

# LAKES, FARMS, & FORESTS FOREVER

TEN CONSERVATION STRATEGIES FOR THE FINGER LAKES REGION

FINGER LAKES LAND TRUST  
FLLT.ORG/TOP10

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Director of Land Protection



# Framework

12 month iterative process –  
consultation, drafting, review

Regional and local entities  
consulted

- Municipalities
- State and Federal Agencies
- Conservation Organizations
- Regional Planning
- Key Stakeholders
- Academic Institutions

Communication

Funding provided by NYS EPF  
and the NYSCPP  
(administered by the Land  
Trust Alliance), and private  
funding.



# TOP 10 CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Protect Our Lakes, Streams, & Drinking Water

Buffer Our Streams & Create New Wetlands

Save Our Last Undeveloped Shoreline Now

Protect the City of Syracuse Drinking Water Supply





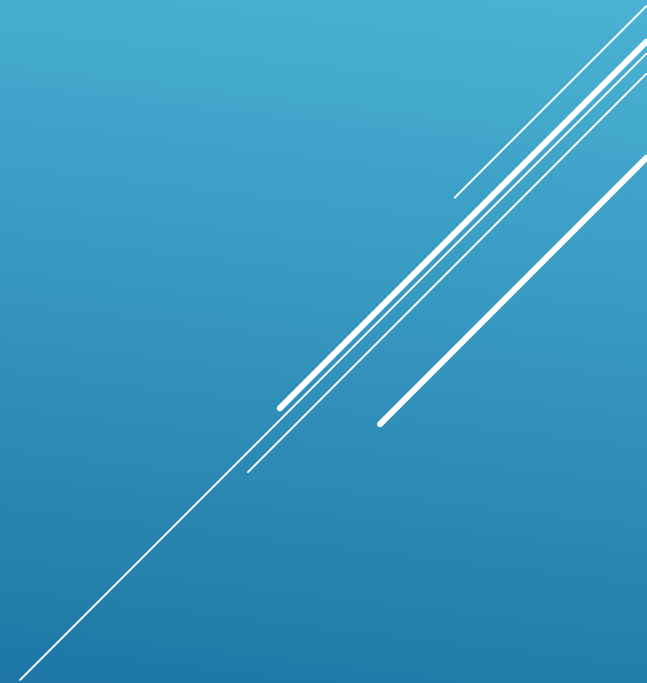
# TOP 10 CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Save Farms, Wineries, & Rural Character

Save Threatened Farms & Wineries

Protect Scenic Vistas & Designated Byways on  
Cayuga and Seneca Lakes

Maintain Rural Character Through Stronger  
Land Use Planning



# TOP 10 CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

## Keep Nature Wild & Enhance Public Access

Create the Canandaigua Skyline Trail

Complete Cayuga Lake's Emerald Necklace

Create the Chemung River Greenbelt

Save the South End of Skaneateles Lake

A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom right towards the top right, set against a blue background.

# FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Create a new initiative to purchase perpetual stream buffer easements from farmers and also fund the restoration and construction of “silt trap” wetlands that are designed to intercept nutrient-laden runoff from farms and road ditches (\$20M)

Provide additional funding for the protection of our last undeveloped shoreline through direct acquisition and the use of conservation easements (\$10M)

Resume the City of Syracuse’s conservation easement purchase program within the Skaneateles Lake watershed to protect its unfiltered drinking water supply (\$10M)

# FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Provide additional funding to New York State's Farmland Protection Program targeted specifically to the Finger Lakes region to meet the demand from local farmers (\$30M)

Assess and prioritize publicly accessible vista points within the region on state highways and the two existing scenic byways and then purchase conservation easements to secure the most scenic vistas (\$7.5M)

Implement a program of expanded technical assistance to local government planning boards in conjunction with the development of a region-specific guide that highlights best practices for rural land use (\$2.5M)

# FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Complete four priority projects identified within New York State's Open Space Plan and make targeted investments to enhance public access to these sites (\$20M):

