

OFFICE OF LEWIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

7660 North State Street
Lowville, New York 13367
Telephone: (315) 376-5282
Fax: (315) 376-3857



Joan E. McNichol
Lewis County Attorney
joanmcnichol@lewiscounty.ny.gov

Matthew A. Goettel
Assistant County Attorney
mattgoettel@lewiscounty.ny.gov

December 30, 2022

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423



Re: Mohawk, Adirondack & Northern Railroad Corporation and
Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company to County of Lewis, NY
SEQR Lead Agency Notice – Rail Corridor Acquisition

To Whom It May Concern:

Lewis County is undertaking efforts relative to the acquisition of approximately 30 miles of inactive rail corridors in Lewis County (and a couple of parcels that extend into Jefferson County along the Lowville to Carthage line), with the intention of preserving these corridors for public use, portions of same to be converted over time into public multi-use recreational trails for residents and visitors to Lewis County. This acquisition includes performance of an environmental review consistent with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), 6 NYCRR Part 617, upon approval of the Lewis County Board of Legislators in order to execute the proposed purchase agreement.

Project Description: This proposed action is the purchase of current inactive and out-of-services rail line corridor parcels from the owners, Mohawk, Adirondack & Northern Railroad Corporation and the Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company for the purpose of keeping the corridors for public use. There is periodic rail activity on approximately one mile of the rail line in Croghan, NY, operated by the Railroad Historical Society. The County's intention with this purchase is to allow for the entity's continued operation of that tourist line pursuant to an agreement with the County.

Based on SEQR criteria, specifically 6 NYCRR Part 617, and the number of acres which comprise the rail line corridors in this purchase, it has been determined that this acquisition and intended project is a Type I Action, therefore coordinated review and a full EAF are required. This letter serves as notification to all involved or interested agencies that Lewis County is requesting and intending to declare itself as lead agency status under SEQR for the proposed acquisition. According to SEQR regulations, involved agencies have 30 days within which the Lewis County's lead agency designation can be disputed. If your agency opposes Lewis County's proposed status as lead agency, you have until February 3, 2023 to respond to the County in writing stating your opposition.

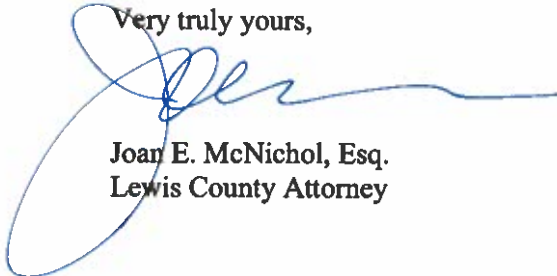
It is my understanding that the current Railroad companies have not yet submitted an application for approval to abandon these corridors, and to obtain the docket numbers for same, but will be doing so. The County understands the STB's jurisdiction, and the parties understand the ultimate intended conveyance is subject to the STB's approval of same. This letter is simply to provide the SEQRA required Notice of lead agency status for the acquisition.

SEQRA Lead Agency Notice
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Part 1 of the full EAF is enclosed. A copy of this correspondence is also being sent to John K. Fiorilla, Esq., Dyer & Peterson P.C., attorney for the Railroad companies identified above. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (315) 376-5282.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joan E. McNichol', is written over the typed name.

Joan E. McNichol, Esq.
Lewis County Attorney

encs.

JEM:mf

cc: John K. Fiorilla, Esq.
Dyer & Peterson P.C.
322 US Highway 46, Suite 220E
Parsippany, NY 07054

**Full Environmental Assessment Form
Part 1 - Project and Setting**



Instructions for Completing Part 1

Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either "Yes" or "No". If the answer to the initial question is "Yes", complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is "No", proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the applicant or project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1 is accurate and complete.

