

# **RECREATION USE, NEEDS AND ACCESS STUDY**

**WEST CANADA CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**  
FERC No. 2701-NY

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## **DEFINITIONS OF TERMS, ACRONYMS, AND ABBREVIATIONS**

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ADA	American Disabilities Act
AW	American Whitewater
Brookfield	Brookfield Renewable
cfs	cubic feet per second
Commission	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Erie or Licensee	Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P.
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FWMB	New York State Fish and Wildlife Management Board
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
MVWA	Mohawk Valley Water Authority
MW	Megawatts
NYSDOT	New York State Department of Transportation
NYTU	New York Trout Unlimited
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
PAD	Pre-Application Document
Project	FERC Project No. 2701, West Canada Creek Project
Project Area	The area within the FERC project boundary
Project Boundary	The boundary line defined in the Project license issued by FERC that surrounds the Project
Project Vicinity	The general geographic area in which the Project is located; the towns of Trenton and Prospect, New York
Relicensing	The process of acquiring a new FERC license for an existing hydroelectric project upon expiration of the existing FERC license
Relicensing Participants	Individuals and entities that are actively participating in a proceeding
RSP	Revised Study Plan
SPD	Study Plan Determination
SurveyMonkey	SurveyMonkey is an online survey development cloud-based software as a service company.
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WCC Campground	West Canada Creek Campground
WCWA	West Canada Watershed Alliance

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P. (Erie or Licensee), a Brookfield Renewable company (Brookfield), is the Licensee, owner, and operator of the existing West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2701) (Project). The West Canada Creek Project consists of two developments, Prospect and Trenton, and is located on West Canada Creek in Oneida and Herkimer counties, New York. A detailed description of the Project is provided in the Pre-Application Document (PAD) (Erie 2018).

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued the current license for the Project on March 18, 1983, which expires February 28, 2023. Erie is pursuing a new license under FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) and intends to file an application for a new license with FERC before February 28, 2021. On December 11, 2018, Erie filed a Revised Study Plan (RSP), and on March 7, 2019, FERC issued the Study Plan Determination (SPD) approving the RSP with modifications. On October 31, 2019, Erie requested a revision of the Process Plan and Schedule, and on December 5, 2019, FERC granted this revision to change the Initial Study Report filing date to March 7, 2020, to align with one year following the issuance of FERC's SPD.

As part of the study implementation and in accordance with FERC's SPD, Erie initiated consultation with agencies regarding aspects of the Project's relicensing studies. Erie reached out to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), American Whitewater (AW), New York State Fish and Wildlife Management Board (FWMB), New York Trout Unlimited (NYTU), and the Town of Trenton to conduct consultation calls on May 29, 2019, September 9, 2019, and September 12, 2019, regarding the methodology, survey instruments and various components of the Recreation Use, Needs, And Access Study, Whitewater Boating Flow and Access Study, and Aesthetics Flow Assessment. Attendees on the calls included representatives from the USFWS, NYSDEC, AW and NYTU. Documentation of this consultation was provided in the Study Progress Reports filed with FERC and distributed to the stakeholders on July 29, 2019, and October 31, 2019. This report describes the methods and results of the Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study conducted by Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt).

Relative to the Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study, Erie consulted with the Working Group regarding the facility inventory and spot counts, including the location of the downstream access sites that serve the two downstream boating reaches of West Canada Creek (i.e., Dover Road to Newport impoundment and Middleville to Kast Bridge) as required by FERC's SPD. Erie also consulted with the Working Group regarding the facility inventory form, the spot count schedule and methodology, the visitor survey instruments and distribution (including the Trenton Trail Days Recreation Visitor Survey and the Recreation Visitor Survey), and distribution and notification of the online survey. Additional documentation of this consultation is provided in the Study Progress Reports filed with FERC and distributed to the stakeholders on July 29, 2019, and October 31, 2019.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

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The primary goals of the Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study were to gather information regarding existing recreation facilities, use, public safety, and access at the West Canada Creek Project and to estimate future recreation demand and needs. In addition, this study included characterization of portions of the West Canada Creek downstream of the Project. Key study objectives included:

- Characterize and evaluate the condition of the existing recreation sites and facilities within the Project boundary, including the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events.
- Estimate existing recreation use at the Project recreation sites and conduct visitor surveys during the special event activities at Trenton Falls and at the Prospect boat launch to determine user perceptions of the operation and management of the facilities, to evaluate the adequacy of access to the Project recreation facilities, and to identify if any changes or upgrades to the sites are needed to meet current or future recreation needs and demand.
- Identify and assess potential for additional public access areas within the existing Project boundary and associated public safety alert systems and considerations.
- Characterize existing downstream recreation opportunities, including West Canada Creek downstream access sites that serve the two downstream boating reaches of West Canada Creek, whitewater boating tubing<sup>1</sup>, and fishing opportunities.

These key study objectives, as well as the study area, and study methodology (described in Sections 2.1 and 2.2), are based on Erie's RSP, with additional modifications as required in FERC's SPD, and refinements resulting from additional consultation with USFWS, NYSDEC, AW and NYTU<sup>2</sup>, as required in FERC's SPD.

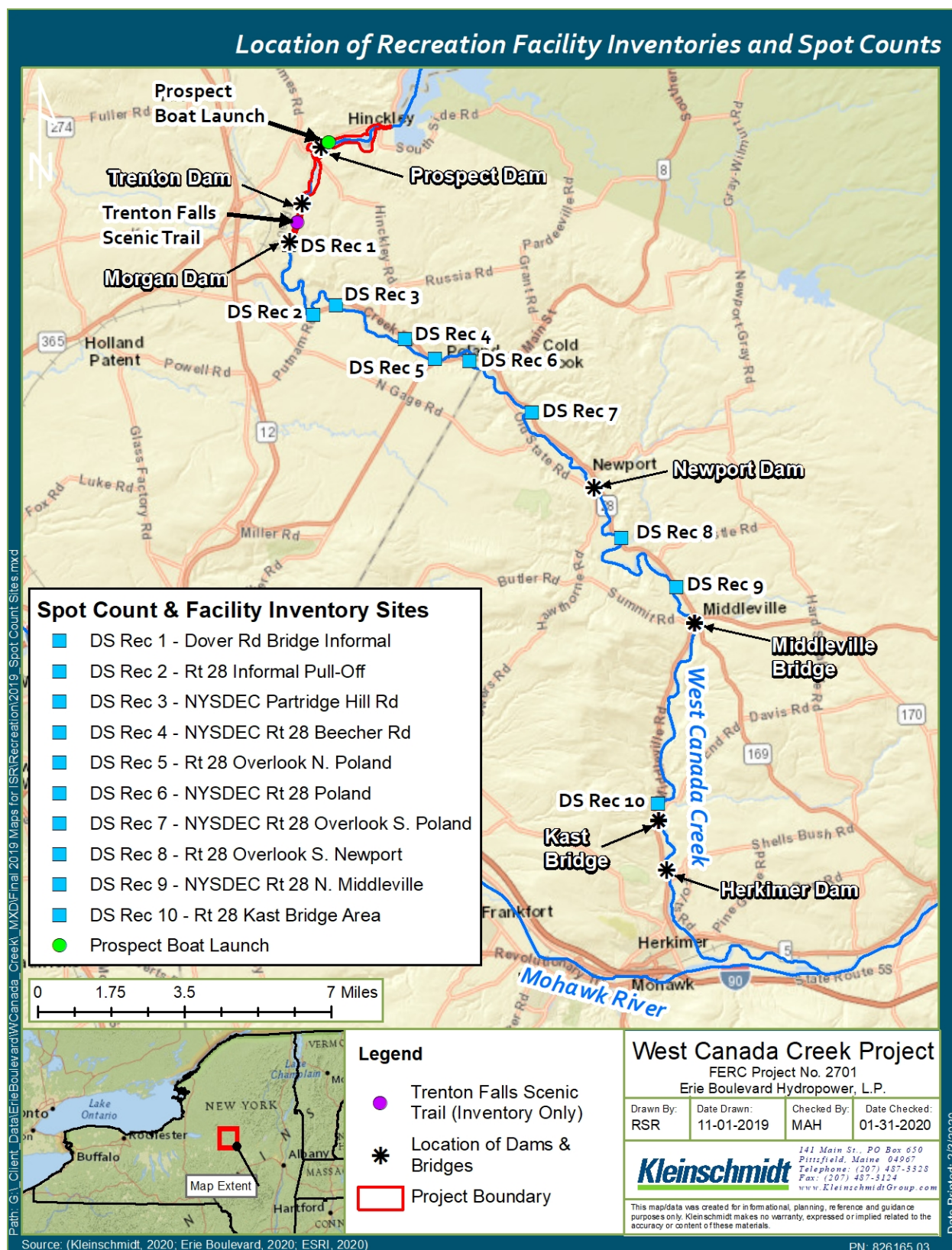
### 2.1 STUDY AREA AND STUDY PERIOD

For the recreation facility inventory and recreation use assessment, the study area included the existing Project recreation sites within the existing Project boundary, including the Prospect reservoir boating access and Trenton Falls scenic trail and access area. In addition, the recreation facility inventory and use assessment included identified West Canada Creek public access locations downstream of Morgan dam (Figure 2-1).

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<sup>1</sup> Additional information is provided in the Whitewater Boating Flow and Access Study Progress Report (Kleinschmidt 2020h).

<sup>2</sup> See consultation record in the Study Progress Reports filed with FERC on July 29, 2019, and October 31, 2019.



**FIGURE 2-1 LOCATION OF RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORIES AND SPOT COUNTS**

FERC in the SPD extended the study area for the recreation facility inventory and recreation use spot counts to include access areas that serve the two downstream boating reaches of West Canada Creek (i.e., Dover Road to Newport impoundment and Middleville to Kast Bridge). Kleinschmidt conducted an online review of NYSDEC and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) identified West Canada Creek public fishing access locations along these reaches, as well as review of the 2007 Creel Survey fishing access site locations, which resulted in a total of 10 downstream access sites being selected for the spot count locations (Figure 2-1). Erie reviewed these spot count locations with USFWS, NYSDEC, and AW during the May 29, 2019 consultation call<sup>3</sup>.

As indicated in the RSP and SPD, the study period included the 2019 primary recreation season, Memorial Day through Labor Day, and the 2019 Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events. Specifically, Kleinschmidt provided the Recreation Visitor Survey at the Prospect Boat Launch (via a survey form drop box and notification of online survey) and online (via SurveyMonkey) from May 24, 2019 (a day before Memorial Day weekend) to September 3, 2019 (the day following Labor Day weekend). Kleinschmidt conducted visitor counts and intercept surveys during the 2019 Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events (May 18 to 19, 2019, and September 14 to 15, 2019). Kleinschmidt also collected spot counts and traffic counts during the period of May 17, 2019 through September 3, 2019 (per schedule indicated in Section 2.2.2).

For the assessment of suitability of additional public access at the Project and safety evaluation, the study area includes the Project reservoirs, bypass reaches and adjacent shoreline lands within the existing Project boundary.

## **2.2 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

### **2.2.1 RECREATION SITE FACILITY INVENTORY AND CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

Kleinschmidt conducted a site inventory and condition assessment at the existing Project recreation sites (the Prospect Boat Launch and the Trenton Falls trail and access area) on May 17 and 18, 2019. As required in FERC's SPD, Kleinschmidt included access sites along West Canada Creek downstream of the Trenton tailrace in the recreation inventory and spot counts to aid in characterizing existing downstream recreation opportunities (Figure 2-1). During the

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<sup>3</sup> See consultation record in the Study Progress Reports filed with FERC on July 29, 2019, and October 31, 2019.

recreation site inventory and condition assessment, the following information was recorded: the type, number and condition of amenities provided at each site; vehicular access and parking area; hours/seasons of operation; suitability of facilities to provide reasonable accommodations as defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA); and accompanying photographs. A copy of the inventory form is provided in Appendix A. Additional information pertaining to the whitewater boating assessment and access downstream of West Canada Creek, including consultation conducted to date and the forthcoming 2020 field season is provided in the Whitewater Boating Flow and Access Study Progress Report (Kleinschmidt 2020h).

### 2.2.2 RECREATION USE SPOT COUNTS AND TRAFFIC COUNTS

In total, Kleinschmidt completed 11 spot counts<sup>4</sup> between May 17, 2019 and August 31, 2019 on a mix of weekdays, weekends and holidays at the Prospect boat launch, and 10 recreation sites along West Canada Creek downstream of the Project (Table 2-1, and Figure 2-1).

**TABLE 2-1 SPOT COUNT SCHEDULE**

DATE	TIME OF DAY	DAY TYPE
5/17/2019	PM	Weekday
5/19/2019	AM	Weekend
5/26/2019	PM	Holiday (Memorial Day weekend)
6/14/2019	AM	Weekday
6/29/2019	AM	Weekend
7/5/2019	PM	Holiday (July 4 <sup>th</sup> weekend)
7/7/2019	PM	Holiday (July 4 <sup>th</sup> weekend)
7/27/2019	PM	Weekend
8/13/2019	PM	Weekday
8/24/2019	AM	Weekend
8/31/2019	AM	Holiday (Labor Day weekend)

Spot counts provide an instantaneous count of vehicles at a site at a given time. The morning (AM) counts occurred between approximately 7:30 am and 11:30 am; the afternoon (PM) shift occurred between approximately 12:00 pm and 3:30 pm. The spot counts either began at the Prospect boat launch and proceeded sequentially downstream (DS Rec 1 to DS Rec 10) or began at DS Rec 10 and proceeded upstream ending at the Prospect boat launch. Information collected

<sup>4</sup> Erie conducted an additional 3 days of spot counts than the total 8 days proposed in the RSP. Erie performed additional counts during the facility inventory on May 17, on one of the Trenton Falls event days (May 19), and an additional count over the July 4 weekend.



during each spot count included: date, time, weather conditions, number of vehicles (with and without trailers), license plate (state of origin), number of visitors observed at the site, and type of recreation use. A copy of the standardized spot count form is provided in Appendix B.

Kleinschmidt installed a PicoCount 2500 traffic counter at the entrance to the Prospect boat launch (Photo 2-1), which continuously recorded the total number of vehicles each hour between Memorial Day weekend (May 25) and Labor Day weekend (September 2). The data from the traffic counter was downloaded approximately once per month. The number of vehicles per hour was exported from the traffic counter using the Traffic Viewer Pro software into Microsoft Excel. Spot count data was entered into Microsoft Excel for QA/QC and review. The spot count and traffic count data analysis were completed in IBM SPSS Statistics 22.



**PHOTO 2-1**    **TRAFFIC COUNTER INSTALLED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**

### 2.2.3 RECREATION VISITOR SURVEYS

Recreation use surveys included the Recreation Use and Needs Survey (provided in paper format via survey drop box at the Prospect Boat Launch and online electronic format via SurveyMonkey) and Trenton Falls Scenic Trail Event Survey (in-person intercept surveys during the event). The following sections describe the methodology for each survey type.

#### 2.2.3.1 RECREATION USE AND NEEDS SURVEY

The Recreation Use Survey was implemented to obtain information pertaining to the recreation visitation characteristics and use that occurs at the Project, as well as obtain additional information about recreation use for the downstream West Canada Creek study area. Erie installed a drop box at the Prospect boat launch from which visitors could obtain and complete a paper version of the recreation use and needs survey (Photo 2-2). Erie collected completed surveys from the drop box approximately once per week. A copy of the recreation survey is included in Appendix C.



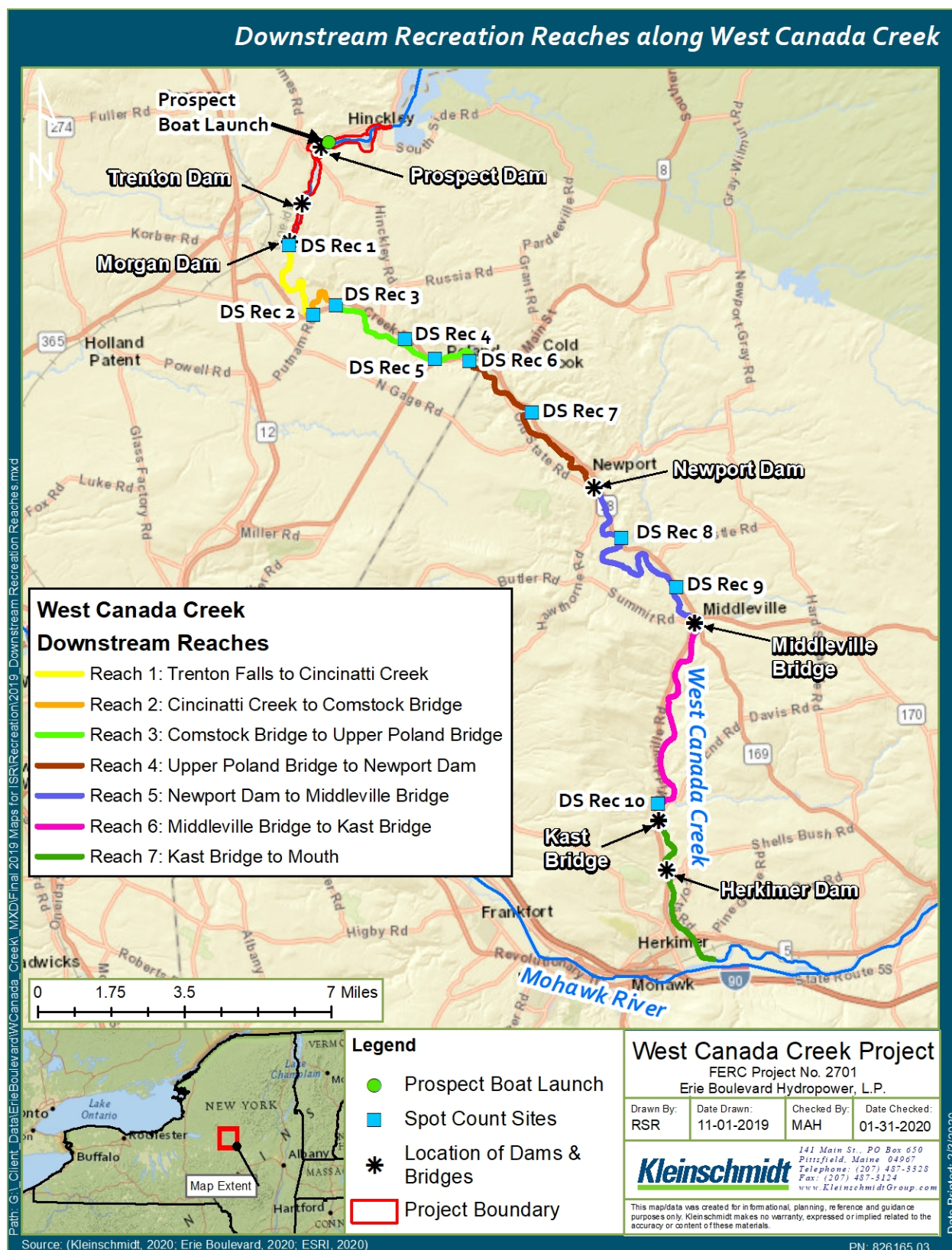
**PHOTO 2-2 SURVEY DROPBOX AT THE PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**

Kleinschmidt provided the Recreation Use Survey (see Appendix C) online through SurveyMonkey to obtain information from users who recreate on West Canada Creek but who may not access the Prospect boat launch, and to provide increased availability and distribution of the survey. The online survey was available starting the day before Memorial Day weekend (May 24, 2019) and was closed the day following Labor Day weekend (September 3, 2019). Notification of the availability of the online survey was provided on the West Canada Creek Project relicensing website, at the Prospect boat launch survey drop box, at NYSDEC downstream public access areas (Sites DS REC 3, 5, 6, and 9), and through a public notice published in the local area newspaper. To further notify the public about the online survey, Kleinschmidt requested, and the survey notification information was posted on the Facebook websites of the following entities: Trenton Chamber of Commerce, West Canada Creek Campsites West Canada Creek Tubing, WCC Watershed Alliance, and Trout Power. Appendix D provides the survey notification form, newspaper proof, and representative Facebook postings.

The visitor survey included questions related to: general demographics (e.g., zip code, age); party size; primary and secondary recreation activities ; duration of visit; perceptions of the level of use, facility condition, and safety; and, and the amount and types of recreation opportunities offered within the study area. The survey included questions designed to assess whether fluctuations in river flow affected recreation use. In accordance with the SPD, the survey included a section with relevant similar questions as the NYSDEC's 2007 angler survey (Erway 2012) to collect information about access sites; angling techniques; species targeted; typical numbers caught, harvested, and released; and satisfaction with the fishing experience. In addition, Kleinschmidt separated West Canada Creek into the same seven downstream reaches used in the NYSDEC 2007 angler survey to aid in comparing recreation use information between the two surveys (Figure 2-2).

The survey data were compiled in Microsoft Excel. The online survey data was obtained electronically, and hard copy data were manually entered into the data spreadsheets. Data cleaning and review included verifying that data were entered correctly and that questions that were skipped or not responded to were coded correctly. All survey data entered into Microsoft Excel was then reviewed by a different person. Survey cleaning and coding, data review, and data analysis were conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics 22.





**FIGURE 2-2 DOWNSTREAM RECREATION REACHES INCLUDED IN THE RECREATION USE SURVEY**

### **2.2.3.2 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL EVENT SURVEYS**

Erie, in partnership with the Town of Trenton, has provided controlled public access to view the scenic Trenton Falls Gorge for one or two weekends in the spring and one or two weekends in the fall annually since 2004. Kleinschmidt conducted visitor intercept surveys over the two weekends during the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail event (Saturday, May 18, 2019 and Sunday, May 19, 2019, and Saturday, September 14, 2019 and Sunday, September 15, 2019). The event was open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day, with the exception that the event closed early at 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 19 due to public safety considerations related to thunderstorms.

Kleinschmidt conducted visitor intercept surveys during each day of the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail event. A copy of the survey is provided in Appendix E. Visitors were asked to complete the survey near the end of their visit after hiking the trail and viewing the falls. The survey gathered information about visitor demographics; number of times visiting the site and duration of visit; activities participated in; perceptions of flow, scenic value, level of use, safety, condition of the site, and accessibility; and use of recreation sites along West Canada Creek. Erie counted the total number of visitors to the event using a hand counter and counting the number of people in each vehicle as they passed through the entrance.

The survey data were compiled and manually entered in Microsoft Excel. Data cleaning and review included verifying that data were entered correctly and that questions that were skipped or not responded to were coded correctly. All survey data entered into Microsoft Excel was reviewed by a different person. Survey cleaning and coding, data review, and data analysis were conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics 22.

### **2.2.4 EXISTING RECREATION USE AND FUTURE DEMAND**

#### **PROJECT SITES RECREATION USE ESTIMATES**

Recreation visitation (estimated recreation days) for the study period (Memorial Day through Labor Day) was estimated for the Prospect boat launch area based on the traffic count, spot count and survey data obtained during the study period. For each day type (weekday, weekend and holiday), recreation use was estimated based on the average number of vehicles observed during

the spot counts, median<sup>5</sup> group size, and median length of visit to estimate the number of people per day type. This estimated daily visitor hours was then extrapolated out to month and day type by multiplying by the number of days in the population. Recreation visitation for 2019 for the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail event was estimated for the four-day event (May 18 and 19, September 14 and 15) based on visitor counts collected by Erie during the event. The Prospect boat launch and Trenton Trail estimates were then combined for total estimated visitation during the study period for the West Canada Creek Project recreation sites. As defined by FERC, a recreation day is each visit by a person to the study site for recreational purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period.

### **DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK SITES RECREATION USE ESTIMATES**

Recreation visitation estimates for the downstream West Canada Creek recreation sites for the study period were estimated based on the spot counts and survey data. For each day type (weekday, weekend and holiday), recreation use was estimated based on the average number of vehicles during the spot counts, median group size and median length of visit to estimate the number of people per day. This estimated daily visitor hours was then extrapolated out to month and day type by multiplying by the number of days in the population.

### **PROJECT RECREATION SITES RECREATION USE PROJECTIONS**

Future recreation use was estimated using county level population projections through 2040 from the Cornell Program on Applied Demographics (CPAD 2018). Over half (63 percent) of the recreation use survey respondents resided in Herkimer and Oneida counties; therefore, population projection data for those two counties were used in the analysis. The percent change in population between 2015 and 2040 was determined from the population projections and applied to the recreation use estimates for the Prospect boat launch and Trenton Falls Scenic area.

#### **2.2.5 PUBLIC ACCESS AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT**

The public access and safety assessment include characterization of existing land use within and abutting the Project boundary, including type of use, ownership (private, public), physical

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<sup>5</sup> Some of the survey respondents were adjacent landowners or stayed at campgrounds (downstream West Canada Creek sites), so median was applied to group size and length of visit to account for day use visitors.

constraints, sensitive resource areas, and recreational feature opportunity. In addition, the assessment characterizes existing public safety mechanisms immediately downstream of the Project (within approximately 1 mile), and flow notification systems for the reach downstream from Trenton tailrace to Newport dam.

### **2.3 VARIANCES FROM APPROVED STUDY PLAN**

As summarized in Section 1.0, in accordance with FERC's SPD, Erie consulted with the NYSDEC, USFWS, AW, and as a result of that consultation, refined the study plan methodology to identify the downstream access site locations, refine survey instruments, including incorporating relevant questions to align with the 2007 NYSDEC West Canada Creek Creel survey, and distribution.

As part of the consultation, the Working Group recommended notification of the online survey via social media, in addition to the required downstream survey notification posting. As summarized in Section 2.3, Kleinschmidt requested posting of the survey availability via social media sites of various stakeholder groups within the Project region.

Kleinschmidt conducted an additional 3 spot counts for a total of 11 counts (May 2 days and 1 Memorial Day weekend, June 2 days, July 2 days and 1 July Fourth weekend, August 2 days, and 1 Labor Day weekend) as compared to the approved study plan of a total of 8 spot counts (Memorial Day week 1 day, June 2 days, July 2 days, August 2 days, and Labor Day week 1 day).

## **3.0 STUDY RESULTS**

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### **3.1 RECREATION SITE FACILITY INVENTORY AND CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

#### **3.1.1 PROJECT RECREATION SITES**

The West Canada Creek Project includes two public recreation sites: a formal developed boat launch at the Prospect reservoir, and the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail, open to the public during special weekend event periods. Recreation opportunities at the West Canada Creek Project include hiking/walking, boating, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, visiting historic sites, sightseeing, and picnicking.

##### **3.1.1.1 PROSPECT RESERVOIR AND BOAT LAUNCH**

The Prospect boat launch and parking area is located on the north side of the impoundment, approximately 1,000-feet upstream from the Prospect Dam and is accessible from State Route 365 (Figure 3-1, Photo 3-1 and Photo 3-2). Recreation opportunities available at the site include canoeing, kayaking, motor boating, fishing, sightseeing, and nature study. The site is unstaffed and open from about Memorial Day to Labor Day. The entrance to the Prospect reservoir parking area can be gated-off to restrict public access during periods when there is flooding, or the boat barrier is down or under construction. The single entrance to the parking area is paved and then turns to an open gravel parking area (Photo 3-3). Below the parking area, there is a turnaround drive for the gravel boat launch area to assist vehicles with trailers.

The site provides recreational boating access for motorized (restricted to 10 horsepower and no jet skis) and carry-in boats. The boat launch is gravel with a gentle slope (Photo 3-4). The boat barrier on the north shore of the Prospect reservoir is approximately 200 feet upstream from the dam and is oriented southeast to the south shore to restrict access to the dam and the power canal. Other restrictions at the site indicated on signage are no swimming, no camping, and no dumping trash (Photo 3-5). The Prospect boat launch site does not have any dedicated ADA accessible parking spaces, ADA signage, or an accessible facilities for access site to the reservoir (e.g., ADA accessible pier). The parking area is level, stable, and firm.





**FIGURE 3-1 LOCATION OF PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT BOAT LAUNCH**





**PHOTO 3-1 AERIAL VIEW OF PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**



**PHOTO 3-2 SIGNAGE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**





**PHOTO 3-3     PARKING AREA AND TURN AROUND AT THE PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**



**PHOTO 3-4     GRAVEL BOAT LAUNCH TO THE PROSPECT RESERVOIR**





**PHOTO 3-5 RESTRICTIVE SIGNAGE AT THE PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH**

The parking area is approximately 100 feet long by 50 feet wide or 5,000 square feet. Capacity for the parking area was based on a typical parking stall size of 9 feet wide by 18 feet long. The parking area can, therefore, accommodate approximately 15 vehicles, with parking overflow areas available on the adjacent grass areas. The highest number of vehicles observed at the Prospect boat launch during the spot counts was 13 vehicles, and the highest total vehicles per hour based on the traffic counter data was 14 vehicles, both recorded on the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend. Therefore, during the peak recreation use period, the gravel parking area was near capacity. However, areas for overflow parking are available adjacent to the gravel parking area to accommodate peak use occurrences. The overall average number of vehicles per hour based on the traffic count data was 2.4 vehicles. On average, the Prospect boat launch parking area was well below capacity.

