



WHY ADIRONDACK WILD?

In 2017 the six-million acre Adirondack Park remains the most intact, largest and wildest ecosystem in the Northeast. New York's Adirondack and Catskill Parks contain the world's only constitutionally protected, "forever wild" public landscape.

Yet, the very State agencies responsible for protecting this great ecosystem are, too often, betraying their legal responsibilities. They issue damaging development permits and illegal management plans. Exploiting our public wilderness for short-term gain may be the new order of the day in our Nation's Capital, but it should never be acceptable in New York State.

For example, when Governor Andrew Cuomo got behind a mining company desirous of digging an open pit mine in the Adirondack Wilderness because it "would create jobs," some environmental lobbyists got behind the deal to curry the Governor's favor. Adirondack Wild got busy protecting wilderness. We conducted field investigations, found stands of old trees and valuable wildlife habitats at risk from the drilling, spoke out forcefully against the State's support of the mining plan, and challenged the State's shoddy impact statement in court.

There is only one nonprofit, citizen organization in New York that acts quickly to protect wild lands from threats, documents state mismanagement, holds officials accountable and proposes comprehensive policy reforms: **Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve.**

When you can't be in the room, Adirondack Wild speaks for you and all those who believe in a moral obligation to steward the Adirondack Park for future generations. If you care about wilderness, if you care about values that cannot be readily assigned a dollar value, your choice is clear. Since 1945 a small group of committed individuals have dedicated their lives to the wildness of the Adirondack Park. Adirondack Wild continues this legacy, weaving advocacy and education with science, practicing vigilance, offering solutions, organizing, and holding our officials accountable. In short, Adirondack Wild:

- **Doesn't compromise our principles for short-term, political expediency;**
- **Integrates science and a conservation biologist in our program;**
- **Partners well, including with Earthjustice to defend wilderness in court;**
- **Educates students to become next generation leaders for the Park;**
- **Operates in a lean, highly cost-effective way.**

Do we want more of this?

Our Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) says we should build more steel bridges across scenic rivers. DEC and APA allowed this steel bridge across the scenic Hudson River for temporary logging operations. Logging ended and now the Hudson's shores are part of the Forever Wild Forest Preserve. DEC wants to keep this bridge for motorized uses – without changing the law which prohibits motorized bridges in Scenic River corridor in order to preserve natural resources, scenic beauty and opportunities for solitude along our magnificent Adirondack rivers.



Or do we want more of this?

Here is the scenic Boreas River at the approximate location where our DEC wants to issue itself a permit to build another large snowmobile bridge for motorized access between Newcomb and Minerva. Adirondack Wild is working to preserve this and other river corridors.

