin: http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html

PRINT FULL FORM

Lake Taghkanic State Park
Master Plan
Full Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Attachment

Most of the physical disturbance proposed in the Master Plan (Plan) for Lake Taghkanic State Park (LTSP) will take place in areas that are already developed or otherwise previously disturbed. The Plan seeks to provide improvements and additional protections for the Park's existing natural, historic, cultural, and recreational resources. Planning for proposed new and updated or expanded facilities in the Park avoids sensitive natural and cultural resources, to the extent practicable. The Plan minimizes disturbance by retrofitting or repurposing existing infrastructure where feasible. In addition to park facilities improvements, the plan proposes new trail routes, the closure of unsustainable trails, the creation of new, relevant educational content, additional habitat protection strategies, and expanded invasive species management through partnerships with community organizations. See complete list of proposed actions in Appendix B. Minor impacts have been identified, as discussed throughout this document, and have been minimized as noted.

Bold text below is copied word for word from the questions listed in the FEAF Part 2 and do not represent potential impacts associated with the proposed actions. The following plain text is OPRHP's response to the question and does represent anticipated potential impacts.

1. Impact on Land - Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. The Plan provides a framework for improvements to existing facilities, programs, and access. Implementation of the Plan will result in some physical change to the land, particularly during trail construction, and relocation of the maintenance facility. Consideration for the additional protection of the Park's sensitive natural resources is reflected in the planning process and the proposed actions.

Overall, most of the Park will remain as it currently is. The following is a discussion of projects and actions proposed in the Plan and their potential impact on the land.

Impacts to land will occur where the Plan calls for new or redeveloped facilities. Those proposed in the Plan (list not inclusive) include upgrades to the electric, communication and potable water systems, stormwater management improvements, replacing pavements for increased accessibility, expansion of the campground, new RV camping, construction of a new boat launch and new fishing dock, relocation of a maintenance facility and Park Police office, upgrade, replace or install new on-site wastewater treatment facilities, improved trailhead parking, repair and maintenance of existing trails, and a proposed shared-use path and interpretive trail.

Proposed redevelopment of these park amenities and infrastructure will require some grading and land disturbance; however, disturbance will be minimized by site-specific designs of these facilities to accommodate existing grade levels and natural drainage where possible. Best management practices will be utilized to prevent impacts to adjacent areas. Careful site-specific design will be applied to all new facilities to minimize the potential for erosion.

Potential impacts on land would also result from the construction of new trails and improvements to existing trails. The net result of these activities will be minimal. The length of the proposed shared-use trail will be approximately 0.5 miles and will replace the wet, underutilized trails that will be removed from the trail network. The shared used trail will have a maximum tread width of 10 feet. Some trees and understory vegetation will need to be removed for trail construction, and there will be a very minor increase in impervious surfaces. The design of the shared-use trail will take place at a later date and its

surfacing material and grading requirements have yet to be determined. Existing lightly used or wet trails will be closed and left to reclaim themselves which will reduce impacts to land within the site. Approximately 0.75 miles (3950 linear feet) of trails will be removed while approximately 1.25 miles (6600 linear feet) of new trails have been proposed (not including the 0.5 miles of accessible trail noted above). See Figure 12. Additional trails are proposed in the Plan but their lengths are not included here as those trails are still conceptual and viable routes haven't yet been identified. The proposed new trail additions will be constructed to OPRHP standards for primitive hiking trails with a maximum tread width of 3 feet.

The impacts of trail construction projects will vary based on the proposed uses, proposed surfacing, and location with respect to steep slopes and waterbodies. Stormwater runoff from additional impervious surfaces is expected to be minor. Best management practices will be used to minimize movement of sediment from the site during construction and over the life of the trail. Land disturbance will be limited to the required width of the trail corridor. Trail construction will follow the policies and guidelines for trail building that have been established by recognized trail organizations and government agencies. Proper design will shed stormwater from the trails and allow it to infiltrate within the forested or grass shoulders to the trails. Adherence to these guidelines will ensure that work is completed in a manner that maximizes the protection of resources. Trail alignments will be planned very carefully for grades, accessibility, surfacing, minimum required width to the extent practicable, and providing appropriate viewpoints and access to Park resources while protecting highly sensitive areas. Signage may be installed to help educate patrons about the need for protection of resources. Coordination with the region's trail coordinator for trail design will assist in minimizing potential impacts as well.

a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet. According to the Web Soil Survey, approximately 22% of the Park has relatively shallow ground water (excluding surface waters). No construction requiring significant excavation will be undertaken in locations with shallow ground water. No structures with significant subsurface requirements (basements, crawl spaces, or storage tanks) will be installed in those locations. If needed, proposed actions will be relocated to avoid shallow groundwater.

b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater. According to the Web Soil Survey, approximately 44% of the Park has slopes greater than 15%. For the most part, the existing infrastructure is not located in these areas. Proposed actions will occur in areas that are already developed or previously disturbed and have slopes less than 15%. In general, the only proposed actions that may intersect with areas of steep slopes are sections of hiking trails. Trail creation in steep areas will be a small fraction of overall trail work. Following proper trail development guidelines will help minimize the potential for land slippage, erosion, and stormwater damage from this trail work. If needed, proposed actions will be relocated to avoid steep slopes.

c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface. Significant exposed bedrock exists on site. Exposed bedrock can be an aesthetic attraction to patrons. Park amenities that benefit from the scenic nature of the exposed rock already exist, such as trail sections and lakeside picnic facilities. According to the Web Soil Survey, approximately 53% of the Park has shallow depth to bedrock. For the most part, the existing infrastructure is not located in areas with significantly shallow soils or exposed bedrock. Proposed actions will occur in areas that are already developed or previously disturbed and have minimal exposed bedrock / shallow soils. New trails may be located to take advantage of exposed bedrock resources. No new septic systems, basements or other significant sub-surface work are proposed in areas with shallow soils. If needed, proposed actions will be relocated to avoid shallow soils / bedrock. If stormwater is to

be infiltrated in areas with shallow soils those facilities will be designed to meet the NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual guidelines.

d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material. Not applicable.

e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases. The Master Plan document is typically relevant for a for a period of 20 years. Projects will be undertaken as funding and staff time allow over multiple years. Projects are distributed across a large park and impacts from concurrent or multiple projects will not be acutely observable by park patrons.

f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides). Proposed actions will occur in areas that are already developed or previously disturbed, and with relatively shallow slopes. Erosion and sediment control and other best management practices will be employed, as needed, to prevent loose soil from leaving project areas or reaching sensitive areas. Measures to be used will include minimizing soil disturbance and vegetation removal, installing silt fencing and straw bales where needed, preserving vegetated buffers, and seeding and mulching disturbed areas as soon as possible following work. New plantings with native species may also be used for aesthetics, shade, and soil stabilization.

g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area. Not applicable.

Section Summary: Site planning has located proposed actions in areas of minimal concern. The majority of projects will not be located where shallow soils, shallow depth to ground water or steep slopes will be impacted. The primary exception is trail projects. Any projects that will disturb one acre or more will be subject to the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit process. This process includes the development of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and sedimentation and erosion control plans. Best management practices, as described in the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, will be used to reduce impacts to soils on the project sites or to adjacent resources.

No significant impacts on land will occur.

2. Impact on Geological Features - The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). The site has no unique or unusual landforms, or National Natural Landmarks.

