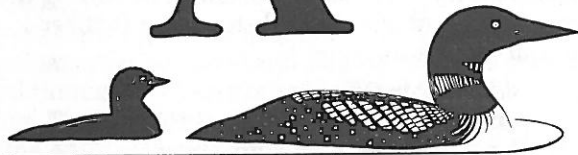
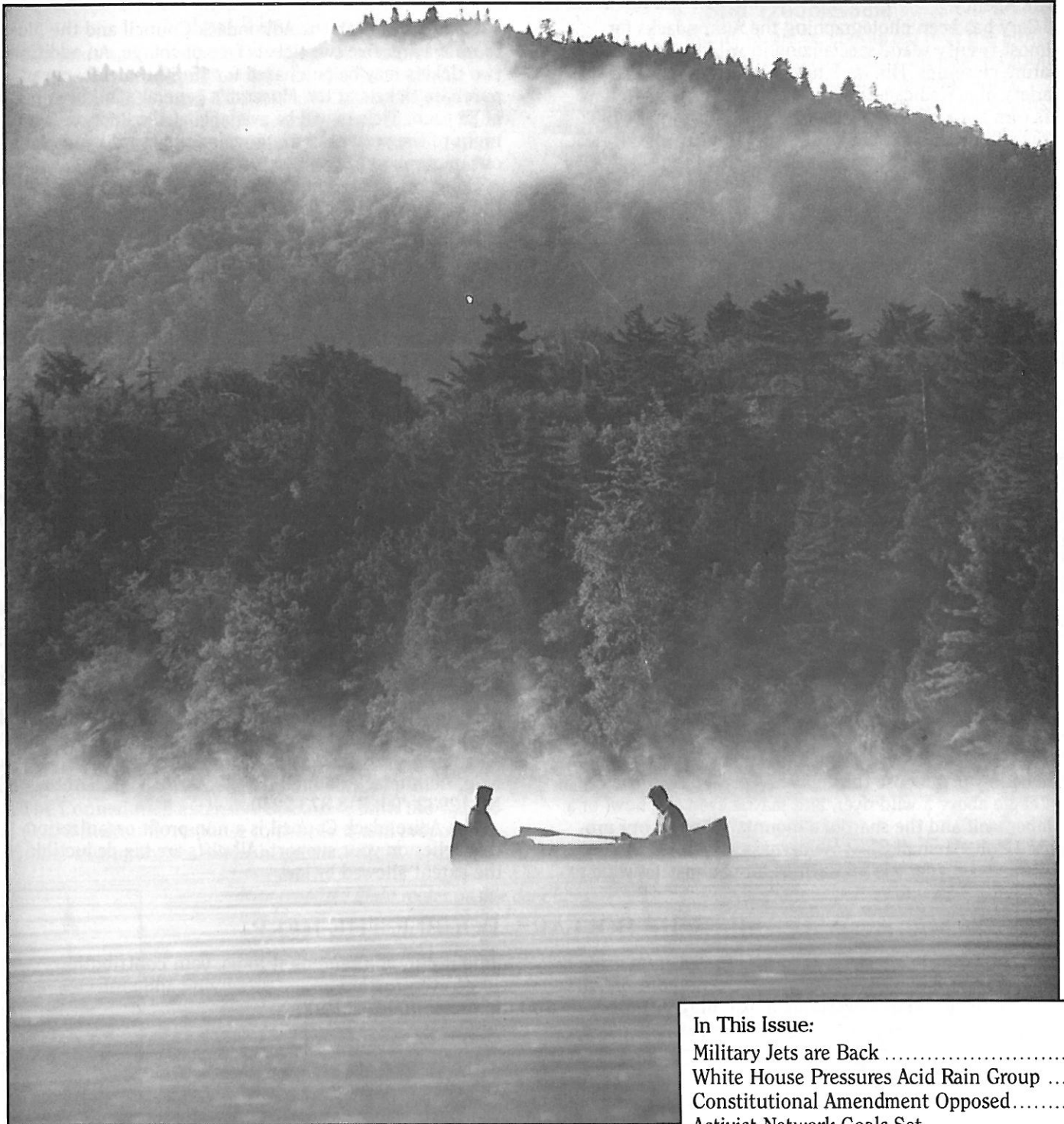


ADIRONDACK COUNCIL



NEWSLETTER/FALL 1991

Member Organizations: The Wilderness Society, Natural Resources Defense Council, Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, and National Parks and Conservation Association.



In This Issue:

Military Jets are Back	3
White House Pressures Acid Rain Group ...	4
Constitutional Amendment Opposed	5
Activist Network Goals Set	8

ON THE EVE OF THE CENTENNIAL...

The Adirondack Council and the American Museum of Natural History in New York City will co-sponsor an Adirondack Park centennial presentation titled, *On the Eve of the 100th Birthday of the Adirondack Park*. The event will be held Thursday, December 12, at 7 p.m. in the museum's Kaufman Theater at Central Park West at 79th Street.

The presentation will feature a slide show given by Gary Randorf, former Executive Director and current Senior Counselor for the Adirondack Council, and a talk by Robert Glennon, Executive Director of the Adirondack Park Agency.

Gary has been photographing the Adirondacks for almost twenty years, specializing in wild landscapes and nature close-ups. His work has been published in a wide variety of periodicals and books, and he expects to have his own book of photos published in the spring of 1992. This will be the first public showing of many of Gary's photos; many of the images to be featured in the slide show were taken over the last couple of years.

Bob Glennon has been an articulate advocate for the

Adirondack Park. His talks are witty, provocative, and inspirational. He will share his vision on how the Park can be preserved and enhanced in its next 100 years.

Tickets for the event may be obtained by writing the American Museum of Natural History after October 1. Send your request to:

Membership Office
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024
(212) 769-5000

Members of both the Adirondack Council and the Museum may receive two tickets free-of-charge. An additional two tickets may be purchased for \$5. Non-members can purchase tickets at the Museum's general admission price of \$5 each. Tickets will be available at the door on the night of the presentation, provided the event is not sold out in advance.

Come celebrate New York's great wilderness Park with these two Adirondack experts.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS NOW AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS



Proceedings from the Council's fall 1990 conference, "Managing Growth and Development in Unique Natural Settings," are now available upon request to all Council members.

