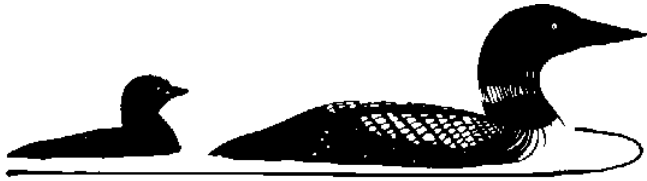


# Adirondack Council

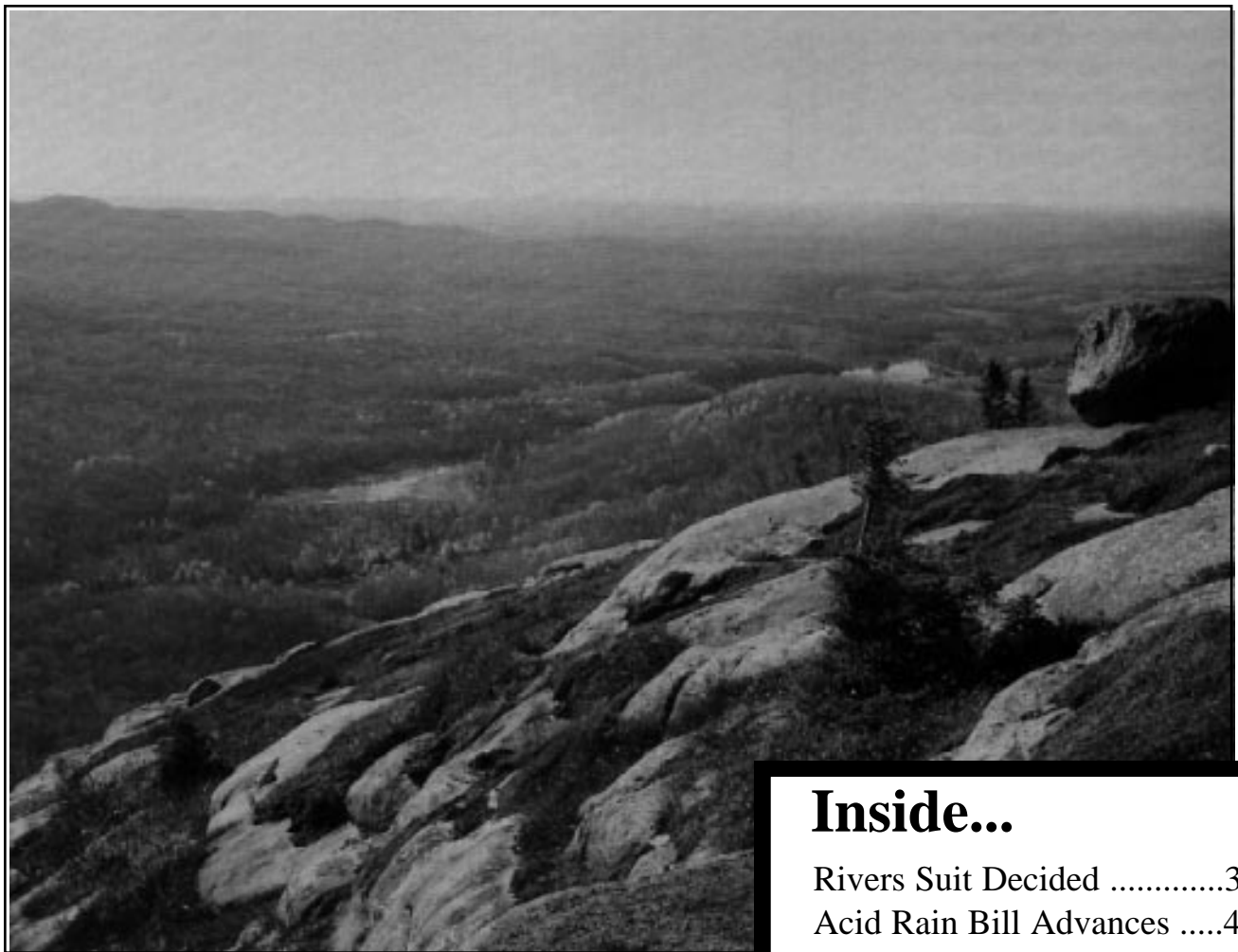


Newsletter/January 1999

*Member Organizations: Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, National Audubon Society,  
National Parks & Conservation Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, The Wilderness Society*

## 139,000 Acres of Park Protected

*Champion Deal Nets Forest Preserve,  
Easements, 70 Miles of Public Rivers*



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January 1999

Dear Members and Friends,

The December 9 announcement by Governor Pataki that the state would protect 139,000 acres of the Champion lands was a wonderful way to celebrate a significant year in the protection of the Adirondack Park. The Champion deal almost doubles the amount of land in the Adirondacks with state-owned conservation easements and adds 29,000 acres to the Forest Preserve.

Significant land acquisition activities continued in mid-December with the Lake George Basin Land Conservancy announcing the acquisition of the famous Rogers Rock property on Lake George.

But there is progress to report on other fronts as well. After levying the two biggest fines in its history earlier in the year, the Adirondack Park Agency recently reached a settlement on a series of blatant violations of the APA Act. Once again, it broke its own record for a financial penalty, showing that the agency is taking seriously its legislative mandate to assertively enforce its land-use regulations.

Earlier in the fall, the Adirondack Council held a reception in New York City focusing on acid rain. One highlight of the event was the announcement of a second donation of 5,000 sulfur dioxide pollution allowances to the Adirondack Council from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation. So far the Council has retired approximately 5,000 of the 10,000 allowances.

