



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

Annual Members Meeting  
July 16, 2022, 10:00 AM

## Agenda

1. Welcome by Chuck Clusen, PROTECT Chair
2. Introduction of Board of Directors & Staff
3. Welcome to John Brown Farm by Brendan Mills, Historic Site Manager
4. 2021-2022 Financial Report by Peter Bauer & David Quinn, Treasurer
5. 2022 Board of Directors Election by Michael Wilson and Barbara Rottier
6. 2022 Conservation & Advocacy Report by Peter Bauer
7. Howard Zahniser Adirondack Award to Elizabeth Thorndike and Peter Paine for their long, successful careers in helping to manage the Adirondack Park and helping to build Adirondack organizations and institutions.
8. Adjourn and lunch.
9. John Brown's Farm and "Dreaming of Timbuctoo" an introduction to this history with Amy Godine, author of "The Black Woods."





## Board of Directors 2022

**Charles Clusen, Chair**

**Marilyn Murphy DuBois, Vice Chair**

**James McMartin Long, Vice Chair**

**Michael Wilson, Vice Chair**

**Barbara Rottier, Secretary**

**David Quinn, Treasurer**

**Nancy Bernstein**

**John Caffry**

**Andy Coney**

**Dean Cook**

**James C. Dawson**

**Lorraine Duvall**

**Bob Glennon**

**Roger Gray**

**Evelyn Greene**

**Sid Haring**

**Dale Jeffers**

**Mark Lawton**

**John Nemjo**

**Peter O'Shea**

**Philip Terrie**

**Chris Walsh**

**Peter Bauer, Executive Director**

**Chris Amato, Conservation Director**



### 3-Year Income Comparison (July-June)

Source	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Membership	\$66,597	\$65,003	\$58,260
Large Donors	169,044	165,363	141,943
Corporate Match	13,807	11,643	12,152
Bequest/Memorial	201,715	28,416	8,481
Legal Defense Fund	14,145	0	1,325
Foundation Grants	67,500	70,510	82,295
Events, Meetings, Conferences	1,225	395	9,245
ALAP	10,335	8,605	15,760
Partnerships	5,725	13,645	11,195
Interest	13	14	85
Misc. Income (PPP)	855	272	35,718
Office Annual Fund*	10,000	15,067	11,791
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$560,961</b>	<b>\$378,933</b>	<b>\$388,250</b>

\*\$10,000 transferred from long-term portfolio



### 3-Year Expense Comparison

Source	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Salaries and Benefits	\$203,706	\$212,511	\$206,659
Contracted Services	7,012	2,035	3,559
Office Maint., Utilities, etc.	10,341	12,047	11,527
Insurance	3,269	5,413	6,518
Office Supplies	2,858	3,448	7,978
Printing, Postage	21,770	16,199	22,614
ALAP	33,508	28,415	14,087
Legal Defense Fund	7,139	1,280	1,321
Website	2,422	1,357	5,472
Dues/Subscrip/Licenses	800	743	505
Advertising	5,325	6,594	4,135
Events	0	0	0
Conferences/Travel	5,873	5,120	12,005
Bank Charges/Audit	9,413	11,304	11,209
Equip, Maint., Softwr, Misc.	9,431	7,791	8,148
Program Expenses	22,120	13,753	25,943
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$344,987</b>	<b>\$328,010</b>	<b>\$341,680</b>

### 3-Year Total Assets Comparison

Source	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Cash on hand	\$184,120	\$173,692	\$122,915
Temp Restricted Assets	125,632.45	129,916	174,850
Long-Term Prop. Portfolio	485,173	560,617	510,480
Property (ARL)	470,827	470,827	470,827
Property (headquarters)	211,000	191,645	191,645
Endowment	311,760	116,362	79,964
Equipment	6,200	6,200	6,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,794,712</b>	<b>\$1,649,295</b>	<b>\$1,556,882</b>

#### 2020-21 Total Resource Allocation



Administration 4.3%  
Fundraising 9.7%  
Programs 86%

Protect the Adirondacks is the recipient of the "Gold" level Guidestar seal for organizational transparency.



The fiscal year for Protect the Adirondacks is July 1 – June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**PROTECT** has an annual audit completed each year, which is available upon request or from the NYS Attorney Generals Office.

A financial summary is published in our annual report each year.