The conference featured discussions by planners from both sides of the Atlantic on the struggle to create a sustainable economy while at the same time protecting the vast natural treasures of the Adirondacks—its soaring mountains, deep forests, lakes and streams, wildlife, and biological diversity.

The publication has been far-reaching in both its impact and distribution. Recently, copies were requested by the World Wildlife Fund for distribution in Central and Eastern Europe. Closer to home, the Boston Globe ran an editorial touting the publication and stating "planners and conservationists throughout the New England region should find valuable lessons in the discussion of such (land use planning) experiences."

The Council would like to extend its appreciation to the Underhill Foundation for co-sponsoring the conference and the publishing of the proceedings.

Copies of the proceedings may be obtained by calling or writing the Council's Elizabethtown office.

AN ENDURING LEGACY

By remembering the Adirondack Council in your Will, you will be helping to insure that future generations will be able to hear the cry of the loon across a mountain lake, the bellow of a moose through the boreal forest, the cry of an eagle above a wild river, and maybe even the howl of a timber wolf and the snarl of a mountain lion in our proposed Bob Marshall Great Wilderness.

Please consider the tax savings for your estate while ex-

pressing your commitment to the Adirondack Park through a bequest. For information on how you can help provide an enduring natural legacy, please contact Anne Trachtenberg, Adirondack Council, P.O. Box D-2, Elizabethtown, NY 12932. Tel. 518-873-2240.

The Adirondack Council is a non-profit organization that relies on your support. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

DOUBLE THE DOLLARS, DOUBLE THE HELP

Many companies now offer to match gifts made by current and retired employees to non-profit organizations. By simply obtaining a matching gift form from your company's personnel or business office,

filling it out, and sending it to us, your contribution will go even further toward preserving and protecting the Adirondack Park.

On the Cover

An Adirondack guideboat quietly cuts the morning mist on Lake Placid. Photographer: Nancie Battaglia.

NEW THREAT TO ADIRONDACK PARK WILDERNESS

The Adirondack Council is back at the negotiating table with the military over the newest proposal to use the Park's airspace as a training area for high-speed, low-level fighter jet training.

The Council holds a membership on the Governor's Ad Hoc Committee on Low-Level Flights, which is coordinated through the Department of Environmental Conservation. The committee consists of the Adirondack Council, the Adirondack Park Agency, other Adirondack groups, St. Lawrence County residents, the St. Lawrence County Planning Department and representatives of the military.

Last Time...

Two years ago, the Council worked successfully to curtail a new flight training corridor for the Strategic Air Command's FB-111 and B-52 jets after a long negotiation concerning the noise impact on the ground below. The Adirondack Council's major concern was low-level flights (below 1,500 feet) over the Park's Wilderness areas and the impact of sudden shocks to wildlife and Park users.

Since military planes are kept at a minimum of 2,000 feet above any federal Wilderness area, the Council and others argued that the military should treat Adirondack Wilderness areas the same way.

Massive New Flight Area Proposed

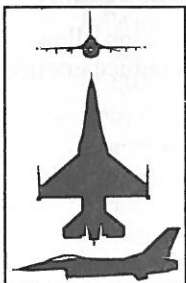
The question arose again this spring when the Air National Guard proposed a massive new flight training area for its high-speed F-16 fighters. The air space is needed, according to the Air National Guard, because Guard units in Massachusetts and Connecticut were switching from the slower A-10 jets to the faster F-16.

Ironically, the New York National Guard said the plan was created by the Vermont National Guard. Vermont officials protested that characterization and officials in Massachusetts and Connecticut said they made no request for more flights over the Adirondacks.

The proposed flight area was more than two-thirds the size of the Park and called for flights as low as 300 feet above nine of the Park's 12 Wilderness areas.

The major difference between the routes negotiated two years ago and the current National Guard plan is that the new plan calls for much more maneuvering room. So, rather than creating relatively narrow flight paths, the Guard wants wide-open operations areas where planes can circle and stage mock dogfights en route to the Fort Drum bombing range just northwest of the Park.

The Council filed extensive comments with the National Guard Bureau in response to the plans and proposed a number of alternatives to the huge, new flight area.



F-16

New proposed flight routes (inside dark lines) would open up large areas of the Park to low-level mock dogfights—as low as 300 feet in the northern part of the Park. (Shaded corridors are existing routes. Air Force routes not shown.)

Air National Guard units in Massachusetts and Connecticut, which are trading in slower A-10 aircraft for faster, more powerful F-16 fighter jets, claim they need Adirondack airspace for low-level training.

New Plan Adjusted

At the August meeting of the Governor's Committee, Col. Robert Rose of the 174th Tactical Wing in Syracuse, (which oversees use of Fort Drum-related military flights), unveiled yet another proposal.

The newest version still calls for flights over the nine central and western Wilderness areas, but at a minimum height of 2,000 feet. Flights of 300 feet to 2,000 feet would be conducted in sparsely populated areas of the northern portion of the Park.

Still Troublesome

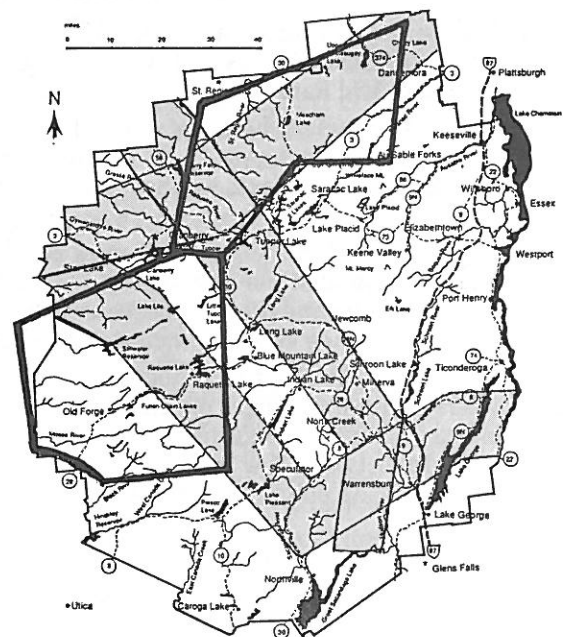
However, the flights would be conducted over the proposed Boreal Wilderness (the most significant low-elevation boreal habitat below the Canadian and Siberian Taiga); the Adirondack Park Agency Visitor Center at Paul Smiths; sensitive Spruce Grouse habitat and other areas of special concern.