No impacts on geological features will occur.

3. Impact on Surface Water - The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface waterbodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). Increased stormwater runoff can affect surface waters such as streams and ponds by increasing the sediment load and introducing pollutants carried by the runoff. Stormwater can also cause erosion and changes to stream habitats. This has a direct effect

on the biodiversity of the stream and its corridor. Stormwater runoff is increased by the addition of impervious surfaces such as building roofs, roadways, trails, and parking lots.

New pavement proposed in the Plan includes green design that will be utilized for new construction as much as possible. New construction will generate additional stormwater runoff. That water will be addressed by infiltration, vegetative filtering and retention prior to reaching surface water. All stormwater infrastructure will meet the NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual guidelines.

Proposed new trails have the potential to impact water resources in the Park. Proper trail construction techniques will be utilized wherever possible to remediate these potential impacts. Proposed trail areas that require more than routine tread work and clearing will be identified through the approval process described in the Plan and remedies, such as construction of culverts, bridges, or boardwalks, will be planned in consultation with park and regional staff. Regional staff will review proposals and consult with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the US Army Corps of Engineers as appropriate for any permitting requirements. It is not expected that any new or rerouted natural surface trails will have a significant impact on water quality. Stormwater from paved multi-use trails will be addressed and treated (e.g., bioswales, infiltration) prior to reaching surface waters. During field layout of trails, the agency will attempt to minimize stream crossings to the extent possible and retain a vegetated buffer between new trails and waterbodies. All new trail work will be designed to control stormwater and minimize erosion.

Proper drainage design, porous pavement, and vegetated drainage swales will be used where applicable to help mitigate water quality impacts from runoff following storm events. Where feasible, green infrastructure (GI) will prevent runoff from entering the Lake around the parking lot and any new construction near the lake shore. Protective actions such as riparian stabilization and right-sizing culverts will help to protect water quality and reduce erosion.

A number of small wetlands and streams exist on site. Proposed actions have been located to avoid these resources and maintain large buffers to these resources. Trail work is an exception and mitigation as described above will be included in any trail work.

a. The proposed action may create a new waterbody. Not applicable.

b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water. Not applicable.

c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or waterbody. Although very conceptual, a new boat launch may require dredging sediment from Lake Taghkanic. An area 20 feet along the shore by 30 feet out from the shore would require some grading and dredging to provide appropriate access to the new boat launch. Volume estimates are not possible at this time, although they will be significantly less than 100 cubic yards. Spot dredging for access to the existing boat launch is ongoing, as needed, and results in de minimis amounts of excavated sediment. Removed material is primarily sand with small amounts of submerged aquatic vegetation. Spot dredging for any new boat launch may be required. Regardless, any area of new dredging will be surveyed for rare, threatened, or endangered species. Sediments to be removed will be analyzed for contaminants,

as required. Approvals for disposal of sediments will be obtained from NYS DEC, as needed. Appropriate turbidity control will be employed. Disturbance of habitat has been minimized.

d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other waterbody. The Plan has several proposed actions intending to help patrons access aquatic resources including a new ADA kayak and boat launch and an ADA fishing pier. Planning and design will assure minimal impact to aquatic resources and shorelines, as feasible. In addition, new trail sections may intersect with aquatic resources. Prior to construction, work areas within the lake will be surveyed for rare, threatened, or endangered species. Minimal loss of habitat will occur. Proper sedimentation and turbidity control will be employed, as needed to prevent the movement of suspended sediment. Proper trail construction techniques will be employed to minimize impacts at any stream crossing. All required permits will be obtained, and all permit conditions will be followed.

e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediment. Site selection, erosion, sediment and turbidity controls and other best management practices will be employed, as needed, to minimize impacts of sediments to surface waters.

f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water. The Park currently obtains its primary potable water from the lake through an intake and treatment facility on the northern shoreline. Improvements to amenities, include the creation of a RV camping area (with potable water hookup) may require additional potable water. No net increase in parking is proposed, so daily increases in usage will not be significant. Proposed increases to the Park's potable water quantity may require additional intakes. The current intake is not considered high volume and significant entrainment and impingement (the processes where aquatic life is drawn into the treatment plant or trapped on the intake screens) is not known to occur. No significant impacts on lake water level have occurred. Any new intake will not be a significant change in intake volume or velocity. Proposed intake is a negligible fraction of available lake water.

g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s). No wastewater outfalls to the lake exist. No wastewater outfalls to the lake are proposed. Wastewater for facilities on the west side of the lake is treated and discharged to the Doove Kill, which flows from the lake. All other onsite wastewater treatment discharges either to ground or to holding tanks. Any new wastewater treatment for facilities not on the west side of the lake will discharge to ground. Improvements on the west side of the lake may require additional connections to the west side treatment facility, resulting in increased discharge to the creek. The existing west side facility has the capacity to accept additional waste and still produce effluent that meets NYS DEC discharge requirements. West side wastewater treatment will receive maintenance and replacement of components, as needed. Replacement of components will not reduce or increase the facility's capacity. Any change in discharge will be reviewed and permitted by NYS DEC, and will meet all discharge limits.

h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving waterbodies. Site selection, erosion, sediment and turbidity controls and other best management practices will be employed, as needed, to minimize impacts of stormwater and sediments on receiving waters. Redesign and resurfacing of the

parking lot will reduce stormwater flow to the lake and treat stormwater before any reaches the lake. Reduction of volume reaching the lake and treatment will be accomplished by vegetated infiltration basins and swales, permeable pavement, and regrading (or similar).

i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any waterbodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action. Site selection, erosion, sediment and turbidity controls and other best management practices will be employed, as needed, to minimize impacts of stormwater and sediments on water quality in any waterbody.

j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any waterbody. Control of invasive species may require the use of pesticides. All products will be NY state registered and applied by a certified applicator. All label restrictions will be followed, including temporarily halting water withdrawals. Upland application will use best management practices to prevent any product from reaching surface waters. All applications will be the minimal amount of product required to achieve the control and all applications will be targeted.

k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities. See 3.g. above and 4.d. below.

Section Summary: No projects in the Master Plan will have a significant detrimental impact on water quality in any of the wetlands and waterbodies in the Park. Actions are proposed that will improve water quality and waterbody function. Erosion, sediment, and turbidity controls will be installed as needed during construction. Actions within or adjacent to surface waters are small in scale. No new buildings or facilities are proposed in flood-prone areas within the Park. An erosion control plan will be prepared for all proposed construction projects that have the potential to disturb soils or result in erosion. Any projects that will disturb one acre or more will be subject to the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) General Permit process. This process includes the development of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and sedimentation and erosion control plans. Best management practices, as described in the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, will be used to reduce impacts to surface waters on the project sites. Some measures to be used will include minimizing soil disturbance and vegetation removal, installing silt fencing and straw bales where needed, preserving vegetated buffers, and seeding and mulching disturbed areas as soon as possible following work. New plantings with native species may also be used for aesthetics, shade, and soil stabilization. Stormwater control will meet all requirements in NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual.

No significant adverse impacts to surface waters will occur.

4. Impact on Ground Water - The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. Potential increases in wastewater discharge may occur. Pesticide use may be required to control invasive species.

Current pavement and impervious surfaces at the Park, consisting mostly of the roadways, parking areas and structures, are limited compared to the acreage of the site. Additional impervious surfaces from new structures or facilities have the potential to change the way stormwater infiltrates to groundwater.