Looking ahead, 1999 holds great promise for protection of the Adirondack Park as well. Other large, important tracts of timberland may well be protected this year, either through fee acquisition or by conservation easement. The Moynihan Acid Rain Bill, which prompted Senate Sub-Committee hearings on acid rain last fall, will be reintroduced. It is gaining supporters in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, as the Council works with national and regional groups to educate the public on the pressing need for a resolution.

The Council will be working closely with our member organizations and the four-state Northern Forest Alliance to promote significant federal appropriations to the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Forest Legacy Program. This will enable federally funded land protection efforts to supplement state and private actions in the Northern Forest area.

Your interest, support and activism makes it possible for the Adirondack Council to partner with policymakers and other groups to make great progress toward our vision of a thriving and protected Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Burke  
Executive Director

## On the Cover

*The view from atop Azure Mountain on Champion International lands that are being protected through a combination of purchase and easements. See Page 6 for details. Photo by Gary A. Randorf.*

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## Our Mission

The Adirondack Council is an 18,000-member, privately funded not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting the natural and human communities of the Adirondack Park through research, education, advocacy and legal action.

# Top Court Rules on Rivers Access

The NYS Court of Appeals has made a significant ruling in a long-standing dispute between recreational canoeists and landowners, who disagree over the public's right to use recreational watercraft in rivers where both banks are owned by private parties.

The ruling was the result of a case that began as a trespassing complaint against a group of Adirondack canoeists. The state's highest court decided in December that any river that provides "practical utility to the public as a means of transportation" should be considered navigable under the law and may be used by the public, regardless of who owns the banks.

The 4-1 landmark ruling clarified that the definition of a "navigable river" extends beyond the question of whether a river could be used to transport goods to market. But it left open the question of whether the South Branch of the Moose River in the Adirondack Park was indeed navigable under the new, recreational-use standard. A new trial will be slated for that question alone.

## Court Battle Began in 1991

In June of 1991, the Adirondack Council pressed for state legislation that would have opened all rivers navigable by canoe, but also protected landowners from liability. Such legislation would have protected unique fisheries as well. When the bill passed the Assembly but stalled in the Senate, a group of canoeists paddled past the "no trespassing" signs at the point where the South Branch of the Moose enters the Adirondack League Club.

State officials had already made the administrative decision to stop prosecuting trespass cases involving rivers navigable by canoe, believing them to

be public waterways. However, the Adirondack League Club sued the canoeists, and the Sierra Club, which had organized the trip. This caused the Legislature to halt its deliberations until the courts had ruled.

After a series of twists and turns through the lower courts, the Court of Appeals was presented with the case this year.



South Branch of Moose River. Photo by Gary A. Randorf.

In sum, the court ruled that trucks had replaced barges and log drives as the standard commercial means of carrying goods to market. In that time, however, the public's rights and expectations regarding natural resources and the use of rivers had changed.

## Commercial Test Too Limited

"Evidence of a river's practical utility for transport need not be limited to evidence of its capacity for the movement of commercial goods," stated Judge Carmen B. Ciparick, writing for the majority.

"Once one of the five busiest rivers in New York for the transport of logs, the South Branch has not again been used for that purpose since 1948, and the possibility of such use in the future is unlikely. Today logs are transported by truck.

"The declining need to use rivers for commercial logging coincides with changing attitudes toward the preservation of our natural resources. Rivers, long-recognized as unique natural re-

sources, are no longer primarily subjects of commercial exploitation and gain but instead are valued in their own right as a means of travel. Indeed, the Legislature has enacted a system to designate rivers 'wild, scenic or recreational' in order to protect their 'historic, ecological or recreational values.' In line with these modern circumstances and our precedents, we are satisfied that

recreational use should be part of the navigability analysis."

## No Property Rights Lost

"Appellant's fear that consideration of recreational use unduly broadens the common law standard and threatens private property rights is unfounded," he wrote, stating that the landowners never possessed the right to exclude the public from traveling navigable waterways.

The ruling noted that canoeists can portage around obstacles in navigable rivers by using the banks or bed, but only far enough to circumvent an obstruction and continue on. Any other purpose is trespass.

## Bellacosa Ready to Open River

Dissenting Judge Joseph Bellacosa agreed with the majority's decision regarding what constitutes a public waterway. But Bellacosa dissented with the majority's decision that there was conflicting or insufficient evidence to rule summarily on the status of the South Branch of the Moose. He wrote that he would deem it navigable and save the time and expense of another trial.

In the past, the Adirondack Council has worked with recreationists and landowners in support of legislation to protect landowners from liability for injuries incurred by recreationists.

Earlier this year, the Court of Appeals ruled that an owner of both banks of a navigable river may preclude the public from fishing, even if it is deemed navigable for recreational travel.

# Council Testifies Before Senate on Merits of Acid Rain Legislation

An effective, critically important package of acid rain control legislation being considered by Congress is still very much alive, despite losing a co-sponsor when U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato was defeated in the November elections.

The primary sponsor, Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, has agreed to reintroduce the bill at the beginning of the 1999 session. At the end of the 1998 session, all signs pointed toward increased acceptance for the bill in Congress. In fact, Moynihan's Acid Deposition Control Act made its first appearance before a Congressional committee last fall.

On Oct. 6, the Adirondack Council was invited to testify before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee reviewing the legislation, which would require deep, new cuts in the air pollutants that cause acid rain. The hearings were conducted by the Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee of the Environment and Public Works Committee. In testimony before the Subcommittee, the Adirondack Council urged the Senate to finish the job Congress started in 1990 when it amended the Clean Air Act in an attempt to end the damage acid rain causes across the nation.

Adirondack Council Legislative Director and Counsel Bernard C. Melewski spoke in favor of the Acid Deposition Control Act (S.1097), saying it provided the only hope that the Adirondack Park and other sensitive areas of the nation would finally recover from decades of acid-rain-related damage.

