



September 9, 2015

Aaron Zieman, Project Review Specialist and Forester
New York State Adirondack Park Agency (APA)
P. O. Box 99
Ray Brook, New York 12977

RE: Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve Comments on the Application of Molpus Woodlands Group for a 470-acre Clear-Cutting Application - APA Project 2015-124

Dear Aaron,

On behalf of Adirondack Wild, I recommend that the Agency staff and Members of the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) bring the above project to public hearing.

The size of the over-story removal proposed will impact a very large area close to 500 acres and may have direct and indirect ecological impacts to adjacent Forest Preserve lands, as well. A public hearing would enable stakeholders and adjacent property owners to assess and understand the short and long-term implications of the proposed regulatory clearcut.

Adirondack Wild recognizes that the site includes significant regeneration potential in the understory, however, a public hearing would be beneficial in providing the Agency, concerned stakeholders and the public with information pertaining to:

- A complete understanding of forest stand history and prior management on site; and,
- Potential undue adverse impacts that should be mitigated to safeguard the large acreage tract's wildlife, biodiversity and ecological connectivity with adjacent wild lands; and,
- Insure the protection of area surface waters, streams and wetlands; and,
- Enhance the continuance and sustainability of biological legacies, species diversity and richness currently on site through practices that will inhibit or mitigate serious impacts through the logging process; and,
- Offer better silvicultural options than what is being proposed as basically a diameter limit cut which, in certain cases, can equate to highgrading and removal of the best growing stock.

Given the significant scale and intensity of the proposed timber removal across over 470 acres, we urge the Adirondack Park Agency to bring this project to public hearing pursuant to the Agency's regulations and public interest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Plumley, Partner
Adirondack Wild