

For administrative use only: Date: _____ Time of day: _____ Trailhead: _____ Survey #: _____

Adirondack Council Survey: The Adirondack Council is a privately funded not-for-profit organization whose mission is to ensure the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondack Park. We are conducting an independent research project under a permit from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to collect public feedback on overuse in the High Peaks region. Any responses are voluntary on your part and will not be linked to any identifying information. This survey will take approximately 3-5 minutes to complete.

Overall impressions

1. Level of hiking experience in the High Peaks region. **(Please check one only)**

- First-time Experienced (> 4 hikes per year)
 Beginner (< 4 hikes per year) Expert (year-round hiker, group leader)

2. Why did you decide to hike today? **(Please check all that apply)**

- Hike with a view Time with family Other: _____
 Climb a 4,000' peak Find solitude in wilderness
 Social media opportunity Recommended to me

3. Have you hiked this trail before? **(Please circle one)**

Yes – No – Don't Know

a. If Yes, please explain why you came back: _____

Perceptions of overuse

4. Listed below are a number of statements regarding overuse and state land management priorities. Please indicate your level of disagreement or agreement for each statement. **(Please mark one "X" per statement)**

	LEVEL OF DISAGREEMENT/AGREEMENT				
	1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Neutral	4 = Agree	5 = Strongly Agree
a. Overuse is not a problem.					
b. Overuse is a problem but the state should not take action.					
c. Overuse is a problem and the state should take action.					
d. The state should prioritize recreational opportunities and infrastructure over wilderness character and sense of solitude.					
e. The state should prioritize the protection of wilderness character and sense of solitude over expanding recreational opportunities.					

5. Overuse can take many forms, which of the following would affect your enjoyment of the trail today? **(Please check all that apply)**

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Number of people on the trail or summit | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail widening | <input type="checkbox"/> Overcrowded parking lots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trampled vegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> Visible trash | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Visible human waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Possible solutions

6. Below are a number of management actions the state may consider for the High Peaks region to limit impacts to trails and natural resources, and to protect the wild character of the Adirondacks. Please indicate your level of disagreement or agreement for each of the following management actions. **(Please mark one "X" per management action)**

	LEVEL OF DISAGREEMENT/AGREEMENT				
	1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Neutral	4 = Agree	5 = Strongly Agree
a. More information should be provided to hikers about appropriate trail use, etiquette and safety.					
b. Use should be accommodated by building wider trails and/or bigger parking lots.					
c. Trails should be temporarily closed when they are most susceptible to erosion from overuse.					
d. Trailhead parking should be managed with a system that combines reservations & first-come-first-served options to control the maximum # of vehicles.					
e. The Adirondack Park should receive additional funding and hire more staff and rangers.					
f. The # of users should be limited at specific locations on high-use dates.					
g. Alternative hiking options should be provided and promoted.					
h. Other: _____					

About you

Lastly, would you mind answering a couple demographic questions?

7. Age: _____

8. Sex: _____

9. Ethnicity & Race

Ethnicity:

Hispanic or Latinx

Not Hispanic or Latinx

Race:

Black or African
American

Asian Indian

White

Native American or
American Indian

Pacific Islander

Other

Other Asian

10. Current place of residence. **Please list your zip/postal code:** _____

11. Please share additional comments below.