Also appearing at the October hearing was EPA Acid Rain Division Chief Brian McLean. McLean told the panel that EPA's recently announced smog program would never solve the acid rain problem in the Adirondacks. McLean then said the bill offered by New York Senator

Moynihan would give EPA the authority it needed to solve the acid rain problem.

The hearing was a big step forward for EPA and the bill. Noting the limitations of the current acid rain program, the Clinton Administration has finally acknowledged that we need deeper emissions cuts to give the Adirondacks and other damaged areas a chance to recover. EPA pointed to the Acid Deposition Control Act as a workable solution.

***'We are here today because acid rain remains a continuing national tragedy. We ask that you now finish the job that was begun eight years ago.'***

**-- Bernard Melewski  
Adirondack Council**

McLean explained to the Senators that acid rain was a year-round problem that required cuts in both nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide, and that those cuts were needed in all of the lower 48 states, due to acid rain damage recently discovered outside the Northeast.

In addition, McLean praised the market-based, allowance-trading components of the bill, which he said built upon the most successful aspects of the current acid rain program. The bill would allow utilities that clean up their emissions earlier -- or more deeply -- than required, to sell their leftover sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide allowances to companies that can't clean up as quickly. The current acid rain program provides for the trading of sulfur dioxide allowances only.

The hearing came just weeks after a multi-agency federal report to Congress (the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program report) declared that the Adirondack Park's acid rain problems were severe and worsening, despite the cuts in sulfur dioxide

ordered by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The hearing was the subcommittee's third in a series of hearings held on clean air over a four-day period. The subcommittee held similar hearings on regional haze problems and mercury-laced air pollution during the previous week.

EPA's was not the only strong endorsement for the legislation during the hearing. The first person to testify before the Senate was Congressman Jerry Solomon, R-Glens Falls, who told subcommittee chairman James Inhofe, R-Oklahoma, that, as a sportsman and angler, he had seen the decline in the Adirondacks in his lifetime.

Inhofe said that his subcommittee would attempt to address the issue with more hearings, starting in January. He also noted that he liked market-based solutions, such as the ones contained in the Moynihan bill.

At the request of subcommittee member Wayne Allard, R-Colo., McLean of EPA agreed to prepare a report on the likely costs of the proposed bill to utilities. The Adirondack Council welcomes such a study.

In 1990, utilities estimated that the current program would cost them \$6 billion per year. The actual cost, according to a 1996 study by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is roughly \$715 million per year (about 15 percent of the estimate).

Solomon had been the primary sponsor of the bill in the House, but retired at the end of 1998. U.S. Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, R-Utica, will take over as prime sponsor. More than 30 other New York congressional representatives are expected to renew their sponsorship as well. The Council will work to find additional support for the bill as the next session of Congress begins.

**For a full transcript of the Council's testimony, visit our website, at: [www.crisny.org/not-for-profit/adkcncl](http://www.crisny.org/not-for-profit/adkcncl).**

## APA Settles Case Over Shania Twain Land-Use Violations, Levies Record Fine

The Adirondack Park Agency has reached a settlement with country music singer Shania Twain and her husband R.J. "Mutt" Lange over violations of the agency's land-use laws and water quality regulations.

The \$45,000 in fines and environmental-benefit projects agreed to in the settlement represent the largest penalty ever imposed by the APA. Violations included destruction of wetlands, placing of a septic system in a wetland and major construction without a permit, including a massive building that houses a recording studio, at the remote Dexter Lake (Franklin County) property.

The couple agreed to restore the wetlands, pay a fine of \$20,000 and provide another \$25,000 to an unspecified environmental project benefitting wetlands and shoreline

## Where to Find Us

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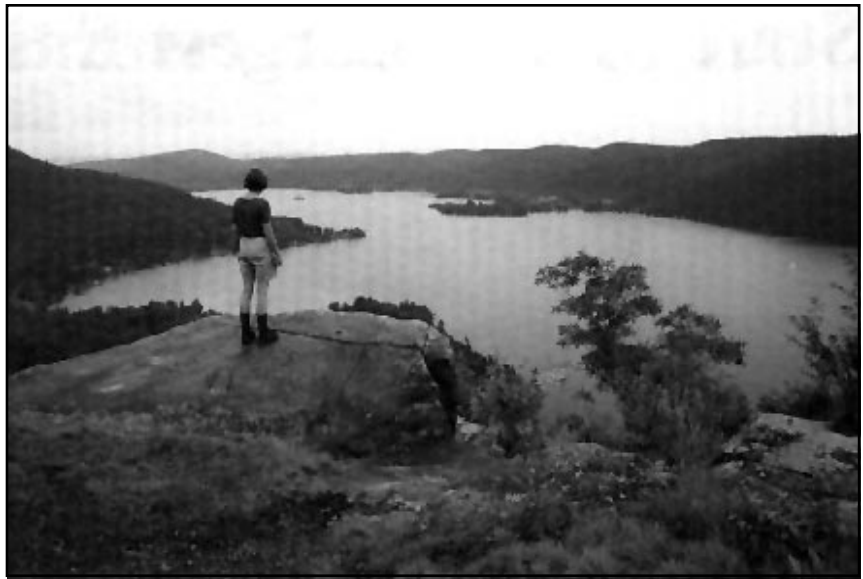
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adkcncnl](http://www.crisny.org/not-for-profit/adkcncnl)



*Rogers Rock, one of Lake George's most prominent natural features, has been acquired by the Lake George Basin Land Conservancy and will soon belong to the public. Photo by Gary A. Randorf.*

## Rogers Rock Purchased by Private Conservancy, Will Become Forest Preserve

The 400-foot rock precipice Capt. Robert Rogers is said to have used to thwart his Native American pursuers during the French and Indian War 240 years ago will soon be added to the Adirondack Forest Preserve as part of the popular Rogers Rock campground overlooking Lake George.

