

Community Conservation Workshops

Summary Report



LAKE PLACID
LAND CONSERVANCY

Introduction

This report is a summary of information collected at community conservation workshops held during the summer of 2016 by the Lake Placid Land Conservancy (LPLC) in Lake Placid, Jay and Saranac Lake, N.Y. The workshops provided LPLC with the opportunity to share information it obtained from Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping of private lands in the region as well as learn about regional conservation values and interests of participants. Additionally, the workshops were used to discuss the development of LPLC’s conservation monitoring program. This report highlights the results of these workshops.

Organizational Background

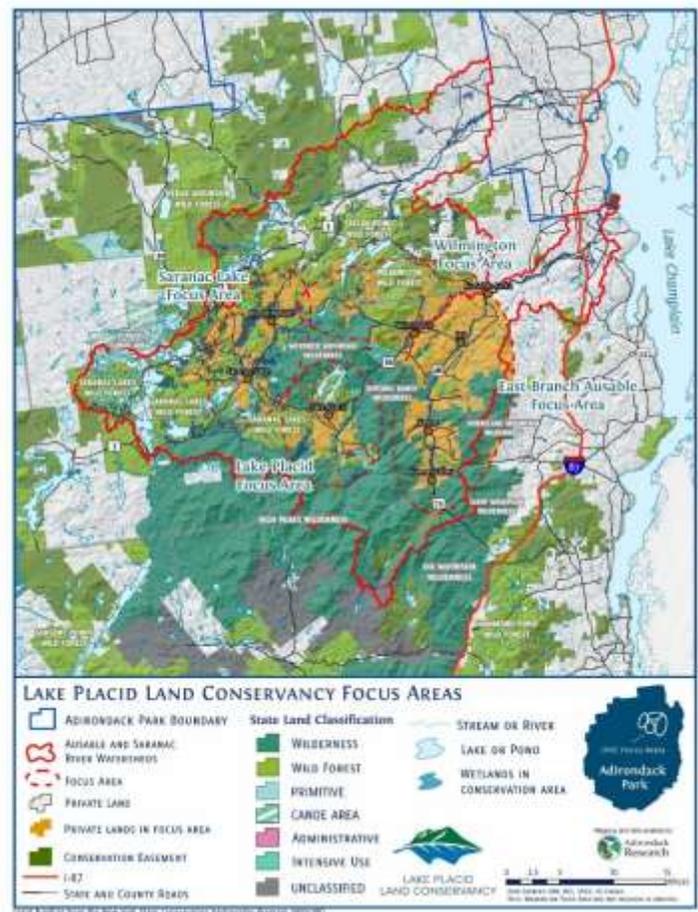
Lake Placid Land Conservancy’s mission is to conserve land and water in Lake Placid and the Ausable and Saranac River watersheds in the Adirondack Park (Park). LPLC works throughout the Ausable and Saranac River watersheds within the “blue line” that delineates the Park. These large basins, outlined in red on the map below, cover more than 680,000 acres, and include approximately 327,000 acres of public lands and 330,000 acres of private lands. They host an array of economically diverse communities, scenic landscapes, wildlife habitats, farmlands, working forests, and wilderness that are connected by the flow of water through the watersheds’ many streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes, which eventually flow into Lake Champlain.

While most of the High Peaks in the Park are permanently protected as Forest Preserve most lowland forest communities, which contain some of the region’s greatest biodiversity, are under private ownership and subject to the greatest development pressure. As part of its strategic planning process and GIS mapping initiative, LPLC identified four focus areas in the High Peaks region of the Adirondacks, each of which represents distinct landscape scale conservation initiatives characterized primarily by lowland forest communities and river valleys. These four focus areas include almost 100,000 acres of private lands.

LPLC’s conservation efforts focus on private lands (shown in orange on the map) in four areas outlined below:

1. Lake Placid

Lands surrounding Lake Placid and the upper West Branch of the Ausable River; lands between Lake Placid and the High Peaks and Sentinel Range Wilderness.



2. East Branch of the Ausable River

Lands in the East Branch of the Ausable River valley and around the Jay Mountain Wilderness, including the Route 9N travel corridor between Upper Jay and Ausable Forks; lands between Giant and High Peaks Wilderness areas along the Route 73 travel corridor from Keene Valley to Keene.

