



**PROTECT**   
**THE ADIRONDACKS!**

**Taking A Stand**  
**Annual Report 2016-17**

# Major Challenges Ahead for the Adirondack Park

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Dear PROTECT Members,

The old saying of what a difference a year makes rings especially true this year. Last year, as I sat down to write this piece I was not anticipating that national clean air, climate change, and wildlands and wildlife laws would be threatened. I was not anticipating that a year later there would be no decision on the Boreas Ponds and that we'd be embroiled in a new fight over indefinite storage of oil tanker railcars in the Adirondacks.

I've worked in environmental advocacy all my life. I've always taken the view that there were never enough groups and never enough people involved to meet the challenges at hand. It always felt like we were doing the best we could to hold the line. And while tremendous gains were made in environmental protections across the U.S. in the last 45 years, the challenges have also grown, and seem to grow bigger every year.

In the Adirondack Park, we have seen tremendous gains in recent decades with a regional land use and development plan to regulate the development of private lands and with major land purchases to expand the Forest Preserve and a create a strong conservation easements program. Changes to the Clean Air Act have significantly reduced acid rain.

But the challenges persist and grow bigger, which is why we need organizations that are devoted to following what's happening in the Adirondack Park day-in and day-out. This means watching what state agencies are doing. This means following legislation in Albany and Washington, D.C. This means intervening in major proposed developments on private lands. This means investing time and energy into research that can change the public narrative about the Adirondacks and the policymaker's understanding of the Adirondacks. This means intervening in decisions for how our Forest Preserve lands will be managed. This means campaigning for new environmental laws. And this means going to court when there is no other option.

This is the work of Protect the Adirondacks. This is the work of our staff, who tries to stay on top of everything happening in the Adirondacks, and our dedicated Board of Directors who volunteer their time, energy, and expertise as well as their hearts and souls.

The challenges that we face now are in some ways greater than ever. I am optimistic about victories in the future. I am realistic that new threats and challenges will continue to emerge. Efforts underway at state agencies to expand motorized uses of the Forest Preserve could reshape the Forest Preserve. Decisions about where to draw Wilderness boundary lines could reshape the Forest Preserve. The ceaseless expansion of invasive species in our forests and waters could change things dramatically. Efforts to confront the realities of climate change are fitful.

We could not do what we do without the stalwart support of our members and Board of Directors. To you all I am exceedingly grateful. Your support has allowed us to build a strong voice for protection that mobilizes to have an impact on the major decisions that shape the Adirondack Park. Your support enables us to stay vigilant and ready. Thank you very much.