The 40-acre tract containing the famous rock face also includes 2,260 feet of pristine shoreline. And while the cliff attracts rock climbers of the human variety, those who venture forth should be aware that peregrine falcons also make their nests on it. Peregrines are very protective of their homes and their nests are protected by state law.

This portion of the campground will be kept in a primitive state, with no manmade structures and no overnight camping, according to the wishes of the donors.

The parcel was given to the Lake George Basin Land Conservancy for addition to the Forest Preserve, as well as the campground that bears its name, in 1999. It was donated by Thomas T.

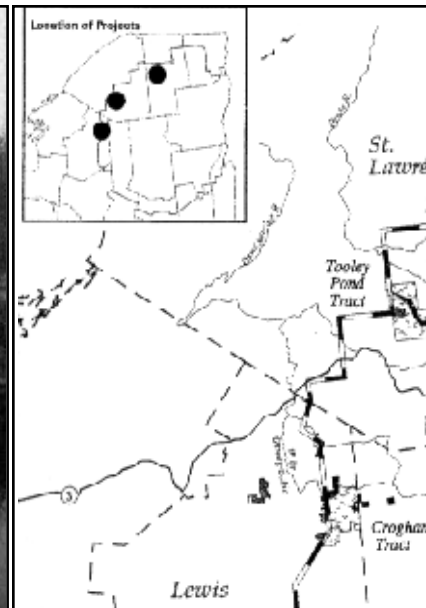
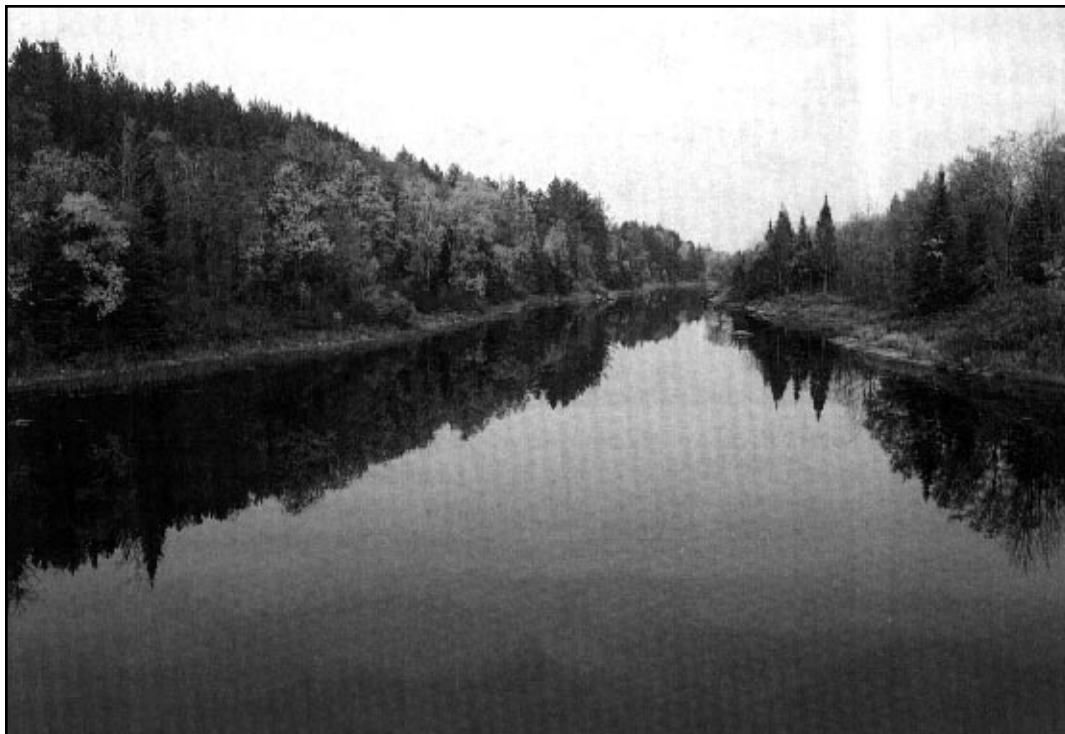
and Virginia S. Adams, and Marcelino E. and Judith P. Lavin, all of Wilton, Connecticut.

Local legend holds that Captain Rogers -- of Rogers Rangers fame -- was being chased by a group of Indians when he arrived at the cliff. He threw his pack over the edge and retraced his steps in the snow to make it appear he had leapt to the ice below and survived. Rogers later speculated that the Indians believed him to be under the protection of the great spirit and abandoned the chase. Perhaps they knew better than to jump 400 feet onto a frozen lake.

The Lake George Basin Land Conservancy has also acquired a 59-acre parcel on Lamb Shanty Bay, including more than 2,500 feet of shoreline. It, too, will become Forest Preserve. The conservancy paid \$575,000 for the land and will seek reimbursement from the state.