3. Saranac River Basin Communities

Lands around Saranac Lake northwest to Gabriels and north to Bloomingdale, including the Saranac River valley and the Route 86 and Route 3 travel corridors.

4. Franklin Falls and Black Brook

Lands along the Route 18A travel corridor and the Saranac River valley around Franklin Falls.

Continued protection of critical open space and wildlife habitats on private lands in the focus areas is still needed. This is especially true along lakes and river valley bottoms where development could have particularly severe impacts on scenery and wildlife, and also contribute to flooding, and pollution in lakes, rivers and streams.

Workshop Approach

LPLC conducted workshops in communities located in three of its four focus areas during 2016: Lake Placid, East Branch of the Ausable River Communities (Jay), and Saranac River Basin Communities (Saranac Lake). LPLC hired Adirondack Research to conduct community conservation workshops with the purpose of sharing information obtained from GIS mapping of private lands in the region and learning about conservation values and interests of participants. Additionally, the workshops were used to discuss the development of LPLC's conservation monitoring program and interest in participating in a biological monitoring program.

The workshops were organized as a set of short presentations separated by three interactive participant activities. These activities consisted of a guided discussion on conservation values, a mapping exercise, and a landowner survey. The goal of the mapping exercise was to allow participants to translate their stated values and interests for conservation in their communities onto maps that included highlighted tax parcels as well as political, ecological and land use characteristics of public and private lands.

Workshop Findings

Maps highlighting areas of conservation interest or value identified by participants at each workshop as well as a map key with information explaining mapped areas of interest are included in this report. This information is not statistically significant and only reflects information collected from participants. For a comprehensive report that includes all data from the workshops, including answers to guided discussion questions, general themes of guided discussions, maps highlighting areas of conservation interest, map keys and survey results go to LPLC's website at: <http://www.lakeplacidlandconservancy.org/what-we-do/programs-and-initiatives/community-conservation-workshops/>

Map Key Definitions - The following terms are used most often in the map keys:

480-A: A section of the New York State Real Property Tax Law that offers tax incentives to qualified landowners who engage in long-term management of woodlands to produce forest crops and thereby increase the likelihood of a more stable forest economy.

Cover crop: Agricultural crops including grasses, legumes and forbs used for seasonal cover and other conservation purposes.

Ecosystem: Recurring groups of biological communities that are found in similar physical environments and are influenced by similar dynamic ecological processes, such as fire or flooding.

Endangered species: Any native species in imminent danger of extirpation or extinction in New York, or any species listed as endangered by the United States Department of the Interior.

Farmland of Statewide Importance: Generally, those that are nearly Prime Farmland and that produce high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods.

Matrix Forest Block: Most viable examples of dominant forest communities throughout New York State. They are large, contiguous areas whose size and natural condition allow for the maintenance of ecological processes and viable forest communities of various sizes and maintain species populations.

Modeled habitat: An area whose features are predicted to support a particular resident species, but whose presence is not confirmed.

Natural Heritage Community: Represents occurrences of rare or high-quality ecological communities as confirmed and recorded by the New York Natural Heritage Program.

Open space: Land which is not intensively developed for residential, commercial, industrial or institutional use.

Prime Farmland: Land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristic (soils) for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses.

Viewshed: All that is contained in a view that you see from a given vantage point.

Wildlife corridor: An area of contiguous habitat that connects wildlife populations.

