Granite Mountain Preserve
Putnam Valley Community Forum
September 29th 2019
Welcome

- Overview of Hudson Highlands Land Trust
- Overview of Granite Mountain Preserve
- Management Plan overview
- Updates on the Land
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Next Steps
Hudson Highlands Land Trust

- Community-based land trust
- Mission to protect “natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands”
- Land conservation through:
  - Conservation agreements
  - Outright land acquisition
  - Partnering with municipalities on land use planning
  - Community/landowner education
- Conserved 3,000+ acres
- Granite Mountain is our first preserve
- Conservation “Mission Area” (see map)
Granite Mountain Preserve

- Public Preserve located between Oscawana Lake, Church, Tinker Hill & Peekskill Hollow Roads
- Close to many PV residents, Municipal Center, Schools
- 900+ foot peaks, wetlands, streams, diverse forest, 5 mile trail network
- Owned and managed by Hudson Highlands Land Trust
Preservation of Granite Mountain met many Community Goals
Why Granite Mountain? Community Priority

2007 Putnam Valley Comprehensive Plan:

- Identified Granite Mountain as of “significant interest” for permanent protection.
- Noted lack of trails and open space near southern population centers.
Why Granite Mountain? Conservation Priority

- Drinking water
- Biodiversity
- Scenic beauty
- Was at risk
Natural Resource Protection
Why Granite Mountain?
Conservation Priority

• Drinking water
• Biodiversity
• Scenic beauty
• Was at risk
Volunteers
Granite Mountain Preserve: Updates

- Management plan completed in 2017
- “Living” document
- Topics of Interest to the Community
  - Ongoing protection of natural resources, esp. water
  - Recreation (Hiking, Biking, Horses, Dogs)
  - Signage and trail markers
  - Hunting and Fishing
  - Motorized vehicles
  - Volunteering
Granite Mountain Preserve: Updates

- Access and Trails
  - Parking
  - Trail Improvements
  - Maps
- Community partners
  - Granite Mountain volunteers
Granite Mountain Preserve: Next Steps

- Volunteering
- Hikes and Events
- Community Involvement
  - Schools
  - Summer camps
  - Clubs
Thank you to Volunteers!

- Granite Mountain Preserve Advisory Committee
- Community Volunteer Days
- YMCA Camp Combe
- Putnam Valley Middle School
- Joshua Uchetel of Troop 41
- Hike leaders
- Invasive species removal volunteers
- Deer population study volunteers
- ...and more!
Thank you!