



### Connecting with our Landscapes

2012 ANNUAL REPORT





### Dear Friends of the Adirondacks,



The visual beauty of the Adirondacks is immediate and obvious—one of the world's most hopeful stories of large-scale forest restoration and recovery. Tied to those forests are deep connections between people and place, wildlife and habitat, healthy forests, clean air and clean water. Our science explores these interrelationships and challenges us to innovate, to anticipate and mitigate emerging threats, to seek new partners and strategies. Tropical Storm Irene taught us valuable lessons this year about vulnerability and resiliency in the face of climate

uncertainty, how high the stakes are when a storm like that comes ripping through, and how important transportation planning and road repair can be to communities, property owners and aquatic ecosystems. This report highlights conservation connections throughout its pages.

At a press event on August 5, 2012, in Lake Placid, Governor Cuomo summarized the state's commitment to acquiring over the next five years from The Nature Conservancy 69,000 acres of economically and ecologically valuable lands in the Adirondacks, as "investing in the asset." He called it another "blue ribbon" to pin on the Adirondack Park as an international tourism destination. Of the \$49 million investment from the state's dedicated Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), Governor Cuomo said, ... "it's conservation, it's preservation, it's attuned to the economy and what we're trying to do by making the area stronger economically." Indeed, recognition of the connections between our protected landscape and our economy can be found in each of the three regional economic development plans that cover the counties in the Adirondack Park. A study released last year by the Trust for Public Land shows measurable economic benefits of New York's Environmental Protection Fund.

Ecology, economy, human health and safety are not mutually exclusive concepts and we are increasingly challenged to think and act at points of intersection. With your support, we are finding solutions to pressing environmental challenges and demonstrating how resilient ecosystems and resilient communities can go hand-in-hand. We can't think of a better landscape in which to work. We are a formidable team with a passionate Board of Trustees and the bounty of partnerships that start in our own Keene Valley backyard and extend across a Nature Conservancy family that spans the globe.

Here's to a new year of celebrated successes and inspired solutions that sustain us all while protecting the natural world for people and nature.

Sincerely,

Bill Paternotte Board Chair

Michael Carr Executive Director

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The core strength of the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and the Adirondack Land Trust is our deeply engaged board members. While they each bring their own expertise to the table, they all share the same great passion for the health of our region and our planet. At this summer's annual meeting, we bid a fond farewell to these members who completed their terms of service for both boards: Bill Boardman, Ed McNeil, Mark Pacala and Meredith Prime. We also welcomed new board member Emily Lyons.



Emily Lyons
Head of Strategic Customers
and Solutions, Americas,
Thomson Reuters
NYC



Lawrence L. Master, Ph.D. Retired Chief Zoologist, NatureServe and TNC Lake Placid



**Carter F. Bales**Founding Partner, New World
Capital Group in NYC
Big Wolf Lake



**Robert E. Friedman** Attorney, Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman in NYC Tupper Lake/Camp Kildare



**Bill McKibben** Author, scholar-in-residence at Middlebury College, VT Johnsburg



Jameson Adkins Baxter Founder and president, Baxter Associates Limekiln Lake



Joan Hansen Grabe Civic Leader, Southport CT Upper Saranac Lake



**Bruce McLanahan**Attorney, adjunct professor,
Fordham University
Upper Saranac Lake



**Barbara L. Bedford, Ph.D.** Senior Research Associate, Cornell University



Harry Groome
Writer; retired Chairman,
SmithKline Beecham
Consumer HealthCare
Keene Valley



**Peter S. Paine, Jr.** Attorney; Chairman, Champlain National Bank Willsboro



**Charles Canham, Ph.D.** Senior Scientist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies Millbrook, NY



**David Henle,** *Treasurer* President, DLH Capital in NYC Piseco



William L. Paternotte, Chairman Partner, Brown Advisory in Baltimore Keene Valley



John Colston Consultant with high-tech firms for Web-based products Long Lake



**David P. Hunt**Chairman, Charles Pratt
& Company in NYC
Old Forge



Michael Richter Partner, Environmental Capital Partners in NYC Lake Placid



Michael DiNunzio Consulting Ecologist, Adirondacks Cumberland Head



Lee Keet
Founder, private equity fund
and retired software
entrepreneur
Lake Colby



**Charles Svenson,** Vice-Chairman Senior Managing Director, Brock Capital Group in NYC Upper Saranac Lake



J. Edward Fowler, Secretary
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Mobil Corporation
Keene Valley



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**Amy Vedder, Ph.D.**Consulting Conservationist, retired Senior VP, The Wilderness Society Johnsburg



Carol I. Fox Vice President, corporate strategy at Thomson Reuters NYC



**Douglas S. Luke,** Vice-Chairman President and CEO, H.L. Capital in NYC Keene Valley



**Brock Weatherup** CEO, PetFoodDirect, Philadelphia Paul Smiths/ Bay Pond Park

# Staying Connected

Not Broadband, Not Twitter, Not Even Facebook

Connectivity is a term conservationists use to refer to land and water pathways that allow fish and wildlife to move safely from place to place. Whether a brook trout or a moose, many wildlife species need adequate space to find mates, seek refuge, or move to a new territory in response to habitat loss or a changing climate. Habitat connectivity is a central theme around which our conservation strategies are emerging and converging in powerful ways to bolster our reach and effectiveness.

What impedes wildlife movement? What facilitates movement? Where can we focus our efforts on the ground for optimal conservation results? What strategies can benefit wildlife and people? What threats must we anticipate and mitigate? What partners can we work with? These questions and subsequent scientific analyses are leading us down various paths, most notably roads, bridges and culverts.