If the previous meetings are any indication, the Council and the rest of the committee may be able to adjust the plans to eliminate glaring problems such as these. But the Adirondack Park may still experience an unfair share of the military air traffic in the Northeast.

The attraction of the Park for military aircraft is its sparse population, rugged terrain and, most of all, its proximity to the bombing range at Fort Drum.

One Alternative

For that reason, the Council also asked the military to consider creating a new bombing range on the soon-to-be-decommissioned Loring Air Force Base in Maine. The Council feels such a move would not only help relieve some of the traffic over the Adirondack Park, but also preserve some of the jobs slated to be lost at Loring. Since the need for new airspace originated outside New York, the Council believes other Northeastern states ought to help spread the burden of new training traffic.



ADIRONDACK PARK

YOUR HEALTH, ADIRONDACKS THREATENED BY WHITE HOUSE

Acid Rain Rule is New Target

Passage of the new Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 was a major victory for the environment. Adirondack Council Park Protection Director Dan Plumley's appointment to the Environmental Protection Agency's Acid Rain Advisory Committee was a victory for the Adirondacks. That committee was set up to advise the EPA on translating the amendments into concrete rules for polluters.

However, recent actions by the Bush Administration may jeopardize The Adirondack Council's (and America's) fight for clean air.

Pressure from major polluting industry and from the President's new Council on Competitiveness (led by Vice President Dan Quayle) threatens to substantially weaken the rules and regulations being created to put the new amendments into action.

The Council on Competitiveness was created by President George Bush with unclear statutory (and constitutional) authority. It has already rescinded EPA regulations requiring the recycling of batteries, allowing them to instead be incinerated. (Battery incineration is a leading cause of lead pollution in our air.) The Quayle-led board has also weakened wetlands protection under federal environmental regulatory guidelines. Its newest focus is the proposed Acid Rain regulations.

The Clean Air Amendments passed last year required reductions of acid-causing emissions of sulfur dioxide by 10 million tons, and nitrogen oxide emissions by at least 2 million tons by the year 2000. These reductions are to occur in two phases.

Phase I mandates the clean-up of 110 coal-fired power plants, many of which are located in the Midwest, by January 1, 1995. Phase II reductions will affect nearly 2,000 other, typically smaller, emission sources.

Incredibly, one of the loopholes introduced by the President's Council on Competitiveness would allow polluting industries to change their EPA permits and increase their emissions with *no limits, no public notice or input and no EPA review*. The President's Council has misleadingly labeled this as a plan to allow "minor permit amendments."

Congressman Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), one of the Country's strongest advocates for acid rain control legislation, called the Competitiveness Council's process "illegal."

Phase II establishes an emissions-allowance trading program which allows industries that reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide by more than their allowable level to sell the right to produce extra pollution emissions on the open market, through the Chicago Board of Trade.

Since the EPA emissions-reduction goals are based on a nationwide total, a plant that pollutes heavily can buy allowances from cleaned-up plants and continue to pollute, as long as the national total goes down.

Secondly, during Phase I of the program, utilities with heavily polluting plants can simply reduce their use, increase emissions in plants affected by Phase II and stave off emissions reductions late into the 1990s.

Further, there will be 300,000 emissions allowances placed on the market for those who reduce their energy consumption as a means of reducing acid gas (ie. sulfur dioxide) emissions.

Lastly, requirements are now being created for monitoring and reporting acid-causing emissions from each plant—the one aspect of the new laws that will prove whether they are being followed or not.

The Adirondack Council's Position

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must not bend to pressure from industry and White House to weaken the new Acid Rain Law.
- The President's Council should be prohibited from destroying the EPA's plans to protect the environment and ensure that the 1990 standards for the reduction of air pollution are met.
- Permit requirements in the Acid Rain rules must prohibit illegal weakening of the amendments (as the President's Council wants) and provide adequate public notice to anyone effected when emission increases are proposed.
- Each state should be able to prohibit trades from within their borders to upwind sources of acid-gas emissions which increase pollution deposited in sensitive resource areas (ie. trades between New York plants and Midwestern utilities that increase pollution in the Adirondacks).
- The EPA should adopt and enforce acid-deposition standards to protect sensitive ecosystems, like those in the Adirondacks, when pollution travels across state lines (ie. from the Midwest to the Adirondacks).
- Industries allowed to reduce the use of heavily polluting plants to delay clean up should only be given this right if they implement a program which provides an equivalent environmental benefit (ie. enhanced energy conservation).
- Utility plant emissions should be monitored with the best available system (in accuracy, availability to the public and timeliness), and should be reported hourly, such as the systems now used by New York and Pennsylvania.
- All of the 300,000 energy-conservation emission allowances should be devoted to help consumers reduce energy consumption and thus reduce the demand.

What The Adirondack Council is Doing

The Adirondack Council notified both the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Attorney General's office of our concerns over interference by the President's Council on Competitiveness. To their credit, both State Agencies have filed crucial testimony with the Environmental Protection Agency in opposition.

Other important actions include:

- Initiating a NY Clean Air Network, in cooperation with the American Lung Association and other organizations, to build a statewide coalition committed to securing strong clean air laws.
- Playing a leading role in revitalizing a *national* clean air network.

• Plumley's participation in the EPA's Acid Rain Advisory Committee emissions monitoring subcommittee, where he will press for consideration of acid deposition standards for sensitive resources (such as the several hundred threatened Adirondack lakes and the dying Adirondack high-elevation spruce forests).

If you want more information about what you can do to help solve the acid rain problem, write to The Adirondack Council, P.O. Box D-2, Elizabethtown, NY 12932. If you wish to help by becoming an Adirondack Activist, please fill out the appropriate section of the enclosed membership card and send it to Dan Plumley's attention.

COUNCIL URGES 'NO' VOTE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Ballot Proposal 2: "The Piseco Airport Amendment"

Proposal 2 asks voters to approve a swap of 50 acres of State Forest Preserve Land at the end of the runway of the Piseco airport, near Piseco Lake in the Town of Arietta, in exchange for 53 acres that the Town would, in turn, deed to the State.