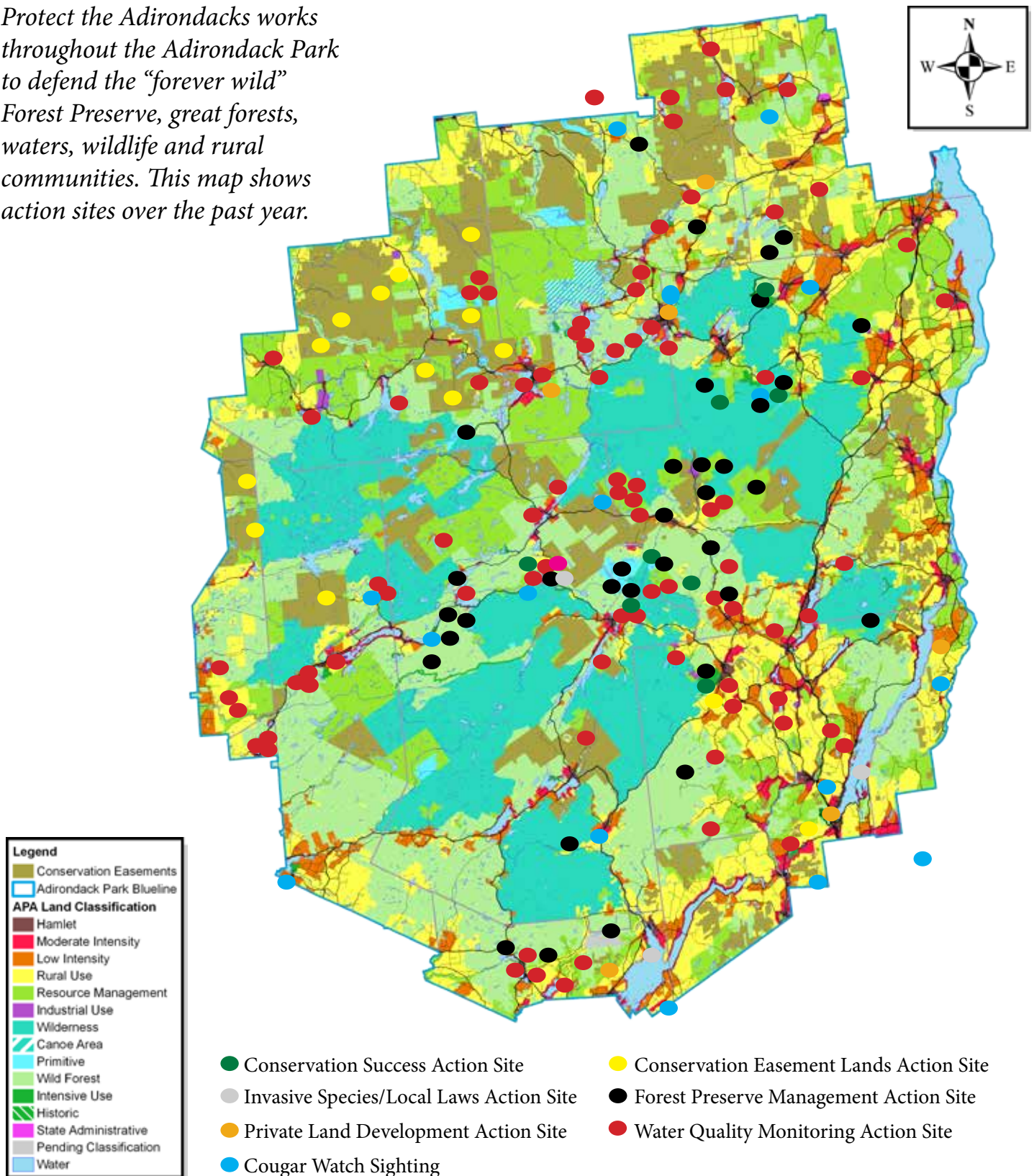
Sincerely,

--Charles Clusen



## 2016-2017 Protect the Adirondacks' Action Map

*Protect the Adirondacks works throughout the Adirondack Park to defend the “forever wild” Forest Preserve, great forests, waters, wildlife and rural communities. This map shows action sites over the past year.*



# Effective advocacy to uphold the “forever wild” Forest Preserve and protect the great forests, waters and rural communities of the Adirondack Park



Oil tankers stored on siding track along the Boreas River.

A slew of significant challenges faced the Adirondack Park over the past year. In all these matters, the work of Protect the Adirondacks was central to the outcomes and long-term policy decisions that will guide the future of the Adirondack Park. These include the controversial plan to store indefinitely used, out-of-service oil tankers in the Adirondack Park, classification of the Boreas Ponds and over 50,000 acres of new state Forest Preserve lands, a trial and other legal actions over the future management and use of the Forest Preserve, important legislation on reforming the Adirondack Park Agency Act and amending the State Constitution, advocacy for a motorless Weller Pond, critical research on long-term economic and population trends in the Adirondack Park, and management of the largest water quality monitoring program in the Adirondack Park.

**Stop the Trashing of the Adirondack Park:** In 2015, PROTECT helped to defeat a plan to store hundreds of railcars on little used rail lines in the Adirondacks. In 2017, this plan came back with a vengeance. Iowa Pacific Holdings, a small railroad company from Chicago, Illinois, has

transported dozens of oil tankers and other railcars for indefinite storage on the 30-mile-long Sanford Lake Railway, a dead-end rail line between North Creek and the Tahawus Mine in Newcomb. Iowa Pacific so far has stored over 80 oil tankers on siding track along the Boreas River in Minerva and along the Opalescent River in Newcomb.

More than 20 open hopper railcars have been stored for more than a year on siding track along the Hudson River outside of North Creek along Route 28, plainly visible to neighbors and all who drive by. The railroad company says that it can store 2,000 to 3,000 out-of-service oil tankers along the Sanford Lake Railway.

Iowa Pacific Holdings owns and operates the Saratoga & North Creek Railway, which runs a tourist train on tracks



*Peter Bauer*



An aerial view of tankers on the Boreas River.

in the Warren County and Saratoga County, which it leases from Warren County and the Town of Corinth. This section of track is approximately 40 miles and runs from Saratoga to North Creek. Under the terms of these leases no railcars can be stored on the rail lines in Warren and Saratoga counties, but the company claims it can transport out-of-service rail cars through these counties to the Sanford Lake Railway, which begins in North Creek and runs through the north end of Warren County, into Hamilton County and Essex County. Iowa Pacific is currently storing railcars on the Sanford Lake rail line in Essex County.

Across the U.S. now, there is a surplus of USDOT-111 oil tanker railcars. New regulations have sidelined this fleet in favor of larger and safer tanker cars. Thousands of these cars are stored out west in Texas and California and a new robust market in storage has risen for owners of small, boutique, dead-end rail lines, such as the Sanford Lake Railway.