### Wildlife Crossings

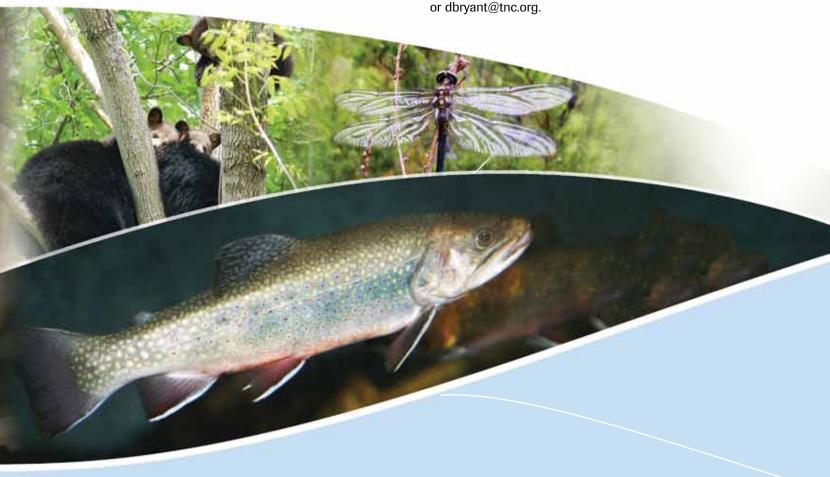
As part of the Staying Connected in the Northern Forest Initiative, we are working with Conservancy colleagues, government agencies, international partners like Two Countries One Forest, and others to promote habitat connectivity in the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada.

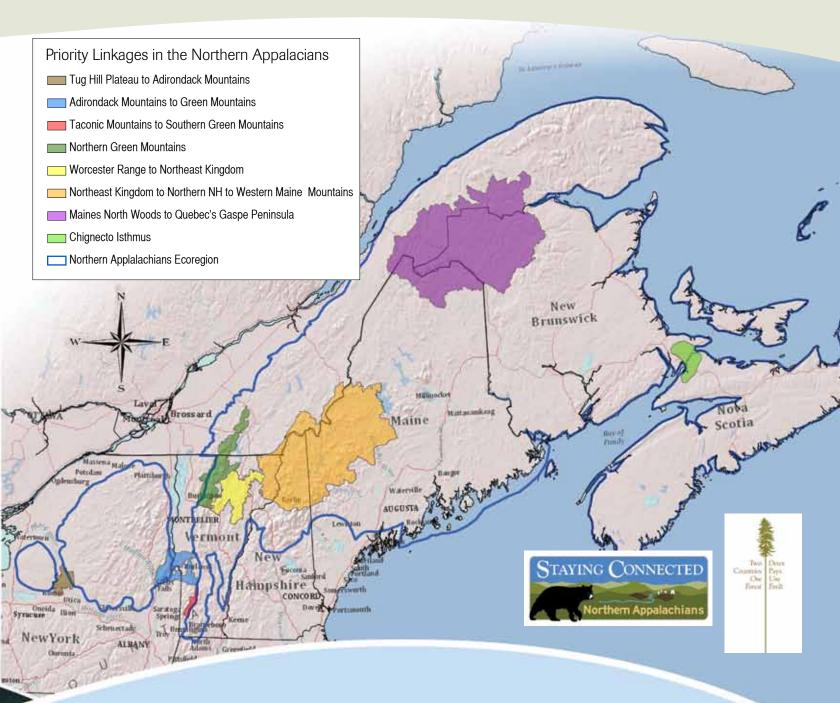
In the Adirondacks-to-Tug Hill "linkage," for instance, our staff developed a computer model to identify pathways animals are most likely to use to travel from wild place to wild place given their preferences for food, needs for water and a den site, and other behavior patterns. The computer models, coupled with on-the-ground tracking data, point us toward critical road segments in the Boonville area where culverts, wildlife crossing signs, fences, and fence breaks could go a long way toward making road crossing safer for wildlife and vehicle travel safer for people. They are also showing us where land

protection can help provide "stepping stones" for wildlife to travel under the safety of forest cover. The real nexus in this region, however, is in the overlap between science and local knowledge, recreational interests and community values, and how they are influencing land-use plans.

Across the Northern Forest, the Staying Connected Initiative is demonstrating success in working with upwards of 50 communities to include habitat connectivity themes into local land-use plans, protecting 41,000 acres in key linkage areas (with another 48,000 acres in the works) and, working with transportation departments to identify priority road segments for wildlife crossings, among other actions. The momentum of this work is strong and it highlights the Conservancy's ability to collaborate across landscapes.

For more information about this work, contact Dirk Bryant, Director of Conservation Programs, at (518) 576.2082 x114 or dbryant@tnc.org.



