

A. INTRODUCTION

This Section describes the project alternatives. These alternatives are evaluated using a screening process that assesses potential benefits (project objectives) against potential environmental consequences and identifies those alternatives that were determined to meet project goals and objectives which are analyzed in this EIS.

B. PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

The DEIS considered three alternatives and evaluated their effects upon the quality of the human environment and on the objectives and needs of the Cayuga Indian nation. These alternatives include:

- The Proposed Action – the Preferred Alternative
- No Action
- Enterprise Properties into Trust

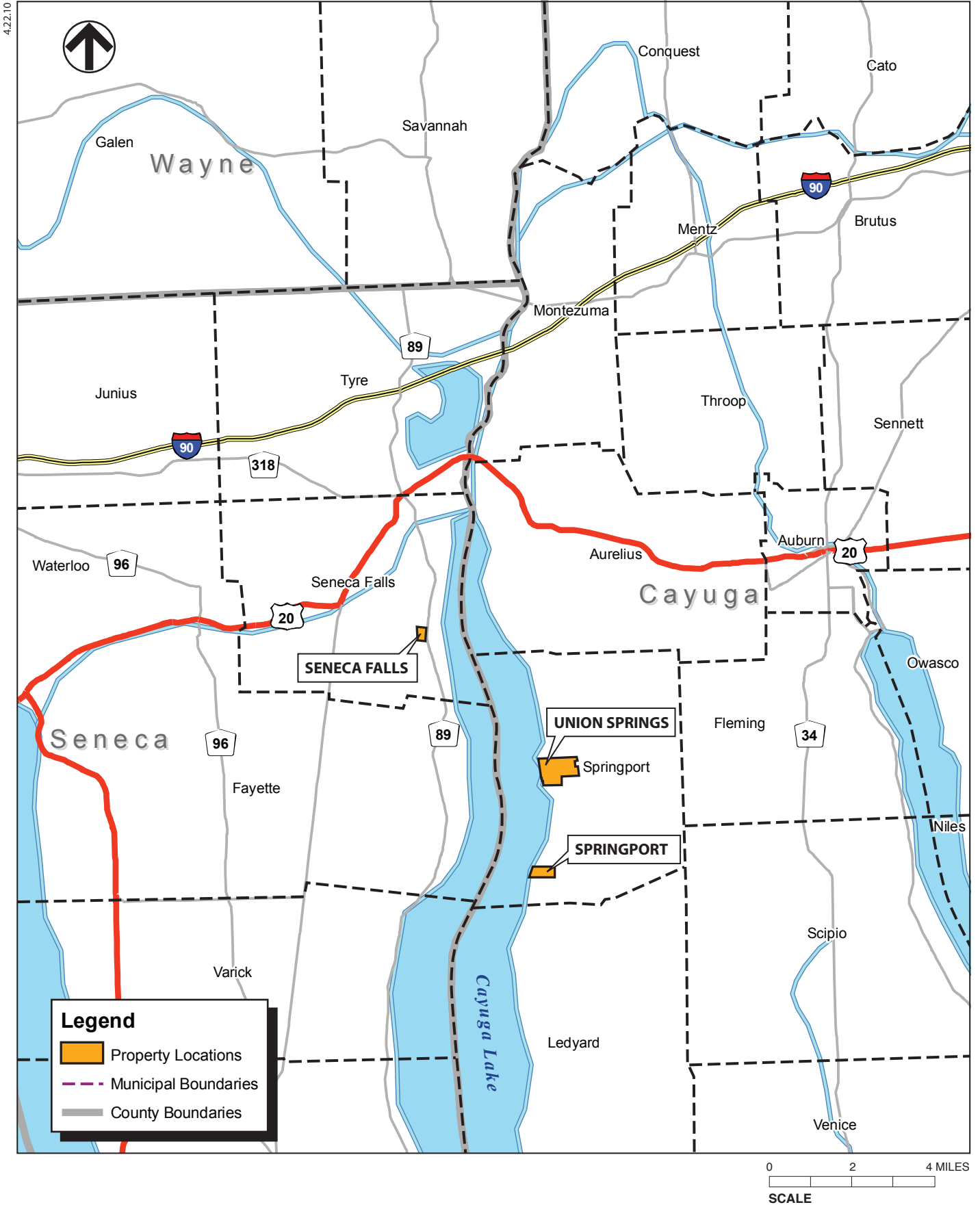
The analysis of these alternatives is included in this FEIS and discussed below.

ALTERNATIVE 1: THE PROPOSED ACTION – THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Under this alternative, six of the seven parcels of land included in the Nation's Land Trust Application would be taken and held in trust by the United States. These parcels are located in the Village of Union Springs and the Town of Springport, in Cayuga County, and in the Town of Seneca Falls, in Seneca County, New York. The initial application and the Proposed Action as analyzed in the DEIS included a small parcel of land in the Town of Montezuma, Cayuga County. This parcel has been withdrawn from the application and is therefore no longer evaluated in this FEIS. The subject properties are shown in Table 2-1 and Figure 2-1.

