

**NY Power Authority  
Blenheim-Gilboa  
Wildlife Management  
Task Force**

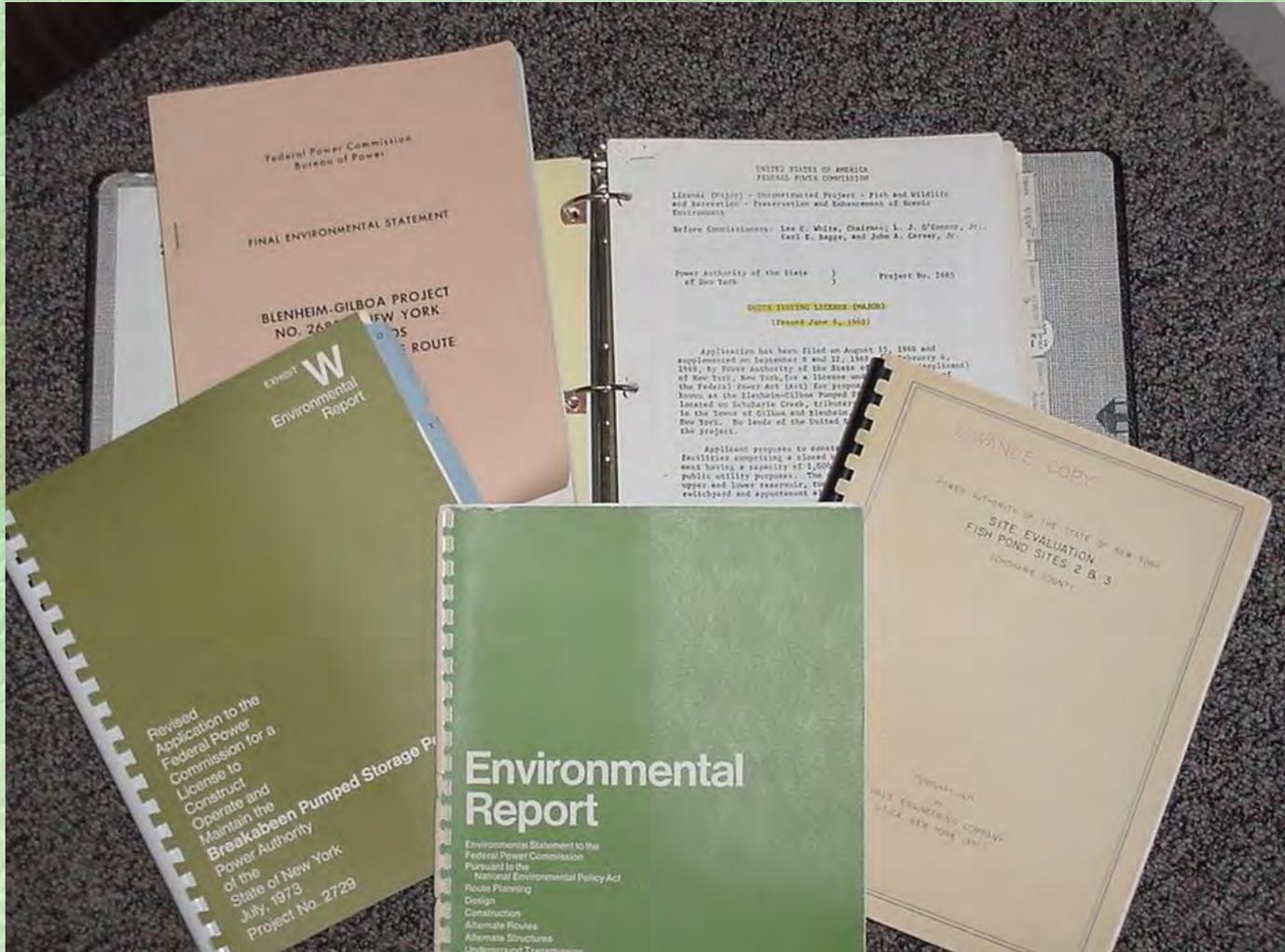
**By Steve Coonradt**

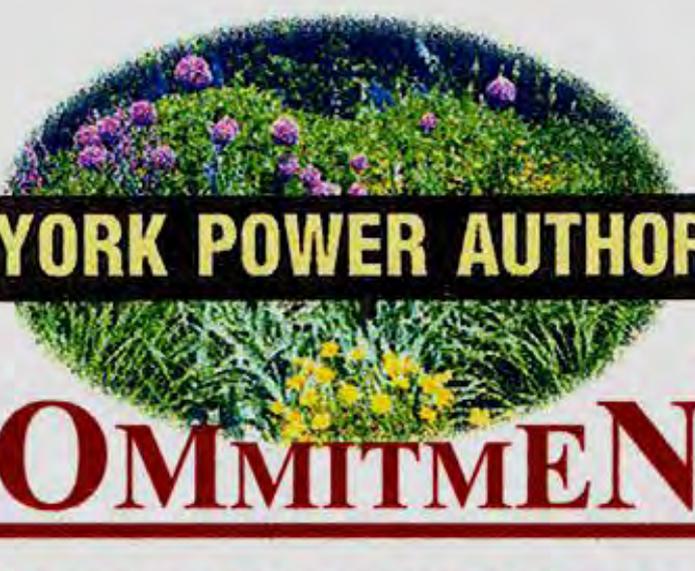
# Blenheim-Gilboa



- 3000 acres total
- 2 water bodies @ 790 acres
- 395 acre Minekill Park
- LMVC complex
- Recreational plan
- Deer management plan
- Fishery management plan
- Bluebird management plan
- Wetland management plan

# BG FERC License Commitments circa 1969





**NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY**

**COMMITMENT**

**TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

In Part... We will “pursue opportunities to achieve environmental **enhancements** through stewardship programs that incorporate stakeholder & and **community input** for the responsible care of the environment”

