

Mapping Borders: Tourists, Residents, Agencies, and Animals of the Adirondacks

The Adirondack (ADK) Park is a space shared by many human and non-human entities, each of whom experiences the region in radically different ways.

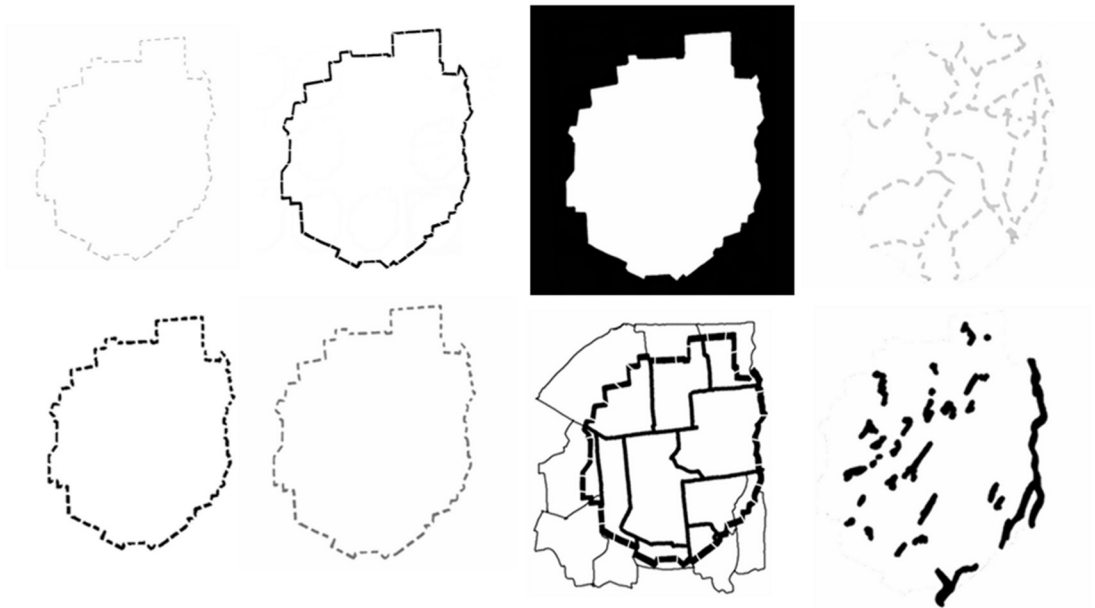
This series of maps explores this range of perspectives through contrasting understandings of ADK borders. Comparing four groups of stakeholders—tourists, residents, agencies, and animals—demonstrates the diversity of experiences that boundaries pose, and the range of factors that influences human, agency, and animal behavior in the region.

The mapping project challenges conventional cartographic perspectives, both through its exploration of the non-human, and through its focus on experiences, margins, and situated knowledge.

How to Read this Map

The following pages present a series of maps, each representing the experiences of a different stakeholder category of boundaries in the ADKs. The maps track three main variables: awareness, porosity, and contrast. The maps also take some unique forms as they portray unconventional, more-than-human perspectives.

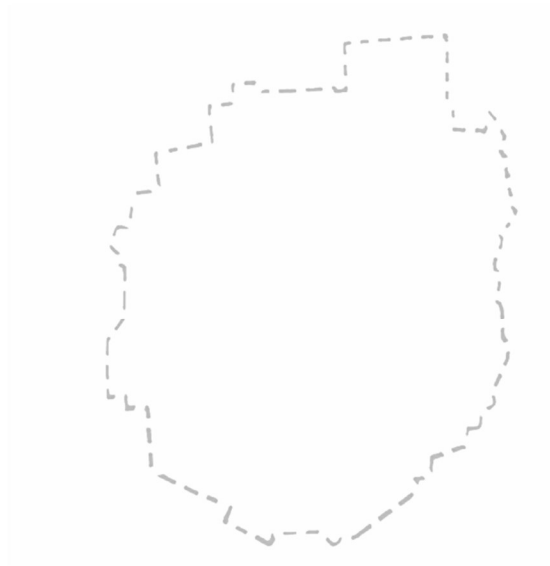
Contrasting Border Experiences of More-than-Human Stakeholders



