Hiking and Camping in the Adirondacks

**Overnight Spots**

**Why study this?**
It is often hard to decide where to go on an overnight camping trip in the Adirondack Mountains because there are many variables to take into account. With this map, I hope that people will be better able to decide where to go on a mountain adventure based views and steepness for trails, and wetness and sunlight for overnight spots.

**Solar radiation** reflects the amount of sunlight each location receives at a latitude of 44 degrees (Adirondack Park) in mid-autumn and mid-spring. It is based on a digital elevation model with a mostly sunny sky.

**Topographic Wetness Index** predicts soils that are prone to seasonal saturation. The criteria are based on catchment area and gradient related by the equation $TWI = \ln(A/\tan \beta)$. Darker areas represent locations more likely to be wet, with perennial water features portrayed as solid blue.

**Trails**

**Viewshed** represents the number of peaks that can be seen from every point on the map. It was made from a land cover raster (which accounts for vegetation height) added to a digital elevation model. Darker colors represent views of more peaks.

**Slope** was derived by calculating the surface length of the trails in proportion to their linear length, with steeper trails having higher proportions. Wider trails represent steeper slopes. (Note: raster not included in trail slope calculation, just for terrain steepness reference, based on a digital elevation model).

This map shows a collection of the four criteria. Note: This map shows only a section of Adirondack Park. For a detailed full-park map, visit the Middlebury Gear Room in the basement of Freeman International Center.