The fifty acres of land would be used to expand the airport runway and to improve the approach to the runway by the cutting of taller trees. The land given to the state would become part of the Forest Preserve.

The Council recently conveyed the following objections to this proposed amendment:

- **Land Ownership:** The town does not own (at the time of this printing) the 53 acres it is offering to swap and did not own the land when the amendment was proposed and passed by the State Legislature.
- **Lower Value:** The 53 acres offered for the swap by the town are of less value to the citizens of New York State than the Forest Preserve lands earmarked for the trade, according to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and are not desirable additions to the Forest Preserve.
- **Bad Policy:** We feel it is bad policy to recommend that the state acquire a single acre of land it neither needs nor wants in the Adirondacks.
- **Safety:** Although the issue of airport safety has been used to promote this amendment, the Federal Aviation Administration has found no immediate danger posed to planes by the Forest Preserve trees in question.
- **No Clear Benefit:** Constitutional Amendments to alter the Forest Preserve should be undertaken only when there is a clear and overriding benefit to the people of New York and to the Forest Preserve. We feel this is not the case with Piseco Airport amendment and that new, more carefully-crafted legislation should be drafted for presentation to the State

Legislature and to the people of New York on a future ballot.

Other groups opposing this amendment include The Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, the Environmental Planning Lobby, Sierra Club, and the National Audubon Society. Further, the DEC issued a memo in opposition to the amendment during the 1991 legislative session.

Ballot Proposal 3: "The Barge Canal Amendment"

This amendment would authorize the imposition of tolls on the state barge canal system for the first time. It would also authorize the leasing (up to forty years) of canal lands statewide for private development.

Over 6,500 acres of canal lands, including all or portions of four lakes and the Hinckley reservoir are within the Blue Line of the Adirondack Park. These lands are managed by the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT).

In 1908, the New York State Court of Appeals ruled that those canal lands owned by the State of New York inside the Blue Line of the Adirondack Park were acquired for purposes directly related to the Forest Preserve (preservation of water supply) and are in law part of the Forest Preserve.

This amendment was, according to its legislative sponsors, drafted and passed by the State Legislature without any consideration of its impact within the Adirondack Park. Passage of the amendment would throw the legal status and the permanent protection now afforded these lands into question. Unfortunately, the New York DOT does not recognize the canal lands it controls are part of the Forest Preserve. DOT does acknowledge that without the passage of Proposal #3 it is powerless to lease these lands.

It is regrettable that, despite the potential benefits outside the Adirondack Park that this amendment offers, we must oppose its passage.

RIGHT: Once a resident, the timber wolf may again find a home in the Park if our dream of a 400,000-acre Bob Marshall Great Wilderness is realized.

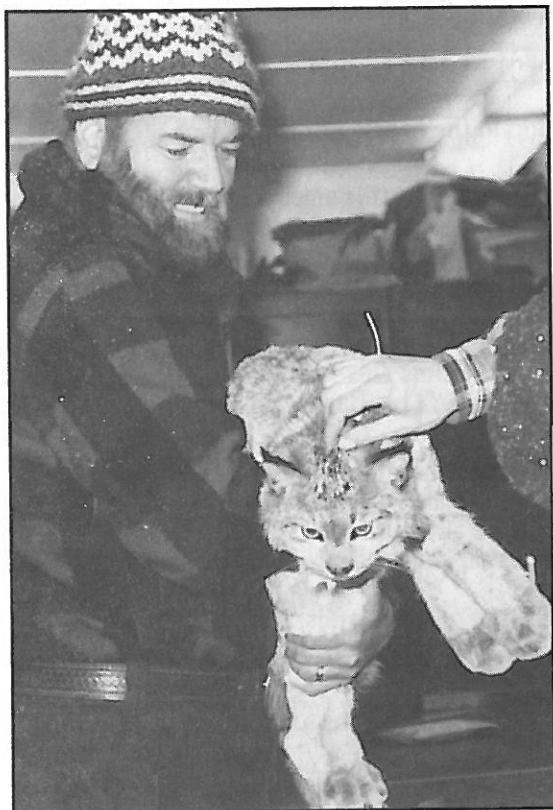


Len Rue, Jr.

ADIRONDACK WILDLIFE

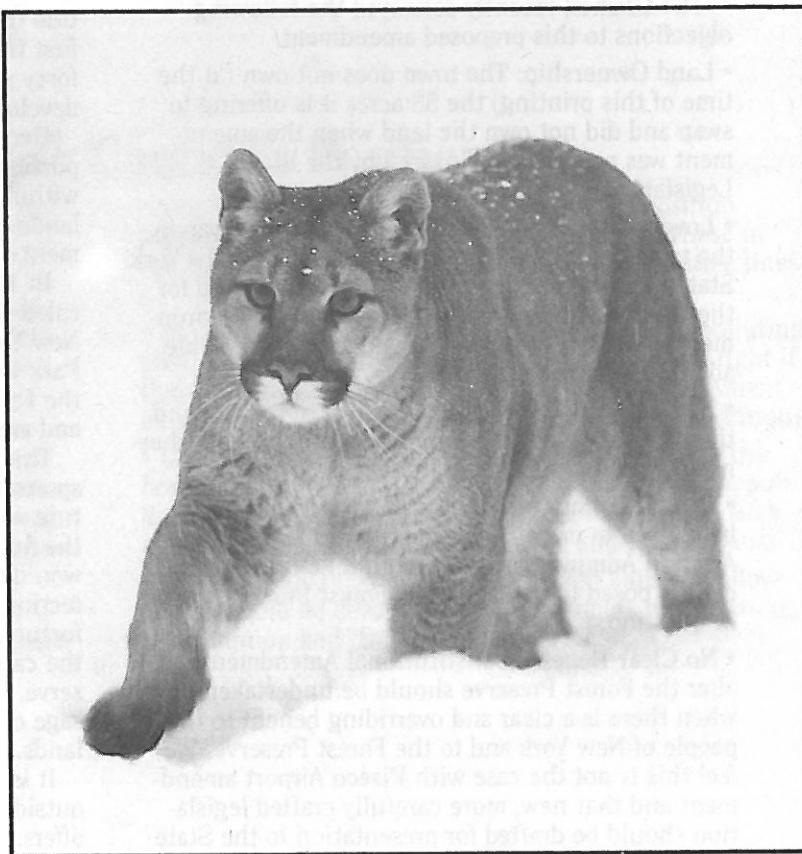
In our July Newsletter, we reported that the fate of the Adirondack Wildlife Program, which has successfully reintroduced the Canada lynx to the High Peaks region, was up in the air.