A. Project and Applicant/Sponsor Information.

Name of Action or Project: Acquisition of the Railline corridor parcels lines from Lowville to Carthage; Lowville to Croghan/Beaver River, Village of Lowville and Lyons Falls		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map): Rail corridors in Lewis County and 2 parcels in Jefferson Cty, generally out of service as identified above, except for 1 mile of tourist line in Croghan.		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need): The action is the purchase of the current inactive and out-of - service railline corridor parcels from Mohawk, Adirondack & Northern Railroad Corporation and the Lowville & Beaver River Railroad Company for the purpose of keeping the corridors for public use, with the exception of the one mile of rail tourist line in Croghan, NY, operated by the Railroad Historical Society. It is intended by the applicant for that tourist/public use operation to continue pursuant to an agreement between the County and operator.		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor: County of Lewis		Telephone: 315-378-5355 E-Mail: ryanpiche@lewiscounty.ny.gov
Address: 7660 North State Street		
City/PO: Lowville	State: NY	Zip Code: 13367
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role): Joan McNichol, Esq., County Attorney		Telephone: 315-378-5282 E-Mail: joanmcnichol@lewiscounty.ny.gov
Address: 7660 North State Street		
City/PO: Lowville	State: NY	Zip Code: 13367
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor):		Telephone: E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

B. Government Approvals

B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship. ("Funding" includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, ☐ Yes ☐ No or Village Board of Trustees		
b. City, Town or Village ☐ Yes ☐ No Planning Board or Commission		
c. City, Town or ☐ Yes ☐ No Village Zoning Board of Appeals		
d. Other local agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
e. County agencies ☒ Yes ☐ No	Lewis County	March 2023
f. Regional agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
g. State agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
h. Federal agencies ☐ Yes ☐ No		
i. Coastal Resources. <i>i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway?</i> ☐ Yes ☒ No <i>ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program?</i> ☐ Yes ☒ No <i>iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area?</i> ☐ Yes ☒ No		

C. Planning and Zoning

C.1. Planning and zoning actions.	
Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed? ☐ Yes ☒ No - If Yes, complete sections C, F and G. - If No, proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1	
C.2. Adopted land use plans.	
a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located? ☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located? ☒ Yes ☐ No	
b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway; Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?) ☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes, identify the plan(s): Black River Watershed Managment Plan, Black River Blueway Trail _____ _____ _____	
c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, identify the plan(s): _____ _____ _____	

C.3. Zoning

a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance. ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?

See map attached for Lowville through Beaver River zoning classifications. Town of Croghan has a rural residential zone only. Village of Lyons Falls and Town of New Bremen have one zone. Village of Croghan has no zoning.

b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No

c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes,

i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site? _____

C.4. Existing community services.

a. In what school district is the project site located? Beaver River Central School District, South Lewis Central School District, Carthage Central School District, Lowville Academy and Central School

b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?

NYS Police, Lowville Village Police, Lewis County Sheriff, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?

Croghan Fire Department, Castorland FD, Beaver Falls FD, New Bremen FD, Lowville FD, Lyons Falls FD, 3-G Fire Department

d. What parks serve the project site?

N/A

D. Project Details

D.1. Proposed and Potential Development

a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)? Acquisition of rail trail for public recreation.

b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? 281.5 acres

b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? 0 acres

c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? 64.1 acres

c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use? ☐ Yes ☒ No

i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % _____ Units: _____

d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes,

i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)

ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

iii. Number of lots proposed? _____

iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum _____ Maximum _____

e. Will the proposed action be constructed in multiple phases? ☐ Yes ☒ No

i. If No, anticipated period of construction: _____ months

ii. If Yes:

- Total number of phases anticipated _____
- Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) _____ month _____ year
- Anticipated completion date of final phase _____ month _____ year
- Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases: _____

f. Does the project include new residential uses? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.				
	<u>One Family</u>	<u>Two Family</u>	<u>Three Family</u>	<u>Multiple Family (four or more)</u>
Initial Phase	_____	_____	_____	_____
At completion	_____	_____	_____	_____
of all phases	_____	_____	_____	_____

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes,	
i. Total number of structures _____ ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: _____ height; _____ width; and _____ length iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: _____ square feet	

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes,	
i. Purpose of the impoundment: _____ ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water: ☐ Ground water ☐ Surface water streams ☐ Other specify: _____ iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source. _____ iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: _____ acres v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: _____ height; _____ length vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete): _____	

D.2. Project Operations

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both? ☐ Yes ☒ No (Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite) If Yes:	
i. What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? _____ ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site? • Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): _____ • Over what duration of time? _____ iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them. _____ _____ iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, describe. _____ _____ v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? _____ acres vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? _____ acres vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? _____ feet viii. Will the excavation require blasting? ☐ Yes ☐ No ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: _____ _____ _____	