Border Key

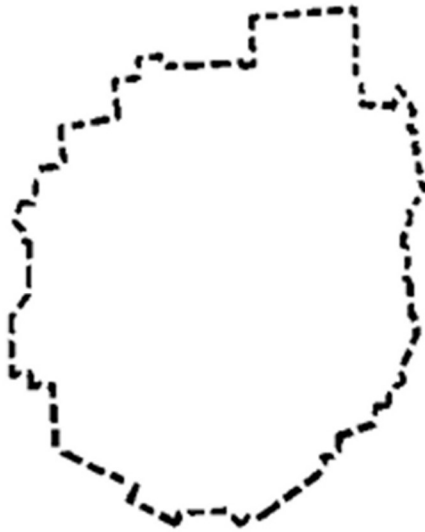
Color Value: Perception of border by subject	Clear: Boundary not perceived	Gray: Aware of boundary	Black: Actively concerned with boundary
			
Solidity: Permeability of border by subject	Dashed: Boundary easily permeable	Semi-Dashed: Boundary partially permeable	Solid: Boundary not permeable
			
Line Weight: Intensity of contrast experienced at border by subject	Thin Line: Border has minimal impact	Medium Line: Border has some impact	Thick Line: Border has great impact
			

In-Park Tourists



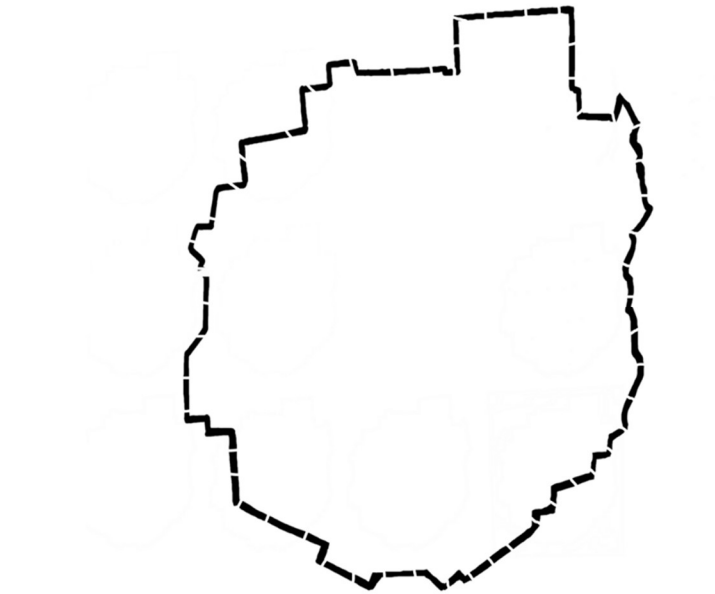
In-park tourists are aware of the ADK boundary and easily able to permeate it but are minimally concerned with it as they are not typically crossing out of the park for recreation. They experience some contrast at the boundary, facing different sets of recreation conditions, but nothing too drastic.

Out-of-Park Tourists



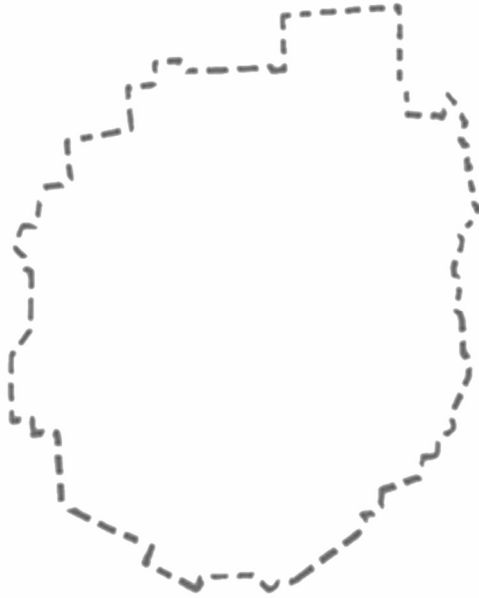
Out-of-park tourists are hyper aware of the parks boundaries, as crossing into the ADKs is a primary goal of these visitors. The border is highly permeable, and presents significant difference for these tourists, who seek the contrast the park presents.