The program's entire \$280,000 budget fell victim to Governor Cuomo's state budget cuts, was restored by the State Legislature (at a reduced level), and was later vetoed a second time by the Governor, who axed all legislative additions to his budget. At the time our last Newsletter went to press in late June, it was impossible to tell if the program would "live or die" in the last days of the legislative session.

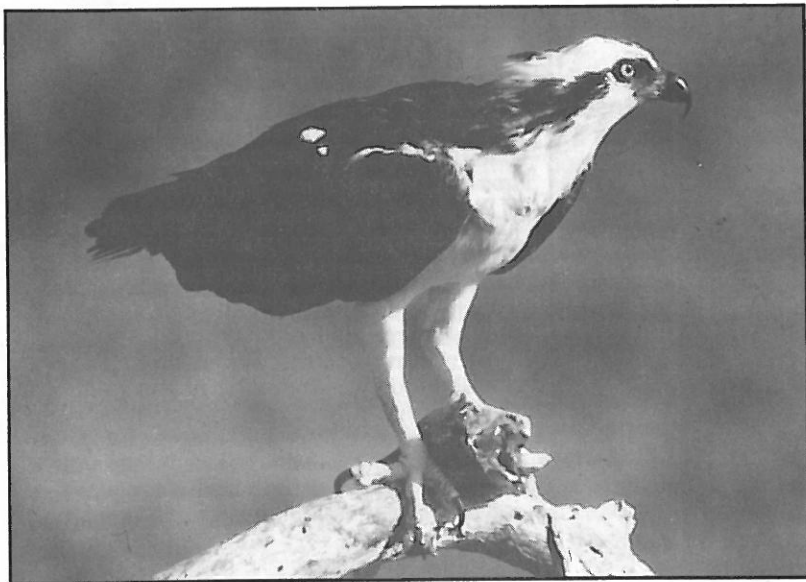


ABOVE: Dr. Rainer Brocke of the State University of New York's School of Environmental Science and Forestry holds a Canada lynx that is being prepared for release in the Adirondacks. The Canada lynx has made a successful comeback in the Park due to the efforts of the Adirondack Wildlife Program.

RIGHT: Despite reported sightings in the Park, the cougar is considered an extirpated species in the Adirondacks. With adequate habitat containing few roads, cougars may once again find a home here.



Len Lee Rue III



LEFT: Their populations once decimated by decades of DDT poisoning, osprey are making a strong comeback in the Adirondack Park.

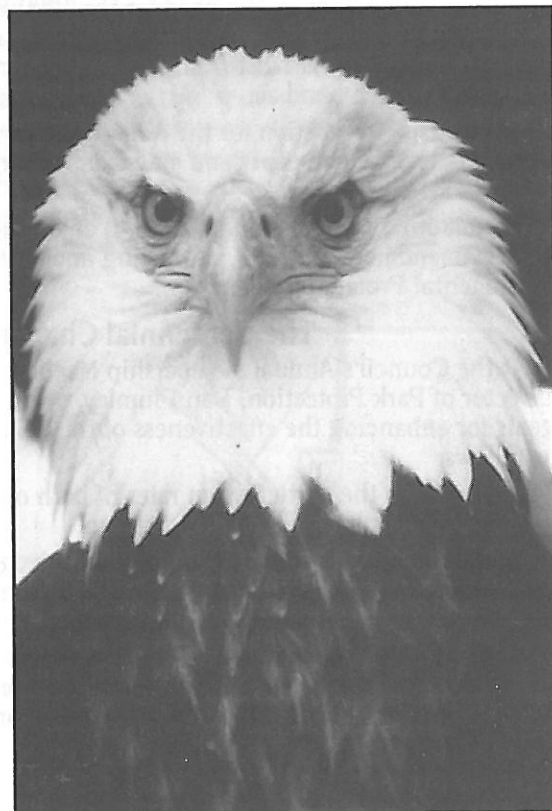
FE PROGRAM SAVED!

We are happy to report that it lived. Funding for the program, which may someday aid in restoring the moose (some of which are reintroducing themselves), and perhaps even the wolf and cougar, to the Adirondack wilderness, was re-established at a level of \$215,000 by the legislature in the session's closing days.

The Adirondack Council led the effort to restore funding to this worthwhile program. The Council's Legislative Director in Albany, Bernard Melewski, worked closely with key lawmakers and legislative staff to ensure restoration of these crucial funds.



Len Rue, Jr.



Peter Nye

ABOVE: Also affected by DDT, bald eagles can once again be seen soaring in Adirondack skies, thanks to the restoration efforts of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

LEFT: With continued efforts on their behalf, moose and perhaps even wolves and cougars, may once again roam free in the Adirondack wilderness. (Some moose have already reintroduced themselves.)

ADIRONDACK COUNCIL'S STATEWIDE ACTIVIST NETWORK PROGRAM

A Growing Resource that Needs You!

The Council began its activist network back in April of 1990. Since then it has grown to include over 1,400 activists—members all across New York State willing to take on additional challenges to protect the Adirondack Park. In the past Council activists have played an important role, including:

- Signaling broad support statewide for strong, new legislative protection for the Adirondack Park through the course of hearings held by the Governor's Commission on the Adirondacks in the 21st Century.
- Educating voters on the need for the 1990 Environmental Quality Bond Act, and pressuring Governor Cuomo to call for a new environmental trust fund for land protection following the narrowly failed bond act.
- Espousing protection for the Adirondacks in numerous editorials, letters to newspaper and magazine editors, and in newspaper articles statewide.
- Promoting Congressional action to enact the New Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, now being implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Centennial Challenge

At the Council's Annual Membership Meeting in July, Council staff Director of Park Protection, Dan Plumley, outlined our three primary goals for enhancing the effectiveness of this 18 month-old program, as follows:

- 1) Doubling the participation rates of both our letter writing activists and our core activist group.
- 2) Enhancing our activist members' knowledge, understanding and advocacy skills through activist training seminars (the first of which is scheduled for this fall).
- 3) Providing our activists with quicker access to the information they need to aid our park protection program through an enhanced communication network among activists and Council staff.