There are many dangers with storing railcars indefinitely. These tankers will sit through winter temperatures that

reach -20 or lower and summer temperatures that can top 90 degrees. Neither the company or state agencies have released information about when these railcars were last in service, what they hauled, and whether they have been cleaned. There are concerns about leakage from these cars. An equal concern is that railcars transported to the Adirondack Park may never leave. The glut of these cars across the country has clogged many large storage areas in industrial areas.

Storage of railcars on the Sanford Lake Railway raises a number of legal questions. Tankers stored south of the Tahawus Mine site are on lands classified as Resource Management under the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) Act. The tankers are also within the designated “Wild” river corridor on the Opalescent River designated under the Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers Act. There are many questions about whether storage is allowable under the APA Act and Rivers Act rules.

There are also significant legal questions about storage of



The beautiful Boreas Ponds.

railcars in areas that traverse the Forest Preserve. PROTECT has led the efforts to oppose storage of railcars. We have analyzed the legal history and legal options for state agencies. We have worked with local government leaders to rally opposition and have issued joint statements. We developed a video detailing all the ways that this plan is a bad idea. An online petition has more than 5,000 people signing on. As of the writing on this report, Governor Cuomo had denounced Iowa Pacific's plans vigorously, yet neither the Adirondack Park Agency or the Department of Environmental Conservation had yet to act.

**Wilderness Classification for Boreas Ponds:** After a delay of nearly one year, state environmental agencies are pushing for a decision on over 50,000 acres of Forest Preserve lands, including the Boreas Ponds, in December 2017. Protect the Adirondacks advocated for a comprehensive classification package of 36,000 acres of Wilderness and 14,000 acres of Wild Forest. At the end of 2016, the APA took four classification options to public hearing. PROTECT rallied members to attend these hearings and submit comments. State agencies have been analyzing these comments and developing responses.

The big question before state agencies is the final classification for the Boreas Ponds. The options involve where

to draw the Wilderness and Wild Forest boundary lines through the tract. This is a major decision as Wilderness and Wild Forest areas set limits on motorized and non-motorized uses. These decisions were complicated by efforts by the DEC to include buildings, some form of "huts" or "tent platforms" or "cabins," for public use at the Boreas Ponds. For months, the DEC investigated building a network of different kinds of permanent or seasonal rental buildings at Boreas Ponds as part of the classification, but these plans were finally abandoned due to conflicts with existing laws.

The Boreas Ponds are located in one of the most remote parts of the Adirondacks. It contains the highest elevation wetlands in the state. It's a biologically complex area. The ponds also abut the southern boundary of the High Peaks Wilderness Area. A dozen High Peaks are visible from the ponds, which gives paddlers a sense of paddling among mountaintops. The Boreas Ponds could provide a new entrance and access point to the High Peaks top access mountains such as Allen and Redfield and among others. This classification process is a historic opportunity to win new protections for the extraordinary Boreas Ponds. Through this classification we can expand the High Peaks Wilderness area, make the Boreas Ponds a motorless Wilderness area, and create a new 12,000-acre West Stony Creek Wilderness area in the southern Adirondacks.



The Gooley Club on Third Lake, Essex Chain Lakes.

The decision on the classification of the Boreas Ponds is one of the biggest in the history of the Forest Preserve.

**PROTECT Opposes Controversial Policy Changes to Retain Buildings on the Forest Preserve:** As mentioned above, a key factor that delayed the vote on the Boreas Ponds was the Cuomo Administration's investigation of siting some kind of public rental buildings on the Forest Preserve at the Boreas Ponds. Huts or tent platforms or cabins for public use on the Forest Preserve are not allowed under current law and regulations.

While the Cuomo Administration appears to have backed away from its desire to locate public rental buildings at Boreas Ponds, they have worked to fundamentally shift management policy to retain buildings on the Forest Preserve. The Essex Chain Lakes classification saw the retention of the old farmhouse on the Chain Lakes Road, perched over the Hudson River. The Boreas classification includes the retention of the old cabin at the 4 Corners. Though the state has agreed to retain these buildings it has not stated a purpose for these buildings or adopted any kind of budget for their maintenance and upkeep.

And, now PROTECT finds ourselves having to work to beat back efforts to remove the inner Gooley Club camp

complex (pictured above) on Third Lake of the Essex Chain Lakes. The Gooley Club buildings consists of a complex of a dozen buildings that have expanded over the years. The club started before World War II and was sustained through generations on lands it leased from Finch, Pruyn and Company. When the state purchased the Essex Chain Lakes in 2012 it allowed the Gooley Club to retain these buildings for five years after which they would be removed in 2018.

This summer, a group of club members, historic preservation activists and professionals started a campaign to save the Gooley Club buildings, advocating that they be retained and used as a stop-over in a hut-to-hut network on public and private lands throughout the Park. They tout the buildings' value in a hut-to-hut network as well as landmarks for the preservation of Adirondack hunting camp culture. They have called for the buildings to be maintained and utilized by the public as lodging and educational facilities.