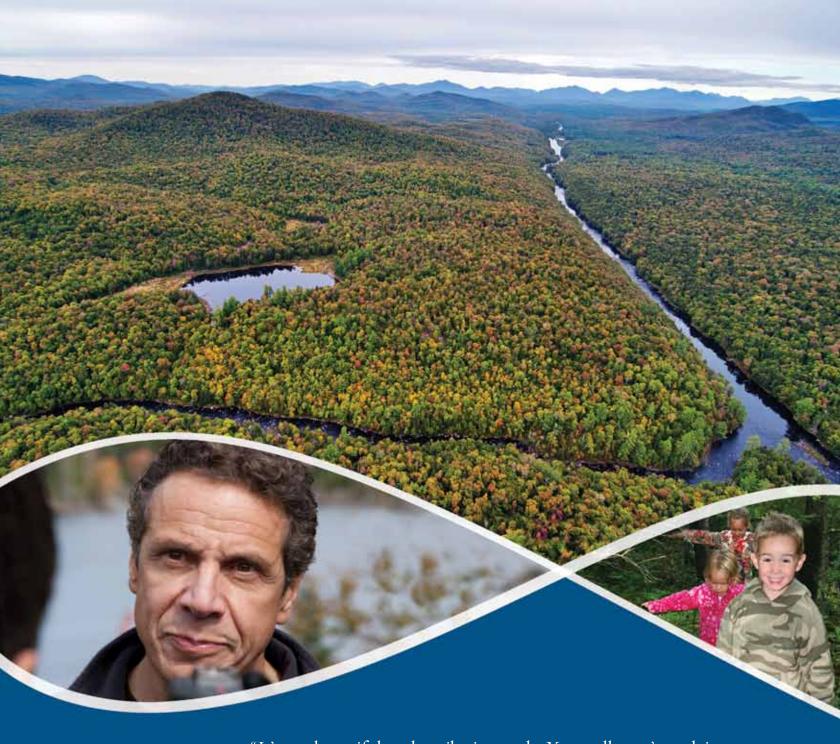


### Stream Crossings

New York State Department of Transportation (NYS-DOT) oversees 15,000 miles of state-owned highway. Underneath those state roads are approximately one million culverts connecting thousands of stream segments. We are not likely to worry about the size of those culverts until an event like Tropical Storm Irene comes along and our human communities experience flooding and property damage. In additional to human safety, poorly placed or undersized culverts can cause ecological damage as well, like blocking cold-water brook trout from finding refuge.

Replacing inadequate culverts with fish- and wildlifefriendly designs that can also withstand periodic high water volumes is an effective way to improve ecosystem and community resiliency. With extensive data inputs on stream condition, habitat needs for fish species, and other ecological criteria, our Adirondack Chapter staff developed a prioritization tool that is now being used statewide to help NYSDOT focus its limited resources toward culvert upgrades that will benefit biodiversity. The work also supports the triple bottom line of DOT's Sustainable Highway Initiative that covers social, economic and ecological needs. (The tool can also be used for county and town highway planning as well).

For more information about this work, contact Michelle Brown, Conservation Scientist, at (518) 576-2082 x122 or michelle\_brown@tnc.org.



"It's too beautiful to describe in words. You really can't explain to people how special this is and how excited we are about this acquisition...it's the largest acquisition that the State has made to the Park in over 100 years...it is a generational gift that we give to our children and our grandchildren so we will pass on the Park in a better place and better condition than it was given to us."

-Governor Andrew Cuomo, September 23, 2012, Boreas Pond

### Heart of the Adirondacks Conservation Update

New York State and the Conservancy moving forward on legacy project

On August 5, 2012, Governor Andrew Cuomo made a momentous visit to Lake Placid to announce the State's commitment to bring 69,000 acres of the former Finch, Pruyn lands and other high-priority conservation tracts into the publicly-owned Forest Preserve over the next five years. The Governor described it as "investing in the asset" and called it another "blue ribbon" to pin on the Adirondack Park as an international tourism destination. News of this historic agreement with The Nature Conservancy spread far and wide—from the New York Times to the Seattle Post Intelligencer.

In September, the Governor returned to the Adiron-dacks, with his cabinet and other state officials, to visit Boreas Ponds, the single-largest tract in the queue for public ownership. Looking out toward a stunning backdrop across the ponds of Gothics, Haystack and other High Peaks, the Governor said there are no words to describe the beauty of this place.

These two events were just the latest benchmarks of the largest conservation effort in the history of The Nature Conservancy in the Adirondacks—175,600 stunning acres that include 425 miles of rivers and streams, 312 lakes and ponds, and upwards of 100 mountains—an effort that is being heralded as an example of sound conservation that balances local economic needs with long term ecological protection.

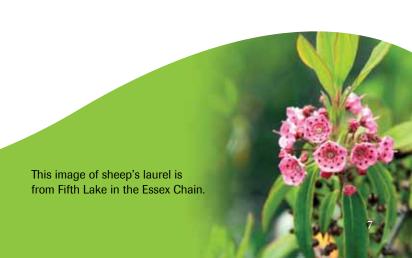
The first purchase in the State's five-year commitment is anticipated to occur later this calendar year, with the trans-



fer of over 19,000 acres to the Forest Preserve, including the Essex Chain of Lakes and the confluence of the Indian and Hudson rivers. While much of the Essex Chain tract will not be open to the public immediately because it is under lease, a canoe access point that makes it possible to takeout before a whitewater stretch on the Hudson may open sooner, providing a 12-mile paddling opportunity on less intimidating waters.

Meanwhile, our collaboration with NYSDEC, local leaders, conservationists, professional guides, outdoor writers, and a variety of outdoor enthusiasts continues in an inclusive and thoughtful process befitting a project of this importance.

Watch a video of Governor Cuomo's visit to Boreas Ponds here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC3hyb4tOvA



### **Battling Invasive Species**

#### Effective work at multiple scales

Our recipe for success is three-fold: the science-based expertise to think strategically, strong partnerships to maximize opportunities, and the resources to act accordingly. The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP), hosted by our Chapter in Keene Valley, continues to lead the way in addressing the invasive species threat to natural areas and local economies in the Adirondacks and has served as a model for State-wide invasives programming. APIPP quickly answers area needs by establishing early detection volunteer networks, creating Regional Response Teams, and elevating attention to invasive species through education and policy initiatives.

