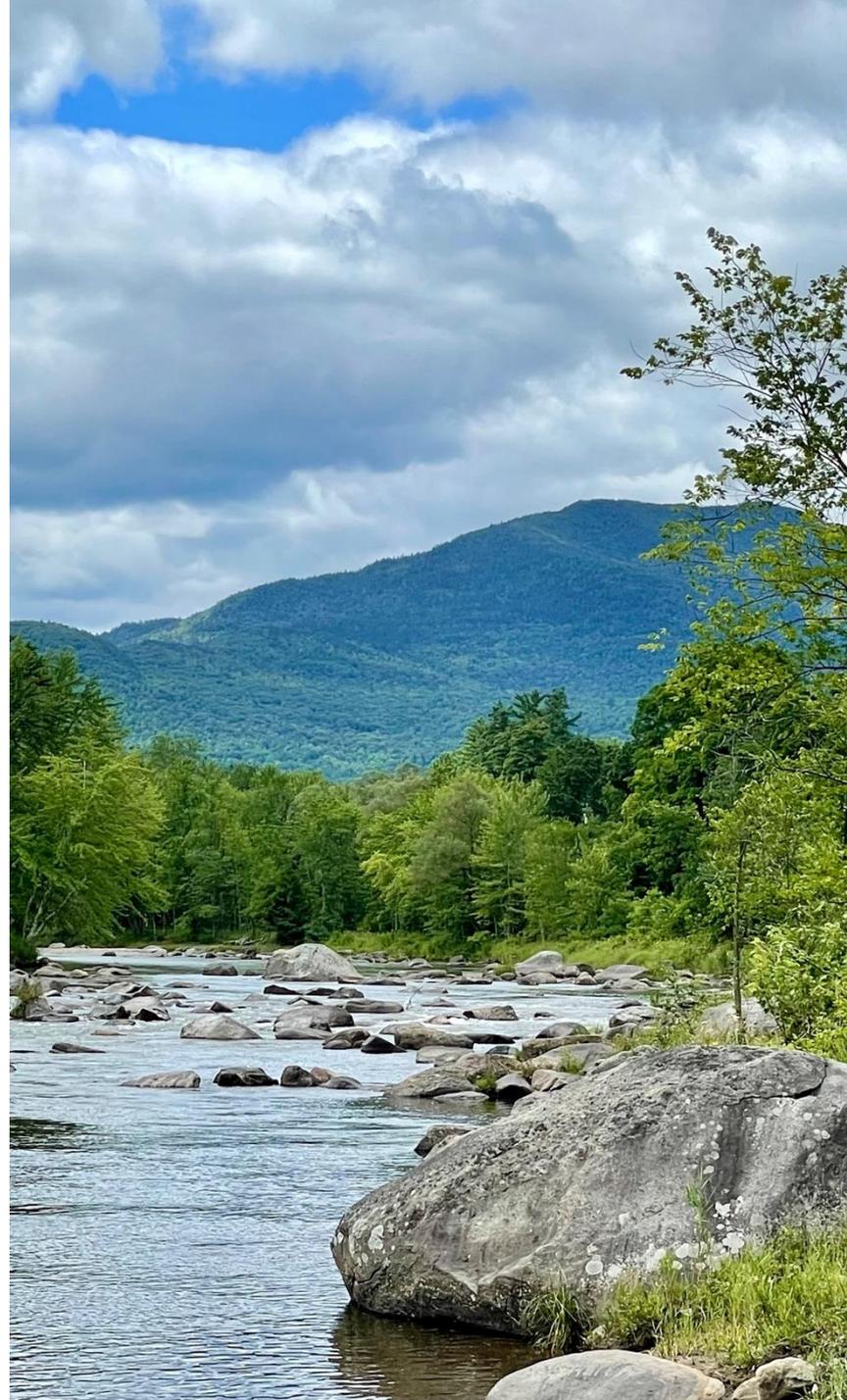
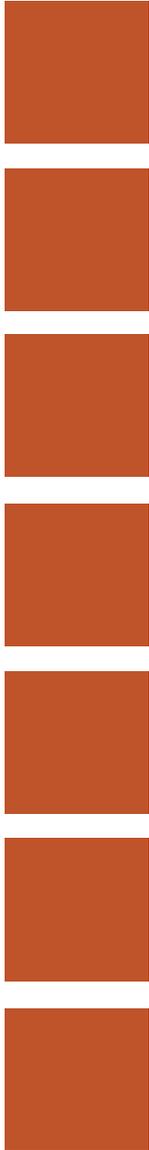