# Wildlife Management Task Force

## Goals

1. Maintain, Enhance, & Perpetuate Wildlife
2. Increase awareness and interactive opportunities with the Environment

# Wildlife Management Task Force

## Objectives

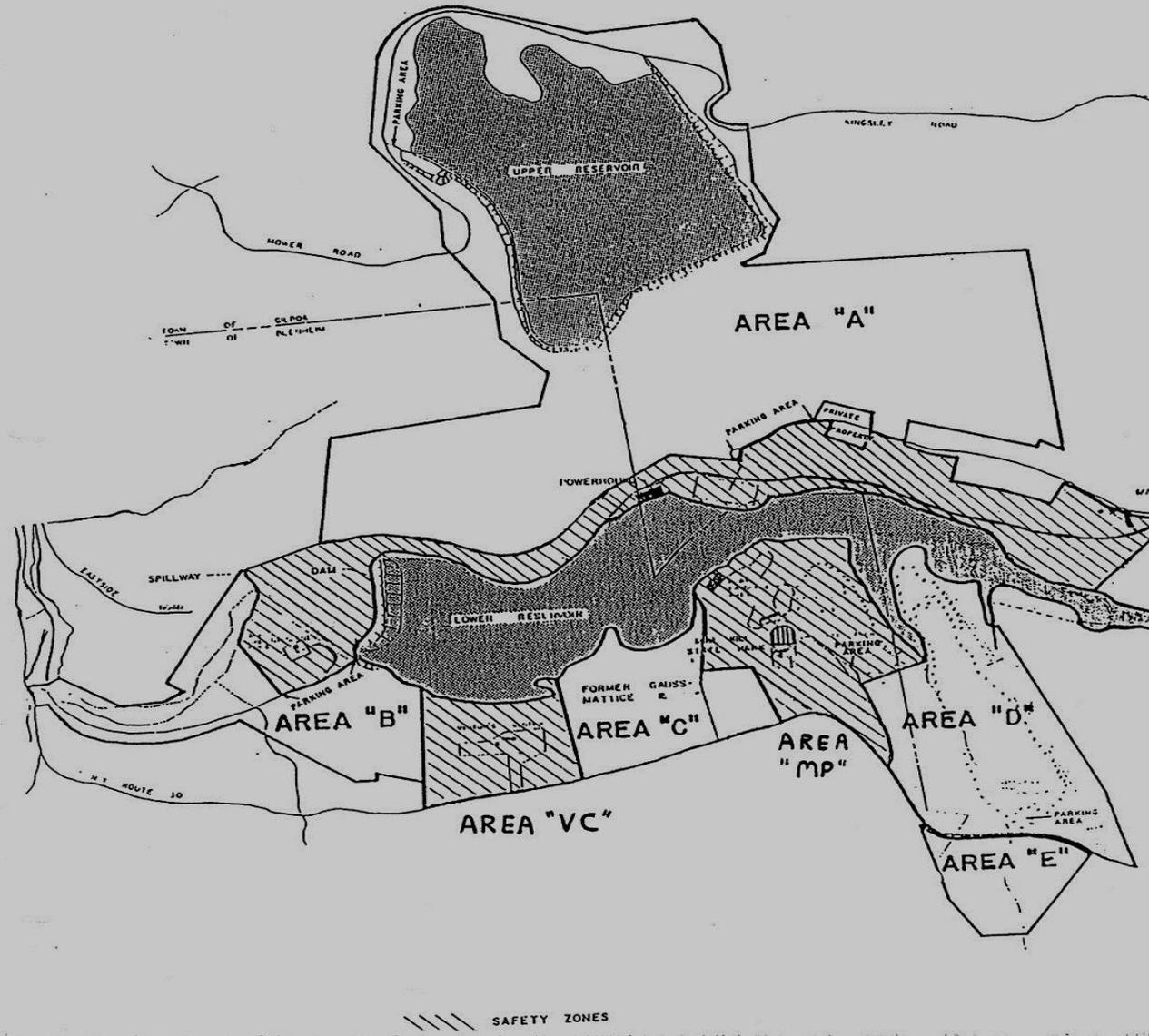
- Identify species to **enhance** and habitat requirements
- Implement activities to **develop** appropriate habitats
- Furnish wildlife **research** opportunities
- Expand **educational** opportunities
- Promote Wildlife **visibility**
- Increase **recreational** opportunities
- Enhance visitor participation & **satisfaction**
- Perpetuate the **cultural heritage** of Schoharie valley

# Wildlife Management Task Force

## Representatives

- New York Power Authority - Central Region
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Department of Corrections - Camp Summit
- SUNY Cobleskill Fish & Wildlife Programs
- NYS Office of Parks and Recreation
- Schoharie County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Schoharie County Conservation Association

# BG WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



## Site Resources

- 3000 acres
- 7 WM areas
