



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

May 10, 2016

Leilani Ulrich, Chair  
Adirondack Park Agency  
Route 86  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Lani:

I am proud to inform you that our administration has completed the largest addition to the Forest Preserve in more than a century with the acquisition of the former Finch lands. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has recently closed on the last piece of the former Finch properties – the magnificent, 20,758- acre Boreas Ponds tract in the Town of North Hudson.

This property will be enjoyed by all New Yorkers. It will become a destination and an economic driver for the surrounding communities. The addition of the Boreas Ponds tract to the Adirondack Forest Preserve solidifies the State's protection of the High Peaks region of the Adirondacks, providing new public recreation opportunities with the dramatic backdrop of the stunning High Peaks, one of New York's most treasured and iconic landscapes. Boreas Pond, the namesake of the tract, a pristine and magnificent 320-acre body of water, is now one of the largest in the park completely surrounded by Forest Preserve. Other waters on the tract include LaBier Flow, Boreas River, LeClaire Brook, Casey Brook, Slide Brook, and White Lily Pond and White Lily Brook.

As the first step toward the proper management of this gem, I am requesting the Adirondack Park Agency immediately commence the process to classify the Boreas Ponds tract pursuant to the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan. This property is one of the most important additions ever made to the Adirondack Forest Preserve. The recommendations for classification by the APA will provide the guidance necessary for DEC to develop a management plan for the property which will ensure its long term preservation and compatible public recreation activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE