



KNOW YOUR RESOURCES.

IT'S THE FIRST STRATEGY FOR BETTER LAND USE DECISION-MAKING.



From NYS DEC Draft Amendment to the Kildare Recreation Plan of the 2006 Raquette Boreal Unit Management Plan, Sept. 2017

It sounds obvious, right? Before you develop, it's smart to know the locations of important natural and open-space resources on the landscape. Do a comprehensive baseline inventory first so that large ecological impacts can be avoided later through good design.

Yet, it's amazing how often this common-sense principle isn't followed in our protected Adirondack Park. Last fall, our NYS DEC was about to open miles of road to motorized uses through a landscape even DEC admitted (in 2006) was rare and vulnerable – the low-elevation boreal habitats between the Jordan, W. Branch St. Regis, and Raquette Rivers. DEC had promised ecological studies prior to allowing new motorized access here in 2006 – and hadn't done them.

Following a public outcry, DEC (to its credit) has withdrawn the road proposal and hopefully will conduct the studies they promised to undertake so that future road development here doesn't fragment such a rare Park environment, home to the endangered spruce grouse and much else. We will watchdog DEC on this.

Know your resources. It's the first strategy in our publication, *Pathways to a Connected Adirondack Park: Practical Steps to Better Land Use Decisions*. To receive your FREE copy, visit our website, www.adirondackwild.org, and download it from the home page.



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



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