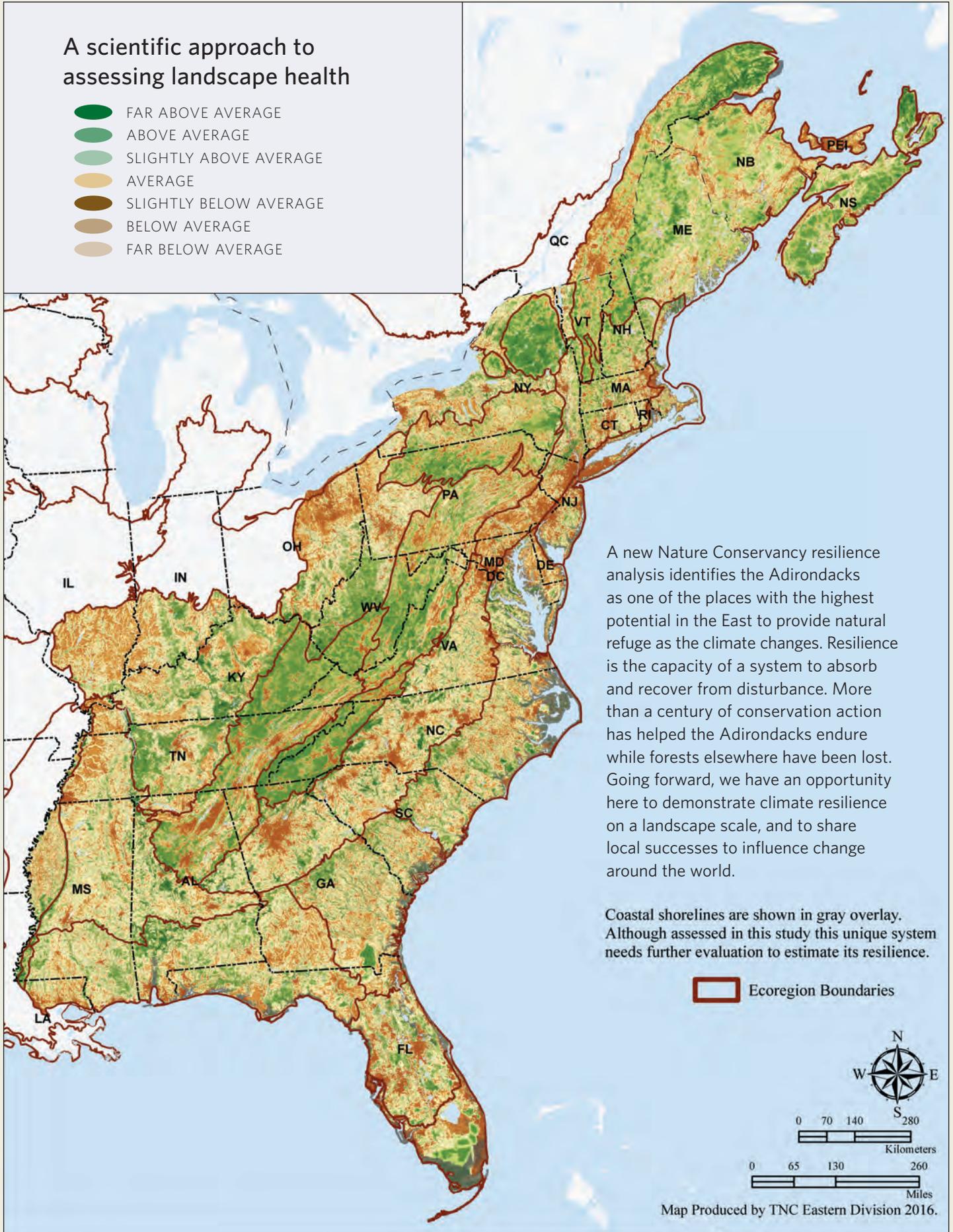


THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
Adirondack Chapter
ADIRONDACK LAND TRUST

2016 Annual Report

A scientific approach to assessing landscape health

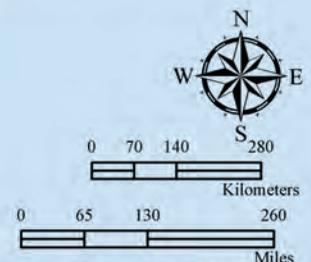
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A new Nature Conservancy resilience analysis identifies the Adirondacks as one of the places with the highest potential in the East to provide natural refuge as the climate changes. Resilience is the capacity of a system to absorb and recover from disturbance. More than a century of conservation action has helped the Adirondacks endure while forests elsewhere have been lost. Going forward, we have an opportunity here to demonstrate climate resilience on a landscape scale, and to share local successes to influence change around the world.

Coastal shorelines are shown in gray overlay. Although assessed in this study this unique system needs further evaluation to estimate its resilience.

 Ecoregion Boundaries



Map Produced by TNC Eastern Division 2016.

Our work relies on a strong constituency for conservation across the Adirondacks



In April, The Nature Conservancy transferred to the Forest Preserve 20,758 acres bordering the largest wilderness area in the Northeast. Securing Forever-Wild status for the Boreas Ponds tract was the final step in protection of 161,000 acres once owned by paper manufacturer Finch, Pruyn & Co., the largest project in the Conservancy's history in New York. More than 90,000 acres are still producing timber under sustainable forestry certification and a conservation easement. Places like Boreas that have outstanding recreational and ecological value are now public lands.

Reflecting on the scale of the nine-year Finch project reminds us to keep thinking big and thinking in terms of whole systems: how forests link together to allow wildlife to move across the landscape, and how they link to communities to provide recreation, jobs and ecological services such as water filtration.

It also reminds us how our work relies on a strong constituency for conservation across the Adirondacks. That's why this annual report highlights the people who work with us to make conservation possible, including local and state government leaders, farmers, transportation officials, scientists and donors.