### **3.1.1.2 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC AREA**

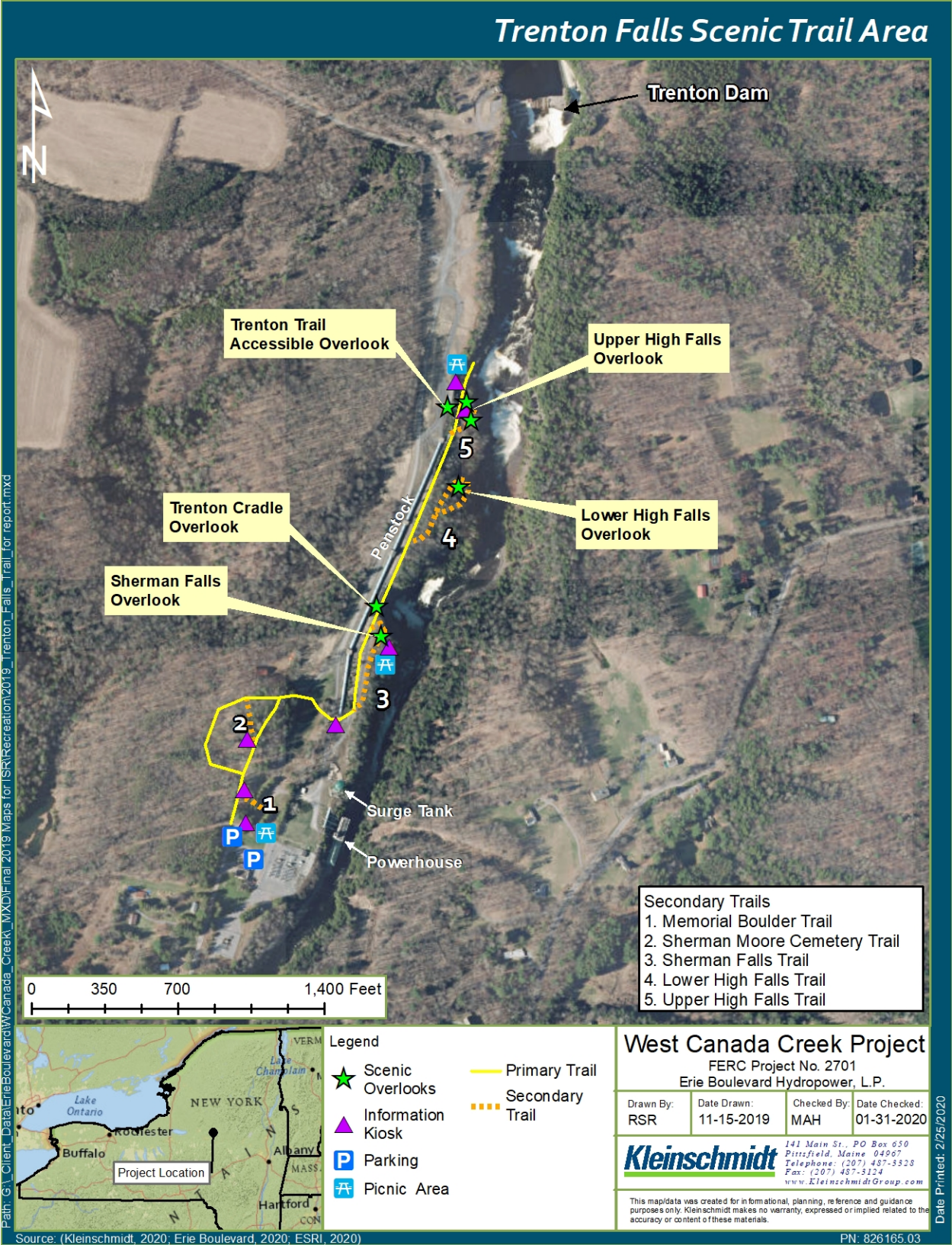
Erie, in partnership with the Town of Trenton, provides controlled public access to view the scenic Trenton Falls Gorge for one or two weekends in the spring and one or two weekends in the fall annually since 2004. Erie and the Town of Trenton developed the day-use scenic area and trails adjacent to the Trenton Gorge to enhance public viewing opportunities and access to the gorge (Figure 3-2). On these weekends, the trails are open from 9 am to 5 pm. Volunteers assist at the event and local community groups provide historic and natural history information and sell refreshments.

Erie provides two stable and level parking areas near the entrance to the scenic area; one parking area is gravel and the other is paved (Photo 3-6) (Figure 3-2). These two areas provide parking for approximately 50 vehicles. In addition, Erie has additional parking on the adjacent lawn and a gravel overflow parking area near the office and picnic area. A picnic area is located adjacent to the parking area at the start of the Memorial Boulder Trail (Photo 3-7).

The primary 0.5-mile-long gravel and stone dust trail extends from the parking area and takes visitors from the parking area (Photo 3-8) to the scenic overlook area and through side trails. Erie provides interpretive signage along the trailway and at the overlook areas (Photo 3-9). The kiosks provide information on the scenic area, historic events, the hydroelectric facility, High Falls, Sherman Falls, the Sherman Moore Cemetery, and geology of the gorge.

The gravel trail traverses along the Penstock (Photo 3-10) and old penstock cradle, which provides one of the overlook viewing area of the falls (Photo 3-11, Trenton Cradle Overlook). The gravel trail provides access to three wood mulch secondary trails (Photo 3-12), seven information kiosks, and six scenic overlooks (Photo 3-13 and Photo 3-14). The scenic overlooks include the Sherman Falls Overlook, Trenton Cradle Overlook, Lower High Falls Overlook, Upper High Falls Overlook (includes 2 separate overlooks), and the Accessible (ADA) Overlook. Additional photos of the falls are provided in Appendix F. See additional information regarding the aesthetic views within the Project in the Aesthetic Flow Assessment Report (EDR 2020).





**FIGURE 3-2 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL AREA**



A parking area is located at the upper end of the primary trail at the Accessible (ADA) Overlook which provides scenic views of the Upper High Falls (Photo 3-15, Figure 3-2). The accessible parking area provides parking for 10 vehicles. The Accessible (ADA) Overlook also provides a picnic table, bench, and trash receptacle.

Three other secondary trails (wood mulch) (Photo 3-16) provide a combined approximate 0.6 mile-length of trails through a wooded and meadow landscape along areas of historic interest, such as the site of the historic Trenton Falls Hotel and the Sherman Moore Cemetery. In addition, Erie provides porta potties, trash receptacles, and benches along the trail (Photo 3-17, Figure 3-2).

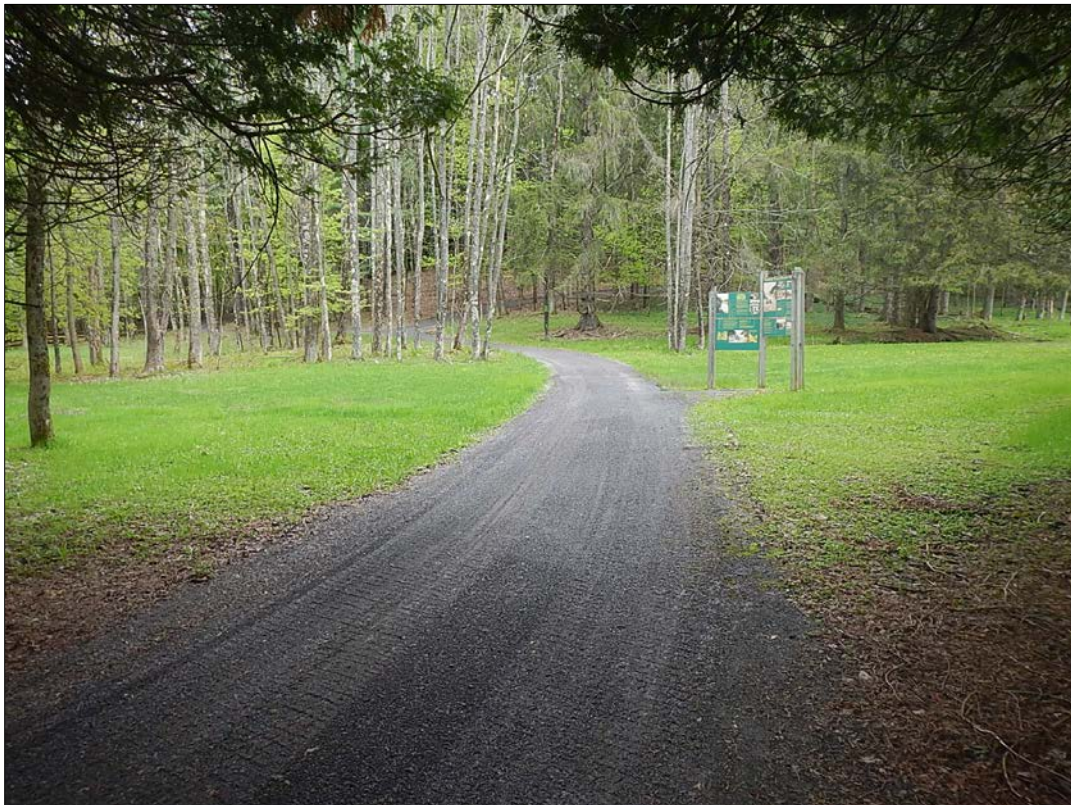


**PHOTO 3-6     PORTION OF PARKING AND WELCOME AREA TO THE TRENTON TRAILS EVENT**





**PHOTO 3-7    TRENTON TRAIL PICNIC AREA**



**PHOTO 3-8    TRENTON TRAIL STONE DUST TRAIL AND INFORMATION KIOSK**





**PHOTO 3-9**     **EXAMPLE OF INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE ALONG TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL**



**PHOTO 3-10**     **PORTION OF THE MAIN STONE-DUST TRAIL ALONG PENSTOCK**





**PHOTO 3-11 TRENTON FALLS TRAIL CRADLE OVERLOOK AREA**



**PHOTO 3-12 PORTION OF THE MULCH SIDE TRAIL LEADING TO LOWER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK AREA**





**PHOTO 3-13 STEPS LEADING DOWN TO UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK AREA**



**PHOTO 3-14 FENCING, PICNIC TABLE AND INFORMATION KIOSK AT THE UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK**





**PHOTO 3-15 ADA PARKING AREA AND OVERLOOK**



**PHOTO 3-16 PORTION OF SECONDARY MULCH TRAIL LEADING TO SHERMAN MOORE CEMETERY**





**PHOTO 3-17 EXAMPLE OF PICNIC BENCH AND TRASH RECEPTACLE ALONG TRAIL**

### **3.1.2 DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK RECREATION SITES**

#### **DOWNSTREAM RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES**

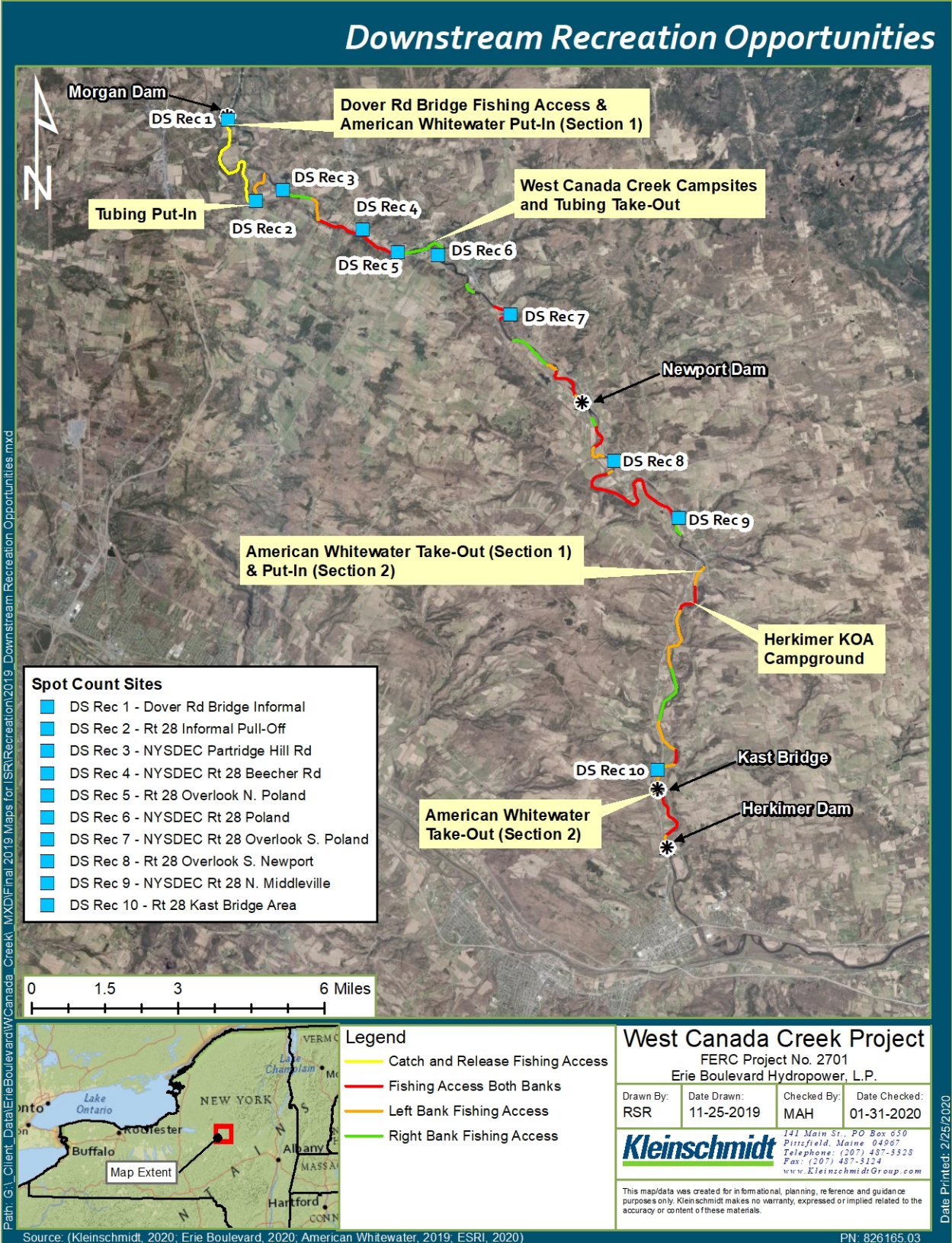
Recreation opportunities along West Canada Creek downstream of the Trenton Development include angling, whitewater boating, tubing, picnicking, hiking/walking, sightseeing, and camping. West Canada Creek is a renowned trout stream in central New York (NYSDEC 2019). The reach from Dover Road Bridge and extending approximately 2.5-miles downstream to the confluence of Cincinnati Creek is a catch and release zone known as the Trophy Section (Figure 3-3). This Trophy Section has special regulations established by NYSDEC where no kill restrictions, use of artificial lures, and extended fishing seasons are used to help produce trophy fish (NYSDEC 2019).

Just north of the Village of Poland, the West Canada Creek Campsites provide campground facilities as well as tubing and whitewater boating (kayak and canoe) rentals and shuttle services for boating sections of the West Canada Creek between the Trenton Dam and the takeout near the campground (West Canada Creek Campsites 2019) (Figure 3-3).

According to the West Canada Creek Tubing website, flows of less than 300 cfs are considered poor floating conditions and no canoe/kayak rentals are available; flows of 301 cfs to 900 cfs are considered good floating conditions and all rentals (canoe/kayak and tubing) are available; flows of 900 cfs to 1,750 cfs are considered fast floating conditions and all rentals are available; and at flows of over 1,750 cfs, no rentals are available (West Canada Creek Tubing 2019).

The Herkimer KOA Resort and Campground, located south of Middleville, includes both the Herkimer Diamond Mine and the KOA campground. The KOA campground is located adjacent to West Canada Creek (Figure 3-3), and facilities includes cabins and lodges as well as tent and RV hook-up sites. The campground also offers a camp store, recreation facilities (e.g. pool, basketball court, disc golf), and recreational and educational programs (i.e., STEM camp). The Herkimer Diamond Mine, located across the street from the KOA campground, is a tourist attraction that provides shops, provides tours, mining for quartz crystals, shopping and dining opportunities (Herkimer Diamond Mines 2019).





**FIGURE 3-3 RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES DOWNSTREAM OF THE WEST CANADA CREEK PROJECT**

American Whitewater identifies a Level II (beginner/intermediate) 28-mile long whitewater boating run beginning at the Dover Road Bridge and extending to Herkimer (American Whitewater 2019). American Whitewater identifies two runs along this stretch with Section 1 extending from Dover Road to Route 29 in Middleville, and Section 2 from Route 29 in Middleville to Route 7 at Kast Bridge north of Herkimer (Figure 3-3). Section 1 is described as Class I-II with one portage around the Newport Dam, and Section 2 is described as Class II-II+ (American Whitewater 2019). Additional information regarding the whitewater boating assessment and access within Prospect bypass reach and downstream West Canada Creek, including consultation conducted to date and the forthcoming 2020 field season is provided in the Whitewater Boating Flow and Access Study Progress Report (Kleinschmidt 2020a).

### **DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SPOT COUNT LOCATIONS**

Following is a description of the 10 recreation access sites downstream of the Project that were included in the facility inventory and spot counts (Figure 3-3). Representative photos of each site are included in Appendix G.

Downstream Recreation Site 1: Dover Road Bridge – An informal catch and release angling site is available near the Dover Road Bridge downstream of Morgan Dam. Informal roadside parking is available for approximately 8 to 10 vehicles. The access site includes safety signage (i.e., hazard high water) and informational catch and release signs. The site provides recreation access year-round for fishing, scenic viewing, swimming, and carry-in boats.

Downstream Recreation Site 2: Rt. 28 Informal Pull-Off – This roadside gravel pull-off parking area provides access for scenic viewing and angling. The parking area is approximately 300 feet long and has capacity for approximately 15 to 20 vehicles. Safety signs warning of swift currents and fast rising water are at the site. Only catch and release angling with artificial lures is permitted. This site was a popular location for tubing put-in during the recreation study season.

Downstream Recreation Site 3: NYSDEC Partridge Hill Road – This is a NYSDEC catch and release public fishing stream access site. The paved parking area has a single entrance and has non-delineated parking is available for 20 to 25 vehicles. There is a bench and an informal trail to the water for launching carry-in watercraft. Safety signs, a lyme disease warning sign, a catch and release fishing sign, and public fishing stream informational signs are at the site.



Downstream Recreation Site 4: NYSDEC Rt. 28 Beecher Road – This is a NYSDEC catch and release public fishing stream access site and provides opportunities for scenic viewing and angling. There is a single entrance to the approximately 600-foot-long dirt road leading to a dirt parking area with room for approximately 5 to 10 vehicles. An approximately 200-foot-long dirt path leads to the fishing access and informal carry-in boat launch site.

Downstream Recreation Site 5: Rt. 28 Overlook N. Poland – This site is a NYSDOT paved roadside pull-off providing informal fishing access. The site has two entrances/exits. The parking area provides parking for approximately 20 to 25 vehicles. Safety signs are posted on trees next to the parking area warning of swift current and fast rising water.

Downstream Recreation Site 6: NYSDEC Rt. 28 Poland – This is a NYSDEC roadside pull-off public fishing stream access site. A single entrance leads to an approximately 65 foot by 75-foot (4,875 square feet) gravel area for angler parking only; there is parking for 5 to 10 vehicles. There are two public fishing stream informational signs and an information sign about the adjacent Rt. 28 bridge.

Downstream Recreation Site 7: NYSDEC Rt. 28 Overlook S. Poland – This is a NYSDEC roadside pull-off public fishing stream access site. The gravel parking area has two entrances/exits and is approximately 350 feet long with parking for 25 to 30 vehicles. The site includes a picnic area and trash can, safety signage (e.g., swift current, fast rising waters), and public fishing stream informational signs.

Downstream Recreation Site 8: Rt. 28 Overlook S. Newport – This is a NYSDOT carry in – carry out rest area and roadside pull-off. The site provides three picnic tables, scenic viewing, and fishing access. Two entrances/exits lead to an approximately 500-foot-long paved parking area with parking for 45 to 50 vehicles.

Downstream Recreation Site 9: NYSDEC Rt. 28 N. Middleville – This is a NYSDEC public fishing stream access site with a single entrance. An approximately 450-foot-long dirt and gravel road leads to the 50-foot by 75-foot (3,750 square feet) dirt/gravel parking area. The site includes signs with fishing rules and regulations. Parking is available for 5 to 10 vehicles.

Downstream Recreation Site 10: Rt. 28 Kast Bridge Area – This site is a 550-foot-long paved NYSDOT pull-off with two entrances/exits. Parking is available for 45 to 50 vehicles. The site also has a picnic area, benches, and informational signs. Access to West Canada Creek for scenic viewing or angling is available from a dirt pathway across Route 28 from the parking area.

## 3.2 RECREATION VISITATION

### 3.2.1 PROJECT RECREATION SITES

Based on the traffic count data, spot counts and recreation visitation at the Trenton Trail Events, the estimated daytime recreation visitation at the West Canada Creek Project recreation sites was estimated to be 7,847 recreation days during the recreation season (Memorial Day through Labor Day; May 25, 2019 through September 2, 2019) (Table 3-1). Table 3-1 provides a summary of visitation at the Prospect boat launch and the Trenton Trail events (May 18 and 19, September 14 and 15). The highest visitation at the Prospect boat launch occurred during the month of July (37 percent),

**TABLE 3-1 PROJECT RECREATION VISITATION ESTIMATES MAY- SEPTEMBER 2019**

LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
Prospect Boat Launch	144 <sup>1</sup>	800	1072	736	128 <sup>2</sup>	2,880
Trenton Trail Event	2,317 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	NA	2,650 <sup>3</sup>	4,967
Total Visitation	2,461	800	1072	736	2,778	7,847

<sup>1</sup> May 25 through 31

<sup>2</sup> Labor Day Weekend only (September 1 and 2, 2019)

<sup>3</sup> Trenton Trail Days Events May 18 and 19, September 14 and 15

#### 3.2.1.1 PROSPECT RESERVOIR AND BOAT LAUNCH

During the 2019 study season (May 25, 2019 during September 2, 2019), total visitation at the Prospect boat launch was estimated at 2,880 visitors. Based on the traffic count data, approximately 52 percent of the use occurred on weekdays; 34 percent on weekends; and 14 percent on holidays. Overall, the highest number of vehicles at the Prospect boat launch occurred between 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm. The same hourly trends occurred regardless of day type (i.e., weekday, weekend, or holiday) except that the peak hours were 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm on holidays.

Based on the spot counts, the highest number of vehicles observed during an individual spot count was on holidays (13 total vehicles), followed by weekends (9 total vehicles), and weekdays (2 total vehicles). Vehicles from the following states were observed during the spot counts at the Prospect boat launch: New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Florida. Approximately 86 percent of the vehicles observed were without trailers. The highest number of watercraft (10 boats) observed on the Prospect impoundment occurred on a holiday followed by weekends (7 boats). The majority of watercraft observed at the Prospect impoundment were canoes or kayaks (49 of the 51 total watercraft observed were canoes or kayaks).

The highest number of people observed was 11 people (holiday), and the average number of people observed based on all of the spot counts conducted was 8.8 on holidays, 7.0 on weekends, and 0.7 on weekdays. In terms of recreation activities observed, most people were canoeing or kayaking. Other activities people were observed participating in were fishing, swimming, walking the dog, scenic viewing, and stand-up paddle boarding (Table 3-2).

**TABLE 3-2 PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH SPOT COUNTS OBSERVED RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	WEEKDAY	WEEKEND	HOLIDAY	TOTAL	PERCENT OF TOTAL (%)
Bank Fishing	0	1	0	1	2
Fly/Wade Fishing	0	0	0	0	0
Boat Fishing	0	3	0	3	5
Boating (canoe, kayak)	1	19	32	52	80
Tubing	0	0	0	0	0
Picnicking	0	0	2	2	3
Hiking/ Walking	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	5	1	7	11
Total People	2	28	35	65	100

### 3.2.1.2 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC AREA

The total number of visitors to the Trenton Falls event by year since the scenic area was initially opened (2004) to the public is shown in Table 3-3. The highest number of visitors came in 2005 and 2006, shortly after the Trenton Trail Event was initiated by Erie and the Town of Trenton.

**TABLE 3-3 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL EVENT HISTORICAL VISITATION**

<b>YEAR<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>NO DAYS OPEN/YEAR</b>	<b>TOTAL VISITATION</b>	<b>AVERAGE DAILY VISITATION</b>
2004	4 days	4,050	1,013
2005	8 days	14,000	1,750
2006	8 days	10,700	1,338
2007	8 days	5,200	650
2008	8 days	8,975	1,122
2009	8 days	6,255	782
2018	4 days	2,654	664
2019	4 days	4,967	1,242

During the 2019 study season, total visitation during the May weekend event (May 18 and 19) was 2,317 visitors, and during the September weekend event (September 14 and 15) was 2,650 visitors, for a total of 4,967 visitors and an average daily visitation of 1,242 for the 2019 season. Visitation during the 2018 season was approximately half of the visitation in 2019, with a total visitation of 2,654 and average daily visitation of 664. Table 3-4 provides a summary of visitation for each day during the 2018 and 2019 Trenton Scenic Trail Event days, including total visitors and weather the day of the event.

**TABLE 3-4 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL EVENT 2018 AND 2019 VISITATION**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>WEATHER</b>
2018	May 19, 2018	70	Cold/Rain, 45° F - 59° F
	May 20, 2018	749	Sunny, 51° F - 66° F
	September 15, 2018	780	Sunny, 64° F - 85° F
	September 16, 2018	1,055	Sunny, 62° F - 87° F
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,654</b>	
2019	May 18, 2019	1,167	Sunny, 50° F -65° F
	May 19, 2019	1,150	Sunny/T-Storm, 55° F -80° F
	September 14, 2019	668	Cloudy, 60° F -72° F
	September 15, 2019	1,982	Partly Cloudy/Rain, 58° F -70° F
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,967</b>	

### 3.2.1.3 ESTIMATED FUTURE RECREATION DEMAND

The population projection data through 2040 are shown in Table 3-5; 2015 is the starting year for the projections (CPAD 2018). On average, the population in the area surrounding the Project is projected to decrease by five percent.

**TABLE 3-5 POPULATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH 2040 FOR HERKIMER AND ONEIDA COUNTIES**

	<b>HERKIMER COUNTY</b>	<b>ONEIDA COUNTY</b>
<b>2015 Population</b>	62,688	232,014
<b>2040 Population</b>	58,723	223,699
<b>Percent Change</b>	-3.6	-6.3
<b>Average Percent Change</b>	-5.0	

A five percent decrease was applied to the total recreation days to estimate the total recreation days in 2040 at the West Canada Creek Project. Accordingly, estimated visitation was approximately 2,736 at the Prospect Boat Launch Area and 4,719 at the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail Event for a total estimated 7,455 recreation days in 2040 at the Project.

### **3.2.2 DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK RECREATION SITES**

Based on the spot counts, the highest number of vehicles observed during a spot count visit was 28 vehicles at DS Rec 3 site, followed by DS Rec 2 (27) and DS Rec 5 (25). The highest average number of vehicles observed was at DS Rec 2 (6.3), followed by DS Rec 3 (6.2) and DS Rec 5 (5.5) (Table 3-6). The average number of vehicles during the spot counts at the downstream sites was the same on weekends and holidays (4) and was 0.5 on weekdays. The total number of vehicles observed during the study season at all of the downstream sites was 336 vehicles, with an overall average of 3.1 vehicles per spot count visit. The estimated overall visitation of the 10 downstream sites during the study period was approximately 14,144 visitors, with DS Rec 2, 3 and 5 sites receiving the greatest amount of visitors (Table 3-6).

**TABLE 3-6 NUMBER OF VEHICLES, PEOPLE, AND VISITATION DURING THE 2019 SPOT COUNTS AT THE DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SITES**

SITE	NUMBER OF VEHICLES		NUMBER OF PEOPLE		ESTIMATED VISITATION	
	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM	VISITORS	PERCENT OF TOTAL (%)
DS Rec 1 - Dover Rd Bridge Informal	2.6	10	3.9	20	1,192	8
DS Rec 2 - Rt 28 Informal Pull-Off	6.3	27	4.9	20	2,456	17
DS Rec 3 - NYSDEC Partridge Hill Rd	6.2	28	7.6	47	2,328	16
DS Rec 4- NYSDEC Rt 28 Beecher Rd	1.1	5	1.4	11	824	6
DS Rec 5 - Rt 28 Overlook N. Poland	5.5	25	5.5	24	2,448	17
DS Rec 6 - NYSDEC Rt 28 Poland	3.6	20	4.0	14	1,536	11
DS Rec 7 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Poland	1.7	8	0.4	2	1,240	9
DS Rec 8 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Newport	1.1	6	0.4	1	744	5
DS Rec 9 - NYSDEC Rt 28 N. Middleville	1.9	9	3.0	9	568	4
DS Rec 10 - Rt 28 Kast Bridge Area	0.9	3	0.9	3	808	6
Total All Sites	3.1	28	3.2	47	14,144	100

The highest number of watercraft observed during a spot count visit were 2 watercraft. The average number of watercraft observed was 0.2 to 0.3 at DS Rec 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; 0.1 at DS Rec 10; and 0 at DS Rec 6, 7, 8, and 9. The total number of watercraft observed during the study season at all of the downstream sites was 13 watercraft, with an overall average of 0.12 watercraft observed per spot count visit. Watercraft observed and included in the counts were canoes and kayaks. Individuals tubing were counted under recreation activity participation, but individual tubes/rafts were not included in the watercraft count.