There will be minor increases in impervious surfaces. These elements are generally sited in previously disturbed areas and the total maximum acreage of new impervious surfaces from structures will not be significant. In all new construction, green design will be used, where possible and appropriate, to help capture and filter stormwater before it enters groundwater. The NYS DEC's Stormwater Design Manual will be followed.

a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells. Surface water is used as the Park's primary potable water source. That water is drawn from the lake. The other sources of potable water are 6 active wells: West Bathhouse winter well, Recreation Hall winter well, Maintenance Shop / East Park Residence shared well, Parkway Garage / Park Police shared well, the West Park Residence well and the newly acquired property. The maintenance area, if relocated, would need a new well. The existing well would remain for the East Park Residence. The East Bathhouse has water service from the main water distribution system, but would need a new well if used year-round. There is one inactive well in the vicinity of the West Park Residence, but that well would need rehabilitation to be put back in to service. A new well, providing potable water to the newly acquired property (a nineteenth-century farmstead on NY-82 at the Park's southeasterly border) was installed prior to acquisition. Several new wells, distributed over the hundreds of acres of parkland, is not anticipated to exceed the capacity of the aquifer.

b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. The primary potable water source is the lake. Most proposed actions requiring potable water would be supplied by the primary source. However, individual facilities throughout the park are served by wells. There are currently 6 active wells in the park. The maintenance area, if relocated, would need a new well. The East Bathhouse has water service from the main water distribution system, but would need a new well if used year-round. Modeling has shown that existing ground water resources are sufficient to meet these improvements. These seven wells, not all used year-round, across the expanse of the park are not anticipated to have a significant impact on the aquifer.

c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services. Not applicable.

d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater. Currently, the Park discharges wastewater to ground in several locations. Waste from the west side facilities (West Beach Bathhouse, Park Manager residence, laundry, restrooms and cottages) all get treated and discharge to Doove Kill, which leaves the Park. Individual restrooms and shower facilities have septic tanks that discharge to leaching fields. Proposed improvements in amenities may result in an increase in Park attendance which may result in increased wastewater generation. Some east side wastewater systems are in need of upgrade. Some east side systems need to be relocated to move them away from sensitive areas. Repurposed and relocated facilities will require replacement or new wastewater treatment systems; specifically repurposing the East Beach Bathhouse and the East Park Residence. Upgraded or new on-site wastewater treatment may be required at the residence on the newly acquired property (a nineteenth-century farmstead on NY-82 at the Park's southeasterly border) if and when that residence is rehabilitated. Existing facilities are appropriately sized to handle modest increases in wastewater generation. New systems will be installed following all regional and state requirements. All existing and proposed discharges to ground are more than 150 feet from any on-site or off-site potable

water wells. Groundwater eventually drains to the lake and discharge from the lake is controlled by a dam. No significant fluctuations in lake level and height of the ground water are anticipated. New systems will be located in appropriate soils. Any required updates to discharge permits will be obtained from the appropriate agencies. Recharging systems are adequately distributed across the Park.

e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated. Not applicable.

f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer. Currently, the Park maintains three bulk storage containers, two 500 gallon tanks for fueling state vehicles (one gasoline, one diesel) and one 250 gallon tank for home heating oil for one maintenance facility. No changes to these tanks are proposed. No new bulk storage is proposed.

g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources. The lake is a potable water source. Control of invasive species may require the use of pesticides. All products will be NY state registered and applied by a certified applicator. All label restrictions will be followed, including temporarily halting water withdrawals. Upland application will use best management practices to prevent any product from reaching the lake. All applications will be the minimal amount of product required to achieve the control and all applications will be targeted. Pesticide application near wells will be minimized. Products known to persist will be avoided near wells.

Section Summary: Increases in impervious surfaces are minor compared to the size of the Park. New stormwater sources will be captured and treated by green infrastructure to the extent practicable. All new stormwater infrastructure will meet the NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual guidelines. Minimal increases in wastewater generation are proposed. The Park has the capacity to process those increases. No new bulk storage of potential pollutants is proposed. Pesticide use will be minimized and targeted.

No significant impacts to groundwater will occur.

5. Impact on Flooding - The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. There has been no history of significant flooding on the site. The only recent incidents of flooding have been due to beaver activity and those issues were appropriately addressed.

a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway. Not applicable.

b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100-year floodplain. Not applicable.

c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500-year floodplain. Not applicable.

d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns. Areas with poor stormwater management will be addressed. Stormwater will be directed to new or existing infrastructure such as drainage swales or infiltration basins. All new stormwater control infrastructure will follow NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual guidelines. All changes in drainage patterns will be improvements. No adverse changes to drainage patterns are proposed.

e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding. Not applicable.

f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade? There is a small Low Hazard dam that maintains the lake level. Minor maintenance (concrete spalling work) is required to repair some cracks. Currently, the management action is monitoring of dam stability. Repairs will be undertaken when appropriate and funding allows. No upgrades are required.

Section Summary: There are no identified areas of the Park that are subjected to flooding. Localized area of poor stormwater management will be addressed. Dam has minor repair needs.

No significant impacts from flooding will occur.

6. Impact on Air - The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. No, the proposed action does not include a state regulated air emission source.

a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases. No emission permits are required. No significant quantities of greenhouse gases are proposed to be emitted.

b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants. No significant generation of any hazardous air pollutants are proposed.

c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTUs per hour. No proposed action requires an air registration or will emit significant quantities of contaminants or includes a heat source capable of 10M BTU / Hour.

d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above. No significant production of greenhouse gasses, hazardous air pollutants or contaminants is proposed.

e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour. No burning of any waste is proposed.

Section Summary: No significant creation of any air pollutant is proposed. Full implementation of the Master Plan will result in increased use of the Park. The increased travel to the Park, to use new amenities, is expected to be minor and air quality impacts from increased traffic are not expected to be significant. Short-term, temporary air quality impacts may occur due to a minor increase in vehicle exhaust during large events and some generation of dust and exhaust during construction. Air quality impacts from construction vehicles will be mitigated by utilizing NYS protocols for Best management practices (e.g., Dust Control Procedures Plan) to properly manage and mitigate fugitive dust, as well as ensuring that vehicles are in good running condition. New and updated recreational amenities proposed in the plan may result in an increase of visitors to the Park, with the potential for a minor increase in vehicle exhaust. These potential impacts will be temporary and localized and will occur over time as the Plan is implemented.

No significant impacts on air will occur.

7. Impacts on Plants and Animals - The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. Overall, the Plan will have a positive impact on the natural resources within Lake Taghkanic State Park. Limited new development is proposed in the Plan, and therefore direct impacts to biological resources are expected to be minimal. Projects have been primarily sited in areas with previous development, limited environmental sensitivity, and placement of proposed facility improvements will be done in accordance with OPRHP stewardship staff recommendations. During trail planning, regional stewardship staff will inspect the proposed corridors and make recommendations to reduce impacts on flora and fauna.

An Environmental Stewardship Plan is proposed which will identify stewardship priorities, guides stewardship actions, land management, and operations, and includes implementation strategies for conserving significant natural resources.

Ecological Communities

The NY Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP) has identified nineteen ecological community types at Lake Taghkanic, including natural and culturally derived types as defined in the NYNHP classification. Approximately 88 percent of the Park is in a natural community type with Appalachian Oak-Hickory Forest comprising the largest quantity. (Community type evaluation and classification on the newly acquired 2024 parcels is not complete. Ecological community types and natural community type data is based on that portion of the park before the 2024 acquisition of the new parcels.)

