

2017 Interim Planning Assessment for Mine Kill State Park, Max V. Shaul State Park and John Burroughs Memorial State Historic Site

Appendix

July 10, 2017



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

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Appendix A - NYPA Operating Agreement

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POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE
OF NEW YORK
BLENHEIM-GILBOA PUMPED STORAGE
PROJECT
COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE

OPERATING AGREEMENT

This Agreement made the 14th day of March, 1998, between POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK (Authority) established and functioning pursuant to the provisions of Article 5, Title 1 of the Public Authorities Law of the State of New York, having its principal office at 1633 Broadway, New York, New York 10019, and THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (OPRHP), having an office at Empire State Plaza, Building No. 1, Albany, New York 12238.

WHEREAS, the Authority was issued a license by Order dated June 6, 1969, from the Federal Power Commission (FPC), now the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a pumped storage hydroelectric facility entitled "Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Project No. 2685"; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, pursuant to Article 18 of the said license, filed with the FPC (now FERC), an Exhibit R - Recreation Use Plan which was approved on December 18, 1972, by FPC (now FERC); and

WHEREAS, part of the Authority's approved Recreation Use Plan included a public recreational park which is entitled "Mine Kill State Park" (Mine Kill) and which consists of a swimming pool complex with bath house, restrooms, office, food concession, and, in addition, basketball and volleyball courts, softball/baseball and soccer playing fields, horseshoe pits, playground apparatus, picnic areas, pavilion, storage and maintenance buildings, watercraft launch ramp, hiking trail system, Mine Kill Falls Overlook observation deck, and other park buildings and facilities located on a 395± acre parcel owned by the Authority in the towns of Blenheim and Gilboa, County of Schoharie, shown on the attached Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Saratoga-Capital District State Park & Recreation Commission (now the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation [OPRHP]) assisted the Authority in the planning of the said Mine Kill; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Authority, by resolution dated June 18, 1973, authorized the Authority to permit OPRHP the use and responsibility for the operation and maintenance of Mine Kill, as long as such use would not interfere with the operation and maintenance of the Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3.09 (2) of the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law, OPRHP is authorized to operate and maintain parks and recreational facilities, either directly or indirectly, or by contract, lease, or license, and

WHEREAS, on August 26, 1975, a Letter of Agreement was executed granting Saratoga-Capital District State Park & Recreation Commission (now OPRHP) all responsibility for the use, operation and maintenance of Mine Kill, which agreement was renewed annually with the last agreement signed on or about April 15, 1997; and

WHEREAS, OPRHP requested the preparation of a more formal five (5) year document pertaining to Mine Kill for execution by both parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the parties hereto, for themselves, their legal representatives, trustees, successors and assigns, hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. The Authority agrees to grant and OPRHP agrees to accept the right, privilege, and responsibility for the seven-day-a-week operation and maintenance of the land and facilities comprising Mine Kill. The OPRHP also agrees to allow the public use of the adjacent water areas and must post the rules and regulations for such use. Furthermore, the OPRHP, at its sole risk and expense, shall police, operate, keep in good repair, and maintain as a public State Park the lands, roads, buildings, trail system, and facilities on behalf of the Authority and the State of New York, and shall assume full liability and responsibility for the maintenance and operation of such

lands, roads, buildings, and facilities, and/or any act or omission of the OPRHP, its employees, agents or anyone directly or indirectly employed by OPRHP or anyone for whose acts OPRHP may be liable, pursuant to law.

2. The OPRHP shall continue full employment and payroll processing responsibilities for Mine Kill personnel. Such employees shall be considered employees of the OPRHP for all purposes, and not employees or agents of the Authority. The OPRHP will be responsible for complying with all applicable codes, rules, and regulations arising out of the employment relationship, including, but not limited to, fulfilling the requirements of Part 801 of Title 12 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, "Recording and Reporting Public Employees' Occupational Injuries and Illnesses."
3. Any staff personnel hired by OPRHP to work at Mine Kill to fulfill the provisions of this agreement shall be considered employees of OPRHP. OPRHP agrees that to the extent such employees are covered by Worker's Compensation and P.E.S.H. (Public Employees Safety and Health), OPRHP, not the Authority, will be considered the employer under those statutes. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to alter or affect OPRHP's rights with respect to such employees or any third parties.
4. The Authority agrees to fund OPRHP payroll requirements except for the positions stated in Paragraph 6. The OPRHP shall request from the Authority funding on a quarterly basis for the projected payroll requirements. A reconciliation for the previous quarter's actual cost will finalize the new quarterly fund request. Such reconciliation will include a listing of the actual salaries paid plus fringe benefits as billed by the State Comptroller, which appear on the monthly summary level reports for Mine Kill personnel.
5. All personnel for whom salaries and fringe benefits are paid to the State Comptroller for the OPRHP by the Authority pursuant to paragraph 4 above shall be under the direct supervision of the Park Manager, who may direct that they be occasionally employed at another park facility for training purposes in support of and for the benefit of Mine Kill and related park purposes.

6. The Park Manager and the Supervising Park Worker, or persons in equivalent positions, shall at all times be considered employees of OPRHP, whose compensation shall be established and paid for by OPRHP without any contribution by the Authority.
7. The Authority will continue to provide the house owned by it, as shown on the attached Exhibit B, as living accommodations for the Park Manager. The OPRHP will continue to be responsible for its upkeep and normal maintenance. Subject to the provisions of Paragraphs 13 and 16 hereof and as provided in Paragraph 9, the Authority shall be responsible for the cost of capital improvements to the building, such as the foundation, roof, heating and electrical system.
8. The OPRHP will be responsible for purchasing, receiving, and paying for ordinary supplies, materials, and the contractual services that are required for the operation of Mine Kill and all its facilities. The Authority will reimburse OPRHP on a quarterly basis.
9. The parties hereto agree to discuss on an annual basis OPRHP's operational requirements for personnel as provided in Paragraph 4 and for operating and maintenance costs as provided in Paragraph 8 above.
10. The OPRHP hereby waives the right to revenues collected from entry fees for the use of Mine Kill, fees for the use of the swimming facilities, and any other fees collected for any use of Mine Kill facilities. All revenues derived therefrom shall be the property of the Authority and shall be used to defray payroll and other operating expenses except that revenues derived from the sale of Empire Passports and operation of any concession enterprises, including soda and vending machines, shall be the property of and retained by OPRHP.
11. The OPRHP hereby agrees that the Mine Kill Park Manager shall, on behalf of the Authority, collect all revenues for the facilities, which are the property of the Authority as above set out, deposit such revenues in a depository designated by the Authority and provide an annual accounting of all such revenues in writing to the

Facility Manager, Finance & Administration, at the Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Project.

12. The Authority and/or its authorized representative reserves the right to audit all books of accounts maintained by OPRHP in support of its operations of Mine Kill, including but not limited to costs billed to and reimbursed by the Authority and the collection and deposit of revenues due the Authority under this agreement. The Authority shall be provided with results of any audits performed by the OPRHP or its employees or agents or any other party with respect to Mine Kill. Should the results of this audit reveal payments improperly made by the Authority and accepted by OPRHP, these payments shall be paid back to the Authority. Any charges which cannot be properly supported will be disallowed and, if already paid by the Authority, will be reimbursed by the OPRHP.
13. No structures or improvements, reconstructions and renovations other than those which exist or have been approved by the Authority as of the date of the execution of this agreement shall commence without prior written approval from the Authority. The Authority shall be the sole judge regarding the construction of any additional structures, improvements, reconstructions, and renovations and its determination shall be final. Any such improvements and/or renovations approved by the Authority shall also be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local rules, laws, and regulations.
14. Certificates of Insurance required for use of Mine Kill by third parties, including but not limited to vendors, contractors, or parties providing services for special events, must name the Authority as an additional insured to the third-party's insurance policy, and must indemnify and hold the Authority harmless. All third party contractors or vendors retained by the Authority to use, or perform work in, Mine Kill State Park shall be required by the Authority to: 1) indemnify, defend and hold harmless the State of New York, the OPRHP, and the Saratoga-Capital District State Park Commission, their employees and agents (hereinafter the "State Entities") for all claims or losses arising from said use or work; and 2) name the State Entities as

"Additional Named Insureds" on all applicable insurance policies and certificates of insurance.