# *Outdoor Recreation Community Event*

Parks & Open Space  
Committee  
January 22, 2026





# Agenda

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1. Who We Are
2. What We Do
3. Parks & Open Space
4. Planning Initiatives
5. Projects
6. How to Volunteer

# 1. Who We Are

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## *Town of Jay*

Paul Benway  
Brook Paries

## *Parks & Open Space Committee*

Olivia Dwyer, Chair  
Sarah Duheme  
Andrew Hamlin  
Larry Hartson

Frank Krueger  
Tim Rowland  
Knut Sauer, Councilman



# 2. What We Do

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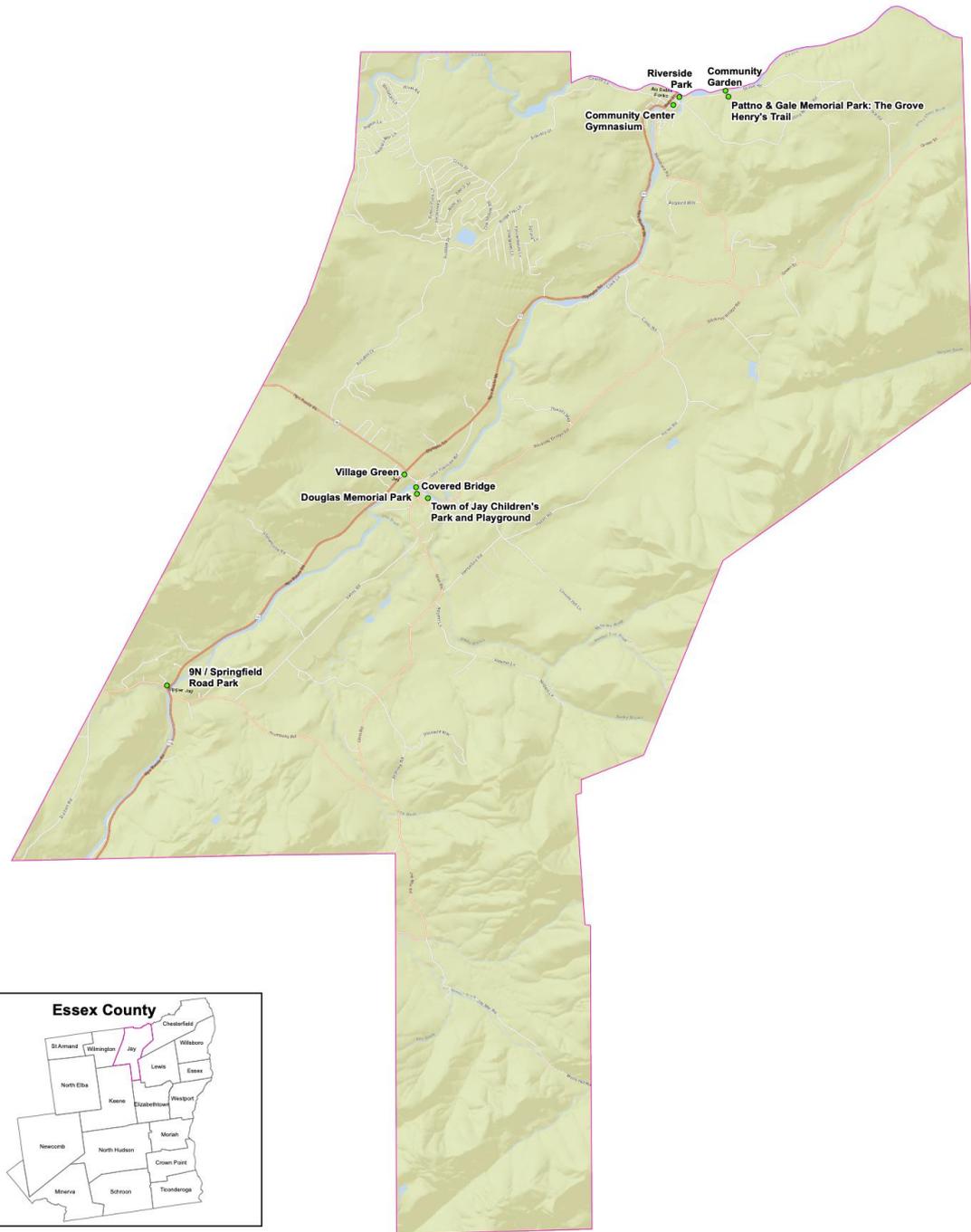
## **Parks & Open Space Committee**

supports town employees and serves the community by working on long-term planning projects and engaging volunteers to support community enjoyment of our town parks, outdoor recreation on public lands, and conservation of nature.

