

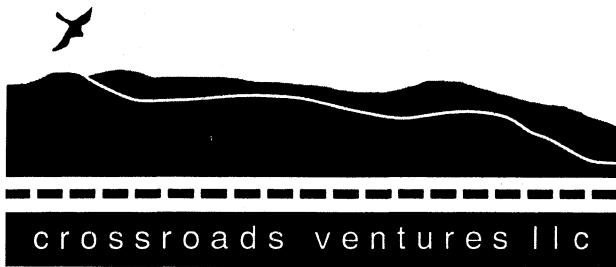
c r o s s r o a d s v e n t u r e s l l c

DRAFT
Environmental Impact Statement

Appendix 4

Wilderness Activity Center Program

The Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park



The Wilderness Activities Center

What: A four-season facility offering programs in outdoor education. The programs offered at WAC would be programs aimed at addressing the needs and interests of all age groups. Corporate retreats and challenge courses will also be offered at WAC. Appealing the 13-19 age group will create the added benefit of enhancing the Resort image as "the place to be" for teenagers, and thus for their parents as well.

Why: The WAC is ideally situated for the development of outdoor recreation based programs. The area features land suitable for a variety of exciting outdoor recreation activities. Some of these activities might include; mountain biking, hiking and trail running, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, nature trails, rock climbing, ice climbing, out-of-bounds ski adventures, ice skating, sledding and environmental workshops.

How: By creating an indoor facility, which acts to support outdoor activities, the WAC will be a full service year 'round outdoor recreation facility.

Who: The WAC staff will consist of employees trained in the above disciplines. In addition, the staff will work with outside agencies and professionals to develop programs and workshops at the facility, which will focus specifically on recreation, environmental and conservation concerns.

What: The Wilderness Activities Center will offer adventure-based programs for guest of all ages.

The WAC will offer:

- ***Expedition style learning in the Catskill high peaks region. An expedition theme will be created for each learning experience. Guests will be assisted and involved in all areas of planning. Each expedition will take place on WAC property and throughout the Catskill region.***
- ***Curriculums will include, but will not be limited to: “technical and leadership skills” – weather forecasting, low impact camping, route finding, gear selection, menu planning, first aid, group cohesion, group dynamics, communication and leadership development.***
- ***An orientation will be presented at the beginning of each expedition. At the conclusion of each expedition, a summit meeting will summarize the problems and concerns encountered on each expedition, and the determined solutions for each expedition. Each member will present his/her summary of the expedition experience.***
- ***In addition to expedition style learning opportunities in the WAC will also offer ropes/terrain challenge courses for groups, both corporate and private. The challenge courses will be designed to foster group cohesion through increasingly challenging problem-solving activities.***
- ***On going skills building workshops will be offered to all guest and employees.***
- ***Environmental and conservation training will be incorporated into each of the workshops at the WAC.***

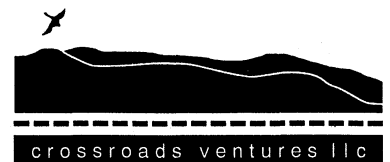
For additional information on expedition style and experiential style learning, see:

Outward Bound see: www.outwardbound.org

Shackelton School see: www.shackeltonschool.org

NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) see: www.NOLS.org

****Refer to the Crossroads Ventures research information on these schools.***

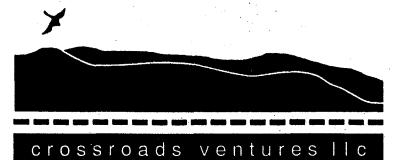


Why: *The WAC is ideally situated for the development of outdoor recreation based programs.*

- *A series of trails will be installed to accommodate foot traffic.*
- *Terraced terrain will enhance the use of the footpath for additional use as a ski trail and mountain bike trail. This trail may also provide access to other outdoor recreational opportunities.*
- *A skating rink could be constructed adjacent to the main building.*
- *An outdoor ice climbing arena will be constructed into the outside structure of the WAC.*
- *A warming hut at the summit will be placed near the top of the ski lift on WAC property. The hut could be used as facilitation space for various small group workshops and meetings. Proposed size of the warming hut is approximately 15'x25'. The hut would be self sufficient as possible; using a composting toilet, re-cycled rain water, and solar photovoltaics.*

For information on trail construction see: *Peter Jensen of Open Space Management Phone: 413-528-4007. Peter specializes in difficult contour terrain. For an example of his work see: The Stairmaster trail at Mohonk Preserve in Gardiner, NY. You may view this on the Mohonk Preserve web site @ www.mohonkpreserve.org.*

For information on "green construction" see: *The Mohonk Preserve information and the web site @ www.mohonkpreserve.org.*



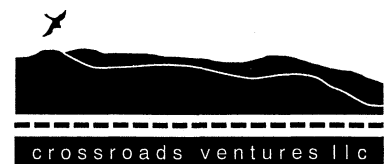
How: In addition to the warming hut at summit, the main building will receive an addition to the west side of the building. The new addition will house a 40-foot high indoor climbing wall. The exterior of the new addition will feature a 40-foot high ice climbing structure. A deck will surround the lower exterior of the building. The new deck will be an extension to the already existing deck.

The inside of the building will be renovated to accommodate: a cafe complete with lounge and library (featuring outdoor adventure based resources), locker rooms, weight training room, waxing room, Jacuzzi, sauna, steam room and observation decks which will allow views to the rock climbing wall.

An outdoor retail/rental shop space will be installed inside the existing old ski shop(chalet) building. The shop will feature gear needed for the various outdoor workshops and experiential learning experiences.

For additional information regarding indoor climbing structures, see: www.metolious.com and www.entriprises.com

For outdoor ice climbing structures see: www.rockandice.org and www.entriprises.com



Who: WAC staff will be local or contracted staff trained in the disciplines listed below. The WAC staff will be trained in advanced first aid, selected members, and those who lead expeditions will fulfill the requirements for Wilderness First Responder or Emergency Medical Technician. The number of staff personnel will vary from season to season (depending upon demand), but will generally number between 5-10 staff members, these positions will include full time and part time positions. The position of: Director of Programs, and Assistant to the Director will be full time, permanent positions.

Each WAC staff member will be proficient and experienced in the following disciplines:

- ***Mountain Biking***
- ***Hiking***
- ***Snowshoeing***
- ***Cross Country Skiing***
- ***Rock Climbing***
- ***Ice Climbing***
- ***Ice Skating***
- ***Backcountry Skiing or Snowboarding***
- ***Management of ropes/challenge courses***

Each staff member will receive education in environmentalism and conservation. Each staff member will work with environmental groups to provide guests with related workshops, slide shows, films and lectures.

For more information see: NY/NJ Trail Conference, ADK, Sierra Club, Mohonk Preserve, Outward Bound, SOLO Medical Training, Wilderness Medical Associates, American Mountain Guides Association, UIAA-European Guides Association, The Outdoor Network.