The maximum number of people observed recreating at one time during the spot count visits ranged from 1 individual (DS Rec 8) to 47 individuals (DS Rec 3). The average number of people observed recreating at the downstream sites ranged from 0.4 to 7.6, with the highest observed at DS Rec 3 (7.6), followed by DS Rec 5 (5.5), DS Rec 2 (4.9), and DS Rec 6 (4.0) (). The average number of people observed recreating at the sites on weekends and holidays was

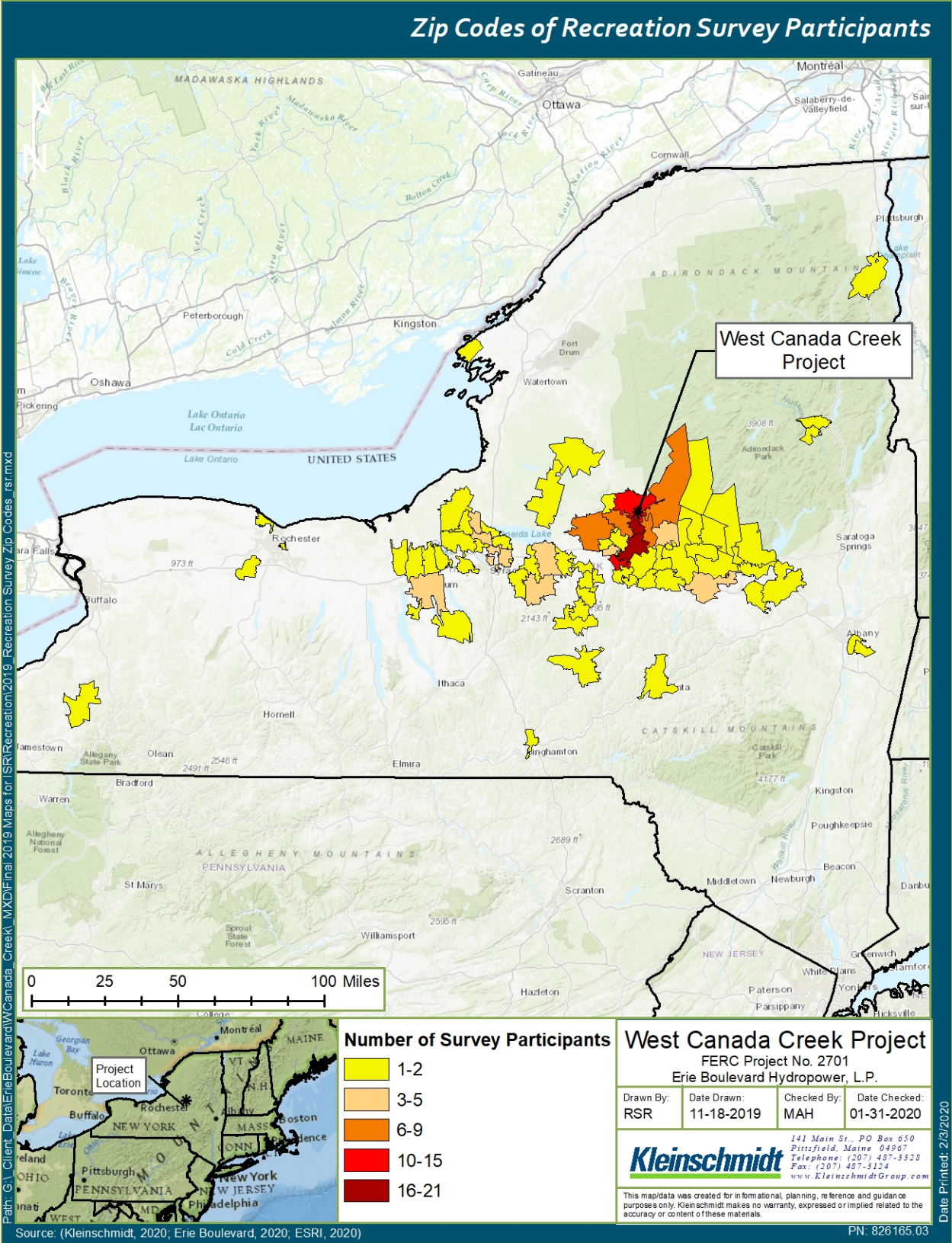
4.3; the average was 0.4 on weekdays. The total number of people observed during the study season at all of the downstream sites was 344 individuals, with an overall average of 3.2 people per spot count visit. DS Rec 3 site had the highest total number of people observed (24 percent) followed by DS Rec 5 (17 percent) and DS Rec 2 (16 percent) of the total people observed during the spot counts.

The majority of people at DS Rec 3 and DS Rec 5 were tubing; other recreationists were fly/wade fishing, picnicking, canoeing or kayaking, hiking or bank fishing. At DS Rec 2, people were observed tubing, bank fishing, fly/wade fishing, and boat fishing. At DS Rec 6, people were swimming, tubing, bank fishing, and picnicking. At DS Rec 1, the recreation activities observed during the spot counts were swimming, fly/wade fishing, bank fishing, picnicking, kayaking and hiking/walking. The overall distribution of type of recreation activities observed at the downstream sites included: tubing (25 percent), bank fishing, (11 percent) fly/wade fishing (7 percent), picnicking (7 percent), walk/hike (3 percent), boating/boat fishing (2 percent), and other (45 percent), which included sightseeing, walking dog, swimming, NYS Fire Homeland Security training, or in parking area.

### **3.3 RECREATION USE AND NEEDS SURVEY**

In total, 31 paper surveys were completed from the kiosk at the Prospect boat launch and 178 online surveys were completed for a total of 209 survey responses. The average age of survey participants was 53 with a range of 17 to 83. Seventy percent of respondents were male, and 30 percent were female. The survey participants primarily resided in central New York but were also dispersed throughout the state. The highest number of surveys were completed from Utica (21 surveys), Barneveld/Prospect (18 surveys), Remsen/Hinckley (13 surveys), New Hartford (11 surveys), and Poland (9 surveys) (Figure 3-4). One survey was also completed from Pennsylvania, one from South Carolina, and one from Georgia. Half of the survey respondents visit West Canada Creek downstream of Trenton Dam, 31 percent visit the Prospect impoundment, and 17 percent visit the Trenton Scenic Trail.

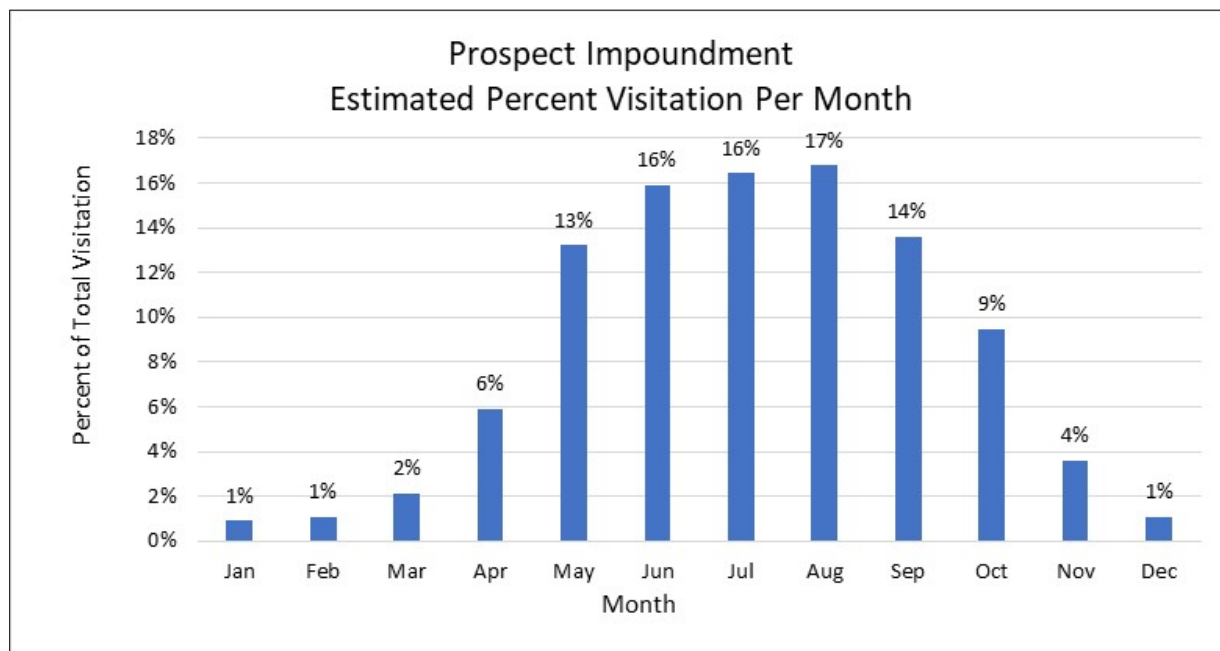




**FIGURE 3-4 ZIP CODE LOCATIONS AND FREQUENCIES OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE RECREATION USE SURVEY**

### 3.3.1 PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT AND BOAT LAUNCH RECREATION USE

The majority of survey respondents use the boat launch to access the Prospect impoundment (67 percent); 19 percent use an informal access area, and 7 percent use a private shoreline site. Of those respondents that indicated what recreation season they typically participate in recreation activities on the Prospect impoundment, the highest percentage of recreation activity occurs on the impoundment in summer (June: 16 percent, July: 16 percent, and August: 17 percent); 13 to 14 percent of respondents recreate in May and September, 9 percent in October, and approximately one percent of respondents recreate on the Prospect impoundment in the winter (December, January, or February) (Figure 3-5).



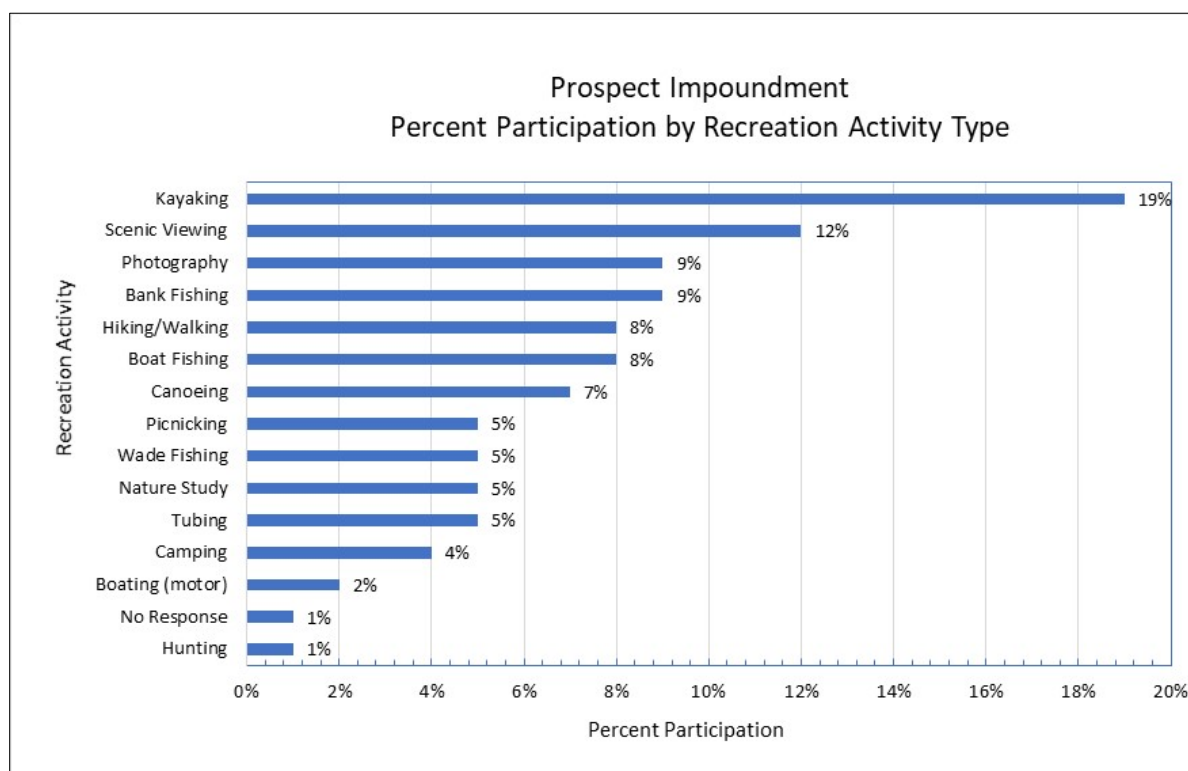
**FIGURE 3-5 PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT ESTIMATED VISITATION PER MONTH**

The average number of visits to the Prospect impoundment each year was 18 with a median of 12 and a range of 1 to 120 (Table 3-7). The median length of visit to the Prospect impoundment was 3 hours, with a range of 0.5 hours to one adjacent landowner individual specifying a 3-day visit (72 hours). The median group size was 2 with a range of 1 to 30. Groups used between 1 and 8 vehicles to visit the Prospect impoundment with a median of 1 vehicle. The median number of miles traveled to the Prospect impoundment was 12 with a range of less than one mile to 1,000 miles. See Table 3-7 for summary of average, median, minimum and maximum visitation characteristics at the Prospect impoundment.

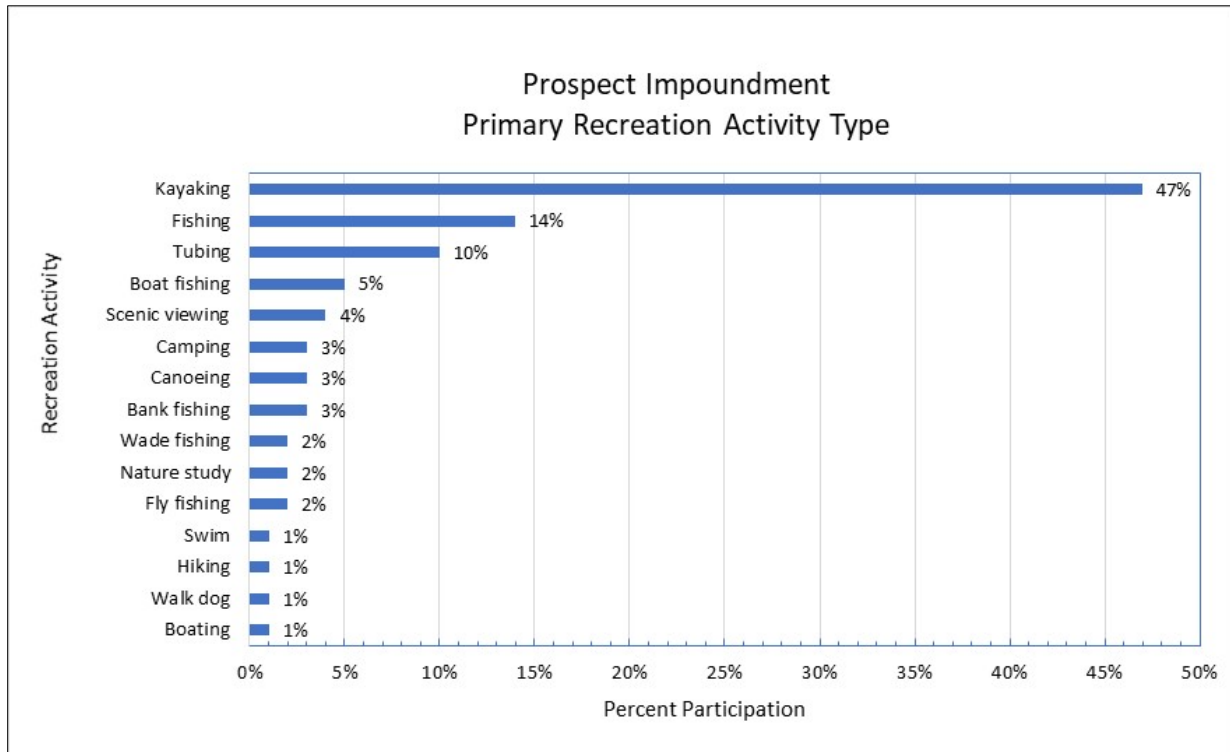
**TABLE 3-7 CHARACTERISTICS OF TYPICAL VISITS TO THE PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT**

	VISITS PER YEAR	LENGTH OF VISIT (HOURS)	GROUP SIZE	VEHICLES	MILES
Mean	18	5	4	1.5	32
Median	12	3	2	1	12
Minimum	1	0.5	1	1	0.5
Maximum	120	72	30	8	1,000

Popular recreation activities on the Prospect impoundment are kayaking (19 percent), and scenic viewing (12 percent), followed by bank fishing, photography, boat fishing, and hiking/walking at 8 to 9 percent each. Approximately 5 percent of respondents participate in tubing, nature study, wade fishing, or picnicking (Figure 3-6). The primary recreation activities participated in were kayaking (47 percent) and fishing (bank, boat, wade, or fly fishing) (27 percent). Approximately 10 percent of visitors primarily participate in tubing, 4 percent in scenic viewing, and 2 to 3 percent each participate in canoeing, camping, and nature study. Respondents also reported participating in eagle watching, swimming, taking their dog swimming, diving, relaxing, and kayak fishing (Figure 3-7).



**FIGURE 3-6 PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT PERCENT PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVITY**



**FIGURE 3-7 PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT PRIMARY RECREATION ACTIVITY**

### 3.3.2 VISITOR PERCEPTIONS

Respondents rated their satisfaction with the water level in the Prospect impoundment as neutral (27 percent), satisfied (28 percent), very satisfied (18 percent) and dissatisfied (17 percent), with an average rating of 3.4, on a scale from 1 being very dissatisfied to 5 being very satisfied. The reasons respondents gave for dissatisfaction with the water level include the level is inconsistent and fluctuates too much, the level is too high, and the water level is too low. Approximately 58 percent of respondents stated that they have not had any trouble launching or retrieving their boat from the Prospect impoundment, while approximately 16 percent said they have had trouble. Reasons given for why respondents had trouble launching/retrieving their boat were high or low water levels and crowding at the boat launch.

The majority of respondents rated the level of use at the Prospect impoundment as somewhat heavy (35 percent) or neutral (32 percent), followed by somewhat light (21 percent) and light (4 percent); no respondents rated the use as heavy. Respondents rated the overall condition of the Prospect boat launch as excellent (22 percent), good (29 percent), satisfactory (28 percent), fair (10 percent), poor (1 percent), or no response (10 percent). Responses to why the condition of



the Prospect boat launch was less than satisfactory included the boat launch being too long at low water levels, the boat launch being crowded, and the need for a porta potty and picnic table. Just over one-third of respondents (36 percent) said that additional facilities are needed at the Prospect boat launch. Common recommendations were a bathroom/porta potty, more parking, trash cans, and fishing access.

Two-thirds of respondents said they feel safe (33 percent) or very safe (33 percent) at the Prospect boat launch followed by 21 percent who rated how safe they feel as neutral. Two survey participants responded that they feel unsafe because of water levels and low water exposing stumps. Approximately 11 percent of respondents stated that someone in their group requires reasonable accommodations as defined by the ADA. Two respondents indicated there are not sufficiently accessible facilities but did not provide an explanation.

### **3.3.3 WEST CANADA CREEK RECREATION USE**

For the purposes of identifying the most popular recreation areas for the reaches of West Canada Creek downstream of Trenton tailrace, West Canada Creek was separated into seven reaches; these are the same reaches used in the 2007 West Canada Creek angler survey (Erway 2012) (Figure 3-3). The largest number of respondents visit Reach 1 (22 percent), followed by Reach 3 (19 percent), Reach 2 (18 percent), Reach 4 (14 percent), Reach 5 and Reach 6 (both 10 percent), and Reach 7 (5 percent). The primary reach visited was Reach 1 (47 percent) followed by Reach 3 (25 percent) and Reach 2 (12 percent) (Table 3-8). Downstream recreation sites 1, 2, and 3 are used the most frequently (14 to 17 percent of respondents reported using each of those sites) and are the primary sites used by approximately 77 percent of survey participants. Downstream recreation sites 4-10 are each the primary sites used by approximately 2 to 4 percent of respondents (Table 3-9).

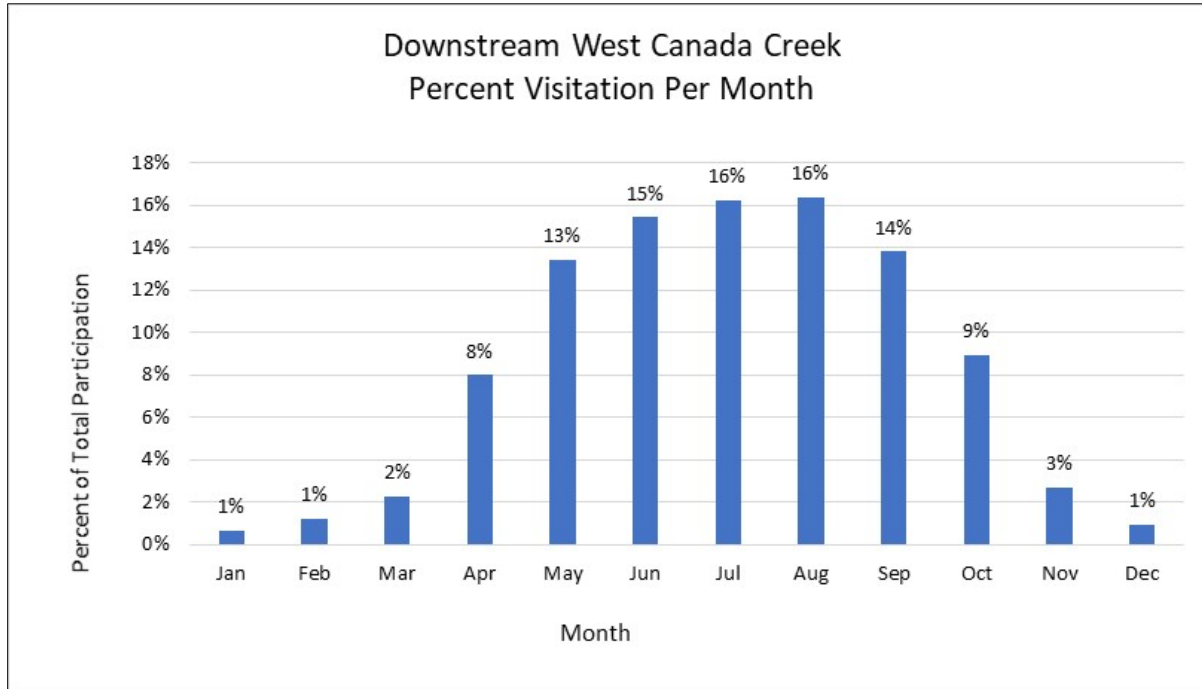
Respondents recreate on West Canada Creek all year, but the majority participate in recreation activities in the summer (Figure 3-8). The most popular recreation activity was fly/wade fishing (15 percent), followed by kayaking (11 percent), bank fishing (11 percent), and tubing (10 percent) (Figure 3-9). Fishing was the primary activity participated in by over half (53 percent) of respondents. Tubing and kayaking were the primary activities of 20 and 10 percent of survey participants, respectively (Figure 3-10).

**TABLE 3-8 TYPICAL AND PRIMARY WEST CANADA CREEK REACHES VISITED**

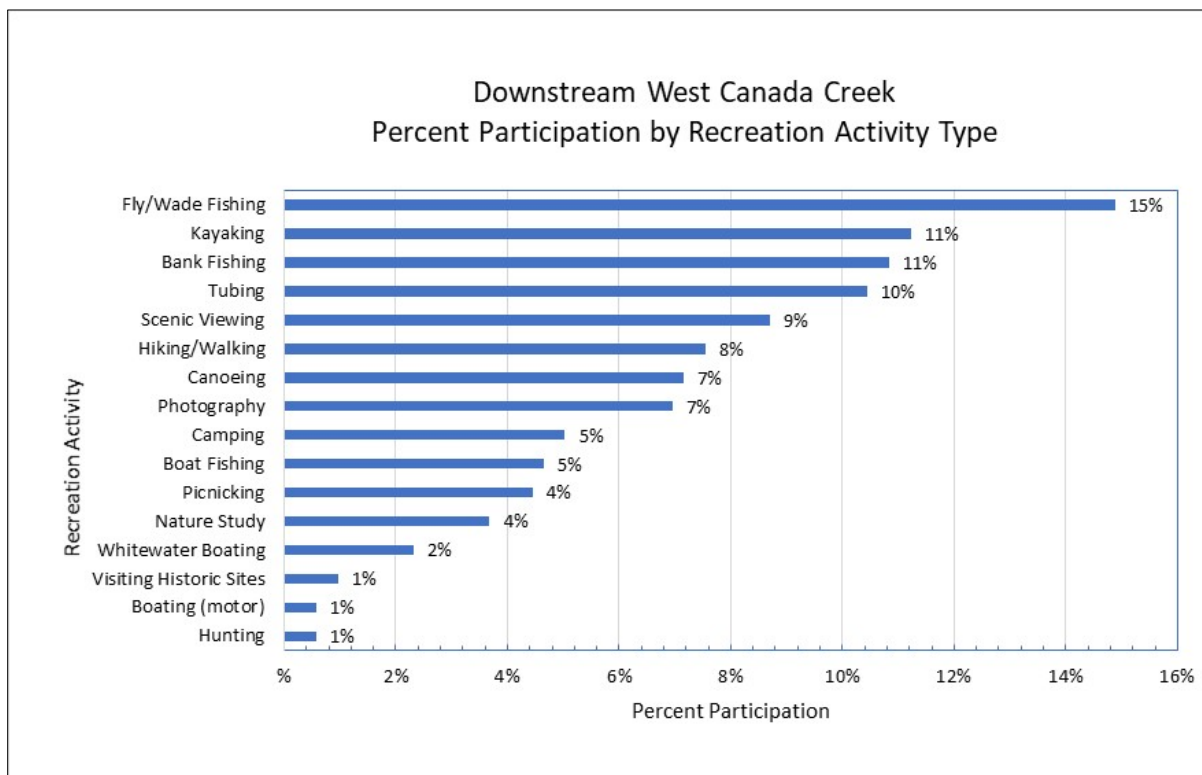
<b>REACH OF WCC</b>	<b>WCC REACH TYPICALLY VISITED PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>PRIMARY WCC REACH VISITED PERCENT (%)</b>
R1 – Trenton Falls to Cincinnati Creek	22.0	47
R2 – Cincinnati Creek to Comstock Bridge	18.0	12
R3 – Comstock Bridge to Upper Poland Bridge	19.0	25
R4 – Upper Poland Bridge to Newport Dam	14.0	7
R5 – Newport Dam to Middleville Bridge	9.5	2
R6 – Middleville Bridge to Kast Bridge	9.5	5
R7 – Kast Bridge to mouth of West Canada Creek	5	2
No Response	3	-

**TABLE 3-9 DOWNSTREAM SITES RESPONDENTS TYPICALLY USE TO ACCESS WEST CANADA CREEK**

<b>RECREATION SITE</b>	<b>SITE TYPICALLY USED TO ACCESS WCC PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>PRIMARY SITE TO ACCESS WCC PERCENT (%)</b>
DS Rec 1 – Dover Rd Bridge Informal	14	29
DS Rec 2 – Rt 28 Informal Pull-off	15	19
DS Rec 3 – NYSDEC Partridge Hill Rd	17	29
DS Rec 4 – NYSDEC Rt 28 Beecher Rd	9	4
DS Rec 5 – Rt 28 Overlook N. Poland	9	3
DS Rec 6 – NYSDEC Rt 28 Poland	10	4
DS Rec 7 – Rt 28 Overlook S. Poland	8	2
DS Rec 8 – Rt 28 Overlook S. Newport	6	3
DS Rec 9 – NYSDEC Rt 28 N. Middleville	6	4
DS Rec 10 – Kast Bridge Area	6	2

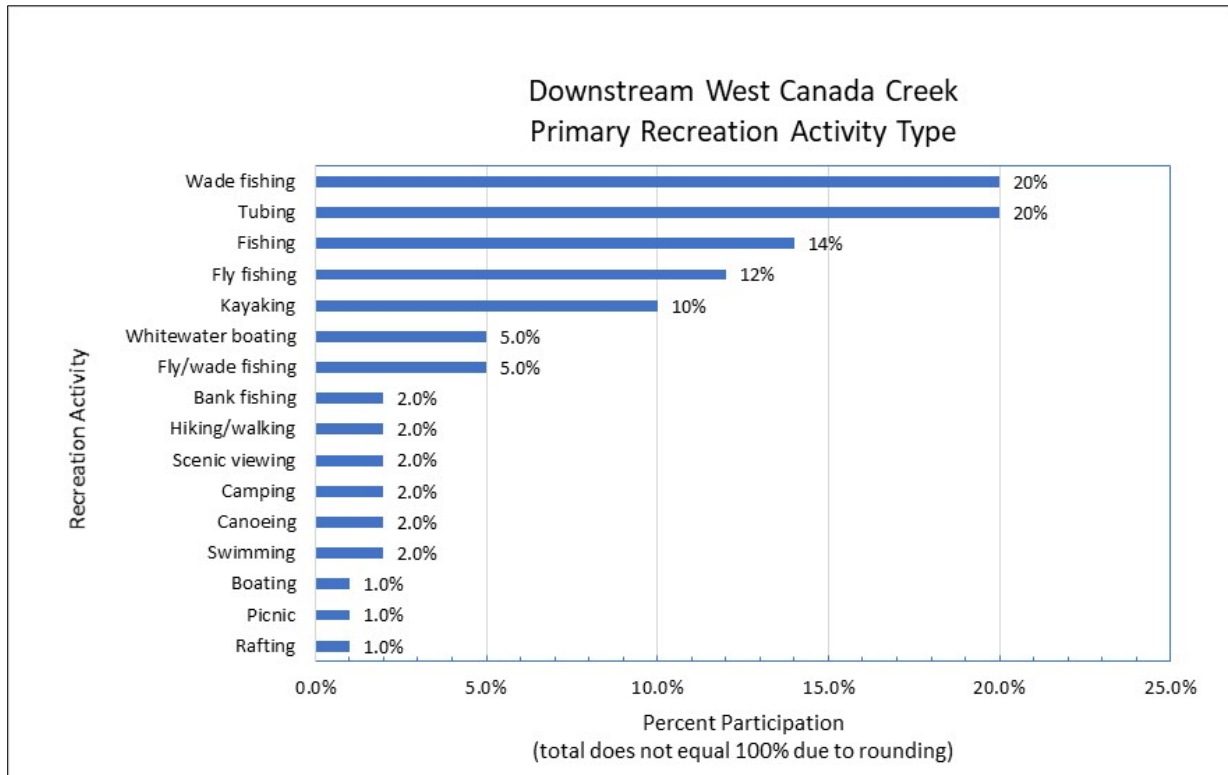


**FIGURE 3-8 DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF VISITATION PER MONTH**



**FIGURE 3-9 DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK PERCENT PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVITY**





**FIGURE 3-10 DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK PRIMARY RECREATION ACTIVITY**

Approximately the same number of respondents said they have had difficulty launching or retrieving a watercraft on West Canada Creek (30 percent) as stated that they haven't had any trouble (31 percent). Reasons given for why it was difficult to launch or retrieve a watercraft on West Canada Creek include difficult launching at the access site, not enough access/launch sites, debris, high water levels, steep/rocky banks, and low/shallow water.

On average, survey participants visited their primary recreation site on West Canada Creek 19 times per year and stayed for 4 hours. The average group size was 3.7 people, and the average number of vehicles used to visit the primary site was 1.5 vehicles. Recreationists traveled approximately 36 miles on average to West Canada Creek with a range of 0 to 1,000 miles (Table 3-10).