15. This agreement is subject to the continual ownership of the hereinabove identified project and associated lands by the Authority. If the Authority ceases to own, operate, and/or maintain the said project and lands as a result of cancellation of its FERC license or otherwise, this operating agreement shall terminate and neither party hereto will have any claim against the other, except OPRHP shall be entitled to reimbursement of the actual costs for operations, maintenance, and personnel and any other expenditures not already reimbursed by the Authority to the date of termination. The Authority agrees to provide OPRHP with written notice as soon as practicable of any actions taken or initiated by the Authority, FERC, or any interested third party that may affect the ownership or operation of Mine Kill State Park.
16. Except in the case of repairs or improvements necessitated by an emergency situation or sudden or unexpected circumstances, OPRHP shall submit to the Authority any and all plans and estimated costs for constructions, reconstructions, renovations, rehabilitations, alterations, and/or improvements to any buildings which are subject to compliance with updated or revised federal, state, and/or local laws, rules, and regulations. Such plans and estimated costs shall be submitted by OPRHP to Authority at least one (1) year in advance. The Authority shall reimburse OPRHP for any and all agreed upon "Off Line Capital Costs" which shall not be included in the negotiated total monetary reimbursement for operation, maintenance, and personnel of Mine Kill.
17. As provided herein, this Operating Agreement shall supercede and extend the term of all previous agreements and/or permits relating to Mine Kill State Park between the parties. The term hereof shall commence upon the date of execution of this agreement and continue for a period of five (5) years, subject to automatic renewal for up to four (4) additional five (5) year periods, unless notice of termination is given in writing by either party at least one year prior to the expiration of said term.
18. This agreement can be terminated by either party with a one-year's written notice.

19. Written notifications from Authority to OPRHP shall be addressed to the Deputy 12866-6214 with a copy to OPRHP Counsel's office at Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 1, Albany, New York 12238. Written notifications from OPRHP to Authority shall be addressed to the Regional Manager - Central New York, New York Power Authority, PO Box 200, Gilboa, New York 12076 with a copy to the Director of Real Estate, New York Power Authority, PO Box 200, Gilboa, New York 12076.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Operating Agreement on the day and year first above written.

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK, ACTING BY AND THROUGH
NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS,
RECREATION & HISTORIC PRESERVATION

By *Robert Q. Hines*
Its *EVP - Project Operations*
Date: *April 13, 1998*

By *Nancy Columbo*
Deputy Commissioner
For Administration
& Fiscal Affairs
Its _____
Date *3/14/98*

Appendix B – Building Information

Table 1 Buildings at Mine Kill State Park

Building Name	Building No.	Square ft.	Built	Renovations/Additions	Condition	Major Needs/Future Plans
Park Office/Maintenance Building	BR096-010	3063	mid 1980's	Cold storage addition to rear.	Fair. Roof needs replacement (original). Exterior wood siding needs staining, replacement of rotten siding/sills in places.	Addition planned for 2016-17. Will increase office space, and enlarge community meeting room. Will also eliminate the need to use shop space for offices and breakroom.
Contact Station	BR096-008	576	early 1970's		Good. Minor maintenance to exterior needed.	
Pumphouse Building			early 1970's	New roof membrane installed in 1997	Good.	
Pool Bath House	BR096-001	5530	early 1970's	Interior remodeled in 2008	Good. Siding/window sills need maintenance. Roof should be inspected. Leak over men's locker room.	Would like to replace existing oil hot water tanks with solar hot water system.
Concession Building	BR096-002	840	early 1970's		Good. Wood framed windows and sills need maintenance. Settling issue at northwest corner causing door to jam.	
Main Pool Filter Building	BR096-003	609	early 1970's		Good. Wood fascia boards and eaves need some maintenance.	Building is good, but pool filter mechanicals are showing age. Steel filter tanks should be replaced. 1,000 gallon chlorine tank in basement; can it be moved?
Wading Pool Filter Building			early 1970's		Good.	
Mid-Level Comfort Station	BR096-006	625	early 1970's	Interior remodeled in 2013	Good.	
Mid-Level Pavilion	AR096-122	996	early 1970's		Good. Floor moves due to frost heaving and is uneven; when replaced should improve drainage.	
Mid-Level Overlook	BR096-007	1088	early 1970's		Good.	
Lower-Level Comfort Station	BR096-005	625	early 1970's		Fair. Interior could use remodeling. Masonry walls cracked in front from frost heaving.	
Equipment Shed (at Sewage Treatment Plant)			?		Fair to poor.	

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Building Name	Building No.	Square ft.	Built	Renovations/Additions	Condition	Major Needs/Future Plans
Sewage Treatment Building	BR096-004	176	early 1970's	Wood frame addition on Reservoir side of original masonry building.	Fair.	
Falls Overlook Deck			?	Rebuilt in 1999	Good.	
Falls Kiosk			2014		Good.	Interpretive panels currently being installed.
Bluebird Trail Kiosk			2014		Good.	
Pool Playgrounds (two)					Good.	
Pool Parking Area Playground			2012?		Good.	
Mid-Level Playground					Good.	

Table 2 Buildings at Max V. Shaul State Park

Building Name	Building No.	Square ft.	Built	Renovations/Additions	Condition	Major Needs/Future Plans
House/Cabin	BR139-001	937	1960's	Front Office/Nature Center	Fair. Interior needs updating, maintenance and repairs. Front room was converted to a Nature Center. Needs some additional work to make functional. Office lacks storage space; no winter bathroom facilities for staff.	
Maintenance Garage	BR139-002	975	1960's	Shed addition in rear.	Fair.	
Pavilion	AR139-166	600	1960's		Good.	
Stage			2015		Good. Construction is not complete. Needs siding and to be stained.	
Playground			2012?		Good.	
Comfort Station #1 (Day-Use Area)	BR139-005	323	1960's		Poor. Sills and siding rotten and chewed up. Interior fixtures need updating.	
Comfort Station #2 (Upper Loop)	BR139-006	323	1960's		Poor.	Planned for replacement with new comfort station/showers in 2017-2018.

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Building Name	Building No.	Square ft.	Built	Renovations/Additions	Condition	Major Needs/Future Plans
Comfort Station #3 (Shower House)	BR139-007	323	1960's		Poor.	Planned for demolition in after new comfort stations/showers built in 2017-2018.
Comfort Station #4 (Lower Loop)	BR139-008	323	1960's		Poor.	Planned for replacement with new comfort station/showers in 2017-2018.
Pumphouse	BR139-003	140	1960's	Addition built in 2013? to serve as a "concession stand" for Open Mic Nights.	Fair.	
Water Tank					Good.	
Three-sided Kiosk					Good.	