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes:	
i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): While the project site is adjacent to several bodies of water and wetlands, this SEQR is strictly for the acquisition of the rail for public use. _____ _____	

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

iii. Will the proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, describe: _____

iv. Will the proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: _____
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: _____
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): _____
- proposed method of plant removal: _____
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): _____

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: _____

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: _____
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Do existing lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____
- Source(s) of supply for the district: _____

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If, Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____
- Date application submitted or anticipated: _____
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: _____

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: _____

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), what is the maximum pumping capacity: _____ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: _____ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): _____

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: _____
- Name of district: _____
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Is the project site in the existing district? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- Is expansion of the district needed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

• Do existing sewer lines serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No • Will a line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: • Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: _____	
iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: • Applicant/sponsor for new district: _____ • Date application submitted or anticipated: _____ • What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? _____	
v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge or describe subsurface disposal plans): _____ _____	
vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: _____ _____ _____	
e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: i. How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel? _____ Square feet or _____ acres (impervious surface) _____ Square feet or _____ acres (parcel size) ii. Describe types of new point sources. _____	
iii. Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)? _____ _____ • If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: _____ _____ • Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
iv. Does the proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, identify: i. Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles) _____ ii. Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers) _____ iii. Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation) _____	
g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: i. Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year) ☐ Yes ☐ No ii. In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate: • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF₆) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) • _____ Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)	

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): _____

ii. Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): _____

i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust): _____

j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply): ☐ Morning ☐ Evening ☐ Weekend
☐ Randomly between hours of _____ to _____.

ii. For commercial activities only, projected number of truck trips/day and type (e.g., semi trailers and dump trucks): _____

iii. Parking spaces: Existing _____ Proposed _____ Net increase/decrease _____

iv. Does the proposed action include any shared use parking? ☐ Yes ☐ No

v. If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe: _____

vi. Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within 1/2 mile of the proposed site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

vii. Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles? ☐ Yes ☐ No

viii. Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: _____

ii. Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other): _____

iii. Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade, to an existing substation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.

i. During Construction: • Monday - Friday: _____ N/A • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____	ii. During Operations: • Monday - Friday: _____ N/A • Saturday: _____ • Sunday: _____ • Holidays: _____
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m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? If yes: i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration: _____	☐ Yes ☒ No
ii. Will the proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? Describe: _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
n. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? If yes: i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____	☐ Yes ☒ No
ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? Describe: _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____	☐ Yes ☒ No
p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? If Yes: i. Product(s) to be stored _____ ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year) iii. Generally, describe the proposed storage facilities: _____	☐ Yes ☒ No
q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? If Yes: i. Describe proposed treatment(s): _____ _____	☐ Yes ☒ No
ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices?	☐ Yes ☐ No
r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? If Yes: i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility: • Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time) • Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time) ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste: • Construction: _____ • Operation: _____ iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site: • Construction: _____ • Operation: _____	☐ Yes ☒ No

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): _____

ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:

- _____ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or
- _____ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment

iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: _____ years

t. Will the proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: _____

ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: _____

iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated _____ tons/month

iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: _____

v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: provide name and location of facility: _____

If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility: _____

E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action

E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site

a. Existing land uses.

i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.

☒ Urban ☒ Industrial ☒ Commercial ☒ Residential (suburban) ☒ Rural (non-farm)

☒ Forest ☒ Agriculture ☒ Aquatic ☐ Other (specify): _____

ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:

Mostly idle Railroad bed with land adjacent land uses that vary throughout the County.

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertype	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: <u>Idle Railroad Bed except minimal section utilized in Croghan for tourism</u>	281.5	281.5	0

c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 i. If Yes: explain: _____

d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes,
 i. Identify Facilities:
Lewis County Head Start, (6819 McAlpine Street, Lyons Falls), NYS ARC Oneida/Lewis & Beaver River Central School

e. Does the project site contain an existing dam? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes:
 i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:
 • Dam height: _____ 12 feet
 • Dam length: _____ 55 feet
 • Surface area: _____ 7 acres
 • Volume impounded: _____ 28 acre feet gallons OR acre-feet
 ii. Dam's existing hazard classification: Low Hazard Dam
 iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:
Crystal Creek Dam: Last rating condition= not rated