Many enthusiastic towns and businesses helped spread the word about invasive species during this year's Invasive Species Awareness Week.



Our rapid response team treated dozens of sites infested with Japanese knotweed, an invasive that takes over stream corridors.



APIPP and partners teamed up again this summer to protect our lands and waters from harmful invasive species.



#### In the Legislature

In July, Governor Cuomo signed legislation which represented a major win in the battle to stop the introduction and spread of invasive species in New York State. Sponsored by State Senator Betty Little whose district covers much of the Adirondack Park, the Invasive Species Prevention Act regulates the sale, purchase, possession, introduction, importation, and transportation of harmful, non-native plants and animals.

Invasive animals and plants drive out native species and upset the food chain, threaten biodiversity, ruin crops, degrade forests and fisheries, negatively impact recreation, and can harm humans. Some of them are still available commercially for gardens and fish tanks. The Conservancy has partnered with State agencies for over a decade to put the tools in place to better protect the native species of the Adirondacks and New York State.

#### On the Ground

APIPP's Terrestrial Regional Response Team was back for a second summer, thanks to funding from a private foundation. The Team performed critical follow-up treatments on sites managed last year and treated new infestations, too. Paul Smith's College's Aquatic Response Team, supported by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, conducted early detection surveys for aquatic plant infestations in priority waters in the western Adirondacks. State campgrounds received special attention from DEC's Invasive Species Specialist, an internship in collaboration with SUNY ESF that focused on mapping and managing terrestrial plant infestations. For the third summer, the Ausable River Steward reached out to anglers about didymo and other river threats. Finally, nearly 40 watershed stewards from various groups were stationed at launches across the region inspecting watercraft and talking with boaters about good boat cleaning practices.

#### **Educating the Troops**

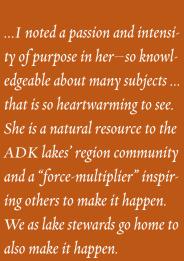
Sarah Walsh joined the APIPP team as the first Invasive Species Education intern and led the charge for raising awareness about invasive species and opportunities for action. Sarah organized the 7th Annual Adirondack Park Invasive Species Awareness Week, created a new plant management training that reached 80 landowners, staffed information tables at community events, posted 36 blog entries, organized the installation of a "boot brush station" at Coon Mountain Preserve the first in the Adirondacks and much, much more.

#### **Sharing Solutions**

New invasive species are knocking at the door, but many communities are still struggling to handle old familiar ones such as Eurasian watermilfoil, which is currently in more than 50 waters in the region. To help connect communities and bring the best available information to a common forum. APIPP. along with the Adirondack Lake Alliance and the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board, held the Eurasian Watermilfoil Management Summit hosted by the Town of Horicon in Brant Lake.

Over 100 people came to learn about the status of milfoil management, control options, planning considerations, permitting, financing, lake-friendly land-uses and preventing milfoil's spread.

To learn how you can support our invasive species work, contact Hilary Smith at hsmith@tnc.org or (518) 576-2082 Ext. 131.



 Harvey Leidy, Brant Lake, referring to APIPP Director Hilary Smith



To prevent introductions of invasive species, hikers are encouraged to scrape the bottom of their shoes before walking on the trails at the Adirondack Land Trust's Coon Mountain Nature Preserve in Westport.



# Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future Program

The Adirondack Chapter hosted a group of high school students from New York City for two weeks this summer as part of the Conservancy's Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future program (LEAF). This highly competitive paid internship program, made possible by leading support from the Toyota USA Foundation, is designed to empower the next generation of green leaders. More than 100 students nationwide left their city life behind for a month-long stint working side-by-side with conservation professionals.

Over 500 students have participated in the Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future program.

#### A survey of LEAF Alumni found that:

- · 96% went straight to college after high school
- 93% have an increased interest in environmental issues
- 91% have an increased awareness of conservation career paths
- 79% identify as environmentalists
- 70% change the environmental behavior of others
- 49% reported LEAF influenced their academic study
- 39% applied to one of the colleges visited in LEAF

After seeing tracks on the ground, the LEAF interns set a trail camera that would later capture this moose.



### Our group of interns

Jason Bonet, Gustavo Figuerda, and Kevin Velez Mendoza, along with their mentor, Carlos Hernandez, were led by this year's Adirondack Conservation Intern, Amy Ignatuk, of Upper Jay. The three students all have a background in environmental studies. Bonet and Figueroa attend the High School for Environmental Studies in Manhattan, while Mendoza goes to the Academy for Environmental Leadership in Brooklyn. Hernandez works at The Green School: an Academy for Environmental Careers in Brooklyn.

The group got a good taste of the Adirondacks through working on a variety of projects, including the following:

- maintaining trails at two of our nature preserves: Coon Mountain in Westport and Silver Lake Bog in Old Hawkeye;
- removing the aquatic invasive plant, European frog bit, from the Grasse River with APIPP's Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Meghan Johnstone;
- retrieving wildlife images from and selecting new locations for trail cameras at Boreas Ponds, striking it big with moose images and more;
- touring Paul Smith's College environmental programs with Jim Tucker;
- summiting their first High Peak, Wright, with the Summit Stewardship program to learn about fragile alpine habitat and our effective partnership program to protect it; and
- visiting a farmland conservation easement site in the Champlain Valley with Erika Edgely, our Stewardship Coordinator.