Under the Proposed Action, the Nation plans to reopen its two Class II gaming facilities located in Union Springs and Seneca Falls, known respectively as LakeSide Entertainment 1 and LakeSide Entertainment 2. The locations of these two sites are shown on Figure 2-2. These two facilities include a total of approximately 119 Class II gaming machines, were in full operation at the time of the fee-to-trust application, and were in operation from the spring of 2004 through September and October of 2005, at which time the Nation temporarily suspended the gaming operations. The DEIS and this FEIS conclude that the same level of business operations and local service needs would be anticipated in the future were these parcels taken into trust and these gaming facilities reopened.

The Nation has no plans for further development of the properties on which the Nation's Enterprises are located. The Nation plans to continue the agricultural use (field crops) of the 82 tillable acres of the 108 acre vacant parcel in Union Springs.



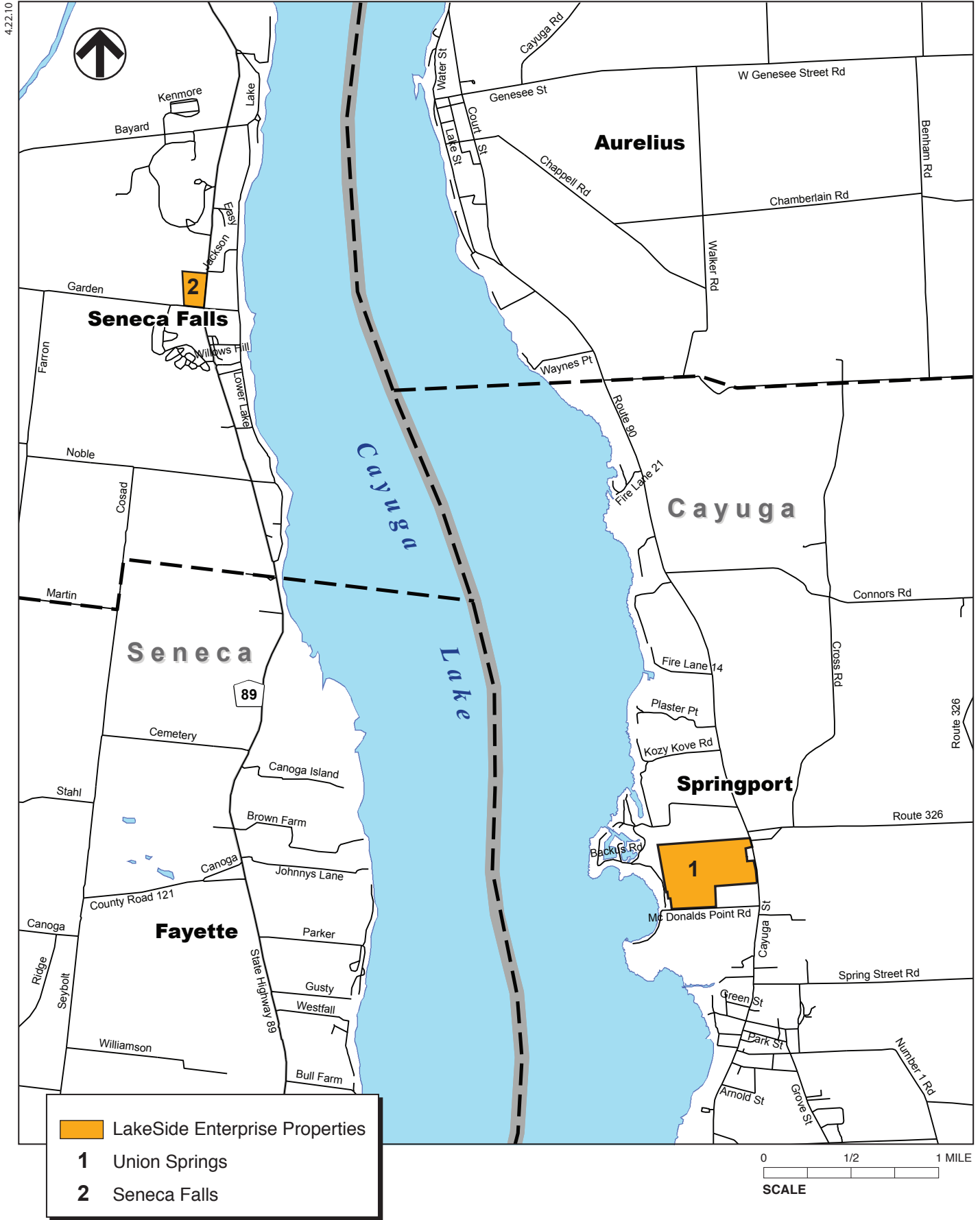


Figure 2-2
LakeSide Enterprise Properties

Cayuga Indian Nation Trust Application FEIS

As trust land, the Nation’s property would not be subject to State or local taxation (including County property tax levies), it would be restricted against alienation, and the Nation would assert tribal sovereignty over the subject properties (civil and criminal jurisdiction is dependent on 18 U.S.C. 232, 233; and Federal laws will still apply).