# 3. Parks

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The Town of Jay owns land and facilities that offer recreation, preserve nature, and build community to support our community's health and well-being.



# Town of Jay Parks

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## ***Au Sable Forks***

- Community Center
- The Grove (Community Garden, ball fields, basketball court, Henry's Trail, pavilion)
- Riverside Park
- Veterans Memorial

## ***Jay***

- Village Green
- Douglas Memorial Park
- Covered Bridge
- Children's Playground



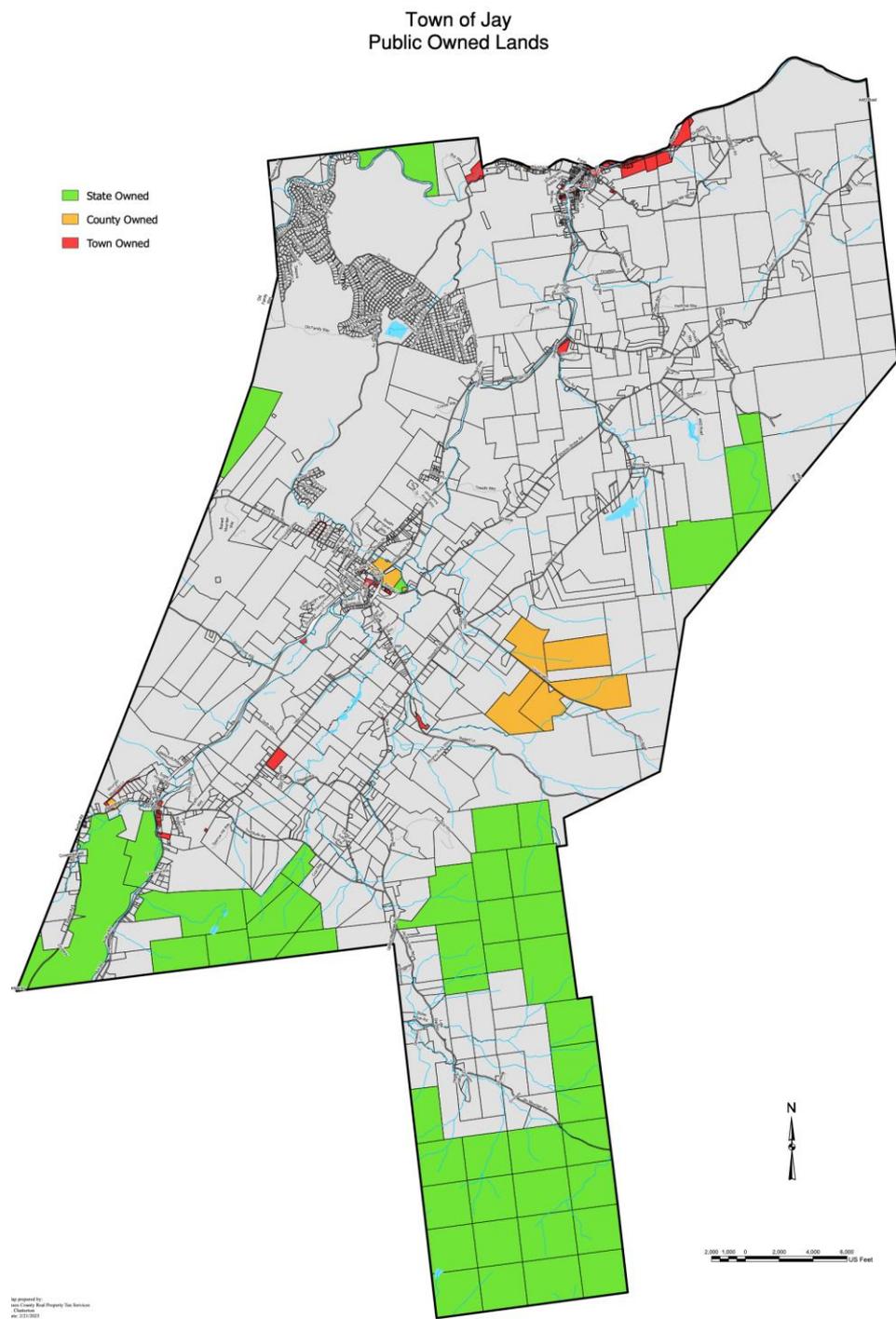
## ***Upper Jay***

- Route 9N & Springfield Road
- Route 9N Parking Lot & EV Chargers

# 3. Open Space

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A term for public or private land that is not developed for residential or commercial use, such as scenic vistas, forests, rivers, parks, and farms. In Jay, open space can also mean land owned by the town, Essex County, and New York State.