State law prohibits public lodging cabins on the Forest Preserve. The only buildings that can be maintained are administrative, such as the caretaker's cabin at Lake Colden or the complex of buildings at Little Tupper Lake. Great Camp Santanoni has also been retained as an educational facility. In order to retain the Gooley Club buildings, the state would have to pass a constitutional amendment.



Little Weller Pond, Saranac Lake Wild Forest Area.

Supporters of the Gooley Club will push the Cuomo Administration to retain the buildings. As long as they remain there is still hope they could one day be used. They will push for state and federal historic preservation status. If these buildings cannot be used as “huts” they will try and use them as Camp Santanoni-like educational facilities.

Retention of buildings on the Forest Preserve by the Cuomo Administration marks a sharp departure in Forest Preserve policy by past Governors. While decisions were put off decades ago on Great Camps like Santanoni and Debar Lodge, the Pataki Administration worked assiduously to remove buildings at Little Tupper Lake, Clear Pond, and Bog Lake. The Cuomo Administration has appeared eager to leave buildings standing and defer legal questions. PROTECT will continue to oppose retention of the Gooley Club and opposes public buildings on the Forest Preserve.

**Make Weller Pond Motorless:** Weller Pond is part of the Saranac Lakes system. It is connected with a navigable channel from Middle Saranac Lake that leads to Weller Pond and Little Weller Pond. It’s a remote corner of what is a popular lake system with heavy motorboat use. A motorless Weller Pond would provide a refuge from heavy motorboat traffic that dominates the Saranac Lakes. Over the past year, PROTECT has advocated for a motorless Weller Pond

as part of the new draft Saranac Lake Wild Forest Unit Management Plan.

It’s important that people have accessible wild places. The Adirondack Park offers great opportunities for hiking in wild places, where the longer one hikes the more remote the country one can access, but opportunities to do this by boat are limited. For many, canoe or kayak access is how they get to wild places and enjoy Wilderness. Greater opportunities are needed for motorless waters where people can canoe for a day or overnight trip.

It’s important to note that most of the major lakes are open to all manner of motorized watercraft. A report published by Protect the Adirondacks in 2013 *The Myth of Quiet, Motor-free Waters in the Adirondack Park* found that of the 100 largest lakes in the Adirondacks, from Lake Champlain to Beaver Lake (in Watson and Webb in western Adirondacks), 77 are open for all manner of motorized boating and floatplanes, 14 lakes are privately owned and provide no public access, and just 8 are motor-free. Of the eight motor-free lakes among the Park’s top 100, just five are relatively easy to access and motor-free. Just 17 of the biggest 200 lakes are easily accessible and motor-free. The demand is high for motor-free experiences, but the supply is low. This needs to change. We need more motorless waters.



Typical wide, grassy, road-like class II community connector snowmobile trail.

The Saranac Lakes are open season for all types of motor-boats and jetskis, which have free reign over all waters. When we look across the Saranac Lakes Chain, from Lake Flower to the Saranac River to Upper Saranac Lake, the area totals over 9,000 acres of open waters. Weller Pond and Little Weller Pond are just 190 acres – just 2% of the waters of the Saranac Lakes Chain. Why can't we set aside 2% of these waters as a motorless area?

The DEC has the authority to make Weller Pond motorless because the state owns the entire shoreline and controls all access points. If Weller Pond was made motorless the stunning Little Weller Pond would also receive motorless protections. This small, though stunning pond, is reached by a very small channel from the channel that connects Weller to Middle Saranac Lake. Little Weller Pond is one of the most dramatically beautiful small lakes in the Adirondack Park.

**The Trial on the Future of Forever Wild:** A 4-year effort to challenge the constitutionality of construction of a network of new wide, road-like “class II community connector snowmobile trails” on the Forest Preserve went to trial in March and April of 2017. The lawsuit was filed by Protect the Adirondacks against the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and Adirondack Park Agency

in 2013, and alleges that these trails violate Article XIV, Section 1, the forever wild provision of the NYS Constitution. Fieldwork by PROTECT documented that construction of these trails require cutting down over 1,000 trees per mile and extensive grading and flattening of the land with heavy equipment.

The trial ran for 13 days in March and April, 2017. After the trial ended, almost 1,700 pages of trial transcripts was produced and these have been posted on PROTECT's website. Final papers were submitted by each side on July 31st, which are also posted on PROTECT's website. A decision is expected before the end of the year.

The focus of the trial was two-pronged: 1) issues involving the number of trees cut, including meaning of “timber” in Article 14, Section 1, and what constitutes a tree that is protected under the state constitution; and 2) the impacts on the Forest Preserve from construction of an extensive network of class II trails due to extensive terrain and habitat alterations. Although the trial covered only the trails that had been previously approved and built, or were still under construction, the outcome of the case is likely to determine the fate of hundreds of miles of additional class II trails that the State intends to build, and the fate of vast swathes of the public Forest Preserve.