Appendix C – Mine Kill State Park Bird Checklist

HOOD-WARBLERS	Sp	S	F	H
American Redstart*	A	C	U	
Bay-Breasted Warbler^	R	R		
Black & White Warbler*	A	C	U	
Black-throated Blue Warbler^	U	U		
Black-throated Green Warbler*	A	C	U	
Blackburnian Warbler*	A	C	U	
Blackpoll Warbler^	R	R		
Blue-winged Warbler^	C	C	U	
Canada Warbler^	C	C	U	
Cape May Warbler^	R	R		
Cerulean Warbler^ #	U			
Chestnut-sided Warbler*	A	C	U	
Common Yellowthroat*	A	C	U	
Connecticut Warbler^	R			
Golden-winged Warbler # ^	R	R		
Hooded Warbler^	R	R		
Kentucky Warbler^	O			
Louisiana Waterthrush^	O	U		
Magnolia Warbler^	O	U		
Mourning Warbler^	O			
Nashville Warbler^	C			
Northern Parula	O	C		
Northern Waterthrush^	U	U		
Ovenbird*	C	A	U	
Palm Warbler^	U			
Pine Warbler^	U	U		
Prairie Warbler^	U	U		
Tennessee Warbler^	C			
Wilson's Warbler^	U			
Worm-eating Warbler^	R	R		
Yellow Warbler*	A	C	U	
Yellow-rumped Warbler* ^	A	C	U	

Additional resources with bird observing:
 NYSDEC (dec.ny.gov)
 Audubonbirds.org (pictures, calls)
 Cornell Lab of Ornithology (www.birds.cornell.edu)
 iBird.org & Audubon app.
 Delaware Otsego Audubon Society (doas.us)

SPARROWS & ALLIES	Sp	S	F	H
American Tree Sparrow	C			O
Chipping Sparrow*	A	A	C	
Dark-eyed Junco*	A	A	C	C
Eastern Towhee	C		C	
Field Sparrow*	A	A	C	
Fox Sparrow			O	O
Grasshopper Sparrow#	O		O	
Henslow's Sparrow#	R	R		
Lincoln's Sparrow	R	R		
Savannah Sparrow*	A	A	C	
Song Sparrow*	A	A	C	
Swamp Sparrow	C		U	
Vesper Sparrow#	O		U	
White-crowned Sparrow	O		O	
White-throated Sparrow	C	C	C	
BLACKBIRDS				
Baltimore Oriole*	A	C		
Bobolink	O	O		
Brown-headed Cowbird*	A	C	C	
Common Grackle*	A	C	C	
Eastern Meadowlark	O	O		
Orchard Oriole	R	R		
Red-winged Blackbird*	A	A	C	
Rusty Blackbird	O	O		
FINCHES				
American Goldfinch*	A	A	A	C
Common Redpoll				R
Evening Grosbeak	O			
Hoary Redpoll				R
House Finch	O		O	
Pine Grosbeak				R
Pine Siskin				C
Purple Finch*	A	C	C	C



Bird Watcher's Checklist

Mine Kill State Park
 Route 30, North Blenheim, NY 12131
 (518) 827-6111
 Park Office GPS Coordinates:
 N 42°26.076' W 074°27.796'

GEESE, DUCKS & LOONS	Sp	S	F	W
American Black Duck	U	U	U	
American Wigeon	U		U	
Blue-winged Teal	R		R	
Brant	R		R	
Bufflehead	U	U	U	
Canada Goose	C	O	C	
Common Goldeneye	R		R	
Common Merganser^	C	C	C	
Gadwall	R		R	
Green-winged Teal	U		U	
Hooded Merganser	C	U	U	
Mallard	C	C	C	C
Red-breasted Merganser	R		R	
Ring-necked Duck	R		R	
Ruddy Duck	O		O	
Snow Goose	R		R	
Wood Duck^	U		U	
Common Loon #	U	R	U	

Observer Field Data

Name _____ Date _____
 Time _____ Weather _____
 Special Observations should be reported (breeding behavior, rare or
 out of season sightings, etc.): _____

TURKEYS & GROUSE	Sp	S	F	W
Ruffed Grouse*	C	C	C	
Ringed-necked Pheasant	O	O		
Wild Turkey*	A	C	A	
HERONS, GREBES & CRANES				
American Bittern^	U	U		
Great Blue Heron^	C	C	O	
Great Egret		O	O	
Snowy Egret^		R	R	
Green Heron^	O	O	O	
Pied-billed Grebe^ #	O	O	O	R
Sandhill Crane	R		R	R
HAWKS, EAGLES, FALCONS & VULTURES				
American Kestrel	C	C	C	C
Bald Eagle* #	A	A	C	C
Broad-winged Hawk	O	O		
Cooper's Hawk*	U	U	U	
Golden Eagle #	R		R	R
Merlin	R	R	R	
Northern Goshawk	U	U	U	
Northern Harrier #	R	R		
Osprey^ #	O	O	O	
Peregrine Falcon #	R	R	R	
Red-Tailed Hawk*	C	C	C	
Rough-legged Hawk				R
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	U	U	U	
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	
TRUE OWLS				
Barred Owl *	U	U	U	U
Eastern Screech Owl *	U	U	U	U
Long-eared Owl	R	R	R	R
Great Horned Owl *	U	U	U	U
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O	O	O	

Species designated by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as endangered, threatened, or of special concern.
* Nesting in or around the park grounds
^ Birds more abundant at Max V. Shaul State Park

NIGHTHAWKS & NIGHTJARS	Sp	S	F	W
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U	
Eastern Whip-poor-will	U	R	U	
WOODPECKERS & NUTHATCHES				
Downy Woodpecker* ^	A	A	C	C
Hairy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted)*	C	O	C	
Pileated Woodpecker*	C	C	C	
Red-bellied Woodpecker*	O	O	U	
Red-headed Woodpecker*	R	R		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	A	A	C	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	O	O	O	
White-breasted Nuthatch*	C	C	C	
Brown Creeper*	C	C		
FLYCATCHERS & GNATCATCHERS				
Acadian Flycatcher	R	R	R	
Alder Flycatcher	O	O	U	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher^	C	O	U	
Eastern Kingbird*	A	A	U	
Eastern Phoebe*	A	A	U	
Eastern Hood-Pewee	C	C	U	
Great Crested Flycatcher^	C	C	U	
Least Flycatcher	O	C	U	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	R	R	R	
Willow Flycatcher ^	C	C	U	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher^	R	R	R	
VIREOS, TANAGERS & WAXWINGS				
Blue-headed Vireo*	A	C		
Philadelphia Vireo	R	R		
Red-eyed Vireo*	A	C	U	
Warbling Vireo^	C	C		
Yellow-throated Vireo ^	C	C		
Scarlet Tanager*	A	A	U	
Cedar Waxwing*	A	A	C	



JAYS, CROWS & CUCKOOS	Sp	S	F	W
American Crow*	A	A	C	C
Blue Jay*	A	A	C	C
Common Raven*	O	O	C	C
Fish Crow	R	R	R	R
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U		
Belted Kingfisher*	C	C	C	
CHICKADEES, TITMICE & KINGLETS				
Black-capped Chickadee*	A	A	A	A
Tufted Titmouse	C	C	C	C
Golden-crowned Kinglet^	C	C	U	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet^	U	U	U	
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS & WRENS				
Brown Thrasher*	C	A		
Gray Catbird*	A	A		
Northern Mockingbird	R	R		
Carolina Wren	C	C		
House Wren*	C	A	C	
Winter Wren*	C	C		
THRUSHES				
American Robin*	A	C	C	O
Eastern Bluebird*	A	A	C	O
Hermit Thrush*	C	C	U	
Swainson's Thrush	U	R	R	
Veery*	A	C	U	
Hood Thrush*	A	C	U	
CARDINALS & GROSBEAKS				
Indigo Bunting*	A	A		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
Rose-breasted Grosbeak^	C	C		