# 4. What is a Comprehensive Plan?

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A comprehensive plan is a written document that describes a community's vision for the future and includes recommendations and steps to implement to work toward this vision.



***[www.planjay.com](http://www.planjay.com)***

# Why have a comprehensive plan?

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To plan for population changes and future generations.



To plan for economic growth and schools, parks, roads, water, and sewer needed for the community.



To plan for housing, land use, property values, tax bases, outdoor recreation, and community character.



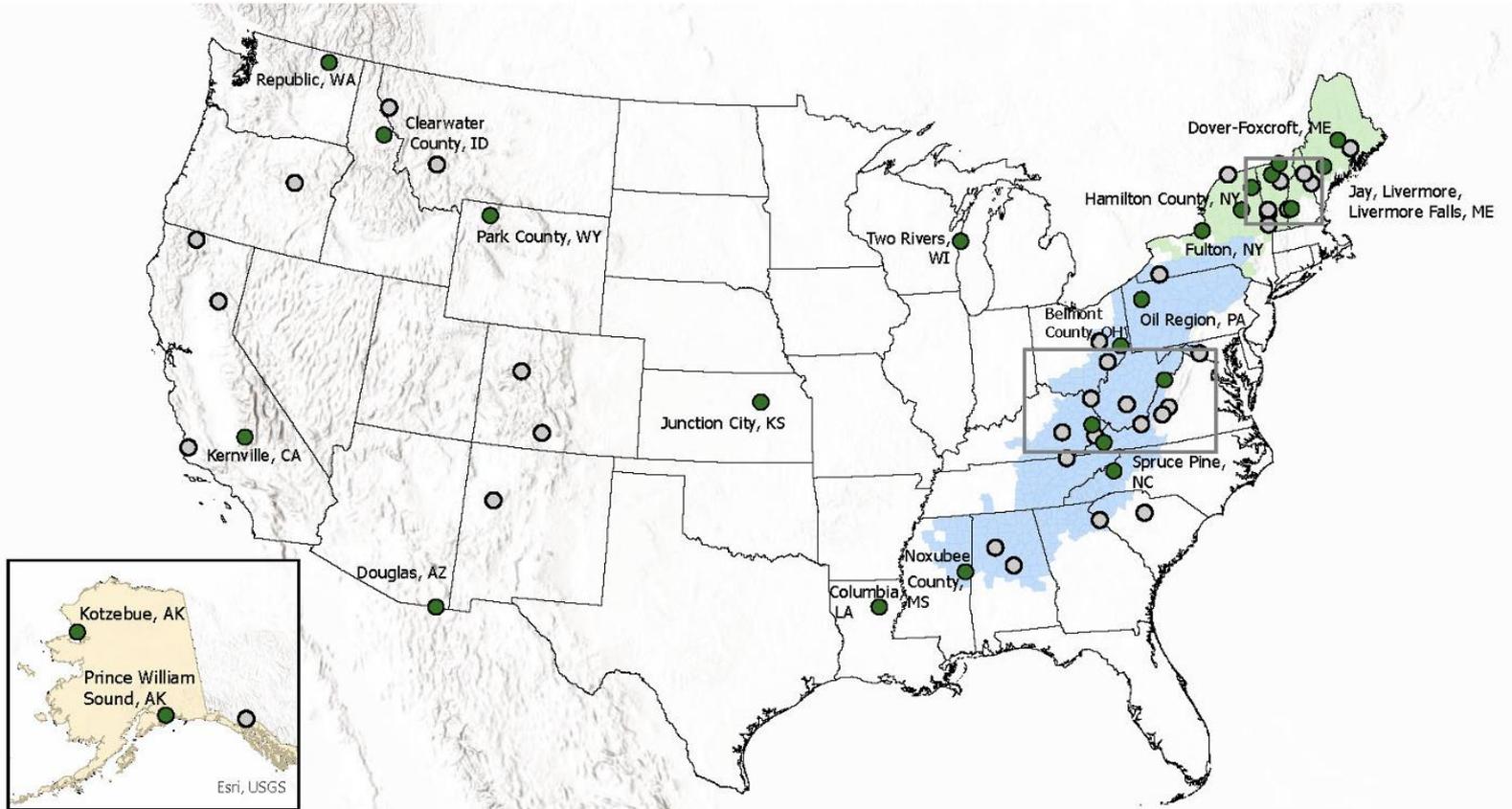
To plan to protect natural resources like rivers, forests, and open spaces.