Where You Come In

As a Council member, your financial support through membership dues is crucial to continuing the Council's diverse park protection programs. And, as an Adirondack Council activist, additional time and effort you put in can reap even greater rewards, both for you and for the Adirondack Park.

The commitment is up to you—the benefits to the Park (and future generations) are clear. We need your help in reaching our Centennial goals for the Statewide Activist Network Program.

TO HELP US REACH OUR CENTENNIAL ACTIVIST PROGRAM GOALS SIMPLY CHECK THE APPROPRIATE LINE ON THE RESPONSE CARD ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER, FILL IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, AND MAIL IT TO US. PLEASE CONSIDER RECRUITING OTHER "FRIENDS OF THE ADIRONDACKS" TO JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION AS AN ACTIVIST MEMBER.

TOWN OF WEBB: Bti IN, DUFLO OUT

In the July Newsletter, we printed a passage from a 1989 letter to the Supervisor of the Town of Webb recounting one family's experience of being directly sprayed with chemical pesticides from a plane while boating on Fourth Lake.

Now, thanks to the efforts of several committed activists and concerned citizens, this scenario may never occur again.

After several concerned citizens urged town officials to consider alternatives to aerial pesticide spraying, the town board commissioned the group to prepare a report outlining the Bti application program and its associated costs. Within a month, the group had completed its report and presented it to the board, which adopted the program.

Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis israeliensis*) is an environmentally safe, biological alternative for controlling black flies without the toxic consequences associated with Dibrom spraying. Bti is applied directly to streams where black flies hatch and affects the larval growth of targeted species only. Webb's Bti program began last spring with eight applicators covering a 76 square-mile area.

"I have not heard one negative report about the program," said Webb Bti advocate Richard Knight, who characterized the program as a "strong success" and said it may help lengthen the tourist season in the area.

The group also thanked the Adirondack Council, Citizens for a Better Tomorrow, and officials from neighboring towns who helped get the program off the ground.

In a related story, the Otter Lake Improvement Association is set to begin mapping a six-square-mile area surrounding the lake as the first step in the Association-funded Bti program. The OLIA is proceeding with the project despite receiving no funding from local government.



Adirondack Council staff and activists in front of the Main Lodge at the Sagamore Conference Center near Raquette Lake during the Council's Annual Meeting held in July. From left: Adirondack Council Program Assistant Cindy Monty, Activists Robert Hall, Robert Kelly (seated), Jerry Kirwan, Steven Jervis, and Council Director of Park Protection Dan Plumley.

AROUND THE PARK

"Dockominium" Project Halted

After weighing the concerns of Adirondack residents and the Adirondack Council, the Adirondack Park Agency denied permitting a major, precedent-setting "dockominium" project called "The Moorings."

The project, proposed for an existing marina at the narrow northern extent of Lake George, would have established a 40-boat "floating group camp" complete with power, "live-aboard" summer tenancy and a homeowner's association—all on one of the Park's most threatened public waters.

Following two days of testimony by Council staff and concerned Adirondack residents and extensive written testimony to the APA, the project was turned down (without prejudice for future proposals) due to overwhelming environmental and cumulative impact implications. The APA also cited concerns raised by the Council about the proposed "privatization" of a public water body.

Council Endorses Clean Industry

For the first time in its 17-year history, The Adirondack Council has endorsed an industrial project, proposed for the Town of Moriah Economic Development Zone in the hamlet of Mineville.

If the State Department of Economic Development approves the financing package proposed by the Essex County Industrial Development Agency (IDA), construction is expected to begin this fall.

The project matches a Canadian file cabinet manufacturer with a community that has seen little in the way of new employment since iron ore mining halted there more than a decade ago. The plant would produce more than 170 new jobs in the first year for workers with a variety of skills.

According to Essex County IDA Director Art Norton, steel would be shipped in, fabricated, painted and shipped out of the Mineville facility for sale. A special electrostatic, dry painting system would eliminate air pollution from the process. The proposed plant would use little water, would not be an intrusion to the surrounding area, and is designed to minimize the effects on natural resources.

The Council determined after studying the plans that the plant would have an insignificant impact on the environment and sent a letter of support to the Adirondack Park Agency calling for its approval. The APA approved the project at its August session.

Details on financing and other incentives from the state to the business owner are still being worked out, Norton noted. Norton said he intends to work with the Adirondack Council in the future to help attract economic development projects that are beneficial to Adirondack residents and communities and compatible with the Park's natural character.

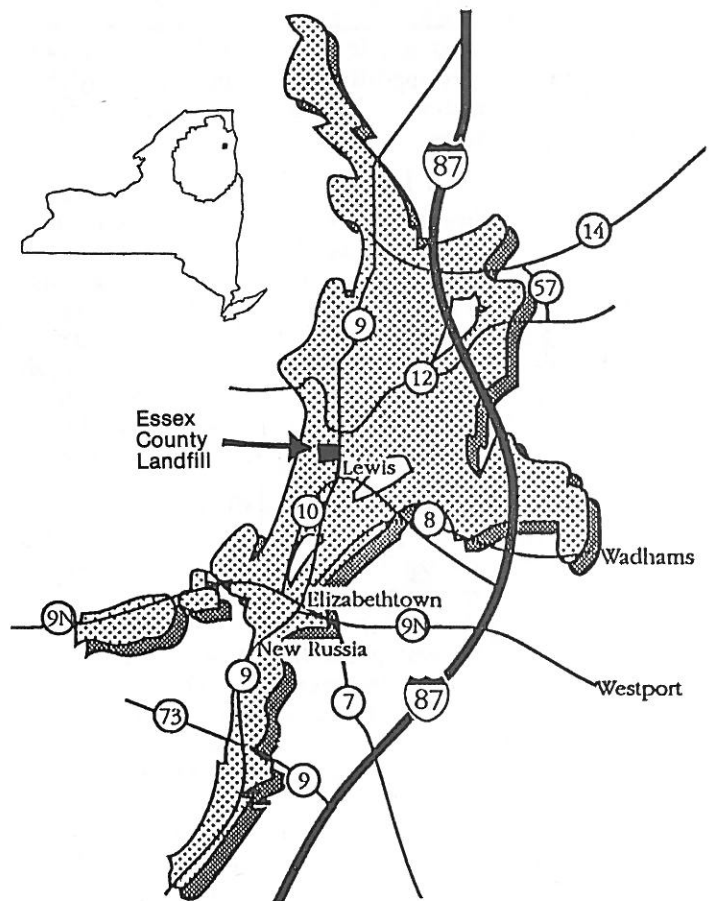
The Council has pledged to help the IDA identify appropriate sites for environmentally safe, compatible industry in the Adirondack Park.

