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For Immediate Release

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**Adirondack Wild to Host September 30th Community Forum
in North Creek**

**Forum to Present Practical Steps to Sustain Communities,
Connectivity, and Wild Places in the Adirondack Park**

Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve holds its second community forum focused on the ten strategies outlined in its recently published guidebook *Pathways to a Connected Adirondack Park – Practical Steps to Better Land Use Decisions*. The community forum takes place from 1:00—3:00 PM, Saturday, September 30, 2017 at the Tannery Pond Community Center, Main Street, North Creek. The forum is free of charge. Public participation is encouraged.

The afternoon forum is part of Adirondack Wild's Annual Meeting of Members and Friends which begins at 11 AM at Tannery Pond. Adirondack Wild business, announcements, and award ceremonies round out the day's events which conclude at 4 PM.

Advance registration for the annual meeting or the forum is appreciated. To register, please contact Ken Rimany at krimany@adirondackwild.org, or 518-928-4501.

The community forum will feature an illustrated presentation by guidebook author Dr. Michael Klemens, Adirondack Wild's Advisor in Landscape Conservation. Following his presentation, discussion, questions and comments from the public are invited and encouraged. Residents and visitors in North Creek, North River, Johnsburg, Wevertown, Bakers Mills, Indian Lake and other nearby communities are warmly invited both to listen and to participate. *Pathways to a Connected Adirondack Park* can be downloaded at www.adirondackwild.org and hard copies will be available at the forum.

The publication's author is conservation biologist Dr. Michael Klemens who states that: "In this time of decreasing state and federal support for conservation, locally-based grass roots efforts such as described in *Pathways* will become ever the more vital to sustaining the ecological and economic health of the Adirondack Park."

"Empowering local government, community leaders and residents to plan for conservation, protection and community resiliency in an era of rapid changes, both environmental and political, is an urgent task," stated Adirondack Wild's Dan Plumley. "We published *Pathways* to empower local efforts to plan with ecological systems in mind, thereby securing and sustaining the wild, rural qualities that attract so many to visit, recreate or reside here for a lifetime. We sponsor this forum in that spirit, to bring friends and neighbors together to explore and address these challenges."

Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve is a not-for-profit, membership organization which advances New York's "Forever Wild" legacy and Forest Preserve policies in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks, and promotes public and private land stewardship consistent with wild land values through education, advocacy and research.