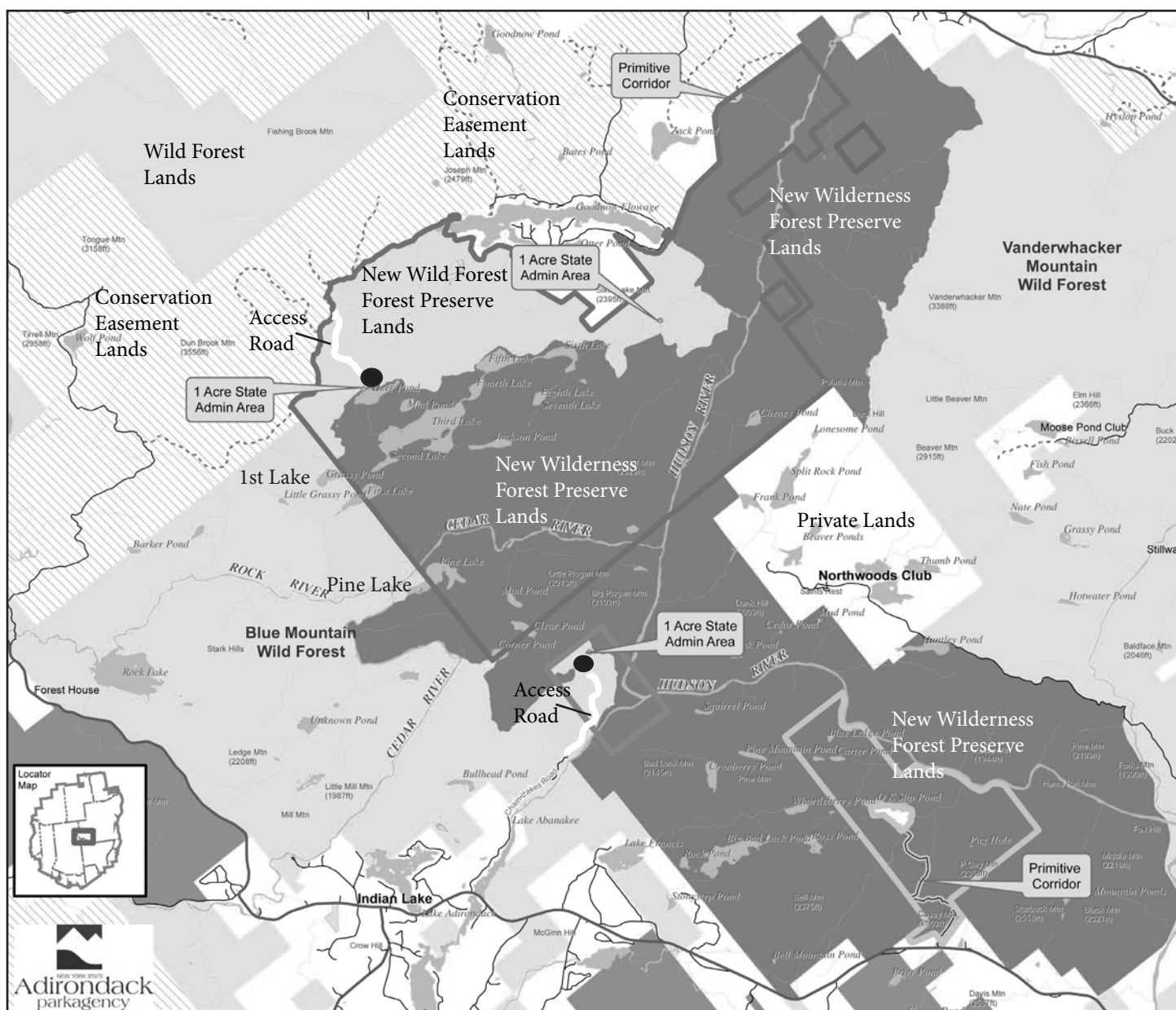


We need your help to create a new Wilderness Area centered on the Hudson River and Essex Chain Lakes

We need you to submit a letter during the Adirondack Park Agency public hearing to show strong public support for this incredible new Wilderness Area

Write a letter/email by July 19th to show your support for Alternative 1A, a new Wilderness Area that provides public access to the Essex Chain Lakes and Hudson River. Attend one of 8 hearings.