Forty-five years of on-the-ground experience in the Adirondack Park have taught us that we must work closely with communities and land-owners, to learn from them and to further empower those who are good stewards of our landscape. This is not your typical park: people live here, making it a great place to pilot strategies that conserve biodiversity and strengthen communities.

We are grateful to all of you who help make this work possible. We look forward to another year of working hand in hand to protect the lands and waters on which we all depend.

Meredith M. Prime
Chair

Michael T. Carr
Executive Director

Cover: Participants in The Wild Center's Youth Climate Program help the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program monitor for Asian clam and spiny waterflea in Moose Pond on the Adirondack Forest Preserve. Fortunately, they found only native zooplankton and mollusks.

Boreas Ponds

An Adirondack town welcomes new Forest Preserve

On May 10, 2016, we joined with Governor Andrew Cuomo and local leaders to celebrate New York State's purchase of the 20,758-acre Boreas Ponds property from The Nature Conservancy. It marked the final transaction in a monumental project that protects 161,000 acres of forests, creating new opportunities for recreation, and strengthening links between communities and conserved lands.

The town of North Hudson hosts the state's newest expanse of Forest Preserve. We talked with supervisor Ron Moore about the project.

How would you describe North Hudson?

We can boast the two most magnificent views in the Adirondacks, but maybe I'm partial, with Elk Lake [a lodging resort] and Boreas Ponds. Population-wise, North Hudson is a small community. We are struggling to bring back the economy that began to falter after the closure of Frontier Town [a Western theme park]. We want to maintain that small-town, "Adirondacky" atmosphere but find opportunities for economic growth.

What businesses would you like to see?

I'd like to see a small grocery, a small diner, and then, like everywhere in the Adirondacks, we can use beds. If we can take advantage of our location right off Exit 29 of the Northway, and now with the opening of the Boreas Ponds tract, we hope other businesses could open to support an increase in recreation, [such as] hiking, paddling, hunting, camping, fishing, snowshoeing, and horseback riding.

You've waited the longest for the largest prize.

What does it feel like now to be the town hosting Boreas Ponds?

It's been a long, long wait, but I'm really happy to see it opened up under an interim plan.

What was your first impression of Boreas Ponds?

Stunning. Breathtaking.

What motivates you to do your job?

To try to make the park a better place for people who live here and for people who visit.

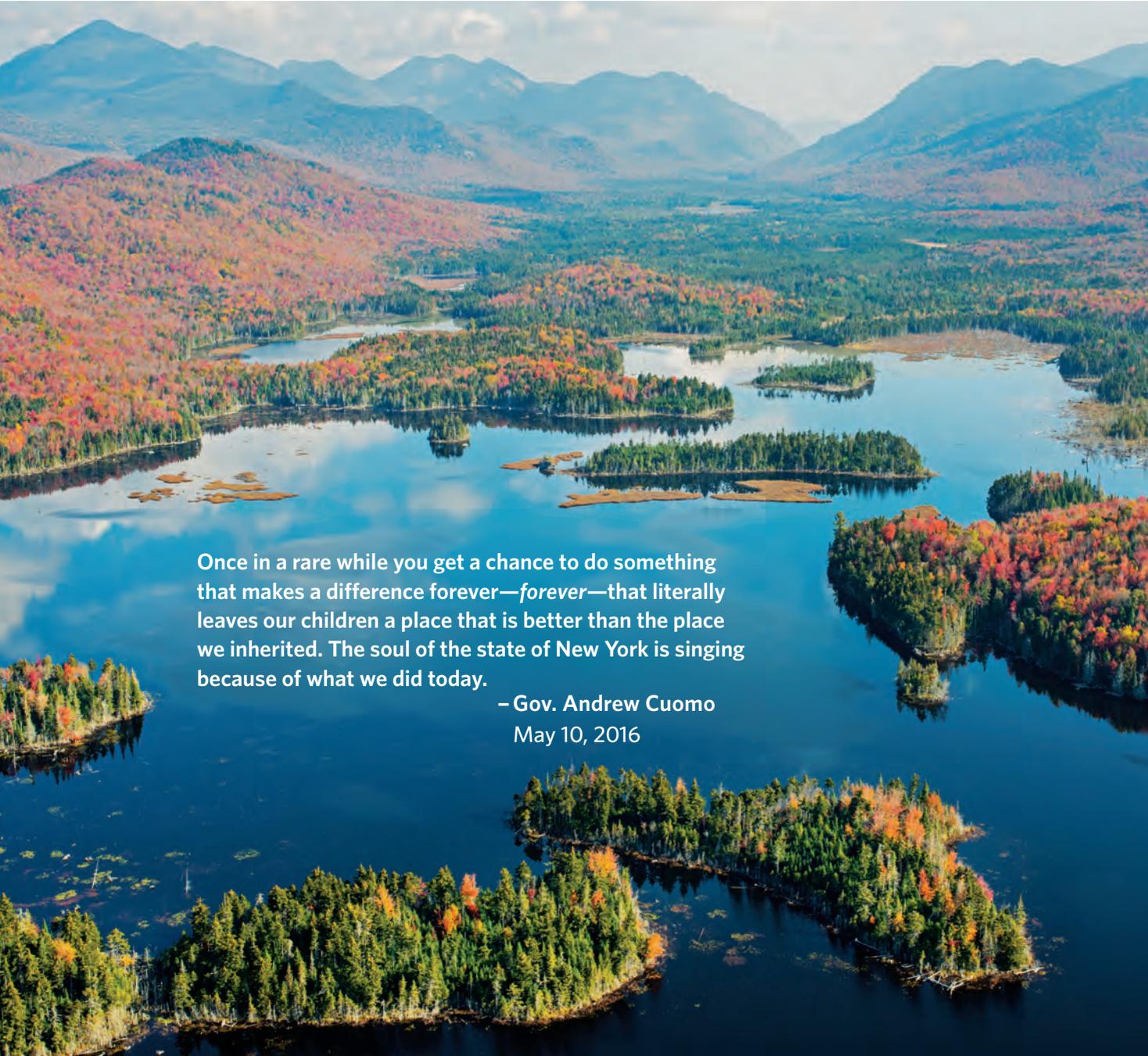
What gives you hope about the future of the park?