Lake Placid Workshop

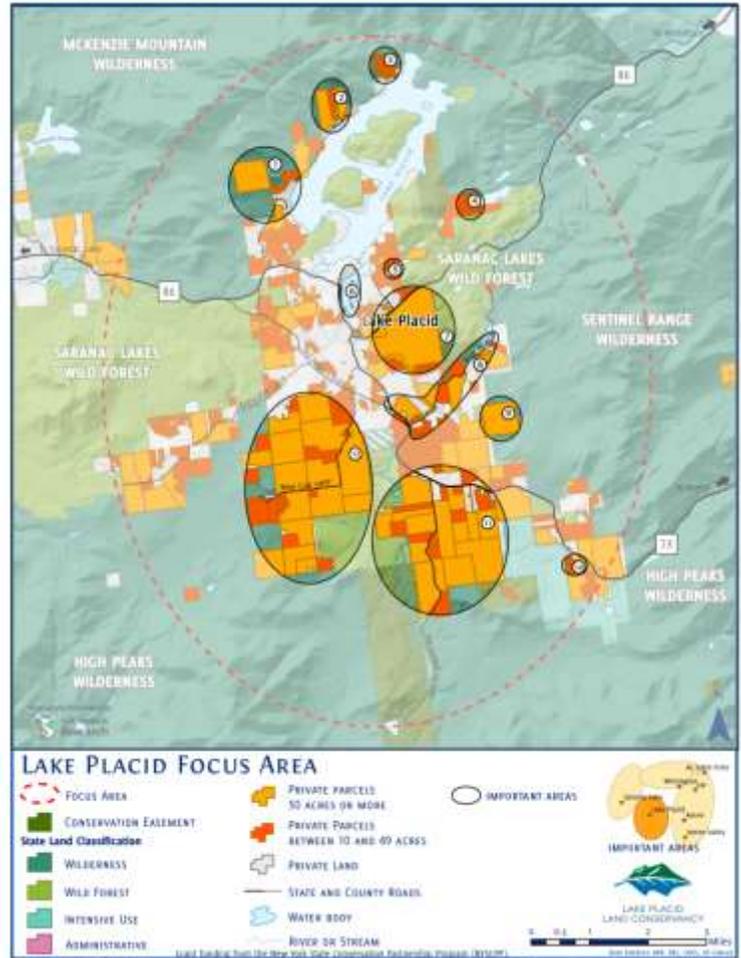
The Lake Placid workshop was held on August 10th, 2016, at the Lake Placid Beach House in Lake Placid, NY. Ten people attended this workshop, including five LPLC board members. It is worth noting that the first workshop in Lake Placid consisted of participants heavily weighted with board members of Lake Placid Land Conservancy. Regardless, the responses genuinely represented the conservation perspectives of those in attendance.

In general, the Lake Placid workshop participants talked more about the role of private land as a critical resource in close proximity to a large amount of protected state land. We also heard several comments regarding recreation

accessed through private lands adjacent to state lands. Lake Placid differs from the other focus areas in several ways, one of which is the close proximity of more developed and smaller parcels to state land. Another difference between lake Placid and nearby communities is that Lake Placid has concentrated development on Lake Placid and Mirror Lake. These are two reasons why we chose to display parcels between 10 and 49 acres in addition to parcels greater than 50 acres on the Lake Placid focus area maps.

Lake Placid Mapping Exercise

The map to the right includes areas of conservation interest or value identified by workshop participants (circled in black) using maps and mapping data found in the [Lake Placid Community Conservation Workshop](#) brochure. The areas are numbered and descriptions of each area are listed in the corresponding map key below.



Lake Placid Workshop Map Key

Numbers below denote places of interest or value identified on the map on the previous page. Each number is followed by a compilation of the comments received by workshop participants. When possible, we added additional information about the parcel or group of parcels highlighted in the map.

- 1 Participants noted several areas of conservation importance along the west shore of Lake Placid. These included lands along the lake front that were deemed important for open space, as well as an area along the Jackrabbit Trail that was described as important for recreation. Participants also identified expanses of high elevation (above 2,500 feet) and those near state lands as valuable. This area includes a Natural Heritage Community identified as a spruce-northern hardwood forest (located in the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness) which includes old-growth stand, the median age of which is 135 to 187 years old, with the oldest trees between 244 and 368 years old. Old-growth forest is dominated by *Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch) and *Picea rubens* (red spruce). This area also contains wetlands, is within a Forest Matrix Block and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
- 2 This area includes stretches along the west shore of Lake Placid that are surrounded on all four sides by either water or state land known as the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness. Participants found this area

important for open space views from the lake because and because it abuts lands with elevations near 2,500 feet. This space is also within a Forest Matrix Block and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

3 This smaller area also includes stretches along the west shore of Lake Placid that are surrounded on all four sides by either water or state land known as the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness. Participants found this area important for open space protection, especially as viewed from the lake. This space is also within a Forest Matrix Block and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

4 This space is intersected by the trail to Whiteface Landing from Route 86. This is a popular hiking and cross country ski trail used by area residents and visitors. Besides providing access to the north end of Lake Placid by foot, the trail is also an approach route for climbing Whiteface Mountain from the southern slope. Participants stated that this area is important for both open space, but also for recreational access to Whiteface Landing. Many trails crisscross this area, which is bordered by the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest to the south, McKenzie Mountain Wilderness to the north, and conservation easement property to the west. There are also several small wetlands in this area, which is also within a Forest Matrix Block and is modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

5 This area includes Cobble Hill, a popular local hiking destination. Participants described this as important for recreation, with a notable trail system that accommodates hikers as well as students at Northwood School, which borders the Cobble Hill properties. There are a few very small wetland areas, including those along a small pond that borders the state land. There is also modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

6 The area surrounding Mirror Lake was noted by participants for over-building along the shores, and the effects on viewsheds from the water and from Main Street vantage points.

