



# MORE PUBLIC FORESTS + MORE HIKERS + MORE RESCUE SEARCHES = MORE FOREST RANGERS, RIGHT? WRONG!



Today's DEC Forest Rangers are tasked with 33% more searches and rescues than in 2007, and in patrolling 5 million acres of state lands and conservation easements statewide. That's roughly 2 million more acres than in 1970. Yet, their total number, 106 field rangers, is 'stuck' at 1970 levels.

In the High Peaks alone, ten fewer Rangers patrol here compared with 1970 and are now being pulled out of the Peaks to go issue parking tickets. Retirements are exceeding new recruits. With less than half the public lands that we have in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, Yellowstone National Park employs three times the number of rangers than we do.

While Governor Andrew Cuomo says he wants better stewardship of our public lands, he takes the Forest Rangers for granted. His budget does not include adding a single new Forest Ranger job. But it invests \$14 million of taxpayer money in one new ski lodge at Whiteface Mountain. Please write the Governor today and ask him to take a fraction of the ski lodge money and devote it to hiring 20 new DEC Forest Ranger jobs.

**Call and write the Governor and your State Legislators.  
Ask them to add 20 new Forest Rangers to the General Fund budget because it's urgent.**

**Public safety – yours and mine in our woods and on our waters – depends on it!**

Governor Cuomo: [www.governor.ny.gov](http://www.governor.ny.gov) or 518-474-8390 and your State Senator: [www.nysenate.gov](http://www.nysenate.gov)

## WE CAN'T DO THIS WORK WITHOUT YOU!

For answers, and to find out more about conservation design, visit our website [www.adirondackwild.org](http://www.adirondackwild.org), and download a FREE copy of our guidebook, *Pathways to a Connected Adirondack Park: Practical Steps to Better Land Use Decisions*.

While you're there, we also invite you to become a member, make a donation, or sign up for our award-winning eNewsletter, *Dialogue for the Wild*.



## WE'RE ON THE WILD'S SIDE...

**SAFEGUARDING THE WILD | EXTENDING THE WILD | EDUCATING FOR THE WILD**

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