- UR & LR areas
- No access areas

# Management Area C

## Defined By:

- Landuse
- Vegetation
- Uniqueness



# WMA Evaluations

- Species by subarea
- Maintenance tasks

## WMA Area C Evaluation & Recommendations

Rev 4/2/98

### C-2 Deer & Bluebirds & Killdeer & Pheasants

- **Desc:** Open mown meadow w/W Cedar plantings w/ gravel bank on South side
- **Recom:** As follows
- **Manage for Deer**
  - Aesthetic evaluation of WC planting by NYPA
  - Maintain cages & W Cedar trimming schedule
  - Keep in low grass: Mowed in Fall of 97:
- **Manage for Bluebirds**
  - Maintain Bluebird houses
  - Keep in low grass
  - Maintain regular mowing schedule, Mowed in Fall of 97:
- **Manage for Killdeer**
  - Rake gravel Killdeer nesting area in Fall. Raked in Fall 97:
  - Mow for short grass around gravel area (10'-12') for young birds.
- **Manage for Pheasants**
  - Dozen pheasants released in Fall 97

### C-3 Wildlife Corridor

- **Desc:** Few large trees and abundant shrubs approx. 50' wide
- **Recom:** As follows
  - Expand width of wildlife corridor to 100'to 150' to the south
  - Marked and expanded width of corridor in Fall 97