We are a tourism-based economy. The land purchases—if we can get reasonable access coupled with recreation opportunities—we can offer something that is unlike anything else within the center of the Adirondack Park.

INFO: nature.org/heartofadirondacks



Andrew Cuomo, New York State Governor (center), at a celebration adding Boreas Ponds to the Forest Preserve. Also attending, left to right: Basil Seggos, NYSDEC commissioner; Clark Seaman, Long Lake supervisor; Neil Woodworth, Adirondack Mountain Club executive director; William Ferebee, Keene supervisor; Stephen McNally, Minerva supervisor; Ron Moore, North Hudson supervisor; Brian Wells, Indian Lake supervisor; Terry Martino, Adirondack Park Agency executive director; Mike Carr, Nature Conservancy Adirondack Chapter executive director; George Canon, Newcomb deputy supervisor.



Once in a rare while you get a chance to do something that makes a difference forever—*forever*—that literally leaves our children a place that is better than the place we inherited. The soul of the state of New York is singing because of what we did today.

– Gov. Andrew Cuomo
May 10, 2016

Boreas Ponds and the High Peaks Wilderness

FOREST PRESERVE BENEFITS

To help communities benefit from new Forest Preserve lands, The Nature Conservancy is providing \$750,000 in funding this year for investments in tourism amenities and businesses. Previous grant funds of \$500,00 from the Conservancy are already supporting equestrian staging areas, modernized lodging, campground improvements, marketing initiatives, and outdoor guiding businesses.



Plants and animals need places to move to and through. Forest connections and smarter wildlife-crossings also provide co-benefits for people.

Big Systems and Big Solutions

Sharing local successes to influence change across borders

The Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy is proud to be a leading member of the Staying Connected Initiative (SCI), a partnership of more than 30 conservation organizations and transportation and environmental agencies across 80 million acres spanning the eastern U.S.-Canada border. Adirondack Conservation Director Dirk Bryant chairs SCI's Program Committee. Jessie Levine, who led the Adirondack stream connectivity initiative, is SCI coordinator. Adirondack Wildlife Program Monitoring Manager Alissa Rafferty leads our work on the ground east and west of the Adirondacks.

The long-term well-being of this region depends on a connected landscape of large core forests and wooded corridors between them. A connected landscape better protects animals and plants from the impacts of climate change. It also sustains the livelihoods and quality of life

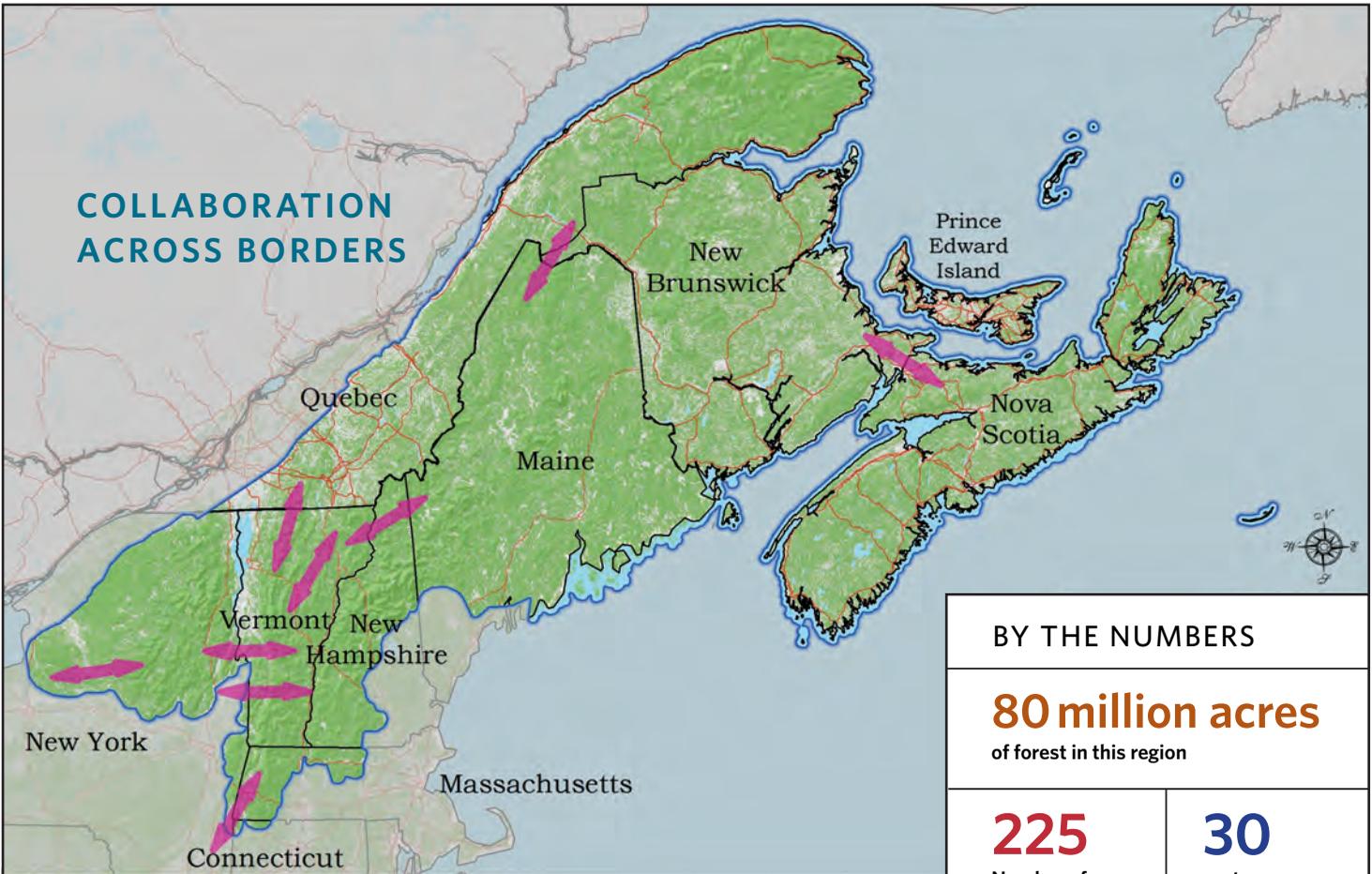
of people who depend on a thriving forest. For example, maintaining forests along rivers protects key migration routes while also cooling and filtering water. Smarter wildlife-crossings — including better signage and structures — make roads safer for both wildlife and motorists.