## Board of Directors Election 2022

(Full 3-Year Terms)

Roger Gray, Albany, NY; Silver  
Lake, NY

John Nemjo, Saratoga Springs, NY;  
Inlet, NY

Peter O'Shea, Fine, NY

David Quinn, Saratoga Springs, NY

Barbara Rottier, Vermontville, NY

Chris Walsh, Saratoga Springs, NY;  
Raquette Lake, NY



## 12 Organizational Priorities for 2022-2023

1. Defense of Article 14 Decision
2. Land Protection
3. \$4.2 Billion Clean Air, Clean Water, and Green Jobs Bond Act
4. 25<sup>th</sup> Year of the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program
5. Conservation Plan
6. NYS Fights Climate Change
7. Forest Preserve Management Reform
8. Making the Adirondack Park More Open, Inclusive, and Diverse
9. Legislative Advocacy
10. Securing Long-Term Investments in Adirondack Communities
11. Long-Term Partnerships with the Adirondack Research Library and Kelly Adirondack Center of Union College
12. Building Long-term Organizational Financial Support for Protect the Adirondacks





## 1. Defense of Article 14 Decision



PROTECT counted over 25,000 trees cut down or marked to be cut down, though many more were cut, for the first 34 miles of Class II trails.



### Historic Decision on Forever Wild

The May 4, 2021, decision by the New York Court of Appeals ruled that Class II Community Connector Snowmobile Trails violated Article 14, Section 1, of the New York Constitution. This ruling capped a 9-year legal challenge by Protect the Adirondacks against the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Adirondack Park Agency (APA). In the end, eight of the twelve judges who looked at the evidence found that Class II trails were unconstitutional.



## 1. Defense of Article 14 Decision



**Class II trails substantially altered terrain, created new linear grassland habitats, manmade forms, erosion, damage to trailside trees, removal of forest understory, forest fragmentation, negative impacts to old growth forests.**



## 1. Defense of Article 14 Decision: Three Courts Ruled Class II Trails Not Foot Trails



For two decades APA-DEC said extra wide snowmobile trails had the “character of a foot trail.” They’re very different.



## 1. Defense of Article 14 Decision: Back to Court in 2022



In winter 2021-2022, Class II trails that were ruled illegal were used as if nothing had happened. After we documented trail conditions in January 2022, we went back to court and a State Supreme Court judge recommended formal settlement talks, which are ongoing. It's our goal to see damaged trails closed and restored and long-term reforms set in place. Talks with the state are ongoing.



## 1. Defense of Article 14 Decision: Long-Term Legal Significance

### Key excerpts...

**“The forever wild provision ensures the preservation of state-owned land within the Adirondack Park (and Catskills) in its wild state.”**

**“The ultimate objective of protecting the forest as wilderness” is the paramount purpose of Article 14.**

**“Defendants [APA/DEC] ... contend that the project’s impacts are justified because it enhances access to the Preserve and provides a variety of recreational opportunities. That analysis proceeds from a fundamental misunderstanding. The constitution provides for access and enjoyment of the Forest Preserve as a wild forest: ‘very considerable use may be made by campers and others without in any way interfering with this purpose of preserving them as wild forest lands’.”**

**The Court specifically found that the trails were unconstitutional in large part because “the trails require greater interference with the natural development of the Forest Preserve than is necessary to accommodate hikers” and that “their construction is based on the travel path and speed of a motorized vehicle.”**

**Largescale Forest Preserve projects need to be authorized through an amendment.**



## 2. Land Protection



### Whitney Park

**One of the greatest challenges in upon us all with the threatened development and sale of the 36,000-acre Whitney Park in Long Lake, Hamilton County. This 36,000-acre tract includes 22 lakes and ponds and is border by a Wilderness Area to the north, Wild Forest to the east and south. Historic east-west, north-south canoe routes through tract. Must be preserved and protected.**



### 3. \$4 Billion Clean Air, Clean Water, and Green Jobs Bond Act

**Vote Yes on November 8, 2022**

**\$4 billion bond act for environmental purposes that focuses on climate change resilience and mitigation. Spending is designed to help NYS prepare for major impacts from climate change.**

**\$650 million for land protection to help prepare state for climate change impacts. 30 by 30 will help.**

**\$650 million for clean water infrastructure, \$1.1 billion for wetlands restoration and flood mitigation, \$1.5 billion for climate change resilience and mitigation.**