Our staff enjoyed time spent with these budding scientists and we extend our gratitude to the many partners who contributed to their experience.

Learn more about the LEAF program online at www.nature.org/LEAF

#### **Adirondack Conservation Internship Program**

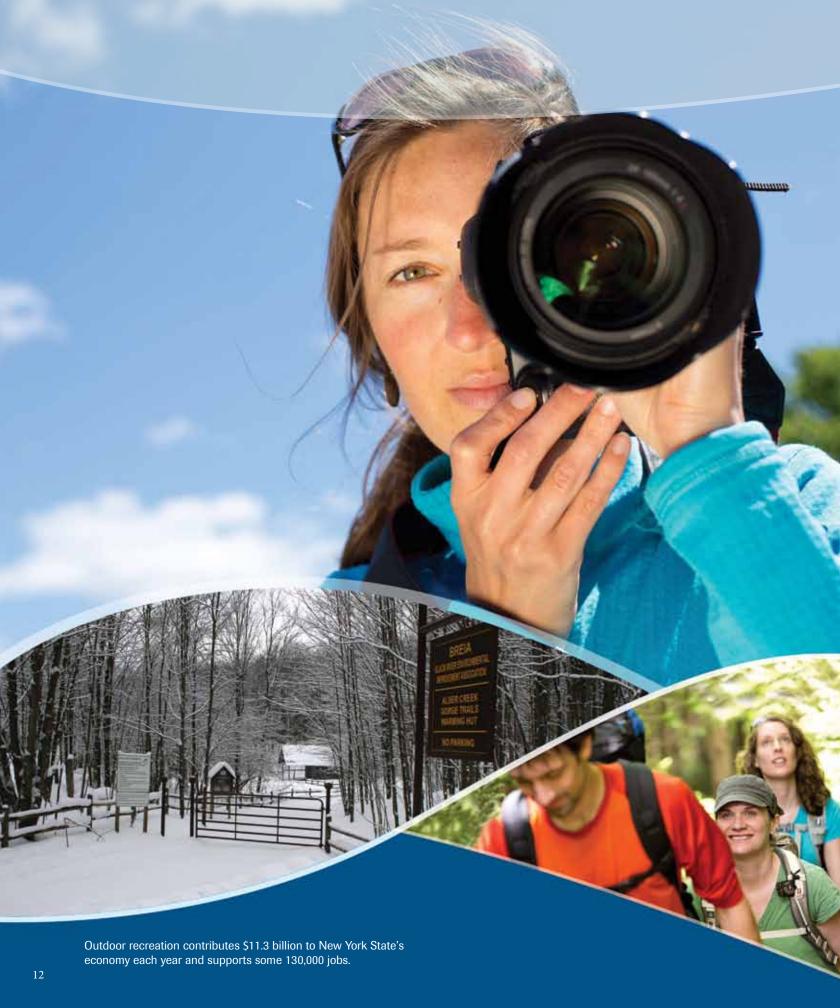
After a 2009 seasonal stint with the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, Amy Ignatuk, of Upper Jay, returned this spring as the Adirondack Conservation Intern. An Environmental Science major from Roger Williams University and graduate of Keene Central School, she brought to her position a deep-rooted passion for the Adirondacks. Through this career-building paid internship program, she gained exposure to the many facets of the Conservancy's and Land Trust's conservation work by assisting staff in all of our departments—from conservation to fundraising. One of her responsibilities this summer was to coordinate the two-week visit of our LEAF interns.



### Shoreline and Habitat Protection on Lake Champlain

In May, the Nature Conservancy donated a 156-acre tract on southern Lake Champlain to the State preserve. The property includes 70 acres of wetlands, notable for harboring important natural communities (deep emergent marsh, silver maple-ash swamp) and state-rare plants (slender bulrush, false hop sedge), as well as an abundance of waterfowl. This project also resulted in a donation by Washington County of 283 acres, bringing the total length of Lake Champlain shoreline protected to almost five miles.

Our scientific models are predicting that Lake Champlain is increasingly susceptible to extreme conditions like the kind of flooding we saw in 2011. Maintaining the natural connection between wetlands and riparian habitat helps to mitigate damaging impacts of rising waters. Computer models and field surveys like those described on page 4 show these properties to be within an important wildlife linkage between the Adirondacks and the Green Mountains. State ownership will also provide for new public access opportunities.



### Adirondack Land Trust

### Conservation Highlights

#### **340 Acres Protected**

In June, the Adirondack Land Trust sold a 340-acre parcel in the towns of Webb and Long Lake for \$1.3 million to a private buyer. As part of the transaction, the property, which borders the 50,000-acre Pigeon Lake Wilderness, is now protected by a conservation easement.

The "Mays Pond tract" includes a rustic cabin and will continue to be used as a private wilderness retreat, just as it has for more than 70 years.

The conservation easement, which limits development and prohibits subdivision, is designed to protect the tract's significant forest, wildlife and aquatic habitats, including 3,300 feet of undeveloped shoreline on 30-acre Mays Pond, 40 acres of wetlands, and a stretch of Constable Brook, a free-flowing tributary of Big Moose Lake.

The easement not only protects the land while still enabling the owner to continue to use the property as she desires, but provides the benefit of available Federal and New York State tax incentives.