Typical wide, grassy, road-like class II community connector snowmobile trail.

Although the State argued that only about 6,200 trees had been approved to be cut on about 29 miles of trails, PROTECT proved at trial that over 25,000 trees will be cut, if trees under 3" diameter at breast height (DBH) are counted, and that 34 miles of class II trails are actively under construction, clearing over 37 acres of forever wild land. The Plaintiff's case also proved that the construction had caused extensive damage, such as erosion and permanent alteration of forest habitat, despite the Defendants' claims that they had minimized the harm that they caused.

The trail network at the heart of this trial is part of a large expansion of motor vehicle use on the Forest Preserve. The level of tree cutting, grading, and vast alterations of the Forest Preserve to build a network of road-like trails goes well beyond what is allowed under the forever wild provision of the State Constitution. PROTECT's position is that nothing less than the future of the Forest Preserve is at stake in this case.

In 1930 PROTECT's predecessor organization, The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, convinced the courts to block the cutting of 2,500 trees on the Forest Preserve for the construction of the 'bobsleigh run' for the 1932 Winter Olympics. If the massive destruction involved in the building of the Class II trails is not likewise blocked,

then the state will continue to ignore Article 14 and build more and more destructive projects on land that the Constitution requires "be forever kept as wild forest lands." This lawsuit was a major undertaking for Protect the Adirondacks and will shape future Forest Preserve management.

PROTECT was represented in the trial by John Caffry of Caffry & Flower in Glens Falls and Claudia Braymer of Braymer Law, PLLC in Glens Falls, with additional trial counsel provided by William Demarest, III of Tooher and Barone in Albany. The Defendants were represented by the state Attorney General's Office.

A 2016 court order remained in effect that prohibited all tree cutting and excavation work on any class II trails on the Forest Preserve throughout 2017.

**Lawsuit to Defend Adirondack Rivers:** Protect the Adirondacks is working with Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve and Earthjustice on a lawsuit that challenges the state's approval of the Essex Chain Lakes Complex Unit Management Plan. The heart of this lawsuit is the state's novel interpretation and administration of the New York State Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act. The new UMP allows motorized uses alongside the Hudson River where it is classified as a "Wild River" under the



The open spaces of the Adirondacks will be protected by conservation design.

Rivers Act. Motorized uses are prohibited in Wild River corridors under the Rivers Act. The state claims that historic uses, such as motorized uses by the logging company and private leaseholders, can be grandfathered and retained once the lands are part of the public Forest Preserve. The state has never before attempted this maneuver to provide motorized recreation.

Other claims involve areas where the Hudson River and Cedar River are classified as “Scenic Rivers.” On the Hudson River, the state is proposing to retain the Polaris Bridge and allow it to be used for motorized purposes. On the Cedar River, the state is proposing to build a new bridge for motorized uses. The Rivers Act prohibits motorized uses in Scenic River areas and limits to width of bridges to four feet.

While the public is actively driving motor vehicles through the Wild River corridor on the Hudson River, work on the Scenic River bridges has been halted due to the injunction against class II community connector snowmobile trail construction in 2017. A Supreme Court judge in Rensselaer County ruled against this lawsuit in 2017. An appeal was filed with the Appellate Division, Third Department. Oral arguments are scheduled for February 2018 and a decision is likely by next summer.

**Effective Advocacy in Albany:** This past legislative session in Albany was a busy one for the Adirondacks. Budget issues saw the restoration of the High Peaks Trail Crew and funding for land acquisition, state lands stewardship, and invasive species control in the Environmental Protection Fund. Legislation affecting the Adirondacks went down until the last hours of the session in June. PROTECT advocated for passage of a new Conservation Design bill that would amend the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) Act to require new standards for the review and approval of large subdivisions in the Adirondacks. PROTECT also worked on an a constitutional amendment to Article XIV to create a 250-acre Health and Safety Land Account to assist local governments in the delivery of local services.

While the Conservation Design bill was unsuccessful in 2017, it spurred the APA to start the process to change its applications procedures for largescale subdivisions to improve review and approvals. The bill also started a stakeholders process that has focused on trying to craft legislation that is both acceptable across the Adirondack political divide and will actually utilize scientific standards to regulate large subdivisions. PROTECT also helped to shape the Health and Safety Land Accounts amendment and campaigned for its passage in November. We will now closely monitor how this amendment is implemented.