Species designated by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as endangered, threatened, or of special concern.
* Nesting in or around the park grounds
^ Birds more abundant at Max V. Shaul State Park

Status:
A Abundant - hard to miss in proper habitat
C Common - very likely to be seen in proper habitat
O Uncommon - present but not likely to be seen
O Occasional - seen 1-3 times a season, or adjacent
Rare - seen at intervals of 2-5 years

Seasons:
Sp Spring (March 1 - May 31)
S Summer (June 1 - August 31)
F Fall (Sept. 1 - November 30)
W Winter (Dec. 1 - February 28)

Appendix D – Mammals

Table 3 Mammals observed within a project area near John Burroughs Memorial State Historic Site (Stantec, Inc, 2009)

Mammals	
Black bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
Eastern chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus</i>
Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>
White-tailed deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>

Appendix E – Max V Shaul State Park Visitor Survey Analysis

Max V. Shaul State Park 2016 Visitor Survey Analysis



Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Rose Harvey, Commissioner

Max V. Shaul State Park 2016 Visitor Survey Analysis

Report Prepared by the
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation,
Planning Bureau

July 2016

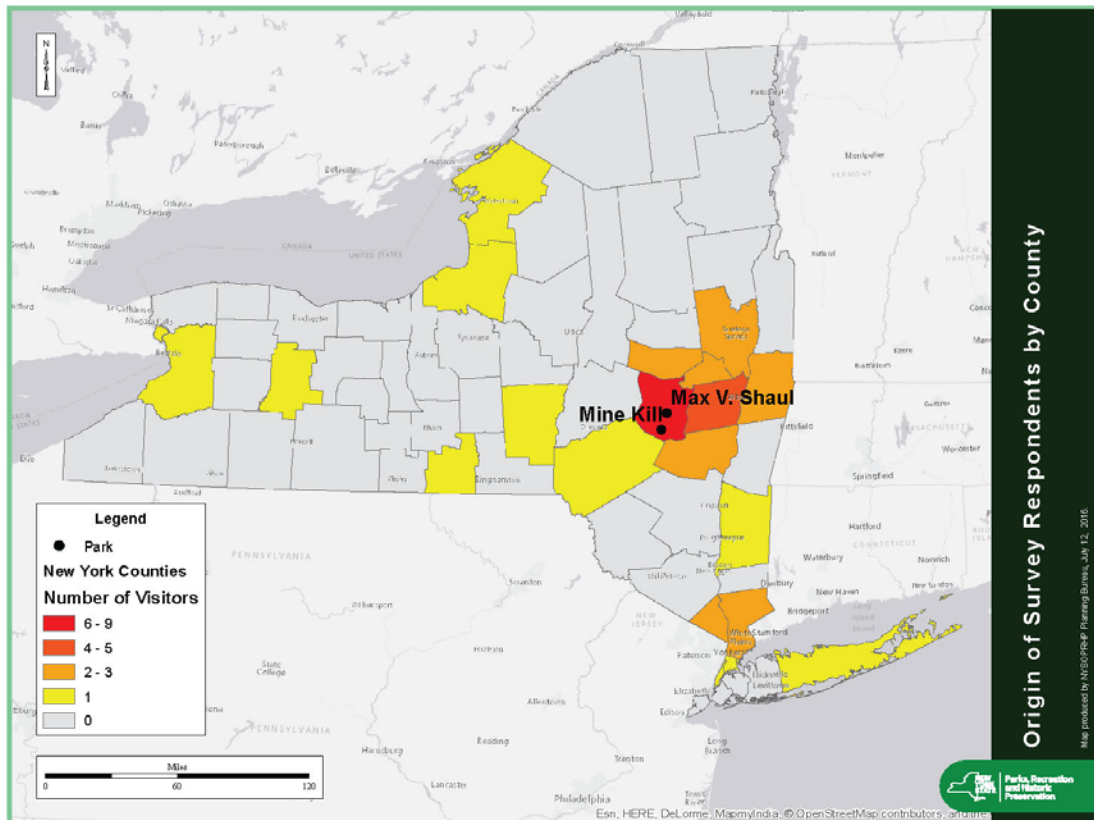
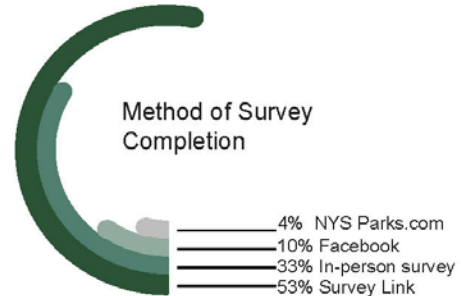


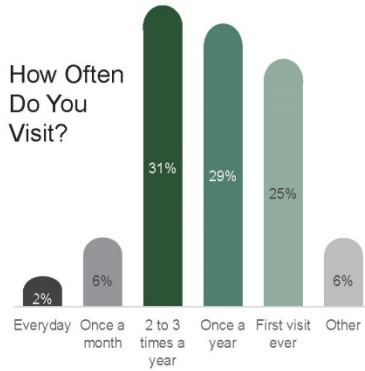
Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Rose Harvey, Commissioner

Introduction In conjunction with the planning process, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP) administered a visitor survey during the spring and summer of 2016. The purpose of the survey was to collect information from visitors pertaining to current and future desired uses of the park. The survey was distributed in an online format through multiple channels. This included a link to the survey from both the park's web page and Facebook page, as well as being emailed out to past campers. In-person surveys were also conducted by park interns from mid-June to early July. Efforts from all of these methods produced a total of 51 usable responses, the majority of which (53%) came from the emailed link. During fiscal year 2015-16, Max V. Shaul State Park reported 12,612 visitors. Therefore, this survey sample is representative of the visiting population at an 85% confidence level with a 10% margin of error. Results should be interpreted with caution due to the small sample size.

Results The 51 respondents to this survey represented a total of 163 visitors to the park. The average age of the survey responder was 46 but ranged from 25 to 73 years old. The responder was as equally likely to be male as female and traveled in an average group size of 3.5 people. Almost half of the recorded visitors were between the ages of 30 and 64. Twenty-one percent were nine years old or younger.

Respondents resided largely in the counties containing and surrounding the park. Five respondents reside out of state and are not shown in the map below. These include New Hampshire, New Jersey (2), Pennsylvania, and North Carolina.

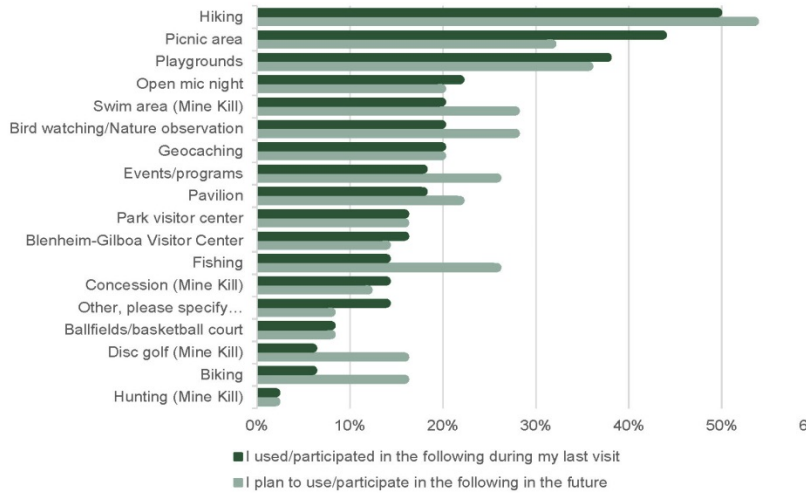




The vast majority of survey respondents visited the park for the purpose of camping inside the park, with an average length of stay of 3 nights. Only four percent of survey respondents were there on a day visit. Roughly a third visited both Mine Kill and Max V. Shaul during their most recent trip. The majority of survey respondents visit Max V. Shaul State Park between 1 and 3 times per year and 98% are somewhat or extremely likely to visit again.