Essex County Aquifer Threat Still Looms

Despite a unified call of opposition from Adirondack residents and the Adirondack Council, Essex County continues to lumber ahead (with nods from both the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Adirondack Park Agency) with plans to open a new county landfill *directly over* the county's largest designated principal freshwater aquifer.

The site, "grandfathered" under old solid waste facility siting regulations, would not be permitted to operate under current regulations in any other community in the state and may pose a threat to groundwater resources and human health.

In an effort to preserve the County's fresh water supply provided by this extensive aquifer (see diagram), the Council, which has been involved with the landfill siting process for over a decade, has joined with citizen groups, the Essex County Concerned Citizens for Clean Water and adjacent landowners to take appropriate actions in the course of county and state environmental permitting and review processes. We have contracted the services of a professional hydro-geologist to peer review critical county and state documentation and the required hydrogeologic assessment studies of the proposed landfill site.



"Lake Elizabeth", the principal aquifer located under Essex County's landfill site, could be contaminated with leachate from the dump. Many residents draw their drinking water from this underground source.

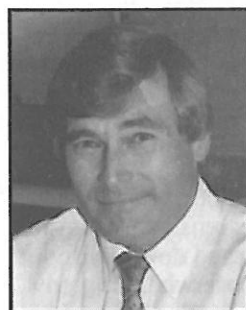
COUNCIL HONORS GLENNON AS CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

The Council presented its "Conservationist of the Year" award to Adirondack Park Agency Executive Director, Robert C. Glennon, during its Awards Dinner held at the Sagamore Conference Center on Raquette Lake in July. Other award winners are listed below.

Robert C. Glennon began working for the APA in 1974 as an assistant counsel. He was appointed Executive Director of the Agency in 1988 and has been a vocal proponent of strengthening land protection measures and increasing the APA's ability to perform its duties effectively and efficiently. He has also been a lightning rod for criticism from those working against Park protection.

Glennon has carried the urgent message of conservation and preservation to diverse audiences at Cornell Uni-

versity, Georgetown Law Center, Albany Law School, Paul Smiths College, the St. Lawrence County Bar Association, the St. Lawrence University Conference, the Adirondack



Robert C. Glennon

Mountain Club, and the Adirondack Council's Annual Meetings. He has written extensively on Adirondack issues for Union College, was a member of the State Bar Association Environmental Law Section's Executive Committee, and received an award from the bar association for excellence in public service.

Glennon and his family live in Lake Placid.

Other Winners

Citizen Action

The Council's Citizen Action award for 1991 was presented to Eleanor and Monty Webb of Blue Mountain Lake.

As long-time members of the Council, the Webbs have written numerous letters to the editors of Adirondack newspapers, extolling the virtues of protecting the beauty and diversity of the Adirondack Park for now and for the future. This dedicated duo, both of whom are in their 80s, have also taken every opportunity to explain publicly the need for Park protection and the benefits of providing a living legacy for future generations.

Park Issues Analysis

For 22 years, Adirondack Life has been an ever-evolving snapshot of Adirondack culture, showing how the Park and its people can live in harmony, each benefitting from the presence of the other. Through compelling articles, eye-catching design and stunning photography, this Jay-based periodical has been a constant source of well-reasoned and balanced reporting on the conflicts between preservation and exploitation of the Adirondack landscape. It has cast far more light than heat on the Adirondack debate.

Industrial Stewardship

There are two reasons to recognize Lyons Falls Pulp and Paper, this year's winner of the Council's Industrial Stewardship award—each reason enough for an individual award.

The company's development of the first chlorine-free paper in the U.S. has won praise from a number of environmental groups including Greenpeace, which is printing its international magazine on this new "Pathfinder Offset CF" stock made in the Adirondacks.

Lyons Falls has also struck an innovative easement/exchange deal with New York State in which the company signed over recreation and development rights to 3,000 acres of its lands to the state in exchange for the timber-cutting rights on private lands of equal value. The state and Lyons Falls turned to the Adirondack Nature Conservancy, which purchased two private parcels totaling 14,000 acres from a willing seller, the timber rights to which were equal in value to the recreation and development rights on the Lyons Falls land.

Education and Public Service

Dr. Ross Whaley, President of the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry (Syracuse), is this year's Education and Public Service Award winner. He has exhibited great leadership in working with industry officials, which in turn has improved relations between timberland managers and environmental interests. The college's programs emphasize respect for the environment and methods for preserving, enhancing, and restoring its integrity.

Dr. Whaley's list of recent accomplishments include service with the Governor's Commission on the Adirondacks in the 21st Century, the federal Northern Forest Lands Study, the State University/Department of Environmental Conservation Task Force, and the Governor's Task Force on the Forest Products Industry.

Land Stewardship

The 1991 Council Land Stewardship award was presented to the Adirondack Nature Conservancy/Land Trust, which pioneered the effort to curb the destruction of rare and fragile alpine flora on the summits of the Adirondack's highest peaks by stationing "summit stewards" atop these mountains. For twelve weeks during the summer, four trained, uniformed stewards patrolled the summits of Mt. Marcy, Algonquin, Haystack, and Skylight on a full-time basis, informing and educating hikers of the plants and their significance (see photo on back cover).

Another of the groups' major accomplishments was the protection of the former Morgan property—a rare, mile-long stretch of undeveloped Lake George shoreline. This victory was a mixed blessing, however, as the land was saved but the financial security of the organization was threatened. Following the defeat of the Bond Act, New York could not honor its commitment to buy the land from the Conservancy and the group was left to deal with the payments. It has since hired a fund raiser to deal specifically with saving the Morgan property.