Canandaigua Skyline Trail

Ithaca's Emerald Necklace

Chemung River Greenbelt

South End of Skaneateles Lake



# ELEMENTS OF A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO CONSERVATION

Comprehensive Plan

Supportive Land Use Zoning

Conservation Easements

Land Purchase

Subdivision Set-Asides

Partnerships – Land Trusts, Other Non-Profits, State and Federal Agencies, Other Municipalities

Policies Supportive of Farming & Forestry

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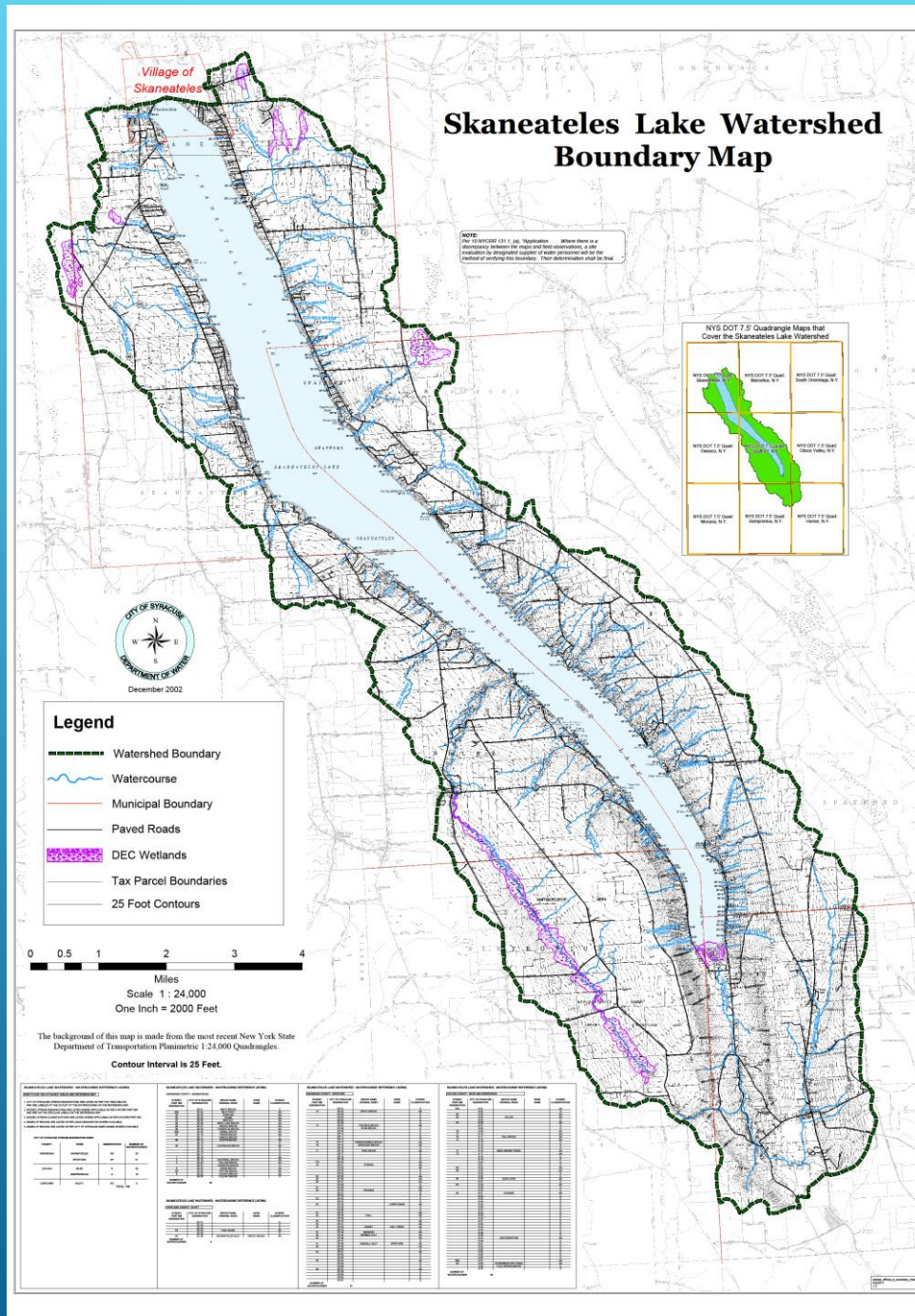
City of Syracuse, Jordan  
(Village/Town), Town of  
Elbridge, Skaneateles  
(Village and Town)