**TABLE 3-10 CHARACTERISTICS OF TYPICAL VISITS TO THE PRIMARY SITE VISITED ON WEST CANADA CREEK**

	VISITS PER YEAR	LENGTH OF VISIT (HOURS)	GROUP SIZE	VEHICLES	MILES
Mean	19.1	4.0	3.7	1.5	35.9
Median	10.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	20.0
Minimum	1.0	0.5	1.0	0	0
Maximum	365	36	30	8	1,000

Respondents rated the overall condition of the primary site visited on West Canada Creek as excellent (11 percent), good (30 percent), satisfactory (31 percent), fair (24 percent), and poor (4 percent). Common reasons why the condition was rated as less than satisfactory include poor/difficult access, mediocre launch sites, garbage, erosion and steep banks, and fluctuating water levels.

### **Downstream West Canada Creek Campground**

Kleinschmidt contacted West Canada Creek Campsites (WCC Campsites) and requested recreation use information for the past 5 years. West Canada Creek Campsites provided rental information, shuttle use, and camping data for 2014-2018 (Table 3-11) (personal communication with West Canada Creek Campground 2019). Canoe/kayak rentals is the total number of boat rentals. Shuttles is the number of transports of individuals and their float (e.g., canoe, kayak or tube) upstream to one of four put-in locations. The four put-in locations are downstream of Morgan Dam (Dover Road Bridge Access) (DS Rec 1), Putnam Road informal pull-off (DS Rec 2), Comstock Bridge (DS Rec 3), and the North Poland Overlook on Route 28 (DS Rec 5). The put-in locations for tubing and the approximate distribution of transports are Putnam Road (10 percent), Partridge Hill Road (80 percent), and the North Poland Overlook (10 percent). Take out locations are at the campground site located in Poland (see Figure 3-3)

**TABLE 3-11 SUMMARY OF WEST CANADA CREEK CAMPGROUND RENTAL COUNTS (2014-2019)**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Canoe/Kayak Rentals	135	65	22	85	71
Tube Rentals	-	156	354	583	928
Shuttles	647	813	592	686	1,360
Camping Nights	8,309	7,306	9,202	9,363	9,538

Source: Personal communication with West Canada Creek Campground 2019.

The number of canoe/kayak rentals ranged from 22 in 2016 to 135 in 2014. The number of tube rentals has increased each year from 156 in 2015 to 928 in 2018. The highest number of shuttles occurred in 2018 (1,360); the number of shuttles ranged from 592 to 813 in 2014 to 2017. The number of nights individuals camped at the WCC Campsites ranged from 7,306 in 2015 to 9,538 in 2018 (Table 3-11). In addition, WCC Campsites reported that approximately 3 percent of their campers are there specifically to fish the West Canada Creek and that 15 percent of the campers state that fishing is part of the reason they are camping at the WCC Campsites.

### **3.3.4 FLOW INFORMATION AND WARNING SYSTEM**

Approximately 60 percent of survey participants stated they do schedule recreation trips to West Canada Creek based on power generation flows, and 62 percent access flow information prior to their visit. The largest number of respondents obtain flow information from the SafeWaters website (39 percent), followed by a USGS gage (33 percent) and the SafeWaters phone line (8 percent). Other sources of information survey participants reported using include visual inspection of the flow level, American Whitewater, friends, and the WCC Campground.

Approximately 35 percent of respondents were dissatisfied with the water level in West Canada Creek followed by 22 percent satisfied, 21 percent neutral, 15 percent very dissatisfied, and 6 percent very satisfied. The common themes from the explanations of why respondents reported being dissatisfied with the water level in West Canada Creek were inaccurate reported flow information; high flows impacting fishing and causing unsafe conditions; water levels too low for kayaking, tubing, or whitewater boating; inconsistent/unpredictable flows; fluctuations negatively impacting aquatic habitat and life; and unsafe wading because of fluctuating flows.

Twenty-seven percent of survey participants rated the flow warning system downstream of the Trenton dam as satisfactory, followed by 13 percent rating it poor, 11 percent rating it as fair, 11 percent as good, and 1 percent as excellent (36 percent of respondents had no response). The main reasons for why the flow warning system was rated as less than satisfactory were that it can't be heard or is difficult to hear unless recreating near the Trenton Station and that the flow doesn't always change after the siren is sounded.

### **3.3.5 EFFECT OF WATER LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS ON RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

Several questions on the survey (questions 29 to 32) were designed to assess whether fluctuations in the water level affect recreation participation, how recreation is affected and how often. Eighty-nine percent of respondents said that changes in water levels have affected their ability to recreate on West Canada Creek. The activities affected were fly/wade fishing (32 percent), tubing (22 percent), canoeing (17 percent), bank fishing (15 percent), whitewater boating (6 percent), kayaking (4 percent), and boating (2 percent); other activities that were affected include swimming and relaxing.

Almost half (47 percent) of respondents stated that they decided not to participate in the recreation activity because of the fluctuations in water level, 23 percent said they adjusted the timing of their visit, 14 percent avoided a specific area, and 10 percent moved to a different location. A similar number of respondents said fluctuations in water level affected their ability to recreate 3-4 times per year (23 percent) and greater than 20 times per year (22 percent); 14 to 19 percent said their recreation activity was affected 1-2 times per year, 5-9 times per year, or 10-20 times per year.

### **3.3.6 FISHING EXPERIENCE ON PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT AND WEST CANADA CREEK**

A component of the 2019 visitor recreation survey was to gather current information on angler use and experiences on the Prospect impoundment and West Canada Creek. Nearly half of survey participants (51 percent) fish on West Canada Creek, 22 percent of the respondents fish on the Prospect impoundment, and the remaining respondents indicated either that they did not fish or provided no response. Based on all of the responses, the preferred angling technique was fly fishing (30 percent), followed by wade fishing (19 percent), bank fishing (15 percent), artificial lures (15 percent), boat fishing (11 percent), and bait fishing (9 percent) (Table 3-12). Bait fishing was the most popular technique used at the Prospect impoundment (30 percent), and fly fishing was most popular on West Canada Creek (38 percent) (Table 3-12).

**TABLE 3-12 SURVEY RESPONDENTS PREFERRED ANGLING TECHNIQUE**

<b>ANGLING TECHNIQUE</b>	<b>FISH PROSPECT ONLY PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>FISH WCC ONLY PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>TOTAL (ALL RESPONSES) PERCENT (%)</b>
Bait Fishing	30	5	9
Fly Fishing	4	38	30
Artificial Lures	22	12	15
Bank Fishing	22	15	15
Boat Fishing	17	8	11
Wade Fishing	4	23	19
No Response	0	0	1

Overall, respondents rated being satisfied (41 percent) or neutral (28 percent) with their fishing experience followed by dissatisfied (17 percent), very satisfied (8 percent), and very dissatisfied (3 percent). The overall average rating was 3.3, on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 very satisfied. The common explanations for why respondents were dissatisfied with the typical fishing trip were impacts of fluctuating water levels on fish, the ecosystem, and aquatic insects; inconsistent flows; low numbers of fish and aquatic life; and unsafe conditions for fishing because of high water levels.

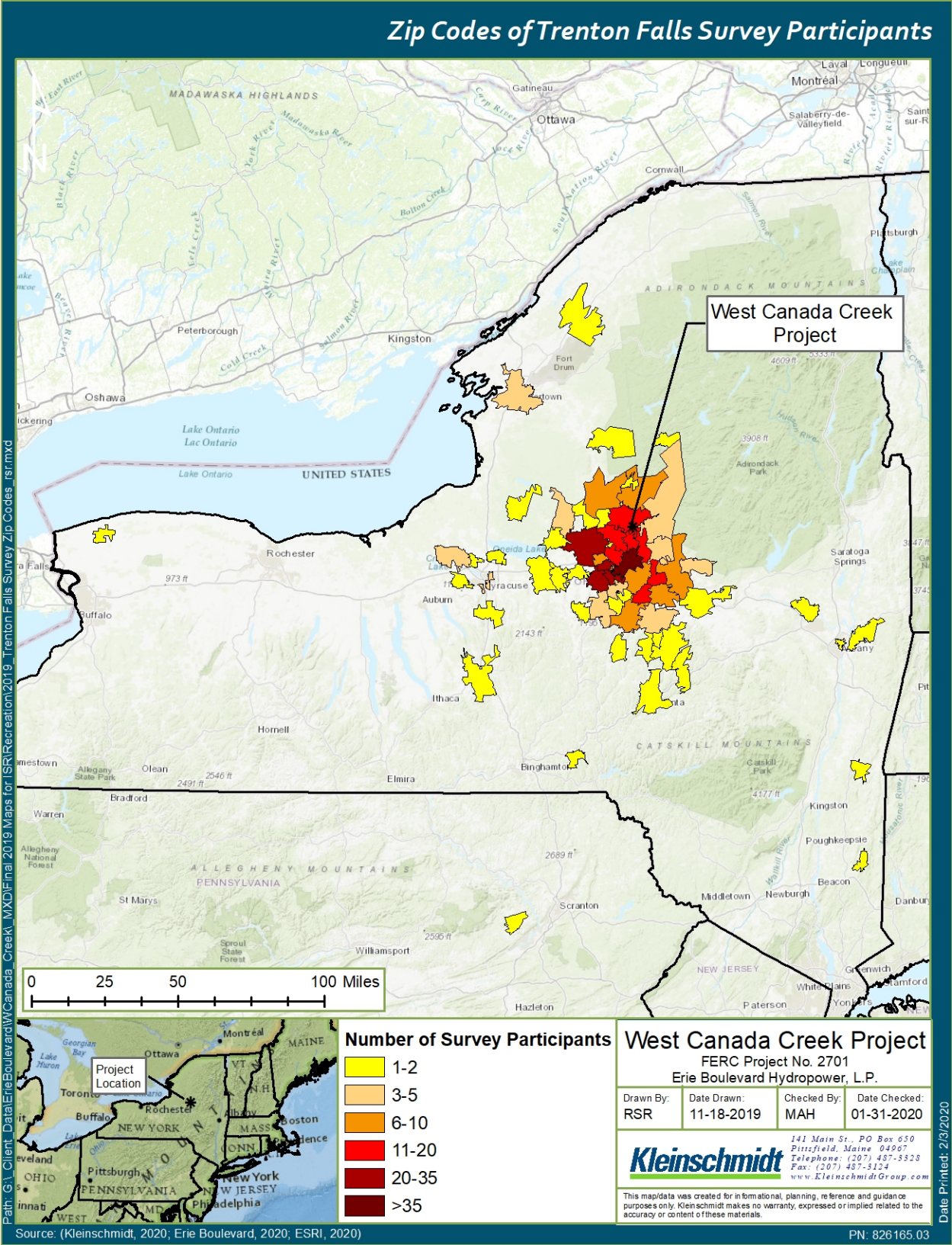
On average, anglers spent 3.7 hours fishing on a typical trip and catch 1.7 fish per hour. Anglers reported typically harvesting less than one fish and releasing an average of 3.7 fish. One-third (33 percent) of the respondents reported that they release all fish. Based on total responses received, the species typically targeted most frequently by anglers were brown trout (42 percent) followed by brook trout (20 percent), rainbow trout (19 percent), and smallmouth bass (9 percent); 1 to 4 percent of respondents target chain pickerel, largemouth bass, or yellow perch (Table 3-13). In terms of the primary species targeted, respondents indicated that trout was the primary species targeted (overall 94 percent); over half of respondents indicated brown trout (53 percent), followed by trout (29 percent), Brook trout (7 percent), Rainbow trout (5 percent,) bass (4 percent), and other (2 percent).

**TABLE 3-13 SURVEY RESPONDENTS FISH SPECIES TARGETED**

<b>ANGLING TECHNIQUE</b>	<b>FISH PROSPECT ONLY PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>FISH WCC ONLY PERCENT (%)</b>	<b>TOTAL (ALL RESPONSES) PERCENT (%)</b>
Brown Trout	22	48	42
Brook Trout	6	18	20
Rainbow Trout	22	16	19
Chain Pickerel	0	2	1
Largemouth Bass	17	3	4
Smallmouth Bass	17	7	9
Yellow Perch	6	1	1
No Response	11	3	4

### **3.4 TRENTON FALLS SCENIC TRAIL EVENT SURVEY**

Kleinschmidt completed 202 surveys over the May 18 to 19, 2019, weekend, and 241 surveys over the September 14 to 15, 2019, weekend for a total of 443 surveys during the 2019 Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events. The overall response rate for the survey was 82 percent (Table 3-14). Survey participants primarily resided in central New York. The most surveys were completed by residents of Utica (68 surveys), Clinton (33), Rome (32), New Hartford (26), Whitesboro (24), Holland Patent (19), Remsen (19), Barneveld (14), Marcy (13), Herkimer (12), and Ilion (12) (Figure 3-11).



**FIGURE 3-11 ZIP CODE LOCATIONS AND FREQUENCIES OF TRENTON FALLS SURVEY PARTICIPANTS**



**TABLE 3-14 TRENTON FALLS 2019 EVENT NUMBER OF COMPLETED SURVEYS**

	5/18/2019	5/19/2019	9/14/2019	9/15/2019	TOTAL
Refused	27	20	10	38	95
Completed Surveys	119	83	86	155	443
Total Attempts	146	103	97	193	539
Response Rate	82%	81%	90%	80%	82%
Total Participants	1,167	1,150	668	1,982	4,967

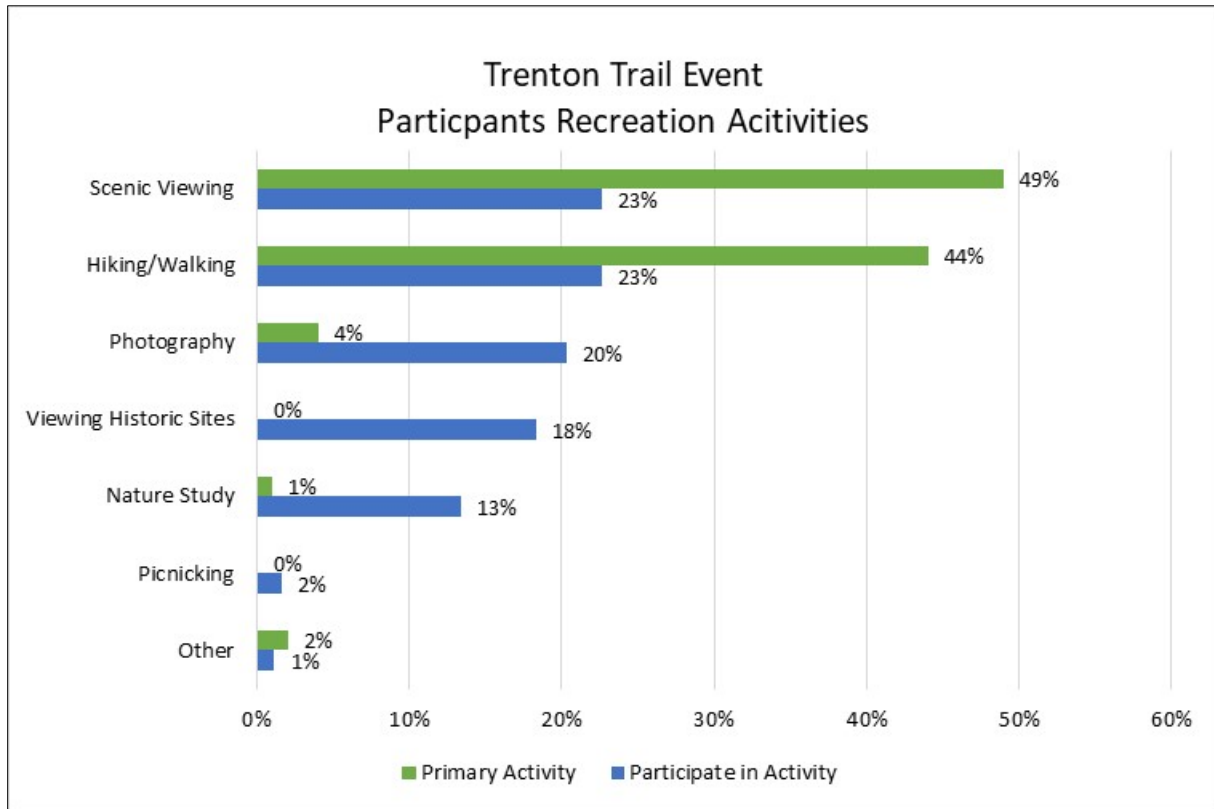
### 3.4.1 VISITOR CHARACTERISTICS

The age of survey participants ranged from 19 to 87 with an average age of 50. Fifty-nine percent of respondents were female, and 41 percent were male. The average group size was 3 people and ranged from one to an organized group of 16. The most common type of group was families (73 percent), followed by friends (16 percent) and individuals (8 percent). Groups generally traveled in one vehicle to the event and drove an average of 21 miles (range <1 to 200 miles).

Over half (58 percent) of the visitors to the event had been before while it was the first time coming to the event for 42 percent of the visitors. On average, visitors had visited the site approximately 4 times before. The length of visit ranged from 0.5 hours to 4 hours with an average of 1.2 hours. Visitors heard about the Trenton Falls event from numerous sources including the internet (24 percent), word of mouth (22 percent), newspapers (19 percent), and other sources including TV, the news, the radio, signs, and Facebook (35 percent). In addition, several respondents knew about the event because they live in the area.

All respondents participated in scenic viewing (23 percent) and hiking/walking (23 percent) at the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail event (Figure 3-12). Other activities participated in were photography, nature study, visiting historic sites, and picnicking. Scenic viewing was the primary activity of most respondents (49 percent); hiking/walking was the primary activity of 44 percent of respondents. Other primary activities included spending time with family, exercise, and enjoying the outdoors (Figure 3-12).





**FIGURE 3-12 SUMMARY OF TRENTON FALLS PARTICIPANT RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

### 3.4.2 VISITOR PERCEPTIONS

Over half of the survey participants (66 percent) responded that they were not satisfied with the number of days the trails were open; approximately one-third (34 percent) said they were satisfied. A wide range of responses were given to how often respondents would like the trail to be open; responses ranged from one more time to all the time. Common answers were 1 or 2 weekends per month from spring to fall, at least one time in the summer, at least one time later in the fall after the leaves have changed, 2 or 3 more times per year, 4 to 5 times per year, and once each season.

Crowdedness was primarily rated between light and moderate; the average rating for all the days combined was 2.4, on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light, 3 being moderate, and 5 being heavy. Over 90 percent of respondents rated the crowdedness as light, somewhat light or moderate on May 18, May 19, and September 14. On September 15, which was the day with the highest number of visitors (1,982 visitors), 25 percent of respondents rated the crowdedness as somewhat heavy or heavy; the average rating was 3.0 on this day.

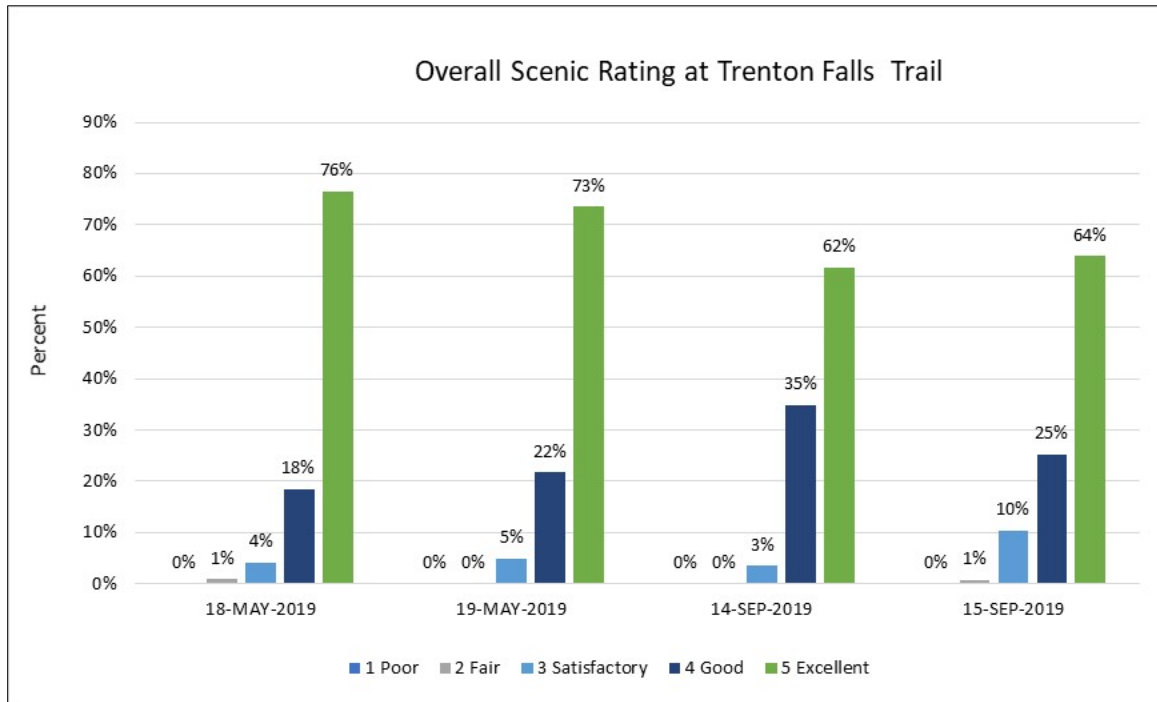
Overall, survey respondents rated the condition of the trails as excellent and very safe. Respondents rated the condition of the Trenton Falls Trails as excellent (82 percent) or good (17 percent); the average rating was 4.8, on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent. The Trenton Falls trails were rated as very safe (93 percent) or safe (7 percent) with an average rating of 4.9, on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is very unsafe and 5 is very safe. Two responses were given regarding why respondents felt unsafe which were that some places near the Sherman Falls Cradle Overlook need additional barriers and that the steps are too steep for the elderly.

Most survey participants were very satisfied (64 percent) or satisfied (27 percent) with the available number and type of recreation facilities. Nearly two-thirds (63 percent) responded that they would not recommend any recreation facility or access enhancements. Recommendations provided include allowing dogs/leashed pets, more benches or places to sit, trail access to the Accessible Overlook, more bathrooms/porta potty, a zipline, more picnic tables, more and longer trails, allow access to the gorge, allow visitors to get closer to the water, more parking, and open the trail to the top of the dam.

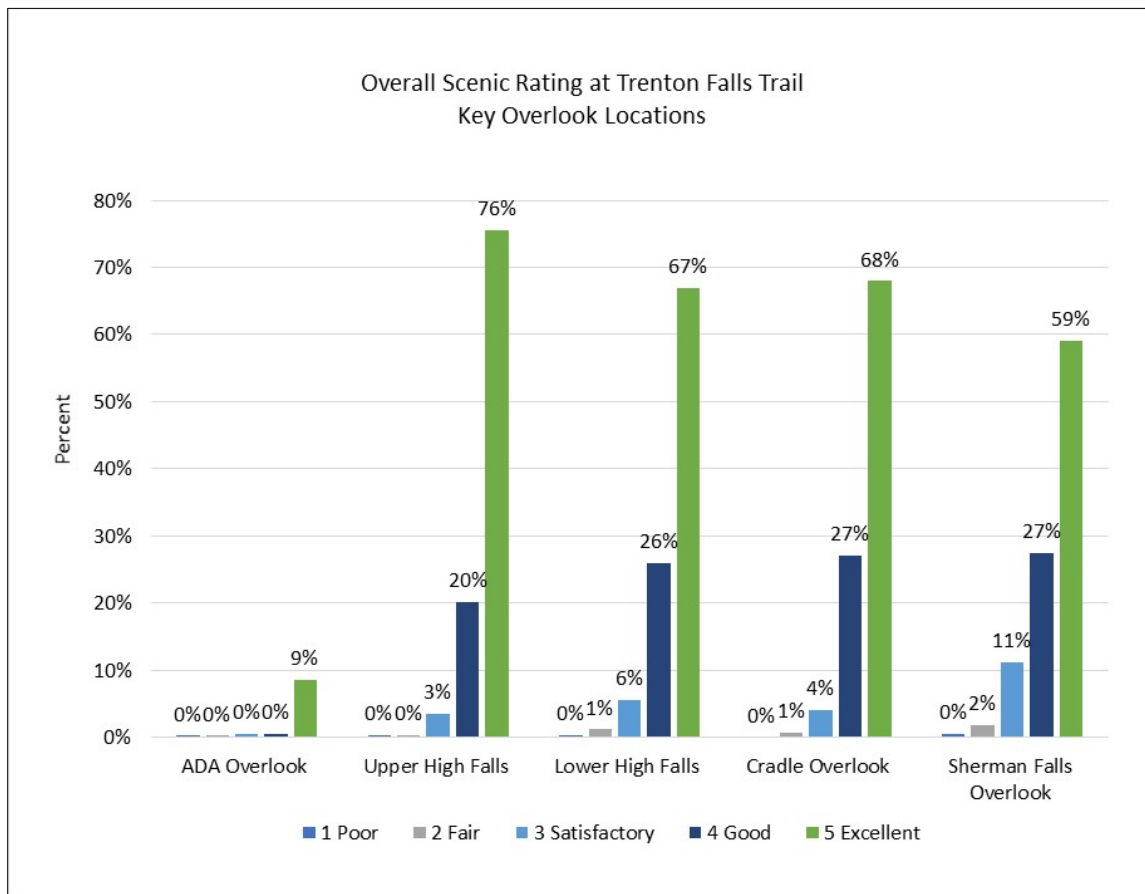
### **3.4.3 VISITOR PERCEPTIONS OF SCENIC QUALITY**

The average flow rate through the Trenton Falls gorge during the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events was approximately 325 cfs on May 18 and 19; approximately 250 cfs on September 14, and approximately 200 cfs on September 15. For the overall scenic quality of the Trenton Falls trail during the event, respondents collectively (total across all days) rated the scenic quality as excellent (69 percent) or good (25 percent). For each individual day, respondents indicated the overall scenic quality as primarily excellent or good (see Figure 3-13). The average rating for the overall scenic views was 4.6, on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent. Similar results were found for each survey day and for the individual overlooks.

The average ratings for the individual overlooks were: Upper High Falls (rating of 4.7), Lower High Falls (rating of 4.6); Cradle Overlook (rating of 4.6), and Sherman Falls Overlook (rating of 4.4). Figure 3-14 shows the average ratings for each overlook viewing location for the combined Trenton Scenic Falls events during the 2019 study period. Individual ratings for each location are as well as photos of the waterfalls are provided in Appendix F.



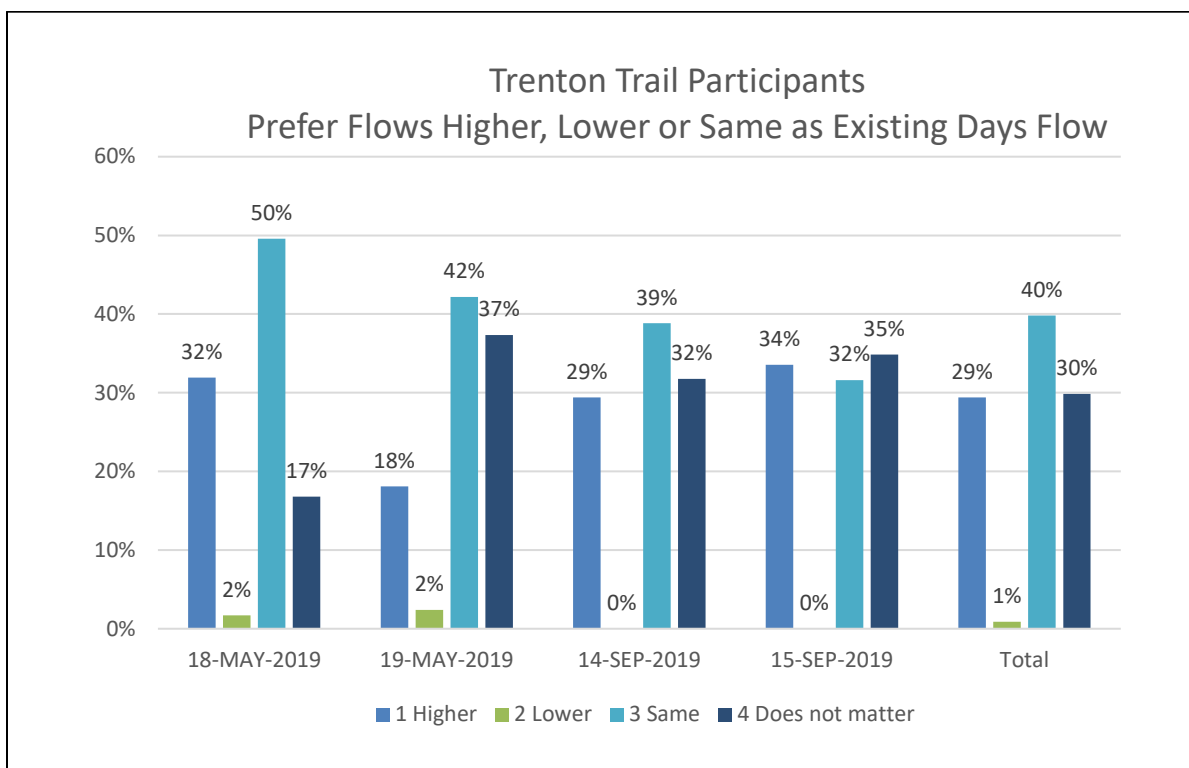
**FIGURE 3-13 OVERALL SCENIC RATING OF TRENTON FALLS TRAIL**



**FIGURE 3-14 OVERALL SCENIC RATING OF TRENTON FALLS TRAIL OVERLOOK LOCATIONS**



The highest percentage of respondents stated that they would prefer flows that were the same as the day they were visiting (40 percent) (Figure 3-15). A similar number of respondents replied that the flow rate does not matter (30 percent) or that they would prefer higher flows (29 percent). On May 18-19 and September 14, most survey participants said they would prefer flows that were the same as that occurring that day. On September 15, the responses were more uniform between higher, same, and does not matter (32 percent to 35 percent each) (Figure 3-15). See additional information regarding the aesthetic views within the Project in the Aesthetic Flow Assessment Report (EDR 2020).