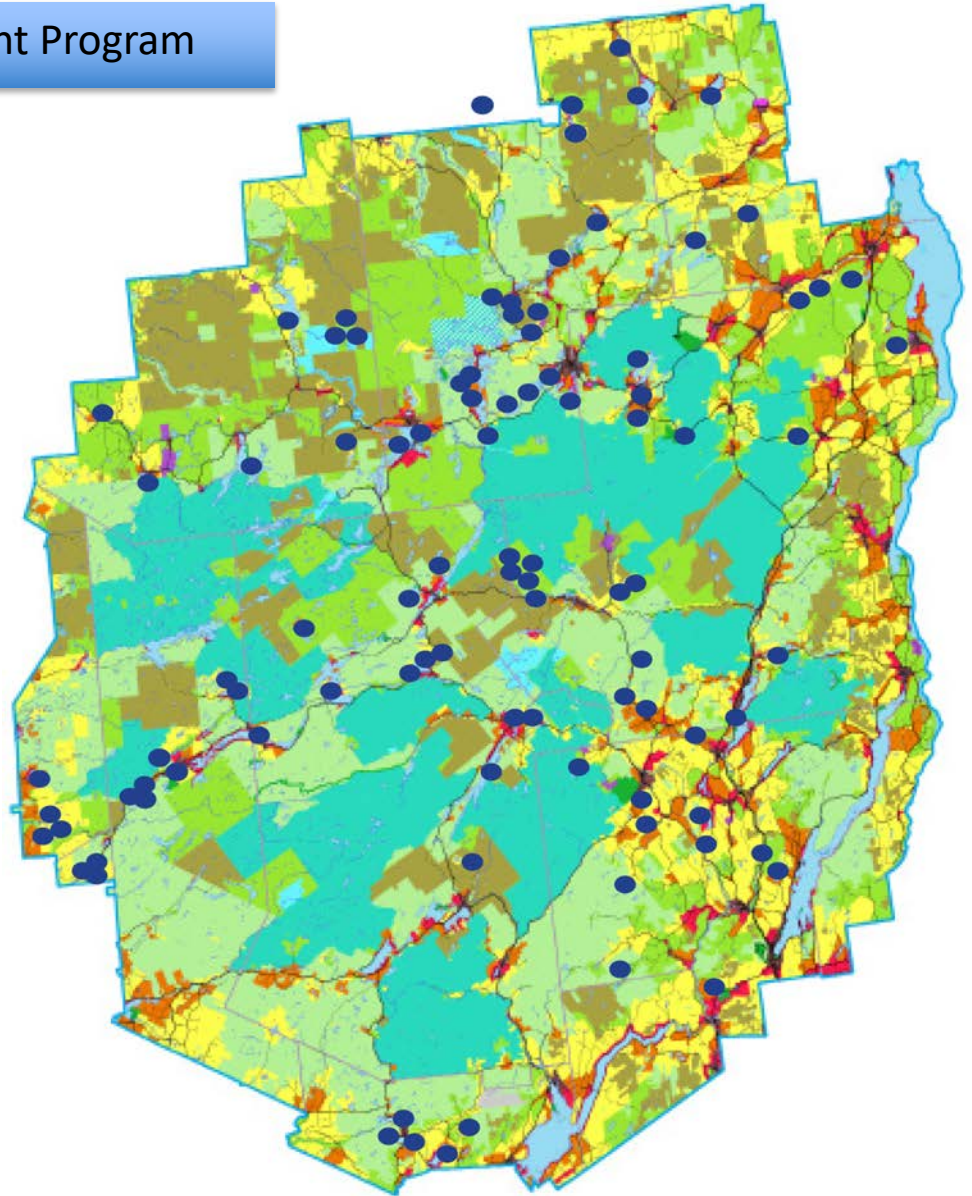


## 4. 25<sup>th</sup> Year of the Adirondack Lake Assessment Program



### Adirondack Lake Assessment Program

- 2022 is the 25th year of the partnership between PROTECT and Adirondack Watersheds Institute (AWI) at Paul Smith's College.
- Over 80 lakes enrolled in 2022.
- Analysis of nutrients levels (phosphorus, nitrogen, chlorophyll-a), water clarity/color, and various metals (alkalinity, calcium, aluminum) and chloride/conductivity in certified lab.
- Volunteers gather data, analysis by AWI-PSC.
- Annual reports for lakes, data used in over 20 peer-reviewed articles.
- Road salt pollution documented by ALAP.
- One of best long-term scientific programs in NYS, eastern U.S.

