Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest Westport & Essex, New York



Rallying together to preserve Lake Champlain's highest peak at the last hour, the Open Space Institute, Lake Champlain Land Trust, and other partners saved Split Rock Mountain just before the land auction was about to start back in 1993. At that time the Split Rock Mountain property was the largest remaining private tract of land on the lake. Cherished for its wilderness, high mountain peak, endangered species, and historical significance in the French and Indian War, Split Rock Mountain is one of the single most important acquisitions the State of New York has made to protect and increase public lands in the Adirondack Park on Lake Champlain. This 2,255 acre irreplaceable shoreline forest is now part of the larger, 3,700-acre Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest unit of the New York DEC.





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Directions and Park Information:

From Vermont, take the Charlotte/Essex Ferry, turn left (south) off the ferry onto NY-22 (Lake Shore Road). Continue to follow Lake Shore Road for 6 miles until you see the trailhead sign and parking on your left. From points south on the New York side, take I-87 to Exit 31 and take NY-9N south to Westport, NY. Drive north for approximate 6.5 miles and look for the parking lot on the right.

Split Rock Mountain is a great place for hiking, snowshoeing, canoeing and kayaking. To get to the cliff overlook, follow the hiking trail signs and blazes posted on the map located at the kiosk near the parking area. Take careful notes as the trail network is extensive and hiking area is large. There are no facilities.



Split Rock Mountain Wild Forest is one of dozens of properties saved by the Lake Champlain Land Trust. Since 1978, the Lake Champlain Land Trust has preserved thousands of acres and miles of shoreline on Lake Champlain. To help us save more irreplaceable natural areas, please donate through our website www.LCLT.org!