Skaneateles Lake Watershed  
Agricultural Program (SLWAP)



Cayuga County  
Niles  
Sempronius



Onondaga County  
Spafford  
Skaneateles  
Marcellus



Cooperative Extension



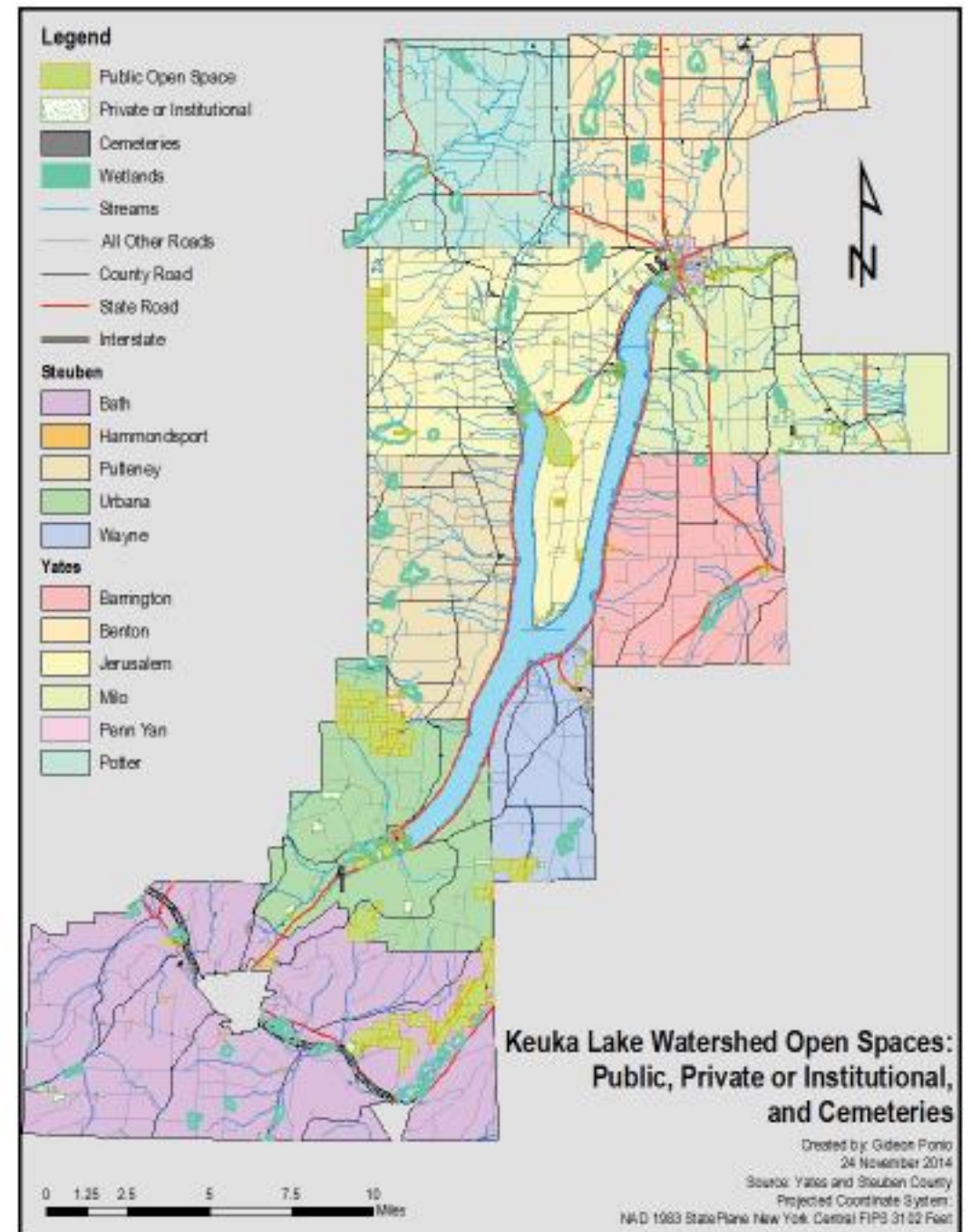
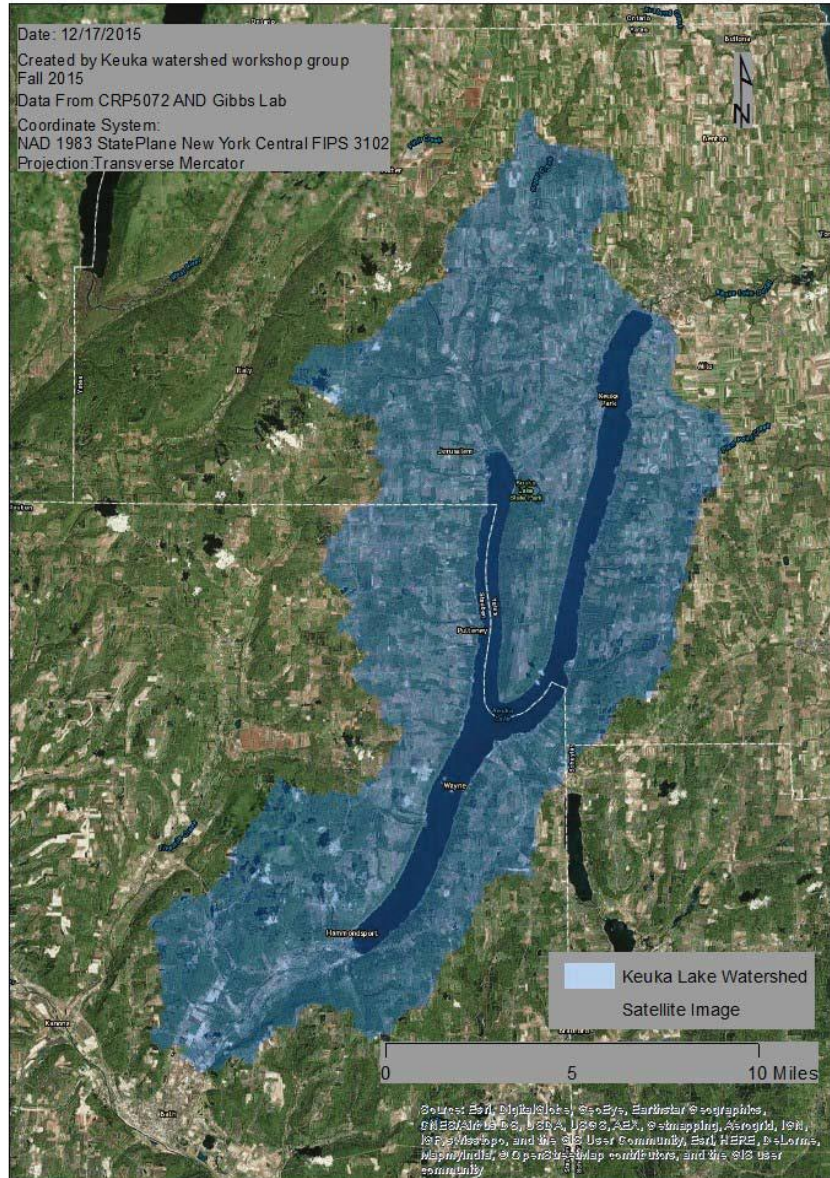
NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY  
Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation



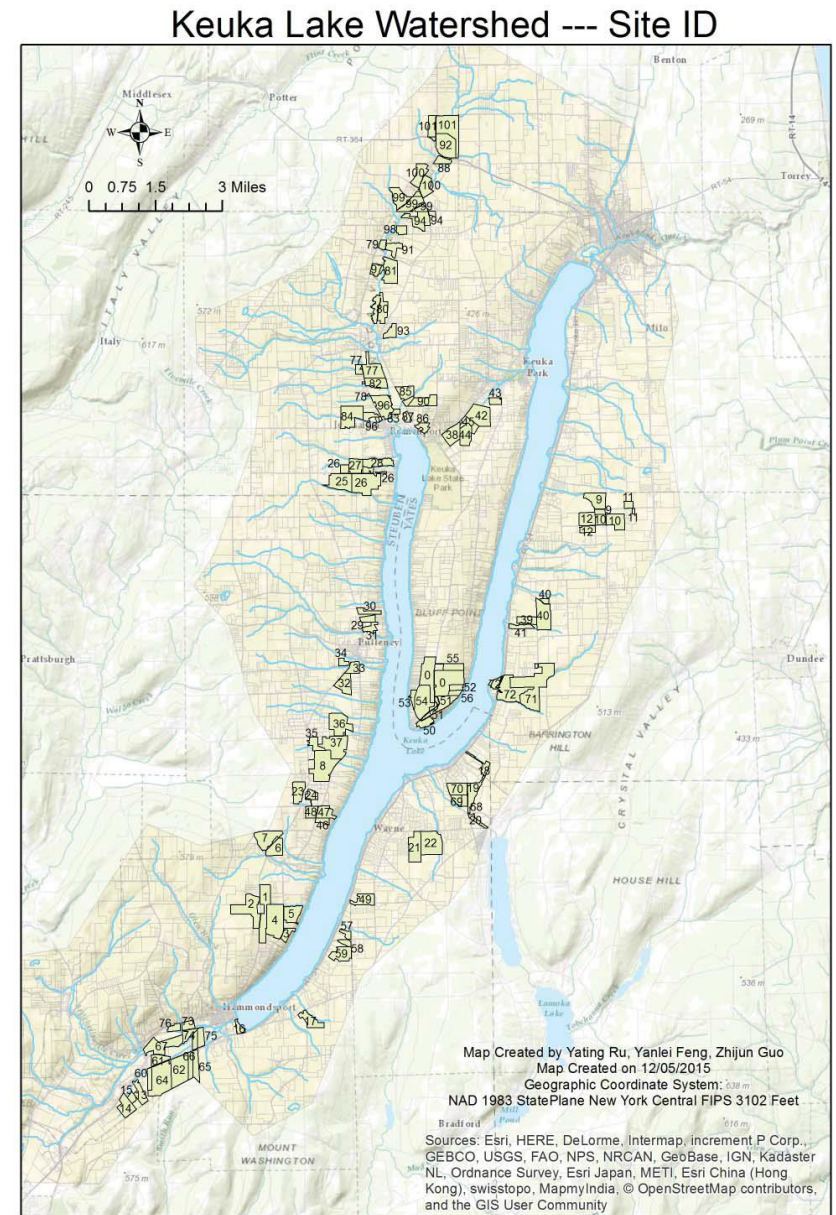