Through science, land protection, land use planning, outreach to communities, policy engagement and transportation planning, SCI's success comes from collaboration and information-sharing across borders.

SCI thanks these funders for 2016 support:

- Davis Conservation Foundation
- Fondation Écho
- The Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund
- Patagonia Environmental Grants
- The Prospect Hill Foundation

COLLABORATION ACROSS BORDERS



BY THE NUMBERS

80 million acres

of forest in this region

225

Number of
wildlife cameras
deployed

30

partner
organizations

Northern Appalachian/Acadian region forest cover and nine wildlife linkage focus areas.

STAYING CONNECTED

This summer the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers signed a resolution calling for collaboration across borders to maintain connected forests and waterways. Led by Staying Connected Initiative partners, the resolution reinforces SCI's fundamental strategies of land protection, and land-use and transportation planning. SCI partners are now working to extend key provisions of the resolution to New York State.

HOW THIS WORK HITS THE GROUND

The Adirondack Chapter is working to strengthen connections between the Adirondack Park and New York's Tug Hill and Vermont's Green Mountains by:

- Raising funds to purchase two free-flowing miles of the Moose River and 753 acres of forest.
- Working with Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust and Wildlife Conservation Society to help 16 landowners covering 3,700 acres monitor wildlife movement and maintain connections.
- Working with NYS Department of Transportation to pilot a shelf inside a culvert to help bobcats and other mammals cross safely under a major road.
- Using wildlife cameras to study other culverts to evaluate their potential for helping animals cross safely.

The Shared Language of Conservation



Highlights from an international conservation exchange

Conservation leaders from 20 countries paid a visit to the Adirondack Park this summer during an 18-day environmental protection and biodiversity study tour of the United States. The tour was part of the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. The park was selected because of its long conservation history and unique configuration of public and private lands, large forests and small towns. It is a model for the world of how people connect with nature.

The Nature Conservancy's Adirondack Chapter joined with colleagues from the Adirondack Park Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 5, The Wild Center and State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry to host the visitors.

Participants had a wide range of professional expertise, from park management to botany, ecotourism to ecological research, forestry to engineering. Through presentations and field trips, the delegates discussed

natural history education and interpretation, engaging youth in climate actions, land use management and planning, Forest Preserve regulations and enforcement, water quality monitoring, wildlife and other ecological research, as well as forest resilience and climate adaptation strategies.

The exchange was as enriching for the hosts as it was for the visitors. Indeed, it made the world feel smaller as common conservation themes emerged around climate change, management and stewardship of protected areas, community sustainability, invasive species strategies, and ecotourism.

Participating Countries: Argentina, Botswana, Cambodia, India, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Russia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.



Facing page: Visitors from 20 countries tour the Wild Center's Wild Walk during a State Department exchange to share ideas about biodiversity conservation and sustainability.

Clockwise from above

Dareen Matwani and Ghadina Ahmed Al Issaey, of Oman, on the Wild Walk.

From left to right, Ghadina Ahmed Al Issaey, of Oman, Togarasei Fakarayi, of Zimbabwe, and Gaffan Amoussou, of Togo, paddle on Lake Henderson.

From left to right, Ekaterina Blokova, of Russia, Atalia Nunez Zaragoza, of Mexico, and Rajesh Gopalan, of India, work with Matt McNamara, volunteer trail steward, to improve hiking trails on Forest Preserve.



Proactive Protection for Adirondack Woods and Waters

Training more eyes to fend off forest pests



Learning to identify hemlock woolly adelgid.

The stand of hemlock just beyond the vacation townhouses in North Creek’s Ski Bowl Village doesn’t look like the front line in a war against a relentless enemy. But in many respects, it is.

It’s here, on a July afternoon, that a group of 40 conservation experts, researchers and concerned citizens got a crash course on how to identify hemlock woolly adelgid during a summit offered by the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) and Adirondack Mountain Club. The aphid-like pest lays eggs on hemlocks. They hatch and feed off sap, killing the tree in a matter of years.

Hemlock woolly adelgid hasn’t crossed into the Adirondack Park yet; at least that we know of. But considering that it’s nearing the southeast boundary of the park, and that the Adirondacks has the highest density of hemlocks anywhere in New York, keeping vigil is critically important. That’s one reason why APIPP co-sponsored the summit, which focused preventing forest threats. Emerald ash borer and other pests haven’t taken a toll on Adirondack forests yet. But they’re on the way and the region should be prepared.

Too often, the public takes notice of invaders only after they arrive. And by then, it’s often too late to eliminate them, said Brendan Quirion, APIPP’s coordinator. “Invasive

pests are one of the most severe, urgent threats facing our forests,” he said.

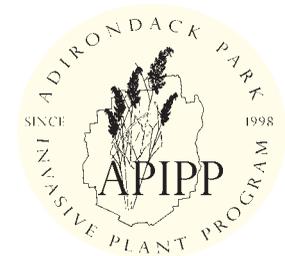
APIPP and The Nature Conservancy have several prevention and early detection tools at their disposal. Outreach efforts, such as the Conservancy’s *Don’t Move Firewood* campaign, have helped educate the public of dangers such as unintentionally ferrying emerald ash borer or other pests into the Adirondacks.