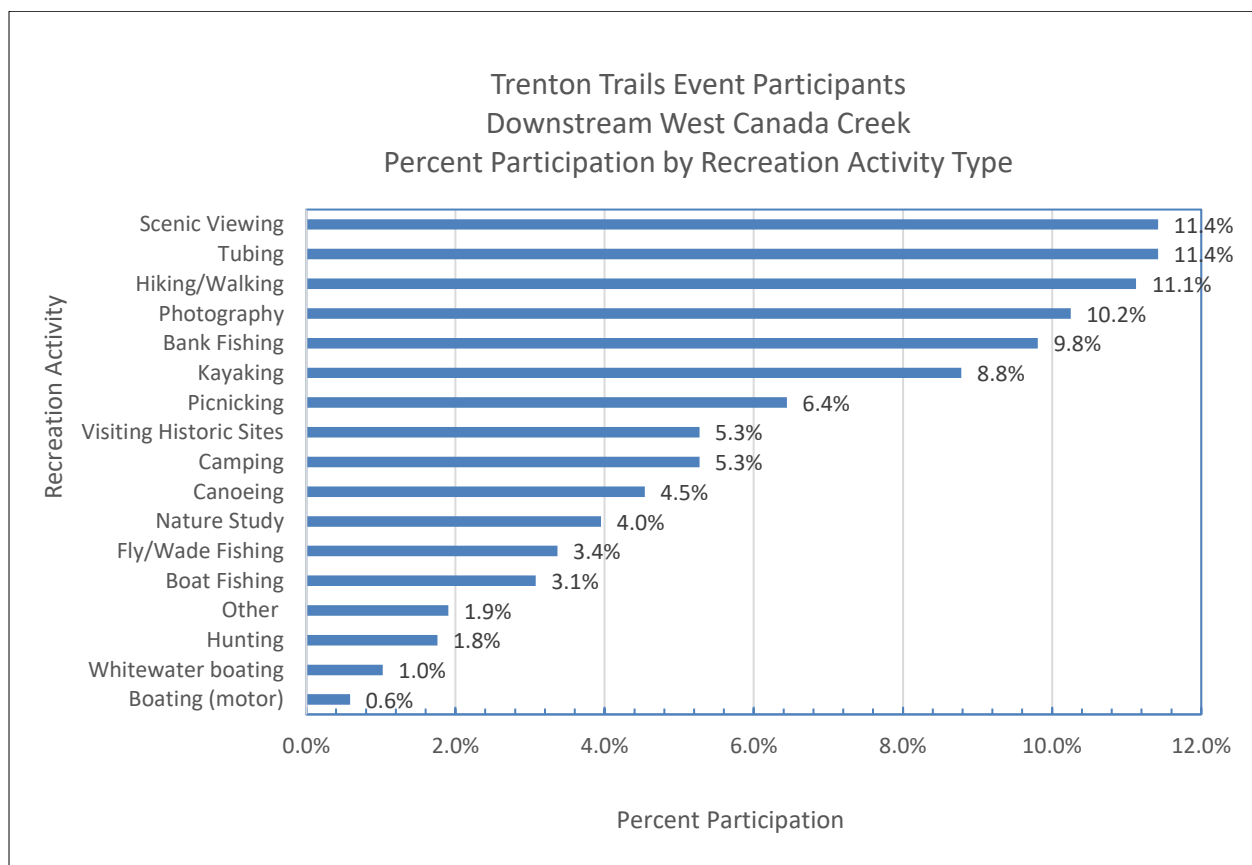
**FIGURE 3-15 FLOW PREFERENCE OF TRENTON FALLS TRAIL PARTICIPANTS**

#### 3.4.4 RECREATION USE ALONG WEST CANADA CREEK

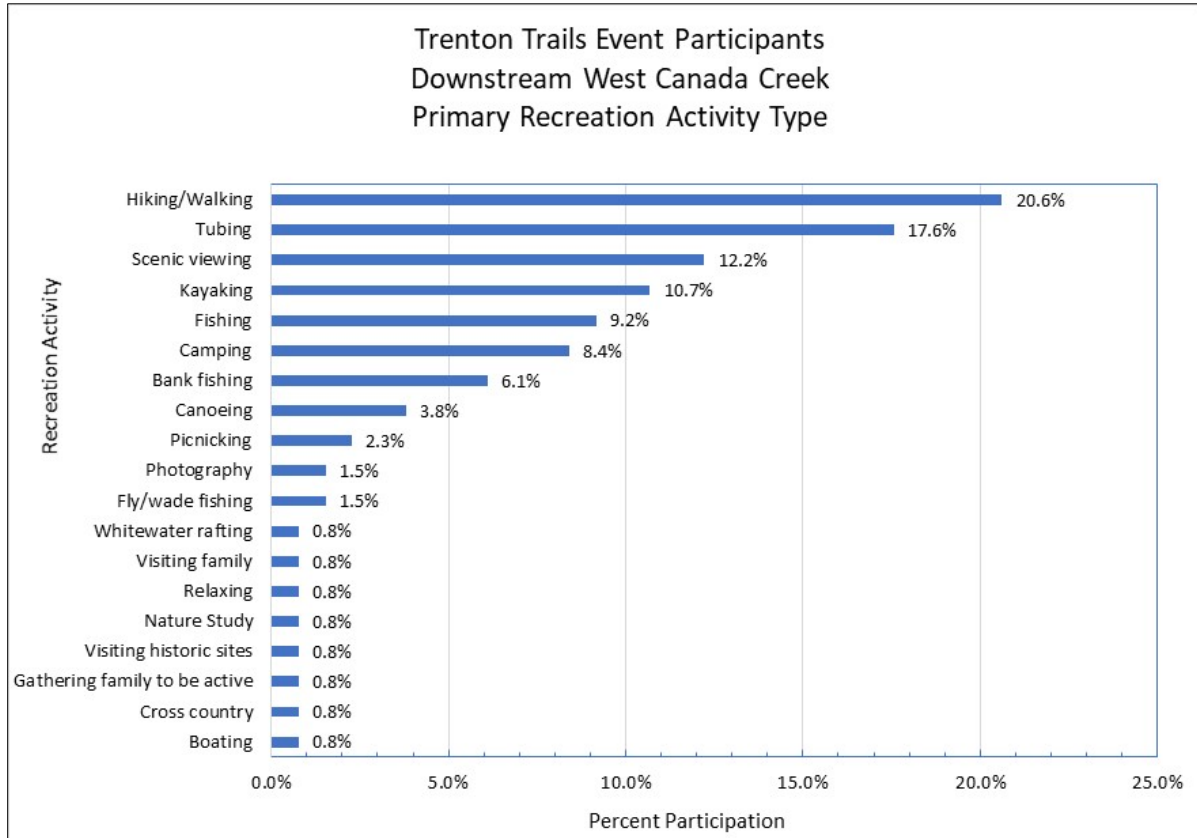
In terms of the Trenton Falls Scenic Trail participants recreation use along West Canada Creek, most respondents (61 percent) said they do not visit other recreation sites along West Canada Creek. The 39 percent of participants that said they do use other recreation sites use a variety of sites along West Canada Creek from upstream of the Project at the Hinckley Reservoir and extending downstream to Herkimer. Specific sites mentioned include the Prospect Reservoir,

Newport, Poland, Middleville, Dover Bridge, fishing access sites, and tubing, kayaking, camping, and hiking sites.

The most popular recreation activities along West Canada Creek were fishing (16 percent; bank, boat and fly/wade fishing), and tubing, hiking/walking, scenic viewing, and photography which were each participated in by 10 to 11.5 percent of respondents. Approximately 9 to 10 percent of respondents each participate in kayaking or bank fishing. Other activities respondents reported participating in include biking, swimming, cross country skiing, paddle boarding, snowmobiling/four-wheeling, socializing, and geocaching (Figure 3-16). The primary activities participated in were hiking/walking (21 percent), tubing (18 percent), fishing (including bank and fly/wade fishing, 17 percent), scenic viewing (12 percent), kayaking (11 percent), and camping (8 percent) (Figure 3-17).



**FIGURE 3-16 TRENTON TRAIL PARTICIPANTS WEST CANADA CREEK PERCENT PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVITY**



**FIGURE 3-17 TRENTON TRAIL PARTICIPANTS WEST CANADA CREEK PRIMARY RECREATION ACTIVITY**

### **3.5 PUBLIC ACCESS AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT**

#### **3.5.1 PUBLIC ACCESS**

The West Canada Creek Project resides in the towns of Trenton in Oneida County, and Russia in Herkimer County. Both towns are considered rural gateway communities to Adirondack Park as they are situated in a transition area between the populated Mohawk Valley region and the sparsely settled woodlands of the lower Adirondacks (Town of Russia 2005). Lands within the Project boundary are subject to the Town of Trenton and the Town of Russia zoning rules and regulations. Town of Trenton lands within 300 feet of the West Canada Creek shoreline are managed as a Special Land Conservation District and lands beyond the 300-foot designation are managed as either residential rural, medium density residential, or residential agriculture (Town of Trenton 2011). Town of Russia lands within 150 feet of the West Canada Creek shoreline are managed as a Shoreline District and the rest of the lands beyond the 150-foot designation are managed as a low-density residential district (Town of Russia 2005).



## **PROSPECT DEVELOPMENT**

The Prospect impoundment is primarily undeveloped with vegetated and wooded shorelines, and one area of limited residential development along the upper eastern shoreline outside of the existing Project boundary. Adjacent land use is primarily private ownership along the Prospect impoundment southeastern shoreline and public right-of-way access along a portion of the northern shoreline that parallels Route 365 (see Figure 3-18, Oneida County 2020). Public access sites along the northern shoreline include the existing Prospect boat launch (Project recreation site), the informal access near Hinckley Road bridge, and the Jarvis Project tailrace access area.

The Prospect bypass reach extends approximately 1.3 miles, including approximately 0.5 miles above Military Bridge, and 0.8 miles below Military Bridge. Lands adjacent to both sides of the Prospect bypass reach above Military Road Bridge are owned by Erie. Downstream of Military Bridge adjacent lands are owned by Erie along the eastern shoreline, with one small parcel owned by the Mohawk Valley Water Authority (MVWA) which is in close proximity to, but not adjacent to the Prospect bypass reach. Adjacent lands along the western shoreline downstream of Military Bridge are owned by a private landowner, the Town of Trenton, and MVWA (see Figure 3-18). The MVWA facility is a regional water supply treatment plant that supplies drinking water for approximately 126,500 residents within the MVWA service area, including the City of Utica (MVWA 2020). The MVWA plant includes infrastructure facilities and settling pond areas.

The Prospect bypass eastern shoreline downstream of Military Bridge is a steep cliff (almost 100 percent of the shoreline) and provides no safe access. Approximately 70 percent of the Prospect bypass western shoreline is steep/cliff. The remaining area predominantly has loose rock and provides difficult access to the stream channel, and this area is adjacent to the MVWA parcel and associated infrastructure. Additional information pertaining to Prospect bypass reach access will be provided in the forthcoming Whitewater Boating Flow and Access Study Report following the 2020 study season. Additional information pertaining to the Prospect and Trenton impoundments shorelines and bypass reaches are available in the Impoundment Shoreline Characterization Study Report (Kleinschmidt 2002c), and in the Aquatic Mesohabitat Assessment Report (Kleinschmidt 2020a).

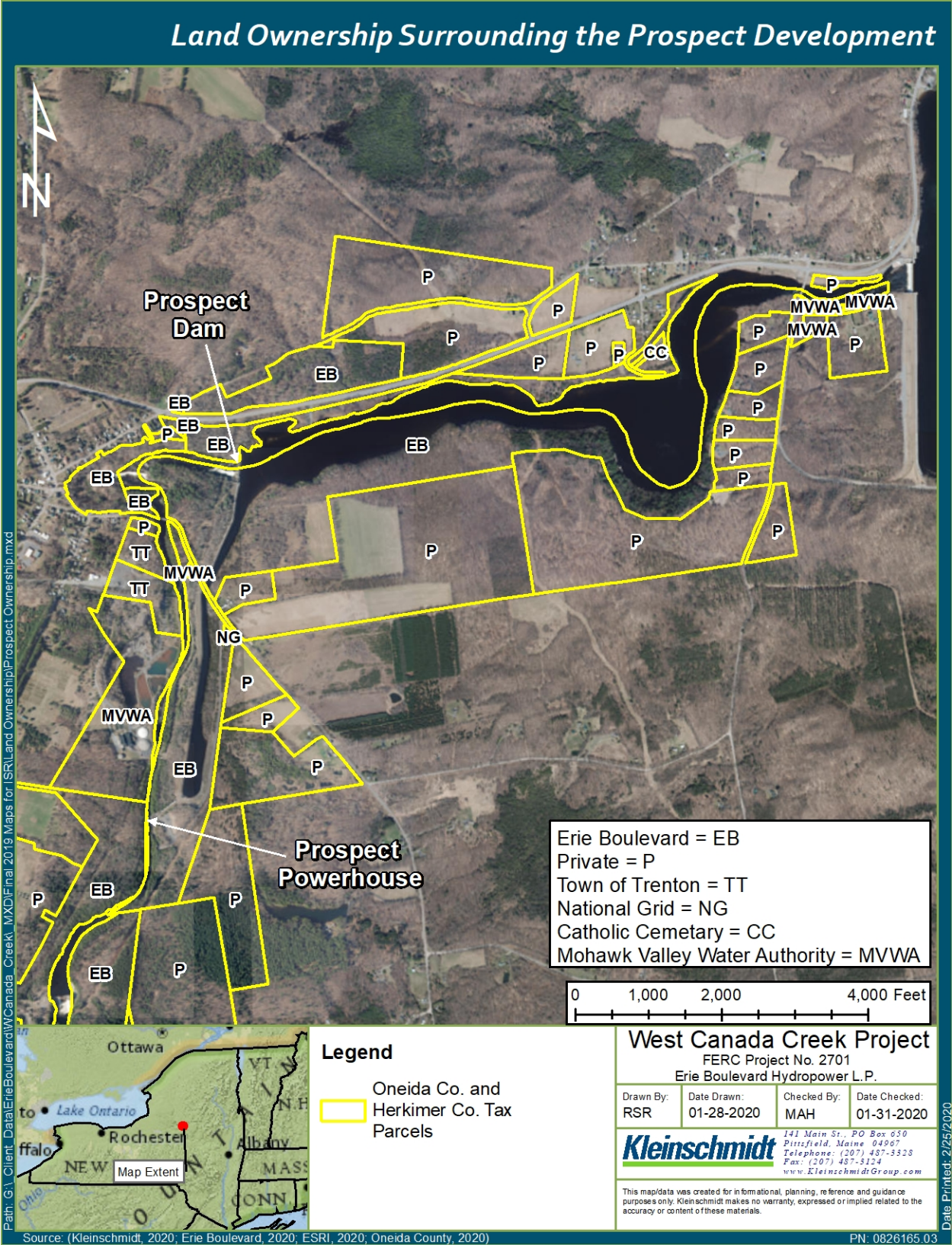


FIGURE 3-18 ADJACENT LAND OWNERSHIP PROSPECT DEVELOPMENT

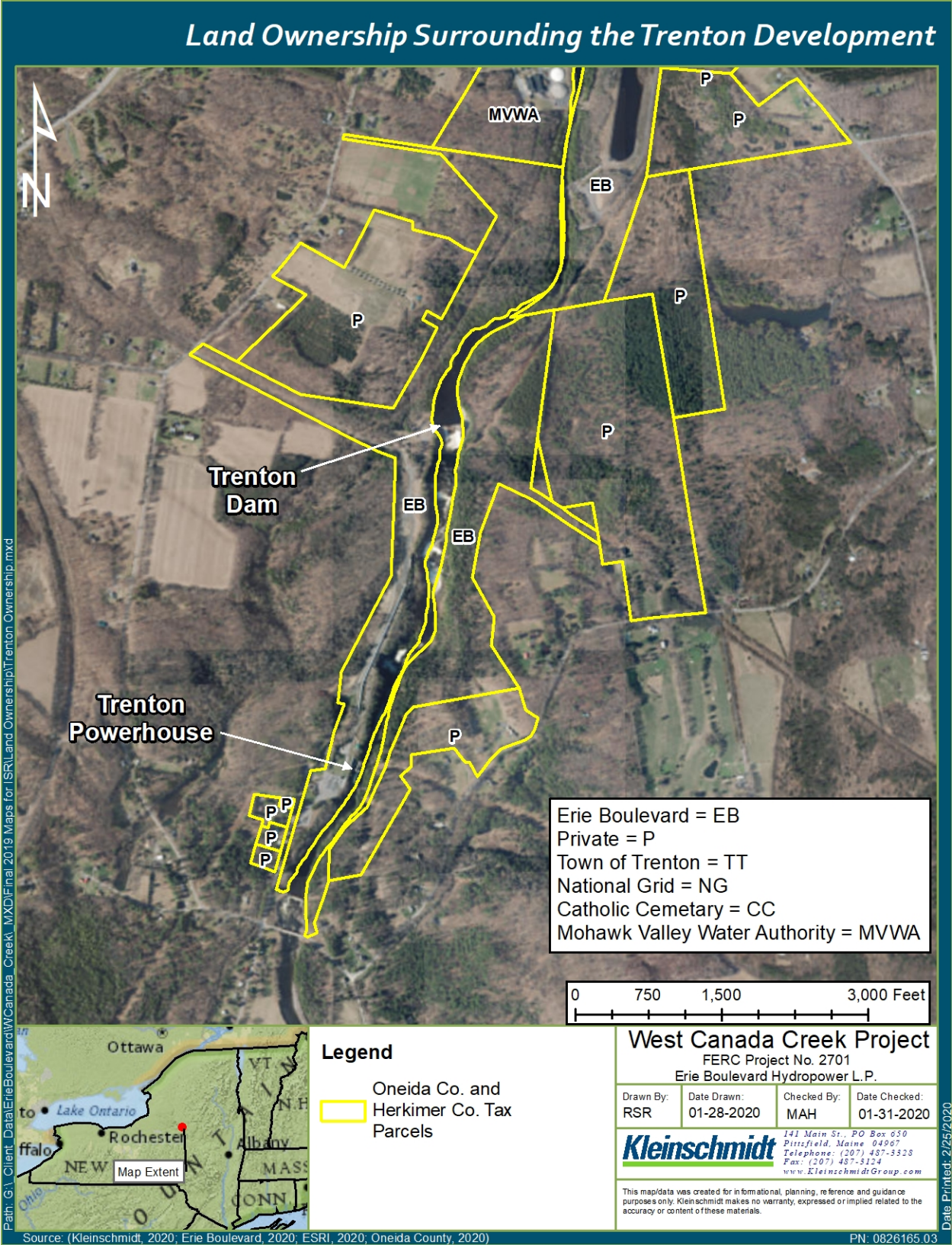
## **TRENTON DEVELOPMENT**

Erie, in partnership with the Town of Trenton, provide controlled public access to view the scenic Trenton Falls gorge for one or two weekends in the spring and one or two weekends in the fall annually since 2004. Erie and the Town of Trenton developed the day-use area and trails to provide public access to view waterfalls located within the scenic Trenton Falls gorge. The trail provides safety signage, fencing and controlled public access to viewing locations along the edge of the gorge to enable public viewing opportunities in a safe manner. During these public access events, Erie and the Town of Trenton provide staff and volunteers to assist the public and help promote safe public recreational opportunities (i.e., visitors remain on trails and to restrict access down into the gorge). During this event, visitors are provided access to areas adjacent to Project facilities (i.e., penstock) and behind Project facility secured locked fencing. This controlled event access provides Erie the ability to monitor Project facilities to limit any potential vandalism or damage to the Project facilities when the public are afforded access to these areas.

Adjacent land along the Trenton impoundment is owned by Erie along both shorelines. Both the eastern and western impoundment shorelines are wooded with steep vertical bedrock ledges along the narrow and gorge-like configuration. The Trenton bypass reach traverses through the Trenton Falls gorge, which due to the steep gorge and wooded adjacent shoreline, is primarily undeveloped with limited and restricted access. Land ownership adjacent to the project boundary along the western bypass reach shoreline is primarily owned by Erie. Along the eastern bypass reach shoreline, adjacent lands to the project boundary are owned by Erie in the upper portion, and along the lower portion of the bypass reach, the adjacent lands to the project boundary are privately owned (see Figure 3-19).

Erie has restricted access to the Trenton impoundment and bypass reach for safety reasons, including unexpected water discharges, limited egress opportunities, and limited rescue options. Erie restricts public access to this area through signage and fencing for both public safety and Project security purposes. Additional information pertaining to the impoundment shoreline and the Trenton bypass reach is available in the Impoundment Shoreline Characterization Study Report (Kleinschmidt 2002c), in the Aquatic Mesohabitat Assessment Report (Kleinschmidt 2020a), respectively. In addition, additional information pertaining to the Trenton Falls scenic gorge is provided in the Aesthetic Flow Assessment Report (EDR 2020).





**FIGURE 3-19 ADJACENT LAND OWNERSHIP TRENTON DEVELOPMENT**



### 3.5.2 SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Erie has developed, according to FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects, Public Safety Plans for the West Canada Creek Project, which is revised on a regular basis as conditions warrant. These plans (and revisions) are reviewed and accepted by the FERC New York Regional Office. Erie operates the West Canada Creek Project consistent with its commitment to public and employee safety. Erie attains its safety goals by:

- Providing an in-depth management and technical support organization;
- Establishing and implementing specific operating procedures including standard bulletins;
- Training operations and maintenance personnel;
- Inspecting all Project facilities regularly and monitoring indicators of Project condition and safety;
- Implementing a rigorous inspection and maintenance program for operating equipment and facilities vital to safety;
- Limiting public access and providing warning signs where Project operations could endanger the public; and
- Complying with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations regarding the safe operation of industrial and electric facilities.

These measures have been consistently applied and expanded as appropriate to ensure the safe, continued operation and maintenance of the Project. As described in the Project's Public Safety Plan, Erie implements public safety and security measures, such as signage, fencing, alert/warning devices, and boat barriers to protect public safety and for Project security purposes.

Per 18 CFR 2.7, licensees are expected to develop suitable recreation facilities upon Project lands and waters and make provisions for adequate public access, to the extent that such development is not inconsistent with the primary purpose of the project (FERC 2015). As stated in FERC policy Recreation Development at Licensed Hydropower Projects (FERC 1996): "The licensee needs to consider public safety when providing public access to its project. Often the most dangerous features of a project are those that are the most attractive to the recreating public"....."In addition to installation of safety devices, other safety measures may include preventing recreational activities in hazardous areas." In accordance the terms and conditions set forth in Form L-4 (Standard Article 18) of the license, Erie restricts from public access such

portions of the project waters, adjacent lands and project facilities necessary for the protection of life, health and property. Erie follows FERC's guidelines for public safety, including FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects (FERC 2011), and Security Program for Hydropower Projects (FERC 2016).

### **PROSPECT DEVELOPMENT**

On the Prospect impoundment, Erie maintains a boat barrier on the north shore of the reservoir approximately 200 feet upstream from the dam. The boat barrier is oriented southeast to the south shore to restrict access to the Prospect dam and the power canal. The Prospect bypass reach is restricted from public access due to public safety risks associated with unexpected water discharges, limited egress opportunities, limited rescue options, the Prospect waterfall, and adjacent Project facilities. Allowing uncontrolled public access to the Prospect bypass reach area would pose significant safety and security risks and it would afford the public uncontrolled direct access to Project features and to areas directly adjacent to MVWA water treatment plant infrastructure. In addition, the Prospect bypass reach would pose a safety risk due to unexpected water discharges and no opportunities for egress due to the adjacent steep banks along the bypass shoreline and Trenton impoundment shoreline areas. Allowing the public to recreate near these facilities would be inconsistent with FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects (FERC 2011), and Security Program for Hydropower Projects (FERC 2016).

Although access is restricted to the Prospect bypass, Erie maintains a programmable logic controller (PLC) controlled public safety siren/strobe combination at the Prospect dam. The alert system is programmed to activate the siren and strobe with the operation and movement of the Prospect Tainter gates. In addition, Erie personnel visibly check the Prospect bypass reach prior to initially opening the Tainter gates. Erie conducted a test on July 16, 2018, to identify the approximate audible range of the sirens at the Prospect development. The weather was sunny with light winds and temperature of approximately 85 degrees. At the Prospect Development, the siren could be heard in the Prospect bypass reach gorge approximately 0.6 miles downstream of the Prospect dam.

## **TRENTON DEVELOPMENT**

The Trenton bypass reach is restricted from public access due to public safety risks associated with the a steeply walled gorge which contain a series of waterfalls, with elevation drops of up to 100 feet at the falls, unexpected water discharges, and adjacent Project facilities. Erie maintains fencing and signage along the western shoreline from the Trenton dam to the Trenton powerhouse; the Project dam and powerhouse facilities are gated and locked. Erie restricts these portions of the Project land and facilities from public access for public safety and for Project security purposes.

Erie, in partnership with the Town of Trenton, provides controlled public access to view the scenic Trenton Falls Gorge for one or two weekends in the spring and one or two weekends in the fall annually since 2004. Erie maintains fencing and signage at the individual overlooks to help restrict public access to the Trenton Falls Gorge and to Project facilities during public viewing days. During the public viewing weekends, Erie and the Town of Trenton provides signage and staff and volunteers directing visitors where to access the primary and secondary trails.

The Trenton Falls Scenic Trail events provide the pubic the opportunity to view the scenic falls and provide safe access in a controlled manner to areas adjacent to the Trenton falls gorge and surrounding the Project facilities (i.e., along the Trenton penstock). Providing uncontrolled public access to the Trenton Falls gorge area would pose significant safety and security risks to the public due to the steep gorge and waterfall areas, unexpected water discharges, limited egress opportunities, limited rescue options, and adjacent Project facilities and infrastructure. The Trenton Trail event allows public access in a controlled manner that is consistent with FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects (FERC 2011), and Security Program for Hydropower Projects (FERC 2016).

### **DOWNSTREAM OF TRENTON TAILRACE**

Erie maintains a Fishermen Alert System (FAS) below the Trenton Powerhouse. The FAS includes one siren/strobe combination located at the Trenton Powerhouse, one siren/strobe combination adjacent to Morgan Dam, and one solar powered strobe located on Dover Bridge. The FAS is activated prior to loading any unit or increasing the flow out of the Trenton Powerhouse. Additionally, the FAS is activated prior to releasing any flows at the Trenton Dam.

The system is equipped with a PLC that will either sound the siren or light the strobe. During daylight hours (6 am to 9 pm) the PLC is programmed to activate both the siren and the strobe. During nighttime hours (9 pm to 6 am) the PLC will activate only the strobe and not the siren to minimize the disturbance to local residents during times when they may be sleeping. The FAS can be activated by operations personnel located at Trenton Falls Station, or via a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) command originated from the North American System Control Center (NASCC). In addition, Erie personnel visibly check the bypass reach prior to initially opening the flood gate.

Erie conducted a test on July 16, 2018, to identify the approximate audible range of the sirens at the Trenton development. The weather was sunny with light winds and temperature of approximately 85 degrees. At the Trenton Development, the siren could be heard downstream in the West Canada Creek approximately 0.8 miles downstream of the Trenton station.

Erie provides information regarding flow releases at the Trenton Powerhouse via SafeWaters, a publicly accessible website and toll-free phone line (SafeWaters 2019). SafeWaters is updated daily and based on river gauge information, approximate forecasts, and estimated flows. The actual flows can vary and change quickly at any time. The SafeWaters information should be used as an additional source of information of potential flow ranges. Users are encouraged to always be alert and wear an approved flotation device and to never go in or near the water until the user knows and accepts the risks in the area (SafeWaters 2019).



## 4.0 SUMMARY

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Kleinschmidt completed a comprehensive recreation use, needs, and access survey at the Project recreation sites (Prospect reservoir and boat launch and the Trenton Falls Scenic Area) and downstream of the Project along West Canada Creek during the 2019 recreation season.

Kleinschmidt performed a recreation facility inventory and condition assessment at the Project recreation sites and 10 downstream sites, conducted spot counts at the Prospect boat launch and 10 downstream sites, collected traffic counts at the Prospect boat launch, performed a visitor survey at the Trenton Falls scenic trail over the public viewing weekends, conducted an online and paper survey of recreation use and needs at the Prospect impoundment and along West Canada Creek, estimated current and future recreation use, and completed an access and safety assessment of Project recreation sites, as well as an overall review of general public access and safety considerations.

Based on the spot count and traffic counter analysis, use at the Prospect boat launch was highest on holidays, followed by weekends, and then weekdays. The primary activities participated in at the Prospect reservoir were kayaking, fishing, tubing, and scenic viewing. The majority of visitors to the Prospect boat launch rate their satisfaction with the water level between neutral and satisfied, and over half of recreationists have not had any difficulty launching or retrieving their watercraft. Seventy-nine percent of survey respondents rate the overall condition of the boat launch as satisfactory, good, or excellent. Two-thirds of survey participants felt safe or very safe at the Prospect boat launch.

Overall, visitors to the Trenton Falls Scenic area rated the condition of the trails as excellent, felt very safe at the site, and were satisfied with the number and type of available recreation facilities. In addition, most survey respondents rated the scenic views along the trail and of the overlooks as excellent or good. Over half of the survey participants indicated they would like the trail to be open to the public more frequently. Common answers were 1 or 2 weekends per month from spring to fall, at least one time in the summer, at least one time later in the fall after the leaves have changed, 2 or 3 more times per year, 4 to 5 times per year, and once each season.

Recreation use levels downstream of the Project along West Canada Creek were similar on holidays and weekends. Most recreation use occurs between the Dover Road Bridge and the Upper Poland Bridge. The primary recreation activities along West Canada Creek were fly/wade fishing, tubing, and kayaking. The majority of survey respondents stated that fluctuations in flows have affected their ability to participate in recreation activities (e.g., fly/wade fishing, tubing, canoeing, bank fishing). Most recreationists schedule their visits to West Canada Creek based on flows and access flow information prior to their visit. Erie provides information regarding flow releases at the Trenton Powerhouse via SafeWaters, a publicly accessible website and toll-free phone line.

Erie has developed, according to FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects, Public Safety Plans for the West Canada Creek Project, which is revised on a regular basis as conditions warrant. These plans (and revisions) are reviewed and accepted by the FERC New York Regional Office. Erie operates the West Canada Creek Project consistent with its commitment to public and employee safety. In accordance the terms and conditions set forth in Form L-4 (Standard Article 18) of the license, Erie restricts from public access such portions of the project waters, adjacent lands and project facilities necessary for the protection of life, health and property. Erie follows FERC's guidelines for public safety, including FERC's Guidelines for Public Safety at Hydropower Projects (FERC 2011), and Security Program for Hydropower Projects (FERC 2016).