### Conservation Easement

Property Spotlight

#### **Black River Environmental Improvement Association**

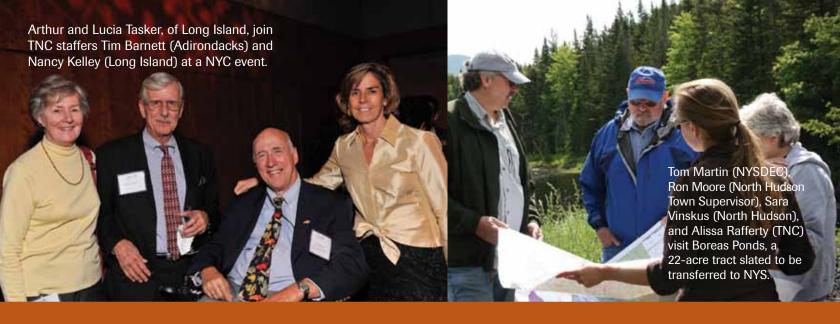
The Black River Environmental Improvement Association manages 50 kilometers of trails in Boonville and Alder Creek, Oneida County. Thousands of people enjoy free access for hiking, biking, snowshoeing and crosscountry skiing annually on trails that run along canals, parallel brooks and afford views of the Tug Hill plateau and the Adirondacks. A conservation easement held by the Adirondack Land Trust ensures that 822 acres of this beautiful property will remain forever forested.

BREIA's partner, the Black River Outdoor Education Program, offers New York State curriculum-equivalent programs for school age children at seven different campuses that utilize the BREIA trails. The two entities employ 40-50 people during the school year.

Chad Burdick, who helped build and now manages the trails, says that a lot of effort, time and money, supported solely by the foundation, go into keeping trails so well groomed that they can be skied on with only two to three inches of snow. In a town that has been ranked second snowiest location in the U.S. (behind Valdez, Alaska)it can make for a long and superb cross-country skiing season.

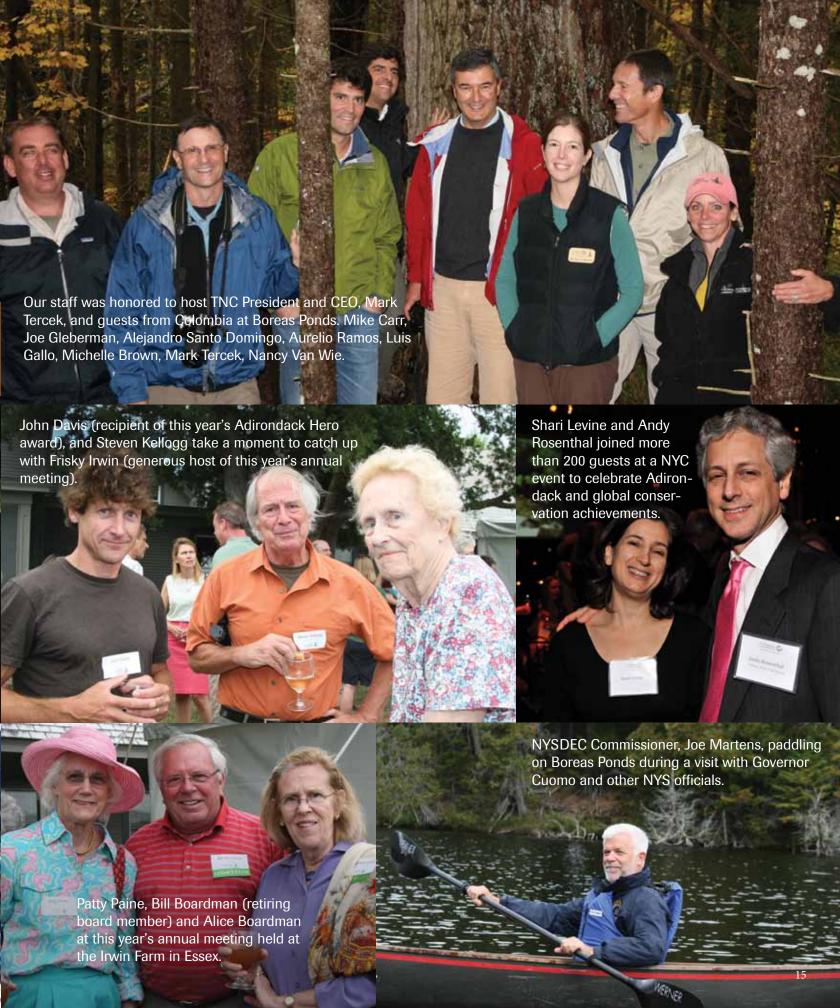
The Adirondack Land Trust is proud to play a part in advancing the landowner's vision for this property and applauds BREIA for managing this asset in a way that benefits area school children and local communities.

To learn more about conservation easements, please contact Erika Edgely at eedgley@tnc.org or (518) 576-2082, Ext. 164.



Whether in the field or at an event, time spent with supporters, partners et al is always inspiring. Here are some highlights from November 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.







#### \$2,500,000 and up

Anonymous

Adirondack Chapter Wild Adirondacks Fund Butler Conservation Fund & Butler Fund for the Environment

#### \$1,000,000-\$2,499,999

Anonymous Estate of J. Philip Anderegg, at the recommendation of Arthur M. Tasker, Executor Mr. Daniel C. Chung & Ms. Alexandra Alger Mr. & Mrs. David Henle The Joan C. & David L. Henle Foundation Lee & Nancy Keet Estate of Cynthia Lefferts The Nature Conservancy on Long Island Northern Forest Protection Fund, administered by the Open Space Conservancy, an affiliate of the Open Space Institute Weatherup Family Foundation Connie & Craig Weatherup Brock & Mary Weatherup

#### \$500,000-\$999,999

Anonymous (3) An affiliate of Blue Wolf Capital Fund II, L.P. Mr. Nathaniel J. Klipper Mr. D. O'Neill

#### \$250,000-\$499,999

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#### \$1,000-\$4,999

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Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Zwelling

### **Annual Fund Contributions**

Behind the scenes of our conservation efforts lies the everyday work of caring for private lands and conservation easements, conducting baseline biological studies, safeguarding wildlife corridors, eradicating invasive species, advocating for public policy, and so much more. We are deeply grateful for every donation to the Annual Fund that helps us continue to build on conservation work begun by previous generations. We take seriously our obligation to maintain, enhance and protect this special place and to use your contribution wisely.

