

Adirondack Council

Grant Names: Forever Wild Fund, Support for Wilderness campaign

Project Size: \$3,500,000

Grant Amount: \$250,000 (2012-2016) for the FWF, \$25,000 (2016) for the Wilderness campaign

Strategic Value: Sustaining the most important advocacy voice for the Adirondacks

The Adirondack Council is the voice for shared uses of the Adirondack Park while protecting its unmatched wild areas. The Council believes that nature and people can, in fact must, coexist. It therefore works with other environmental organizations to protect and extend the Park's wilderness areas while also supporting vibrant and sustainable communities in the Park.

The Cloudsplitter Foundation's \$250,000 grant to the Council's Forever Wild Fund (FWF) was a matching grant that helped raise \$3 million in new funds for the FWF. The FWF is a quasi-endowment that uses its earnings to supplement the Council's operating budget (up to 5% can be drawn annually) but also acts as an insurance policy against unseen threats to the Park or to the constitutional protections it enjoys. Thanks to this successful expansion of the FWF the fund has approximately \$6 million and can contribute up to \$300,000 to the Council's annual operations.

In 2016 Cloudsplitter Foundation contributed \$25,000 to the production of a film, narrated by Sigourney Weaver, calling on the NY state administration to extend wilderness protections to the Boreas Pond complex.

Grant Analysis: Expanding the FWF was clearly a highly-leverage grant's success. The Boreas classification is still pending.