Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network

Jim Brangan, Dr. Kelly Cerialo, Katie Darr, Brian Houseal



AMPLAIN

PRONDACK

Man and the Biosphere Programme



1989

CABN

WHAT IS THE MAN AND BIOSPHERE (MAB) PROGRAM?

- Launched in 1971 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
- Intergovernmental scientific program that aims to establish a scientific basis for the improvement of relationships between people and their environments.
- The World Network of Biosphere Reserves currently has 727 sites in 131 countries all over the world, including 22 transboundary sites.
- Participation is voluntary and cooperative



WHY ARE BIOSPHERE REGIONS IMPORTANT?

- Biosphere regions are learning places for sustainable development
- Sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems
- Promote local actions for the sustainable development goals







Benefits of Participation

- Biospheres are internationally recognized for their unique beauty, cultures, and economic values
- Local communities and organizations build on this recognition for economic development and conservation
- Participation in the U.S. Biosphere Network and the World Network of Biosphere Reserves offers opportunities for training and development and exchanges of best practices

U.S. Biosphere Network

Biosphere Regions in the United States





STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1. **Conserve biodiversity**, restore and enhance ecosystem services and foster sustainable use of natural resources.
- 2. Contribute to **building sustainable healthy and equitable societies**, economies and thriving human settlements.
- 3. Facilitate **sustainability science and education** for sustainable development.
- 4. Support mitigation and adaptation to climate change and other aspects of global environmental change.





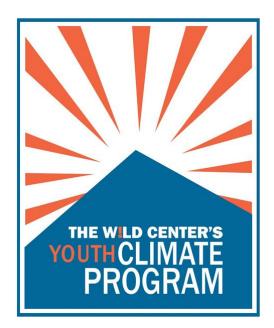
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Man and the Biosphere Programme

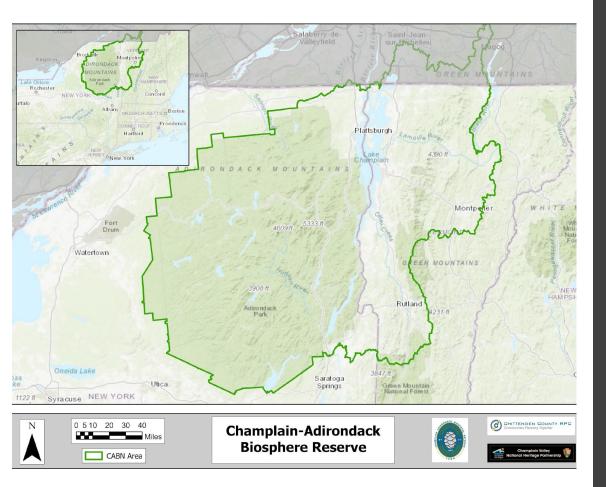
USBN Working Groups

- Youth engagement
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Climate Change
- Agriculture
- Communications and outreach

Connections Between CABN, the USBN, and the Worldwide Network

- USBN Youth Board began in the Adirondacks
- Wild Center's Youth Climate Summit
- International student exchanges
- Tourism





OVERVIEW OF THE CHAMPLAIN-ADIRONDACK BIOSPHERE REGION

- Awarded biosphere reserve designation in 1989; faced significant resistance from residents due to perceived land use regulations
- Boundaries were established according to a 'bioregion' that consists of the Lake Champlain watershed including the Green Mountain National Forest, and entirety of the Adirondack Park
- Total surface area (terrestrial and marine): 9,859,504 acres (3,990,000 ha)
- In 1995 CABR was listed "inactive" by UNESCO
- In 2016 Brian Houseal convened a group of representatives from NY, VT, and Canada to assess the reinvigoration of the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Reserve

1. CABN IS HOUSED WITHIN THE LAKE

DACK

1989

5. FOUR CABN YOUTH BOARD **MEMBERS – 2 CO-CHAIRS SIT ON** CABN'S STEERING COMMITTEE

2

NY

AIN

PL

2. CABN HAS ONE PAID PART-TIME

CABN'S CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL **STRUCTURE & OPERATIONS**

7. ANNUAL MEETINGS SHOWCASE PARTNER PROJECTS, ENGAGE WIDER COMMUNITY, AND GENERATE FUTURE

> 6. MONTHLY MEETINGS – 4TH **TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

CHAMPLAIN-ADIRONDACK BIOSPHERE NETWORK (CABN)

- CABN Mission: To serve as a collaborative network in the Champlain-Adirondack region that empowers citizens to build a thriving, equitable and resilient society that conserves biological diversity and promotes sustainable uses of natural resources in the face of a warming climate and other environmental changes.
- CABN Vision: Inspire a positive future for the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network by celebrating and connecting people and nature.
- CABN Value Proposition: The Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network is an internationally recognized network that connects people and organizations working to build harmonious relationships between people and the environment.

CHAMPLAIN-ADIRONDACK BIOSPHERE NETWORK (CABN) 3-5 YEAR OBJECTIVES

- 1. Marquee issue: 'Bioregional' approach for CABN in the face of global climate change
- 2. Inspire and empower youth leaders across the region to support the SDGs
- 3. Establish CABN as a Collaborative Network; "A network of networks" regionally and internationally
- 4. Create a bioregional version of Adirondack Common Ground Alliance
- 5. Establish CABN as an international tourism destination that promotes destination stewardship and responsible community-based tourism
- 6. Act as a smart conduit for grant money
- 7. Research aggregator and originator



CABN's Early Wins...

- Twinning Agreement with Canada's Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network
- 2. International student exchanges in Biosphere Reserves in Europe and Africa
- 3. Bioregional planning and collaboration, particularly in higher education and climate action
- 4. SUNY-ESF'S Center for Biosphere Reserve Studies
- 5. Two-State BR Youth Network



CONVENING PARTNERS

REGIONAL PARTNERS

- Lake Champlain Basin Program
- Champlain-Valley National Heritage
 Partnership
- The Wild Center Adirondack Youth Climate Summit
- ADK Action
- South Hero Land Trust
- Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation
- University of Vermont
- State University of New York's School of Environment Science and Forestry
- Paul Smith's College

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

- Twinning Agreement with Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network (Canada)
- Ledro Alps and Judicaria Biosphere Reserve (Italy)
- Tuscan Emilian Appenino Biosphere Reserve (Italy)
- Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve, Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve, Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve (South Africa)
- East Carpathian Biosphere Reserve (Ukraine)
- Mata Atlantica Biosphere Reserve (Brazil)

Questions?

Connected, A Journey Through the Champlain-Adirondack **Biosphere**

Thank You!

CONTACT:

- CABN Co-Chairs
 - Professor Kelly Cerialo, <u>kcerialo@paulsmiths.edu</u>
 - Jim Brangan, jbrangan@lcbp.org
- CABN Coordinator
 - Katie Darr, <u>kdarr@lcbp.org</u>

