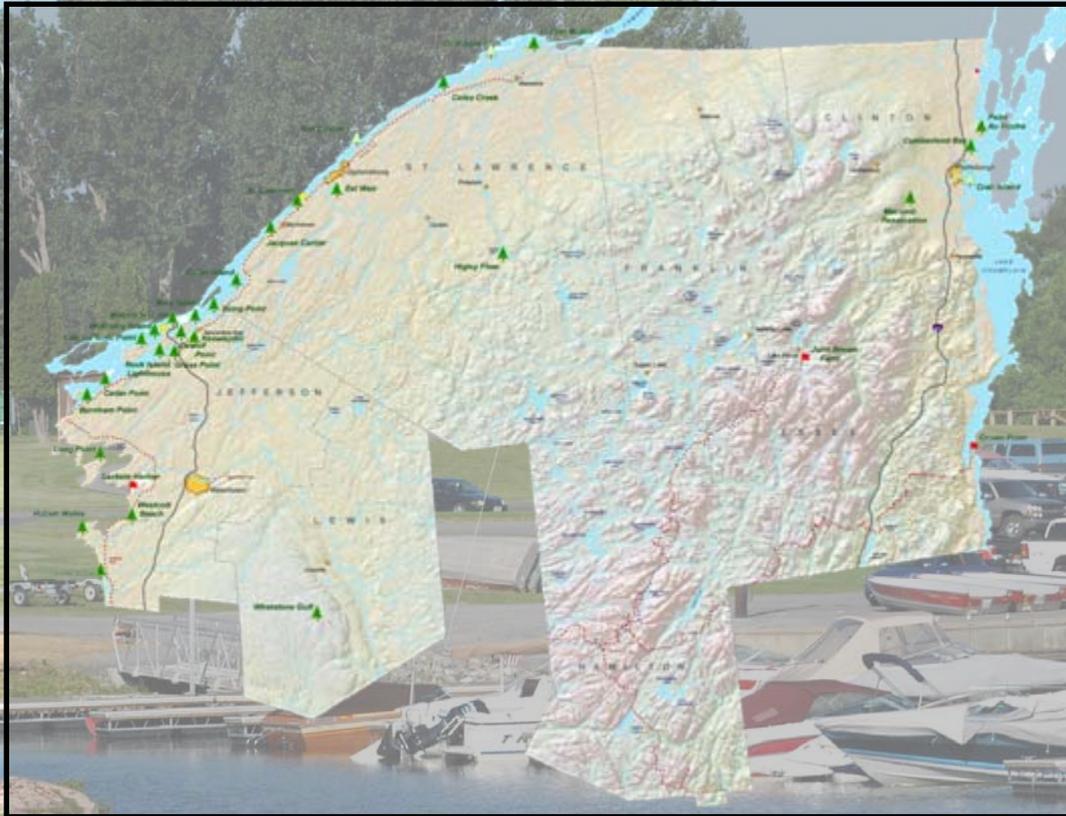


North Country State Parks and Historic Sites



The North Country includes 26 state parks and historic sites, mostly within the Thousand Islands region, with a combined annual attendance of over 1.6 million

Highlights

- Wellesley Island has the largest camping complex in the Thousand Islands Region and hosts 30,000 campers every year
- Sackett Harbor Battlefield was the center of American naval and military activity for the upper St. Lawrence Valley and Lake Ontario during the War of 1812
- Westcott Beach's marina accommodates many anglers interested in Lake Ontario's excellent black bass fishing

North Country State Parks and Historic Sites

North Country Flagship State Parks and Historic Sites Annual Attendance

Thousand Islands Region

(St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Clinton and Lewis counties)

Wellesley Island	199,962
Westcott Beach	125,945
Whetstone Gulf	124,227
Coles Creek	114,295
Sackets Harbor	85,382

Saratoga-Cap District Region

(Essex County)

John Brown Farm	65,952
Crown Point	16,658

**Total attendance at the region's 26 parks
1.62 million**

Economic Impact

An economic impact study* estimates that in 2008-09, 880 jobs were created and \$63 million in local economic activity was generated by State Parks in the North Country (OPRHP Thousand Islands region)*

Quality of Life

The recreational and natural resources created by the area's parks and historic sites benefit this region by:

- Maintaining the state's ecosystem and biodiversity
- Providing opportunities for recreation
- Reducing the negative effects from pollution
- Improving health outcomes
- Preserving areas of historic importance
- Influencing business location decisions by making the community a better place to live

*Source, *The NYS Park System: An Economic Asset to the Empire State*: Political Economy Research Institute, Univ. of Mass, Amherst, March, 2009

*State Parks Thousand Islands region includes St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Clinton and Lewis counties

North Country State Parks and Historic Sites

Regional Capital Needs

The backlog of capital projects in the North Country is estimated to exceed
\$22 million

High Impact Projects Include

<u>Park/Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Wellesley Island Rehabilitate deteriorated campground facilities	\$1,600,000
Whetstone Gulf Renovate day use area	\$500,000
Keewaydin Replace deteriorated marina facilities	\$600,000
Cedar Point Rehabilitate CCC-era recreation building	\$200,000