f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If Yes:
 i. Has the facility been formally closed? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 • If yes, cite sources/documentation: _____
 ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility: _____
 iii. Describe any development constraints due to the prior solid waste activities: _____

g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If Yes:
 i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred: _____

h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 If Yes:
 i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply: ☒ Yes ☐ No
☐ Yes - Spills Incidents database Provide DEC ID number(s): _____
☒ Yes - Environmental Site Remediation database Provide DEC ID number(s): 625016
☐ Neither database
 ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures: _____
No action was taken.
 iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database? ☒ Yes ☐ No
 If yes, provide DEC ID number(s): 625016, V00022, 625015, 625018, 625014, 625008 & B00165
 iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):
25016 (No further action at this time), V00022 (No further action at this time), 625015 (No further action at this time), 625018 (No further action at this time), 625014 (Completed), 625008 (Completed) & B00165 (Completed)

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses? ☐ Yes ☒ No

- If yes, DEC site ID number: _____
- Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): _____
- Describe any use limitations: _____
- Describe any engineering controls: _____
- Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Explain: _____

E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site

a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? Greater than 6 feet

b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? _____ %

c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site:

Sand	51.7 %
Silt	34.6 %
Clay	13.7 %

d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: Variable feet

e. Drainage status of project site soils: ☒ Well Drained: 34.3 % of site
☒ Moderately Well Drained: 28.4 % of site
☒ Poorly Drained: 10.5 % of site

f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes: ☒ 0-10%: 34.3 % of site
☒ 10-15%: 28.4 % of site
☒ 15% or greater: 38.3 % of site

g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If Yes, describe: _____

h. Surface water features.

i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If Yes to either i or ii, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.

iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency? ☒ Yes ☐ No

iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:

• Streams:	Name <u>805-515, 805-113, 805-109, 805-36, 805-33, 805-....</u>	Classification <u>C, C(T)</u>
• Lakes or Ponds:	Name _____	Classification _____
• Wetlands:	Name <u>Federal Waters, NYS Wetland</u>	Approximate Size _____
• Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC)	<u>CT-15, L-1, CT-11, CT-4, CT-12</u>	

v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: _____

i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway? ☒ Yes ☐ No

j. Is the project site in the 100-year Floodplain? ☒ Yes ☐ No

k. Is the project site in the 500-year Floodplain? ☐ Yes ☒ No

l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If Yes:
i. Name of aquifer: Unnamed Principal Aquifer

m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site:		
White-tailed Deer Black Bear Gray Fox	Wild Turkey Beaver Gray Squirrel	Eastern Coyote Red Fox Raccoon
n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
If Yes:		
i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): <u>Confined River</u>		
ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation: <u>NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper</u>		
iii. Extent of community/habitat:		
• Currently: <u>281.18</u> acres		
• Following completion of project as proposed: <u>281.18</u> acres		
• Gain or loss (indicate + or -): <u>0</u> acres		
o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
If Yes:		
i. Species and listing (endangered or threatened): _____		

p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
If Yes:		
i. Species and listing: _____		

q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: <u>Crystal Creek (fishing), Black River (fishing) No effect on use.</u>		
E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site		
a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
If Yes, provide county plus district name/number: <u>LEW1008</u>		
b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? <u>147.8</u>		
ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): <u>USDA Web Soil Survey; This report includes prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance.</u>		
c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
If Yes:		
i. Nature of the natural landmark: ☐ Biological Community ☐ Geological Feature		
ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent: _____		

d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
If Yes:		
i. CEA name: _____		
ii. Basis for designation: _____		
iii. Designating agency and date: _____		

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Nature of historic/archaeological resource: ☒ Archaeological Site ☒ Historic Building or District

ii. Name: Lewis County Fairgrounds, Old Lowville Cemetery

iii. Brief description of attributes on which listing is based: _____

These sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Building Sites found on the New York State Cultural Resource Information System website.

f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory? ☒ Yes ☐ No

g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Describe possible resource(s): _____

ii. Basis for identification: _____

h. Is the project site within five miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

i. Identify resource: NYSDEC Info Locator & Adirondack Scenic Byway Map

ii. Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): Adirondack Park & Adirondack Scenic Byway (Black River Trail)

iii. Distance between project and resource: 2.7 & 1 miles.