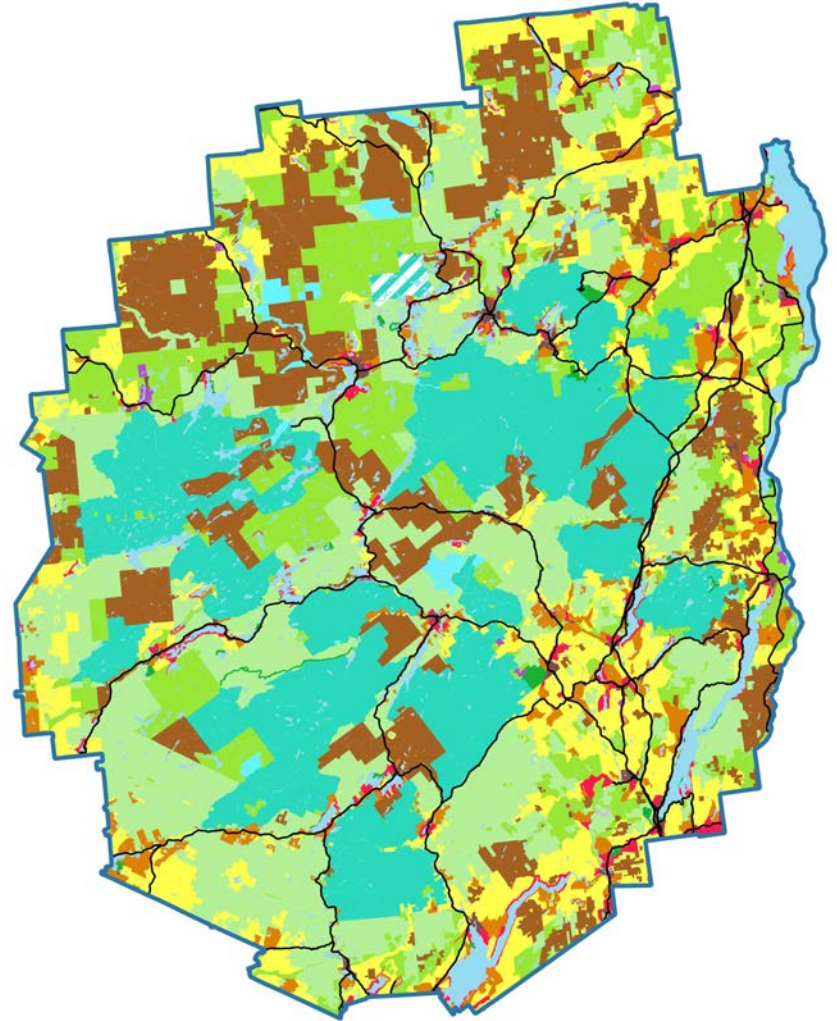




## 5. Adirondack Park Conservation Plan

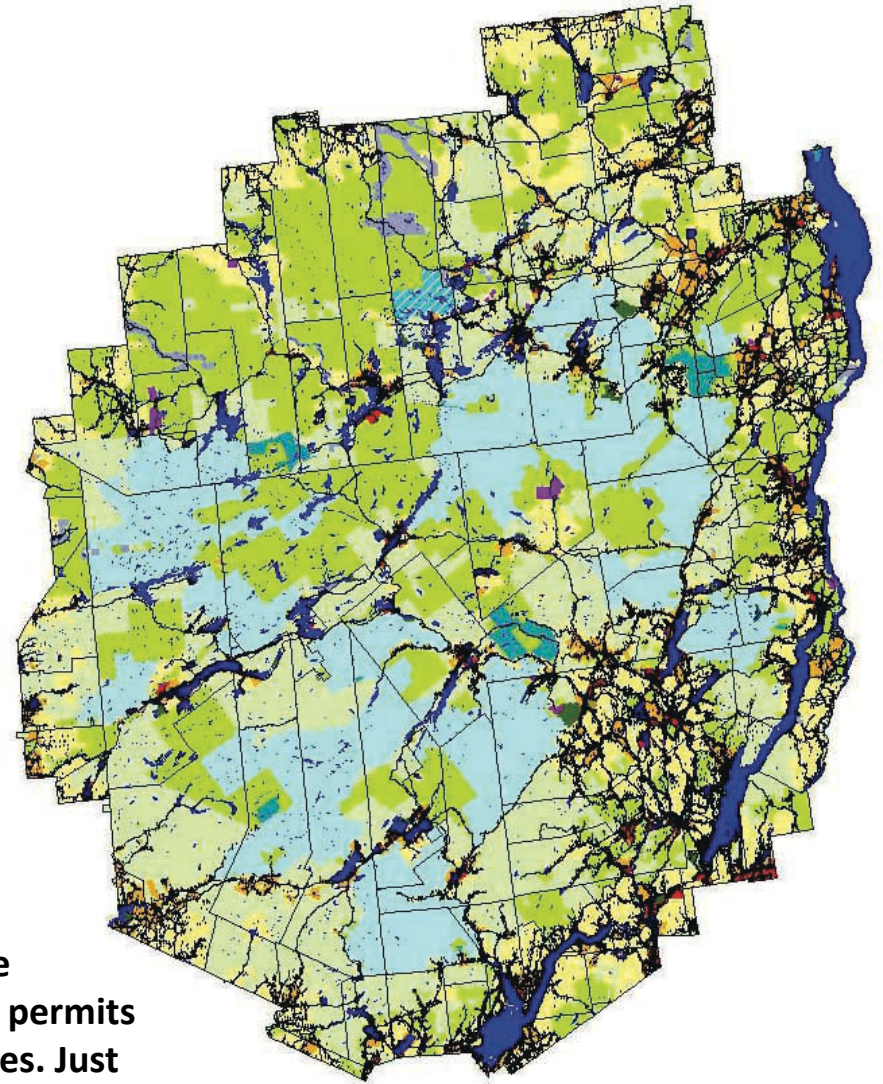


**There is no formal, detailed plan that maps out the future of the Adirondack Park. While the Adirondack Park has evolved since 1892, the next 25 years will see lands within the Park's boundaries either preserved or developed. The Park that has been in flux for 130 years will take on its final public-private lands composition. We're going to bring data and analysis to this plan.**