APIPP and the Adirondack Mountain Club have also teamed up on a program that asks hikers and other recreationalists to keep an eye on remote backcountry areas, reporting any suspected pest damage they find with a mobile phone app called iMapInvasives. Insecticides and biocontrols (deploying insects that prey on invasives) can also be effective in containing small, local infestations.

Once the summit wrapped up, Quirion and a team of partners regrouped to discuss which areas in the region are especially important to monitor. The effort is ongoing in cooperation with the NY Hemlock Initiative and Cornell University. On the day of the summit, nobody found hemlock woolly adelgid. But it’s as close as Schenectady, 60 miles south. Quirion wants to buy time. “The longer we hold them off, the more time we have to develop more research and control measures that will increase our management success,” he said.

The Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP) was founded in 1998 by the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, NY Department of Environmental Conservation, NY Department of Transportation, and NY Adirondack

Park Agency. Since 1998, the partnership has grown to more than 30 cooperating organizations and works with more than 600 volunteers. **INFO:** adkinvasives.com



Left: © TNC (Ken Aaron)



© TNC

To help boaters find inspection/wash stations, APIPP and partners are using radio public service announcements and a billboard on I-87. See www.adkcleanboats.com. Lower left: A student with The Wild Center's Youth Climate Program helped survey Moose Pond this summer. Lower right: Mitchell Jones was APIPP's 2016 seasonal educator. Mitchell is finishing a BA in environmental science and policy at Clarkson University.



© John DiGiacomo

MORE THAN 1,600 INVASIVES CAUGHT!

Most waterways in the Adirondacks are free from invasive species, and we hope to keep it that way.

Most aquatic invasive species (AIS) spread by sticking to boats and their trailers. The Adirondack AIS Prevention Program sponsored by APIPP, NY Department of Environmental Conservation, Paul Smith's College's Adirondack Watershed Institute and a committee of partners intercepted and prevented the spread of more than 1,600 AIS this summer and fall through free boat inspections and washes.

This year, with increased funding from the state's Environmental Protection Fund, the program expanded from 12 to 23 stations, and a new state regulation required boaters to clean, drain, and treat before launching.

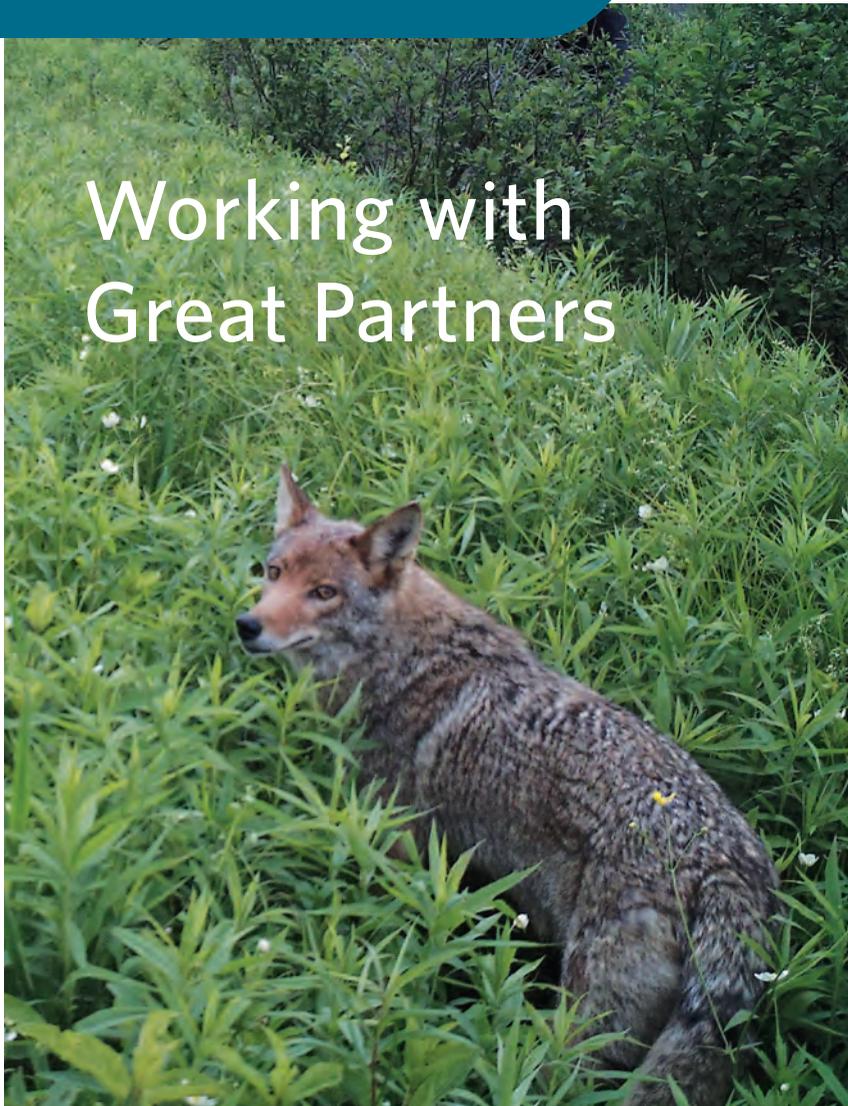
SHARING A SUCCESSFUL MODEL

The Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative has published a case study by APIPP staffers Brendan Quirion and Zachary Simek detailing successful efforts to reduce and eliminate the invasive reed *Phragmites australis* in the central Adirondacks.