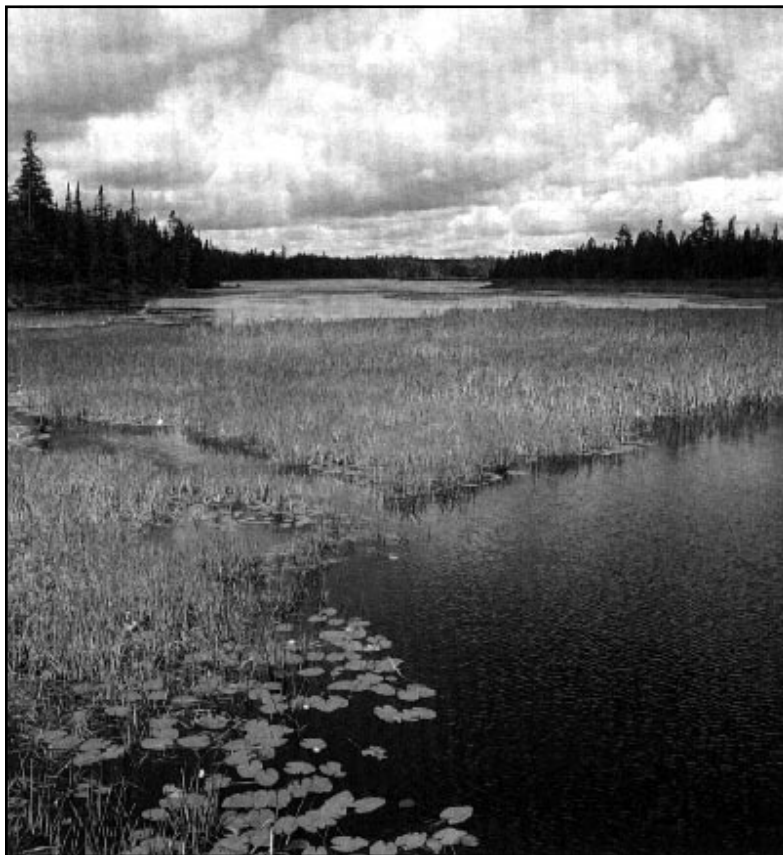
The conservancy is directed by former Adirondack Council staff member Michael Carr.

# State Makes Largest Easement Purchase Ever



Above, new Forest Preserve is black, easement is grey. Below, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation photo by Randolph Randorf.

Above, Main Branch of the St. Regis. Below, Deer River Flow.



## Details of the

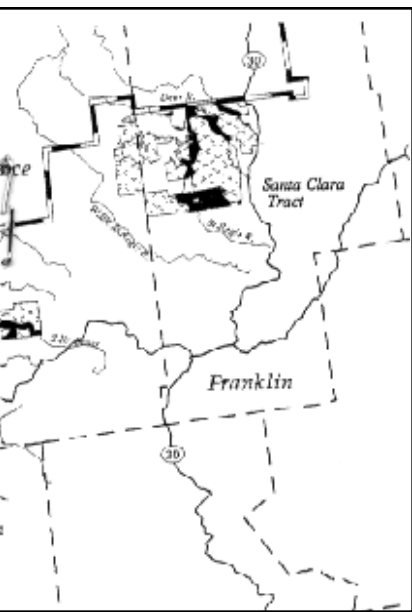
For the second consecutive year, those who love the Adirondack Park received an early holiday gift from the State of New York in the form of vast new public landholdings and pristine waters. Incredibly, the amount of land protected in the state's December 1998 deal with Champion International is 10 times larger than the splendid Whitney Industries deal of December 1997.

In fact, the 139,000 acres of boreal forest, hardwood forest, wetlands and rivers protected in the agreement with Champion is part of the largest public/private conservation deal in the United States and contains the most extensive conservation easement (110,000 acres) in New York State's history.

This part of the agreement was made possible by the work of the Adirondack Council and its member organizations, who had convinced the Governor and Legislature to incorporate "working forest" categories in the Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act and the NYS Open Space Conservation Plan. The idea is to protect open space by restricting development and improving timber harvesting practices on commercial timberland, without buying the land for the Forest Preserve, since logging would then be banned.

The 29,000 acres added to the Forest Preserve is the largest chunk purchased for the Forever Wild public holdings since Gov. Nelson Rockefeller's Moose River Plains purchase from Gould Paper Co. in 1964. The portion of the Whitney Estate added to the Forest Preserve in

# Over, Largest Forest Preserve Buy Since 1964



Forest Preserve lands are cross-hatched. Map by Gary A. Champion. All photos in this spread by Gary A. Champion.



Above, South Branch of the Grass River. Below, West Branch of the Oswegatchie.

## The Agreement

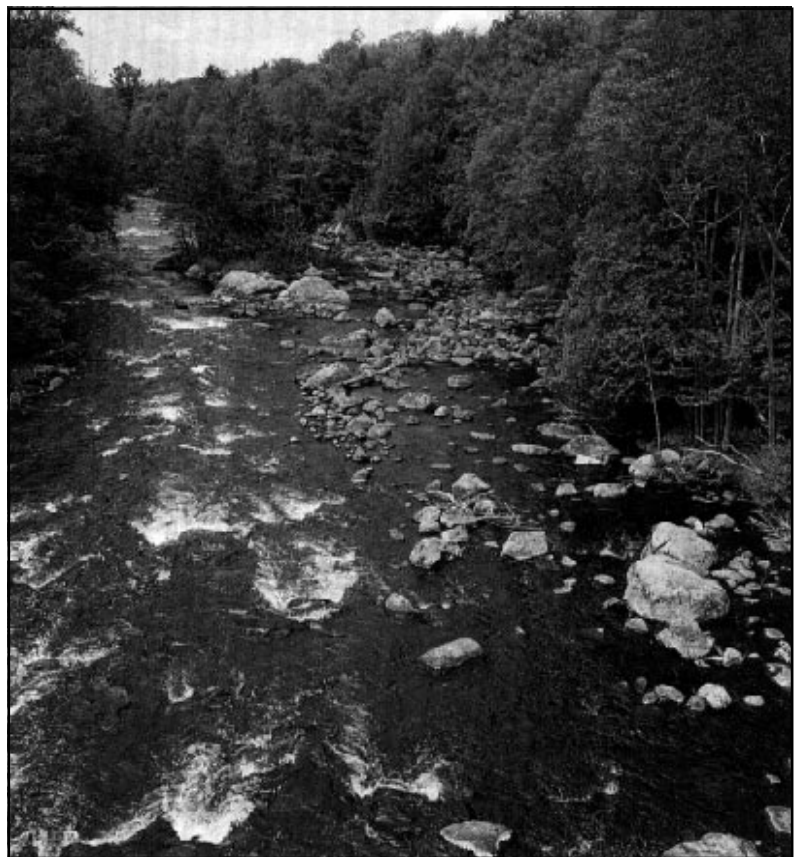
The Forest Preserve in 1997 was nearly 15,000 acres, and included most of Little Tupper Lake, formerly the largest private lake east of the Mississippi River.