7 This large area includes a commercial golf course that has walking, biking and ski trails open to the public. This area was noted for its recreational opportunities and open space. Participants noted that this area was highly visible from Route 86 and that this route is a major road used by people visiting Lake Placid as well as for people traveling to and from Whiteface Mountain from Lake Placid. It also has records of cover crops, several areas of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, several wetlands, and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

8 This area borders Riverside Drive and includes the Lake Placid Horseshow Grounds property bordering Route 73. Participants noted the importance of open space along this portion of Riverside Drive. Riverside Drive is also important for recreation because it is a popular road for cyclists and runners. Much of the agricultural fields along this section of Riverside Drive are Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide importance and many areas have data on crop cover history. It also contains many small wetlands along the west branch of the Ausable River and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

9 This area was mentioned briefly by one participant because of its current use for back-country ski trails. It borders the Sentinel Range Wilderness on three sides, is within a Forest Matrix Block and contains one very small area of wetland.

10 This area includes a commercial cross country ski area. This was mentioned for its recreational importance. Part of this area contains Prime Farmland and small areas of wetland.

- 11 Many spots in this area are accessible from the Adirondack Loj Road. This area is important for open space as well as for recreation for runners, cyclists and people accessing South Meadow from this road. This area also includes important agriculture lands and habitat. It contains the South Meadow wetland and has some of the best farmland in the region. The fields along the Loj Road are classified as Prime Farmland. There are many sites that contain modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
- 12 This area along Bear Cub Lane was described as important for several reasons, including recreation at Henry's Woods and Heaven Hill, farming at Heaven Hill and Cornell's Uihlein Farm, and open space. There are large areas of Prime Farmland with crop cover data within this area and it is also within a Forest Matrix Block. One area is modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species, and another contains a Mountain Spruce-Fir forest Natural Heritage Community that borders Street Mountain. This large-patch of matrix forest is located within a subalpine setting where conifers are most abundant. It grades upslope into mountain fir forest at higher elevations, and spruce-northern hardwood forest at the lower elevations.