### C-4 Deer & Grouse & Songbirds

- **Desc:** Open mown meadow w/W Cedar plantings & ash sapling stand on South side. Contains several thin hedgerows
- **Recom:** As follows
- **Manage for Deer**
  - Aesthetic evaluation of WC planting by NYPA
  - Mow every third year to keep down woody species: Mowed in Fall 97
  - Maintain wire cages and trimming schedule for W Cedars
  - Established Deer Exclosure Area (DEA) to have side by side comparison of deer effects on their habitat
    - Visible from Visitor Center and Pool Complex
    - Locust/cedar poles 10'-12' tall

# BG Fishery Management Program

Requires us to “provide recreational fishery”



# Stock Rainbow & Tiger Trout



1000 Tiger trout in UR & LR

3500 Rainbow trout in UR & LR

186,000 fish since 1977

# Tiger Trout supplied by SUNY Cobleskill



# Stocking held on cold day in May



Fish delivered in excellent condition



Placed immediately in the reservoirs



# Tiger trout markings



# Deer Management Area located throughout LMVC Complex



# Eagle Management Considerations





# Visitor Center & Wetland B



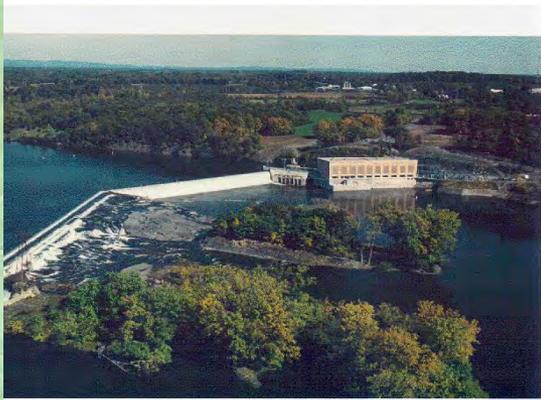
# BG Slide Area & Wetlands

- 3 new wetlands equaling 6.2 acres
- Wetland plantings (trees, shrubs, grasses)
- 5 year plus monitoring plan for survival
- LMVC site contains Wetland Education Trail
- Education development thru WMTF
- Develop management strategy

# Expanding Opportunities at Blenheim-Gilboa Project

- Fisheries
- WT Deer
- Bluebirds
- Eagles
- Wetlands



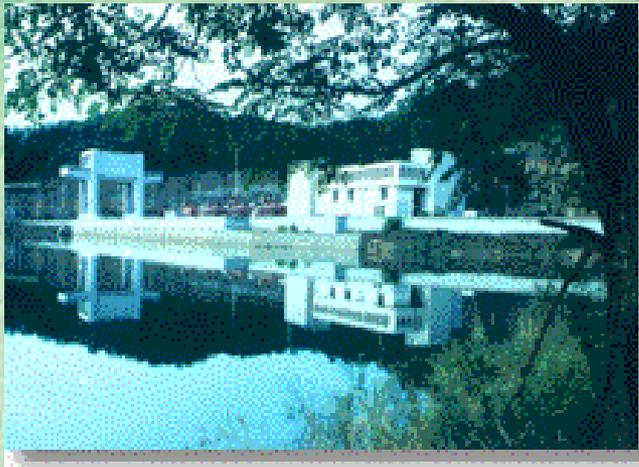


Vischer Ferry

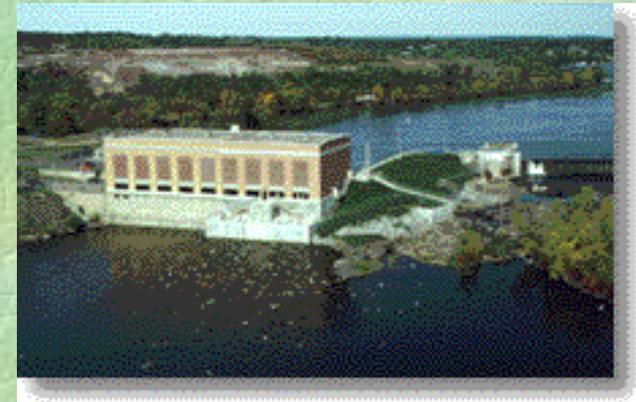


Ashokan

# New York Power Authority Central Region



Blenheim-Gilboa



Crescent

Thank You for Your Interest



**New York Power  
Authority**

**Central Region**