Master Plan implementation will have some impact on several natural communities. Projects have been sited primarily in areas with previous and recent development/disturbance.

The maintenance facility is proposed to be relocated adjacent to the existing fueling station. The relocation would require the removal of some vegetation. The NYNHP database depicts that area northeast and east of the fueling station as Appalachian Oak-Hickory Forest (~437 acres - Apparently Secure in New York - Uncommon in New York but not rare; usually widespread). The NYNHP database depicts that area northwest and west of the fueling station as disturbed. However, this disturbance is close to a newly identified rare species (invertebrate), west of the fueling station. Design of the new maintenance facility will focus the clearing more to the east, while proposing restoration of some of the disturbance between the facility and the newly identified species.

Potential impacts to natural communities from construction of new trails will be mitigated by careful assessment of the trail routes on site before any construction begins. Locations for new trails will be assessed and use sustainable design during layout and construction to minimize impacts to sensitive areas. Construction will be monitored to avoid and minimize impacts to significant natural communities at or adjacent to the trail.

Flora

The construction of new facilities will require the removal of some minor quantities of vegetation during construction. For the new tent campsites near the East Bathhouse and other small improvements, vegetation loss will primarily be within previously disturbed areas and mowed lawns. The relocated

maintenance facility may require the removal of vegetation. If the existing facility is demolished, that area is likely to be planted with native species.

Minor vegetation removal may also be required for trail construction; however, this would have little to no impact on the overall forest community.

Where new trail segments are built, impacts will be mitigated by requiring the selection of the most appropriate routes and minimizing the removal of existing vegetation. Some vegetation will be trimmed, and signs or blazes will mark trail corridors for trail users. The regional biologist will review the most recent NYNHP data to report any newly found rare plants prior to any development or new management practices. Consideration for the protection of the Park's rare species and sensitive areas will be part of the draft planning process when selecting preferred locations for new trail development. Well-designed trails to provide access to a variety of natural features will enhance the visitor experience and help to reduce potential impacts from off-trail and social trail development.
Proposed actions in the Plan to increase management of non-native, invasive plant species will benefit native plants in the Park, providing them with more of an opportunity to flourish. Invasive species/non-native plant removal projects have taken place under the supervision of the regional biologist and stewardship staff and will continue.

The Plan has located facilities to help control conflicts with or impacts to rare species and sensitive natural resources, thereby reducing potential impacts of development. During the design of the proposed renovation and redevelopment projects, the regional biologist will be consulted regarding the need for additional rare plant surveys in these areas and regarding any trees to be removed. Areas that will require vegetative restoration or will be part of a design will incorporate the use of native species or regionally appropriate non-invasive species that are indigenous to the area. The regional landscape architect and the regional biologist will be consulted regarding the appropriate species to be used in any planting plans. In addition, facility design and implementation will be consistent with OPRHP's Tree Management and Native Plants policies (OPRHP, 2009 and OPRHP, 2015). This includes providing appropriate buffers to ensure the protection of known rare plants and animals.

Fauna

Current wildlife management practices will continue in consultation with NYS DEC and the NYNHP. If New England Cottontail are reconfirmed within the Park, habitat restoration may be undertaken. Habitat restoration would be a positive impact, not just for NEC, but other early successional species and / or understory forest species.

Minimal impacts to fauna are expected due to the small amount of physical change being proposed in the Plan. Consideration of potential impacts on the fauna of the Park was part of the planning process when selecting preferred alternatives and will also be considered during future implementation of pedestrian pathways and new trails. Areas proposed for improvements through either rehabilitation or new construction are not located near sensitive environmental areas and are not expected to affect wildlife in the area.

Tree removal will be done as outlined in the OPRHP Tree Removal Timing Guidelines for the Protection of Wildlife to avoid potential impacts to listed bats, wildlife and protected migratory bird species.

Invasive Species

Forest pests and invasive species are a significant threat to the Park. The Emerald Ash Borer has been identified at the Park and throughout the region. The Spotted Lanternfly is a growing threat that has not yet been observed at the Park but has potential to impact the region if introduced. Precautions such as surveying and monitoring for such species will be included as part of a more proactive invasive species management strategy. Educational information is provided within OPRHP properties, including brochures, posters, and other materials to inform visitors of best management practices related to invasive species.

Park and regional environmental staff are very knowledgeable regarding the impacts of invasive species. Interpretive programs and training will improve their ability to prevent the spread of invasives. Implementation of new and more proactive invasive species strategies at the Park will focus on prevention, identification of invasives, early detection, rapid response, and eradication from sensitive habitat areas.

OPRHP has drafted best management practices for invasive species control for park projects and operations. The NYSDOT has developed useful best management practices and construction specifications for invasive plant control that can be tailored to agency or park-specific projects and operations (Invasive Species Control Methods for Design, Construction and Operations and Item 617.ABCD0024 – Controlling Invasive Plant Species). These methods will be implemented at the Park during construction as appropriate.

Wetlands

The Park contains one wetland complex, classified as State-regulated freshwater wetlands and identified in the National Wetland Inventory (NWI). There are also many smaller wetlands and a vernal pool that do not meet the acreage threshold to be classified as a NYS -regulated wetland (see Figure 7 – Water Resources).

Existing measures for protection of the wetlands are already in place and none of the Park's wetlands will be changed or affected by implementation of the Plan. Proposed improvements to natural areas in the Plan will further enhance and protect the Park's existing wetlands. Although none are currently proposed, any new development proposed near these locations in the future would be done in consultation with regional natural resource stewardship biologists and staff from NYNHP to avoid or minimize potential impacts to these sensitive areas.

a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over or near the site. There is only one threatened or endangered species known from Lake Taghkanic State Park. That endangered vascular plant was previously known from the shoreline of Lake Taghkanic. That species is currently believed to be locally extirpated. Minimal proposed actions intersect with the shoreline of the lake. When they do, project areas will be surveyed. Consultation with regional natural resource staff will occur, prior to any physical alteration, if this species or any other rare, threatened or endangered (RTE) species are identified.

b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government. The Park

contains habitat for rare and protected species, and the importance of these resources is recognized throughout the development and location of proposed actions in this Plan, its strategies, and implementation of the specific recommendations. Overall, this Plan is expected to have a net positive impact on these resources by developing additional invasive species management strategies, siting most development in previously disturbed areas, addressing stormwater, and implementing design strategies that will reduce impacts to sensitive areas. Where projects have the potential to intersect with the habitat of RTE species, those projects have minimal footprints. An additional rare species has recently been identified in the vicinity of the maintenance facility relocation site. Facility siting will be to the east to avoid clearing any additional buffer to this species' habitat. Opportunities exist to improve this species habitat by revegetating voids in the forest between the maintenance facility and the known habitat.

c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any species of special concern or conservation need as listed by New York State or the federal government, that use the site or are found on, over or near the site. One species of special concern and one unlisted but imperiled species are known to occur within the Park per the NYNHP database. The one species of special concern is a terrestrial mammal known from the southeastern portion of the property. The only proposed actions within this species' known habitat are potential habitat improvement projects and potentially trails. For habitat improvement projects, temporary disturbance to this species during project implementation will be minimized by timing of the work. Impacts from trail development will be minimized by trail location and timing of construction. Any trail work would remove minimal amounts of potential habitat. The unlisted but imperiled species is an aquatic invertebrate known from the lake. Minimal disturbance to the lake bottom is proposed. For any project intersecting the lake bottom, surveys will be conducted. Any positive identifications of this species in the project footprint will be evaluated by the regional biologist. This species is somewhat mobile and it may be acceptable to relocate individuals during construction. Impacts to these species will be minimized.