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**APPENDIX A**

**PROJECT FACILITY INVENTORY FORM**

## WEST CANADA CREEK

### PUBLIC RECREATION SITE INVENTORY FORM

Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Facility Type (Primary Purpose):

Developed Facilities: ☐ Boat Launch ☐ Picnic Area ☐ Angling Access  
☐ Campground ☐ Swim Area ☐ Overlook/Roadside Pull-off  
☐ Other Day Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Undeveloped Facilities: ☐ Primitive Campsite ☐ Informal Boat Launch ☐ Informal Angling ☐ Other

**Road Access:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Paved access # entrances \_\_\_\_\_ # lanes \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Circular entrance/exit ☐ Signage  
☐ Unpaved access # entrances \_\_\_\_\_ # lanes \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Circular entrance/exit ☐ Signage

**Parking Lots:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Type	# Paved	# Gravel	Space Delineation
ADA Spaces	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Painted <input type="checkbox"/> Curbs <input type="checkbox"/> Signage
Regular Spaces	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Painted <input type="checkbox"/> Curbs <input type="checkbox"/> Signage
Vehicle & Trailer Spaces	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Painted <input type="checkbox"/> Curbs <input type="checkbox"/> Signage

#### Operations:

☐ Staffed ☐ Unstaffed ☐ Seasonal (From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Fee: (Site \$\_\_\_\_\_; Parking \$\_\_\_\_\_) ☐ Year Round

Operating Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Owner/Manager \_\_\_\_\_

#### Day Use Site Amenities (total # of all amenities per site; provide additional specifications on next page):

#	Type	#	Type	#	Type
_____	Picnic Shelter	_____	Overlook	_____	Boat Launch/Access
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	Hiking/Walking Trail	_____	Boating Prep Area
_____	Trash Cans	_____	Fishing Trail	_____	Designated Swim Area
_____	Grills	_____	Fishing Pier/Platform	_____	Designated Campsite Area
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	Fishing Prep Area	_____	Safety Signage
_____	Restrooms	_____	Information Kiosk	_____	Informational Signage
_____	Other (specify) _____				

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**Boat Launch Facilities:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Craft Type:    ☐ Motorized                      ☐ Carry In                      ☐ Boat Prep Area  
Launch Type:    ☐ Hard surface                      ☐ Gravel                      ☐ Informal (undeveloped)  
                         ☐ ADA Compliant    ☐ Turn-around area    \_\_\_\_\_ # of Lanes

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**Fishing Prep Area/Docks:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Prep Area    ☐ Fishing                      Dimensions: \_\_\_\_\_                      ☐ ADA Compliant  
☐ Prep Area    ☐ Fishing                      Dimensions: \_\_\_\_\_                      ☐ ADA Compliant

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**Trails:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ADA Compliant  
Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ADA Compliant  
Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Length (ft): \_\_\_\_\_ Condition: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ADA Compliant

---

**Interpretive/Site Information** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

Display Type:    ☐ None                      ☐ Kiosk                      ☐ Other                      \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Displays

Information Type:    ☐ Boating Safety    ☐ Invasive Species    ☐ Fishing Regulations    ☐ Fish Type  
☐ Regional Events    ☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Sanitation Facilities:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

	<u># Flush</u>	<u>(# ADA)</u>	<u># Portable</u>	<u>(# ADA)</u>
Unisex	_____	(____)	_____	(____)
Women	_____	(____)	_____	(____)
Men	_____	(____)	_____	(____)

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**Campground/Campsite:** Condition: \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>RV sites</u>	<u>Tent sites</u>	<u>Cabins/Cottages</u>	<u>Group sites</u>	<u>Primitive sites</u>
Total # of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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**Notes (including general condition, any restrictions/alerts, such as boating use, invasive species, etc.):**

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Photos: No. \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX B**

**SPOT COUNT FORM**



One Day in Target Period	AM/PM	Day of Week
Memorial Day Weekend	PM	Weekend
June 10-14	AM	Weekday
June 22-23	AM	Weekend
July 4 - 5	PM	Weekday
July 27 -28	AM	Weekend
August 12-16	PM	Weekday
August 24-25	AM	Weekend
Labor Day Weekend	PM	Weekend

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Temp \_\_\_\_\_ Observer Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Weather      Sunny      Part Cloudy      Cloudy      Light Rain      Heavy Rain      (Note any weather changes during site visits)

Site Location	Time Hour/Min AM or PM	No. of Vehicles		Vehicle State Origin	Type/Number of Boat(s)			Total No. of People at Site	No. of People Participating in								Comments/ General Description
		Without Trailers	With Trailers		Canoe Kayak	Fishing	Motorized		Bank Fishing	Fly/Wade Fishing	Boat Fishing	Boating	Tubing	Picnicking	Walk/ Hike	Other (Specify)	
Prospect Boat Launch																	
DS Rec 1 - Dover Rd Bridge Informal																	
DS Rec 2 - Rt 28 Informal Pull-off																	
DS Rec 3 - NYSDEC Partridge Hill Rd																	
DS Rec 4 - NYSDEC Rt 28 Beecher Rd																	
DS Rec 5 - Rt 28 Overlook N. Poland																	
DS Rec 6 - NYSDEC Rt 28 Poland																	
DS Rec 7 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Poland																	
DS Rec 8 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Newport																	
DS Rec 9 - NYSDEC Rt 28 N. Middleville																	
DS Rec 10 - Rt 28 Kast Bridge Area																	

Contact Information: Karen Klosowski: 315-409-7198 (office), 315-283-5066 (cell); Rachel Russo: 207-416-1229 (office), 207-592-6764 (cell)

Additional notes/comments:

## **APPENDIX C**

### **RECREATION USE SURVEY FORM**

Thank you for your participation in the online survey for the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project 2019 Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study. This survey is being conducted as part of the Project's relicensing process to gather information pertaining to existing recreation use and access at the Project and downstream along the West Canada Creek, as well as visitor perceptions regarding recreation access conditions and needs. Please complete the following questions via the Survey Monkey form. Your participation is voluntary and the responses from the survey will remain anonymous. Please only provide one completed survey per individual. Additional information pertaining to the Project's relicensing process can be found at: <http://www.westcanadacreekproject.com>. Thank you again for your participation.

1. Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your home zip code? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is your gender? ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to answer
4. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years ☐ Prefer not to answer
5. Which of the following areas do you visit? (*Select all that apply*)
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Prospect Impoundment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No ( <i>Skip to Q23</i> )
<input type="checkbox"/> Trenton Trail	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> West Canada Creek downstream of Trenton	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> No Response		

**THIS SECTION (Q 6-22) ASKS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES AT THE PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT AND PROSPECT BOAT LAUNCH ACCESS SITE**

6. What is the primary site you use to access the **Prospect impoundment**?
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Prospect Boat Launch	<input type="checkbox"/> Private shoreline (i.e., adjacent homeowner)
<input type="checkbox"/> Informal Access Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>Please specify location</i> ) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> No Response	
7. What recreation activities do you participate in at the **Prospect impoundment**? (*Select all that apply*)
 

<input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Camping
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Boat Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting
<input type="checkbox"/> Kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Wade Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Scenic Viewing
<input type="checkbox"/> Tubing	<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography
<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking/Walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Study	<input type="checkbox"/> No Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> ): _____		
8. Of the activities listed above, what is the **primary** recreation activity you participate in while visiting **Prospect impoundment**? (*Select one*) \_\_\_\_\_
9. During what month(s) do you typically participate in recreation activities on the Prospect impoundment? (*Select all that apply*)
 

<input type="checkbox"/> January	<input type="checkbox"/> April	<input type="checkbox"/> July	<input type="checkbox"/> October
<input type="checkbox"/> February	<input type="checkbox"/> May	<input type="checkbox"/> August	<input type="checkbox"/> November
<input type="checkbox"/> March	<input type="checkbox"/> June	<input type="checkbox"/> September	<input type="checkbox"/> December
<input type="checkbox"/> No Response			

10. Please estimate how many times you visit the **Prospect impoundment** per year \_\_\_\_\_
11. How long do you typically visit the **Prospect impoundment** in hours? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How many people are typically in your group when you visit **Prospect impoundment**, including yourself? \_\_\_\_\_
13. How many vehicles do you typically use to visit the **Prospect impoundment**? \_\_\_\_\_
14. How many miles do you typically travel to the **Prospect impoundment**? (*Please estimate*) \_\_\_\_\_
15. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the water level in the **Prospect impoundment**? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	No Response

If dissatisfied, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_

16. If you use a boat (all types of watercraft) on the **Prospect impoundment**, have you experienced any difficulty launching or retrieving your boat?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No Response

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

17. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light and 5 being heavy, what is your general perception of the amount of use occurring at the **Prospect boat launch during a typical visit**? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Light	Somewhat Light	Neutral	Somewhat Heavy	Heavy	No Response

18. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of the **Prospect boat launch**? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	No Response

If less than satisfactory, please explain why: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Are there any additional facilities needed at the **Prospect boat launch**?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No Response

If yes, what do you recommend? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Does anyone in your group require reasonable accommodations as defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)?

☐ Yes ☐ No (*Skip to Q22*) ☐ No Response

21. If yes, are there sufficiently accessible facilities at the **Prospect boat launch** for your activity?

☐ Yes ☐ No If no, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No Response



22. On a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is very unsafe and 5 is very safe, how would you rate how safe you feel at the **Prospect boat launch** during a typical visit? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Very Unsafe	Unsafe	Neutral	Safe	Very Safe	No Response

If you felt unsafe, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS SECTION (Q 23-44) ASKS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES IN THE REACHES OF WEST CANADA CREEK FROM TRENTON STATION DOWNSTREAM TO HERKIMER DAM. IF YOU DO NOT RECREATE AT WEST CANADA CREEK DOWNSTREAM OF TRENTON DAM, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 45.**

23. Which reaches of West Canada Creek do you typically visit? (*Please see the attached figure for site locations and select all that apply*)

- ☐ R1-Trenton Falls to Cincinnati Creek
 ☐ R-5 Newport Dam to Middleville Bridge  
☐ R2-Cincinnati Creek to Comstock Bridge
 ☐ R-6 Middleville Bridge to Kast Bridge  
☐ R3-Comstock Bridge to Upper Poland Bridge
 ☐ R-7 Kast Bridge to Mouth of West Canada Creek  
☐ R-4 Upper Poland Bridge to Newport Dam  
☐ No Response

Which reach do you visit most often? (*Select one*) \_\_\_\_\_

24. Do you schedule your recreation trips on the West Canada Creek based on power generation flows?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No
 ☐ No Response

25. Do you typically access flow information prior to visiting West Canada Creek?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No
 ☐ No Response

26. If yes, which of the following sources do you typically review? (*Select all that apply*)

- ☐ Safewaters website (<https://www.safewaters.com/river-system/17>)  
☐ Safewaters phone line (1-844-430-FLOW (3569))  
☐ USGS gage (please specify gage location) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other (if other, please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ No Response

27. Overall, on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the water level in West Canada Creek during your visits? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	No Response

If dissatisfied, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_

28. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the effectiveness of the flow warning system (siren and light) immediately downstream of Trenton Station? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	No Response

If less than satisfactory, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_

29. Have fluctuations in water levels ever affected your ability to participate in recreation activities on West Canada Creek?

☐ Yes      ☐ No (Skip to Question 33)      ☐ No Response

30. If you answered Yes to Question 29, what recreation activity was affected?

- ☐ Boating (motor)      ☐ Bank Fishing  
☐ Canoeing      ☐ Fly/Wade Fishing  
☐ Tubing      ☐ Whitewater Boating  
☐ Other (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ No Response

31. If you answered Yes to Question 29, please select how the fluctuations in water level affected your activity. (*Select all that apply*)

- ☐ Decided not to participate in activity  
☐ Adjusted timing of visit to participate when flows were suitable for recreation activity  
☐ Participated in a different activity on West Canada Creek  
☐ Moved to a different location on West Canada Creek  
☐ Avoided a specific area on West Canada Creek  
☐ Other, please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ No Response

32. How frequently do water level fluctuations affect your ability to participate in recreation activities on West Canada Creek in a typical year?

- ☐ 0 (water level fluctuations have no affect)  
☐ 1-2 times per year  
☐ 3-4 times per year  
☐ 5-9 times per year  
☐ 10-20 times per year  
☐ >20 times per year  
☐ Other, please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ No Response

33. During what month(s) do you typically participate in recreation activities on West Canada Creek?  
(Select all that apply)

- |                                      |                                |                                    |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> January     | <input type="checkbox"/> April | <input type="checkbox"/> July      | <input type="checkbox"/> October  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> February    | <input type="checkbox"/> May   | <input type="checkbox"/> August    | <input type="checkbox"/> November |
| <input type="checkbox"/> March       | <input type="checkbox"/> June  | <input type="checkbox"/> September | <input type="checkbox"/> December |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Response |                                |                                    |                                   |

34. What recreation activities do you participate in at these sites along West Canada Creek?  
(Select all that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motor)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Bank Fishing                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Camping                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly/Wade Fishing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic Viewing         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tubing             | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whitewater Boating | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Study                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting Historic Site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking/Walking     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____ |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Response        |  |   |

35. Of the activities listed above, what is the **primary** recreation activity you participate in along West Canada Creek? (Please select only one) \_\_\_\_\_

36. If you use a boat (all types of watercraft) on West Canada Creek, have you experienced any difficulty launching or retrieving your boat?

- ☐ Yes    ☐ No    ☐ No Response

If yes, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

37. Which site(s) do you typically use to access West Canada Creek?

(Please see Figure for site locations and select all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 1 - Dover Rd Bridge Informal   | <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 6 - NYSDEC Rt 28 Poland         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 2 - Rt 28 Informal Pull-off    | <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 7 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Poland    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 3 - NYSDEC Partridge Hill Rd   | <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 8 - Rt 28 Overlook S. Newport   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 4 - NYSDEC Rt 28 Beecher Rd    | <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 9 - NYSDEC Rt 28 N. Middleville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 5 - Rt 28 Overlook N. Poland   | <input type="checkbox"/> DS Rec 10 - Rt 28 Kast Bridge Area     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify location) _____ |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Response                           |   |

38. Which site is the **primary** site you use most often? (Please select only one) \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS SECTION (Q 39-44) ASKS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE PRIMARY SITE YOU VISIT MOST FREQUENTLY (YOUR RESPONSE TO QUESTION 38)**

39. Please estimate how many times you visit the **primary** site per year \_\_\_\_

40. How long do you typically visit the **primary** site in hours? \_\_\_\_

41. How many people do you typically visit the **primary** site with, including yourself? \_\_\_\_

42. How many vehicles do you typically use to visit the **primary** site? \_\_\_\_\_
43. How many miles do you typically travel to the **primary** site? (*Please estimate*) \_\_\_\_\_
44. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of the **primary** site? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	No Response

If less than satisfactory, please explain why: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS SECTION (Q 45-53) ASKS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES FISHING ON PROSPECT IMPOUNDMENT OR WEST CANADA CREEK**

45. Do you participate in fishing activities on Prospect Impoundment/West Canada Creek?
- ☐ Yes - Prospect Impoundment ☐ Yes - West Canada Creek
- ☐ Do not fish at either location (*Skip to Q54*)
- ☐ No Response
46. What is your preferred angling technique? (*Select all that apply*)
- ☐ Bait Fishing ☐ Fly Fishing ☐ Artificial Lures
- ☐ Bank Fishing ☐ Boat Fishing ☐ Wade fishing
- ☐ No Response
47. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 very satisfied, what is your level of satisfaction with your typical fishing experience? (*Select one number*)

1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	No Response

If dissatisfied, please explain why: \_\_\_\_\_

48. For an individual fishing trip, how many hours do you typically spend fishing? \_\_\_\_\_
49. For a typical fishing trip, how many fish do you typically catch per hour? \_\_\_\_\_
50. Please specify the species you are typically targeting for fishing (*Select all that apply*)
- ☐ Brown trout ☐ Largemouth bass
- ☐ Brook trout ☐ Smallmouth bass
- ☐ Rainbow trout ☐ Chain pickerel
- ☐ Yellow perch ☐ Other (*Please specify*) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ No Response
51. Please specify the primary species you typically target (*Select one*) \_\_\_\_\_

52. Please specify the number of fish you **harvest** on a typical fishing trip \_\_\_\_\_

53. Please specify the number of fish you **release** on a typical fishing trip \_\_\_\_\_

54. Do you have any additional comments? \_\_\_\_\_

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY**



## **APPENDIX D**

### **RECREATION USE SURVEY NOTIFICATION**

# West Canada Creek Project (P-2701) Recreation Visitor Online Survey

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project. The Project has two developments, Prospect and Trenton.

As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019.

The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along the West Canada Creek.

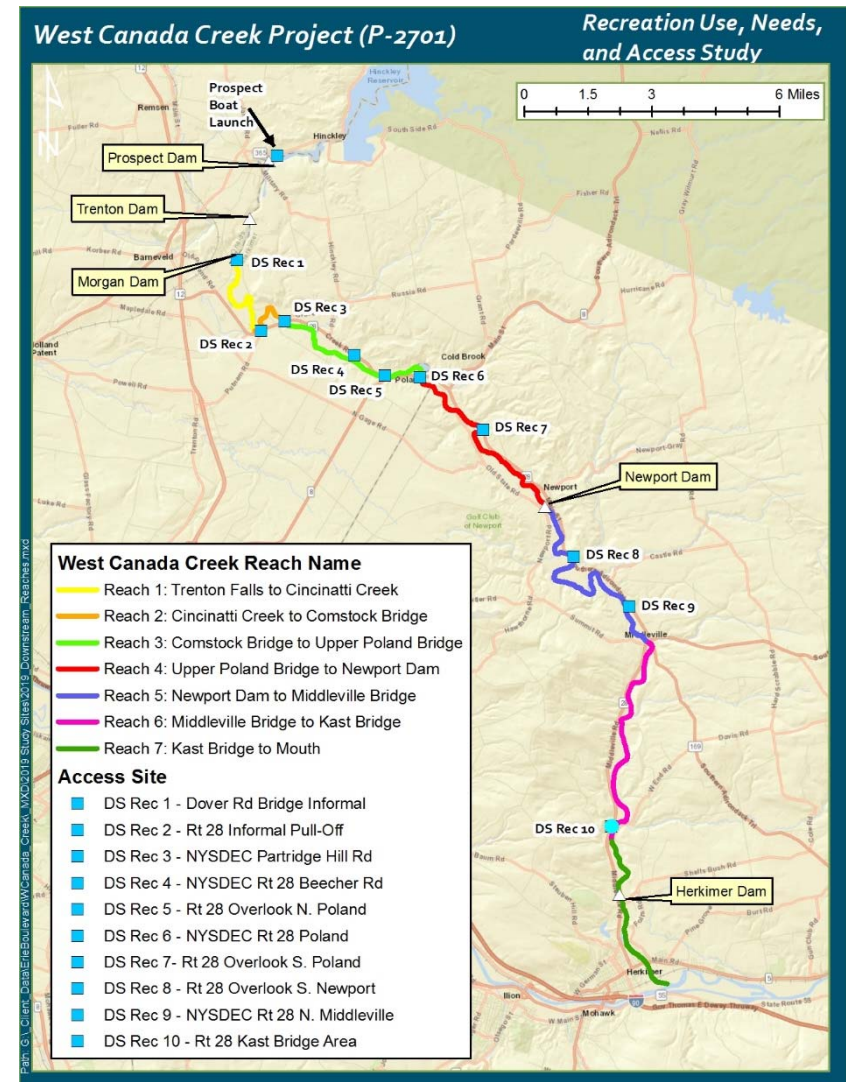
Participation is voluntary and responses will remain anonymous. Please only provide one completed survey per individual.

The Online Survey can be accessed at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCCrecsurvey>

The on-line survey will be available from Memorial Day weekend (start 5/24/2019) through Labor Day weekend (end 9/2/2019).

Thank you in advance for your participation!





Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

## TEMPORARY REVOCABLE PERMIT

### SHORT-TERM PERMIT FOR INDIVIDUALS AND/OR GROUP EVENTS ON DEC-MANAGED PUBLIC LANDS AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation grants permission to the Permittee to use the specified State lands for the described purposes in accordance with all the attached Terms & Conditions. TRPs will only remain valid if all necessary permits and/or insurance are obtained and kept current by the Permittee.

**Permittee Name:** Karen Klosowski **Organization:** Kleinschmidt on behalf of Brookfield Renewable E

**Street Address:** 54 Calemad Drive

**City:** Auburn **State:** NY **Zip Code:** 13021

**Email:** karen.klosowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com **Phone:** 315-409-7198

**State Land Unit Name(s):** all NYSDEC Fisherman Parking Areas along West Canada Creek

**Facility, Trail or Road Name(s):** several locations (see map); all NYSDEC Fisherman Parking Areas along West Canada Creek

#### Description of Use:

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project (P-2701). As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs, Access Study in 2019 that includes downstream reaches of the West Canada Creek at locations where there is a NYSDEC recreation/fishing access. The study includes an on-line survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along West Canada Creek. Erie would like to post notification fliers (laminated sheets of paper) at the 4 NYSDEC sites identified on the map submitted with the application (DS Rec 3, DS Rec 4, DS Rec 6, DS Rec 9). NYSDEC approves the posting of the same sign at all other NYSDEC Fisherman Parking Areas identified on the NYSDEC provided map included with this TRP. Signs will be secured to posts with nails, staple gun, or zip tie. Where no post exists the applicant will provide a post. At the end of the survey all signs, nails, staples, zip ties, and posts installed by the applicant will be removed. The applicant will not secure signs to trees.

Maximum Attendees Permitted:  Start Date:  End Date:

Primary DEC Contact:  Phone:  DEC Office:

Application Fee:

Insurance Certificate:

Map:

REGIONAL REVIEW TRP#

DATE ISSUED TO APPLICANT:  TYPE:

RECOMMEND:  SPECIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS:

REGIONAL MANAGER SIGNATURE:  DATE:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR SIGNATURE:  DATE:

CENTRAL OFFICE REVIEW \*NON-ROUTINE & FOREST PRESERVE RESEARCH PERMITS ONLY

RECOMMEND:  SIGNATURE:  DATE:

STATE MUSEUM REVIEW \* IF APPLICABLE

RECOMMEND:  SIGNATURE:  DATE:

OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW \* IF APPLICABLE

RECOMMEND:  SIGNATURE:  DATE:



## **TEMPORARY REVOCABLE PERMIT**

### **STANDARD TERMS & CONDITIONS**

1. Permittee hereby agrees to indemnify and save harmless the Department and the State of New York from and against all losses from claims, demands, payments, suits, actions, recoveries and judgments of every nature and description brought or recovered against it by reason of the Permittee's use of the State land facilities which are the subject of this permit.
2. Permittee shall comply with all applicable Federal and State rules and regulations and shall obtain and keep current any additionally required Federal, State or local permits for the full duration of the permitted activity.
3. This permit shall at all times be subject to the approval of the Department and may be suspended or revoked at any time.
4. If public liability insurance is required by the Department, the Permittee must keep in force such insurance for the full duration of the permit.
5. Permittee shall notify the primary DEC contact person listed below at least 48 hours prior to commencing permit use and upon completion of use.
6. Any activity authorized under this permit shall not interfere with normal administration of the area by the Department.
7. No trees or other vegetation shall be cut, disturbed or removed unless specifically authorized by the Department.
8. Permittee shall be responsible for any damages or disturbances that occur to natural resources, public facilities, boundaries or survey markers resulting from the permitted activity.
9. Permittee is responsible for removing all litter and debris from the State Land facility covered by this permit within 24 hours of completion of the authorized activity.
10. Upon completion of the activity, Permittee shall meet with the primary DEC contact person listed below to inspect the area and to ensure that the Permittee has complied with all terms and conditions.



TRP #

61919

Insert TRP Activity Type  
**SPECIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS**

In addition to the aforementioned Standard Terms & Conditions, this permit is subject to the following Special Terms & Conditions. Failure of the Permittee to comply with any Terms and Conditions will void this permit.

- 1) The applicant will not secure signs to trees.
- 2) Signs will be secured to posts with nails, staple gun or zip tie. Where no post exists, the applicant will provide a post.
- 3) At the end of the survey all signs, nails, staples, zip ties, and posts installed by the applicant will be removed and properly disposed of by the applicant.



June 21, 2019

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Scott Healy  
State of New York  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Herimer & Oneida Counties  
225 North Main St  
Herkimer, NY 13350

Re: West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2701) Relicensing  
Temporary Revocable Permit Application

Mr. Healy:

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P. (Erie or Licensee), a Brookfield Renewable Company (Brookfield), is the licensee and operator of the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2701) (Project). The Project consists of two developments, Prospect and Trenton, and is located on West Canada Creek in Oneida and Herkimer Counties, New York.

As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019 that includes downstream reaches of the West Canada Creek at locations where there is New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) recreation/fishing access. The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along West Canada Creek. Erie would like to put up notification fliers (laminated sheets of paper) at 4 NYSDEC sites identified in the application.

An application fee check is included with the application for \$25.00 (check # 001776).

If you have any additional questions, please contact Karen Klosowski at Karen.Klosowski@KleinschmidtGroup.com or via phone at 315-409-7198.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kayla A. Easler". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kayla A. Easler  
Regulatory Coordinator

Attachments - Temporary Revocable Permit Application  
Check #001776

cc: Steve Murphy, Brookfield  
Karen Klosowski, Kleinschmidt

J:\826\165\Docs\Studies\7-Rec Use Study\Background\NYSDEC Survey posting permit\WCC cover letter -06212019.doc

## NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**TEMPORARY REVOCABLE PERMIT  
APPLICATION**

**SHORT-TERM PERMIT FOR INDIVIDUALS AND/OR GROUP EVENTS  
ON DEC-MANAGED PUBLIC LANDS AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant Name:** Karen Klosowski

**Organization:** Kleinschmidt on behalf of Brookfield Renewable Energy

**Email:** karen.klosowski@kleinschmidtgroup.com

**Phone:** 315-409-7198

**Street Address:** 54 Calemad Drive

**City:** Aurburn

**State:** NY

**Zip Code:** 13021

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

For research activities, please provide the supervising professor or Department head as the contact.

**Contact Name:**

**Title:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**REQUESTED LOCATION & USE**

Please specify the name of the State land unit where the activity is requested to occur.

**Town(s):** Russia, Poland, Fairfield,

**County:** Herkimer

**State Land Unit Name(s):** There are no indicated unit names

**Facility, Trail or Road Name(s):** See Attachment A (yellow highlighted locations) and B

**Estimated Number of Attendees:** 00002

**Start Date of Use:** Jun 10, 2019

**End Date of Use:** Dec 2, 2019

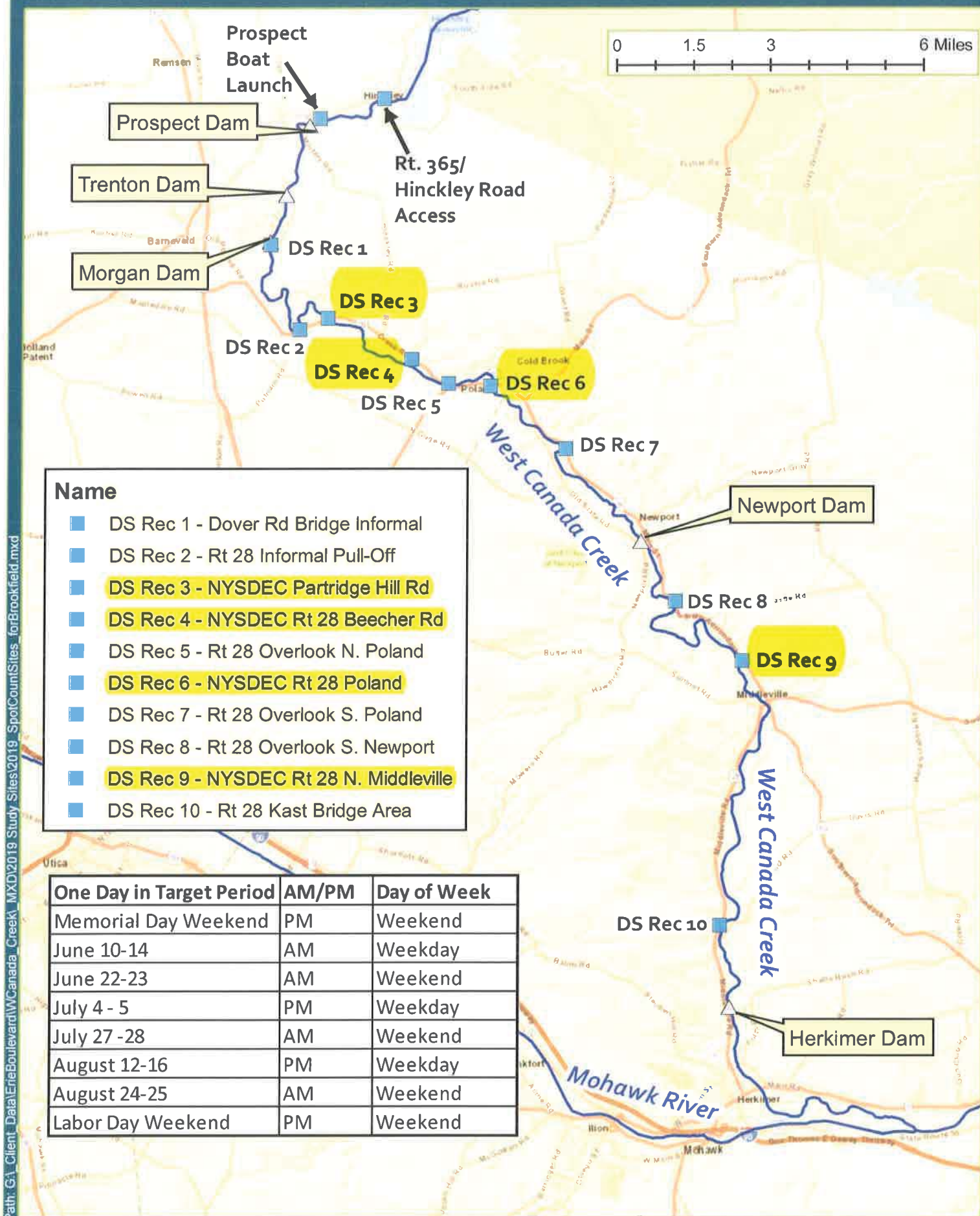
**DESCRIPTION OF USE**

Please provide a description of the intended use of the public lands, including a description of equipment to be used. Attach additional information as necessary.