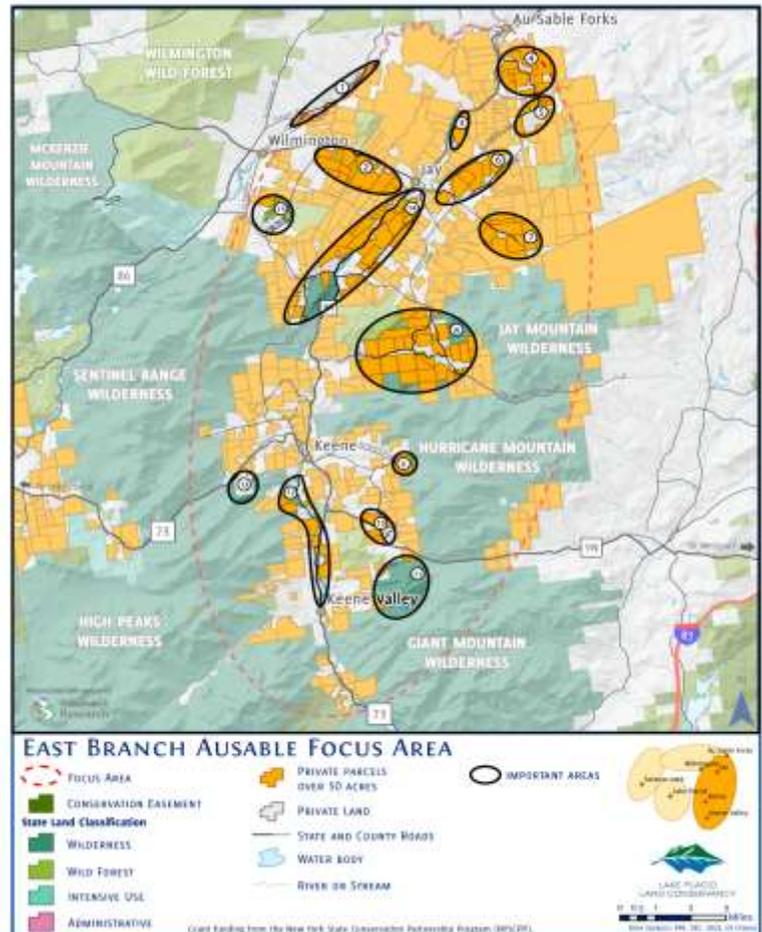
Jay Workshop

The Jay workshop was held on August 17th, 2016 at the Amos and Julia Ward Theatre in Jay, NY. Twenty-two people attended this workshop, including one LPLC board member.

In general, the Jay workshop participants spoke a lot about managing private land (working landscapes) and about the importance of the landscape for wildlife. There was relatively little discussion of open space. Overall, the Jay workshop participants emphasized the role the land plays in creating and maintaining community.

Jay Mapping Exercise

The map to the right includes representations of markings made by workshop participants when asked to label areas of conservation interest or value using maps and mapping data found in the [East Branch of Ausable River Communities Community Conservation Workshop](#) brochure.



Jay Workshop Map Key

Numbers below denote places of interest or value identified on the map on the previous page. Each number is followed by a compilation of the comments received by workshop participants. When possible, we added additional information about the parcel or group of parcels highlighted in the map.

- 1 This area includes open space along Preston Road in Wilmington along the Ausable River. Fishing access was mentioned as the main reason for this area being selected as a place of conservation importance, but it also includes Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. Some lands in this area are enrolled in 480-A and contain cover crop data. There are several small wetlands along the river corridor and the area contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. This area lies completely within a Natural Heritage Community pine-northern hardwood forest (Black Brook forest). This is a very large, moderately diverse forest community with relatively large, intact, putative old growth core, in a moderately intact landscape. This forest community is large and encompasses additional areas of interest listed below (numbers 2-6).
- 2 This area includes some of the large vistas along Route 86 between Jay and Wilmington to the south. Cover crop data dots this landscape, and some of areas are enrolled in 480-A. There are small areas of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, but also quite a bit of wetland communities. This area is also within the Natural Heritage Community described above.
- 3 This small area, which is designated as Prime Farmland, was mentioned for its conservation value as open space along Route 9N in Jay. It is enrolled in 480-A and is within the pine-northern hardwood forest Natural Heritage Community described above.
- 4 This stretch follows a travel corridor along Sheldrake Road in Ausable Forks and includes open space and agriculture as well as forested areas. Participants noted the open farmland and woodlots on this site, some of which contain Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. The agricultural fields within this area have cover crop data reported, however the forested sites are not enrolled in 480-A. This area does not border state land nor is it within a Forest Matrix Block. The forested areas north of Sheldrake Road contain modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
- 5 This area includes agricultural lands on County Highway 64. Participants recognized this stretch of roads as having a nice viewshed. The land is comprised of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. The land is also within a Forest Matrix Block (forming the western boundary of the Forest Matrix Block that includes the Jay Mountain Wilderness). Portions of this area are enrolled in 480-A and/or have cover crop data. There are also small wetland areas as well as modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species along a short section of a small stream that flows through the area.
- 6 This area includes forested and agricultural land along Hazen Road and space near the corner of Jasper Haselton Road and Judson Page Road. Participants note this area is important for open space and stressed the current agricultural uses. Many stretches along Hazen Road are within the boundary of the Natural Heritage Community listed above, have some cover crop data and are enrolled in 480-A. There are also several areas of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. This site includes one wetland area and Hazen Road is the boundary of the Forest Matrix Block that also includes the Jay Mountain Wilderness. The wetland overlaps with an area with modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