One high priority species of greatest conservation need (amphibian), one species of special concern (amphibian) and one rare species (invertebrate) have recently been identified within the Park. Impacts to those species are likely to be minimal due to the locating of proposed projects in existing disturbed areas and the small footprint on the environment of the projects. Continued consultation with stewardship staff prior to project implementation and site surveys for species of concern will minimize impacts to these species.

d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government. Habitat improvement projects and trails are the only actions proposed within the habitat of the species of special concern (see c. above). Proposed actions intersecting the habitat of the unlisted but imperiled species will result in de minimis losses to total habitat available.

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect. Not applicable.

f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. The NYNHP Database identifies approximately 212 acres of one significant natural community (SNC) on site (Hemlock-Northern Hardwood Forest, S3, Vulnerable).

Site selection for the majority of proposed projects will avoid this SNC. Only minor impacts would occur if trail segments were to be located within the SNC. For new trail segments, species surveys would occur first. In addition, trails would be constructed with the minimum width possible. OPRHP Trail development guidelines will be followed, which will minimize impacts to communities adjacent to the trail. The NYS DEC's Environmental Assessment Form Mapper identifies a second SNC, Inland Poor Fen, within or adjacent to the Park. This SNC is more than 3,000 feet from the Park and its known buffer distance is ½ mile. No proposed actions will impact this SNC.

g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding/foraging, or overwintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site. Projects have been primarily sited in areas with previous development or limited environmental sensitivity. Construction in OPRHP facilities is usually planned for the late fall and winter when public use is lower. This timing also minimizes disturbance to wildlife by avoiding periods of higher biological activity, such as bird breeding seasons and bat roosting. Similarly, any tree removals will be timed to occur between November and December, as feasible, to minimize disturbance to bats and other wildlife. Outside of this window, consultation will occur with the regional biologist to minimize impacts to fauna. Park-specific design of new facilities and trails will include surveys for sensitive or rare species or habitats. If needed, proposed facilities or trails will be relocated to avoid or minimize any adverse impacts to wildlife.

h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Projects have been primarily sited in areas with previous development or limited environmental sensitivity. No project will result in any significant loss of forest, grassland, or other important habitats. Approximately 20 acres of previously cultivated land may be maintained as meadow, used as grassland (or similar) habitat, or allowed to revert to natural. None of those uses are considered conversion of agricultural lands. Some of these acres may be used for ground-mounted solar arrays. Those acres are not within an agricultural district. Any conversion of these previously cultivated lands will not require consultation with NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. Any conversion of these acres, to anything besides differing types of natural habitat, will receive additional environmental review.

i. The proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves the use of herbicides or pesticides. Control of invasive species may require the use of pesticides. All products will be NY state registered and applied by a certified applicator, following all label requirements. Applications will use best management practices to prevent any product from leaving the work area or reaching any sensitive areas. All applications will be the minimal amount of product required to achieve the control and all applications will be targeted. As needed, Article 15 Pesticide permits from NYS DEC will be obtained and all permit conditions will be followed. Non target impacts will be minimized.

Section Summary: Impacts to natural resources will primarily be minimized by site selection. Most projects will be located within previous development or areas of limited environmental sensitivity. New or modified hiking trails will be located within natural areas, resulting in minor loss of vegetation. Trail locations will be surveyed. Trail will be relocated if any RTE species are identified. Trail corridors will be kept as narrow as possible given proposed uses. Erosion and sediment control will prevent any loose soil from reaching any sensitive areas. The Plan will result in improved conditions for the Park's natural resources. Proposed improvements to riparian areas, increased protections for wetlands, reduced mowing, green infrastructure at the West Beach parking lot, reduction of impervious surfaces and more

intensive management of invasive species will benefit wildlife habitat and natural areas. If any future acquisition recommendations are implemented, the impact will be positive including adding open space acreage and protecting wildlife habitat in an area with increasing development pressure. All acquisitions will be reviewed separately under SEQR.

No significant adverse impacts on plants and animals will occur.

8. Impact on Agricultural Resources - The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. There is no active agriculture within the Park. Columbia County identifies the newly acquired property (a nineteenth-century farmstead on NY-82 at the Park's southeasterly border) as being farmed. There are approximately 20 acres that were previously cultivated but are no longer cultivated. Those acres have been maintained as meadow. In addition, Columbia County identifies Prime Soils and Soils of Statewide Importance (although, not soils in Group 1-4) on those parcels. Currently, those areas are proposed to be maintained as meadows, grassland habitat (potentially with trails) or allowed to revert to natural, all of which would be considered reversible impact to farmland. Any future conversion of these acres to anything besides differing types of natural habitat (with trails) will receive additional environmental review.

a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System. The Web Soil Survey and NYS A&M 2024 Agricultural Land Classification identify 26.2 acres (1.4% of total acreage) within the Park as having Soil Groups 1-4. No agricultural activities occur on those acres. Those acres are currently naturally vegetated. No actions are proposed on those lands.

b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc). Not Applicable.

c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land. There is no active farmland in the Park. Recent agricultural activity occurred on the newly acquired property (a nineteenth-century farmstead on NY-82 at the Park's southeasterly border). Currently, the only actions proposed on those parcels are habitat improvements which would not result in significant excavation or compaction of soils. Additionally, new trails may be constructed through these parcels. Trails may result in only minor excavation or compactions and those impacts would be reversible.

d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District. No portion of the Park is within an agricultural district. See 10 & 10.c. above and 10.g. below.

e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system. Not Applicable.

f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland. Not Applicable.

g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan. Not Applicable.

Section Summary: There is no active agricultural land on site. Small amounts of highly productive soils are present. However, they are not presently used for any agricultural activities. No proposed actions will irreversibly alter those acres / soils. No proposed actions will restrict access to agricultural land. No conversion of agricultural land to other uses is proposed. No agricultural land management system is proposed. No proposed action will impede the installation of such a system off site. Proposed actions will result in minor changes on site that will not impact development potential on any land offsite.

No significant impacts on agricultural resources will occur.

9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources - The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. Implementation of the Master Plan will not result in any significant adverse impacts on scenic resources in the Park, and recommendations in the Plan for the protection and enhancement of natural, historic, and recreational resources will result in greater protection of the Park's scenic resources and vistas. Projects proposed in the Park will not have any significant effect on the view from off-site due to the minimal amount of proposed development and screening from external viewpoints.

a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource. Lake Taghkanic State Park is a state scenic and aesthetic resource. Proposed actions will be visible during construction and operation. Proposed actions are designed to preserve and enhance scenic and aesthetic resources. Site selection will locate less aesthetic elements (e.g., maintenance and operation facilities) away from Park patrons.

b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views. No proposed action will obstruct, eliminate, or significantly screen any scenic or aesthetic resource.

c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points:
i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons).
ii. Year round. Some construction activities will be undertaken in the off-season. The off-season sees significantly fewer visitors. However, construction activities will be visible to Park patrons regardless of the season. No scenic or aesthetic resource will be impacted regardless of the time of year.

d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is:
i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work.
ii. Recreational or tourism based activities. The proposed actions will only be visible to Park patrons. Actions are designed to improve patron experience. Any adverse impact to patrons from observing the construction of proposed actions will be temporary.

e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource. Actions are designed to improve patron experience. Any adverse impact to patrons from observing the construction of proposed actions will be temporary.

f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile, ½ -3 mile, 3-5 mile, 5+ mile. The proposed actions are not dissimilar from existing features of the Park. Proposed actions are small in scale as compared to the size of the Park. Proposed actions are amenities and facilities commonly found in park settings. Proposed actions will not appear obtrusive or unexpected to patrons.

