NYSDOT Adirondack Park
Umbrella Wetland Mitigation Bank Proposal

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Lake Placid, NY
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Overview

- Background on Wetlands and Wetland Mitigation
- *Transportation Considerations*
- *Challenges*
- Purpose and Need for Wetland Banking
- Status and Process
- Questions
NYS Direct Wetland Impacts
(Estimates Greater Than 50% since Colonial Days)
“NO NET LOSS”
Avoid, Minimize, Replace
Emphasis on Direct Wetland Impacts
On-Site Replacement (Mitigation)
Utica Rome Expressway (1997)

Wetland Process Results

- 14 Acres of Direct Wetland Impacts
- Initial Mitigation Proposal: Estimated: Cost 2.1 Million (Number was Low)

- Final Mitigation Proposal: Cost 1.5 Million
  <More Wetlands Creation than Original plan
  <MOA – $800,000 Signed October 2000 for Acquisition, Education, Wetland Creation, Invasive Species Control, etc.
How Many Wetland Banking Sites in NY?

- 3 Individual Banking Agreements – Fort Drum, Raymond Road, and Cornerstone

- 0- Umbrella Wetland Banking Agreements

Why So Few? – Supply and Demand
  - NC= 19 , Florida= 83, GA= 115
  - MA=0, VT=0, PA= 0
Relationship to Natural Resources
APA Wetland Mapping
Primary Involved Agencies
Inter-Agency Review Team (IRT)

- Adirondack Park Agency
- US Army Corps of Engineers (NY&Buffalo)
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Federal Highways Administration
Service Area (HUC8)
Purpose and Need for Banking

- Lower Unit Cost
- Better Goals and Objectives
- Longer Monitoring
- Opportunity to do more
- Greater Potential for Success
- Ability to Be Opportunistic
Many Limited Transportation Footprints
Dilemma- Shoulder Widening and Culverts
Route 28: Can Know Accommodate Wider Shoulder New Wider Culvert
ADK Wetland Mitigation Banking Status

- Agency Concurrence for Need 9/2007
- Draft Prospectus
- Goal 2012 Completion
- Multi-Site Banking Agreement (Need)
- 3 Sites Built
- > 50 Potential Sites
Status

Using Federal Guidance for the Establishment, Use and Operation of Mitigation Banks

- Requires
  - Bank goals and objectives; Ownership of bank lands; Bank size and classes of wetlands and/or other aquatic resources proposed for inclusion in the bank, including a site plan and specifications; Description of baseline conditions at the bank site; Geographic service area; Wetland classes or other aquatic resource impacts suitable for compensation; Methods for determining credits and debits; accounting procedures; Performance standards for determining credit availability and bank success; Reporting protocols and monitoring plan; Contingency and remedial actions and responsibilities; Financial assurances; Compensation ratios; Provisions for long-term management and maintenance.
Best Site Opportunities

Old Alignments

Reload Sites / Facilities
Flansburg / West Canada Creek
Opportunistic Site

- Built 1999
- Established
- 0.78 acres
- Adjacent to West Canada Creek
- Old Reload Site
- Excavated Material used to restore mine
- Credit Issue?
Flansburg / West Canada Creek Site
Old Forge: Bald Mountain Pond
Small Site- Big Value

- 0.18 – acres
- High Quality Wetland Restoration
- 20 plus feet of old fill
- Partnership with NYSDOT and Town
- Cost 30 K or 166 K / Acre
Old Forge: Bald Mountain Pond

Hydrology Flow

Wetlands-

Fill

Bald Mtn Pond

Route 28
Old Forge: Bald Mountain Pond

Route 28

Fill

Buried Wetland

Natural Terrian
Preliminary Removal of Fill
Route 30 Griffin Brook
Opportunistic / Multi Benefit Site
Route 30 Griffin Brook

Existing Wetland

Fill Removal/Wetland Restoration (2012)

11/01/2010
Route 30 Griffin Brook

Fill Removal/Wetland Restoration

New Parking Area
Education and Outreach
Education and Outreach

Turtle Crossing

Snapping turtles live in most freshwater lakes and ponds, where they search for many kinds of food. They are both plant and animal-eating predators. Snapping turtles live to be 80 years old and can weigh up to 20 pounds. They lay their eggs in the mud on land and hatch within five months. They are strict vegetarians, but they are also omnivorous. They are often found in wetlands, like this one.

In late May, snapping turtles use the warmest valley of the river and create a nest bed to lay their eggs in a location that provides the best conditions. The eggs are usually laid in late September or early October, depending on the warmth of summer conditions.

Special management practices are put in place to ensure the safety of the turtles and other wildlife species. These practices include controlling the river levels and managing the wildlife and water quality in the area.