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- 7 This area, along the upper reaches of Lincoln Hill Road, was noted for its importance as open space. Participants noted active logging in this area, some areas of which are enrolled in 480-A and contain modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
 - 8 This area is one of the larger areas of importance to participants and contains several characteristics that make it an important resource for recreation, open space, wildlife and agriculture. Participants noted this area for wildlife presence because this corridor connects state land of Clements Pond to the Jay Mountain Wilderness and the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness. Participants commented that there was active logging in the area and that a sub-division had previously and unsuccessfully been attempted. There are two trailheads within this area, one along Styles Brook Road for Clements Pond and the trailhead for Jay Mountain. Several locations in this area are enrolled in 480-A and/or have crop cover data. There is a small amount of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance, it is within a Forest Matrix Block, and borders both the Jay Mountain Wilderness and the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness. There are several small wetlands along the Styles Brook Road travel corridor and there is modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
 - 9 This area borders Hurricane Mountain Wilderness off Hurricane Road, and was noted by participants because of its proximity to a wilderness area. They did not note any other noteworthy ecological, political or physical attributes of importance with this area.
 - 10 This area includes open space on Route 9N between the 9N and Route 73 intersection in Keene Valley and Elizabethtown and includes the trailhead to Baxter Mountain. This area was noted as being important for open space and includes Farmland of Statewide Importance. This area is within a Forest Matrix Block and straddles the Hurricane Mountain Wilderness and the Giant Mountain Wilderness. The area contains wetlands and a small area of modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
 - 11 This area was noted for recreation access from Routes 73 in Keene Valley and Route 9N heading between Keene and Elizabethtown. This area includes topography greater than 2,500 feet in elevation, but all of those areas are on state land, comprising part of the giant Mountain Wilderness. There is modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species and the area is part of a Natural Heritage Community called Forest Uplands. This forest occurs on the slopes of Giant Mountain, Rocky Peak Ridge, Bald Peak, Green Mountain, Knob Lock Mountain, Tripod Mountain, and Hopkins Mountain. The forests of this community are described as a spruce-fir forest at higher elevations and a forest of spruce-northern hardwood and beech-maple mesic forest at lower elevations.
 - 12 This area includes the main travel corridor between Keene and Keene Valley, and more precisely between the Route 9N intersection with Route 73 and Keene Valley. Marcy Field is one particular point of interest along this stretch. This area was noted as important by participants for several reasons: it has multiple hiking trail heads and is valuable as open space. There are several open fields and a working farm important for agriculture. One participant also noted the propensity of this stretch of the Ausable River to flood, as it did during Tropical Storm Irene. There are several areas with cover crop data as well as a mix of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. There are also several wetlands within this area along the Ausable River and these areas overlap with modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
 - 13 This area was identified as important because of the potential recreation opportunities, including the trailhead to Owl's Head Mountain. This area is within a Forest Matrix Block and contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

- 14 This area is another one of the larger areas of importance to participants and contains several characteristics that make it an important resource for recreation, open space and agriculture. Participants noted places of interest near Upper Jay. This area includes smaller areas important for recreation, open space and agriculture. This area includes sections important for agriculture and includes several access points for hunting. There are spaces with cover crop data as well as a mix of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. This area is not within a Forest Matrix Block but it does contain modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. Some sections are enrolled in 480-A and are within the pine-northern hardwood forest Natural Heritage Community described above.
- 15 This area was noted for recreational importance. The area includes the Hardy mountain biking trails and is used by many local residents and visitors to the area. The area contains Farmland of Statewide Importance. This area is also within a Forest Matrix Block, contains wetlands and modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. One of the parcels over 50 acres within this area is enrolled in 480-A.

