



Denino

Forest Legacy Tract, New York

August 1994

In the town of Indian Lake, located within the Adirondack Park of New York, the heirs of the late Rocco Denino carried out the wish of their father to protect key forest land near the Indian River. Recreationists have been using the Denino land to reach the river. On August 24, 1994, public access



A deer is using a former meadow area near the south corner of the Denino property.

was assured. The USDA Forest Service and the town of Indian Lake reimbursed the Deninos for the values that the public will use. The USDA Forest Service paid \$86,393 to the Denino heirs for a conservation easement on 141 acres that includes public access for recreation and the assurance that the area will never be developed. The town of Indian Lake paid \$16,567 for full title to the remaining 17 acres along the Indian River and the underlying fee title to the 141 acres restricted by the Forest Legacy conservation easement.

“I enjoyed working with a town that was enthusiastic about protecting their important forest resources,” said Dick Ackerman of the Green Mountain National Forest, who worked on the project for the Forest Service.

“The purchase of this conservation easement will open this parcel and vast areas of adjoining state lands to greater public access,” said Langdon Marsh, New York State Environmental Commissioner.

“Commercial rafting operations along the Indian River

that are so important to the tourism economy of the town of Indian Lake will continue to operate under arrangements sought and won by town supervisor Richard Purdue,” Marsh added.

The conservation easement on the 141-acre parcel will provide hunting and hiking opportunities. The town of Indian Lake gained the timber rights as part of the underlying fee for the Forest Legacy parcel. The town also intends to allow canoeists and commercial raft operators to use the 17-acre parcel along the river. These activities will be managed according to a Forest Stewardship Plan developed by NY Department of Environmental Conservation and the town. A Stewardship Plan is required for all Forest Legacy Properties.

“As part of the transaction, the Barton Mines and 71 members of the Barton family donated to New York State, the mining and mineral rights for the entire tract,” said Jim Jensen, New York Forest Legacy Coordinator, who worked hand-in-hand with the Forest Service to complete the project.

The New York DEC will oversee the conservation easement and visit the property at least once a year.

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Langdon Marsh
New York State Environmental Commissioner

The Forest Legacy Program protects important forests from conversion to nonforest uses. Important forests are those that provide critical wildlife habitat; protect water quality, offer outstanding recreation opportunities, afford outstanding scenic views, are home to historic sites, and/or provide the opportunity to continue traditional forest uses. A Federal-State partnership allows landowners to keep their land private while ensuring it remains forest forever.

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