While the details of the negotiations with Champion were a closely held secret, Champion's intention to sell its land, and New York State's interest in protecting it, were well known. The Adirondack Council's involvement in helping to bring the negotiations to fruition began long ago. In the early 1990s, Champion reached out to the Adirondack Council and a handful of other environmental and public policy experts to advise the company on the future of its land ownership in the Park.

The company noted that its mill in Jefferson County, just west of the Adirondacks, relied upon softwoods such as spruce and fir for its paper production process. But such trees were becoming rarer on the company's lands. In fact, the company noted that almost 95,000 acres of its forests no longer produced the trees needed at the mill.

Champion's lands contain 70 miles of wild rivers and streams. Some were leased to hunting clubs, which helped to defray management costs, but it was clear that Champion wanted to make some changes.

The Council participated in discussions with the company and worked with other environmental organizations to convince state policymakers to make Champion's lands and rivers a high priority in the NYS Open Space Conservation Plan. At the same time, we worked with our col-



Continued on Page 9

# Save the Date for the Council's Annual Meeting, Awards Dinner

The board and the staff of the Adirondack Council warmly invite you to our **Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Dinner**. Both events will take place at the famed Lake Placid Resort's Golf House Restaurant on **Saturday, July 10, 1999**.

The Lake Placid Resort continues a century of Adirondack hospitality with a view of seemingly endless forests and majestic mountain



ranges. We encourage all members to attend the daytime

meeting and to stay with us into the evening for dinner and the awards celebration.

Tickets for dinner start at \$50. Reservations will be required. As always, the annual membership meeting that precedes the dinner will be free of charge to all Adirondack Council members and guests. The option to attend only one event, or both, is yours. Additional information will be mailed to members as the date of the event approaches.

## There Are Many Ways You Can Support the Council's Work ...

### Multiply Your Gift

As evident in the Adirondack Council's successful advocacy of the Champion deal, every dollar you send to the Adirondack Council already goes very far. You can make it go even farther by arranging for a matching gift from your employer. Contact your personnel office to find out if your company has a matching gift program. If so, fill out the matching gift application and send it to us. We'll happily take it from there.

### Leave A Legacy Gift

Please consider joining the many visionary stewards of the Adirondack Park who have provided for the Adirondack Council in their will. By doing so, you can help to ensure that the Adirondacks will still be wild, and forever protected, for future generations to cherish and enjoy.

To discuss these and other ways you can do more to help save the Adirondacks, please contact our Development Director, Martha Swan, at 518-873-2240, or by mail at Adirondack Council, PO Box D-2, Elizabethtown, NY 12932.



Above, Adirondack Council Board of Directors member Barbara Glaser leads a tour of the grounds of Great Camp Uncas during the Council's 1998 Annual meeting. Ms. Glaser is one of the owners of the sprawling former home-away-from-home for architect William West Durant, and later, financier J.P. Morgan. It is located on the shore of Mohegan Lake, in the town of Raquette Lake. Each year, the Council tries to find a location for its annual meeting and awards dinner that is new to its members. Previous annual meetings have been held at Great Camp Sagamore, Raquette Lake; the Mirror Lake Inn, Lake Placid; the Westport Yacht Club; Garnet Hill Lodge, North Creek; and, the Wawbeek Great Camp, Saranac Lake, to name just a few. Photo by Gary A. Randorf.



## Council Uses Your Donation Wisely

The board and the staff of the Adirondack Council would like to thank our members who responded to our fall telephone fundraising campaign. It was a resounding success.

Our annual calling campaign is important for several reasons. First, when you fulfill your pledge, you help us to raise a significant portion of our annual budget. In addition, it's our best chance to talk to so many of you, through callers trained by Council staff, about the burning issues and great opportunities in the Adirondacks. We also hear your concerns about the Park and how you would like to help.

Just as this year's campaign was wrapping up, the NYS Attorney General's Charities Bureau issued a report on all charity telephone fundraising conducted in New York State in 1997. The report, "Pennies for Charity," presents data from 608 campaigns, includ-

ing the percentage of the total income that went to the charities after expenses. It was intended to show that many telemarketing campaigns put more money into the hands of the telemarketers than the charities for whom they are raising funds.

Not so for the Adirondack Council. **Our fall campaign outshone all other environmental groups in New York State that conducted telephone fundraising campaigns in 1997, with the highest percentage of revenue going directly to our programs.** Because of you, our generous and loyal members, we placed in the top 5 percent among all 608 campaigns conducted by all registered not-for-profit organizations. Thank you very much for taking the time to talk with us and for fulfilling your pledge to the Council. Together, we're making dreams for the Adirondacks come true.

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## Champion . . .

Continued From Pages 6 & 7

leagues in the Northern Forest Alliance, since Champion indicated that it wanted to sell all of its lands in Vermont and New Hampshire too.

On December 9, Champion and Gov. George E. Pataki announced at the NYS Museum a three-state deal in which Champion would sell its 325,000 acres in the Northeast to The Conservation Fund, of Arlington, Va., for \$76 million.

While the finer details of the agreement in the New England states have not been worked out, the New York portion of the agreement is well-established. For \$24.9 million from the Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act, New Yorkers will receive 139,000 acres of permanently protected lands and waters, with public access rights to all of it. This is roughly the same land area as Rockland County.