Section Summary: No proposed action will impair any designated aesthetic or scenic resource. Proposed actions are appropriate for park settings. Proposed actions are small compared to the size of the Park. Any impact to aesthetic or scenic resources, from construction, will be temporary.

No significant impacts on aesthetic resources will occur.

10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources - The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. The master plan is not expected to have any significant adverse impacts on cultural or historic resources. All projects proposed in the Plan will be reviewed by OPRHP's Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) prior to implementation. When repair or alteration of a historic building or site is needed to accommodate contemporary use and/or ADA access, any repairs or alterations should not damage or destroy materials, features, or finishes that are important in defining the building's historic character. Recognizing these elements as a physical record of their time, place, and use, in general, their modification for new uses should result in minimal changes to their defining characteristics, including their site and context, to retain and preserve their historic character. Design modifications should avoid the removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize the element.

Alterations or modifications to these elements are subject to review by DHP prior to implementation and the guidelines below should be followed:

Minimal changes to a property's defining characteristics should be made, and the historic character should be retained, preserving as much of the original fabric as possible.

Changes proposed to the exterior and the interior of historic buildings, the building's site and environment and landscape features, and any attached, adjacent, or related new construction must be reviewed and approved by DHP. This includes rooftop solar.

As much as possible, building elements should be repaired rather than replaced. If an element cannot be repaired, then a replacement should be identical in appearance and material to the original, as practicable.

If an addition is to be made, it should be differentiated from the old while keeping with the original structure's architectural features and scale.

Buildings and their surroundings must not be harmed during the rehabilitation process. This includes the use of harsh surface treatments or using irreversible connection methods for new additions.

Additions that create a conjectured or false history are not to be made, though additions that have been made throughout a building's life should be preserved.

To ensure that there are no adverse impacts on archaeological resources, any project that could result in ground disturbance and potentially affect the cultural resources of the Park will require consultation with DHP to determine if a site-specific archeological survey is needed. All projects will follow the OPRHP Intra-Agency Protocol for the Application of Section 14.09 of the NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law. If required, all ground disturbance should be in consultation with FSB to develop appropriate plans, investigate, and document all archaeological resources.

a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historical Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places. Yes, projects may occur within or adjacent to historic resources; the Park has been determined eligible for listing on the Registers. All projects will receive appropriate DHP review, as needed.

b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory. Yes, projects may occur adjacent to subsurface archaeological resources. All projects will receive appropriate DHP review, as needed. Projects may be relocated, as needed, to preserve subsurface resources.

c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Not Applicable.

Section Summary: Proposed actions may have the potential to intersect with historic structures or subsurface resources. All work will follow the above guidelines. No work will occur without DHP approval. DHP review helps to minimize potential impacts to historic and archeological resources.

No significant impacts to historic or archaeological resources will occur.

11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation - The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan. Implementation of the Plan will result in significant, beneficial improvements to all aspects of the Park's recreational facilities. Current recreational opportunities will remain available. The Plan provides for the expansion of the trail system and educational/interpretive opportunities. The Park will see significant improvements to enhance visitor experience and ADA access. The trail network will see modifications that will improve visitor experiences. Some existing trails will receive modifications to reduce erosion and wet conditions while other trails will be removed and replaced to provide a higher quality, user-friendly network.

Currently, hunting is allowed in winter, for turkey and deer, by bow, in restricted portions of the Park. Changes to the species, methods and locations are being considered and will be left to the discretion of the park manager. Any proposed changes to the current hunting program will receive its own SEQR.

The ~1784 acres of public open space at Lake Taghkanic State Park are an important piece of the county and region's open space system. The Park provides significant open space that will continue to be protected and preserved under the master Plan. OPRHP will evaluate and consider the acquisition of fees, titles, or easements on adjacent open space areas as they become available. It will also monitor any development proposals that may affect the quality of its scenic and open space resources.

a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or "ecosystem services", provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat. Minimal actions are proposed in natural areas. Those actions in natural areas are at such a small scale that no significant impacts to natural functions or ecosystem services will occur.

b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource. Some certain trail sections will be abandoned and replaced with more appropriate / sustainable trails. No significant loss of trails is proposed. Camping sites will be reorganized, which may result in existing camping sites being relocated. Proposed camping (RV, lakeside, expanded tent) will increase camping opportunities. No significant net loss of camping sites will occur. No other loss of recreational resources is proposed. The Plan includes significant increases in recreational resources.

c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources. No loss of open space is proposed. No significant loss of recreational resources will occur (see 11.b. above). Similar outdoor resources are available in the vicinity (NYS DEC forested land).

d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource. The site is a public park and will remain a public park. The entire site is available for public use as open space with the obvious exceptions of maintenance and operation areas.

Section Summary**:** Minimal small-scale actions are proposed in natural areas. Some existing recreational opportunities will be replaced with improved opportunities. The Park provides ample open space opportunities. If any future acquisition recommendations are implemented, the impact will be positive including adding open space acreage and protecting additional wildlife habitat in an area with increasing development pressure. All acquisitions will be reviewed separately under SEQR.

No significant adverse impacts on open space and recreating will occur. Only positive permanent impacts are anticipated.

12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas - The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). The proposed action is not within or adjacent to any CEA.

No impacts to any Critical Environmental Area will occur.

13. Impact on Transportation - The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. The plan includes proposed improvements to circulation within the Park. Both the TSP and NY 82 entrances will be improved by relocating and updating the contact booths. A more defined entrance to the Campground will create a "gateway" experience that is easier to locate and access. Pedestrian

walkways will be added, and the section of the Lakeview Trail between the West Beach and the Campground will be enhanced to create a multi-use trail to promote more non-vehicular transportation within the Park.

a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network. No significant increases in traffic are anticipated. Minor changes in Park attendance, due to improved amenities, are well within the capacity of Park and local roadways.

b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles. No new parking lots are proposed. The main parking lot at the West Beach accommodates approximately 1,000 vehicles. Currently, that lot sheet flows stormwater to the lake, has no shade trees, is in poor condition and is aesthetically unappealing. That lot will be resurfaced (with porous pavement, where practicable). Shade trees and vegetated stormwater recharge areas will be added. The introduction of trees and vegetated islands will improve the appearance of the parking lot.

c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access. Currently, access to the Park is by motor vehicle only. No mass transit access exists. No proposed actions reduce the existing vehicular access. No mass transit alternatives are proposed.

d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations. Improvements to pedestrian, bicycle and motor vehicle accommodations are proposed. No loss of accommodations is proposed.

e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods. Circulation improvements are proposed that will improve patron experience for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Section Summary: The capacity of the existing road system was examined during the planning process. While changes will be made, it was determined that it generally functions effectively for the current and projected volume of traffic. While full implementation of the Plan may result in some increased visitation to the facility and an associated potential increase in traffic, the roadway system is expected to be able to accommodate the added use. Circulation improvements will increase patron satisfaction.