***[www.planjay.com](http://www.planjay.com)***

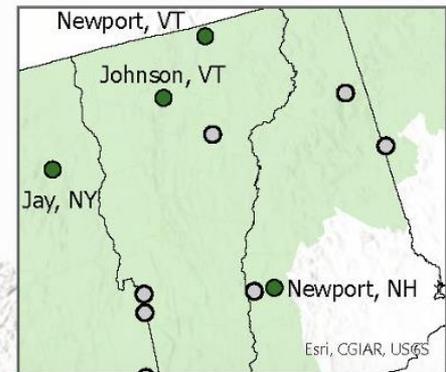
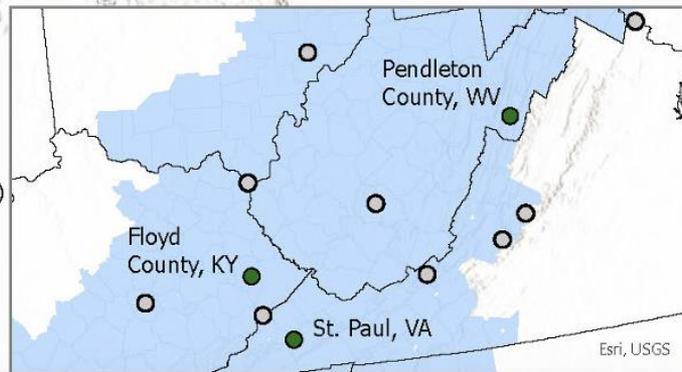
# 4. Recreation Economy for Rural Communities

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**RERC** helps rural communities leverage outdoor recreation to revitalize their main streets, leading to economic growth, improved environmental protection and public health outcomes. Communities are encouraged to pursue activities that foster development and revitalization and support conservation efforts.



- RERC Rounds 1 and 2 Communities
- RERC Round 3 Communities
- Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)
- Northern Border Regional Commission
- Denali Commission



# RERC: Town of Jay

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*The Town of Jay and partners will plan for Main Street revitalization through sustainable growth in their outdoor recreation economy.*

## Community Action Plan

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*The project will plan for the building and management of new trails with town, county, state, and other partners; strategies to implement promotion, branding, and wayfinding to encourage resident and visitor use; and ensuring that outdoor amenities are accessible for a wide range of ages and abilities.*

# RERC: Process

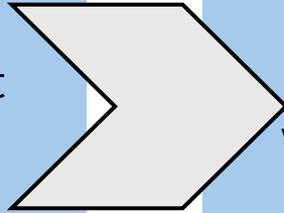
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**Assess**