The lands are separated into three major parcels, spread across 10 towns in Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence and Franklin counties.

The Conservation Fund agreed to

sell the title to 110,000 acres to The Forestland Group LLC, a land management firm. TFG will retain the right to harvest the trees on the land, but will give up its development rights. In addition, TFG must prepare a state-mandated management plan designed to keep the forest healthy and its waters pure. For example, TFG has given up its right to seek a large-scale clearcutting permit from the Adirondack Park Agency and has agreed to harvest trees at a rate that won't exceed 70 percent of the annual growth rate. After 20 years, the company can harvest up to 100 percent of the annual growth rate.

Leased hunting cabins currently located on easement lands have been given notice that their leases will be terminated in 15 years. Remaining cabins will be removed at that time. Until then, the public will have access to all roads, trails and interior lands surrounding the hunting clubs, but will be restricted from the interior lands only (roads and trails remain open) during the big game hunting season, which

lasts about six weeks in the Park.

The lands contain nearly 160 miles of roadways that will be designated as accessible to motor vehicles and snowmobiles. Hundreds of additional miles of foot trails will also be open to public use, but not motorized traffic.

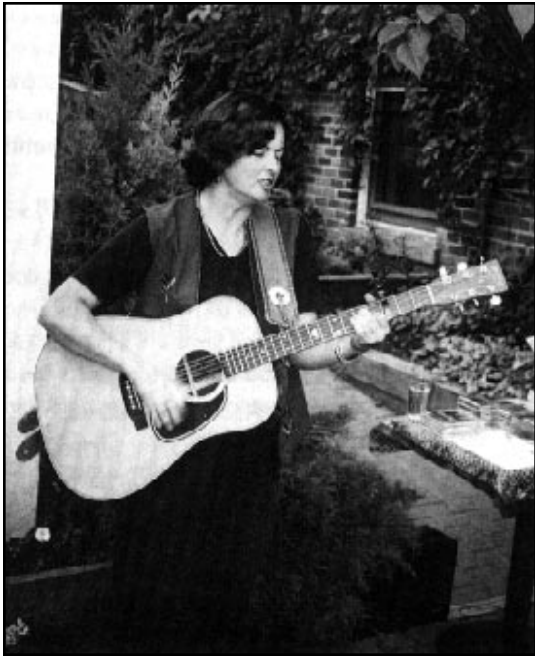
The Conservation Fund also will sell 29,000 acres directly to the State of New York, including 70 miles of rivers, containing portions of the St. Regis, Deer, Oswegatchie and Grass. The rivers vary widely in type and range from easily paddled flatwater to raging rapids and cascading waterfalls.

The lands also contain some of the most rare wildlife habitat found in the Adirondack Park. Aside from the sensitive wetlands complexes acquired in the agreement, the state purchased areas of low-elevation boreal forest. Such forests are characterized by spruce and fir trees and damp, mossy ground. Spruce grouse, snowshoe hares and Canada lynx find suitable habitat here, as do carnivorous plants such as the sundew and pitcher plant. It is also home to black bears and an increasing number of moose.

Of Champion's 144,000 acres in New York, only 1,000 acres in the Park were excluded from the conservation deal. Those St. Lawrence County lands will be sold to the Clifton Hunt Club. In addition, 4,300 acres outside the Adirondacks was purchased by TFG without an easement.

TFG has also reserved the right to construct a sawmill on a 10-acre site located in St. Lawrence County or Franklin County. Such a facility could provide jobs with little environmental impact.

Aside from protecting the environmental quality of the land, the Champion deal will also boost the Adirondack economy. The state will pay full property taxes on the Forest Preserve it is purchasing, as well as its share of the taxes on easement lands. TFG will pay the remaining taxes on the easement lands and will continue providing jobs in timber harvesting. More importantly, the vast, new recreational lands and waters will provide job opportunities in an area of the Adirondacks that currently provides very little public access.



*At left, the Council was especially fortunate that singer-songwriter Peggy Eyres donated her extraordinary talents to the celebration. Above, DEC Commissioner Cahill shares a laugh with Council Executive Director Tim Burke. Photos by Gary A. Randorf.*

## **Council Celebrates Whitney Purchase at Albany Gathering, Thanks DEC Commissioner for His Tireless Negotiations**

The Adirondack Council hosted a festive gathering of state lawmakers, policymakers and environmentalists in early June to celebrate the opening of the William C. Whitney area, which includes nearly 15,000 acres of new wild land and most of the shoreline of Little Tupper Lake.

The event featured a brief address by Environmental Conservation Commissioner John P. Cahill, who negotiated

the \$17-million deal with the Whitney family. Cahill thanked the Council and its members for their support of DEC's efforts. In turn, Adirondack Council Executive Director Timothy J. Burke presented Cahill with a lighthearted, but much appreciated token of the Council's esteem: a mesh hood to keep the black flies at bay when paddling on Little Tupper.

The celebration was held in the

Hamilton Street courtyard that divides the Adirondack Council's Albany office from the Unlimited Feast Restaurant next door.

Providing a special musical treat for the 75 people who attended the gathering was the First Lady of Adirondack Music, Peggy Eyres. Eyres has been a Council supporter for years. Recently, she began distributing the Council's acid rain literature at her concerts.