## 5. Adirondack Park Conservation Plan



### Understanding Development Trends

Conservation Plan will be data-driven. We're counting building permits issued by local governments through the Adirondack Park. Study 1990-1999 found 47,762 building permits for 8,589 new residential, commercial, industrial structures. Just 34% regulated by APA. Complete data 2000-2019 from 50/98 towns/villages so far, assessed over 60,000 permits, over 9,000 new buildings. APA can't get us 2000-2019 permit data until 2030.



## 5. Adirondack Park Conservation Plan

**What lands will be saved? Blueprint for conservation, analysis of open space protection town by town.**

**What lands will be developed? Where does development make the most senses?**

**Recommend revisions for APA Act.**

**Recommend revisions for Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan, and other pertinent laws like the Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers Act.**

**Assessment of local planning capacity.**

**Wildlife viability and planning.**

**Invasive species control and management.**

**Blueprint for community planning strategies.**



## 6. NYS Fights Climate Change

### Best of Times, Worst of Times

For the first time in its history New York State is fully engaged in climate change mitigation and planning work. The 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) created the NYS Climate Action Council, which just completed public hearings on a draft scoping Climate Action Plan on July 1<sup>st</sup>. A draft NYS Climate Action Plan is set to be released by the end of 2022 with a final plan targeted for 2023. The plan sets short-term objectives for 2030 and long-term plans for 2050.

New York's work is being undertaken at a point of paralysis at the federal level. The fight continues at the national level and New York State is well positioned, with states like California, Massachusetts, and Vermont, to lead the way.

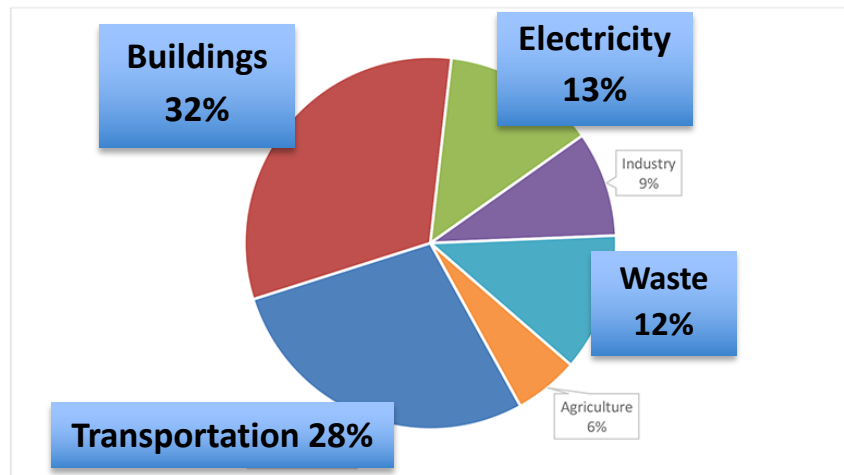
PROTECT will continue to actively monitor and intervene in this process to help develop a final plan.