In-Park Residents



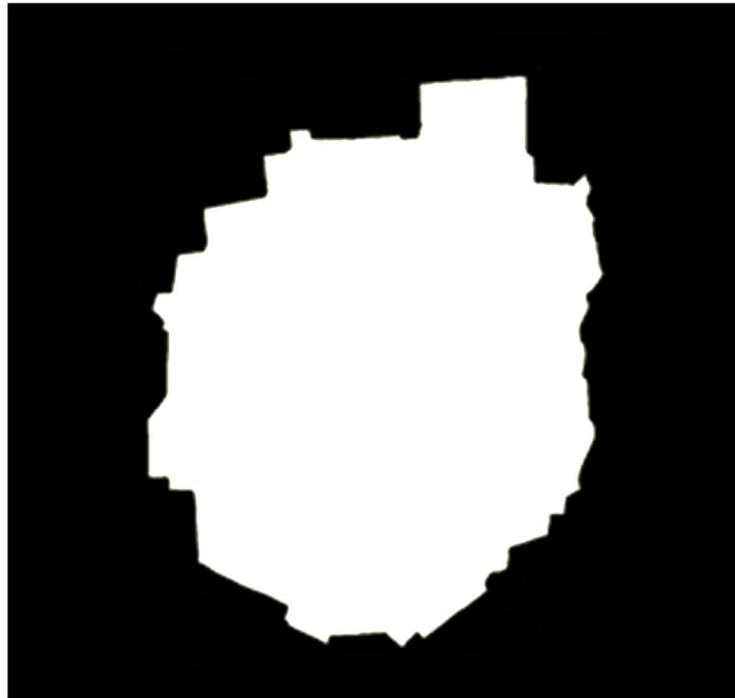
In-park residents are very aware of the park border, and it presents high contrast to this category, placing strict limits and regulations on the behavior of property owners in the ADKs. The border is permeable to a certain degree, but a solid obstacle in other situations.

Out-of-Park Residents



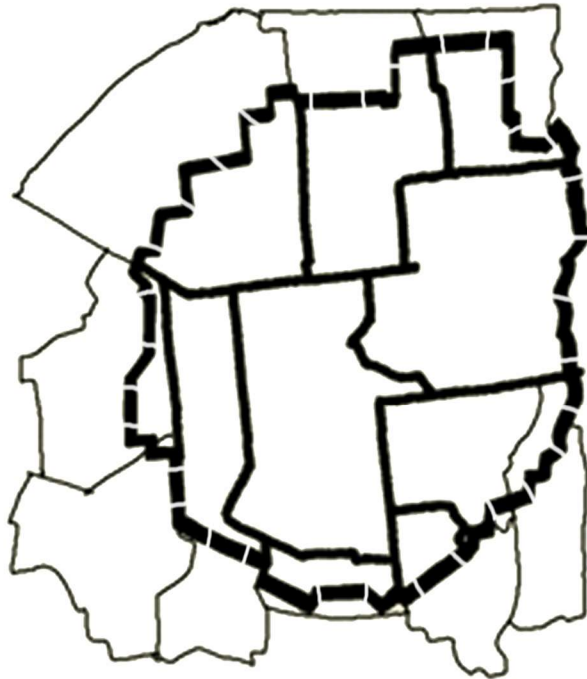
Out-of-park residents, aka, the vast majority of people, have a minimal relationship with the ADK border. They may be aware of it, but it presents little contrast, little import, and no real obstacle, should they choose to cross.