On the following pages, we acknowledge those individuals who contributed \$100 or more to the Annual Fund between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Please let us know if you spot an error or omission. For a complete list of giving opportunities, contact Nancy Van Wie, (518) 576-2082 ext. 139 or nvanwie@tnc.org.



#### \$50,000 and up

F. M. Kirby Foundation, Inc. Mrs. David A. Weir David and Candace Weir Foundation

#### \$20,000-\$49,999

Mr. & Mrs. David L. Henle The Joan C. & David L. Henle Foundation Overhills Foundation Peter & Patty Paine The Boquet Foundation, Inc. Mr. Jeffrey Sellon John A. Sellon Charitable Residual Trust Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation Mr. Joel H. Treisman Joseph & Joan Cullman Conservation Foundation Wright-Cook Foundation

#### \$10,000-\$19,999

Anonymous (3) Adirondack Community Trust-Master Family Fund 2 Adirondack Community Trust-Meredith M. Prime Fund Jameson & Reginald Baxter Reginald R. & Jameson A. Baxter Foundation Mr. & Mrs. John Bogle John C. Bogle Charitable Lead Trust Carol Fox Joan & Bill Grabe Grabe Family Foundation

Lyn & Harry Groome Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Francisca P. Irwin Nancy Olmsted Kaehr & Michael G. Kaehr Fund at The San Diego Foundation Lee & Nancy Keet Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Linen Douglas & Sarah Luke Mr. Bruce McLanahan Mr. Edward H. Miller Stephanie & Robert M. Olmsted William L. Paternotte Family Rochester Area Community Foundation Ms. Paige N. Smith Charles & Sally Svenson Walbridge Fund, Ltd. Connie & Craig Weatherup

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### Financial Summary / FISCAL YEAR 2012\*

The Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and the Adirondack Land Trust had a solid year for both fundraising and conservation results. Our Annual Fund provides some 70% of our operating budget, which is paramount to ensuring that the capable staff in Keene Valley has the resources and tools to perform this mission-driven work. Donors contributed \$1,043,259 to this critical fund; \$840,635 for the Conservancy's Adirondack Chapter and \$202,624 for the Adirondack Land Trust. Government grants totaling \$402,584 for specific programs and projects, and the successful completion of our \$35 million Heart of the Adirondacks capital campaign on December 1, 2011 rounded out our year. The Annual Fund, coupled with endowment income and financial reserves, enabled us to balance our budget. Going forward, we aim to bolster donations to this single-most important resource so we can continue the strategic, pragmatic conservation work for which our organizations are known.

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In addition to the hundreds of Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program volunteers, we extend a heartfelt thanks to the following individuals for contributing their valuable time and talent to our conservation efforts between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012.

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The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Since 1971, the Adirondack Chapter has been working with a variety of partners to achieve a broad range of conservation results. The Chapter is a founding partner of the High Peaks Summit Stewardship Program, dedicated to the protection of alpine habitat, as well as the award-winning Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program, which works regionally to prevent the introduction and spread of non-native invasive species.

The Adirondack Land Trust, established in 1984, protects working farms and forests, undeveloped shoreline, scenic vistas and other lands contributing to the quality of life in the Adirondacks.

Together, these partners in Adirondack conservation have protected more than 571,000 acres, one out of every six protected acres park-wide. On the Web at www.nature.org/adirondacks.

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Please contact us if you have additional questions . Thank you for your continued support.

#### **Realized Gifts**

(July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

We are inspired by the generosity and legacy of friends whose estate planning has resulted in meaningful contributions over the past year: Anna A. C. Bossers Stephanie D. Bugden Charles H. Douglas Trust Elizabeth Hayes Mary M. Kirby Cynthia Lefferts Thomas Maynard Robert Poe Theda Salkind George V. & Jean A. Smith Charitable Trust Marie Snyder Michael W. Stevenson Anne M. Wright

#### New Notifications (July 1, 2011 – August 31, 2012)

The following friends notified us this

past year that they have designated the Adirondack Chapter and/or the Adirondack Land Trust in their estate plans: Anonymous (4) Jameson A. Baxter William and Alice Boardman J. Martin and Barbara B. Carovano Linda Cohen Sarah Cohen Harry Groome Matthew Hobart Sherrey Provost Susan Terwilliger and Michael Mulcahy Paul M. Turner Brock and Mary Weatherup Jean Wheeler

If we have inadvertently forgotten you or if you are interested in learning more about planned giving opportunities please contact Matt Hobart at 518.576.2082 x134 or e-mail mhobart@tnc.org

### Linda & Sarah Cohen

Profiles in Generosity

The Cohen sisters are well known in their hometown of Old Forge. Their Grandfather, Moses Cohen, established the Old Forge Hardware Store in the late 1890s and Sarah and Linda have continued the family legacy of commitment to this small Adirondack community and to the Adirondacks as a whole. They have a devotion to community, love of the outdoors, and desire to make a difference which is evident in their support, both organizationally and philanthropically, of historic preservation, conservation, and community foundations.