## 6. NYS Fights Climate Change

Figure 2. 2019 New York State GHG Emissions by Scoping Plan Sector



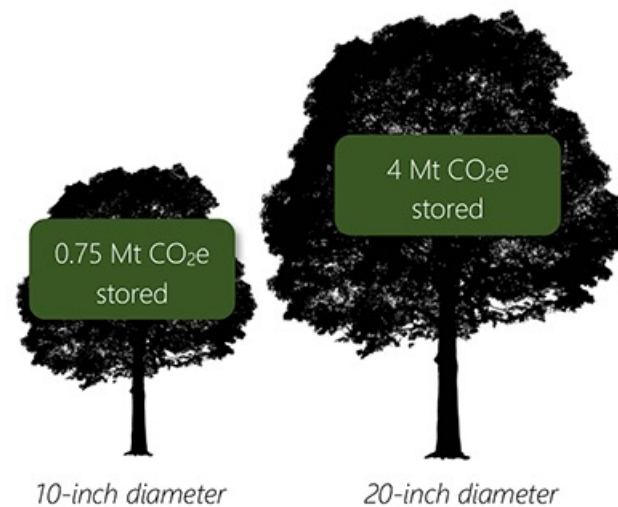
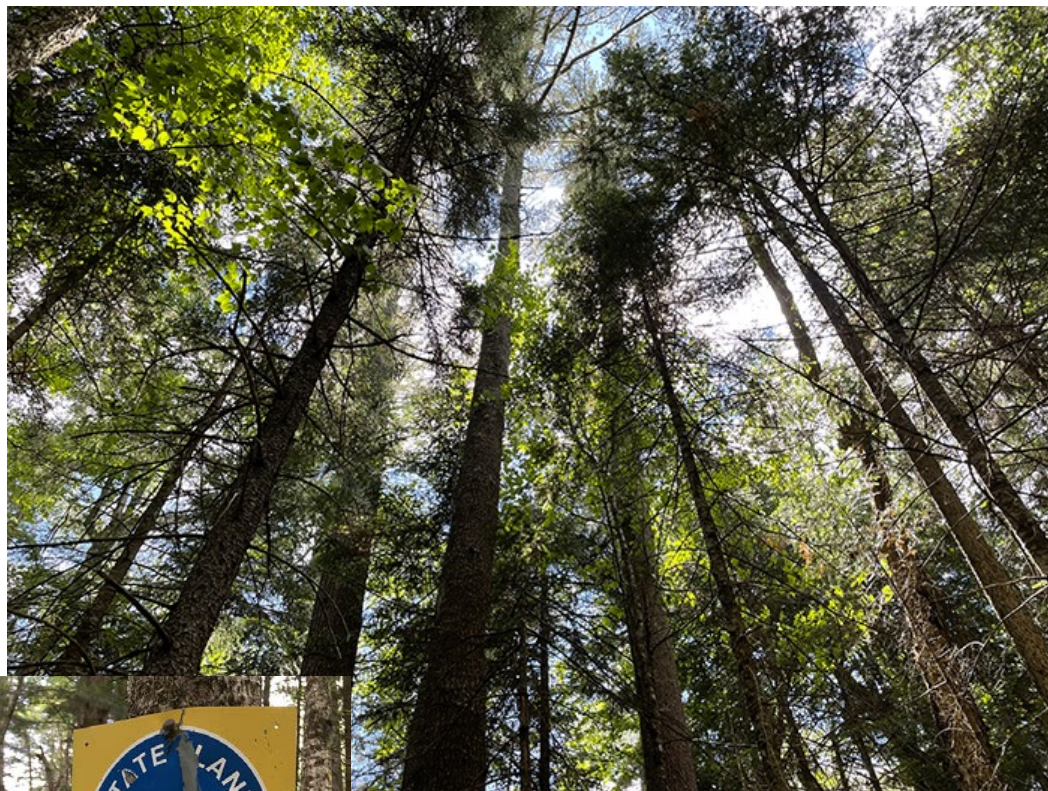
### Time is Now

Hundreds of groups across New York are working to strengthen the state's Climate Action Plan. Many legislators are monitoring the development of a draft plan.

PROTECT has focused our advocacy on:

- Ways/need to greater state/federal incentives for residential solar power
- Ways/need to greater state/federal incentives for residential heat pumps
- Ways/need to greater state/federal incentives for electric vehicles
- Changes to NYS building codes
- Changes to state fuel efficiency standards
- Clean energy incentives for small/large business
- Legislators say \$10 billion a year

## 6. NYS Fights Climate Change



### NYS forests vital reaching goals:

- Incentives for forest landowners to keep lands growing trees
- Revision of state forest tax law programs focused on climate
- State land protection/30 x 30
- Limit tree cutting in new developments
- Reforestation state wide



## 7. Forest Preserve Management Reform



We're advocating for new comprehensive management program for the Forest Preserve based on four pillars.

1. Education.
2. Sustainable Trails.
3. Scientific research on impacts of public use on natural resources, user experience in a Wilderness area.
4. Investment in facilities, such as trailheads, visitor center, parking areas.



## 7. Forest Preserve Management Reform



**Examples of of new sustainable trails recently completed on Mt. Van Hoevenberg. These trails are designed to handle high levels of use, protect natural resources, and uphold Wilderness values.**



## 7. Forest Preserve Management Reform

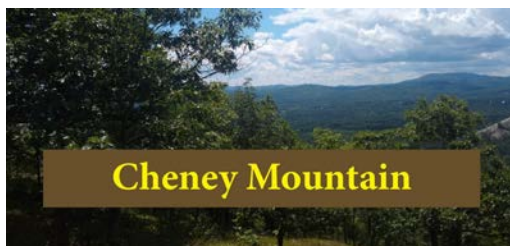
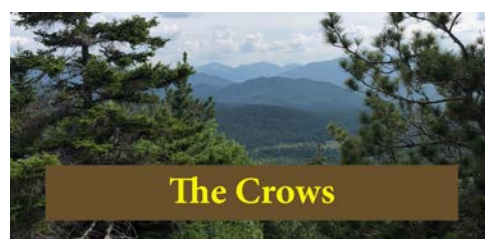


### New DEC-APA Forest Preserve Trails Stewardship Working Group

Group formed by state agencies in response to PROTECT lawsuit, need to upgrade, reform trails management. Varied group of stakeholders from Adirondacks and Catskills. State looking for consensus to help revise a series of trail management standards and policies. Effort is slow, way behind schedule, as state agencies have struggled with the scope of reforms needed.



