



# MISMANAGEMENT OF THE FOREST PRESERVE

A 12- foot wide snowmobile community connector bridge, Moose River Plains Wild Forest. Photo © Ken Rimany

New York's highest court just ruled that the Forest Preserve cannot be over-cut and over-built for snowmobile connectors.

Such construction violated Article XIV for the same reason that the court ruled a bobsled run violated it in 1930: "Forever Wild" prohibits high-speed, artificial recreational environments.

In addition to snowmobile connectors, since 2012 DEC and APA under Governor Cuomo have:

- Permitted mining in a Wilderness (Jay Mountain);
- Constructed recreational facilities before analyzing impacts (Boreas Ponds);
- Allowed motorized maintenance of primitive bicycle trails (Essex Chain of Lakes);
- Authorized motors in Wild and Scenic River corridors (Hudson and Cedar Rivers);
- Failed to conduct carrying capacity studies of crowded Forest Preserve lands and lakes (High Peaks Wilderness, Saranac Lakes, and more).

Our courts have ruled. The mismanagement needs to end. DEC and APA should place the Preserve's care and natural resource protection first, as the law requires. Do this not just for today, but to benefit the youth of distant tomorrows.

**Please call and write NYS Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos at:**

**Phone: 518.402.8545 | Email: Go to: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/407.html>**

**Mail: DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-1010**

Remind the Commissioner that our courts have ruled. No more mismanagement. Protect the Forest Preserve. That's his job.

Remind him, too, that DEC can still build and maintain recreational trails . . . as long as they maintain the Forest Preserve's wild forest character.

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

For a FREE copy of our report, *The Adirondack Park at a Crossroad: A Road Map for Action*, please visit our website, [www.adirondackwild.org](http://www.adirondackwild.org) and download it from the home page.

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



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