ISSUE: Our NYS DEC has unveiled draft plans for a four-mile-long, 12-foot-wide, groomed snowmobile connector route from Raquette Lake to Long Lake – through a Wilderness area.

QUESTION: What is going on? Isn’t DEC charged with protecting Wilderness from motorized use?

PROBLEM: A guideline in the State Land Master Plan allows snowmobile trails within 500 feet of where a Wilderness boundary intersects a public highway “in limited circumstances.” A four-mile motorized route through Wilderness isn’t a limited circumstance. It’s an extreme violation of our laws and “forever wild” constitution.

DECISION: The Adirondack Park Agency must decide whether or not this plan conforms to the State Land Master Plan.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Call Governor Cuomo at 518-474-8390, or write him at www.governor.ny.gov, or at State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224. Ask him to tell DEC and APA to withdraw the snowmobile route through the Blue Ridge Wilderness and choose an alternative route that meets legal tests.

We can’t do this work without you!

Visit our website at www.adirondackwild.org. We invite you to become a member, make a donation, or sign up for our award-winning eNewsletter, Dialogue for the Wild.

A Snowmobile Trail Through Wilderness?

Trees like these would need to be cut down in order to construct a proposed DEC snowmobile corridor here, within the Blue Ridge Wilderness at its boundary with State Rte. 28 near Raquette Lake. Photo © Dave Gibson.