



## *New York State Conservation Council, Inc.*

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**Real access for sportsmen and women in the Adirondacks is increasingly becoming an issue on new state land purchases.** The recent classification of the Essex Chain of Lakes parcel is a good example. What was formerly 30 miles of roadways accessing these lands is now down to less than 3 miles.

**The present Boreas Ponds Tract and other parcels** that have recently been transferred to the State and are now in the process of being classified by the State **could potentially be subject to extreme restrictions** if some pro-wilderness organizations and individuals get their way. The good news is that a new, united organization with a **strong voice is now leading the fight to prevent this from happening.**

**This group, called [Access the Adirondacks](http://www.accessadk.com/index.html)** (<http://www.accessadk.com/index.html>), has reached out to different stakeholders in the Adirondacks in order to establish a coalition of like-minded organizations. It now consists of a consortium of various municipalities, private associations and user groups as well as conservation organizations, including the New York State Conservation Council, Inc. The NYSCC is pleased to be a part of this group and will work very hard to keep the sporting community aware of plans, events and progress as this process evolves.

This new alliance **will be an effective force** if all parties work collectively for the purpose of providing fair and reasonable public access to state lands. As sportsmen and taxpayers, we all have a vested interest in ensuring that the state agencies involved in the classification process hear our perspectives and expectations and then act upon them. **We have a real chance of effecting change if we are organized, vocal, and mobilize our constituency.**

As you receive emails updating you of our efforts, pass them on to fellow sportsmen and women. Ask the leadership of your respective fish and game clubs and county federations to **write to the contact person for the state** (see below) who is soliciting and reviewing comments on the classification process; and copy the Governor's office and your local legislators. Also, **please attend at least one of the hearings** that are currently scheduled throughout New York (see listings of dates, times and locations below) and make sure your voice is heard on this important matter. Lastly, please print out and **sign the petition found on the Access the Adirondacks website**, have as many people as possible sign it, and then send it in! Thank you!

### *How You Can Help*

Attend a public hearing or submit a written comment to the APA in favor of wild forest classification. Dates, locations and times of the public hearings are as follows:

- 11/9 - Adirondack Park Agency – 7:00 pm  
1133 NYS Route 86, Ray Brook
- 11/14 - Northville Central School – 6:00 pm  
131 South Third Street, Northville
- 11/16 - Newcomb Central School – 7:00 pm  
5535 NYS Route 28N, Newcomb
- 11/21 - Schroon Lake Central School – 7:00 pm  
1125 Route 9, Schroon Lake
- 11/28 - Rochester Institute of Technology – 7:00 pm  
Golisano Institute for Sustainability in Sustainability Hall, Rochester
- 11/29 - St. Lawrence County Human Service Center – 6:00 pm  
80 State Highway 310, Canton
- 12/6 - Bear Mountain Inn – 7:00 pm  
3020 Seven Lakes Drive, Tomkins Cove
- 12/7 - NYSDEC – 2:00 pm  
625 Broadway, Albany

Postal mail and email addresses for written comments are as follows:

**Kathleen D. Regan, Deputy Director, Planning**  
**Adirondack Park Agency**  
**P O Box 99**  
**1133 State Route 86**  
**Ray Brook, NY 12977**

[ClassificationComments@apa.ny.gov](mailto:ClassificationComments@apa.ny.gov)

Written comments must be received by December 30, 2016.

Your voice, combined with those of other like-minded people, can make a difference!