Activities Used/Participated in During Last Visit and Planned for Future Visits

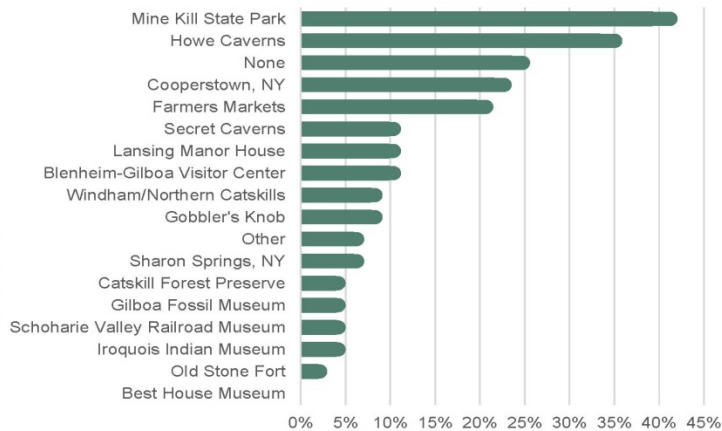


Hiking and use of the picnic areas and playgrounds were the top three activities survey respondents participated in during their most recent visit to Max V. Shaul State Park. They also happen to be the top three activities that respondents plan to use during future visits to the park. Patrons also plan to use the swim area, and participate in bird watching and fishing at greater levels than during their last visit.

The most popular destination visited in conjunction with survey respon-

...ents' visits to Max V. Shaul State Park, was Mine Kill State Park. Howe Caverns was also a popular destination for visitors. Nearly a quarter didn't visit any tourist destinations during their trip.

Tourist Destinations Visited in Conjunction with the Trip to Max V. Shaul



Fifteen percent of visitors who completed the survey used facilities adapted for person with disabilities on their most recent visit. Other programs patrons would like to see made accessible include campsites with water and electricity, more bathrooms, more sites for bigger campers, and wildlife and hiking education.

Thirty-five percent of survey respondents traveled with their dog during their most recent visit. No other pets traveled with their owners to the park. Additional amenities requested for pets included a dog park (for both Max V. Shaul and Mine Kill), dog water fountains, a place close by for dogs while the owners swim, more pet friendly areas, and showers attached to the bathrooms.

Location was the primary influence for 45% of survey respondents in their decision to visit Max V. Shaul State Park. Twenty-eight percent cited a previous visit as the primary influence, 13% cited a special program or event, 4% received a recommendation and 2% were influenced by the cost. Other influences included love for the nature, the NYS Parks Geocaching Challenge, small size and quiet location, Internet, and the peace and quiet you get camping is like heaven; Don't change a thing. Ninety-eight percent mostly or very much enjoyed their visit.

Amenity	1	2	3	4	Average Level of Satisfaction	n
Swimming pools (Mine Kill)	0%	0%	27%	73%	3.73	15
Picnic shelter	4%	0%	17%	78%	3.70	23
Playground	7%	0%	11%	82%	3.68	28
Picnic areas	7%	4%	14%	75%	3.57	28
Campsites	7%	5%	21%	67%	3.48	42
Trails	3%	10%	24%	62%	3.45	29
Signage, maps, & wayfinding	8%	6%	22%	64%	3.42	36
Restroom/shower facilities	5%	17%	20%	59%	3.32	41
Fishing areas	7%	36%	21%	36%	2.86	14

Visitors to Max V. Shaul State Park were asked to rate their level of satisfaction with current amenities on a scale of one to four, with one being very unsatisfied and four being very satisfied.

Swimming pools (Mine Kill) received the highest average level of satisfaction with a score of 3.73, however, less than one third of the survey respondents have participated in that activity. Fishing areas had the lowest score, but again had low participation. Campsites had the highest par-

Desired Amenity	#3	#2	#1	Total
Wi-Fi	6%	17%	26%	49%
Water/electric hook-ups	0%	15%	13%	28%
RV sites	4%	6%	2%	13%
Cabins/cottages	9%	15%	11%	34%
Primitive/wilderness camping	9%	4%	15%	28%
Extended fall camping season	23%	13%	17%	53%

Additional Comments

- #1- Needs a dump station. #4-Extended Fall Season was nice
- Disc golf, movies in the park
- Love the music in the background while camping
- NYS parks are among the best campgrounds in the northeast. There are a lot of them. They are well maintained and appointed. We do tent camping with no electric or water hook-ups so having potable water available is important. The sites are nicely spaced and always clean. The park rangers are friendly and helpful. We love to travel with our pet and NJ, PA, CT are not overnight pet friendly. I always have a dependable positive camping experience when I go to a NYS park. Although I live in NJ, I have been enjoying NYS camping since the 1970s. It is a benefit that as a parent I can enjoy an adult beverage by the campsite too.
- Open earlier.
- The last time that I was there I had to sleep in my car because there coyotes in the area. I left the next morning. I spoke with the person in charge but he just said the that was normal. I didn't want to spend an other night with my dog in that place.
- Want access to creek,
- We found this campground while taking a college road trip with my son 3 summer ago and have come back every summer since. We come for 6 nights. This summer is already booked!! Love your wood service but really wish you had ice available. Great park staff. See you in August.

ticipation rate and averaged 3.48 out of 4. Visitors were also asked to choose their top three amenities they would like to see added to the park. Fifty-three percent of survey respondents would like to see an extended fall camping season. However, Wi-Fi had the highest proportion of respondents list it as their number one choice at 26%. RV sites was the least requested amenity. The only comments provided with this question were to leave it as camping and no coyotes.

Lastly, survey respondents were given the opportunity to leave any additional comments they have. The full comments can be found in the table to the left.

Appendix: Max V. Shaul State Park Visitor Survey

Max V. Shaul State Park Visitor Survey

Dear Visitor: The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has begun a planning process for Max V. Shaul State Park. Thank you for taking a few minutes to tell us about your recent trip. We greatly value your input.

Have you visited Max V. Shaul State Park in the past 12 months?

- Yes
- No

How would you categorize your most recent visit?

- Day visit
- Camping inside the park

How many nights did your trip include?

Which park(s) did you visit during your most recent trip to Max V. Shaul State Park?

- Max V. Shaul
- Mine Kill
- Both

How often do you visit Max V. Shaul State Park?

- Everyday
- Once a month
- 2 to 3 times a year
- Once a year
- This is my first time ever
- Other, please specify... _____

How likely are you to visit again?

- Extremely likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Extremely unlikely

I used/participated in the following during my last visit:

- Playgrounds
- Concession-meals, snacks, supplies (Mine Kill)
- Swim area (Mine Kill)
- Hiking
- Biking

- Disc golf (Mine Kill)
- Bird watching/Nature observation
- Open mic night
- Ballfields/basketball court
- Picnic area
- Pavilion
- Park visitor center
- Fishing
- Hunting (Mine Kill)
- Geocaching
- Events/programs
- Blenheim-Gilboa Visitor Center
- Other, please specify... _____

In the future, I plan to use/participate in the following:

- Playgrounds
- Concession-meals, snacks, supplies (Mine Kill)
- Swim area (Mine Kill)
- Hiking
- Biking
- Disc golf (Mine Kill)
- Bird watching/Nature observation
- Open mic night
- Ballfields/basketball court
- Picnic area
- Pavilion
- Park visitor center
- Fishing
- Hunting (Mine Kill)
- Geocaching
- Events/programs
- Blenheim-Gilboa Visitor Center
- Other, please specify... _____

Please check all tourist destinations that you visited in conjunction with your trip to Max V. Shaul State Park.