No significant changes to existing transportation systems will occur.

14. Impact on Energy - The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. Minor increases in energy use are proposed to support new facilities and amenities. Increases are not proposed to be significantly greater than existing usage.

a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation. Not applicable.

b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use. Not applicable.

c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity. Minor increases in energy use are proposed to support new facilities and amenities. Increases are not proposed to be significantly greater than existing usage. Total facility usage is well under 2,500 MWhrs. Current service is capable of handling increases associated with proposed improvements. Small rooftop solar arrays are proposed. Additionally, larger ground mounted systems are being considered. If pursued, those larger systems will receive a separate environmental review. Future solar developments will result in a smaller electrical draw on the grid.

d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed. Not applicable.

Section Summary: Improvements will require increased electrical use. The increase is not anticipated to be significant. Current service can handle the expected increase. Potential solar projects will ultimately reduce use on the grid.

No significant impact on energy will occur.

15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light - The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. Plan implementation may result in some minor temporary increases in noise and odor during construction. Minor permanent increases in light are proposed.

a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation. Increases in noise will accompany construction. Those increases will be localized and temporary and only impact small percentages of the Park at any one time. Minimal screening vegetation will be removed. Timing of proposed actions will minimize impacts to patrons. Increases in noise are not anticipated to be heard outside of the Park. Changes in allowed hunting may result in increased noise. That increase will be seasonal and restricted to the undeveloped portions of the Park, where significant buffers to external residents exist.

b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home. Not applicable.

c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day. Increases in odor will accompany construction due to construction vehicle and equipment exhaust. Those increases will be localized and temporary and only impact small percentages of the Park at any one time. Timing of proposed actions will minimize impacts to patrons. Increases in odor are not anticipated to be detected outside of the Park.

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties. New light sources are not proposed near the Park boundaries. Minimal removal of screening vegetation is proposed. New light is not anticipated to be observed outside the Park.

e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions. For safety reasons at the campground restrooms and at the Park Police building (and potentially other locations) new lights will be left on all night. All new light fixtures will be dark sky compliant. Older

fixtures will be retrofit as structures are rehabilitated. Light pollution is anticipated to be reduced over existing conditions. Minimal removal of screening vegetation is proposed.

Section Summary: Construction noise and odor are limited in scale and duration. Minimal loss of screening vegetation will occur. New light fixtures will be dark sky compliant. No new noise, odor or light will be detected outside of the Park. Hunting is restricted in location and duration and ample buffers and screening exists.

No significant increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting will occur.

16. Impact on Human Health - The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. Pesticide use has a potential impact to both humans and the environment. Parks policy is to minimize the use of pesticides (Policy on Pesticide Reduction in State Parks and Historic Sites). However, it is understood that the control of some invasive species is not possible without the use of pesticides. The use of pesticides in this park will be on a case-by-case basis.

a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed daycare center, group home, nursing home or retirement community. Not applicable.

b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation. Not applicable.

c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action. No remediate sites, or RCRA corrective activities, were identified within 2,000 feet of the Park on the NYS DEC's Info Locator website. One spill was identified using the NYS DEC Spill Incidents Database (Spill # 9315138). However, information on that spill is sparse. Spill was of an unknown volume of gasoline on 3/24/1994. At some point treatment was set up on site such that filtered discharge was included on the Park's SPDES permit. A review of that permit indicates that the spill was on the west side of the lake as that is where the SPDES permit shows the discharge. DEC records indicate that the incident was closed on 9/29/2000. NYS DEC's closure indicated that there are no continuing significant impacts from the spill. No identifiable infrastructure, of the treatment or discharge, remains. No continuing impacts from the spill are anticipated.

d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction). No records of any institutional control limits, associated with the spill (see 16.c. above) or any other incident have been identified.

e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health. Not applicable.

f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health. Not applicable.

g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility. There are no active landfills on site. There are no landfills proposed. The existing landfill on site has not been used since the 1980s. The landfill had accepted standard daily operational waste from the park (camper's and patron's trash) and some construction debris. The landfill will be officially decertified, a process requiring a closure plan and approval from NYS DEC. The landfill will be cleared of vegetation and capped, and monitoring wells will be installed. A perimeter swale will move storm water away from the landfill. Cap will be surfaced with herbaceous species which will be mowed regularly to prevent woody debris from growing and damaging the cap. By capping the landfill and preventing stormwater from passing through the solid waste, the potential for contaminants leaching from the waste and reaching groundwater will be minimized. Monitoring ground water in the vicinity of the landfill will help OPRHP make future management actions, as needed, and will minimize the potential for landfill contaminants reaching any potable water wells or the lake.

h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste. Not applicable.

i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste. Not applicable.

j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste. Not applicable.

k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures. Not applicable.

l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site. Not applicable.

m. Other Impacts. Pesticides may be used to control invasive species, as needed. Pesticide application will be conducted by a certified applicator only and will use best management practices (timing to avoid wind / drift, choice of application methods to reduce non target mortality) to minimize potential adverse impacts from pesticide use. All applications will be the minimal amount of product required to achieve the control and all applications will be targeted. Any over-water pesticide application would require an Article 15 Pesticide permit from NYS DEC; all permit conditions will be followed. Pesticide application would not be in or adjacent to any residential areas. Treated areas will be posted, as needed.

Section Summary: Public health and safety are important elements in the operation of the Park. New or substantially rehabilitated facilities will be designed and constructed to meet all applicable health and safety codes including compliance with the ADA. Design and rehabilitation of infrastructure systems such as electric, water, and sewer, where needed, will ensure public health protection. No continuing impacts from the gasoline spill are anticipated. Pesticide use will be minimal and targeted, by a certified applicator. Patrons will be notified of pesticide use.

No significant impacts on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants will occur.

17. Consistency with Community Plans - The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use

plans. Communities within the Hudson River Valley Greenway (HRVG) Area have the option of participating in the Greenway program. Taghkanic and Gallatin are designated Greenway Communities and may participate in the Greenway land use planning program, receive assistance from Greenway staff and access HRVG grants.

The Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is a voluntary, non-regulatory program with three central themes: Freedom and Dignity; Nature and Culture; and Corridor of Commerce. LTSP is not currently designated as a heritage site. Should LTSP choose to participate, the site would need to demonstrate adherence to several criteria, including relevance to at least one of the Heritage Area themes.

Actions proposed in the Master Plan are consistent with, or do not impede the implementation of, these non-regulatory land use program.

18. Consistency with Community Character - The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. No, the proposed action, which maintains the use of the site as a state park, is consistent with the low density, scenic character of the area and enhances the natural beauty and quality of the area.

The proposed action is consistent with the community character.

Consistency and Additional Environmental Review: As part of the agency's responsibility under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, OPRHP will review proposed implementation projects with respect to consistency with this Plan. Projects found by OPRHP to be consistent with the Plan, and impacts adequately addressed in this review, can go forward without any additional SEQR review. All projects will follow the OPRHP Intra-Agency Protocol for the Application of Section 14.09 of the NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.