Proposed Alternative 1A Wilderness Area



We need your help to create the new Wilderness Area for the Hudson River and Essex Chain Lakes

The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) is conducting a public hearing until July 19, 2013 for the classification of the first part of the 69,000 acres of new Forest Preserve lands in the process of being purchased by the State of New York from The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Eight public hearings will also be held across New York and it's important to turn out and stand up for Wilderness. Protect the Adirondacks supports new Wilderness Area Alternative 1A. (over)

The map above is reprinted from the APA and depicts Wilderness Area Alternative 1A. All APA maps for the seven alternatives in this public hearing can be found at www.protectadks.org. This newly proposed Wilderness area Alternative 1A contains over 38,500 acres and will ensure that the Essex Chain Lakes and Hudson River will be managed as motorless areas. Wilderness Area Alternative 1A protects the entire Hudson Gorge as well as five miles of the Cedar River and provides public access to the Essex Chain Lake and Hudson River involving moderate carries similar to Lake Lila, Lows Lake, Henderson Lake, among others. Protect the Adirondacks supports Wilderness Area Alternative 1A.

PROTECT THE ADIRONDACKS

Make a stand for a new Wilderness Area for the Hudson River and Essex Chain Lakes. Support Wilderness with public access.

The APA is holding public hearings on new Forest Preserve lands recently purchased from Finch Paper. Last December, the state bought the first parcel of 22,000 acres surrounding the Essex Chain Lakes and this year purchased additional lands at the confluence of the Indian and Hudson rivers and the tract containing OK Slip Falls and the Hudson Gorge.

Protect the Adirondacks believes that this historic purchase provides a tremendous opportunity to create a new 38,500-acre Wilderness Area that will manage the Essex Chain Lakes as a motor-free area and protect 22 miles of the Hudson River. This is an exciting new Wilderness Area.

The APA has proposed seven alternatives for public hearing; 2 variations of Wilderness areas, 1 for an option for a Primitive area, 2 for Canoe Area classifications, and 2 for Wild Forest areas. PROTECT supports Alternative 1A as the best of the seven alternatives that protects these lands as Wilderness, while providing good public access to the Essex Chain Lakes and Hudson River.

Please submit your comment by July 19th by letter, fax or email. We need to show strong support for Wilderness Alternative 1A!

Here are talking points to help you write a comment letter to the APA:

- 1) The Essex Chain Lakes must be managed as a motorless Wilderness Area. When this chain of lakes is open it should provide a public paddling and wild experience similar to Lake Lila, Little Tupper Lake, Round Lake, and Lows Lake. Despite the size of the Adirondacks there are relatively few easily accessible motorless lakes opportunities. Most large lakes and ponds in the Adirondacks are open to all forms of motorized uses.
- 2) Wilderness for the Hudson Gorge. The Hudson River Gorge is currently classified partially as Primitive, but Alternative 1A reclassifies the Hudson Gorge as Wilderness. The Wilderness classification for 22 miles of the Hudson River, from Newcomb to North River, will be a boon to the highly successful whitewater rafting industry on the Indian and Hudson Rivers.

- 3) While Alternative 1A is a smaller Wilderness proposal than Alternative 1B, it provides **much better public access**. Alternative 1A provides road access to within .4 miles of an entry point to the Essex Chain Lakes, at Deer Pond. Alternative 1B limits access to over 3 miles away. 1A also provides for a take-out point on the Hudson River, north of the confluence with the Indian River where people can take out after paddling the mild waters from Newcomb downriver before the whitewater of the Hudson Gorge.
- 4) Alternative 1A offers a balanced approach to management and public access. It provides public access to the Essex Chain Lakes similar to other wild areas, such as Lake Lila. Alternative 1A also provides for disabled access where people with appropriate permits can drive to a special campsite and access the Essex Chain.
- 5) Wilderness protects this area best from invasive species. There is currently 100,000 acres more classified Wild Forest than Wilderness for the Forest Preserve.
- 6) Oppose the state plan for Wild Forest classification and floatplane access to the Essex Chain Lakes.

Attend a Public Hearing Near You and Make a Statement in Support of Wilderness Alternative 1A.

Public hearings are being held on June 12th in Ray Brook (6 PM), June 17th in Minerva (1 PM), June 17th in Newcomb (7 PM), June 25th in Indian Lake (6PM), July 2nd in Albany (1 PM), and July 2nd in Queensbury (7 PM).

If you plan to attend a hearing and speak, please let us know at info@protectadks.org.

Find more details on the PROTECT website www.protectadks.org or call 518-685-3088.

Please send comment letters by July 19, 2013!

Mr. James Connolly
NYS Adirondack Park Agency
PO Box 99
Ray Brook, NY 12977
Fax: 518.891.3938
Email: apa_slmp@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Thank you for joining with PROTECT to take a stand for Wilderness in the Adirondack Park!

Make sure to sign our online petition at www.adirondackparkpetition.com to support this new Wilderness Area!

PROTECT THE ADIRONDACKS

Protect the Adirondacks
PO Box 769
Lake George, NY 12845

Help create a new Wilderness area for the Essex Chain Lakes and the Hudson River!

We need you to act now!