



The Nature Conservancy in New  
Hampshire  
22 Bridge Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-4987

tel [603] 224.5853  
fax [603] 228.2459  
nature.org/newhampshire

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

June 13<sup>th</sup> 2018

RE: Wild and Scenic River Designation

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace,

On behalf of the New Hampshire Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, I write to offer my support for the “Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan” and to endorse its recommendation to seek designation as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers. This stewardship plan, and the recommendation to seek federal designation of the rivers as wild and scenic was accepted by all eleven participating communities in 2018, speaking to the broad support for this effort. The need to protect water quality and outstanding values such as biological diversity, recreation, and historical resources attracts broad support here in New Hampshire. Our intact streams and rivers define our communities and the character of our state, fostering our tourist economy and attracting long-term residents. In recent years, however, we’ve come to recognize that we can’t take these resources for granted. Issues such as polluted drinking water and toxic algal blooms have emphasized the need for us to craft a vision for the future of our rivers and streams. One of the keys to successfully maintaining healthy water resources such as the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers is finding approaches for communities to work together. We applaud the grass-roots efforts of the Nashua-Squannacook-Nissitissit Wild & Scenic Study Committee to build a strong coalition of support among local communities. The Nature Conservancy sees these efforts as a model for fostering local engagement and hopes to see similar projects develop in other areas of the state.

Sincerely

David Patrick Ph.D.  
Director of Conservation Programs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Patrick", written in a cursive style.