



WILDERNESS ADVOCATE DAN PLUMLEY DEPARTS POST WITH ADIRONDACK WILD

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KEENE AND KEENE VALLEY, NY - Long-time resident of Keene and environmental activist Dan Plumley will leave his post as founding partner with the non-profit wilderness advocacy group *Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve* at the end of January. Plumley helped found Adirondack Wild in 2010. After years of service to Adirondack Wild and to many other not-for-profits, he will be working as an independent consultant in the Adirondacks.

Plumley has worked in Adirondack conservation circles since 1982 when he landed his first position as Park Ranger with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS-DEC) on Lake George. He has been an ardent advocate for the High Peaks, Dix, Giant and other Wilderness areas for more than 30 years. More recently, he's advocated for wilderness protection of the Boreas Ponds.

"Dan Plumley has been a tireless advocate for Wilderness since the days he wore a Ranger's uniform and the pace and commitments he set then have never slackened," stated his colleague and friend David Gibson, managing partner of Adirondack Wild. "We owe Dan a great debt of gratitude for the founding of Adirondack Wild, for the gains we've made over the past 9 years, and for his achievements in wild land conservation over the past 37 years. "

"In the short term we are reluctant to lose his knowledge, drive and spirit. Longer term, we know he will continue to make important contributions to the Adirondack region and to wilderness and cultural landscapes, both here and internationally," Gibson added.

Since 1985, Plumley has worked for the NY State Forest Practices Board, the Adirondack Council and the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. He also held conservation and cultural advocacy positions with Ecologically Sustainable Development in Siberia, Russia and in Mongolia, and also worked with Protect the Adirondacks before founding Adirondack Wild in 2010. He has monitored and helped influence policies at the Adirondack Park Agency and DEC since 1987.

Dan has also fought for acid rain control in Congress and he was named a member of the federal Acid Rain advisory Committee in 1990, helping to develop one of the most successful market-based pollution laws ever implemented under the federal Clean Air Act. He has shared Adirondack land use planning techniques with colleagues in remote regions of Siberia, Russia and Mongolia, and helped preserve and sustain yak and reindeer herding nomads in those parts of the world.

As an independent consultant, Plumley will continue to work toward goals of collaborative, inclusive wilderness and wild land management and land use ecologically sustainable forestry, landscape planning and culturally-attuned outreach and wellness programs. He hopes to launch that work later this winter.

“I’m excited about taking on new challenges, honing new skills and forming unique partnerships at all levels - local, regional and international,” Plumley said. “I will focus on promotion of ancient and native wisdom of caring for the landscapes that are truly globally special, and embrace new ideas, diversity of interests, ages and cultures. I’d like to continue to produce exciting results for wilderness and communities in specially protected landscapes.”

“I can’t thank Adirondack Wild partners Dave Gibson, Ken Rimany, our board of directors, donors and members enough for the establishment of Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve. I have had the best of colleagues and friends in this work and together we have made a real difference in so many ways and that will continue,” said Plumley.

Plumley will also be making some time for his favorite winter pastime of ice climbing and winter mountaineering. Dan has resided in Keene since 1987, has loving raised or supported two specially adopted daughters from Mongolia and Siberia, 21 and 24 years old, and enjoys back country explorations with his dog Ranger. He undergoes regular training as a fire company officer on the Keene Fire and EMS Department.