- Howe Caverns

- Mine Kill State Park
- Blenheim-Gilboa Visitor Center
- Iroquois Indian Museum
- Lansing Manor House
- Old Stone Fort
- Cooperstown, NY
- Best House Museum
- Schoharie Valley Railroad Museum
- Secret Caverns
- Gobbler's Knob
- Gilboa Fossil Museum
- Sharon Springs, NY
- Catskill Forest Preserve
- Farmers Markets
- Windham/Northern Catskills
- Other, please specify... _____
- None

On your most recent visit, did you use any facilities adapted for persons with disabilities?

- Yes
- No

Are there any other programs or facilities you would like to see made accessible? If so, please describe below.

Did you travel with a pet(s)?

- Dog
- Cat
- Both
- None
- Other, please specify... _____

Are there any other amenities you would like to see made available for pets that are not available now? If so, please describe below.

Which of the following most influenced your decision to visit Max V. Shaul State Park?

- Previous visit

- Location
- Cost
- Amenities
- Recommendation
- Special program or events
- Other, please specify... _____

Please indicate how much you enjoyed your visit:

- Very much
- Mostly
- Not so much
- Not at all

Please fill in the circle that matches your level of satisfaction with each of the amenities listed below on a scale of 1 to 4, with 1 being very unsatisfied and 4 being very satisfied.

1 = Very unsatisfied to 4 = Very satisfied

	1	2	3	4	N/A
Picnic areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic shelter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campsites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming pools (Mine Kill)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playground	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Signage, maps, & wayfinding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restroom/shower facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other:

Please rank the top 3 amenities you would like to see added to Max V. Shaul State Park.

(Choose only 3) # 1= First choice, # 3= Third Choice

	# 1	# 2	# 3
Wi-Fi	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water/electric hook-ups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
RV sites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cabins/cottages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Primitive/wilderness camping

Extended fall camping season

Other (Please specify below)

Other:

Additional comments:

The Office of Sustainability would also like to collect information on recycling in state parks. This information will be used to evaluate the recycling program with the goal of reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills each year by NYS parks and historic sites. Additional comments can be sent to Sustainability@parks.ny.gov.

Do you currently recycle when visiting any New York State park or historic site?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often
- Always

Do you find recycling at Max V. Shaul State Park to be convenient?

- Yes
- No

What can we do to make recycling more convenient?

Please check all that apply.

- Improve location of bins
- More bins
- Signs representing items that go in each bin
- Signage indicating location of bins
- Other, please specify... _____

Which of the following would inspire you to recycle?

Please check all that apply.

- More convenient recycling locations
- More recycling options (single sort, compost, etc.)
- Better signage/promotion of recycling options
- Education on how my actions impact the environment
- Giveaways or other incentives for recycling

- N/A - I already recycle
- Other, please specify... _____

The following demographic information is being collected for statistical purposes only:

* Denotes required question

*Your age:

*Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Rather not specify

*Including yourself, how many people of each age group below were in your party during your last visit?

65 and over

46-64

30-45

18-29

10-17

9 and under

*Please enter the zip/postal code of your primary residence

Appendix F – Mine Kill State Park Survey Results

(NYPA, 2016b)

NYPA Survey Results

The following data was collected by NYPA during 2015 and 2016 as part of their relicensing application. The locations surveyed that fall within Mine Kill State Park are analyzed below. All other data were excluded.

Total Number of Surveys 83

Site Location

Minekill Falls Overlook 52%
Minekill State Park 48%

Group Size

330 Total visitors captured
Median group size: 3

Type of Group

	%
Alone	8.4
Educational Group	1.2
Family	60.2
Family&Friends	2.4
Friends	22.9
Multiple Families	2.4
Organized Outing Group	2.4

Average number of vehicles per group: 1.6

Have you ever visited the B-G Project area before

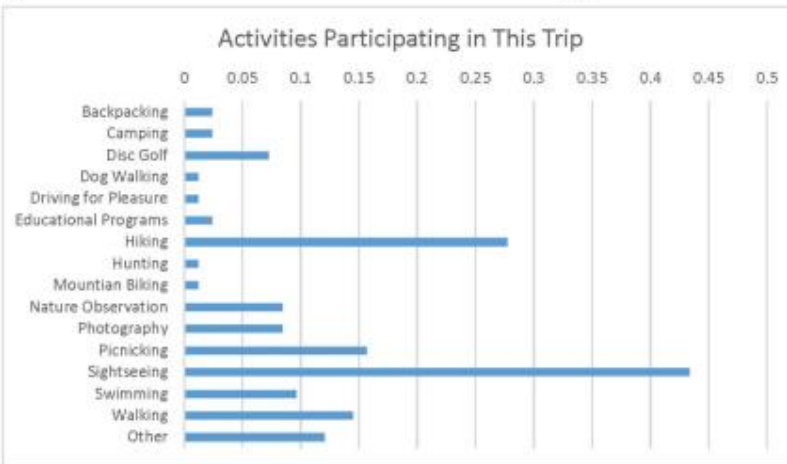
No 37%
Yes 63%

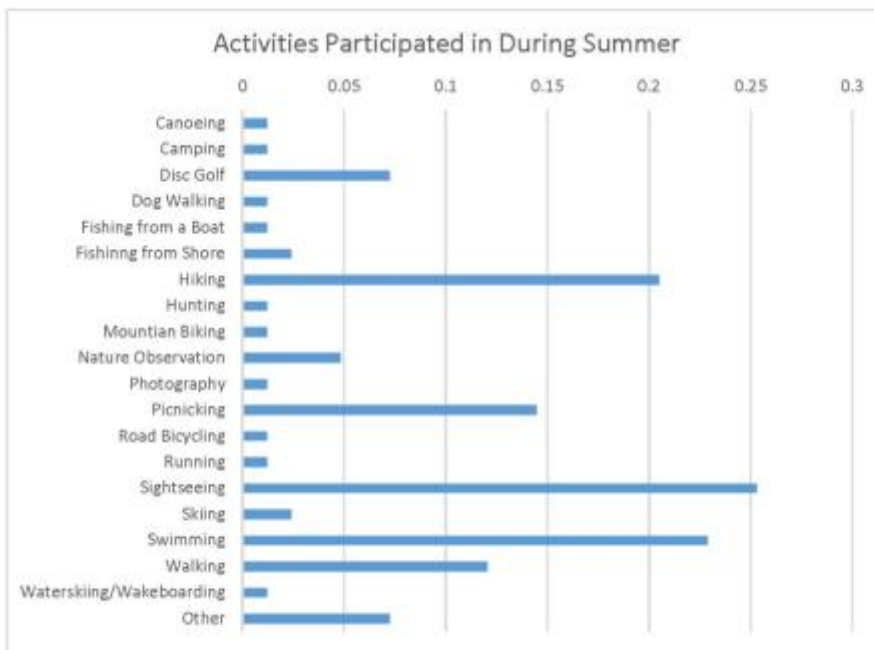
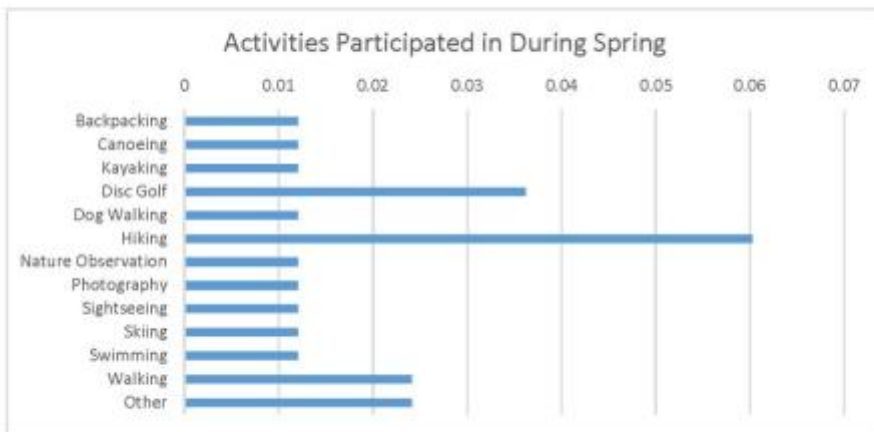
If yes how many times per year, over the last five years, did you typically visit the project area for recreation