## 7. Forest Preserve Management Reform





## 8. Making the Adirondack Park More Open, Inclusive and Diverse



Protect the Adirondacks is in the planning process for how we can help to make the Adirondack Park a more open, inclusive and diverse place. The Adirondack Park and the Forest Preserve belongs to everybody and organizations that work to protect and defend the Adirondacks need to make sure that it is a place that is welcoming and safe for everybody. PROTECT is working to educate itself on these issues and planning for how we can help in this important work, support and partner with new dynamic efforts underway in the Adirondacks.



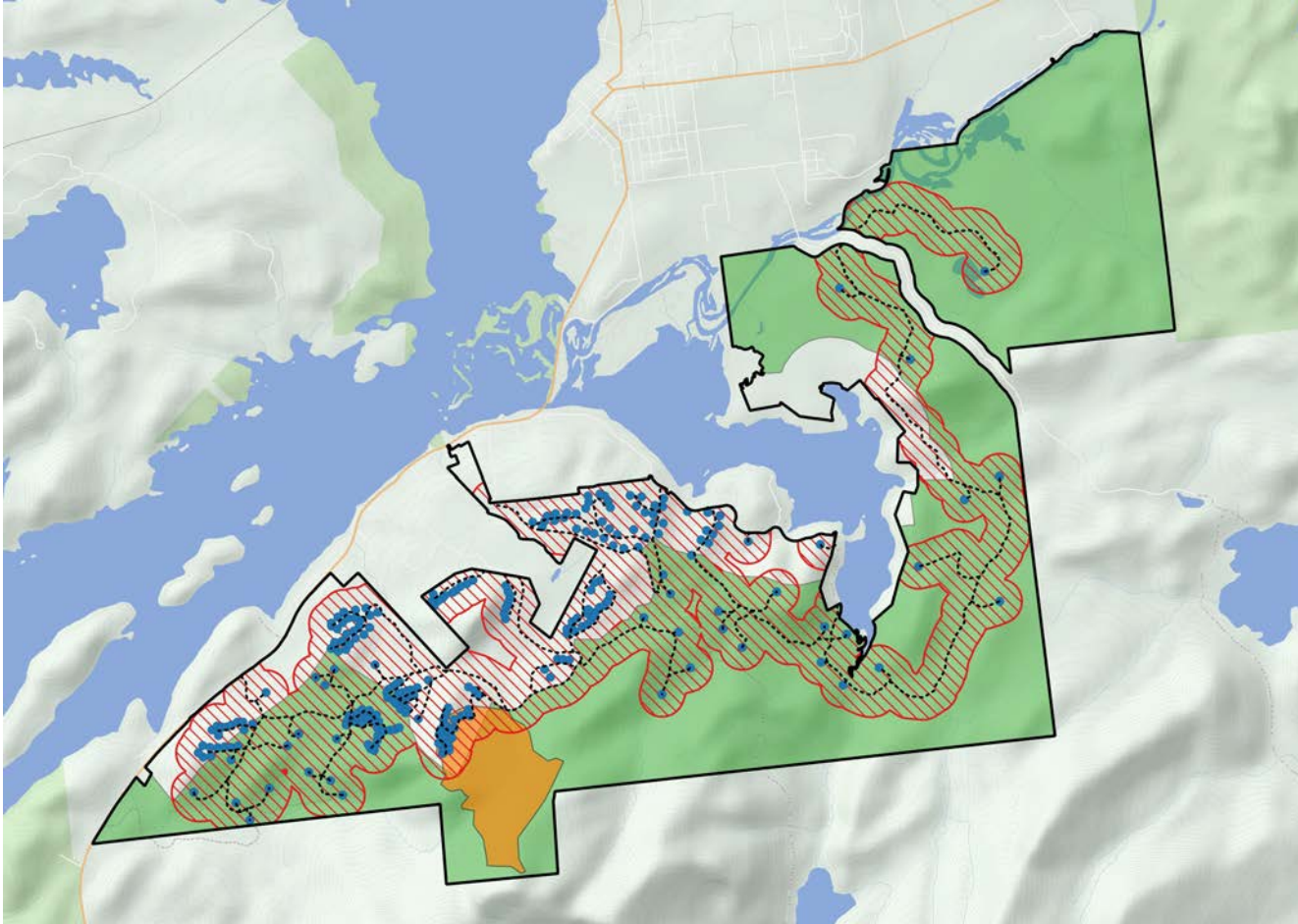
## 9. Legislative Advocacy

### 2022-23 State Budget Posted Big Wins for the Adirondack Park

- Environmental Protection Fund increased to \$400 million, highest ever.
- \$40 million for Open Space Protection
- \$17 million for Invasive Species Control
- \$48 million for State Land Stewardship, with \$8 million focused on Forest Preserve
- \$300,000 for the Adirondack Diversity Initiative
- \$2.1 million for the new Timbuctoo Summer Pipeline Climate and Careers Institute program by SUNY-ESF and CUNY Medger Evers College
- New Forest Ranger Academy underway with 38 Rangers training



## 9. Legislative Advocacy: Conservation Design



The APA Act would be greatly improved, and the forests and natural resources of the Adirondack Park better protected, through use of Conservation Subdivision Design standards for large subdivisions.

46% of ACR lands permanently impacted by development, 37.5% of Resource Management lands permanently impacted by fragmentation.

Legislation passed Assembly, failed to move in Senate.