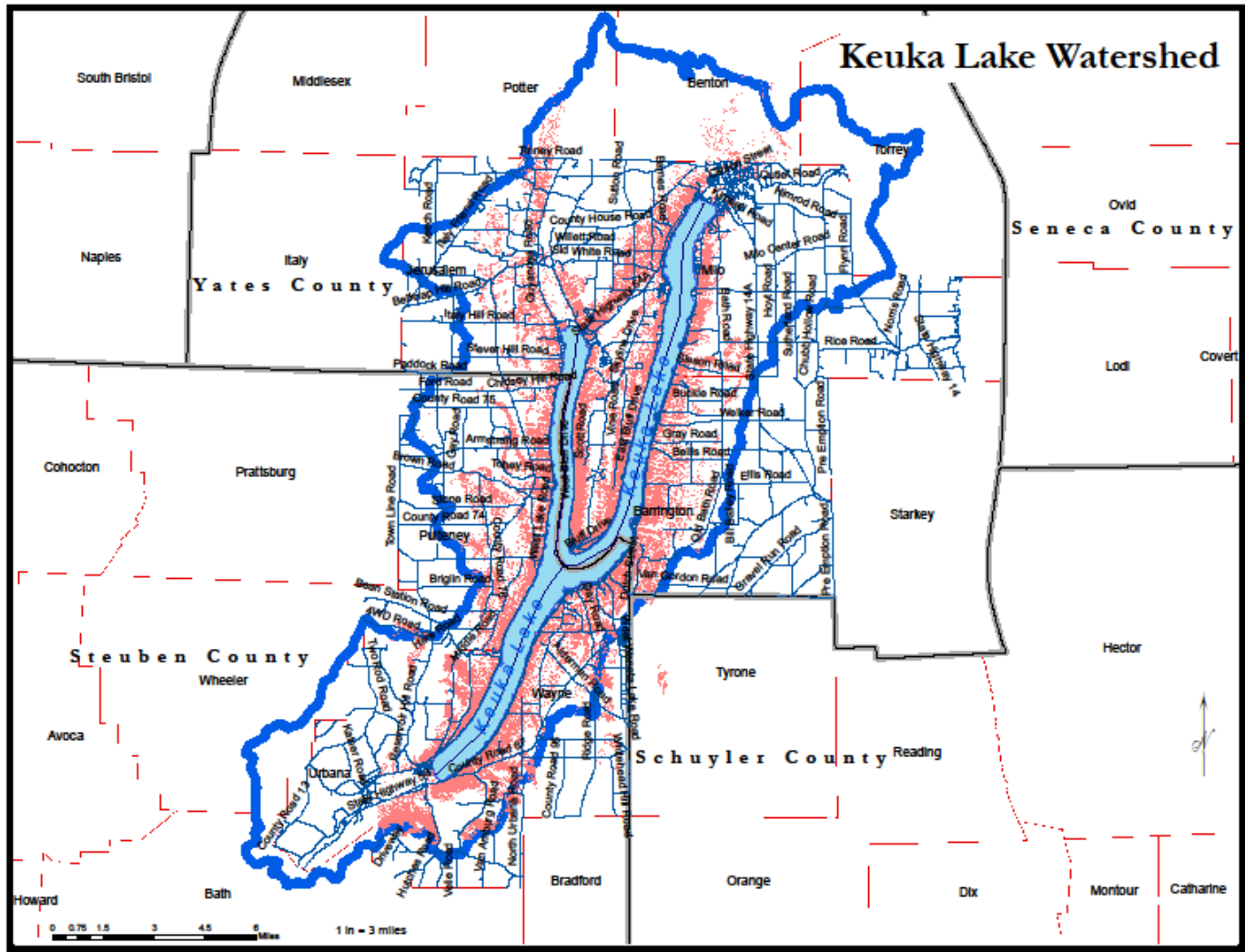
Cortland County  
Scott