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project (P-2701). As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019 that includes downstream reaches of the West Canada Creek at locations where there is New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) recreation/fishing access. The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along West Canada Creek. Erie would like to put up notification fliers (laminated sheets of paper) at the 4 NYSDEC sites identified above. Equipment will include, hammer, nails, staple gun and/or zip ties to secure the flier to existing posts, or if no post is available, existing trees. Please see Attachment C for notification flier.

## **Attachment A**

### **General Location of Sites For Notice Posting of Online Recreation Survey**





## **Attachment B**

### **Location of Sites For Notice Posting of Online Recreation Survey**



**FIGURE 1      DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SITE 3 - NYSDEC PARTRIDGE HILL RD**  
**Approximate Site Location: Latitude 43°15'0.20"N, Longitude 75° 8'12.78"W**



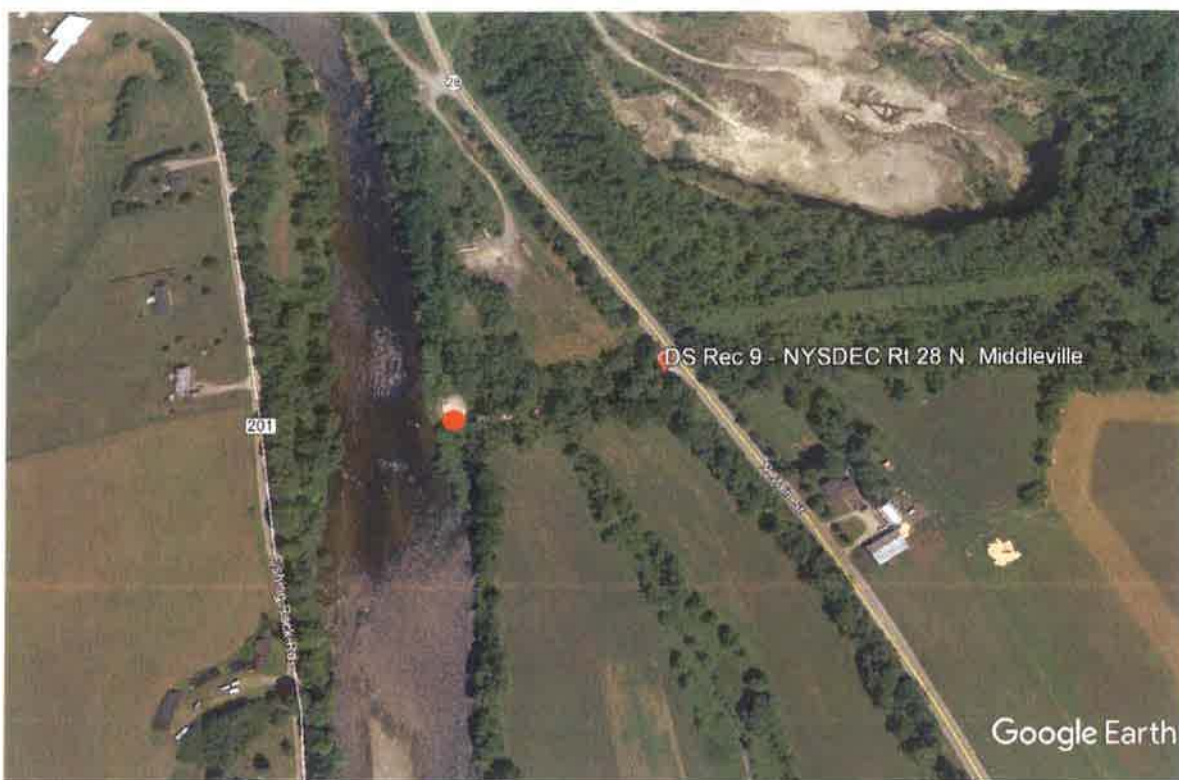
**FIGURE 2      DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SITE 4 - NYSDEC RT 28 BEECHER RD**  
**Approximate Site Location: Latitude 43°14'14.87"N, Longitude 75° 6'24.32"W**



**FIGURE 3      DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SITE 6 - NYSDEC RT 28 POLAND**

**Approximate Site Location: Latitude 43°13'48.06"N, Longitude 75° 4'27.80"W**





**FIGURE 4      DOWNSTREAM RECREATION SITE 9 - NYSDEC RT 28 N. MIDDLEVILLE**

**Approximate Site Location: Latitude 43° 9'1.34"N, Longitude 74°58'49.83"W**



## **Attachment C**

### **Informational Notice**

**West Canada Creek Project (P-2701)**

**Recreation Visitor Online Survey**

## West Canada Creek Project (P-2701) Recreation Visitor Online Survey

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project. The Project has two developments, Prospect and Trenton.

As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019.

The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along the West Canada Creek.

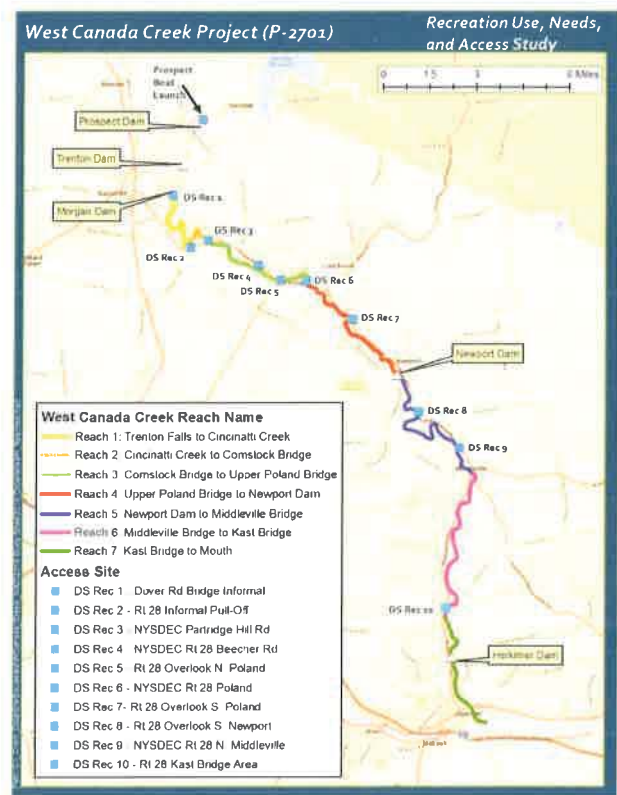
Participation is voluntary and responses will remain anonymous. Please only provide one completed survey per individual.

The Online Survey can be accessed at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCCrecrecsurvey>

The on-line survey will be available from Memorial Day weekend (start 5/24/2019) through Labor Day weekend (end 9/2/2019).

Thank you in advance for your participation!



NYSDEC Fisherman Parking Areas (Sites 8-11, 13-17, 19) and other access sites on West Canada Creek. Numbers correspond with numbers on attached map.

Site	Name	Location	Management Entity
1	Trails End Campground Boat Launch	MacArthur Road	Trails End Campground
2	Hinckley Reservoir Boat Launch	NYS Rte. 365	New York Power Authority
3	Gregory B. Jarvis (a.k.a. Hinckley	NYS Rte. 365	New York Power Authority
4	Prospect Reservoir Boat Launch Site	NYS Rte. 365	Brookfield Renewable
5	Prospect Dam	NYS Rte. 365	Brookfield Renewable
6	Trenton Falls Dam	Trenton Falls Road	Brookfield Renewable
7	Ninemile Creek Feeder Dam	Trenton Falls Road	NYS Canal Corporation
8	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
9	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
10	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
11	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
12	Newport Dam	Bridge Street	Eagle Creek Renewable Energy
13	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
14	Fishermen's Parking Area	NYS Rte. 28	NYSDEC
15	Fishermen's Parking Area	Fishing Rock Road	NYSDEC
16	Fishermen's Parking Area	Lynch Road	NYSDEC
17	Fishermen's Parking Area	Rasbach Road	NYSDEC
18	Herkimer Hydro Dam	NYS Rte. 28	ECOsponsible, LLC
19	Fishermen's Parking Area	Shells Bush Road	NYSDEC



**KLEINSCHMIDT ASSOCIATES PA PC**141 MAIN, P.O. BOX 650  
PITTSFIELD, ME 04967**TD BANK**  
America's Most Convenient Bank  
138 Main St.  
Pittsfield, ME52-7445/2112  
27**001776**

DATE

June 20, 2019

Twenty Five and 00/100 Dollars

AMOUNT

25.00

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Attn: Scott Healy

DEC Region 6 - Western Adirondacks, Upper Mohawk

Valley &amp; Eastern Lake Ontario

225 North Main St

Herkimer, NY 13350

  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

MP

⑈001776⑈ ⑆211274450⑆ 2427116379⑈

32-01-3 (8/90)-10f



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

**RECEIPT**

NUMBER

**599518**

Region Number

6

Date

6/26/19

Location

Herkimer Sub Office

Received of

Kleinschmidt Associates PA PC / Kayla Easler

In the amount of

Twenty Five and 00/100 \$ 25.00

For

TRP Application Fee for West Canada Creek  
Hydroelectric Project / FERC # 2701 Relicensing☐ Cash

Department Representative

Sharlene Brigham☒ Check

Number

001776

Title

Secretary☐ Money Ordercheck processed for Jana Lantry Oreg6 Fisheries  
Receipt / cc of ORIGINAL + TRP emailed to her 6/26/19



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**LUNG CANCER?** And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. Call 866-951-9073 for Information. No Risk. No Money Out Of Pocket.

Garage Sales

**GARAGE SALE** May 24,25 and 26th from 10 am to 4 pm at 10 JESSICA PL, Whitesboro - some vintage items: Homer Laughlin China; stoneware; snowshoes; rocking horse; copperware; tables;child's rollout desk; Hoosier cupboard; and misc - clothes, car rack, Mercedes R350 rim for spare, lanterns, and more. Contact Pat Gurley 315-404-7061

General Merchandise

**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS** ABC, 10 lbs., \$40./each, ready to go, 315-723-8296

**NY STATE** Pistol Class- Herkimer, Hamilton, Oneida, Madison & Chenango Counties. Sunday June 2, 2019 @ 11am Herkimer VFW 131 Mohawk St. \$50 per person. To REGISTER please TEXT NAME, PHONE & HERK 2 to 315-529-1527

**POOL LADDER**, pool filter, motor & propane heater, many pool toys & holder & floats, pool fountain, pool brushes, solar cover, winter cover & more! 315-724-6335

**SCHWINN 240BIOFIT** comfort exercise bike, \$250., 315-737-7645

General Merchandise

**TOOLS** drill press, band saw, scroll saw, hedge trimmers, vice, sander, patio table chairs, prices vary, 315-337-6063

**UTAH MULTI** State Pistol Permit. Be legal in 38 states to carry your firearm . June 2 at 4pm @ Herkimer VFW. To REGISTER TEXT NAME PHONE & UTAH 2 to 315-529-1527 Cost is \$150 per person. Includes fingerprints, application, class, certificates, photos etc. More information [www.operationsteelrain.com](http://www.operationsteelrain.com)

Lawn & Garden

**OUTDOOR FURNITURE** solid aluminum, never rusts, table 64x20", 4 chairs, \$125; 3 seat swing, \$135. 315-733-3837

Pets

**BASSETT HOUND PUPS**, tri-color or red & white, absolutely adorable, super long ears, vaccinated & wormed, health guarantee, \$1000. each, call 315-896-2026.

**ENGLISH BULLDOGS** ready in 3 weeks, Champion lines, come with health cert., all shots, vitamins, \$2500., call for pictures, 607-544-4151

**GREAT DANE PUPS**, blacks, blues, brindles & harlequins, vaccines & wormers, health guaranteed, experienced breeder, starting at \$900. 315-896-2026

**LABRADOR RETRIEVER** puppies. AKC W/papers. Excellent pedigree with 3 generations to show. Black and yellow. M & F. Raised in our home. 3 wormings, shots & vet exam. Ready 6/7/19. 315-525-1851. RayErmacor on FB

**SHELTIE PUPPIES**, 2 female & 3 males, cute & adorable, shots & wormed, \$450.available now at Hilltop cabinet shop. 10804 Hoxie rd, West Emeston NY, 13485. also custom kitchens, from measurements to installations. No Sunday sales!

**SHIH-TZU'S**, Happy, healthy male puppies, Vet certified, \$600 315-749-4750

Pets

**SIAMESE KITTENS**, Seal Point, absolutely stunning, health guarantee, all shots, male & female, \$300 each, please call 315-896-2026 for more details

Wanted to Buy

**COSTUME JEWELRY**, books, dolls, vintage clothes, almost anything old, call Shirley, 315-894-9032

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Unfurnished Apts

**CLINTON** duplex, 29 Seventh Dr., half basement, half gar., 2 BR upstairs, large rooms, LR, kit., 1 bath upstairs, hot water, appl., very nice backyard, patio, long front porch, garbage removal, plowing, \$900./mo., 315-853-5727

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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF North Utica Interceptor Sewer Phase II CITY OF UTICA ONEIDA COUNTY, NEW YORK ESD No. Y907

Sealed Bids, subject to the conditions contained herein, will be received by the ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF WATER QUALITY AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ENGINEERING TRAILER (west end of the plant) until 11:00 AM local time (Official Dymo Time Stamp) on July 11, 2019, and then publicly opened and read, for furnishing all labor and materials and performing all work for: **NORTH UTICA INTERCEPTOR SEWER – PHASE II BID REFERENCE NO. 2011**

The Contract Documents may be viewed and ordered through the Avalon Plan Room website at: [www.avalonplanroom.com](http://www.avalonplanroom.com) in the "Public Bid" section. If you do not have internet access or have questions on ordering from the site, please contact Avalon Document Services at (315) 724-5555. Drawings can be picked up at any of Avalon Document Services' locations.

A non-refundable deposit of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) payable to Avalon Document Services will be required to obtain the Proposal Booklet and a CD with an electronic version of the Contract Documents. Cash payments will not be accepted. The payment includes shipping of the Proposal Booklet and CD to anywhere in the Continental United States via UPS or FedEx ground. Should potential bidders want expedited shipping they should include their UPS or FedEx account number with their planroom order, or be charged additional shipping at their expense. By submission of the \$30.00 non-refundable payment, bidder will be registered as an official planholder. Only official planholders are eligible to bid on the project. Subcontractors, suppliers, equipment vendors, etc. will also be required to submit the non-refundable payment in order to receive the Proposal Booklet and CD with electronic version of the Contract Documents.

If bidders wish to purchase printed copies of the Contract Documents (beyond the Proposal Booklet), they may be obtained through Avalon. Only official planholders will be allowed to obtain printed copies of the Contract documents. Bidders acknowledge that they are responsible for review of all components of the Contract documents. Including all specification sections and drawings, regardless of how many drawings they print and in which format/size they are printed. Full-size drawings are on 22" x 34" paper. Bidders acknowledge they are responsible for properly scaling drawings if they are printed at any other size.

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Bids must be submitted upon the proposal form(s) furnished in the Proposal Booklet, and must not be detached from the booklet. A bid security in the amount of 5% of the total bid payable to "Oneida County" will be required and is subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders. Failure to submit a bid bond or certified check with bid will result in automatic disqualification of bid. Failure to submit a bid upon the proposal form(s) furnished in the Proposal Booklet or submittal of form(s) detached from the Proposal Booklet will result in automatic disqualification of bid.

The successful bidder must furnish at the time of Contract Execution a Performance Bond for an amount not less than 100% of bid price and a Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Packages containing bids must be sealed, marked, and delivered to the Oneida County Department of Water Quality and Water Pollution Control, 51 Leland Avenue, Utica, New York 13503. Also mark on the envelope the project name, package number, and the type of work or equipment for which the proposal is submitted.

For the convenience of the potential Bidders and other interested parties, the Bidding Documents may be examined at the following locations: Avalon Plan Room at the following website: [www.avalonplanroom.com](http://www.avalonplanroom.com) Oneida County Purchasing Department at the following website: <http://ocgov.net/occpb> or at their office located at 6th Floor, 800 Park Avenue, Utica, NY

Oneida County Department of Water Quality and Water Pollution Control, 51 Leland Avenue, Utica, NY

The Owner reserves the right to revise or amend the bidding documents prior to the date set for opening bids. Such revisions and amendments, if any, will be announced by addenda to this advertisement. Any inquiries regarding details on specifications must be directed in writing to the Project Engineer, c/o O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. Attn: Brian Whittaker., 101 First Street, 4th Floor, Utica, NY 13501, Fax No. 315-790-5434. The Owner also reserves the right to waive any irregularity and reject any or all bids received. This project will be partially financed by the New York State Empire State Development Corporation. For the purposes of this Contract, the ESD has set an overall goal of 23% for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("MWBE") participation, 12% for Minority-Owned Business Enterprises ("MBE") participation and 11% for Women-Owned Business Enterprises ("WBE") participation (based on the current availability of qualified MBEs at WBEs. The County of Oneida, in order to promote its established Affirmative Action Plan, invites sealed bids from NYS

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Certified MBE/WBE Contractors. This Affirmative Action Policy regarding sealed bids and contracts applies to all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap. This contract is subject to compliance with Article 8 of the New York State Labor Law regarding prevailing rate of wages.

No Bidder may withdraw his Bid within Forty-five (45) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

Only Bidders properly registered as plan holders by the Owner will be allowed to submit a bid.

A Prebid meeting will be held at 11:00 AM on June 20, 2019, at O'Brien & Gere Engineers, 101 First Street, 4th Floor, Utica, New York.

Date May 29, 2019 Mello J. Testa Director of Purchasing OD: 05/26/2019

**LEGAL NOTICE** STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF ONEIDA INDEX NO.CA2018-000745 **NOTICE OF SALE** RJJ NO.32-18-0430 AMERICUS CREDIT UNION, 1916 Black River Blvd., Rome, New York, Plaintiff, -vs- JOHN FISHER AKA JOHN A. FISHER, JR., Defendants, IN PURSUANCE of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly granted in the above entitled action, and entered in the Oneida County Clerk's Office on the 9th day of April, 2019, I, BRIAN EHRHARD, ESQ., the undersigned Referee in said Judgment named, will sell at public auction at the Main Lobby of the Oneida County Courthouse, Utica, New York, on **June 6, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.**, the premises described in said judgment, as follows, viz:

See "SCHEDULE A – LEGAL DESCRIPTION" attached hereto. BRIAN EHRHARD, ESQ., REFERENCE **John A. Nasto, Jr., Esq.** Attorney for Plaintiff Office and Post Office Address 4957 Commercial Drive Yorkville, NY 13495 Telephone (315) 738-1000 **SCHEDULE A** All that tract, piece or parcel of land situate in the Town of Steuben, County of Oneida and State of New York, shown as Lot 1 on the map entitled "Subdivision of Lands Belonging to the Estate of Robert K. Stickles, Cemetery Road and Floyd-Stauben Road, Part of Lot 1 - Holland Patent, Part of Lot 14 - Fonda's Patent, Town of Steuben, Oneida County, New York," dated May 18, 1990 and revised October 10, 1990, prepared by John C. Roscup, P.L.S. No. 48910; said Parcel being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point in the centerline of Cemetery Road; said point, located north 89 deg. 33' 35" West, a distance of 428.95 feet from the intersection of the centerline of Cemetery Road and Floyd-Stauben Road County Route #53; said point of beginning

LEGAL NOTICES

further described as the division line between Lot 1 of herein described subdivision on the west and the lands of Alfred and Laura M. Seelman; L 1444 P 570; on the east; Thence south 12 deg. 44' 00" West along said division line and passing through an iron rod set 25.21 feet from said centerline, a distance of 522.22 feet to an iron rod set; said iron rod located on the division line between Lot 1 on the south and the lands of Alfred and Laura M. Seelman (L. 1444, P. 570), on the north; Thence south 65 deg. 47' 50" east a distance of 116.97 feet to a concrete highway monument found on the westerly highway boundary of Floyd-Stauben Road (County Route #53); Thence south 42 deg. 58' 25" west along said highway boundary, a distance of 144.73 feet to an iron rod set on said highway boundary; said iron rod located on the division line between Lot 1 on the north and the lands of the Town of Steuben (L 2307, P. 105) on the south; Thence north 88 deg. 01' 00" west, along said division line, a distance of 184.23 feet to an iron rod set; said iron rod located on the division line between Lot 1 of the herein described subdivision on the east and Lot 2 on the west; Thence north 06 deg. 13' 05" east along division line and passing through an iron rod set 24.83 feet from the centerline of Cemetery Road, a distance of 667.46 feet to said centerline; Thence south 88 deg. 15' 00" east along said centerline, a distance of 219.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 131,376 +/- square feet or 3.015 acres more or less.

Above described property known as 9088 Cemetery Road, Holland Patent, NY 13354. OD: 05/12, 05/19, 05/26/2019

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Land disposition, Utica Urban Renewal Agency, Notice of Public Hearing to designate Josephine Kemp to purchase 1107 Miller St., Romulo Gualpa to purchase 308 Mary St., Edia Zelaya to purchase 718 Mulberry St., Juana Carrasco & Neftali Medrano to purchase 512 St. Anthony St., Crestina & Sergey Ogievich to purchase 12 Grant St., as eligible and qualified project sponsors for purchase of the properties in the "Greater Utica Development Project Area" pursuant to Articles 15 and 15A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (the law). Public Notice advises on **Thursday, April 11, 2019 & Thursday, May 9, 2019** the Utica Urban Renewal Agency (Seller), One Kennedy Plaza, Utica, New York, 13502, approved the designation to the following: (all hereinafter referred to as Buyers), qualified, eligible project sponsors pursuant to Law. Seller agrees to sell certain parcels of property in the Project Area in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Law. Applications are on file with the Utica Urban Renewal Agency.

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1. The Agency Board approved an offer from Josephine Kemp in the amount of \$250.00 for the property at 1107 Miller St. The Buyer plans to fence, landscape and create additional parking for her adjacent property.

2. The Agency Board approved an offer from Romulo Gualpa in the amount of \$250.00 for the property at 308 Mary St. The Buyer plans to fence, landscape and create additional parking for his adjacent property.

3. The Agency Board approved an offer from Edia Zelaya in the amount of \$12,000.00 for the property at 718 Mulberry St. The Buyer plans to renovate for primary/income property.

4. The Agency Board approved an offer from Juana Carrasco & Neftali Medrano in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the property at 512 St. Anthony St. The Buyer plans to renovate for primary residence.

5. The Agency Board approved an offer from Crestina & Sergey Ogievich in the amount of \$20,500.00 for the property at 12 Grant St. The Buyer plans to renovate for primary/income property.

Pursuant to the provision of the Law, the Utica Common Council has called a public hearing for Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Utica Common Council Chamber, One Kennedy Plaza and Utica, New York. At the public hearing, interested parties are invited to offer comments and ask questions on the proposed disposition of these Urban Renewal parcels. Upon conclusion of the public hearing, the Common Council may consider legislation, which will authorize the Seller to sell parcels to the Buyers. A copy of each Buyer's application and related documents are on file at the Utica Urban Renewal Agency, which is located at One Kennedy Plaza, Utica, New York 13502.

Urban Renewal Agency 4,11.19 & 5.9.19 OD: 05/26/2019

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Board of Education of the Utica City School District invites proposals on the forms provided for the purchase of:

**BREAD AND ROLLS DISPOSABLE TRAYS, SPORKS, AND UTENSILS EQUIPMENT REPAIR SERVICES MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS SNACKS GROCERIES PRODUCE**

For use at the Department of Food Services for services for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Proposals must be delivered to the office of the Purchasing Agent of the Utica City

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School District, 106 Memorial Parkway, Utica, New York prior to 2:00 pm June 13, 2019, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Proposals are to be based on specifications entitled "Specifications and bid proposal form for the purchase (see above) for use at the Department of Food Services for the 2019-2020 school year" copies of which, together with bid forms, are on file and may be secured at the office of the Purchasing Agent of the Utica City School District, 106 Memorial Parkway, Utica, New York. Specifications can also be obtained electronically by email to Rebecca Lewek at [RLewek@uticaschools.org](mailto:RLewek@uticaschools.org). Proposals signed by bidders shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to Ms. Michelle Albanese, Purchasing Agent, and marked in red in the lower, left-hand corner:

**BREAD AND ROLLS DISPOSABLE TRAYS, SPORKS, AND UTENSILS EQUIPMENT REPAIR SERVICES MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS SNACKS GROCERIES PRODUCE**

Before submitting their proposals, bidders shall examine the specifications as contained herein and base their bids upon these specifications. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any one or all items bid and to decrease or increase the quantities specified herein. In cases where the Utica City School District receives two or more identical bids, the school district reserves the right to accept one bid only on the basis of a random selection process. If requested to do so, the successful bidder must execute a satisfactory contract, guaranteeing the faithful fulfillment of the terms of the contract. OD: 5/23, 5/24, 5/25, 5/26, 5/27/2019

**Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service Notice of Public Auction Sale**

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes due from **Daniel F & Susan F Donai** The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations. **Date of Sale: June 5, 2019 Time of Sale: 11:00AM Place of Sale: 9245 Capron Road Lee Center New York Title Offered:** Only the right, title, and interest of Daniel F & Susan F Donai In and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in deter-

LEGAL NOTICES

mining the value of the interest being sold. **Description of Property:** Single family unattached ranch style home situated on 150 by 200 foot lot located at 9245 Capron Road Lee Center New York, Oneida County Tax Map # 170.002-1-7. Complete legal description can be found in Deed 2306 Page 28 recorded in Oneida County Clerks October 31, 1986. THE MINIMUM BID IS \$45,000.00 **Property may be Inspected at: 9245 Capron Road Lee Center New York - DRIVE BY ONLY NO TRESPASS Payment Terms: [x]** 20% of successful bid due upon acceptance of highest bid and remaining balance paid in full no later than June 28, 2019 **Form of Payment:** All payments must be by cash, a certified, cashier's or treasurer's check drawn on any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States or under the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or by a United States postal, bank, or express money order. Make check or money order payable to the United States Treasury. Signature Name and Title John M Kenney, PROPERTY APPRAISAL AND LIQUIDATION SPECIALIST Date Address for information About the Sale 191 Main Street Poughkeepsie NY 12601 [WWW.IRSSALES.GOV](http://WWW.IRSSALES.GOV) Phone 845-451-7119 OD: 04/28, 05/12, 05/26/2019

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Project Title:** Nexus Center **Agency:** Upper Mohawk Valley Memorial Auditorium Authority (The Authority) **Date of Issue:** May 21, 2019 **SOQ Due Date/Time:** June 21, 2019 - 5:00 PM EST **County:** Oneida **Location:** 400 Oriskany Street West, Utica NY 13502 **Classification(s):** Construction: Design-Build, Building Construction; Rehabilitation & New Construction, Construction Mechanical and Electrical **Opportunity Type:** General **Project Description:** The proposed facility (approximately 170,000 sf), will be located on Whitesboro Street, spans from Charles Street to Broadway Street and is adjacent to the Adirondack Bank Center, the home of the AHL's Utica Comets, Utica College Men's and Women's hockey programs, Utica FC, and Utica Jr. Comets youth hockey organization. The Nexus Center will be a premier tournament-based recreation play facility utilizing new con-

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struction to create a true epicenter for sports in the Mohawk Valley. The Nexus Center will primarily be utilized for ice hockey, box lacrosse or soccer. Each one of these ice sheets will have the functionality allowing them to transform into field-based surfaces. In addition, the Nexus Center will feature locker rooms, commercial office space, college classroom space, retail space, food and beverage services, and other multipurpose training space. This project will be procured as a turn-key design-build program with a total design-build contract value of approximately \$40,000,000. Minority and Women Owned Sub-Contracting Requirements and SDVOB %'s - TBD **RFQ Requests** **Contact Carolyn Smith via email to request a copy of the RFQ:** Carolyn Smith [carolyn.smith@obg.com](mailto:carolyn.smith@obg.com) O'Brien & Gere OD: 05/24, 05/25, 05/26, 05/27, 05/28/2019

**WEST CANADA CREEK HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC No. 2701)**

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project. The Project has two developments, Prospect and Trenton.

As part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019. The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along the West Canada Creek.

Participation is voluntary and responses will remain anonymous. Please only provide one completed survey per individual.

The Online Survey can be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCCreescuvey>

The on-line survey will be available from Memorial Day weekend (start 5/24/2019) through Labor Day weekend (end 9/2/2019).

Thank you in advance for your participation! OD: 5/26/2019


**Notice of formation of This Old Church LLC**

Articles of Organization filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/18/19. Location: Oneida County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail process to 434 Betsinger Rd. Sherrill, NY 13461. Purpose: any lawful purpose. OD: 05/12, 05/19, 05/26, 06/02, 06/09, 06/16/2019



## WEST CANADA CREEK PROJECT (P-2701)

### RECREATION USE, NEEDS AND ACCESS STUDY - SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY NOTIFICATION



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Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project. The Project has two developments, Prospect and Trenton.

As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019. The study includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Pond and downstream along the West Canada Creek.

