



360,000 acres of forests, lakes and rivers are up for sale in the Adirondack Park. The state already has funds to save this land. Governor Pataki can close the deal if you convince the New York State Legislature. Act now.

ADIRONDACK PARK IS UP FOR GRABS.

FOREVER WILD OR GONE FOR ALL TIME? THE LEGISLATURE CAN SAVE, OR SQUANDER, THE ADIRONDACK PARK.

New York's Adirondack Park is the largest in the Lower 48 — Yellowstone, Yosemite, Glacier and the Grand Canyon would all fit inside it with room to spare. Set aside in 1892, its 6 million acres cover one-fifth of New York State and offer millions of visitors 2,800 lakes, 1,500 miles of river, and the largest assemblage of old-growth forest east of the Mississippi.

But less than 45 percent of the Park is publicly owned Forest Preserve declared "Forever Wild" in the N.Y. State Constitution. The rest is privately owned: estates, camps, villages, and commercial timberland.

From the beginning, New Yorkers have tried to safeguard the Park's ecological integrity and enhance its recreational values by adding key parcels of private land to the Park's permanently protected areas, either by purchase or by acquiring "conservation easements" that make sure private timberlands are used compatibly.



Right now, in a once-in-a-lifetime chance, more than 10 percent of all the private lands in the Park is up for sale at the same time. This land, controlled by 21 owners, includes strategically located parcels that could provide public access to the Forest Preserve, vast timber holdings that have always been off-limits to the public, and important parcels needed to complete wilderness areas, key watersheds and river corridors.

Unless these lands or conservation easements are acquired now, 360,000 acres of crucial wildlife habitat will be lost — closed to the public and compromising the Park. Once broken up, some tracts might be grabbed by speculators looking to jack up the price to the State later on.

HELP FULFILL A 100-YEAR-OLD PROMISE.

A century ago, the people of New York removed the Park's Forest Preserve from the Legislature's control to stop rampant clearcutting.

Today, the Legislature again holds the key to the Adirondack Park. Voters have already approved bond funds which can be used, in part, to acquire Park land and conservation easements.



Champion International's 141,000 acres is the largest tract ever put up for sale in the Park. Some of the Park's most biologically rich land, it supports such rare and threatened species as the moose, spruce grouse, and carnivorous pitcher plant. Among its outstanding recreational opportunities is access to rivers closed for over a century.

Governor Pataki has made clear his commitment to protect the Park. He has already closed a deal to keep the Whitney Estate out of developers' hands and enhance the Park's wilderness. And his budget includes more than \$70 million to protect the key parcels up for grabs.

The only question mark? The State Legislature needs to approve Governor Pataki's appropriations for the Park. Will its leaders show the vision needed in the new millennium?

The amount of private land currently up for sale inside the Park's borders is a major challenge to the Park's future. At stake is whether this landscape is protected for future generations of Americans or is carved up, fenced off, permanently privatized, and fragmented, driving out

wildlife and degrading habitat. It is also a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

For a century, New Yorkers have been clear and consistent in their idea of what the Adirondack Park should be. It's time for the Legislature to join the people in pledging to preserve our state's natural inheritance.

Please mail the coupon below, right away. Call our Adirondack Park Action Hotline, 1-800-842-PARK, to find out what you can do to help. Let legislative leaders know how important the Adirondack Park is to you — and to New York's future.

After all, they're not making land like this anymore.

And once it's grabbed, it's gone.



THE ADIRONDACK COUNCIL
CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR
THE ENVIRONMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
OF NEW YORK STATE
NEW YORK RIVERS UNITED
SIERRA CLUB

To find out what you can do right now to help save the Park, call the Adirondack Park Action Hotline, 1-800-842-PARK.



The Adirondack Council, P.O. Box D-2, Two Church Street, Elizabethtown, NY 12932

YES, I agree. Never before has so much private land within the Adirondack Park been up for grabs. This is an historic opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

Please add me to your Adirondack Action mailing list. Send me more information about how I can safeguard and enjoy the Adirondack Park.

I enclose my urgent tax-deductible contribution:
 ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$75 ___\$100 ___\$500 or \$_____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(Please make checks payable to The Adirondack Council/Save the Park.)