# PROTECT salutes heroes of Forest Preserve and Adirondack Park environmental protection



## **Richard Booth awarded Howard Zahniser Adirondack Award 2017**

On July 15, 2017 at our annual meeting in Lake Placid, Richard was honored as the recipient of Protect the Adirondacks' 2017 Howard Zahniser Adirondack Award. Booth had served with distinction as a Board member of the Adirondack Park Agency. The 2017 Howard Zahniser Adirondack Award states:

Richard Booth, as a lawyer, planner, teacher, and public servant has instilled and defended a Wilderness ethic in the Adirondacks, New York State and the nation, worthy of being honored with Howard Zahniser's name. In the Adirondack Park, he served with great distinction as a Board Member of the Adirondack Park Agency from 2007 to 2016. Protect the Adirondacks recognizes him for his steadfast service and abundant accomplishments protecting Wilderness areas and wildlands of the Adirondack Park and defending the "forever wild" provision in Article 14, Section 1 of the New York Constitution. This award is made to Richard Booth in recognition of his nine years of service at the APA, where he worked passionately and effectively to uphold the APA Act and State Land Master Plan to protect wild places, the Forest Preserve, and the human and natural communities of the Adirondack Park.

## **Steven Englebright awarded 2017 Legislator of the Year**

On July 15, 2017 at our annual meeting in Lake Placid, Steven Englebright was honored as Protect the Adirondacks' 2017 Legislator of the Year. Englebright currently serves as the Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation. The 2017 Legislator of the Year Award states:

Steven Englebright, as a geologist, teacher, legislator, and public servant has fought to protect the wild places and environment of New York State during his career in the State Assembly. As the Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation, Steven Englebright has demonstrated a faithful dedication to protecting the great forests and waters of the Adirondack Park.

In 2017, Chairman Englebright worked to reform state laws to increase protections for the great forests and open spaces of the Adirondack Park and to uphold Article XIV, Section 1, the forever wild" provision, of the State Constitution. For all of these accomplishments, and many others, Protect the Adirondacks is proud to name Steven Englebright as the Adirondack Legislator of the Year.



The Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks now stands at 22 volunteers who bring immense experience and knowledge to guiding the work and positions of PROTECT to uphold the forever wild provision of the state constitution and protect the great forests and waters of the Adirondack Park. From left to right in the picture above are Michael Wilson of Saranac Lake, who is retired from a career as an educator at Great Camp Sagamore and SUNY Potsdam; Philip Terrie of Ithaca and Long Lake, who is a noted Adirondack Park historian who has published four books and written many articles; Nancy Bernstein of Vermontville, who has worked as a graphic designer, timber framer, and clean energy professional; Sid Harring of Northville, who is a retired CUNY law professor and manages a private sustainable forest; Mark Lawton of Saratoga, who is retired from a career in state government; James McMartin Long of Canada Lake, who serves on the Town of Caroga board and consults in psychophysiology and brain electrophysiology; Dale Jeffers of Elizabethtown, who is a retired attorney and longtime Adirondack Park activist; Lorraine Duvall of Keene, a local writer and retired from a career as a software engineer and information studies; Marilyn DuBois of Scotia, retired from a career on the staff of the State Assembly; Bob Glennon of Oseetah Lake, retired former Counsel and Executive Director of the Adirondack Park Agency and Assistant NYS Attorney General; Dave Quinn of Saratoga, attorney with AYCO/Goldman Sachs; Peter Bauer (executive director) of Blue Mountain Lake; Chuck Clusen of Washington, D.C. and Hoel Pond, who is retired from a career working

for Alaska wilderness and protection of national parks; Andy Coney of Stowe, Mass. and Blue Mountain Lake, who is retired from a business career, most recently with Hewlett Packard; Evelyn Greene of North Creek, a noted naturalist and longtime Adirondack Park activist; Dean Cook of Ticonderoga, who is a practicing dentist and Commissioner on the Lake George Park Commission; Roger Gray of Albany and Silver Lake, retired from a career in state government; Barbara Rottier of Vermontville, retired attorney from the Adirondack Park Agency and other state agencies; John Caffry of Glens Falls, practicing environmental attorney with the Glens Falls law firm Caffry & Flower Law Office; Peter Hornbeck of Olmstedville, former school teacher and founder of the popular lightweight Hornbeck Boats; Peter O'Shea of Fine, a retired New York City Police Officer and writer of books about hikes and wildlife tracking. Not included in the photo are two new Directors who joined the Board in the fall of 2017. These are Richard Booth of Ithaca, a professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cornell University, and a former Board member of the Adirondack Park Agency; and, James Dawson of Plattsburgh, who is a retired professor of Geology from SUNY Plattsburgh, former Regent on the NYS Board of Regents, current member of the Forest Preserve Advisory Committee, and who has served on the boards of numerous Adirondack conservation and environmental organizations.

Protect the Adirondacks is very proud of our dedicated, experienced and extremely knowledgeable Board of Directors.