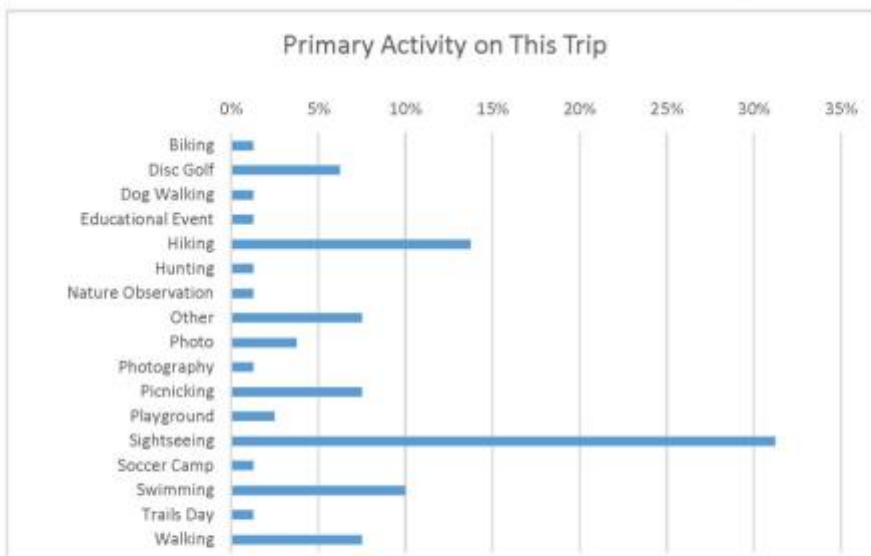
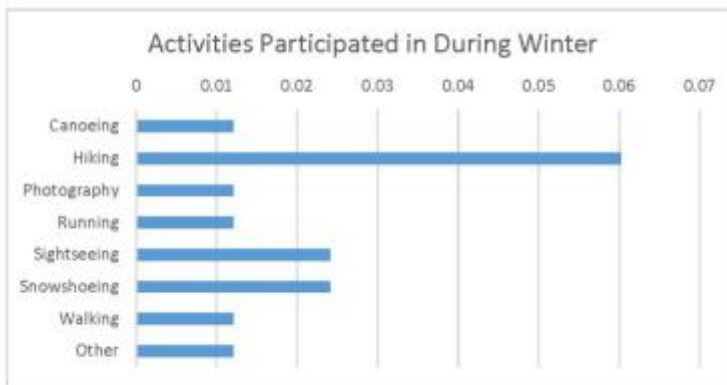
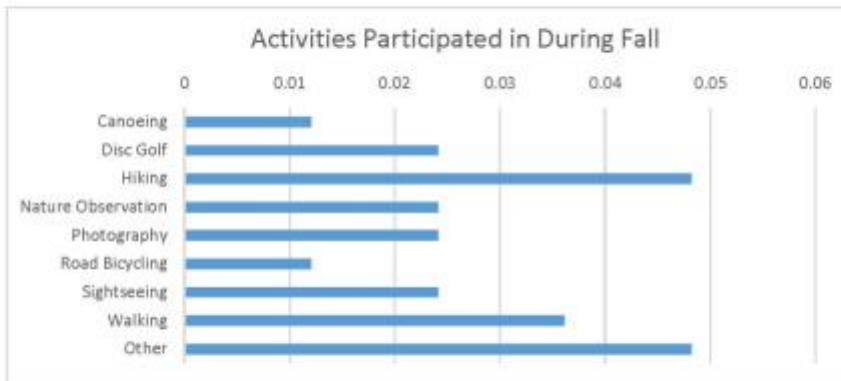
Total: 477 Average: 8.8 Median: 5

What is your perception of the amount of use occurring at this recreation site?

1 Not Crowded	65%
2	15%
3 Somewhat Crowded	12%
4	7%







Overall, how satisfied were you with the available number of recreation facilities?

3 Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	32%
4 Moderately Satisfied	23%
5 Extremely Satisfied	45%

Please rate the following for this location:

Availability of Parking	%
3 Fair	1.2
4	12.0
5 Excellent	86.7

Site Condition	%
3 Fair	2.4
4	8.4
5 Excellent	89.2

Variety of Facilities/Amenities	
1 Poor	1%
2	1%
3 Fair	9%
4	31%
5 Excellent	57%

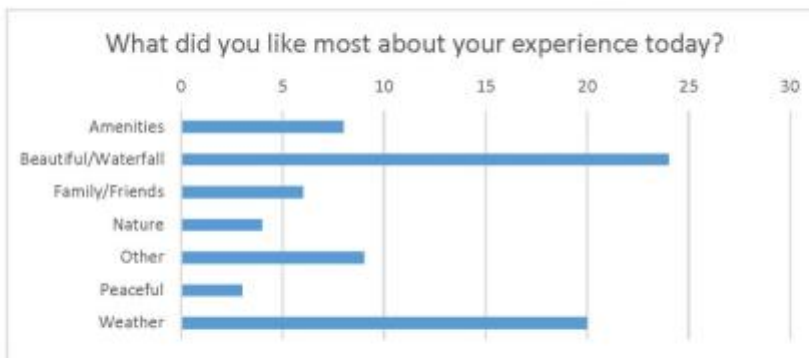
Amount of Available Access to Project Waters	
2	3%
3 Fair	15%
4	32%
5 Excellent	50%

How would you rate this recreation site as a public recreation opportunity on a scale of 1 to 5?

2	2%
3 Some Value	3%
4	13%
5 Highly Value	82%

Would you return to this recreation site over the course of the next year?

No	7%
Yes	93%



What did you like most about your recreational experience today? (Full text)

Diving Board	Playing with my kids
Golf with my buddies	Spending time together with our families
Great Swimming Lessons	With my buddies
Hiking with friends	Nature
New benches, restrooms	Outdoors Views
Picnicking	Seeing the nature and rocks, the cut in the gorge
Playing Disc Golf with my friends	The outdoors
Rock Throwing	Power station, and old mansion
Seeing the kids at soccer camp	Affordable aka free!
Well Groomed Course	Building a bridge
Well groomed disc golf course and weather	Getting out of the house (She is Pregnant)
Won the tournament	Haven't seen it yet
Access trails marked well	Helping the kids
The views	How easy it was
Beautiful	Not crowded
Beautiful Falls	Out of the house
Beautiful Sight	Taking the survey
Clean and Beautiful	Peaceful no thugs, rude mean people
Close to home, scenery	Quiet
The nice view	Quietness
The sight	Beautiful Day
The view	Beautiful day
View	Beautiful day for it
Falls, nature	Beautiful Weather
People and views	Beautiful Weather
Scenery	Enjoying the day
Seeing the falls	Enjoying the day
Sight seeing - the falls	Enjoying the weather
Survey! Seeing the falls	Nice day for riding (Motorcycle)
The Falls	Nice Temperature
The Falls	Nice weather, quality family time
The Falls	Not the rain!
The Falls and water course	Sunny and blue sky
The falls are beautiful	The beautiful day
The view at the falls	The beautiful weather
The waterfall went over the bridge	The beautiful weather
Waterfall	The weather
Being with my kids	Way too nice of a day for December
Being with my kids	Weather
Getting the kids out of the house	Weather

What did you like least about your recreational experience today?