This is the Proposed Action as reflected in the fee-to-trust application made by the Nation to the BIA.

**Table 2-1
Proposed Action – Parcels into Trust per Land Trust Application**

County/ Municipality	Parcel Address	Parcel Deed Reference	Tax Lot Designations of Parcel	Approx. Acreage¹	Use
Seneca County					
Town of Seneca Falls	3149 Garden Street Extension/Rt. 89	Book 702 at page 66	36-1-48.1 36-1-48.2	13.29	Former campground and boat repair shop; Nation’s office use
	2552 Route 89	Book 674 at page 63	36-1-49	0.69	Gas station, convenience store, and gaming facility
Cayuga County					
Village of Union Springs	North Cayuga Street	Book 1208 at page 236	134.17-1-1.51	108.0	Vacant lot/ agriculture
	299 and 303 Cayuga Street	Book 1129 at page 222	134.17-1-1.21 134.17-1-1.121	1.98	Gas station, car wash, convenience store
	271 Cayuga Street	Book 1129 at page 225	141.05-1-3	1.48	Gaming facility
Town of Springport	Route 90	Book 1215 at page 291	150.00-1-29.1	3.70	Vacant lot
<p>Notes: ¹The notice of intent published in the Federal Register on February 13, 2006 (71 FR 7568) cited the conveyance into federal trust of seven parcels comprising 125± acres of land. The records of the affected municipalities as shown in this table report the actual acreage of the seven parcels included in the Nation’s Land Trust Application (excluding the withdrawn Montezuma parcel) as 129.14 acres..</p> <p>Sources: Tax Assessors’ records and real property tax bills/Tax Collector’s offices, Towns of Seneca Falls and Springport (including Village of Union Springs).</p>					

ALTERNATIVE 2: NO ACTION

Under this alternative, the BIA would take no action, and the Nation’s properties included in Table 2-1, above, would not be taken into trust by the United States.

Under this alternative, the Nation’s properties would not be placed into trust, and the Nation would continue to own the properties in fee. The Nation would continue use of its properties for

the multiple purposes in operation at the time of the fee-to-trust application (e.g., gas stations and convenience stores, and a car wash). Under this alternative, the BIA would assume that the Nation would continue to pay property taxes; however, the Nation would have to determine whether or not it would do so. The Nation would also have to determine whether or not it would re-open its gaming facilities, in which case, no changes from the environmental baseline would occur.

ALTERNATIVE 3: ENTERPRISE PROPERTIES INTO TRUST

Under this alternative, the five parcels of land in Seneca Falls and Union Springs that are largely contiguous would be taken and held into by the United States. Under this alternative, the Nation’s LakeSide Trading commercial enterprises would continue to operate, and the Nation’s LakeSide Entertainment Class II gaming facilities would resume full operation.

Under this alternative, the Nation’s non-enterprise parcel in the Town of Springport, in Cayuga County, would not be taken into Federal trust.

The analysis of Alternative 3 documented the potential environmental impacts of placing the parcels listed in Table 2-2 into trust. On the remaining vacant non-enterprise parcels, the Nation would continue existing uses.

Table 2-2
Alternative 3 – Enterprise Properties into Trust

County/ Municipality	Parcel Address	Parcel Deed Reference	Tax Lot Designations of Parcel	Approx. Acreage	Use
Enterprise Properties in Seneca County					
Town of Seneca Falls	3149 Garden Street Extension/Rt. 89	Book 702 at page 66	36-1-48.1 36-1-48.2	13.29	Former campground and boat repair shop; Nation’s office use
	2552 Route 89	Book 674 at page 63	36-1-49	0.69	Gas station, convenience store, and gaming facility
Enterprise Properties in Cayuga County					
Village of Union Springs	North Cayuga Street	Book 1208 at page 236	134.17-1-1.51	108.0	Vacant lot/ agriculture
	299 and 303 Cayuga Street	Book 1129 at page 222	134.17-1-1.21 134.17-1-1.121	1.98	Gas station, car wash, convenience store
	271 Cayuga Street	Book 1129 at page 225	141.05-1-3	1.48	Gaming facility
Sources and Notes: Same as in Table 2-1, above.					