

**ADIRONDACK COUNCIL'S NATIONAL SEARCH FOR NEW CONSERVATION DIRECTOR
LEADS BACK HOME TO PARK NATIVE**

***Town of Piercefield Resident, Tupper Lake High Grad, Allison M. Buckley
Chosen from Among 50 Applicants for Park's Top Conservation Advocacy Job***

For more information:

John F. Sheehan
518-432-1770 ofc
518-441-1340 cell

Released: Monday, November 29, 2010

ELIZABETHTOWN, N.Y. – The board of trustees and staff of the Adirondack Council today announced that Allison M. Buckley of Piercefield, St. Lawrence County, has been chosen to replace John Davis as the organization's Director of Conservation.

Buckley was chosen from an impressive field of 50 candidates from across the United States, who formally applied for the position. Davis is due to leave his post at the end of the year.

"We are very pleased to welcome Allison Buckley to the Council's Program Team," said Executive Director Brian L. Houseal. "She has a degree in Environmental Science from SUNY Plattsburgh, and a master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School. Allison has experience working for a land trust, a watershed watch group, a winter resort and for the Village of Lake Placid.



This summer, she filled in for a vacationing staff member at our Albany office and did a great job. She will now be stationed at our headquarters in Essex County.

Among other duties, the job entails keeping tabs on state and federal agencies and policies affecting the park, while also directing research efforts on private land-use, water-pollution prevention, and public land acquisitions.

"I am thrilled to be living and working in the Park again," said Buckley. "I look forward to working with such experienced staff at the Adirondack Council, as well as to the challenges that the Conservation Director position will provide. The job is a good fit with my training and experience, combining both science and public policy. I can't wait to get started."

Buckley will join the staff on December 1 and work with Davis until the end of the year.

The Adirondack Council is a privately funded, not-for-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the ecological integrity and wild character of the New York's 9,300-square-mile Adirondack Park.

"Allison has experience with the advanced technologies that have become indispensable in park management, such as geographic information systems and global positioning instruments," said Houseal. "She has also done some chemical analysis related to local water quality. Best of all, she grew up here

and knows the Adirondack Park and its residents very well. She won't have much catching up to do on the major issues we are facing."

Still, Houseal noted that Buckley's task is daunting.

"The Adirondack Park is larger than Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon and Glacier national parks, combined," Houseal said. "We keep track of every trend and major policy decision affecting the park and its 103 towns and villages. Directing that effort is a big job and it comes with a boatload of responsibility. We are confident Allison will do the job well."

Buckley is a 2010 graduate (cum laude) of Vermont Law School and a 2005 graduate of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. Her work experience includes the Upper Valley Land Trust, Hanover, N.H.; White River Partnership, Royalton, Vt.; Squaw Valley Lodge, Olympic Valley, Calif.; the Village of Lake Placid and the NYS Department of Health. She is also a skier, rock climber, ice climber and competitive runner.

Both of Buckley's parents have served in local government in the Adirondacks.

Current Director of Conservation John Davis will work with Buckley until January 2011, when he will begin a new conservation project aimed at improving the wildlife habitat connections between the Atlantic, Appalachian and Adirondack landscapes.

Davis began his conservation career in the early 1980s with various grassroots conservation groups. From 1990 to 1996, he was cofounder and editor of Wild Earth magazine. From 1997 through 2003, Davis was the biodiversity and wilderness program officer for the Foundation for Deep Ecology, based in Sausalito, California. Davis joined the Adirondack Council's staff in November of 2005.

Founded in 1975, the Adirondack Council carries out its park-protection mission through research, education, advocacy and legal action. The Council has members in all 50 United States.