## 6. Legislative Advocacy: Article 14 Constitutional Amendments



**Camp Gabriels passed Senate, not Assembly. Cathead Mountain failed to move in either house.**



## 6. Legislative Advocacy: Article 14 Constitutional Amendments



**Debar Lodge amendment passed Assembly, not Senate.  
Mount Van Hoevenberg failed to move in either house.**



## 10. Improve and Strengthen Long-Term Investments in Adirondack Communities

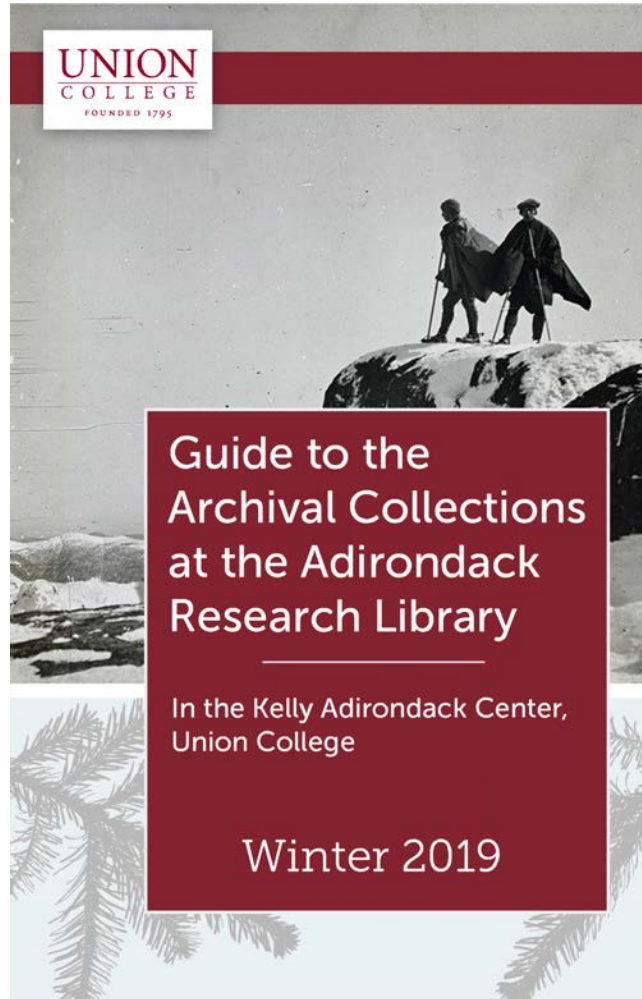


**PROTECT will advocate in a variety of public forums and in Albany for long-term investments that help build local institutions, businesses and communities.**

**Major collaborative opportunities focused on affordable housing.**



## 11. Long-Term Partnerships: Adirondack Research Library



### Adirondack Research Library Collections

**Papers of retired Rangers, Bob Marshall, Louis Marshall, conservationists Harold Jerry, Jr., George Davis, Gary Randorf, Paul Schaefer, papers of Jeanne Robert Foster, collections of historic maps and photographs, and much more.**

**Library has re-opened and holds regular hours.**

## 12. Building Organizational Long-Term Financial Viability

**Long-Term Funds to Support Legal Action, Conservation and Advocacy, and Research**

**Protect the Adirondacks has long-term funds to maintain its office and funds for programs. We need to build our endowment to support core programs for legal action, research, conservation, and advocacy.**

**Get in touch with us today, if you're interested in helping us.**

**Thank you.**







**Thank you for your support. Help PROTECT grow and expand our impact and work to defend the Forest Preserve, waters and wildlands of the Adirondack Park.**