The Conservancy/Land Trust are headquartered on Church Street in Elizabethtown.

ON LAND

State Acquisitions End With A Bang

Following years of negotiations and legal work, the last major state land acquisitions are finally being announced. The state, after using the last of the 1972 and 1986 Bond Act funds that were earmarked for deals already in the hopper, is now without money to protect critical open space lands for the first time in over 30 years.

Two significant acquisitions include thousands of acres located within the proposed Bob Marshall Great Wilderness. The state purchased conservation easements on nearly 20,000 acres of lands owned by the Yorkshire Timber Company in southern St. Lawrence County. According to a gubernatorial press release, "The Yorkshire lands provide a buffer for the unique Massawepie Mire wetland complex and give canoeists access to approximately seven miles of the South Branch of the Grasse River." Another acquisition saw the state purchase nearly 7,700 acres in fee from Otterbrook Timber Company. This long-sought deal on land located between Horseshoe Lake and Cranberry Lake in St. Lawrence County was delayed by a lawsuit that has now been settled.

Meanwhile, progress is being made on finalizing about 9,000 acres of fee and easement transactions with Paul Smiths College. No less than 21 separate agreements are being hammered out, some of which require lengthy legal and field survey work. Most of these lands lie east of the St. Regis Canoe area, along the St. Regis River and around the St. Regis Lakes.

Virtually all of these projects were on the Council's priority list, and had been promoted in our literature and through our program efforts.

Draft Open Space Plan To Be Released Soon, Hearings To Follow

State officials are working feverishly to complete a draft Open Space Conservation Plan within the next month or so. Following a round of public hearings—probably in late November—the plan will be revised and presented to the Governor and the Legislature. Upon approval by the Governor, the plan will guide the state's land acquisition programs for approximately three years, after which a revised plan will be adopted for a similar period.

Production of the plan was delayed primarily to allow incorporation of numerous recommendations submitted by the Region 5 Land Acquisition Advisory Committee, which covers about two-thirds of the Adirondack Park. Council staffer Mike DiNunzio is a member of that committee.

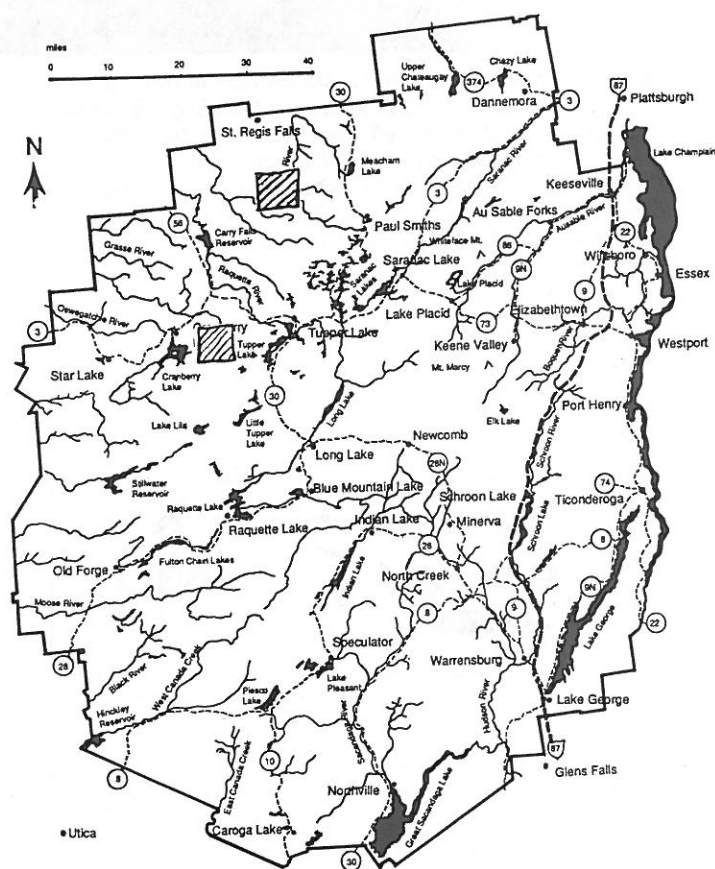
"The committee has reached consensus on recommendations about the use of eminent domain and the evaluation of the effects of state acquisitions on the local economy," DiNunzio said. These two issues, more than anything else, have stymied progress on the preparation of a comprehensive plan to protect the critical open spaces of the Adirondack Park. We are now ready to move forward with the fundamental task of designating open space areas in need of long-term protection."

Council's Plan On The Record

Despite the reluctance of the Region 5 Committee to address specific acquisition proposals, the Adirondack Council has submitted a detailed package of its own acquisition priorities to the state.

"Our multi-year effort to produce the 2020 VISION series has rewarded us handsomely," said DiNunzio. "I am not aware of any other group anywhere in the state that has compiled such a well-researched, thoroughly documented plan for open space conservation."

The three-volume set of 2020 VISION publications sets forth the Council's vision for the Park in the year 2020 and beyond. Separate volumes address the need to preserve the Park's biological diversity and round out its wilderness and wild forest systems.



Approximate locations of parcels recently acquired by the state through both fee title purchase and conservation easements. With no money left in the state coffers, will these be the last parcels protected?



The Adirondack Council staff is shown here in front of the Church Street office in Elizabethtown. Kneeling are Senior Counselor Gary Randorf, left, and Park Protection Director Daniel Plumley. Standing, from left, are Communications Director John Sheehan; Administrator and Membership Director Donna Beal; Program Assistant Cindy Monty; Executive Director Timothy Burke; Education and Research Director Michael DiNunzio; Legislative Director and Counsel Bernard Melewski;

Intern Kelly Rowden; Development Director Anne Trachtenberg; Receptionist Mary Lou Moore; Membership Secretary Emily Turek; Membership Coordinator Joseph Moore; Development Coordinator Elaine Burke, and Membership Clerk Eleanor Audino. Absent is Administrative Assistant Jacqueline Audino. Profiles of individual staff members will be featured in upcoming editions of The Adirondack Council Newsletter.



A coalition of The Wilderness Society; Natural Resources Defense Council; Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks; National Parks and Conservation Association; and other concerned organizations and individuals.

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