The Adirondack Park Agency



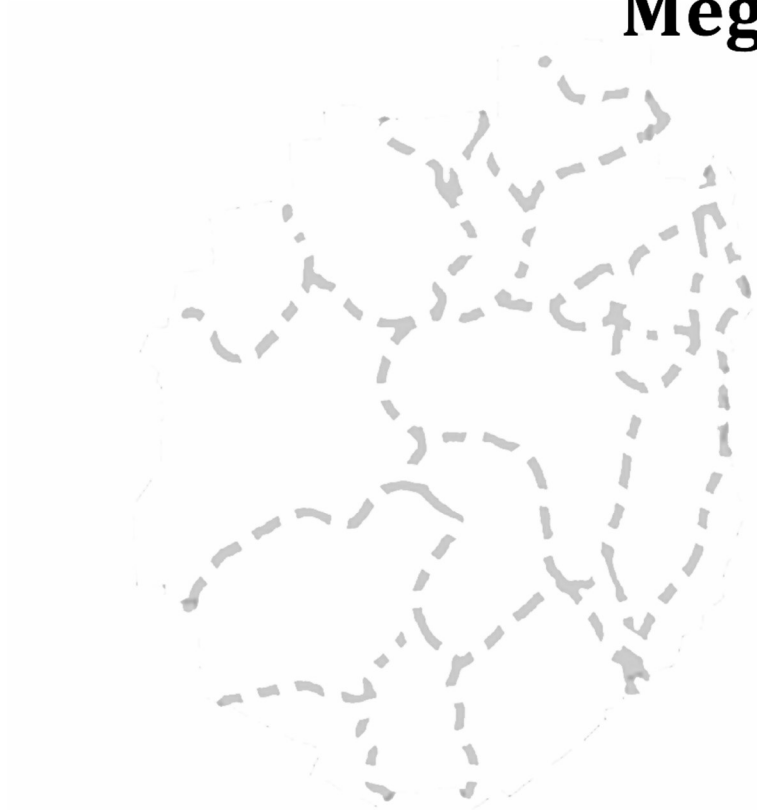
The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) has jurisdiction throughout the entire park, and is very aware that it cannot operate outside these boundaries. The border is a solid, impermeable boundary that the APA exists within, and there is no external existence for this agency.

County Level Governments



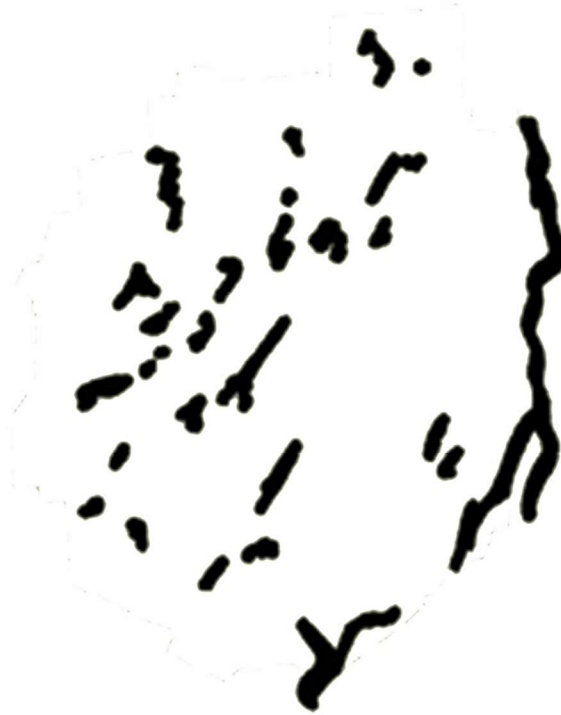
County level governments are aware of and experience intense contrast at the ADK border, and are able to work across it in some capacities. The split status of these local governments is unique, as they operate both within and outside the ADK boundary.

Mammalian Megafauna



Large mammals are not aware of the ADK boundary, cross it with no issue, and do not experience much contrast on either side. Inside the park, megafauna are aware of major roads, and these paths frequently serve as sites of multispecies conflict as animals seek to cross them.

Aquatic Life



Aquatic life gets a unique experience in the ADKs. These creatures are neither aware nor heavily influenced by the parks official border, but are confined instead by the regions waterways. Thus, the boundaries that confine them look very different than for terrestrial groups.