i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

i. Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____

ii. Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666? ☐ Yes ☐ No

F. Additional Information

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

G. Verification

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name Lawrence L. Dolhof, County of Lewis

Date 12/30/2022

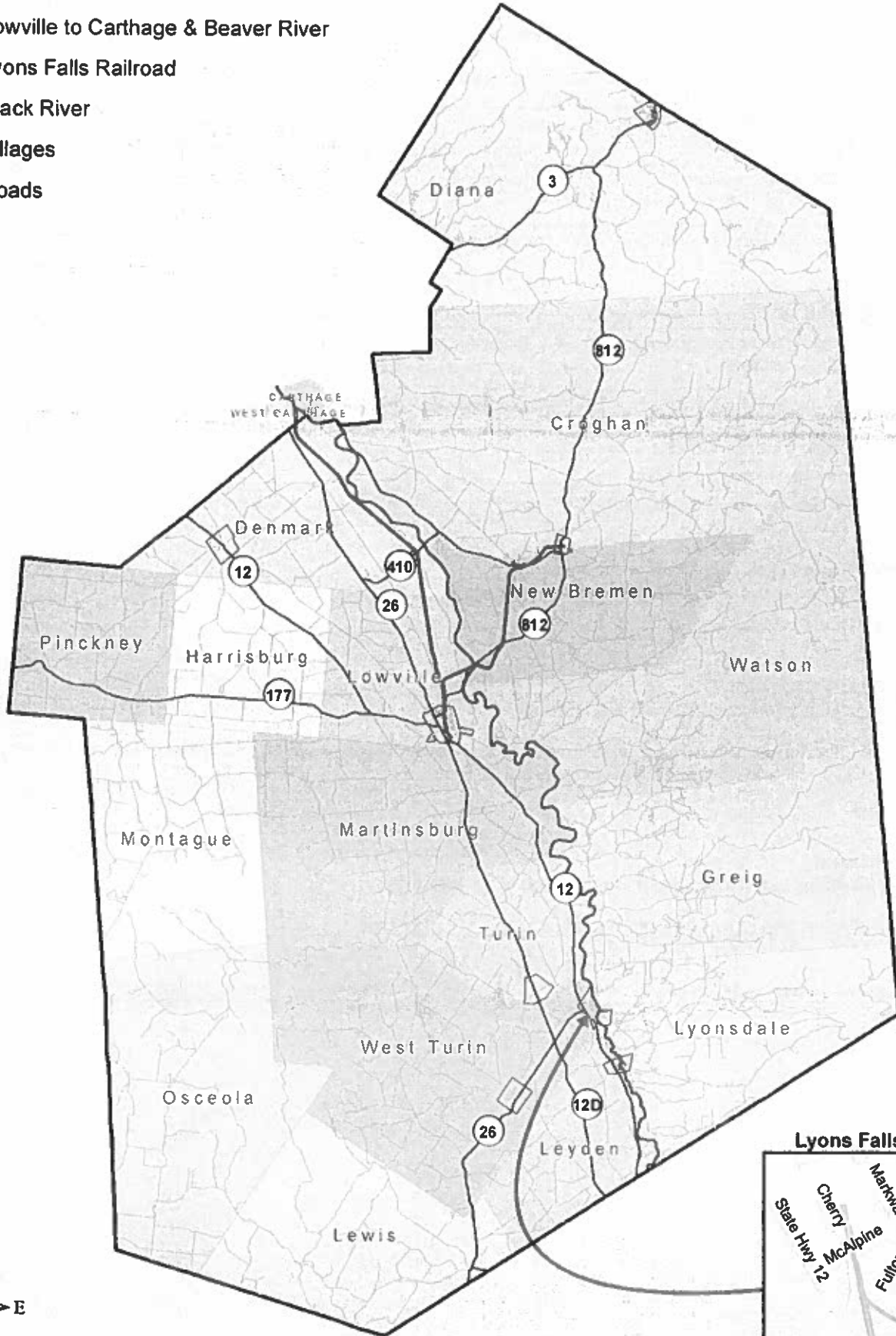
Signature _____

Title Chairman, LC Board of Legislators

PRINT FORM

Lewis County Rail Line Acquisition Map

-  Lowville to Carthage & Beaver River
-  Lyons Falls Railroad
-  Black River
-  Villages
-  Roads