## Lakes and Ponds Enrolled in the Adirondack Lakes Assessment Program in 2017

Adirondack Lake	Fern Lake	Loon Lake (Warren Cty)	Tupper Lake
Amber Lake	Frank Pond	Lower Saranac Lake	Twitchell Lake
Arbutus Pond	Garnet Lake	Middle Saranac Lake	Upper Cascade Lake
Augur Lake	Gull Pond	Mink Pond	White Lake
Austin Pond	Hewitt Pond	Moss Lake	Wolf Lake
Big Moose Lake	Hoel Pond	Mountain View Lake	
Blue Mountain Lake	Indian Lake (Franklin Cty)	Osgood Pond	(The reports for all ALAP
Brandreth Lake	Indian Lake (Hamilton Cty)	Otter Pond	lakes are available online
Butternut Pond	Jordan Lake	Oven Mountain Pond	on PROTECT's website
Canada Lake	Kiwassa Lake	Paradox Lake	<a href="http://www.protectadks.org">www.protectadks.org</a> .)
Caroga Lake (East)	Lake Abanakee	Pine Lake	
Caroga Lake (West)	Lake Clear	Pleasant Lake	
Catlin Lake	Lake Colby	Raquette Lake	
Chapel Pond	Lake Durant	Rich Lake	
Chase Lake	Lake Eaton	Rondaxe Lake	
Chateaugay Lake (Lower)	Lake Flower	Schroon Lake	
Chateaugay Lake (Upper)	Lake of the Pines	Silver Lake	
Chazy Lake	Lake Titus	Simon Pond	
Cranberry Lake	Lens Lake	Star Lake	
Deer Lake	Little Long Lake	Sylvia Lake	
Dug Mountain Pond	Long Lake	Thirteenth Lake	
Eagle Lake	Long Pond	Tripp Lake	
Eli Pond	Loon Lake (Franklin Cty)	Trout Lake	



## Save the Date: July 21, 2018 for the Annual Meeting for Protect the Adirondacks

Mark your calendars for Saturday July 21, 2018 for the Protect the Adirondacks Annual Meeting. More details and the meeting location will be forthcoming. The annual meeting is where members meet the Board of Directors, vote for new directors, and get an updates on PROTECT's financials and programs. The highlight is the conservation and advocacy report as well as a hike or paddle. It's a fun day, so mark your calendars and set an alarm on your smartphone.



## PROTECT welcomes new members to the Board of Directors



*Andy Coney*



*Barbara Rottier*



*Richard Booth*



*Jim Dawson*

Protect the Adirondacks is very pleased to welcome Andy Coney, Barbara Rottier, Richard Booth and James Dawson as new members of our Board of Directors. Andy Coney brings a lifetime of experiences in the Forest Preserve and waters of the Adirondacks, working from his family camp on Blue Mountain Lake. He recently retired from a career in corporate management, most recently with Hewlett Packard. Barbara Rottier worked as an attorney with the Adirondack Park Agency and other state agencies with a focus on environmental law. Richard Booth, of Ithaca, teaches at Cornell University in the Department of City and Regional Planning. He is a former Board member of the Adirondack Park Agency where his tenure was notable for standing to uphold existing law and policies. He has also held elective offices in the City of Ithaca and Tompkins County Legislature and has worked with Adirondack conservation organizations. James Dawson, of Plattsburgh, is a retired professor of Geology from SUNY Plattsburgh, former Regent on the NYS Board of Regents, a current member of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Preserve Advisory Committee, and who has served on the boards of numerous Adirondack conservation and environmental organizations.

# Acknowledgment of Donors 2016-2017

## 2016-2017 Donors

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**Thank you very much for your support.**

# 2016-2017 Financial Summary

Assets	2016-17	2015-16
Cash	\$36,948	\$16,321
Grants Receivable	7,500	13,750
Property (Research Library/Office)	450,322	450,965
Cash (Designated)	96,548	96,460
Cash (Temporarily Restricted)	65,464	67,346
Investments - Unrestricted	20,510	18,754
Investments - Restricted	3,790	3,559
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$681,082</b>	<b>\$667,155</b>

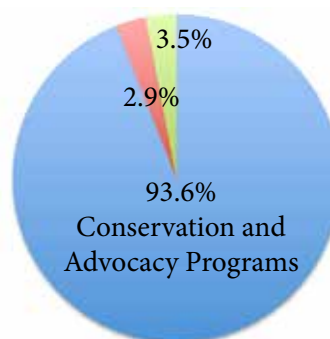
Liabilities	2016-17	2015-16
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$7,000	\$7,000
Long-Term Debt	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>

Revenues	2016-17	2015-16
Contributions & Grants	\$183,397	\$195,222
Dues & Fees	56,903	57,142
Investment Income	205	368
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(193)	(294)
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	2,459	(615)
Event Income	0	3,970
In-Kind Donations	204,882	129,055
Program Services	20,675	20,825
Miscellaneous	0	1,246
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$468,328</b>	<b>\$406,919</b>

