

Resolution

EMC No. 1-99 - Resolution Recommending Integrity of State Forests be Prime Determinant in Master Plan

WHEREAS, The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has invited comment on a Recreation Master Plan for Forests and Unique Areas in Region 7, and

WHEREAS, The Tompkins County Environmental Management Council has previously provided input for a number of activities on New York State land, and

WHEREAS, The possible recreational activities include such examples as hiking, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, llama trekking and hang gliding, and

WHEREAS, These activities are often incompatible and result in poor footing and trail conditions, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County EMC recommends that:

- 1.) The integrity of the environment of New York State lands be the prime determinant of which activities shall be permitted, and
- 2.) Any activity which damages the land, resulting in erosion, channeling of water, or excessive soil compaction not be permitted, and
- 3.) Wildlife are not to be disturbed to the detriment of their health by noise or physical threat brought on by recreational vehicles, and
- 4.) Trails designed for hiking not be used by other recreational users, and
- 5.) Animals not engaged directly in lawful hunting must be restrained or under the direct control of the handler, and
- 6.) Communities having state forest lands within their boundaries should have direct input into planning and management of those lands, and

RESOLVED, further, That these recommendations be conveyed to the NY Department of Environmental Conservation's office in Cortland for consideration.

Date: June 9, 1999

Voting in favor: 9

Voting against: 0

Abstentions: 0