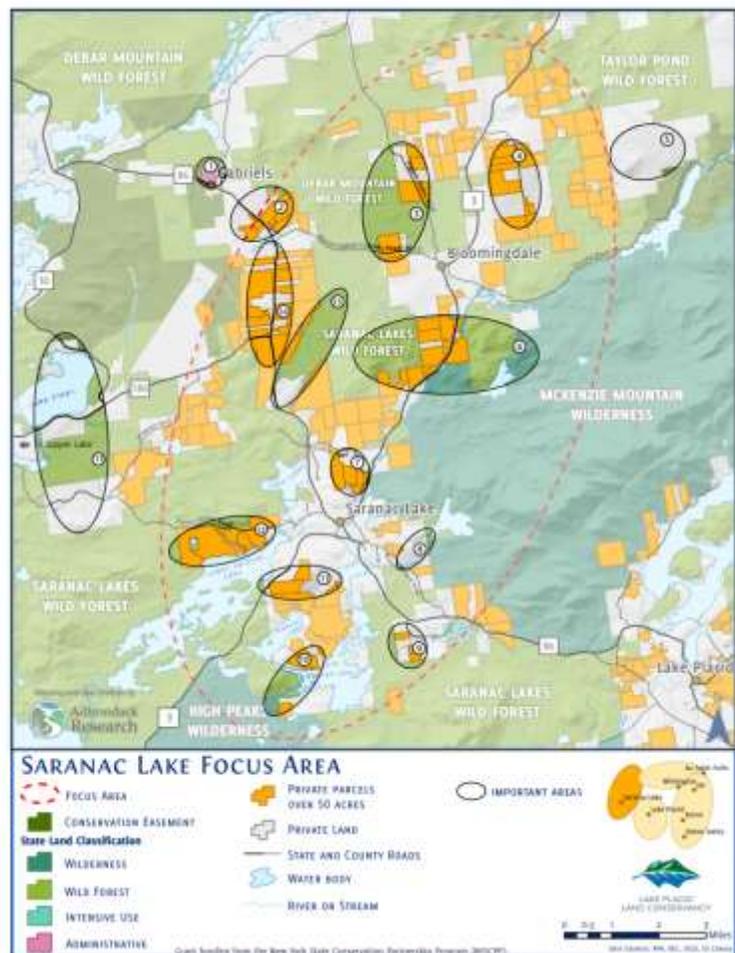
Saranac River Basin Communities Workshop

The Saranac Lake workshop was held on September 9th, 2016, at the Saranac Lake Free Library in Saranac Lake, NY. Twenty-two people attended this workshop, including seven LPLC board members.

In general, the Saranac Lake workshop participants spoke a lot about how they were tied to the community of Saranac Lake and how that plays a role in their land conservation values.

Saranac River Basin Mapping Exercise

The following map includes representations of markings made by workshop participants when asked to label areas of conservation interest or value using maps and mapping data found in the [Saranac River Basin Communities Community Conservation Workshop](#) brochure.



Saranac Lake Workshop Map Key

Numbers below denote places of interest on the map on the previous page. Each number is followed by a compilation of the comments received by workshop participants. When possible, we added additional information about the parcel or group of parcels highlighted in the map.

1	This area includes the state-owned property of Camp Gabriels. It is a former prison and is now in the process of being sold. This site was noted as having conservation importance because of its proximity to state land as well as conservation easement land across Route 86. Although this site is slightly outside the Saranac Lake focus area and our data is limited, it contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
2	This area contains active agricultural fields. These fields were deemed important because of their perceived development potential. The area was also noted for its dramatic views. There are several sites with cover crop data as well as a mix of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. There are wetlands in this area, specifically along Ricketson Brook and bordering Debar Mountain Wild Forest. There is also modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
3	This area includes regions of state and private land between Route 155 and Oregon Plains Road between Bloomingdale and Gabriels. This area was noted for agriculture and open space, but also for its perceived importance as a wildlife corridor. This area contains Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance close to the village of Bloomingdale and contains several large areas of wetlands. This area lies entirely within a natural heritage community called Forested Uplands. This is an extensive sandplain with open to dense canopy cover of black spruce and balsam fir, with small openings of heath barrens. This is a large, partly disturbed, unusual variant of spruce flats. There is also modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
4	This area comprises Norman Ridge. Norman Ridge is important for open space with magnificent views of Whiteface, and this area also supports active agriculture. Norman Ridge is almost entirely comprised of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. This area has a natural heritage community toward the area's lower elevations. This community is called Balsam. This is a large area that is slightly disturbed by a powerline ROW. It contains dense conifer forest with a mossy ground layer on flats north and west of a small stream.
5	This area includes several large land parcels owned by some of the workshop participants. There is one small area on higher elevations with modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
6	This area includes agricultural fields and forests along Route 3 bordering the Saranac River between Saranac Lake and Bloomingdale. Participants recognized this area as having conservation importance because of the open space, agricultural use, and because of this area's importance as a wildlife corridor linking the Saranac Wild Forest between Route 3 and Route 86 with the McKenzie Mountain Wilderness across the Saranac River to the east. This area contains Farmland of Statewide Importance as well as cover crop data. This area also contains wetlands and those wetlands overlap with areas of modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.
7	This area includes the larger Mt. Pisgah ski area and mountain bike trails. This area also includes lands that could be developed as recreation trails to adjoin the existing mountain bike trails at Mt. Pisgah. These privately owned lands bordering Mt. Pisgah ski area have recently been annexed to the village of Saranac Lake. This space contains cover crop data and portions are modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species.