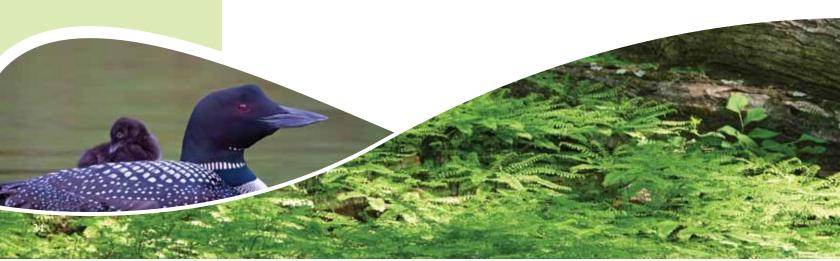
Linda has been a supporter of The Nature Conservancy's Adirondack Chapter and the Adirondack Land Trust for more than 20 years. Recently, both Linda and Sarah set up separate charitable gift annuities through their estate planning. Both gifts will benefit the chapter's land conservation work, offsetting the costs of the historic Heart of the Adirondacks project. By making these gifts during the campaign, they qualified for a matching opportunity, in effect doubling the impact of their generosity.

Commenting on her connections to the Adirondacks, Linda once said, "I lived in cities, wonderful places.... now that I have

a choice, I want to be where I can hear the loons and watch ferns uncurling." Because of the generosity and foresight of friends like Linda and Sarah Cohen, we are able to continue science-based conservation efforts in the Adirondacks. Just as we thank them today, future generations will thank them as well.

A charitable gift annuity is a creative way for you to meet your charitable and financial goals, as your donation pays you a fixed income for the rest of your life while creating a lasting gift for conservation. There is no limit to how many annuities a donor can have in their lifetime. They can be funded by cash, appreciated securities or gifts of real estate. A charitable gift annuity is an effective way for you to meet your charitable and financial goals while supporting the missions of the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and the Adirondack Land Trust.

If you are interested in learning more about Charitable Gift Annuities or other deferred giving options please contact Matt Hobart by e-mail to mhobart@tnc. org or phone (518) 576-2082, Ext. 134.



### Your Team in the Adirondacks



**Tim Barnett,** Vice President



**Ryan Ferebee,** Maintenance Mechanic



**Dawn Ormsby,** Office Manager



**Cathy Beaton,** Major Gifts Manager



**Matthew Hobart,** Associate Director of Philanthropy



**Connie Prickett,**Director of Communications



**Michelle Brown,** Conservation Scientist



**Meghan Johnstone,** Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinator



**Brendan Quirion,** Terrestrial Invasive Species Project Coordinator



**Dirk Bryant,**Director of Conservation
Programs



**Tom Lake,** Follensby Pond Caretaker



**Alissa Rafferty,** Executive Assistant



Michael Carr, Executive Director



Jan Maria Localio, Conservation Information Coordinator/Champlain Valley Land Steward



**Hilary Smith,** Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program Director



**Craig Cheeseman,**GIS Specialist/Information
Systems Manager



**Angel Marvin,** Proposal Writer



Nancy Van Wie, Director of Philanthropy



**Todd Dunham,** Director of Land Protection



**Douglass Munro,** Stewardship Programs Coordinator



**Erin V. Walkow,** Donor Relations Manager



**Erika Edgley,** Stewardship Coordinator



**Sandy Murphy,** Financial Analyst

SUMMER INTERNS

**Amy Ignatuk,** Adirondack Conservation Intern

**Sarah Walsh,** Invasive Species Education Intern

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS (left to right): Cover Carl Heilman II (Essex Chain), Lisa J. Godfrey (camping), Kelly Thompson (fall leaves), John Ruman (black bear); inside cover Carl Heilman II (Hudson River Gorge & High Peaks), Lisa J. Godfrey (fly-fishing); page 1 Erika Edgley/TNC; page 2 provided by trustee or taken by Jon Zander; pages 3 - 5????, Larry Master (moose, bob cat, brook trout); John Ruman (black bears) ????? (dragonfly), Dan Farrell/TNC (map); page 6 Carl Heilman II (Cedar & Indian Rivers), TNC (Gov. Andrew Cuomo), TNC (kids); page 7 Brian Lowe (hiker), Melody Thomas (laurel); pages 8 - 9 APIPP (all); page 10 TNC; page 11 Doug Munro (LEAF interns et al), TNC (Lake Champlain); page 12 Lisa J. Godfrey (nature photography & hikers), C. Prickett/ALT (BREIA); page 13 ALT (Mays Pond); pages 14-15 first row: Denis Finnin(NYC event), C. Prickett/TNC (field trips, two), second row: Erika Edgley/TNC (annual meeting, two), Denis Finnin (NYC event, two), third row: Denis Finnin (NYC event) Lynn Severese (snowshoers), Erika Edgley/TNC (annual meeting); TNC (DEC Commissioner Joe Martens); page 16 Melody Thomas (paddle), Carl Heilman II (Essex Chain); page 18 Larry Master; pages 19, 20, 23 Melody Thomas (Third Lake, pack basket, pitcher plant); page 22 TNC; page 24 Larry Master, C. Prickett/TNC; inside back cover: Lisa J. Godfrey (Bryant, Cheeseman, Hobart, Marvin, Walkow), all others provided or taken by our staff.





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