

Fire tower restoration projects get go ahead

Posted: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 2:54 pm

RAY BROOK — The State Department of Environmental Conservation has released the final unit management plans (UMPs) for the Hurricane Mountain Fire Tower Historic Area and the Saint Regis Mountain Fire Tower Historic Area.

“The completion of the management plans allows us to move forward with restoring these historically significant resources and opening the fire towers to the public,” Commissioner Joe Martens said in a press release.

“Throughout the 20th century, fire towers played a critical role in the protection of New York State’s natural resources. Now they attract many people who want to learn about the role of fire towers, the people that worked in them and the natural resources they protected.”

Use of the 35-foot Hurricane Mountain fire tower was discontinued as a fire observation station in 1979, and the 35-foot Saint Regis Mountain fire tower was shut down in 1990. Both structures have been closed to the public ever since.

DEC anticipates beginning work on both fire towers next summer with assistance from two volunteer organizations, Friends of St. Regis Mountain Fire Tower and the Hurricane Mountain Fire Tower Friend’s Group.

The plan is to restore the structures to allow full public access. Interpretive materials related to the towers’ history will be included.

Find the Hurricane Fire Tower UMP at and the Saint Regis Fire Tower UMP at .

<http://tinyurl.com/mc8jun8>

<http://tinyurl.com/lv3w4vx>

See the Fire Tower Study for the Adirondack Park at <http://tinyurl.com/y93vbx5>