The Adirondack Park contains an estimated 600,000 acres of wetlands, most of them still in a wild, native state. APIPP's control efforts aim to:

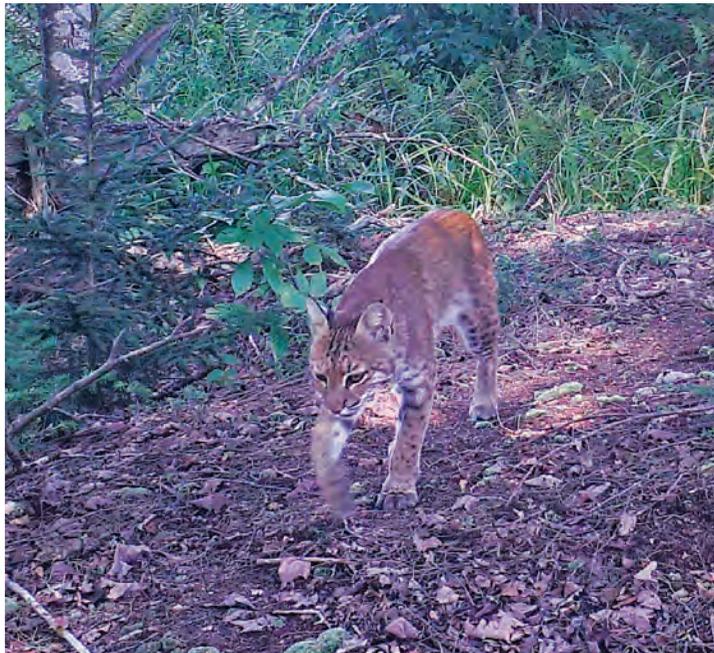
- Eliminate all known phragmites infestations within the core of the Adirondacks by 2021.
- Eliminate all new phragmites infestations in the wider region at a rate faster than they occur over the next 10 years.

And so far it's working. These high standards inspire excellence in the Adirondacks and hope for other regions.



© TNC

Working with Great Partners



This coyote and this bobcat were two of many mammals caught on wildlife cameras in the Black River Valley this summer. We are working with the Staying Connected Initiative, New York State Department of Transportation and 16 landowners to improve wildlife passage between the Adirondack Park and Tug Hill Plateau. Cameras help reveal animals' travel patterns. See page 4 for details.



© TNC (Connie Pickett)

This summer we installed climate-smart culverts in two more cold-water streams in the eastern Adirondacks, for a total of 40 miles of habitat reconnected. This work would not be possible without great partners, including Essex County, the Ausable River Association, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Jim Dougan (left), deputy superintendent of public works for Essex County, said, "I've spent my whole career doing construction, so seeing something come together like this, where we've done more than just fix a culvert, it's very fulfilling to me. It's something you tell your kids about rather than just, 'Well, I went to work today.'"



© TNC

Left: Nature Conservancy science staff partner with government-relations staff to disseminate climate-smart practices and policies for road construction.

Below: The town of Willsboro sponsored the Battle of the Boquet, a race combining running and paddling through the Boquet River Nature Preserve and Noblewood Town Park. Zack Simek, our terrestrial invasive species coordinator (second from left), took first for men. Adirondack Conservation Intern Kate Berdan (fourth from left) placed second among women.



© TNC (Kate Berdan)



Provided by town of Willsboro



© TNC

Middle left: Supporters at the 2016 annual meeting, at Marcy Field in Keene Valley.

Lower left: Stewardship specialist Bill Martin took advantage of low water levels this summer to remove tires from the Boquet River adjacent to The Nature Conservancy's preserve. This section of the river is part of a fall spawning run of landlocked Atlantic salmon from Lake Champlain. The town of Willsboro and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service removed an upstream dam last year, increasing local interest in restoring native fish communities as an ecological and economic asset.



To Keep the Quiet Spaces

Susan and George Robinson are planning ahead for a place they love

The Robinsons with some of the keepsake minerals George collected during his geology career.

It's ironic, perhaps, that the softest spot George and Susan Robinson have in their hearts for the Adirondacks is for something particularly hard: the rocks and minerals hidden beneath the soil, the anorthosite that forms the High Peaks, the till that has been carried by glaciers and scattered across the landscape.

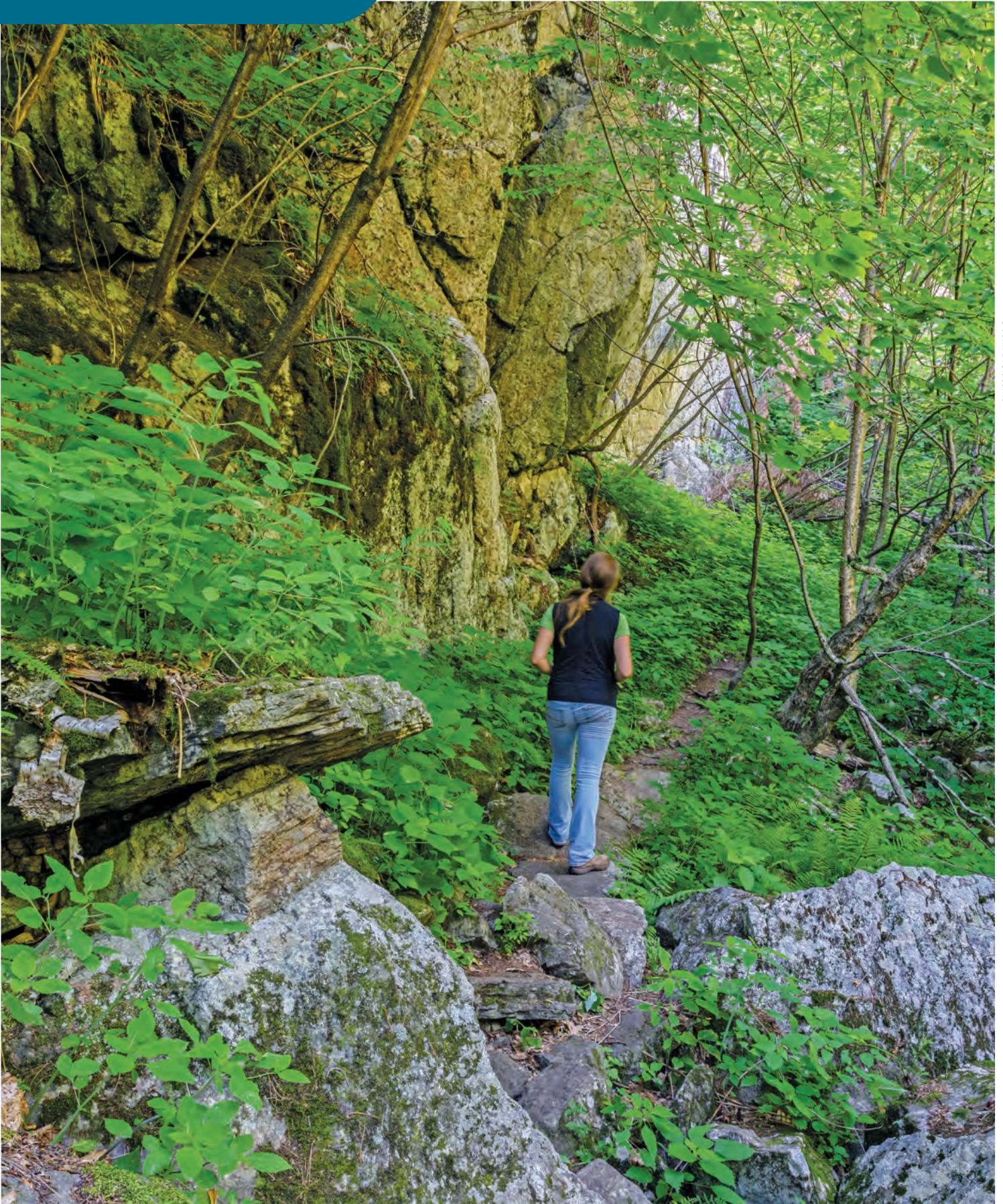
Much of that rock has been there for hundreds of millions of years, if not longer, and it isn't going anywhere soon. So when the couple gives to The Nature Conservancy, it's to protect something far more transitory: the vistas and intact forests of the Adirondacks.

