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Adirondack Council suing over snowmobiling plan

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ALBANY — An environmental group is suing New York officials to stop them from implementing a new plan for rerouting snowmobiles in the Adirondacks.

In a suit filed Monday in state court, the Adirondack Council says the guidance adopted last month meant to put snowmobile trails closer to highways and link towns in the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park violates the State Land Master Plan.

The group claims it threatens winter wildlife habitats in the 1.6-million state-owned acres designated as wild forest, allowing trails within two miles of a road and so virtually anywhere, expanding them from about eight feet to nine or 12 feet wide, and permitting heavy grooming machinery.

State conservation and park agency spokesmen had no immediate comment.