# SATELLITE IMAGE OF KEUKA LAKE WATERSHED







**KEUKA LAKE VIEWSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM**  
[HTTP://WWW.TOWNOFWAYNENY.COM/](http://www.townofwayneny.com/)



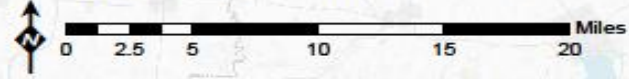


Department of Environmental Conservation

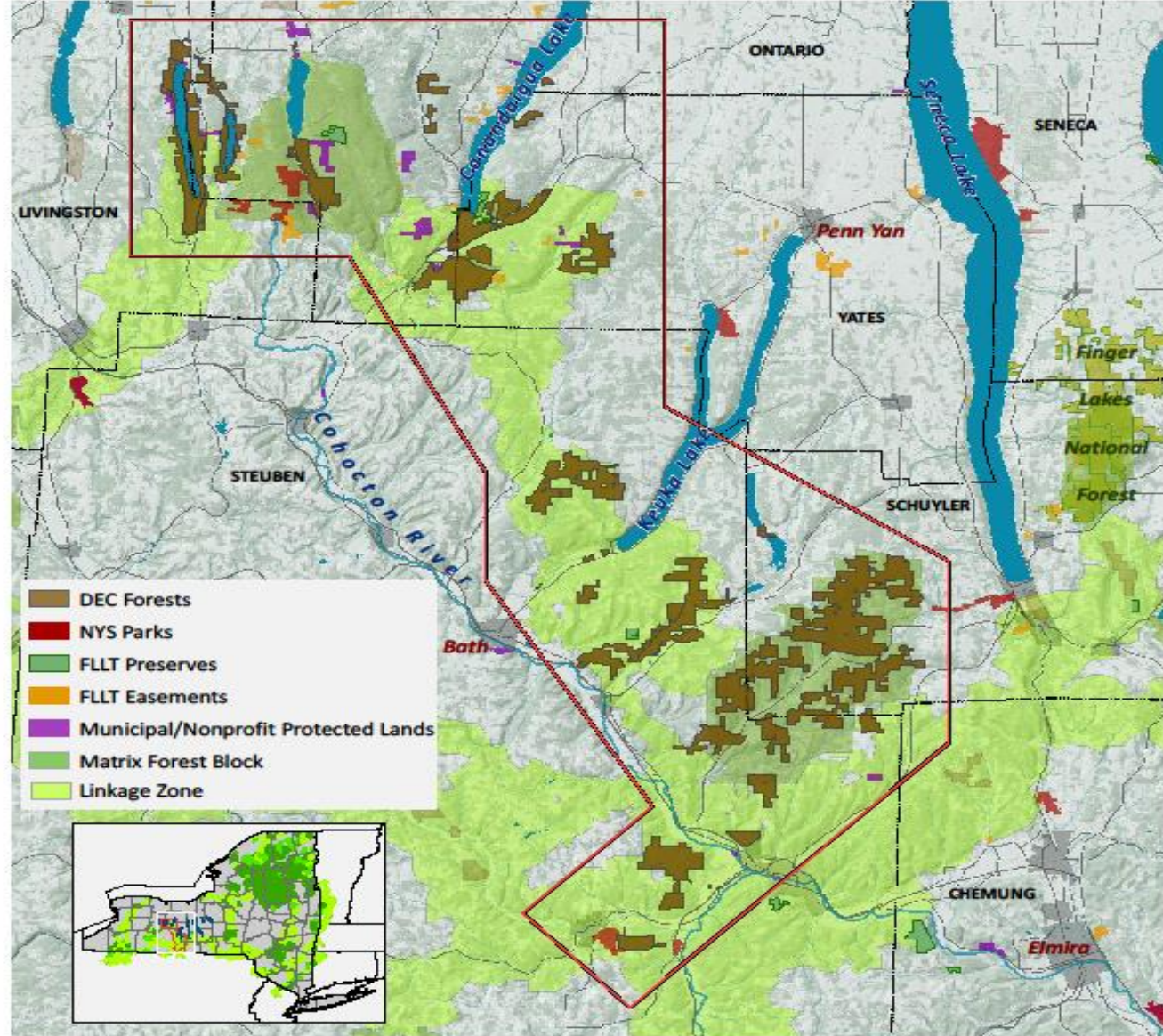


UPPER SUSQUEHANNA CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

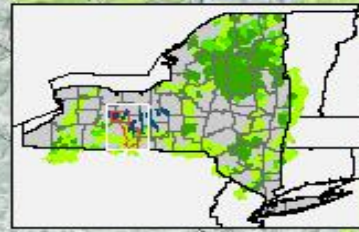
# FINGER LAKES LAND TRUST State and Private Forestry FY 2017 Northeastern Area Landscape Scale Restoration Project Proposal



Map prepared by Finger Lakes Land Trust GIS 10/13/2016



- DEC Forests
- NYS Parks
- FLLT Preserves
- FLLT Easements
- Municipal/Nonprofit Protected Lands
- Matrix Forest Block
- Linkage Zone







# FINGER LAKES LAND TRUST

[FLLT.ORG/TOP10](http://fllt.org/top10)

[HTTP://FLLT.ORG/CONTENT/UPLOADS/2016/10/FLLT-CONSERVATIONAGENDAFUNDING.PDF](http://fllt.org/content/uploads/2016/10/fllt-conservationagenda-funding.pdf)

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