"It's so important in today's world to preserve areas of land," says Susan, sitting with her husband in the dining room of their home in Ogdensburg. A bowl of surf-worn stones they found on a beach in Michigan, where George was once a geology professor, sits between them. "You start to wonder, in future generations, where are you going to be able to get to where you have some kind of solitude — to get away from everything and everybody?"

To keep the quiet spaces of the Adirondacks quiet, the Robinsons — he a retired mineral museum curator and geologist, she a skilled artist — have bequeathed most of their estate to The Nature Conservancy. The gift is earmarked for land conservation and habitat protection throughout the Adirondack Park.

While both George and Susan consider themselves devoted naturalists, the thrill of discovering lost mineral deposits excites them the most. Part of the thrill, George says, is to lay eyes on something no one has ever seen before. Part is to find a cache that has scientific value. And part, he says, is sport. "Why do you go fishing if you release the fish? It's just the challenge," he says.

Susan grabbed a book and opened to a poem by Robert W. Service, "The Spell of the Yukon," to explain the allure. "It isn't the gold that I'm wanting, so much as just finding the gold," she read. "Which is true about so many things."



Working Together

DONORS and VOLUNTEERS

YOU, OUR MEMBERS, power the work of the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. We are grateful to all of the people who work for a better future for this region.

These pages acknowledge those who have contributed \$500 or more to the Adirondack Chapter annual fund or special projects between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. (A portion of annual fund gifts also support the work of the Adirondack Land Trust. To see gifts made solely to the land trust, please see page 21.) We switched to new software during the past year, and we are still working out the kinks. If we have incorrectly listed or mistakenly omitted your name, please accept our apologies and allow us to correct the error: please contact Erin Walkow, senior donor-relations manager, (518) 576-2012 ext. 133 | ewalkow@tnc.org. Thank you. Your efforts and contributions make a difference.

For their privacy, names of supporters and volunteers are not included in the Web version of the annual report.

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

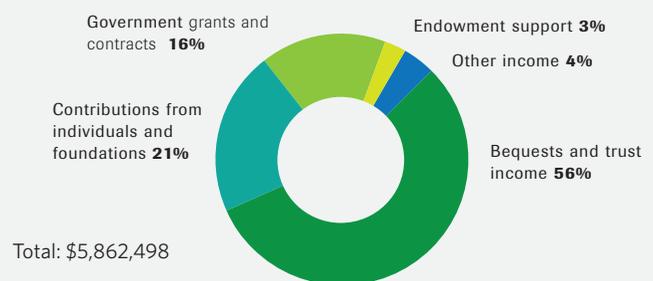
Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

The information presented here represents the operating activities of the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. This analysis is based on unaudited draft financial statements for the 2016 fiscal year (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016) and does not include capital funds and land projects. These graphs are intended to provide timely information, but they are not a substitute for the audited financial statement of The Nature Conservancy, available at tnc.org or by writing to our office or the New York State Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

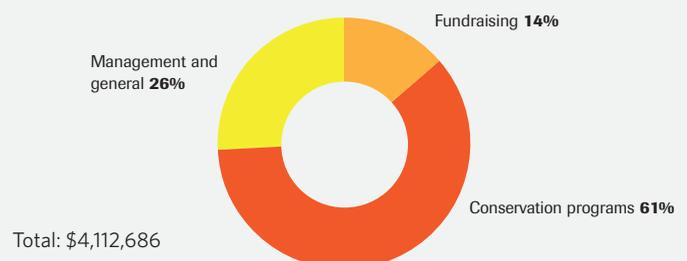
The Adirondack Chapter was founded in 1971 and has protected nearly 563,000 acres. Since 1988, it has worked with the Adirondack Land Trust to extend resources and cost efficiencies. The organizations operate in complementary and mutually supportive ways on land conservation and stewardship of preserves and conservation easements.

The year-ending surplus is driven by funds given as bequests to the Adirondack Chapter during the fiscal year and will be reinvested in the operations of the Chapter and in pursuit of the Conservancy's strategic priorities.

Sources of Operating Funds / Fiscal Year 2016



Uses of Operating Funds / Fiscal Year 2016



Harris Family Farm

An Alaskan family goes organic in the Champlain Valley



“Coming from Alaska, it needed to be a pretty special place,” says Maeve Taylor, of her family’s search for the perfect farm. She and her husband, Ben Harris, both natives of Alaska, began looking for a farm shortly after their son, Finn, was born four years ago.