Program, Administrative & Fundraising Expenses	2016-17	2015-16
Program Expenses (93.6%)	\$425,432	(90%) \$361,387
Administrative Expenses (3.5%)	\$15,990	(5.6%) \$21,944
Fundraising Expenses (2.9%)	\$12,979	(4.4%) \$17,764
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$454,401</b>	<b>\$401,095</b>

Expenses	2016-17	2015-16
Salaries	\$114,826	\$112,538
Payroll Expenses & Benefits	14,296	24,905
Contracted Services	1,812	2,773
Insurance	5,598	5,387
Occupancy Costs	6,900	6,900
Telephone	1,189	1,187
Supplies	1,334	1,746
Printing	7,920	21,626
Postage	3,863	11,996
Conferences & Events	3,950	5,208
Bank Charges	1,199	1,239
Advertising	2,355	3,699
Dues & Subscriptions	612	338
Legal Defense	243,822	148,054
Professional Fees & Services	8,249	9,845
Travel	9,789	6,172
Website & Technology Services	6,867	8,316
Investment Fees	530	505
Program Expense	18,190	21,774
Miscellaneous	457	1,038
Depreciation and Amortization	643	5,849
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$454,401</b>	<b>\$401,095</b>

## 2016-17 Total Resource Allocation



Administration 3.5%  
Fundraising 2.9%  
Programs 93.6%

## Notes

Protect the Adirondacks' fiscal year runs from July 1 - June 30th.

An independent audit was prepared by Cusack & Company in Latham, New York.

All information reported in this summary is also available in

PROTECT's NYS CHAR 500 and Federal 990 filed with the NYS Attorney General's Office.

The \$450,322 listed under Assets "Property" is the contents of the Adirondack Research Library on permanent loan to the Kelly Adirondack Center of Union College in Niskayuna, New York.



## Leave a Bequest to Protect the Adirondacks

When planning your estate remember to include **Protect the Adirondacks** for a generous bequest. **Protect the Adirondacks** is building a long-term Forever Wild Fund to defend the Forest Preserve and protect the great forests, waters, and rural communities of the Adirondack Park. Please list **Protect the Adirondacks** as a beneficiary of your estate and notify us when you have done so.

The Forever Wild Fund will support a variety of advocacy and grassroots organizing activities to protect the Forest Preserve and Adirondack Park. These activities include:

- Legal defense of the forever wild Forest Preserve to protect wild areas.
- Advocacy to expand the public Forest Preserve.
- Advocacy to expand areas of the Forest Preserve classified as Wilderness.
- Creation of new motorless waters areas in the Adirondack Park.
- Support for long-term scientific water quality monitoring of Adirondack lakes and ponds.
- Advocacy to protect wildlife.
- Advocacy for new laws and policies that protect the forests and waters of the Adirondacks.
- Grassroots organizing to promote the public voice for protection of the Adirondacks.
- Support for research to bring sound information to decisions on the future of the Adirondacks
- Support for fieldwork to document problems, environmental damage, and what's working well in the management of the Forest Preserve.

It's vital to the future of the Adirondack Park that the voice, principled advocacy, policy expertise, commitment to science and research, and activism of **Protect the Adirondacks** is sustained and enhanced.



Protect the Adirondacks  
PO Box 769  
Lake George, NY 12845



## Make a generous gift to Protect the Adirondacks

Please make a special contribution today to help defend our “forever wild” Forest Preserve and protect the great forests, clean waters, and rural communities of the Adirondack Park. Protect the Adirondacks is a private organization dedicated to the protection of the Adirondack Park and pursues this mission through education, research, water qual-

ity monitoring, advocacy, grassroots organizing and legal action. Please make a generous gift today to help us sustain this work and protect this vital landscape. There are many challenges in the next year where the Adirondack Park needs a strong voice to defend the Forest Preserve and help protect the Adirondack Park.



### Yes! I want to help protect Forever Wild

PO Box 769 Lake George, NY 12845 [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org) [protectadks.org](http://protectadks.org)

#### Payment

Please sign me up as a Monthly Sustainer.  
Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ on the 1st of each month  
to my credit card.

Please make **checks** payable to: Protect the  
Adirondacks! For **credit card** circle one:  
VISA MasterCard American Express  
Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

CVV2 code (VISA/MC 3-digit on back)  
or (AMEX 4-digit on front) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you very much for your support!

☐ \$5,000

☐ \$2,500

☐ \$1,500

☐ \$1,000

☐ \$500

☐ \$250

☐ \$100

☐ \$75 Family

☐ \$50 Individual

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Adirondack Park Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Smartphone number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

My company \_\_\_\_\_ has a matching gifts program.

Contribute online at our secure website [www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org)