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| 8 | Participants mentioned this area because of its recreational importance. Specifically, they mentioned access to the Jackrabbit Trail that connects McKenzie Pond Road to Whiteface Lane in Lake Placid. This area contains Farmland of Statewide Importance, is within a Forest Matrix Block and contains wetlands. |
| 9 | This area borders the federal prison in Ray Brook and was noted for its open space and for agriculture. These sites have cover crop data and they contain small areas of both Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance. |
| 10 | Participants noted areas on Oseetah Lake and the land that borders the High Peaks Wilderness. This area was noted by participants primarily for its open space value along Oseetah Lake. Some areas have cover crop data, have 480-A enrollment, and are within a Forest Matrix Block with wetlands present throughout. Some of these areas also contain modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. |
| 11 | This area included Dewey Mountain and the Dewey Mountain Recreation Area. Workshop participants noted its conservation importance because of recreation potential, development potential, and open space. The southern and eastern exposure of Dewey Mountain is visible (and currently entirely forested) from Route 86 entering Saranac Lake from Lake Placid. Several areas on Dewey Mountain are enrolled in 480-A and the area is within a Forest Matrix Block. This area also contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. |
| 12 | This area includes private land along the northern shore of Lower Saranac Lake and was noted by participants for its value as open space as seen from Lower Saranac Lake. Almost all of the properties in this area are over 50 acres and border state land of the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest. This area contains two wetlands and modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. |
| 13 | This area includes several smaller spaces of conservation interest, including agricultural fields and shoreline on Lake Clear. It also includes the Lake Clear Public Beach, which is used heavily for recreation purposes. There are several large wetlands within this area and modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. There is also a natural heritage community called a Spruce-Fir Swamp. This wetland area is dominated by balsam fir and spruce. |
| 14 | This area includes many open fields along Route 86 between Saranac Lake and Paul Smiths. This area was noted as having conservation importance for several reasons, including open space, agriculture and tourism. One of the large farms along this stretch of Route 86 features a popular ice cream stand and attracts many visitors. This area also includes a pull-off on the top of what is known as Harrietstown Hill where there are open views of Whiteface. Many of the larger sites in this area contain cover crop data. This area is relatively high in elevation, yet reaches into wetland areas to the east and west, including Bloomingdale Bog. These lower elevation areas overlap with modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. |
| 15 | This area includes Bloomingdale Bog. It was noted as an area of conservation interest by participants for its recreation opportunities as well as its importance as a wildlife corridor. This area is characterized as a bog and is a large wetland complex connecting Route 86 and Route 3. There is a railroad bed that has been converted to trail used for motorized and non-motorized recreation. The Bog and the Bloomingdale Bog Trail are within state land as part of the Saranac Lakes Wild Forest and contains a natural heritage community called Forested Uplands and is described above and covers a large geographic area including Route 155 and Oregon Plains Road. This area contains modeled habitat for at least one rare or endangered species. |

Landowner Survey Results

A landowner survey was also administered as part of the three community conservation workshops and served two primary purposes. The first purpose was to assess the general interest of workshop participants across all three workshops in monitoring. The secondary purpose of the survey was to obtain specific information related to land conservation interests and priorities of individual landowners. Many of the survey questions are considered general interest questions. These include questions about interest in participating in specific monitoring plans, interest in conservation and reasons for conserving land. Survey questions and results are available in the comprehensive version of this workshop report and can found on LPLC's website at:

<http://www.lakeplacidlandconservancy.org/what-we-do/programs-and-initiatives/community-conservation-workshops/>

Summary

The mapping effort, community conservation workshops and landowner surveys were successful in providing information about land characteristics and landowner values and interests within three of Lake Placid Land Conservancy's four focus areas. While the three focus areas are quite different from one another, and while we saw clear differences in conservation values among the different focus areas, the types of comments and notes made on the maps during the mapping exercise yielded similar results across all the areas. This is likely because conservation targets are similar across communities.

Prepared by Adirondack Research, LLC.

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