Ben, a commercial fisherman, was at sea for months at a time, and Maeve worked for the U.S. Forest Service, so quality family time was limited. Hoping to land somewhere in Vermont, New Hampshire or Maine, they put out an ad looking for a dairy farm to rent. Tom Salva, owner of the Marsh Farm in Westport, NY, got in touch with them and said, “It’s not Vermont...but I think you’ll like it here.” It was winter when Ben flew from Alaska to see the farm. He reported back that it was windswept, cold, a lot like home. They were sold.

What is now known as the Harris Family Farm has pastureland, two brooks, and a mixed woodland on nearly 500 acres. Lake Champlain is in the distance to the east, the Adirondack High Peaks to the west. “This farm has the essence of wildness that we were used to in Alaska,” says Maeve.

Balancing wildness is a young farming community that Maeve and Ben have come to know in the Champlain Valley. Mornings, they drink coffee paled with milk from their organic dairy herd and eat yogurt made by neighboring farmers, who use their milk as the main ingredient.

The couple milked their Jersey herd for the first time in May 2014, says Ben. They currently have 55 cows in production and are Certified Organic through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. “We wouldn’t have been dairy farmers any other way,” says Maeve.



ALT holds 54 conservation easements across Northern New York, including 20 working farms totaling 7,363 acres that produce milk, apples, eggs, beef, hay and grains.

Management of the farm is also guided by an Adirondack Land Trust conservation easement, a perpetual agreement with the landowner that ensures that the agricultural and forest lands will remain available for farming and forestry into the future. ALT holds 54 conservation easements across Northern New York, including 20 working farms totaling 7,363 acres that produce milk, apples, eggs, beef, hay and grains. Most of the farms are in the Champlain Valley, where the agricultural land base is important to the economy.

The bulk of Harris Family Farm milk goes to Horizon Organics, but if you’ve ever had North Country Creamery’s thick and tangy yogurt, then you’ve had the pleasure of tasting their Champlain Valley grass-fed milk.

The family’s favorite thing about living on the farm? Space. “Finn can play like kids his age want to play,” says Maeve. “We love being on a farm with a child. He has the freedom of space here.” As she talks, Finn descends a tree he has climbed and runs to see a chicken, a barn cat, the rain gauge, and back again. Maeve beckons him to help shepherd the cows from pasture to milking parlor. He grabs the temporary fencing and adeptly strings it along, a true farm kid.



Ben Harris and Maeve Taylor and their son, Finn, were looking for a very special place to start their farm. They found it in Westport.

Vista saved!

This fall the Adirondack Land Trust purchased 250 acres of farm and forest land off Route 86 between Saranac Lake and Paul Smiths. The acquisition protects a soaring view and preserves the grazing and haying potential of the meadow. Balsam forest on the lower slope protects the water quality of Twobridge Brook and Bloomingdale Bog. The purchase was facilitated by the generous family who owned the tract for 70 years and donated most of its value.

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

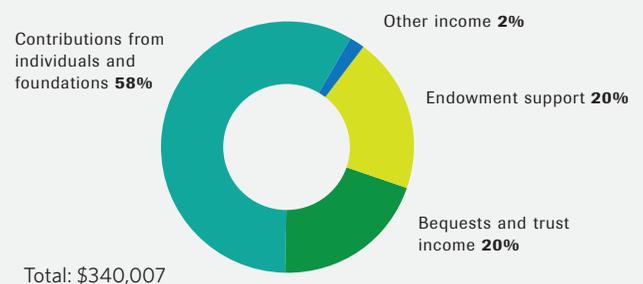
Adirondack Land Trust

The Adirondack Land Trust was incorporated in 1984 and has protected 23,032 acres of working farms and forests, unbroken shoreline, scenic vistas and other lands contributing to the quality of life of Adirondack communities. Since 1988, it has worked with the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy to extend resources and cost efficiencies. The organizations operate in complementary and mutually supportive ways on land conservation and stewardship of preserves and conservation easements.

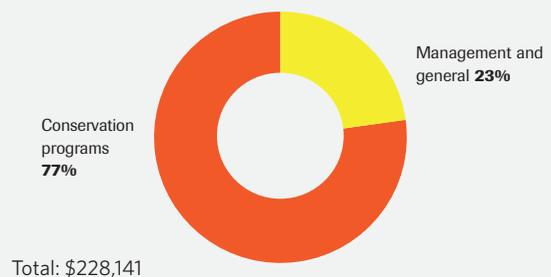
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During fiscal year 2016, ALT’s mission and objectives were supported by employees of the Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. The Adirondack Chapter was reimbursed for its support of ALT’s conservation efforts, and it donated staff time for fund-raising. Any year-ending surplus is reinvested in the organization in pursuit of ALT’s long-term strategic goals.

Sources of Operating Funds / Fiscal Year 2016



Uses of Operating Funds / Fiscal Year 2016



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*The following trustees completed
board terms in August 2016:*

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Chris Jage joined our team this year as land-protection manager. Originally from southeastern Pennsylvania, Chris worked 15 years as an assistant director of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. He has also worked as a Wilderness Ranger with the Bureau of Land Management in Yuma, Arizona, and as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Guatemala. He holds a BS in environmental resource management from Penn State and an MS from Virginia Tech in crop and soil environmental sciences.



Bill Martin joined our team this year as a stewardship specialist. Bill holds a BS in natural resource management & policy from Paul Smith's College. He worked previously with the Watershed Agricultural Council, stewarding agricultural conservation easements focused on water quality protection within the New York City watershed.

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Kate Berdan

2016 Adirondack Conservation Intern

Mitchell Jones

2016 Invasive Species Educator

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The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. The Adirondack Chapter was founded in 1971.

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

Together, these partners in conservation have protected more than 585,000 acres, including 1 out of every 6 protected acres in the Adirondack Park.



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