

**617.20**  
**Appendix B**  
**Short Environmental Assessment Form**

**Instructions for Completing**

**Part 1 - Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. 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.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

<b>Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information</b>			
Name of Action or Project: Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail Plan			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): Circumference of Cayuga Lake			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: This project was to identify what current assets exist and what additional improvements could be made to improve the circumference of Cayuga Lake as a Blueway (Paddling) Trail. Marketing of a Blueway Trail on Cayuga Lake could enhance tourism in the region. See attached Executive Summary.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Seneca County		Telephone: (315) 539-1723	
		E-Mail: hhaynes@co.seneca.ny.us	
Address: 1 DiPronio Dr.			
City/PO: Waterloo,		State: NY	Zip Code: 13165
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres			
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres			
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			



18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</b>		
Applicant/sponsor name: _____ Date: _____		
Signature: _____		

**Part 2 - Impact Assessment. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 2.** Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Part 3 - Determination of significance. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 3.** For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

This plan identifies current assets for the development of a Blueway Plan for Cayuga Lake including short itineraries that could be marketed with no further improvements or changes to sites. The Plan also identifies potential improvement that could be made to both Public and Private locations to enhance Cayuga Lake as a Blueway Destination, however, adoption of this plan does not commit either the Counties of Seneca, Cayuga, or Tompkins, any local Municipality or any private property to a course of action. Further development of identified sites will be at the determination of individual property owners. A future public/private partnership may be developed to monitor the status of paddle accessible site, and coordinate marketing.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
Seneca County	6-10-14
Name of Lead Agency	Date
Robert W. Hayssen,	Chairman, Seneca County Board of Supervisors
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

**PRINT**

## Executive Summary

There are many opportunities along Cayuga Lake to create a safe environment for people who use non-motorized paddle craft to access local businesses, recreation areas, and to enjoy the beauty of the Finger Lakes region. The Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail Plan identifies the existing conditions along the lakeshore for paddle boaters; provides an assessment of the regional assets; identifies gaps in access areas along the lakeshore; includes proposed locations and preliminary concepts for future access points and launch sites; as well as a marketing and outreach strategy.

Blueways or water trails are designated small boat and paddling routes that promote and facilitate water-based recreation and transportation. A well-planned blueway includes thoughtfully designed “put-ins” and “take-outs” at designated locations along the route, for rest, overnight stays, and for providing access to nearby land-based attractions. Cayuga Lake is bounded by waterfront hamlets and villages that have a history of depending on their lake location for transportation, industry, housing and recreation. These settlements can provide needed services and amenities for the trail. Some elements of a blueway include:

- Launch and Landing Sites
- Parking
- Lock-up facilities for paddle craft
- Small boat rental and storage facilities
- Wayfinding and interpretive signs, brochures and a web presence
- Places to visit and stay overnight

Not all Blueway Trail sites can provide all amenities or even car top access. A hierarchy of sites has been developed to describe the types of sites that exist or can be developed. A mix of these site types should be provided around the lake.

1. Land-based Launch Sites (would also provide emergency access points)
2. Overnight Sites
3. Temporary Use Sites

Paddlers of kayaks, paddleboards and canoes typically move between 1 – 5 mph, depending on wind, waves, experience level, the type of paddle craft and whether solo or tandem. Beginners on a day trip will normally paddle 2-3 miles before they get tired and seek to take a break if an access point is available. The plan analyzed the existing edge conditions of Cayuga Lake and identifies portions of the lake shore that are more than two miles from any existing private or public access point. The same analysis was performed after potential future access points were identified.

There are currently fourteen (14) sites that make up the Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail:

- N1: Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR)
- N2: Mud Lock
- E3: Harris Park
- W1: Cayuga Lake State Park
- E6: Frontenac Park
- W5: Dean’s Cove
- E11: Sheldrake Park
- E14: Myers Point Park (Lansing Town Park)
- W16: Taughannock Falls State Park
- E17: East Shore Park
- S1: Stewart Park
- S2: Allan H. Treman State Marine Park
- S3: Cass Park

An additional twenty nine (29) potential future sites were identified. Some of these are undeveloped public properties, while others are under private ownership.

- |                                 |  |                                   |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| • N3: Seneca Canal              | • W7: Finger Lakes Land Trust’s (FLLT)Whitlock/VanPiper-Moran Preserve | • W13: Kidders Landing Restaurant |
| • E1: Lockview Marina           | • W8: Thirsty Owl Winery   | • E14: Bell Station               |
| • E2: Beacon Bay Marina         | • W9: Dock near Hosmer Winery  | • E16: Finger Lakes Marina        |
| • E4: Twin Oaks Campground      | • E9: Village of Aurora  | • E17: Portland Point             |
| • W2: Wolffy’s Grill and Marina | • E10: Aurora Steam Grist Mill   | • E19: Bolton Point               |
| • E5: Hibiscus Harbor Marina    | • E12: Bet the Farm Winery   | • W14: Kingston Cottages          |
| • E7: Frontenac Marina          | • E13: Don's Marina  | • W15: Camp Barton                |
| • E8: Yawger Creek              | • W10: Driftwood Inn B&B   | • W17: Ithaca Yacht Club          |
| • W3: Lakeshore Winery Dock     | • W12: Sheldrake Point Winery  | • S4: Ithaca Farmers' Market      |
| • W4: Goose Watch Winery        |  | • S5: Boatyard Grill Docks        |

Together, these sites would serve as the foundation of the Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail, and would allow paddlers to enter and exit the lake at numerous convenient locations creating opportunities for both short and longer Blueway Trail trips. The Implementation Plan highlights the critical “next-steps” that should be taken to advance the vision of the Blueway Trail. Both Short Term and Long Term Action Items have been identified so that the Blueway Trail can be developed in the short term while longer term goals are being pursued. These goals include:

- Marketing the Blueway through informational materials, an interactive website, and promotional materials ;
- Install Blueway Trail Signage;
- Implement Physical Improvements at the priority pilot sites;
- Develop agreements and partnerships with private businesses and landowners and support their development of launch site improvements;
- Work with stakeholders to create an ongoing Blueway Trail Steering Committee to:
  - a. Provide basic coordination for things like stewardship and promotion of the water trail, and
  - b. Advance the kinds of best management practices that provide for a high-quality water trail experience, and that are therefore recognized under the National Water Trail System guidelines.

Additionally, site design guidelines for new launch sites are discussed and illustrated. Three sites that are ready for implementation are then described at a higher level of detail. Specific improvements that would help make the sites more accessible for Blueway Trail Users are identified, and cost estimates and illustrations for the improvements are provided as well. These sites will serve as a template for the development of the other potential launch sites and their development will help to advance the Blueway Trail into the future.