



NEW ENGLAND
FORESTRY
FOUNDATION

August 1, 2018

Jamie Fosburgh, NPS, Manager, Northeast Region Rivers Program
Lucy Wallace, Chair, NRWSR Study Committee
Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee
c/o Nashua River Watershed Association
592 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

For over 70 years, the New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF) has had close ties to the area covered by the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Wild and Scenic River study. William Wharton, a Groton resident, was an incorporator of NEFF back in 1944 (as well as the NRWA in 1969). He donated hundreds of acres to NEFF as a memorial forest and that is where NEFF had its headquarters for many decades. Mr. Wharton was pointed out in the "Historical and Cultural" resource section of the Stewardship Plan as an "early conservationist" who set the stage for the important work his fellow Groton resident and friend Marion Stoddart did to clean up the Nashua River.

Additionally, in 2004 to 2007, NEFF partnered with the NRWA on the "Protecting Today's Water for Tomorrow" grant, which was a US EPA Targeted Watershed Initiative project focused on the Squannacook and Nissitissit Rivers watersheds. NEFF also owns and manages properties in this region –including Groton Place and Sabine Woods on the banks of the Nashua River -- which are well-loved by those who recreate therein.

We are aware that the Stewardship Plan speaks to a desire that more landowners – be they private or public – conduct forest management planning before undertaking timber operations and that forestry Best Management Practices are followed when doing timber harvesting: we are fully supportive of these recommendations. The Plan has many other aspects we look forward to seeing implemented. As it has in the past, NEFF offers its assistance where it can to enhance the resources in the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers region.

Sincerely,

Robert Perschel
Executive Director