



Bill Ulfelder © Theo Morrison

From Our Executive Director

The transfer of Boreas Ponds to New York's Forever Wild Forest Preserve was the crowning achievement of an epic conservation effort in the Adirondacks. The 2007 Finch, Pruyn & Co. deal was one of our first projects to combine investment capital with private philanthropy. Today, The Nature Conservancy's impact investment unit, NatureVest, is harnessing private capital to produce positive outcomes for people and nature while generating a financial return to investors, enabling us to finance projects like ocean conservation through a \$21.6 million debt swap in the Seychelles totaling 98.9 million acres and a \$134 million project to conserve more than 165,000 acres in the Northwest. As we strive to reach our millionth acre conserved in New York, we will employ innovative approaches like impact investing. With your support, we'll continue to deliver monumental results. Thank you!

A stylized signature of Bill Ulfelder in black ink.

Bill Ulfelder, Executive Director

DONATIONS:

Go to nature.org/nydonate to donate. Or you can email natureny@tnc.org for more information.



Boreas Ponds © The Nature Conservancy (Carl Heilman II)

A Historic Deal

Boreas Ponds Protected as Forever Wild

Set in the Adirondack Park, Boreas Ponds borders New York's largest wilderness area and offers breathtaking views of dramatic peaks. The tract features 50 miles of rivers and streams, forests and habitat for iconic species like the moose and the common loon.

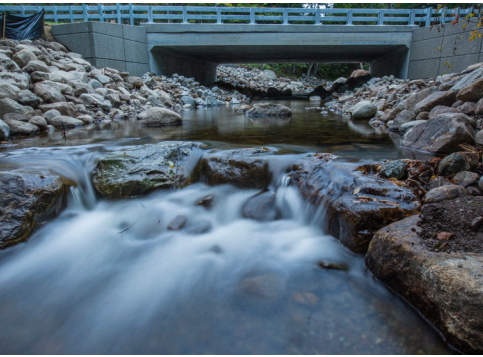
The Nature Conservancy is protecting globally important forests, making beautiful natural areas accessible to the public for the first time in a century and changing the course of Adirondack history through the sale of the 20,758-acre Boreas Ponds property to New York State. As the final land transaction in a monumental conservation project, Boreas Ponds is now protected as "forever wild" under the state constitution.

Protecting Boreas Ponds is part of the Conservancy's largest land purchase in New York: 161,000 acres once owned by paper manufacturer Finch, Pruyn &

Co. These lands feature 300 lakes and ponds, 415 miles of rivers and streams, 90 mountains and 16,000 acres of wetlands. Since 2007, the Conservancy has been implementing a conservation plan for these lands. Boreas Ponds is one of 25 properties becoming available to the public for recreational use.

As we invest in land protection, we are investing in community prosperity. The Conservancy has awarded \$500,000 in grants to local businesses and communities to strengthen the link between economic development and these newly conserved lands.

"Access to new state lands and emphasis on tourism in the Adirondacks is a winning combination for our business as people come to paddle, hike, and enjoy the outdoors," said Kelly Stamas-Audino, proprietor of Hoot Owl Lodge, one of the businesses to receive grant funding.



(clockwise) Roaring Brook culvert © The Nature Conservancy (Erika Bailey); Michelle Brown © The Nature Conservancy (Erika Bailey); Adirondack Park © The Nature Conservancy (Carl Heilman II)

Field Notes: The Adirondacks

Michelle Brown, Conservation Scientist

What inspired you to be a conservation scientist? When my nine-year-old niece recently chose conservation scientist for career day, I was touched. Her choice was influenced by the time she spends in nature, and it reminded me how much I loved exploring the outdoors when I was her age. That interest developed into an appreciation for nature and a strong sense of responsibility to care for the health of the planet.

How do you spend a typical day? Is there such a thing as a typical day? In the years following the Conservancy's 161,000-acre land purchase in the Adirondacks, I oversaw an ecological assessment that included gathering and interpreting data with a team of scientists. Now, I may be in the field or re-imagining culverts to make them more fish-friendly and climate-resilient. I am also working on my Ph.D. dissertation assessing the values that northeastern forests provide for people and nature, quantifying the tradeoffs between values like carbon storage and energy production. This will help inform management and policy decisions.

How has science helped shape our work in the Adirondacks? Science underpins all our work in the Adirondacks. What I love about conservation is that it requires a practical, yet creative, approach to preserving natural resources in increasingly complicated circumstances. As some of the largest, most intact lands on earth, Adirondack forests stand out. They contribute to the resiliency of our landscape in the face of climate change. But this is not your typical park; people live here, making it a great place to pilot strategies that conserve biodiversity and strengthen communities.

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\$300M

The historic amount of funding that was allotted this year to the Environmental Protection Fund, which impacts New York's water quality, state parks and coasts. Learn more at nature.org/nyepf

National Treasures



Volunteers at Moss Lake © The Nature Conservancy (Mary Ripka)

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy is collaborating with the George Eastman Museum in Rochester on its Photography and America's National Parks exhibit, which runs from June 4–October 2. The Conservancy helps the National Park Service grow and maintain some of the country's most iconic landscapes.

During the exhibit, the public will be invited to special programs featuring the Conservancy's work to protect and expand national parks and treasured local preserves like Deer Lick Conservation Area and Moss Creek Preserve, which are National Natural Landmarks recognized by the National Park Service.