Bathrooms were locked	Rain!
Carrying our chairs down	Still have to work
Cold	The Rain
Cold	Weather
Confusing	
Lack of Bathrooms	
Leaving	
Not enough snow	
Pool isn't open	
Rain	

What, if anything, enhanced your recreation experience today?

All of us having time to do this	Nothing
Beautiful weather	Rain holding out
Beautiful weather in December	Rain Stopped
Car show tomorrow	Riding my motorcycle in this weather
Deciding to hike	Riding our bikes here
Don't get to do this much	Spending time with my family
Dry weather conditions	Swim Instructors
Family Time	Swim Instructors
Getting all our friends together	Taking the dog out
Good the way it is, Children's Jungle Gym	The nice weather
It was all great	The overlook
Lack of people	The Weather
N/A	The weather
NA	The weather allowing us to be here
Nice fall weather	The weather! Crazy!
Nice weather	Three day weekend
Nice weather	Trail Maps and Signage
No	Walking stinks - we want an elevator
No	Weather
No	Weather is Good
No	Well kept, beautiful, clean, great setting, Schoharie valley
No Rain	With my mom
Not the weather	With my son

What, if anything, detracted from your recreation experience today?

Lack of amenities
Lack of amenities
Other Lack of Cell Service
Some water sources were off

What, if anything caused you to modify your recreation plans today?

Cold Weather
Survey
The weather
Time
Use of Restrooms

Do you have any additional comments regarding recreation opportunities within the BG Project

Excited for hiking, frisbee golf
Great Disk Golf Course
It is a nice place
More Bathrooms!
Nice Place
Outstanding disc golf course!!
Swimming program here is wonderful, we have been coming for years now and my kids have moved up through the levels and I do not even need to watch them now, they are doing wonderful
The swim instructors are great
Wanted history-referred to visitor center
Yes, we love this park

Appendix G –Comments and Responses

Introduction

This chapter contains the responses to the comments received by OPRHP on the Draft Strategic Plan for Mine Kill and Max V. Shaul State Parks and John Burroughs Memorial State Historic Site. A Public open house was held at the Mine Kill State Park Office on October 15, 2016. The comment period ended on November 14, 2016. OPRHP appreciates the time and effort that persons interested in the future of these facilities have invested in their review and comments and their participation in the open house. The types of comments received included document editing suggestions, requests for clarification of information presented in the document, and comments related to specific aspects of the plan. All comments were reviewed and organized by categories. Responses to these comments are found in this section and were considered in revisions found in the Interim Planning Assessment.

The comments were categorized according to the subject area they spoke or wrote about. Some similar comments were consolidated and all comments were edited to include only the substantive portions. The subject areas are presented in alphabetical order with no indication of any prioritization.

Comments made specifically about one of the three facilities are preceded by:
MK = Mine Kill State Park; MVS = Max V. Shaul State Park; JB = John Burroughs Memorial State Historic Site

Category	Comment	Draft Response
<i>Boat Launch and Boating</i>		
	MK – Consider canoe and kayak rentals	This is already part of the strategic plan (see pg 28)
	MK – Consider canoe storage for regular park users	This has been added to the strategic plan (see pg 28)
<i>Camping</i>		
	MVS – Need dump station	This consideration is already part of the strategic plan (see pg 32)
	MK – Consider cabin rentals	New York Power Authority (NYPA) has rejected inclusion of any overnight camping at Mine Kill State Park including cabins.
<i>Environmental Education</i>		
	MK – Continue to showcase plant and ecological community diversity and what it means	OPRHP concurs with this comment and will be instituting various forms of showcasing these resources.
<i>Parks, General – Facilities</i>		

Category	Comment	Draft Response
	MK and MVS - Consider composting toilets when upgrading comfort stations	This will be tried at the time. Composting toilets are used where utilities and water are not available so they are more appropriate at those areas. They cannot be used where water is available.
	MK and MVS - Initiate ability to pay using credit cards	This will be considered wherever possible. Concessionaire is not required to accept credit cards at this time.
	MK - Drinking fountains at pool and overlook area	These areas already have drinking fountains. Additional fountains will be considered. Additional fountains with bottle filler capabilities may be considered.
	MK - Wireless internet at pool complex and main office	OPRHP is currently looking into adding wireless capabilities at many parks where feasible.
<i>Parks, General – Operations</i>		
	MK - Consider concerts on holidays	The stage will be moved so that concerts can be programmed. Holidays would be part of that possible concert programming. (see pg 29)
<i>Pool and Swimming</i>		
	MK – Enclose pool(s) so they can be used year round, include a community meeting room	The planning team has determined that this change would be extremely expensive and would require extensive re-development of the pool complex area in addition to additional staffing and park operations. There is currently no plan to add this to the strategic plan.
	MK - Consider outdoor showers by the pool	This has been added to the strategic plan (see pg 27).
	MK - Consider a water slide	This addition will be considered when the dive tank needs to be removed (see pg 27).
	MK - Add flowers at the pool office	The friends' group will consider taking this program as part of their program
<i>Recreational Facilities, General</i>		
	MVS – Concern was expressed about repurposing of the open field and the status of the ball field	The repurposing of the open field at the park will not replace the ball field (see pg 32).

Category	Comment	Draft Response
	MK – Consider a dog park	The planning team has determined that there is no plan for adding a dog park at this time.
	Consider a skate board park	The agency will consider a skate board park if presented with an inclusive proposal, however, it is the opinion of the planning team that these types of facilities better serve the users when closer to the community they serve.
	MK and MVS – Consider outdoor fitness stations	The planning team supports this suggestion. This will be considered to be installed in phases to see what the usage level is. (see pgs 32 and 28)
	MK – consider tennis court or bigger basketball court	The existing basketball court will be enlarged to a ½ court. (see pg 27)
Trails		
	MK – Bridge of Mine Kill is a great idea, similar draw to the DEC viewing platform at Kaaters Kill Falls	The agency appreciates the support for this element of the strategic plan
	MK – Consider bridge location closer to the reservoir	The feasibility of this suggestion will be investigated.
	MK – Consider including horse trails	The planning team has considered the addition of designating horse trails but found that the impact to soils would be too severe for a variety of reasons. The addition of this recreation would also require addition of trailer parking and connection to outside trails which are beyond the scope of this plan.
	MK – Consider a lean-to on the Long Path close to the reservoir	The planning team is in favor of this addition but because of restrictions imposed by NYPA this cannot be promised at this time.
	MVS – Consider trail to Black Falls on Panther Creek.	This trail would require crossing private property. The agency does not propose facilities on private land. This suggestion is beyond the scope of this plan.
	MVS – Consider improving the trail along old route 30	This suggestion involves land that is not under OPRHP jurisdiction and therefore is beyond the scope of this plan.
	MK and MVS – Consider benches on the trails	Additional benches on trails will be considered.