*Michael Finnegan, former chief counsel to Gov. George Pataki, receives a token of the Adirondack Council's esteem last January, following the announcement of the Whitney purchase. Left to right, Finnegan, Council Exec. Dir. Tim Burke, Council Chairman John Ernst, Legis. Dir. Bernard Melewski.*



*Poet Chase Twitchell recites Adirondack verse from her books *The Ghost of Eden* and *The Snow Watcher*, at the Council's second annual summertime gathering at the Split Rock Point Lighthouse, on Lake Champlain. The fete was hosted by Adirondack Council Board of Directors member Gary F. Heurich, who owns the property. Photo by Gary A. Randorf.*

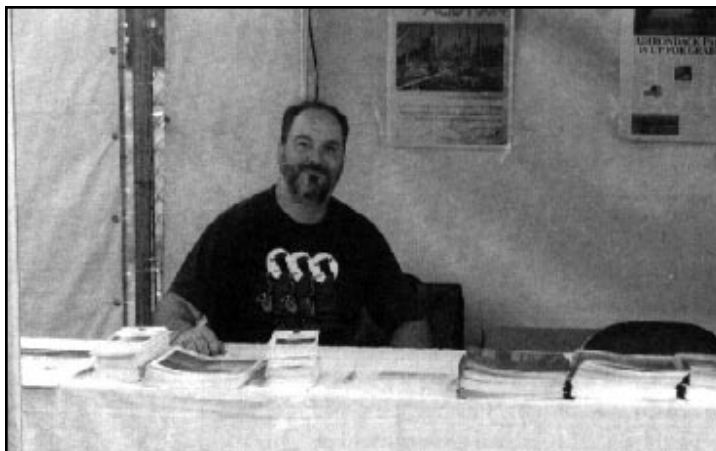
## Bonnie Raitt Invites Council to Talk With Fans At Last Stop in Summer '98 Concert Tour, Pays Tribute To Acid Rain Work

In late August, blues musician Bonnie Raitt invited the Adirondack Council to set up tables and distribute acid rain literature during her concert at the Harbor Lights amphitheater at Boston Harbor, for her sold-out performance.

Raitt -- a multiple Grammy Award winner -- has acted as the Council's celebrity spokesperson in its public service announcements against acid rain on radio and television. As a youngster, Raitt spent time at a Lutheran summer camp near Paul Smiths, just outside of Saranac Lake, where she learned to play the guitar.

Raitt has been generous in donating her efforts to the Council's cause. In 1992, she produced a master tape for the public service announcements in her own California recording studio and sent the recordings to the Council free of charge.

Those in attendance showed strong interest in the



*Council Communications Director John F. Sheehan relaxes before the gates open at Harbor Lights. Photo by Deborah H. Sheehan.*

Council's acid rain literature. More than 1,500 concertgoers brought home a copy of the Council's newest full-color publication "ACID RAIN: A Continuing National Tragedy."

During her first encore, Raitt delivered a ringing endorsement for the Council's efforts:

"Go and visit with the folks from the Adirondack Council ... out by the gate tonight," she said. "They are doing great work protecting the Adirondacks and fighting against acid rain. They walk their talk and they don't get discouraged. So give them your support."

The audience reacted with enthusiastic applause.

## Robert Kennedy Jr., Sigourney Weaver Highlight Council's Manhattan Benefit

In August, the Adirondack Council held a celebration to benefit its acid rain campaign at the 79th Street Boat Basin Cafe in Manhattan.

Featured guests at the benefit included film star Sigourney Weaver and environmental attorney Robert F. Kennedy Jr. The event drew more than 100 well-wishers, who were treated to special presentations by both guests of honor.



Weaver opened the ceremony by reading a passage on the Adirondacks from the writings of Lincoln Barnett to the assembled guests. She later spent time speaking with guests about her love for the Adirondacks and the need to stop acid rain's destruction.

Kennedy wowed the audience with a half-hour talk on the need to protect the Adirondacks, Catskills and Hudson Valley from Midwest smokestacks. Using the recent discovery of mercury pollution in the Neversink Reservoir -- part of New York City's Catskill Park drinking water supply --

Kennedy eloquently described the scientific and moral reasons for being outraged at the destruction of our natural resources by power plant operators in other states.

He later thanked the Adirondack Council for taking a leadership role in fighting acid rain and encouraged its supporters to press forward with the fight.

"You are my heroes," he told the Council's members, staff and board of directors in attendance. "This is a fight in which you must prevail. This is a fight that we can win. All of us, as New Yorkers and citizens of this great nation, owe you our support and our gratitude. Keep up the great work."

In addition to the rousing oratory, the Council also announced at the benefit that it had received 5,000 sulfur-dioxide pollution allowances from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., and will work with the public to retire them. Each represents the right to emit one ton of sulfur dioxide pollution into the air.



# Niagara Mohawk Donates Another 5,000 Sulfur Dioxide Allowances

The Adirondack Council has received another donation of 5,000 tons-worth of federal air pollution allowances from the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., and will work with the public to retire them so they will never be used by a polluter to create acid rain in New York.

Each year, the federal government issues one pollution allowance for each ton of sulfur dioxide pollution each utility company is allowed to emit under current law. Those companies that clean up their emissions beyond what the law requires can sell their leftover allowances. Companies that can't, or won't, meet their emissions cap can buy leftover allowances and remain in compliance with the law. Allowances have no expiration date.

Since the allowance trading market is open to anyone, it is possible for the Adirondack Council to retire allowances by acquiring them and agreeing to withhold them from the market forever. For every \$50 donation the Council receives toward our Adirondack Pure Waters Campaign, we will transfer one allowance, representing one ton of acid-rain-causing pollution, into a special retirement account with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Once it is in that account, the Council ensures that it will never be used. We



***Those interested in retiring a ton's worth of sulfur dioxide pollution allowances can contact the Adirondack Council at the Acid Rain Hotline (1-800-842-PARK).***

will also send the donor a Clean Air Certificate commemorating his or her gift. The allowances are currently trading at \$200 each on the Chicago Board of Trade and through brokers.

This was the second donation of

5,000 allowances by NiMo to the Adirondack Council in two years. The first came in April of 1997. Those allowances have already been retired through the Adirondack Pure Waters Campaign.