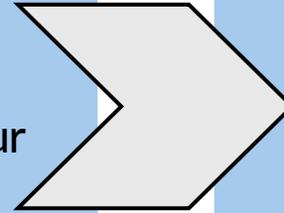
**Convene**

**Implement**

Self-assessment  
Preparation



Community  
workshop & tour



Action plan &  
mobilize

# 5. Projects

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***Four Peaks***



***Dog Park***

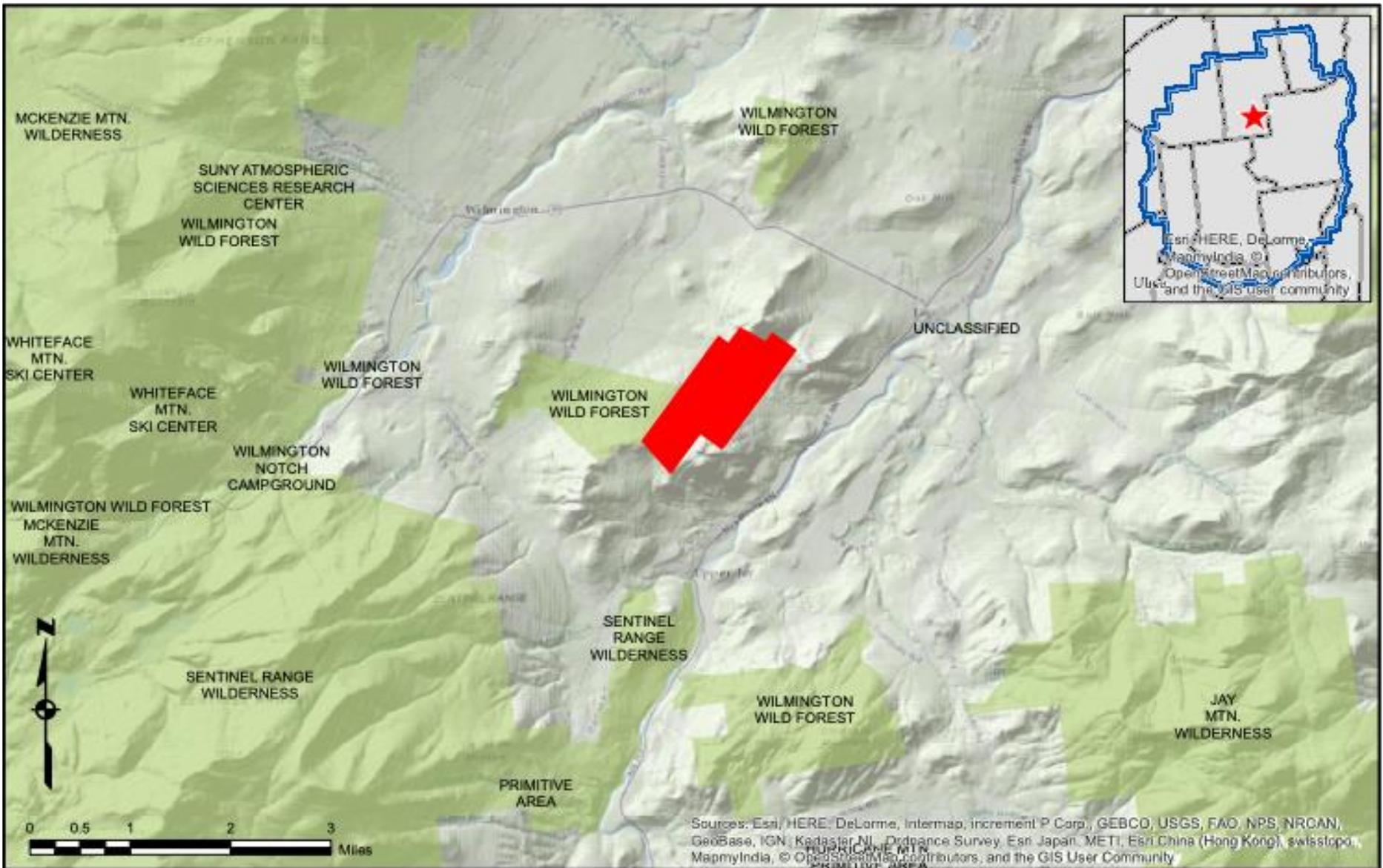
# Project: Four Peaks

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In 2024, a 595-acre parcel between Jay and Upper Jay was added to the Adirondack Forest Preserve. This is now “forever wild” land that will be managed for recreation and conservation. This was the result of a collaborative effort between:

- Private landowners
- Adirondack Land Trust
- Town of Jay
- Barkeater Trails Alliance
- Adirondack Park Agency
- NYS Department of Conservation



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

# Four Peaks, Today

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- Public land open for public access
- No marked or maintained trails
- Drive slow on Stonehouse Road
- No motorized activities allowed on Four Peaks
- Rattlesnake Knob is the only summit with public access—please respect the neighbors!

# Project: Dog Park

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- The ADK Civics Club is partnering with the Town of Jay to plan a dog park.
- The goal is to provide a beautiful, fun, and welcoming outdoor enclosure where we can meet and gather with our neighbors and canines close to downtown Au Sable Forks.



# 6. How to Volunteer

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## *Parks & Trails Volunteer Day*

Saturday, April 25

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

*Au Sable Forks • Jay • Upper Jay  
Free Lunch!*

# Share Your Ideas!

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*In small groups or on your own, tell us what the future of outdoor recreation in Upper Jay, Jay, and Au Sable Forks means to you.*

- 1. What outdoor recreation and open space assets in our community are most important to residents and visitors today?**
- 2. What outdoor recreation improvements or additions would provide the greatest community benefit?**
- 3. How can access to outdoor recreation be expanded while caring for nature and maintaining quality of life for residents?**

*Joining virtually? Email your answers to [o.dwyer@townofjayny.gov](mailto:o.dwyer@townofjayny.gov)*



**Thank you!**