

The Beginning of the End of Silver Glen Springs?

Yesterday (Tue 10/19/2010) at the Glen, I witnessed a Wildlife Officer recording registration number and taking photos of boats that have no one on board and have been left at the Glen. When the officer got close enough, I ask him why he was performing this function. I was told that the Forestry service was trying to contact the owners of the vessels to get them to move their boats further downstream so they could relocate the outside buoy line. From what I understand, somewhere around the 15th of November to mid March, they are going to move the line from its current location (from the stairs on the east bank to the west bank) 90 degrees (from the stairs on the east bank to the south bank) effectively restricting a large portion of the Glen from boating. The reason for this action (according to the Wildlife Officer) was to make a larger part of the spring available to possible Manatee habitation. In my opinion, this is just the first step to restricting all boating activity on Silver Glen Spring Run. Should Manatees somehow find the Glen habitable, the restriction for boats would be expanded to include the entire run.

I have been visiting Silver Glen Springs almost every Tuesday for the last 15 years and I have witnessed only a handful of Manatees. Most of the time, they were viewed exiting the run back into Lake George.