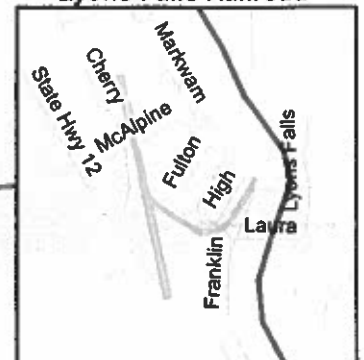


Map Created By:
Lewis County SWCD

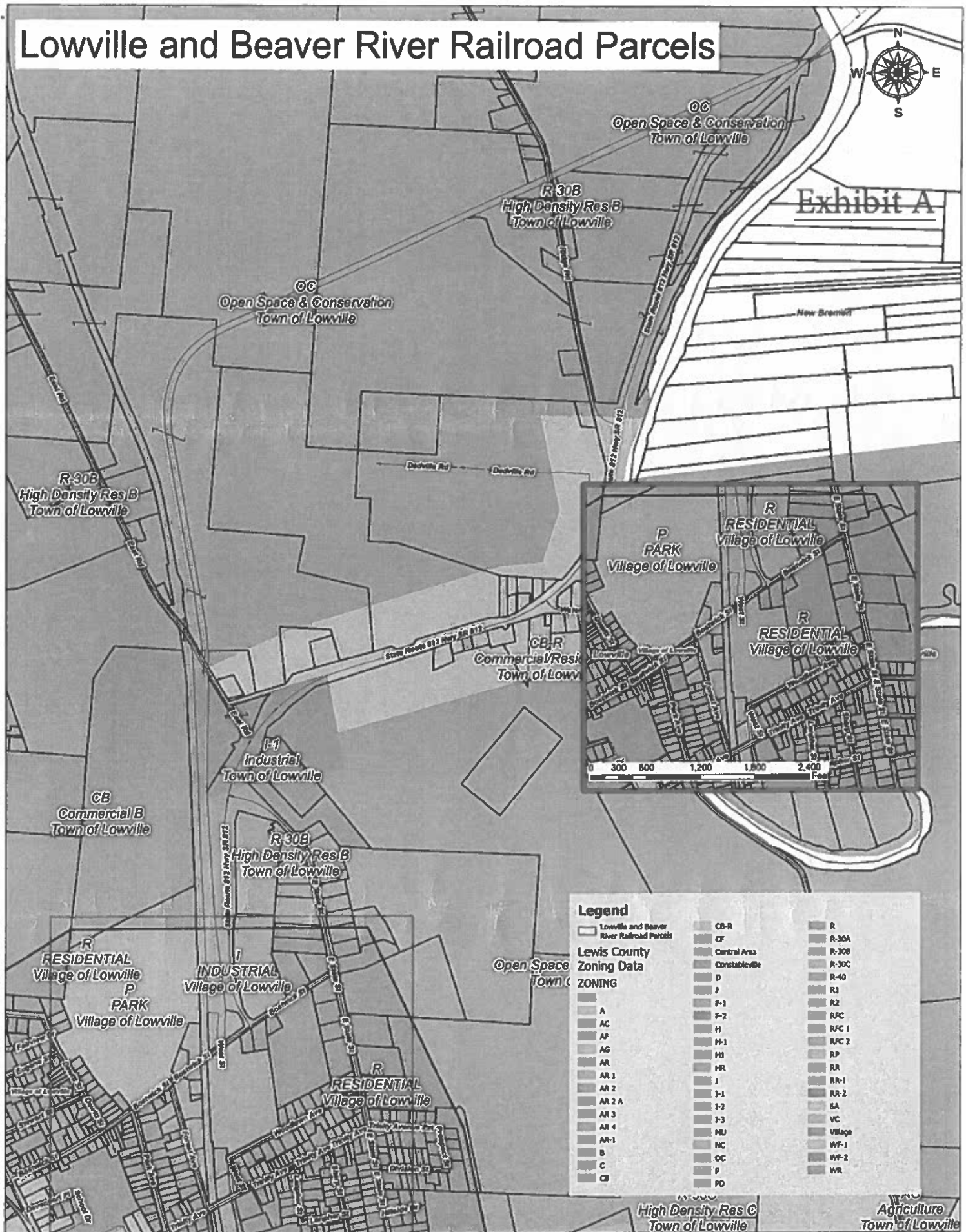
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