Participation is voluntary and ... [See More](#)



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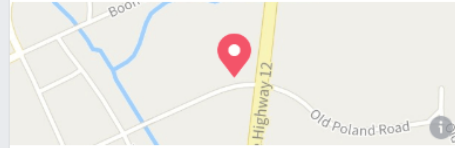
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As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study in 2019. ... [See More](#)



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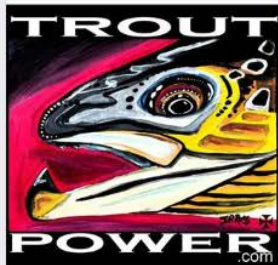


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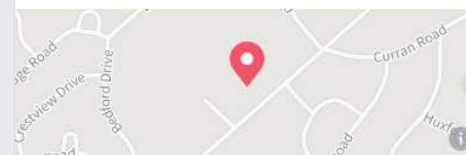
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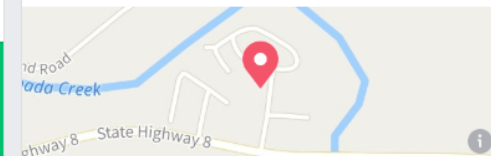
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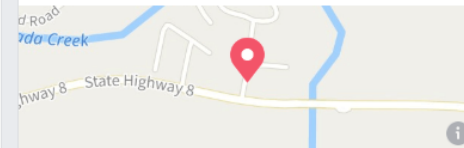
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**To:** [trentonchamber@aol.com](mailto:trentonchamber@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Trenton Chamber of Commerce Facebook page  
**Date:** Sunday, July 14, 2019 10:56:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Good morning,

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., a Brookfield Renewable company, is relicensing the West Canada Creek Hydroelectric Project. As part of the relicensing, Erie is conducting a Recreation Use, Needs and Access Study which includes an online survey to gather information about existing recreation use, access and needs at the Prospect Impoundment and downstream along the West Canada Creek.

Feedback has shown that Facebook posts have been useful in reaching local public that use the Prospect and West Canada Creek recreation areas. Erie is requesting that you consider posting the attached notification flyer on your Facebook page in order to help notify the local public about the availability of the online survey. This notification flyer has also been placed at the West Canada Creek Relicensing website, the Prospect boat launch, several NYSDEC fishing access sites along the West Canada Creek, and the West Canada Creek Campground.

We appreciate your time and any assistance you can provide. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 207-416-1271.

Kayla A. Easler  
Regulatory Coordinator

**Kleinschmidt**

Direct: (207) 416-1271

[www.KleinschmidtGroup.com](http://www.KleinschmidtGroup.com)

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [kathlog@msn.com](mailto:kathlog@msn.com)  
**Subject:** West Canada Watershed Alliance  
**Date:** Sunday, July 14, 2019 11:01:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [troutpowerorg@gmail.com](mailto:troutpowerorg@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Trout Power Facebook Page  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 11:58:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [canmp@westcanadacreekcampsites.com](mailto:canmp@westcanadacreekcampsites.com)  
**Subject:** WCC campsites Facebook page  
**Date:** Sunday, July 14, 2019 10:58:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [camp@westcanadacreekcampsites.com](mailto:camp@westcanadacreekcampsites.com)  
**Subject:** WCC Tubing Facebook page  
**Date:** Sunday, July 14, 2019 11:00:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

---

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [Rongonefishing@aol.com](mailto:Rongonefishing@aol.com)  
**Subject:** New York State Council of Trout Unlimited Facebook page  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 17, 2019 9:56:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)

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**From:** [Kayla Easler](#)  
**To:** [hdmkoa@ntcnet.com](mailto:hdmkoa@ntcnet.com)  
**Subject:** KOA facebook page  
**Date:** Sunday, July 14, 2019 10:59:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WCC Rec Survey Notice-FINAL.pdf](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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## **APPENDIX E**

### **TRENTON SCENIC TRAILS EVENT SURVEY**

Survey Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Weather: ☐ Sunny ☐ Partly Cloudy ☐ Cloudy ☐ Light Rain ☐ Heavy Rain Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Declined Survey: \_\_\_\_\_ Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

**Introduction:** Good Morning/Afternoon. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am conducting a recreation use survey of visitors to the Trenton Falls Day at the West Canada Creek Project for Erie Boulevard Hydropower. The information collected will assist Erie in understanding more about recreation use in the area. Responses from the survey will remain anonymous. Would you mind responding to the survey?

1. How many people are in your group today, including yourself? \_\_\_\_\_ people
2. Which of the following best describes your group?
  - ☐ Alone ☐ Family ☐ Organized Group
  - ☐ Other (*Please specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many vehicles did your group use to come here on this trip? \_\_\_\_\_ vehicles
4. What distance do you travel to the site? (*Please estimate*) \_\_\_\_\_ miles
5. Have you been to the Trenton Falls event before?
  - ☐ Yes ☐ No (*Skip to Q6*)
  - If yes, approximately, how many times have you come to the event? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Are you satisfied with the number of days the Trenton Trails are open each year?
  - ☐ Yes (*Skip to Q7*) ☐ No
  - If no, how often would you like the trails to be open? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How did you hear about the event? (*Select all that apply*)
  - ☐ Website ☐ Word of Mouth ☐ Flyer
  - ☐ Newspaper ☐ Other (*Please specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
8. Please indicate which of the following activities you participated in while at the Trenton Falls trail? (*Select all that apply*)
  - ☐ Scenic Viewing ☐ Hiking/Walking ☐ Nature Study
  - ☐ Picnicking ☐ Viewing Historic Sites ☐ Photography
  - ☐ Other (*Please specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is the primary recreation activity you participated in today? (*Please provide only one answer*) \_\_\_\_\_
10. How long do you plan to visit the site today? \_\_\_\_\_ hours
11. Which trails did you hike? (*Select all that apply*) (*Show map*)
  - ☐ Primary (Falls Trails) ☐ Secondary ☐ Both Trails ☐ Did not Hike

12. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light, 3 being moderate, and 5 being heavy, how would you rate the crowdedness at this event today? (*Circle one number*)

1	2	3	4	5
Light	Somewhat Light	Moderate	Somewhat Heavy	Heavy

13. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall condition of the Trenton Falls trails today? (*Circle one number*)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

14. On a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is very unsafe and 5 is very safe, how would you rate how safe you felt at the site today? (*Circle one number*)

1	2	3	4	5
Very Unsafe	Unsafe	Neutral	Safe	Very Safe

If you felt unsafe, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_

15. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the overall scenic views of the Trenton Falls trail today? (*Circle one number*)

1	2	3	4	5
Poor	Fair	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

16. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 excellent, how would you rate the scenic views of the following viewing locations along the Trenton Falls trail today? (*Circle one number for each site*)

(a) Trenton Trail Accessible Overlook (KOP 3)	Did not view	1	2	3	4	5
(b) Upper High Falls Overlook (KOP 4)	Did not view	1	2	3	4	5
(c) Lower High Falls Overlook (KOP 5)	Did not view	1	2	3	4	5
(d) Trenton Trail Cradle Overlook (KOP 6)	Did not view	1	2	3	4	5
(e) Sherman Falls Overlook (KOP 7)	Did not view	1	2	3	4	5

17. In general, would you prefer flows that are higher, lower, about same as today, or does not matter? (*Circle one*)

☐ Higher      ☐ Lower      ☐ Same      ☐ Does not matter

18. On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 very satisfied, overall how satisfied are you with the available number and type of recreation facilities? (*Circle one number*)

1	2	3	4	5
Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied

If dissatisfied, please explain why \_\_\_\_\_



19. Are there any recreation facility or access enhancements that you would recommend for the West Canada Creek Project?

☐ Yes ☐ No (*Skip to Q20*)

If yes, what do you recommend? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Does anyone in your group require reasonable accommodations as defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)?

☐ Yes ☐ No (*Skip to Q21*)

If yes, are there sufficiently accessible facilities at this site for your activity?

☐ Yes ☐ No If no, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you visit other recreation sites along West Canada Creek?

☐ Yes ☐ No (*Skip to Q24*)

If yes, what other sites do you visit? \_\_\_\_\_

22. What recreation activities do you participate in at these sites along West Canada Creek?  
(*Select all that apply*)

<input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Camping
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing	<input type="checkbox"/> Boat Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting
<input type="checkbox"/> Kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Wade Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Scenic Viewing
<input type="checkbox"/> Tubing	<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography
<input type="checkbox"/> Whitewater Boating	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Study	<input type="checkbox"/> Visiting Historic Site
<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking/Walking	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>Please specify</i> ) _____	

23. Of the activities listed above, what is the **primary** recreation activity you participate in along West Canada Creek? (*Select one*) \_\_\_\_\_

24. What is your home zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

25. Gender of Respondent: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to answer

26. Age of Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_ years ☐ Prefer not to answer

27. Do you have any additional comments? \_\_\_\_\_

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY**

## **APPENDIX F**

### **TRENTON OVERLOOK PHOTOS AND SCENIC RATINGS**



**PHOTO F-1    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 1: MAY 18, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**



**PHOTO F-2    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 1: MAY 19, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**





**PHOTO F-3    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 1: SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 250 CFS**



**PHOTO F-4    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 1: SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 200 CFS**





**PHOTO F-5    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 2: MAY 18, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**



**PHOTO F-6    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 2: MAY 19, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**





**PHOTO F-7    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 2: SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 250 CFS**

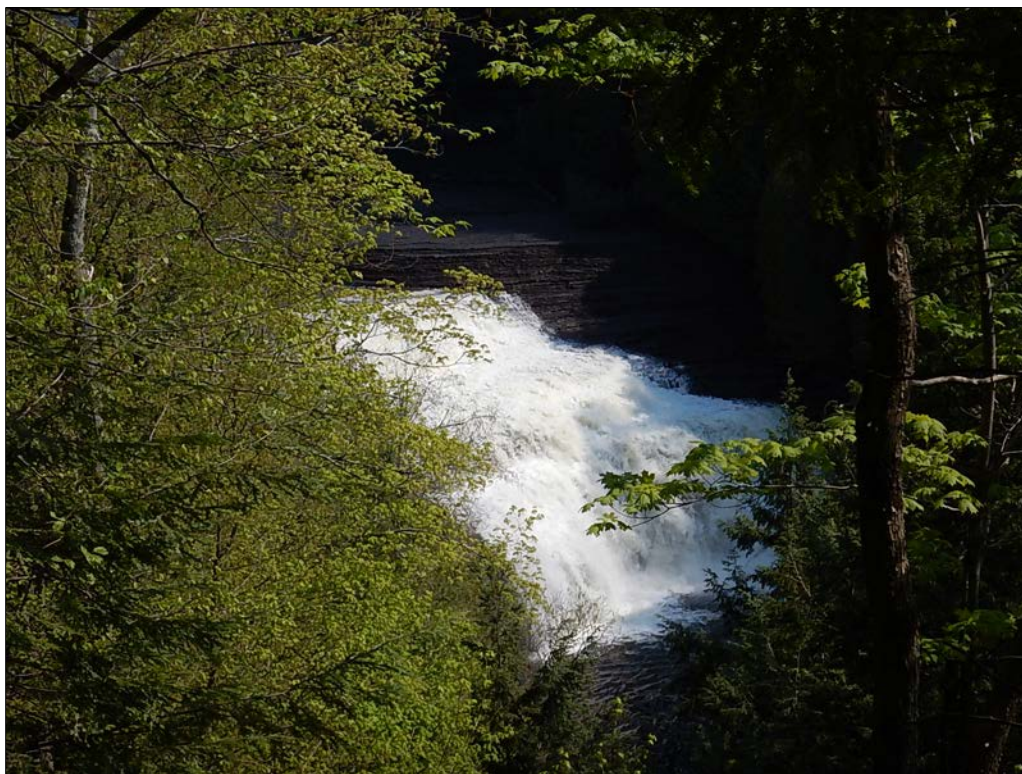


**PHOTO F-8    UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK 2: SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 200 CFS**





**PHOTO F-9    LOWER HIGH FALLS: MAY 18, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**



**PHOTO F-10    LOWER HIGH FALLS: MAY 19, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**





**PHOTO F-11 LOWER HIGH FALLS: SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 250 CFS**



**PHOTO F-12 LOWER HIGH FALLS: SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 200 CFS**





**PHOTO F-13 SHERMAN FALLS CRADLE OVERLOOK: MAY 18, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**



**PHOTO F-14 SHERMAN FALLS CRADLE OVERLOOK: MAY 19, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**





**PHOTO F-15 SHERMAN FALLS CRADLE OVERLOOK: SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 250 CFS**



**PHOTO F-16 SHERMAN FALLS CRADLE OVERLOOK: SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 200 CFS**





**PHOTO F-17 SHERMAN FALLS OVERLOOK: MAY 18 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**

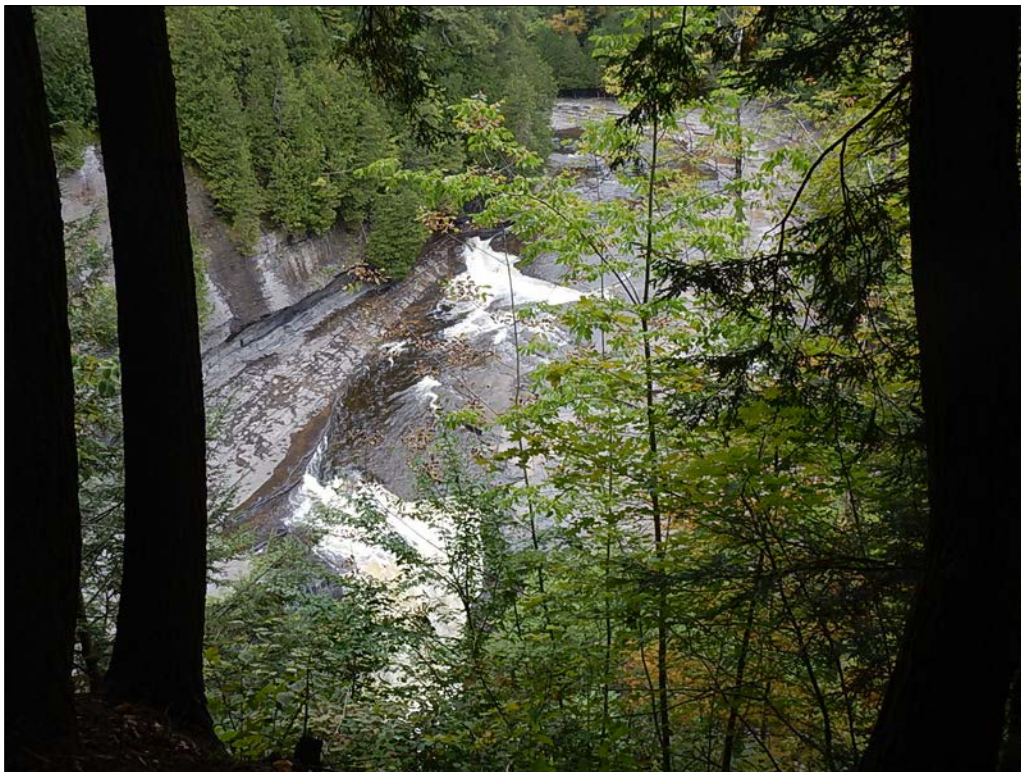


**PHOTO F-18 SHERMAN FALLS OVERLOOK: MAY 19 AT APPROXIMATELY 325 CFS**

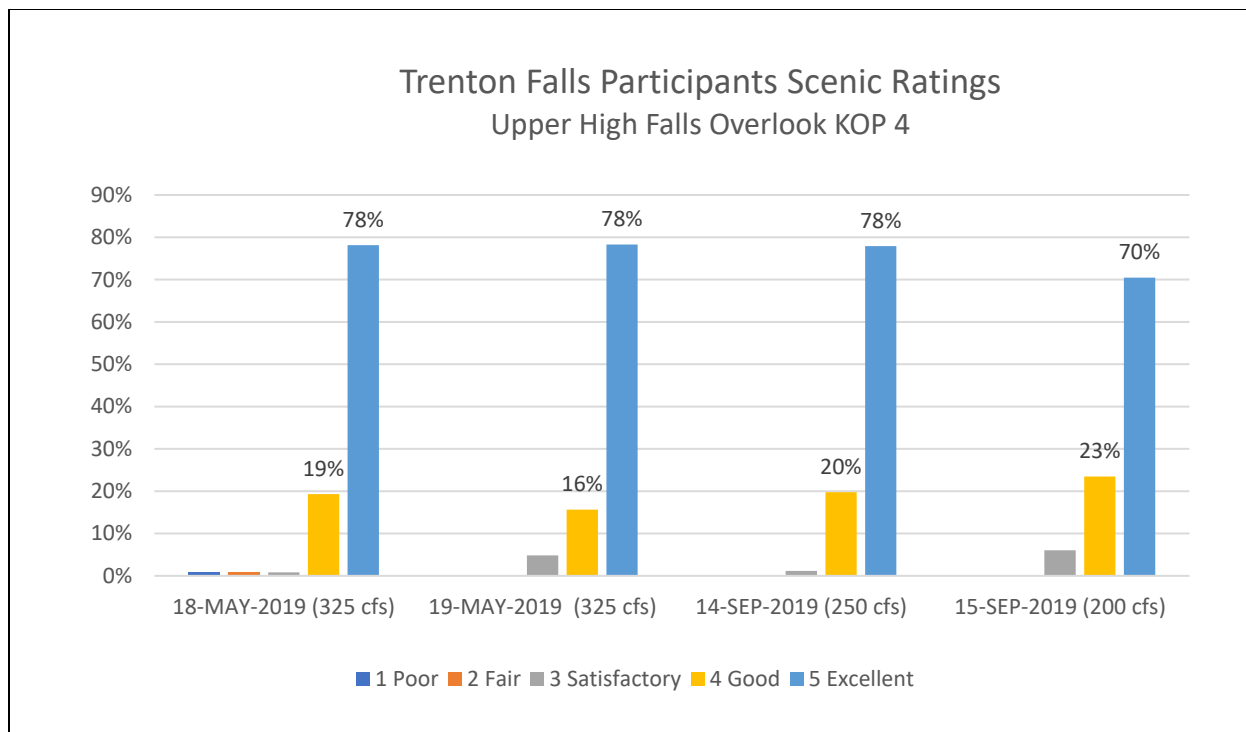




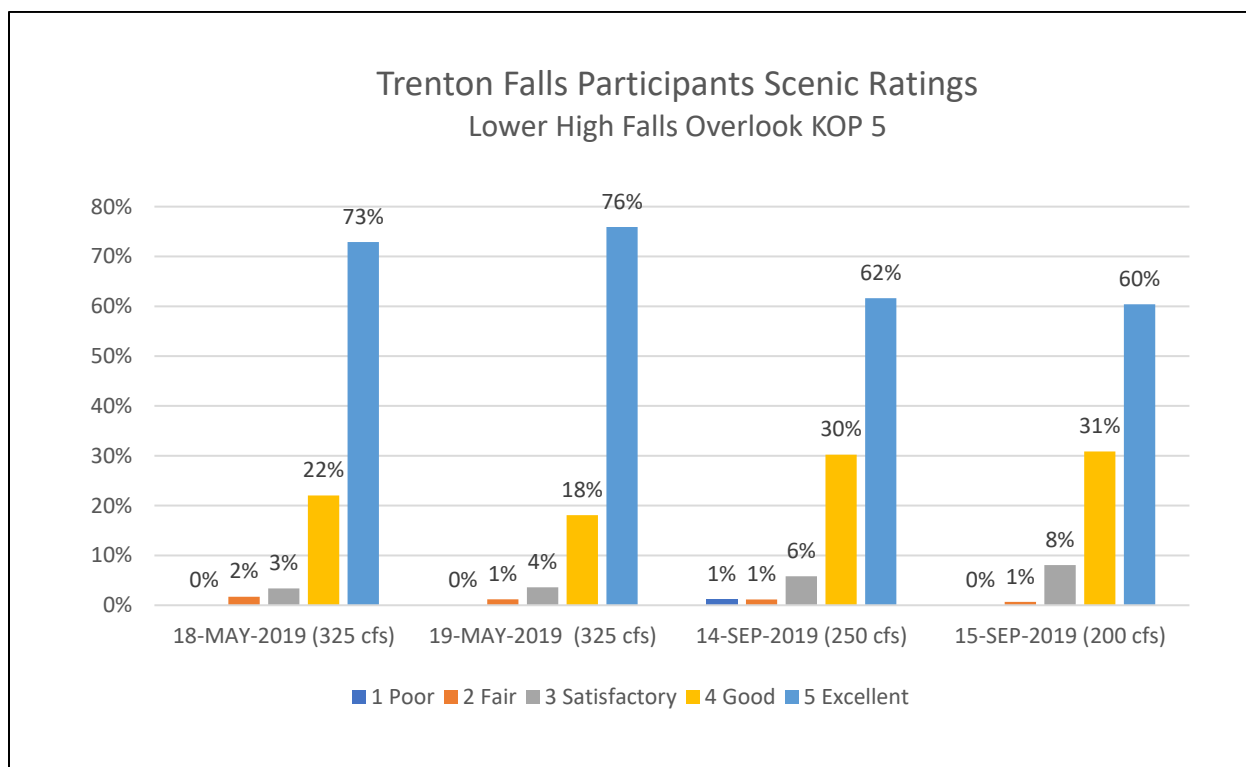
**PHOTO F-19 SHERMAN FALLS OVERLOOK: SEPT 14 AT APPROXIMATELY 250 CFS**



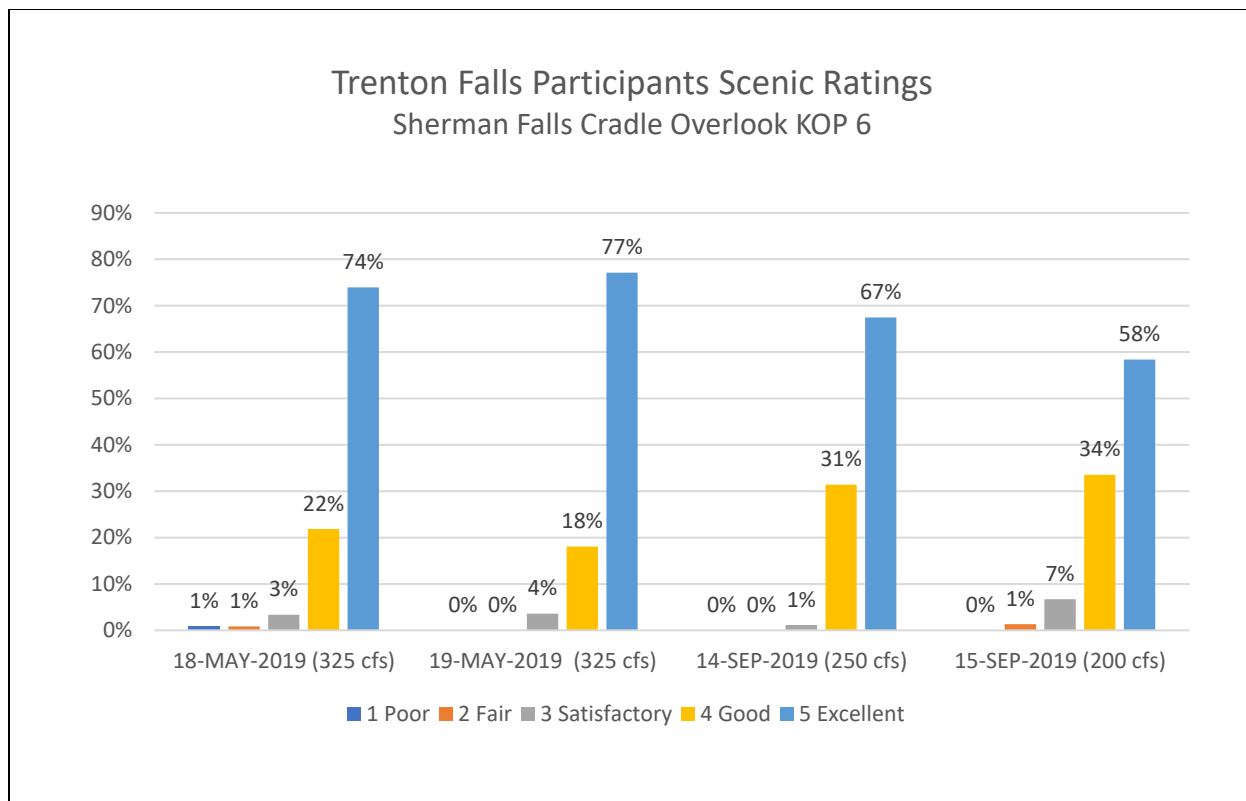
**PHOTO F-20 SHERMAN FALLS OVERLOOK: SEPT 15 AT APPROXIMATELY 200 CFS**



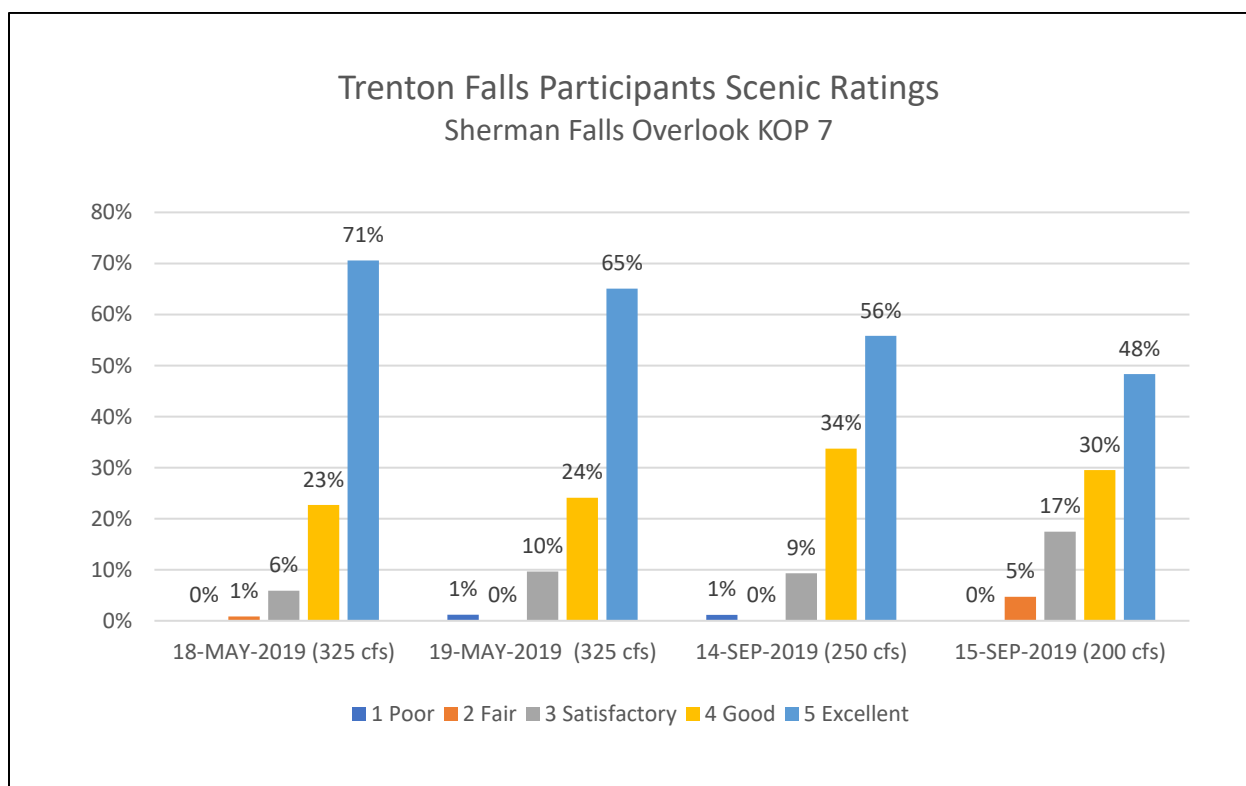
**FIGURE F-1 PARTICIPANT SCENIC RATINGS FOR UPPER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK (KOP 4)**



**FIGURE F-2 PARTICIPANT SCENIC RATINGS FOR LOWER HIGH FALLS OVERLOOK (KOP 5)**



**FIGURE F-3 PARTICIPANT SCENIC RATINGS FOR CRADLE OVERLOOK (KOP 6)**



**FIGURE F-4 PARTICIPANT SCENIC RATINGS FOR SHERMAN FALLS OVERLOOK (KOP 7)**



## **APPENDIX G**

### **DOWNSTREAM WEST CANADA CREEK SITE PHOTOS**



**PHOTO G-1 DS REC SITE 1: DOVER ROAD BRIDGE LOOKING DOWNSTREAM**



**PHOTO G-2 DS REC SITE 1: DOVER ROAD BRIDGE LOOKING UPSTREAM**





**PHOTO G-3 DS REC SITE 2: RT. 28 INFORMAL ROADSIDE PULL-OFF**



**PHOTO G-4 DS REC SITE 2: RT. 28 INFORMAL ROADSIDE PULL-OFF ACCESS AREA**





**PHOTO G-5 DS REC SITE 3: NYSDEC PARTRIDGE HILL ROAD PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-6 DS REC 3: NYSDEC PARTRIDGE HILL ROAD TRAIL TO WEST CANADA CREEK**





**PHOTO G-7 DS REC SITE 4: NYSDEC RT. 28 BEECHER ROAD PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-8 DS REC SITE 4: NYSDEC RT. 28 BEECHER ROAD ACCESS TRAIL**





**PHOTO G-9 DS REC SITE 5: RT. 28 OVERLOOK N. POLAND PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-10 DS REC SITE 5: RT. 28 OVERLOOK N. POLAND PARKING AREA**





**PHOTO G-11 DS REC SITE 6: DEC FISHING ACCESS RT. 28 POLAND PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-12 DS REC SITE 6: DEC FISHING ACCESS RT. 28 ACCESS AREA**





**PHOTO G-13 DS REC SITE 7: NYSDEC RT. 28 OVERLOOK S. POLAND PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-14 DS REC SITE 7: NYSDEC RT. 28 OVERLOOK S. POLAND PICNIC AREA**





**PHOTO G-15 DS REC SITE 8: RT. 28 OVERLOOK S. NEWPORT - PARKING AND PICNIC AREA**



**PHOTO G-16 DS REC SITE 8: RT. 28 OVERLOOK S. NEWPORT - ACCESS AREA**





**PHOTO G-17 DS REC SITE 9: NYSDEC FISHING ACCESS RT. 28 N. MIDDLEVILLE PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-18 DS REC SITE 9: NYSDEC FISHING ACCESS RT. 28 N. MIDDLEVILLE ACCESS AREA**





**PHOTO G-19 DS REC SITE 10: RT 28 KAST BRIDGE AREA ROADSIDE PULL-OFF PARKING AREA**



**PHOTO G-20 DS REC SITE 10: WEST CANADA CREEK NYSDEC ACCESS ENTRANCE SIGNAGE**