It should be noted that this Plan is somewhat general and conceptual. Decisions regarding the scope and design of certain actions may be dependent on future site-specific evaluations still to be completed as part of the design process. Projects identified in the Plan that require additional design efforts include historic structure modifications/additions, rehabilitation of the West Beach Parking, solar additions to the West Beach Parking Lot, Park Police building relocation, East Entrance trailhead parking lot expansion, and modifications and additions to the multi-use trail (list not inclusive). If these site-specific evaluations identify new potential impacts that were not addressed or known during the development of this Plan, additional environmental review will be undertaken. This may include OPRHP documentation for Type II actions or completion of an environmental assessment form.

Any new land acquisitions, future ground-mounted solar arrays, changes to the hunting program and conversion of previously farmed lands will require additional environmental review.

New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

RANDY SIMONS
Commissioner Pro Tempore

State Environmental Quality Review
NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

May 19, 2025

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, as lead agency, has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action: Lake Taghkanic State Park Master Plan

SEQR Status: _X__ Type 1
___Unlisted

Conditioned Negative Declaration: ___ Yes
_X_ No

Description of Action: The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation proposes adoption and implementation of a Master Plan for Lake Taghkanic State Park. Changes in visitor preferences, demographic shifts, aging infrastructure, and environmental concerns at the park warrant a comprehensive approach to future improvements. The Master Plan proposes multiple actions park-wide to improve recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities and operational efficiencies. The actions recommended in the plan are aimed at rehabilitating aging infrastructure, revitalizing underutilized areas, and meeting demand for recreation activities in the region. Protections of natural and historic / cultural resources are also included.

Location: Lake Taghkanic State Park, 1528 NY-82, Ancram, NY. Park-wide.

Reasons Supporting This Determination: Most of the physical disturbance proposed in the Master Plan for Lake Taghkanic State Park will take place in areas that are already developed or otherwise previously disturbed. The Plan seeks to provide improvements and additional protections for the Park's existing natural, historic, cultural, and recreational resources. Planning for proposed new and updated or expanded facilities in the Park avoids sensitive natural and cultural resources, to the extent practicable. The Plan minimizes disturbance by retrofitting or repurposing existing infrastructure where feasible. In addition to park facilities improvements, the plan proposes new trail routes, the closure of unsustainable trails, the creation of new, relevant educational content, additional habitat protection strategies, and expanded invasive species management.

Site planning has located proposed actions in areas of minimal concern. The majority of projects will not be located where shallow soils, shallow depth to ground water or steep slopes will be impacted. The primary exception is trail projects. Best management practices, as described in the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, will be used to reduce impacts to soils on the project sites or to adjacent resources.

No projects in the Master Plan will have a significant detrimental impact on water quality in any of the wetlands and waterbodies in the Park. Actions are proposed that will improve water quality and waterbody function. Actions within or adjacent to surface waters are small in scale. No new buildings or facilities are proposed in flood-prone areas within the Park. An erosion control plan will be prepared for all proposed construction projects that have the potential to disturb soils or result in erosion. Best management practices, as described in the New York State Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control, will be used to reduce impacts to surface waters on the project sites. Some measures to be used will include minimizing soil disturbance and vegetation removal, installing silt fencing and straw bales where needed, preserving vegetated buffers, and seeding and mulching disturbed areas as soon as possible following work. New plantings with native species may also be used for aesthetics, shade, and soil stabilization.

Increases in impervious surfaces are minor compared to the size of the Park. New stormwater sources will be captured and treated by green infrastructure to the extent practicable. All new stormwater infrastructure will meet the NYS DEC Stormwater Design Manual guidelines. Minimal increases in wastewater generation are proposed. The Park's infrastructure has the capacity to process those increases. No new bulk storage of potential pollutants is proposed. Pesticide use will be minimized and targeted. Localized area of poor stormwater management will be addressed.

No significant creation of any air pollutant is proposed. Full implementation of the Master Plan will result in increased use of the Park. The increased travel to the Park, to use new amenities, is expected to be minor and air quality impacts from increased traffic are not expected to be significant. Short-term, temporary air quality impacts may occur due to a minor increase in vehicle exhaust during large events and some generation of dust and exhaust during construction. Air quality impacts from construction vehicles will be mitigated by utilizing NYS protocols for Best Management Practices (e.g., Dust Control Procedures Plan) to properly manage and mitigate fugitive dust, as well as ensuring that vehicles are in good running condition. New and updated recreational amenities proposed in the plan may result in an increase of visitors to the Park, with the potential for a minor increase in vehicle exhaust. These potential impacts will be temporary and localized and will occur over time as the Plan is implemented.

Impacts to natural resources will primarily be minimized by site selection. Most projects will be located within previous development or areas of limited environmental sensitivity. New or modified hiking trails will be located within natural areas, resulting in minor loss of vegetation. Trail locations will be surveyed. Trail will be relocated if any rare, threatened or endangered species are identified. Trail corridors will be kept as narrow as possible given proposed uses. Erosion and sediment control will prevent any loose soil from reaching any sensitive areas. The Plan will result in improved conditions for the Park's natural resources. Proposed improvements to riparian areas, increased protections for wetlands, reduced mowing, green infrastructure at the West Beach parking lot, reduction of impervious surfaces and more intensive management of invasive species will benefit wildlife habitat and natural areas.

There is no active agricultural land on site. Small amounts of highly productive soils are present. However, they are not presently used for any agricultural activities. No proposed actions will irreversibly alter those acres / soils. Proposed actions will result in minor changes on site that will not impact development potential on any land offsite.

No proposed action will impair any designated aesthetic or scenic resource. Proposed actions are appropriate for park settings. Proposed actions are small compared to the size of the Park. Any impact to aesthetic or scenic resources, from construction, will be temporary.

Proposed actions may have the potential to intersect with historic structures or subsurface resources. No work will occur without NY State Historic Preservation Office - Division of Historic Preservation (DHP) consultation. DHP review helps to minimize potential impacts to historic and archeological resources.

Minimal small-scale actions are proposed in natural areas. Some existing recreational opportunities will be replaced with improved opportunities. The Park provides ample open space opportunities.

While changes to the existing road system will be made, it was determined that it generally functions effectively for the current and projected volume of traffic. While full implementation of the Plan may result in some increased visitation to the facility and an associated potential increase in traffic, the roadway system is expected to be able to accommodate the added use.

Improvements will require increased electrical use. The increase is not anticipated to be significant. Current service can handle the expected increase. Potential solar projects will ultimately reduce demand on the grid.

Construction noise and odor are limited in scale and duration. Minimal loss of screening vegetation will occur. New light fixtures will be dark sky compliant. No new noise, odor or light will be detected outside of the Park. Hunting is restricted in location and duration and ample buffers and screening exists.

New or substantially rehabilitated facilities will be designed and constructed to meet all applicable health and safety codes including compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Design and rehabilitation of infrastructure systems such as electric, water, and sewer, where needed, will ensure public health protection. Pesticide use will be minimal and targeted, by a certified applicator.

Actions proposed in the Master Plan are consistent with, or do not impede the implementation of, regional non-regulatory land use program. The proposed action is consistent with the community character.

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For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this notice sent to:
OPRHP Regional Director and Capital District Manager
Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located
Applicant (If any)
Other involved agencies (If any)
Must publish in the Environmental Notice Bulletin, enb@dec.ny.gov or submission online at https://dec.ny.gov/enb/seqra-form