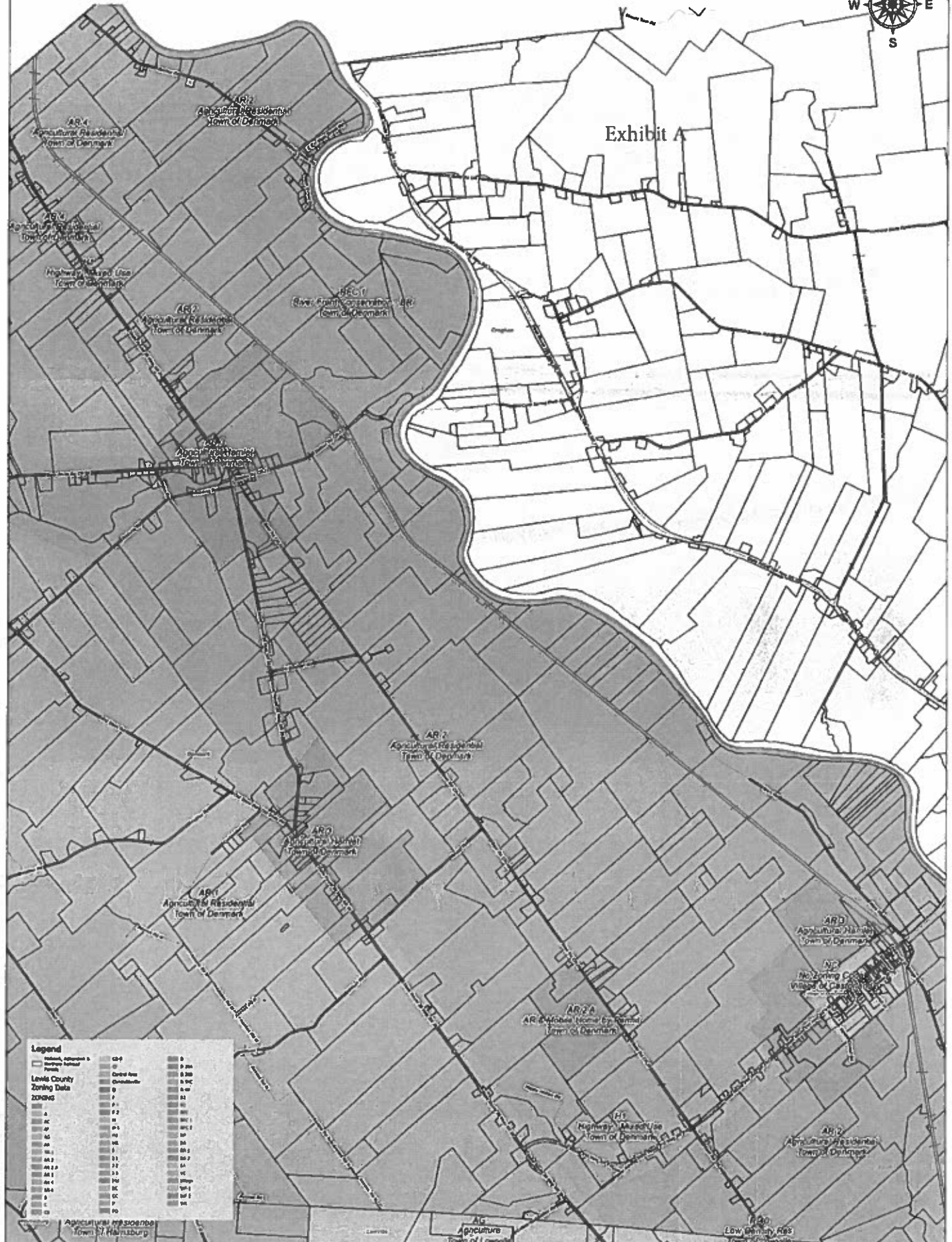


Lyons Falls Railroad



Lowville and Beaver River Railroad Parcels





Mohawk, Adirondack & Northern Railroad Parcels



Exhibit A



